



EIGHT BELLS



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<http://www.kitsapcoastguard.org>

Mission:

The mission of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is to contribute to the safety and security of our citizens, ports, waterways and coastal regions.

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April 7th Flotilla Meeting

LT Melanie Burnham, Station Seattle Commanding Officer, will speak on how 2009 is looking for Station Seattle.

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Vice Flotilla Commander:
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MARCH MATTERS

ON YOUR MARK, GET READY, GET SET—NO GO

March 15 (the Ides of March) was the date chosen for D13's first Surface Operations Callout Drill for all Sector Seattle, Western Washington. Coxswains & crews were all go until the snow. Organizationally speaking however we are way ahead having already set up the framework of Exercise Coordinators, Division and Flotilla Commanders and Operations Staff Officers. Flotilla facilities have been identified and crew/coxswain & evaluators have been assigned. Part of the major objective, "communication," has already been tested.

REMINDER: SECTOR SEATTLE OPERATIONS TRAINING DAY MARCH 21

We request that all Coxswains and Facility owners, for which Sector Seattle is the Order Issuing Authority, attend this meeting.

The day will include a review of the Operations Instruction from Sector Seattle for 2009 and an Operations Workshop. The Operations Workshop is a local requirement of Sector Seattle this year.

	Schedule:
0930 to 1130	Operations Instructions for 2009
1130 to 1230	Lunch at the Galley
1230 to 1400	Operations Workshop
1400 to 1500	TCT Workshop

FROM THE USCGAUX PERSONNEL OFFICE

Member survey opportunity. Please follow this link to the new, improved and active survey. http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=htA3lh7cAsCvkHhb156PMg_3d_3d

PLANNING AHEAD:

April 25, Division Meeting, hosted by Flotilla 48
May 2, Boaters Fair hosted by Flotilla 48

Take the Class, Meet the Qualifications!

Kids ages 12 yrs and up are required to have a Washington State Boater Education Card.

Take **About Boating Safely**: Bainbridge Island, April 11, 2009

To sign up, call Grant Winther 206.842.5862

AUX AND SCOUTS MOU



Boy Scouts of America & USCG Auxiliary Agreement Signed on 23 February 2009. The USCG Auxiliary signed a Memorandum of Agreement to begin partner liaison with Boy Scouts of America. The Boating Department is developing an implementation strategy to make this a meaningful agreement between our two organizations. The MOA can be downloaded by connecting to website below. [Posted: Mar 10, 2009. Source: Bruce Johnson, BC-BLB]

http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats_new/announce.php

TRAINING MISHAP UNEXPECTED OUTCOME

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Coast Guard Thirteenth District

Date: March 9, 2009

Six people rescued after accident on Coast Guard cutter.

SEATTLE — Six Coast Guard members are now safe after a smallboat from the Seattle based Coast Guard Cutter Polar Sea fell into the water at Point Wilson near Port Townsend, Wash., today.

The crew of the Polar Sea was lowering the boat into the water as part of a training exercise at 5:21 p.m. when it fell. Two people were knocked into the water while four others managed to climb back onto the cutter using the vessel's Jacob's Ladder. The two members who were knocked into the water were quickly recovered by a smallboat crew from the Seattle based Coast Guard Cutter Midgett which was also operating in the area.

Coast Guard medical personnel aboard the Polar Sea determined the crewmembers involved sustained no significant injury.

"The maritime environment we work in is inherently dangerous and even training evolutions involve a level of risk," said Vice Adm. David Pekoske, Commander Coast Guard Pacific Area. "We will investigate this accident thoroughly in order to improve the safety of our crews operating at sea," he said.

The 399-foot icebreaker Polar Sea was commissioned in 1978. In addition to performing the traditional missions of the Coast Guard, the cutter serves as a platform for scientific missions to the North and South Poles. The Polar Sea is commanded by Capt. Carl J. Uchytel.

CALENDAR

March

- 3 Flotilla Meeting
- 17 Staff Meeting
- 21 Sector Seattle Ops Training
- 28 About Boating Safely Class

April

- 7 Flotilla Meeting
- 11 About Boating Safely Class
- 21 Staff Meeting
- 25 Division meets at FL48**

May

- 2 Boater's Fair**
- 1-3 AuxAir Training Weekend
- 9 Tug Boat Races
- 19 Staff Meeting

June

- 2 Flotilla Meeting
- 13 About Boating Safely Class
- 16 Staff Officer Meeting

July

- 4 Grand Ole 4th**
- 18 Division meets at FL41
- 21 Staff Meeting

August

- 4 Flotilla Meeting
- 8 About Boating Safely Class
- 18 Staff Meeting

September

- 8 Flotilla Meeting
- 11-13 Wooden Boat Festival
- 22 Staff Meeting

October

- 6 Flotilla Meeting
- 9-11 GNATS at Oak Harbor**
- 17 About Boating Safely Class
- 20 Staff Meeting

November

- 3 Flotilla Meeting
- 17 Staff Meeting

December

- 1 Flotilla Meeting
- 12 About Boating Safely Class
- 15 Staff Meeting

STAFF OFFICERS

Flotilla Commander
Jim Beyea

Vice Flotilla Commander
Larry Brown

Communications
Larry Kight

Communication Services
Dick Read

Finance
John Yeckel

Information Services
Norma Bailey

Materials
Lynnea Heerman

Marine Safety
John Petrek

Member Training
Kurt Schultz

Navigation Systems
Grant Winther

Operatrions
Tom Lindsley

Public Affairs
Heather Hood Danso

Publications
Loretta Rindal

Public Education
Joe Dunstan

Program Visitor
Greg Baker

Vessel Examination
Larry Kight

STATION OPS APLENTY

from the Desk of Larry Kight, Dist. 13/Station Seattle AUXULO

Station Seattle is requesting Auxiliarist help almost weekly.

Last month we have had requests from Station to assist with Navy Testing, training for reservists for towing and SAR and Helicopter training with Port Angeles Air Station.

The Helicopter evolution training is benefiting PA Air Station crews in lowering and retrieving baskets and having rescue swimmers practice. Station Seattle provides the support boat for these exercises. While many of the Coasties have not had training with retrieving a basket on the back of a boat, Station command has made room on the 41 footer for 2 auxiliarists. The auxiliarist needs to be at least crew qualified.

The Process:

Station gets a request from PA Air Station for Helo training. They send it on to us to participate with them. I send it out to the divisions that are showing a desire to participate. The first 2 to sign up for a week get to go. Our people need to be at Station 1.5 hours before the event with PPE gear and steel toe shoes (appropriate for the weather). They may be out till late but most are 2-3 hour evolutions (be prepared to stay as long as needed). Most occur on Tuesday nights but we have a couple on Wednesday and most are early evening. (They are pushing back the night time start since it is lighter; our last one was at 1900). We have had a 1200 hrs operation.

I have people requesting to be on evolutions 2-3 weeks out and occasionally I am stuck with no one going out (this week). It would be nice to have a lot of people trained for this but in my mind the greatest benefit may be the opportunity to be out on the boats with the gold side and participating along side with them.

As a matter of fact Station has been somewhat impressed with our willingness to help in the multiple missions they have put out to date and are considering upgrading our level of responsibilities/participation.

Other Opportunities:

Besides all of these operational type duties there is a multitude of other opportunities at the Station, that have yet to be defined. Do you have some skill that you might want to lend a couple of hours with on a regular basis that will benefit the gold side. Let me know and we will see if there is a fit.

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The online daily boating magazine and web-based resource for boaters, is offering free one-year subscriptions to Auxiliarists. You get a new feature story every single day, marine news, blogs, forums, boat reviews, video podcasts and more. Go to <http://shopauxiliary.com/>, then click on MembersOnly; log in and click on Mad Mariner.

http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats_new/announce.php

COLD WATER BOOT CAMP

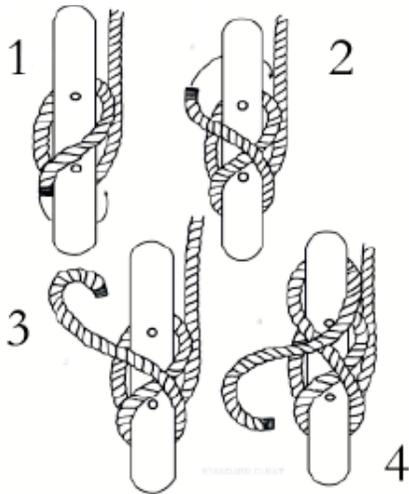


<http://www.nasbla.org/i4a/pages/index.fm?pageid=1>

THREE SHEETS TO THE WIND



ALL TIED UP



Up Top in Operations
www.auxodept.org/documents/uptopinoperations/2009/UpTop%20February%202009.pdf -

Where did that phrase come from?

A sheet is a rope line which controls the tension on the downwind side of a square sail. If, on a three-mast fully rigged ship, the sheets of the three lower course sails are loose, the sails will flap and flutter and are said to be "in the wind." A ship in this condition would stagger and wander aimlessly downwind.

from Up Top in Operations, March 2009

http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats_new/announce.php

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