

MISSOURI RIVER SKIPPER

VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 4, FALL 2010



Fall Symposium



Photos taken by Jill Reis and Skip Wolff

DIVISION COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

JEAN GOBLE



This has been an unusual year for Division 33 due to the high water and difficulty in performing safety patrols. However, fall is here and the year seems to be quickly slipping away. It has been a pleasure to work with the members this year. Everyone has worked very hard, and you should take pride in all that you have accomplished.

The Division 33 Election Dinner was held October 9, 2010 at Uncle Buck's Grille. I want to congratulate Frank Reiss who was elected Division Commander and Connie Walters who was elected as Division Vice Commander. Commodore Dan Maresh and his wife Rosemary attended the event. The Commodore presented the Commodore's Streamer Award for 2009 to Flotilla 4.

I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season.

DIVISION VICE COMANDER'S MESSAGE

FRANK REISS



Division 33 election day began Saturday, October 9 at the Carter Lake Library with a presentation by Nick Critelli called "Auxiliary Boot Camp without the Pushups". The presentation addressed membership training. The intent of the presentation was to introduce and solicit feedback for a membership training program that will allow new members as well as seasoned members to gain knowledge about the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary. Following the presentation a division meeting was held at which a viable use of the Heather McCurry fund was discussed and approved by the board. Skier down flags with the division website and "in memory of Heather McCurry" will be purchased and distributed by coxswains.

Uncle Buck's played host for the 2010 election dinner. Formerly known as Islamorada the venue for a second year in the row provided a great atmosphere for the evening's events. Amongst attendees were several new members, spouses, Commodore Dan Maresh, and his wife Rosemary. Commodore Maresh presented Flotilla 33-4 with the Commodore's Honor Streamer Award. He also presented Flotilla 33-4 with the Best of the Web Award. Jean Goble was presented the RBS Device Award. Commodore Maresh also presided over the division election and addressed the new members in attendance as well as changes to the National IT department.

The main purpose of the evening, of course, was to elect the division leadership for 2011. I'd like to thank all those who submitted their names for the office of Vice Division Commander and to congratulate Connie Walters. I'd also like to thank the board for putting your trust in my leadership going forward into 2011. As I stated, I work for the membership, and I hope that your input will be forwarded via the chain of leadership and management so that I can best represent you. Looking ahead into 2011, I'd like to share my watch words for 2011 – Educate, Evolve, and Excel. Educate our membership, Evolve the way we do business, and Excel in our missions.

I wish each of you a happy holiday season and hope to see you all January 22, 2011 at the division meeting and change of watch.

Division 33 Officers

Division Commander (DCDR) – Jean Goble
 Division Vice Commander (DVCDR) – Frank Reiss
 Immediate Past Division Commander (IPDCDR) – Connie Walters
 Secretary – Paul Faganel (SO-SR)
 Finance – Skip Wolff (SO-FN)
 Chief of Prevention – Richard S. Goble
 Navigation Services (SO-NS) – George McNary
 Public Education (SO-PE) – Annette Rasmussen
 Member Training (SO-MT) – Ralph Tomlinson
 Program Visitor (SO-PV) – Richard S. Goble
 Vessel Examiner (SO-VE) – Richard S. Goble
 Marine Safety (SO-MS) – Doug Potts
 Chief of Logistics – Barclay Stebbins
 Human Resources (SO-HR) - Bernard McNary
 Information Services (SO-IS) – Barclay Stebbins
 Communication Services (SO-CS) – Trevor Henderson
 Public Affairs (SO-PA) – Randy Evans
 Materials – (SO-MA) Karl Rasmussen
 Publications (SO-PB) – Jill Reiss
 Chief of Response – Frank Reiss
 Communications (SO-CM) – Roland Newton
 Operations – (SO-OP) Frank Reiss

Send articles for the *Missouri River Skipper*

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 Omaha, NE 68134

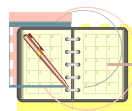
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Deadlines Midnight on
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April 15 for Spring issue
July 15 for Summer issue
October 15 for Fall issue

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Jill C. Reiss—Editor



DATES TO REMEMBER

January 15, Skipper deadline

January 21-23, River City Hunting & Fishing Expo, Mid-America Center

January 22, Division Meeting and Change of Watch, Riverside Grille

February 25-28, Omaha Boat, Sports & Travel Show

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FLOTILLA 33-1

In spite of being challenged by high water and OP FACs out of operation, this year for Flotilla 33-1, has been statistically a good one. We set goals at the first of the year and have attained them. Another positive achievement is we have added five new members this year, and they are actively being trained and participating in the flotilla. We have the potential of recruiting one or two more new members by the end of the year.

The real up side of Flotilla 33-1 is we have 90% of our members doing something in this flotilla and reporting hours in AUXDATA. With this kind of participation, I anticipate that we will accomplish even more in 2011.

Submitted by Richard Goble

FLOTILLA 33-2

Flotilla 33-2 has been winding down from the 2010 boating season. Members have been completing patrols and preparing their boats for winter storage.

On August 16, 2010, Sharon McKay and Connie Walters represented Flotilla 33-2 honoring WWII veterans in Des Moines, Iowa. A dinner program thanked these veterans for their service before they were flown the next day to Washington, DC to see the WWII Memorial.

Also in August, flotilla members (Claire Coleman, Dan Conn, Keith and Jeanie Deiml, and Dick and Rose Ternes) participated in the Columbus, Nebraska parade. Two boats were decorated and pulled in the parade. They promoted wearing your life jackets when on or near the water.

September was both a flotilla meeting as well as a last hurrah picnic for the members and their families. A great time was had by all.

Flotilla 33-2 welcomes new member, Lance Kolb, who has already become qualified to do vessel examinations!

An award given this quarter was to FC Gary Jensen. He received the Sustained Service—Eighth Award.

Congratulations to the newly elected bridge—Division 33's DCDR Frank Reiss, DVCDR Connie Walters, and Flotilla 33-2's FC Bob Poe.

A thought to guide our new leadership "Today is yesterday's plan put into action." George Matthew Adams.

Submitted by Jeannie Deiml

FLOTILLA 33-6

We have completed the patrol hours and check rides necessary to maintain our operational members qualifications. With the high waters most of the boating season, we appreciated the help we received from others in getting this accomplished.

In the area of public affairs, we participated in two more very successful honor flight events. Jose Medina and his wife Donna go all out with these displays, and they are well received by the veterans and guests. Being a part of the honor flight program is one of the most rewarding experiences our members have ever been involved in. Connie Walters, IPDCDR, also joined us.

For the second year we had a two-day boating safety exhibit at the IKE's Outdoor Expo for Kids and Families activity. Susan Stocker of the Iowa DNR shared our exhibit during the event and printed t-shirts for the kids. Saturday was a rain day but Sunday produced crowds estimated at over 2,000.

We are planning our winter member training activities and are putting a request in for a better boating season next year.

Congrats to Frank Reiss, our new DCDR and Connie Walters, our new VCDR. This should be an experienced team for Division 33 in 2011.

Our flotilla elections will be held on Sunday, October 24.

Submitted by Jim Anderson

DIVISION MEETING & ELECTION DINNER

Division 33 met at the Carter Lake library for their meeting and training. Nick Critelli showed the membership the New Member Orientation training that is in the works.

The election dinner was held at Uncle Buck's restaurant. Commodore Dan Maresh and his wife Rosemary were in attendance. Commodore Maresh presented the Commodore's Streamer Award for 2009 to Flotilla 4.

Trevor Henderson received the Best of the Web Award for Flotilla 4's website.

Jean Goble received her RBS Device. The RBS Device was established to recognize USCG Auxiliary members who support the Auxiliary's programs and activities within, or related to, the Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program.

Frank Reiss who was elected Division Commander and Connie Walters who was elected as Division Vice Commander.

(See photos on page 11.)

Submitted by Jill Reiss

PROGRAM VISITOR/VESSEL EXAMINATION

Division 33 according to AUXDATA has completed 231 VEs this year with a passing percentage of 37.2 percent. Also we have completed 273 program visitor contacts. As always, I am sure there are some still to be reported that have been completed.

For those who are not aware of it, a uniform called undressed summer blue will no longer be wearable by the CGAUX as of December 31, 2012. The reason I bring this up is this uniform is frequently worn by VEs when doing VSCs.

So what do we wear when doing VSCs? The manual is really vague on this subject. It simply says VEs should wear appropriate or prescribed clothing when doing a VSC. I have tried to get clarification of this statement, and the answers I got back were almost as vague.

I did find this out. The complete ODU preferably with boat shoes works. One could wear tropical blue, but who wants to climb around on a boat in dress trousers and dress shoes! The hot weather uniform does not work as it cannot be worn in public and the same goes for the ODU t-shirt with long ODU trousers. There is the VE polo shirt, and it can still be worn with Coast Guard working blue utility trousers, if you can find them. The hot weather polo shirt also works, but it is not clear what trousers or shorts one would wear with this shirt when doing a VSC.

I am hoping if we ever get a new AUX manual or VE manual, this uniform area will be clarified. Keep in mind it is still permissible to do a VSC out of uniform if one is asked to do so by a boater who wants one now, and there is not time to go get a uniform on.

Submitted by Richard Goble

WAVES: <http://www.auxbdept.org/waves/wave201003.pdf>

COMMUNICATIONS

On 23 October 2010 members of Flotilla 4, Des Moines, Iowa, activated a Ham Radio Special Event Station using the call sign K0G. K0G joined over 40 other USCG Auxiliary special event stations in commemorating the 71st anniversary of the USCG Auxiliary. Flotilla 4 operated from 1400 to 2100 Z on the 15, 20 and 40 meter amateur radio bands.

Based on the call signs, it appears Flotilla 4 worked seven other USCGAUX special event stations.

Also of interest was a contact with K7DCO Michael Johnson COMO D11SR and KB9QV A Special Event Station at the USS Cobia a WWII submarine that we were told could be made seaworthy in short order.

The 310 contacts came from:

- 39 U.S. states
- 4 Canadian provinces
- 12 foreign countries in addition to Canada:
- Australia

- Barbados
- Belgium
- Cuba
- Columbia
- France
- Germany (6)
- Italy (5)
- Peru
- Saint Maarten
- South Africa
- Spain

Submitted by Roland Newton



OPERATIONS

Who would have believed in March that the Missouri River Omaha gauge would read 21.92' in October? For that matter who would have believed that most of the operational season on the Missouri River would have all but shutdown due to high water. Despite Mother Nature's efforts to keep Division 33 off the water, somehow you managed to complete all but one check ride, get most operational members their required hours, get several operational members out of REYR, and get several new members qualified. Your efforts will pay off going into 2011 as there will be little REYR work required. I would like to recognize several individuals for what I consider extraordinary efforts: Warren Koehler, George McNary, Connie Walters, Pauline Longnecker, Ronald Longnecker, and Martin Eisenman. Each of these members selflessly gave of their time, talent, and resources to assist members outside their flotilla to obtain or sustain qualifications.

With the days shortening and the temperatures cooling, the operations season is all but over. Remember though the off season is a great time to

work on qualifications; whether it is book work to obtain a new qualification, ICS, TCT, navigation rules, or practicing those knots we rarely use. I challenge each FSO-OP to work with their members, solicit their needs, and spearhead some sort of off season operational training. It doesn't have to be a classroom style event; perhaps a navigation rules trivia contest, a knot tying workshop, or whatever. Just remember to make it fun, and they will come. Whatever operation activities take place, be sure to let me know. I enjoy forwarding your activities to the DSO-OP so that others in the district know of your accomplishments.

Happy Holidays!

Submitted by Frank Reiss

Up Top in Operations:

<http://www.cgaux.org/response/documents/uptopinoperations/2010/UpTopJuly2010.pdf>

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Boating education knows no season! Boating instructors, you are needed and appreciated throughout the year. Thank you for your year-round dedication to promote boating safety.

I recently read the article, "Sea Savvy," by Tom Neale in the October, 2010 "Soundings" magazine. In the article, the U.S. Coast Guard documented several dangerous VHF scenarios on the water.

- Lack of ability to give boat's location
- No knowledge/use of boating vocabulary
- Lack of auditory comprehension
- No cause/effect relationship
- Lack of ability to make a well-informed decision.

Incompetent boaters are a danger to others and to themselves. Many of you have additional first-hand stories while on patrol or teaching Iowa/Nebraska boating classes.

I invite you to share your boating experiences – patrolling or teaching boating classes in the Skipper.

USCG Auxiliary members can and do make a difference.

Submitted by Annette Rasmussen

The Education Connection:

http://cgauxed.org/edcon/edcon_sept_10.pdf



FLOTZILLA

In August, Flotilla 4 was asked to help the Coast Guard's Quad City Marine Safety Detachment with a safety patrol on the Mississippi River in support of Flotzilla. Flotzilla was a paddling event that was designed to let a lot of kayaks and canoes go down the Mississippi River and through lock 15. The goal of the event was to gather canoes and kayaks in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the largest canoe and kayak raft.

The water safety patrol was truly a team effort that involved Coast Guard active duty, Coast Guard reserve and Auxiliary members. It also included two patrol boats from the Army Corps of Engineers. The Coast Guard Auxiliary provided patrol vessels from both Divisions 9 and 33.

Flotilla 4 members Phil Patterson and Norma Newton brought their PWC facilities over and patrolled along with Paul and Wendy Faganel who crewed on board the Marine Safety Detachment's RBS boat. Roland Newton and Gene Kellogg provided communications watch standing support for the patrol vessels.



Auxiliarist Paul Faganel watches paddlers during the Floatzilla Event on the Mississippi River while on board the Coast Guard RBS boat. (Photo by BM2 Matthew T. Carey, USCG Quad Cities MSD)

Auxiliarist Phil Patterson patrols among the canoes and kayaks on his PWC during the Floatzilla Event on the Mississippi River. (Photo by BM2 Matthew T. Carey, USCG Quad Cities MSD)



Submitted by Doug Jansen

HEAD OF THE DES MOINES REGATTA

For 27 years the Des Moines Rowing Club has held its annual Head of the Des Moines regatta. This year Flotilla 4 was asked to help provide vessels to aid with the safety of the event.

The regatta boats launch at Prospect Park and travel downstream almost three miles to the Des Moines Botanical Center. Rowers then race up the Des Moines River to the finish at Prospect Park. Historically, the race attracts approximately 600 rowers for about 80 races through the day.

This year the flooding caused damage to much of the infrastructure at Prospect Park and presented concerns for the condition of the river. Flotilla 4 patrolled with two PWCs and a jon boat. Pauline and Ron Longnecker came over and also used their PWC to patrol as well.

Unfortunately the weather turned miserable during the night and rain and drizzle made the conditions less than ideal. The patrol was successful and members were able to assist several rowers who had problems.

Flotilla 4 members who participated included Brandon Butters, John Halbrook, Doug Jansen, Norma Newton, Roland Newton and Phil Patterson.

Submitted by Doug Jansen



Auxiliarist Roland Newton operates the radios and stands watch over the Coast Guard Auxiliary vessels during the Head of the Des Moines Rowing Regatta. (U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photo by Doug Jansen)

Auxiliarist Phil Patterson keeps an eye on rowers during a difficult turn in the river during the Head of the Des Moines Rowing Regatta. (U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photo by Doug Jansen)



SAYLVILLE FLOODING

Once again a very wet summer brought more flooding to Central Iowa. The Army Corps of Engineers at Saylorville Lake has developed a very close relationship with the Coast Guard Auxiliary over the last few years, especially with the flooding and emergency spillway release in 2008 and the potential emergency spillway release in March of 2010. In June rains continued to saturate the Des Moines River basin and forecasts projected that Saylorville Lake would need top the emergency spillway gates. With this danger approaching, the Corps of Engineers asked for help.

Flotillas 4 and 6 sprung into action. As in previous years, Auxiliarists were scheduled to staff traffic gates to keep the public away from the dam area and the potential danger. As was suggested in the after action report in 2008, a water safety patrol was also requested. After coordination with Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River, a safety zone was established around the Saylorville Dam and emergency spillway. The purpose of the zone was to close the area to boating to keep boats away from the dangerous current that the spillway release would cause. For five days Auxiliarists staffed the gates, stood communications watch and patrolled on the water.

Coast Guard Auxiliary patrol vessels were stationed just outside the zone and advised boaters to stay out of the zone for their own safety. The only tense situation arose when some canoeists launched from the woods near the spillway. They were oblivious to their proximity of the spillway, the danger of the current and the high water. The patrol spotted them and guided them back to shore and out of danger.

When the mission was complete the Auxiliary had logged over 500 hours of service in support of the safety mission.

Members who participated include:

Flotilla 4

Brudtkuhl, Chuck
Butters, Brandon
Critelli, Nick
Daniels, Travis
Eggers, Bill

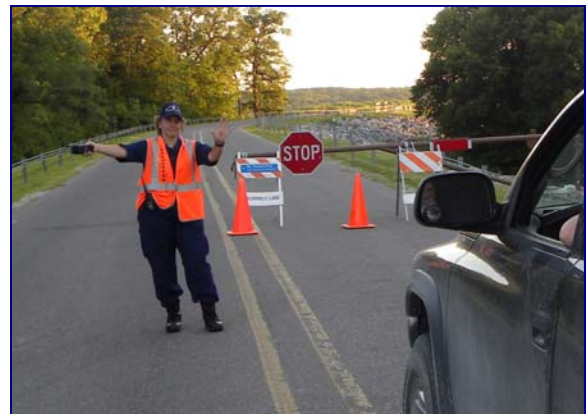
Faganel, Paul
Faganel, Wendy
Henderson, Trevor
Jansen, Doug
Kellogg, Gene
Newton, Norma
Newton, Roland
Patterson, Phil
Robey, Marty
Shade, Chris
Tomlinson, Ralph
Tomlinson, Suzanne

Flotilla 6

Anderson, Jim
Berry, Jim
Ludwigs, Mike

Submitted by Doug Jansen

Auxiliarist Norma Newton advises motorists to stay away from the Saylorville Dam during the flooding. (U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photo by Doug Jansen)



Election Dinner



Nick Critelli



Frank Reiss, Jean Goble, Paul Faganel



Trevor Henderson, Commodore Dan Maresh



Jean Goble, Commodore Dan Maresh



Jill Reiss photographer

Paul and Wendy Faganel, Ralph & Suzanne Tomlinson, Roland Newton, Trevor Henderson, Norma Newton