

MISSOURI RIVER SKIPPER

VOLUME XXXVI, NUMBER 2, SPRING 2011



SPRING CONFERENCE



Photos taken by Jill Reiss

DIVISION COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

FRANK REISS



What is a team? According to Susan M. Heafield from About.com a team is any group of people organized to work together interdependently and cooperatively to meet the needs of their customers by accomplishing a purpose and goals. Teams are created for both long term and short term interaction.

There are several key elements to this definition: organized, interdependently and cooperatively, customer needs, a purpose and goals. The Auxiliary Manual describes how we are organized and our purpose. Goals are set at various levels of the organization and should be measurable, obtainable and further our purpose. Finally, TCT (Team Coordination Training) enables us to identify our customer needs and to work interdependently and cooperatively.

As a division, we must collectively face challenges and further the missions of the Auxiliary. We can accomplish both by drawing on ideas from one another and working across flotilla boundaries.



DIVISION VICE COMANDER'S MESSAGE

CONNIE WALTERS



Congratulations to all of the award recipients. A job well done. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication. Soon it will be time to take our facilities out of storage and dust them and get them ready for patrol season. Many of you have already been busy with teaching public education classes and public affairs events. Our calendars are filling up quickly. Some of our members are currently helping with the flooding up north. We are assisting with communications, and our AuxAir has been assisting as well. Frequently check the district website. There is a volume of information there that keeps us up to date and current on our daily happenings. Semper Paratus means always ready. Always training and studying to be the best we can be, and we are the best.

Division 33 Officers

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

Send articles for the *Missouri River Skipper*

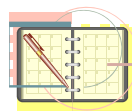
to:

Jill C. Reiss at 8111 Vernon Avenue
 Omaha, NE 68134
 Fax: 402-571-5422
 Email: jreiss@uscgaux3303.info

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

Published by and for members of
 Division 33 U.S. Coast Guard
 Auxiliary 8th Western Rivers Region.
 Opinions expressed herein are not
 necessarily those of the U.S. Coast
 Guard or U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Jill C. Reiss—Editor



DATES TO REMEMBER

May 26, Board & Staff Teleconference
 June 18, OPTEx
 August 6 – Division Picnic/Coast Guard Day
 Celebration
 August 24-28 – NACON Charlotte, North Carolina
 August 27-28 - Offutt Air Show
 October 15 – Election Dinner
 December 3 - Holiday Celebration
 January 21, 2012 - Change of Watch
 April 21, 2012 - Awards Weekend

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Division Commander’s Message.....2
 Division Vice Commander’s Message.....2
 Dates to Remember.....3
 SLO-NE.....4
 Flotilla 33-2.....4
 Flotilla 33-1.....5
 Flotilla 33-3.....6
 Spring Symposium.....6
 Operations.....7
 Someone Else.....7
 Coxswains.....8
 District Materials.....8
 Schooner.....9
 2010 Awards.....10
 FROGEx.....15
 Boating Rules Need Heeding.....16
 Car Plunged into Floyd River Recovered.....17
 Iowa’s New Boating While Intoxicated Law.....18
 An Auxie in King Arthur’s Court.....18
 What’s New in 2011.....21

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE—PRIVACY ACT OF 1974:

The disclosure of the personal information contained in this publication is subject to the provisions contained in the Privacy Act of 1974. The subject Act, with certain exceptions, prohibits the disclosure, distribution, dissemination or copying of any material containing the home address, home telephone number, spouses’ names and social security numbers, except for official business. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Coast Guard and/or civilian criminal sanctions.

SLO-NE

At our division awards dinner Herb Angell SBLA was our guest speaker. He talked about LB105, the boating education bill. It was placed on general file February 18, 2011. It advanced to enrollment and review initial on March 9, 2011. From March 10 to March 23, it advanced to enrollment and review. It was placed on final reading March 25. April 8 was the final reading and the president/speaker signed the bill. Presented to the governor on April 8 and approved by the governor on April 14, 2011. This bill states that anyone born after 12/31/1985 must have a certificate of a safe boating course. In my March report for the division I mentioned this bill. At that time it had been placed on file and since moved forward to being approved by the governor.

<http://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/Current/PDF/Intro/LB105.pdf>

Submitted by **Connie Walters**

FLOTILLA 33-2

Flotilla 33-2 is presenting boating safety classes, participating in public affairs' events and gearing up for the operational season.

The Lincoln Sports and Travel Show at the Lancaster Event Center had a USCG Auxiliary exhibit staffed by the flotilla. This exhibit drew lots of traffic this year. There was great interest by mothers and children with the dog life jacket. Many did not know what it was and how it was to be used! Another exhibit the flotilla staffed was the Severe Weather Symposium on the campus of UNL. Gary Jensen, Connie Walters and Phil Ward did a great job of making citizens aware of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary's presence in Nebraska as well as promoting boating safety.

Connie Walters, Keith and Jeanie Deiml attended Flotilla 33-3's presentation by a Douglas County Historical Society member. He spoke about the flooding of the Missouri River in 1952. His talk was very informative with great pictures.

Herb Angell, Nebraska's SBLA, came to the flotilla's March meeting and gave an update on legal bills before the Nebraska Unicameral pertaining to boating. Division Captain, Frank Reiss, also attended and shared information.

All of Flotilla 33-2's coxswains and crew were able to make the Operation's Workshop and TCT Refresher held at Mahoney State Park on March 19.

Flotilla 33-2 was saddened with the recent death of longtime member, Bill Dittmer. Bill supported boating safety as flotilla commander, division captain, and 2nd Northern Region Vice Commodore. Bill was an active member in Flotilla 33-2 for 45 years. At the church service tribute to Bill, the minister said Bill had always strived for perfection from everyone. "When we have done our best, we should wait the result in peace."

Congratulations to flotilla members who received recognition at the Division Award's Dinner: Jeanie Deiml, Gary Jensen and Sharon McKay for receiving their 20-year Membership Service Certificates; Bill Montz for the Compass Rose and Marine Safety Award; Apple Awards to Gary Jensen and Mary Poe;

(cont. from page 4)

Ruler Award to Sharon McKay, and Weighted Points Award to Mary Poe. Sharon McKay received the Sustained Service Award (7th) for 5250 hours.

Flotilla 33-2 is ready to kick off the boating season with Cabela's slogan: "Ready, Set, Inflate!"

Submitted by Jeanie Deiml

FLOTILLA 33-1

Flotilla Commander Barclay Stebbins along with Vice Flotilla Commander, Jean Goble, members Pete Peterson and Warren Koehler presented Cassling President and CEO Mike Cassling with a Plaque of Appreciation. This plaque was presented to thank the private company that provides us great resources to conduct our education and training programs. Over the last six years, Cassling has allowed the Auxiliary to use their meeting rooms and training rooms for teaching our programs. These include most importantly our public education state boating classes. There have been over 30 classes educating approximately 600 students. Additionally, we have used these rooms to conduct over 20 member training classes for advanced navigation, boat crew and ICS. This is a direct contribution to the success of our flotilla, division, Auxiliary and the Coast Guard. Needless to say Mike was pleased and honored to be recognized by our organization and encouraged us to keep up the good work.

Submitted by Barclay Stebbins



Photographer unknown.

FLOTILLA 33-3

Flotilla 3 has been busy scheduling public education classes. In February we invited Dennis Mihelich to speak to us on the Missouri River flood of 1952. We had sexual harassment training at our March meeting. At our April meeting we had three members of the Yutan Dive Team speak to us.

I want to thank everyone who took time out of their busy schedule to attend the awards weekend activities at Mahoney State Park. And I want to congratulate all of the award recipients.

Submitted by Jill Reiss

Spring Symposium



Friday night fun night was at the Will Rogers' Museum. Jill Reiss photographer

OPERATIONS

Although the boating season is not “officially” under way, NP Dodge Park is open and there have been some boats on the river. In fact we have already had two SAR cases for the 2011 season. One case was north of Omaha on the Missouri River, while the second was on the Floyd River in the Sioux City area. It seems way too early to be involved in SAR cases when many of us haven’t even pulled the covers off our facilities. If this is any indication as to how the season will go, be prepared for a busy one.

Of primary concern are facility owners getting your Offers for Use completed and submitted to DIRAUX as soon as possible to avoid delays due to the change in OTOs this year. If you haven’t already heard Mr. Leavell will be leaving us 01 June 2011 and his replacement is not due to report for duty until 01 August. There was concern regarding new operations qualifications during this time, but an email was forwarded to FSO-OPs that should address that issue. If you have any questions about facilities or qualifications, please forward them to me via the proper COLAM (Chain of Leadership and Management).

OPTEX is just a few short months away; 18 June will be here before you know it. Everyone should mark the date on your calendar and plan on attending if for nothing else but the fellowship. If you plan on attending, please let your FSO-OP know by 01 June. The seamanship rodeo portion of the day’s events are operations centric, but offer any Auxiliarist a fun challenge – there might even be prizes. The timeline for the event is still being assembled, but in addition to the rodeo, there will be a lunch catered by our own Brandon Butters from 33-4 and on-the-water training. We are planning for operations on the Missouri River, but if Mother Nature does not cooperate, we have plan B in the works. The day will conclude with a hot wash and fellowship at an area dining establish. Whether you can come and play for the day or just drop by for lunch, we’d love to see you at the Gasconade moorings 18 June 2011.

Fellowship and training aside, there are significant operational challenges for Division 33 this year; high water looks to be an issue again, at least one closed marina and the loss of several operational facilities, but I am confident that those challenges will be overcome, and we will exceed our customers’ expectations in 2011.

Submitted by Frank Reiss

SOMEONE ELSE

Division 33 was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of its most valuable members—Someone Else. Someone’s passing created a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else had been with us for many years and for every one of those years Someone did more than a normal person’s share of the work. Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results. Whenever there was something to do or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone’s list — “Let Someone Else do it!” It was common knowledge that Someone Else would make up the difference. Someone Else sometimes appeared to be super human, but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now, Someone Else is gone. We wonder what we are going to do.

Someone Else did leave a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do all the things Someone Else did? You have a chance to participate in your flotilla by joining a committee, lending a hand or attending meetings. Please remember we can’t depend on Someone Else anymore! (Author unknown.)

COXSWAINS

At the awards weekend, we discussed having a listing of coxswains and FSO-OPs. See below. Because of privacy rules, I cannot list their preferred phone numbers. You will have to look that up in AuxDirectory:

<https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/auxoff/signin4.php>

0853301	Norma Jean Goble
0853301	Warren W Koehler
0853301	George W McNary
0853301	Thomas Spieker
0853302	Claire F Coleman
0853302	Gary C Jensen
0853302	Sharon A McKay
0853302	Connie J Walters
0853303	Ronald J Drawl
0853303	Douglas W Eubanks
0853303	Pauline G Longnecker
0853303	Ronald L Longnecker
0853303	Frank T Reiss
0853303	William R Smock
0853304	Travis A Daniels
0853306	James P Berry
0853307	David N Kaplan
0853307	Doug E Potts
0853307	William R Tilton
0853307	Vincent P Weber

085-33-01	Warren W Koehler
085-33-02	Gary C Jensen
085-33-03	Pauline G Longnecker
085-33-04	Douglass Robert Jansen
085-33-06	James P Berry
085-33-07	William R Tilton

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO DISTRICT MATERIALS

After eight years as DSO and ADSO, Willard and Stella Francis are giving up the Materials Store. Willard and Stella have found a replacement. Her name is Mary Lou Minnis. She is very eager to get started in her new position; she has already obtained an email address and fax number strictly for Materials. It is cgauxstore@gmail.com, fax number 888-418-0759. Please make a note of these numbers.

Submitted by **George W. McNary**

SCHOONER

As a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliarist, my interest has always been boats. I have been a boater all my life and my fascination with boating has led me to a hobby of building model boats.

One of my models is a scratch built radio-controlled schooner. It is approximately 8½ ft long and 8½ ft tall and weighs about 50 lbs. It is scaled ¾" to a foot. It is replica of an 1852 Great Lakes Schooner which is two masted. It is very close to the same design that the Revenue Cutter Service used in early years, which then became the U.S. Coast Guard. The Revenue Service started out with 10 schooner cutters and also borrowed and rented additional schooners from the private sector to add to their fleet as needed.

This model took me three years on and off to build. I laid a keel with ribs and hand planked it just like the real schooner would have been built. I used sugar pine for the planking. It has a four channel radio with full sail and rudder control. It is a great model to sail, and you sail it like the real thing.

I have taken this model to many model regattas, as far away as Solomon's Island, Maryland, which has a Maritime Museum. It was the largest model to show up for this event.

One of my other models is a 10-foot model of the Battleship USS Missouri which weighs 120 lbs. The USS Missouri was the site for the signing of the WWII Armistice. I have exhibited this model at many Veteran events. It has the same catapult float planes on the stern that were also used by the U.S. Coast Guard during WWII.

I have enjoyed exhibiting these models at U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary events and hope to continue in the future.

Submitted by Jose Medina



Jose and his schooner.
Jill Reiss photographer

2010 AWARDS

DISTRICT AWARDS

AUXOP Designation

William P. Eggers
Jeffrey M. Towle

2010 Travellers' Award

James D. Anderson
Ralph F. Tomlinson
Philip J. Patterson
Douglass R. Jansen
Richard S. Goble
Norma J. Goble

2010 Ruler Award

Sharon A. McKay
Norma J. Newton

2010 Compass Rose Award

Travis A Daniels
Paul R. Faganel
Pauline G. Longnecker
Ronald L. Longnecker
William J. Montz

2010 Marine Environmental Protection

Ralph F. Tomlinson

2010 500 Club

Ralph F. Tomlinson

2010 Outreach Award

Nick Critelli
Ronald L. Longnecker
Pauline G. Longnecker

2010 Apple Award

Barclay A. Stebbins
Norma J. Newton
Nick Critelli
Roland C. Newton
Suzanne H. Tomlinson
Randal L. Evans

2010 Apple Award

Roland L. Longnecker
Frank T. Reiss



Jill Reiss photographer



(cont. from page 10)

Pauline G. Longnecker
 Annette M. Rasmussen
 Karl H. Rasmussen IV
 Mary J. Poe
 Gary C. Jensen
 Bernard L. McNary
 Thomas Spieker
 Warren W. Koehler
 George W. McNary

2010 Marine Safety

William R. Tilton
 Doug E. Potts
 Leon C. Husk
 Norma J. Newton
 Douglass R. Jansen
 Travis A. Daniels
 Ralph F. Tomlinson
 Wendy C. Faganel
 Eugene C. Kellogg
 Nick Critelli
 William J. Montz



Jill Reiss photographer

2010 Sextant Award

Wendy C. Faganel
 Nick Critelli
 Ralph F. Tomlinson

2010 2500 Club

George W. McNary
 Gary C. Jensen
 Ronald L. Longnecker
 Annette M. Rasmussen
 Frank T. Reiss, Jr.
 Travis A. Daniels
 Paul R. Faganel
 Norma J. Newton
 Roland C. Newton
 Suzanne H. Tomlinson



2010 5000 Club

Barclay A. Stebbins
 Norma J. Goble
 Richard S. Goble
 Pauline G. Longnecker
 Douglass R. Jansen

(cont. from page 11)

Robert M. Green
Ralph F. Tomlinson

2010 Strike Force Operations

Ralph Tomlinson

2010 Instructor of the Year

Ralph F. Tomlinson

2010 Runner-Up Instructor of the Year

Richard S. Goble

2010 Commodore's Award

Flotilla 33-01, Richard S. Goble, FC

2010 Instructor Strike Force

Norma J. Goble

2010 Instructor Strike Force

Richard S. Goble

2010 Instructor Strike Force

Ralph F. Tomlinson

2010 Best Division Newsletter

Skipper, Jill Reiss, Editor

DIVISION 33 AWARDS

RBS Top Performer
Douglass R. Jansen

RBS Top Flotilla

33-04, Norma J. Newton, FC

Vessel Examiner Top Performer

Ralph F. Tomlinson

Vessel Examiner Top Flotilla

Flotilla 33-04, Norma J. Newton, FC

Edith Ann Johnston Trophy

Flotilla 33-04, Norma J. Newton, FC

Skipper Award – 50-99 Hrs Crew/Coxswain/PWO

George W. McNary
Barclay A. Stebbins

Jill Reiss photographer



(cont. from page 12)

Frank T. Reiss Jr.
Eugene C. Kellogg

Norma J. Newton, 33-04
Roland C. Newton, 33-04
Doug E. Potts, 33-07
William R. Tilton, 33-07

Towline Award – 5-9 SAR Cases as Coxswain/Crewmember

Travis A. Daniels
Doug E. Potts
William R. Tilton

Operations Top Performer – Glen Fletcher Trophy

Paul R. Faganel

Operations – Top Flotilla

Flotilla 33-04, Norma J. Newton, FC

Lead Instructor, 50 or More Hours

Eugene C. Kellogg
Martin A. Robey
Christopher B. Shade
Suzanne H. Tomlinson
Vincent P. Weber

Public Education/Member Training Top Performer

Ralph F. Tomlinson

Public Education/Member Training Top Flotilla

Flotilla 33-04, Norma J. Newton, FC

Public Affairs Program Award Top Performer

Robert M. Green

Harry Hartley Recruiting Award

Flotilla 33-01, Richard Goble, FC

Weighted Points Award for Members achieving more than 125 but less than 250

Warren W. Koehler
Bernard L. McNary
George W. McNary
Thomas Spieker
Gary C. Jensen
Mary J. Poe
Karl H. Rasmussen, IV
Annette M. Rasmussen
Frank T. Reiss, Jr.

(cont. from page 13)

Travis A. Daniels

Paul R. Faganel

Wendy C. Faganel

Ralph F. Tomlinson

Weighted Points Top Performer

Barclay A. Stebbins

Best Flotilla Program Areas

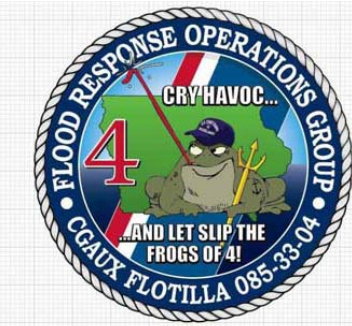
Flotilla 33-01, Richard Goble, FC



Jill Reiss photographer



FROGE_x



Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa was the base of operations for the Coast Guard Auxiliary's Flood Response Operations Group (FROG) exercise on Saturday, February 26, 2011. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary members from around the Midwest joined forces in the flooding response exercise. The exercise provided Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River with an opportunity to institutionalize lessons learned during recent flood responses and to identify improvements that need to be made prior to the next round of flooding.

LT Rob McCaskey, Chief of Incident Management, Sector Upper Mississippi River, stressed that safety was priority number one.

The exercise was framed within the following scenario: It is the winter of 2011, and central Iowa has taken a beating. Severe summer flooding led into a very cold, wet fall. With ground water high and river basins approaching flood stage, a significant freeze/thaw cycle compounded by additional precipitation has placed the region under the imminent threat of a severe winter flood. A multi-agency response to the emergency or disaster situation will be required to protect the community.

Five areas were staffed at the operations center: air operations, surface operations, state emergency operations center (SEOC), Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River and communications.

Some of the simulated scenarios included searching for a person in the water at Saylorville Lake. There was also a report of a possible levy breach on the Birdland



Levy. Aircraft were dispatched for photo reconnaissance of the simulated flooding conditions. Simulated Coast Guard flood response boats were dispatched to help simulated stranded citizens.

At the conclusion of the exercise, the teams engaged in a debriefing to identify strengths and weaknesses of the flooding response exercise as well as "lessons learned". These items will then be used in an after-action report.

Frank Reiss & Paul Faganel. Photos by Jill Reiss



“Even though this was the first attempt at this operations exercise, it was an excellent evolution,” stated LCDR Scott Stoermer, Sector Upper Chief of Response. “It was a great way to explore capabilities. From the Sector side, the awesome operations solidified confidence in the use of the Auxiliary as a resource. Safety was number one. It was well-organized.”

“It was an excellent operation,” according to LT Rob McCaskey. “The Auxiliary staff took a comprehensive look at how operations work from the deck plate to Sector command. It was a well-run, professional operation and a great learning experience. Me included. Good job Auxiliary! I look forward to the next one.” Semper Paratus.

Submitted by Jill Reiss and Doug Jansen



John Cotton, Ron Longnecker, Jack Gumb, Richard Lawrence. Jill Reiss photographer

Published Saturday April 9, 2011

World-Herald editorial: Boating rules need heeding

Good sense is reigning in the Midlands on regulation of alcohol use while boating.

Nebraska already sets the legal limit at a blood-alcohol level of 0.08 percent. This week, Iowa adopted the same approach, reducing the allowable threshold from the previous 0.10 percent. Gov. Terry Branstad and the Iowa Legislature deserve credit for this move, which now sets the same blood-alcohol limit for boaters as well as motorists.

This step is a timely change, with the return of warmer weather. Midlands lakes and rivers soon will be scenes of watercraft fun and relaxation.

The opportunity to operate such watercraft comes, of course, with important responsibilities. Careless, irresponsible boating habits pose risks to oneself and others. Add alcohol impairment on top of that, and the danger is even greater.

One need look no further than the newspaper archives to recall the terrible heartache caused by Midlands boating accidents over the years.

Nebraska's boating laws are straightforward. The operator of any boat or personal watercraft must be at least 14 years old. Those between the ages of 14 and 18 are required to take a six-hour classroom boating safety course.

In Iowa, boaters can take the course online. That is a sensible approach, since it almost certainly raises the level of compliance. Nebraska would do well to provide the same option.

Nebraska boaters also should note a state law too often ignored: A boat or other watercraft should go no faster than 5 miles per hour when within 30 yards (90 feet) of any other boat, harbor, marina, landing pier, fishing pier, anchorage or bathing beach. This rule is especially important at smaller lakes, where these boats are often pulling children on inner tubes, water skis or knee boards.

The Midlands offers a variety of opportunities for boating fun with friends or family. If boaters ignore common-sense rules, there is a terrible risk of tragedy. But if they act responsibly, the spring and summer can be a time of wonderful memories on the water.

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20110409/NEWS0802/704099939>

CAR THAT PLUNGED INTO FLOYD RIVER RECOVERED

SIoux CITY — A few dozen people gathered on the bank of the Floyd River Saturday afternoon as a car that plunged into the water last week was hauled from its muddy depths.

Sioux City Police Sgt. Bill Enockson said the car got there about 1:45 a.m. April 17 when the driver missed a turn while trying to beat the train in the 1300 block of Third Street. He said the car was traveling so fast it vaulted off the embankment and went airborne, landing just short of the water and bouncing into the river.

“Luckily for him, the railroad engineer saw the car go over and come down,” Enockson said.

He said the driver, whose name was not released Saturday, was taken to the hospital with a compound fracture in one of his legs. It is unclear what charges, if any, the driver could face.

On Saturday, divers secured a tow rope to the dark-colored car and were assisted by a boat from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. A local towing company pulled the car, which came out of the water upside down, out of the river and up the bank.

—Molly Montag

Submitted by Doug Potts

http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_1616151d-5193-5cea-b1d3-0e8dc0433b8a.html



Members of the Coast Guard and Siouxland Dive and rescue recover a car from the Floyd River Saturday, April 23, 2011. (Jim Lee/Sioux City Journal)

BRAIN TEASER (Math magic!)

This year we will experience 4 unusual dates 1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11, 11/11/11

NOW go figure this out..... take the last 2 digits of the year you were born plus the age you will be this year.

IT WILL EQUAL 111 .

Submitted by Doug Potts

IOWA'S NEW BOATING WHILE INTOXICATED LAW

On April 6, 2011, Iowa Governor Terry Branstad signed into law S.F. 7 “A bill for an act relating to a .08 blood alcohol limit for motorboat or sailboat operating while intoxicated offenses.” In Iowa the blood alcohol limit for operating a boating, sailboat and motor vehicle will now be the same at .08. Here’s how the new law defines “operate”:

“Operate” means to navigate or otherwise use a vessel or motorboat. *** “operate”, when used in reference to a motorboat, means the motorboat is powered by a motor which is running, and when used in reference to a sailboat, means the sailboat is either powered by a motor which is running, or has sails hoisted and is not propelled by a motor, and is under way.”

The new law becomes effective on July 1, 2011. Last year similar legislation passed the Senate but failed in the House. In addition to the Iowa Legislature and Governor Branstad, we wish to thank the many interested people, agencies and companies that supported the legislation.

Here’s the official support tally:

Senate: Ayes: 41; No 9

House: Ayes: 97; No 0

Lobbyist Support:

In Favor: Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI); Iowa Medical Society; Iowa State Sheriffs' & Deputies' Association; Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards; Iowa County Attorneys Association.

Undecided: Peace Officers Association; Iowa Chapter of Sierra Club; State Farm Insurance; Iowa Association for Justice; Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources; Storm Lake Citizens for Save the Lake; Iowa Wholesale Beer Distributors Association; Iowa Police Chief Association (f/k/a Iowa Police Executive Forum); Iowa Firefighters Association (IFA); AIG-American International Companies; Anheuser Busch; Allied Insurance; Nationwide Agribusiness; Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co.; American Insurance Association; Miller Coors LLC.; State Public Defender's Office.

<http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=billinfo&Service=Billbook&menu=false&hbill=sf7>

Submitted by Nick Critelli

AN AUXIE IN KING ARTHUR’S COURT

In 1889 Mark Twain wrote the now famous “A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court.” Twain’s lead character Hank receives a blow to the head and wakes up in Camelot where he is confronted by a knight who accuses him of trespass. Indeed Hank was a stranger in a strange land. He is brought before King Arthur’s court and because of his strange appearance and style of clothing is accused of being a spy, tried and sentenced to burn at the stake. He escapes his sentence only by showing the King that he has something of value to add to Camelot.

(cont. from page 18)

I now know how Hank felt. Mid-April I found myself in the strange land of Coast Guard HQ. The Coast Guard's Congressional and Governmental Affairs Department had convened a conference for its Government Affairs Officers. Previously the Auxiliary was not invited. However, this year they extended an invitation to yours truly. (Well, that may be a bit of a stretch. Actually I crashed the conference thanks to my ANACO-GP.)

Like Hank I initially felt like a trespasser among the stars and bars of the "gold side". They spoke a strange tongue: "CG 0921", "the 08 shop", "cap", and many other types of acrospeak. Even my clothes looked strange: Why are your bars silver? (A form of senior rank to match my hair color?) "Do we call you Captain?" (No, a simple Nick will do.) And then King Arthur himself appeared.

Admiral Papp spent about an hour with us. He is a very impressive man. I won't bore you with the details of government and congressional affairs for I've come to realize that only policy wonks like myself care about such things. But let me share with you the vision of our leader. Admiral Papp encouraged us, and in turn I encourage you, to become familiar with the Commandant's Vision:

"We will set a course that
Steadies the Service, Honors our profession, Strengthens
our partnerships, and Respects our Shipmates."

To accomplish the Vision, the Commandant has given us four priorities: Sustain Mission Excellence; Recapitalize and Build Capacity; Enhance Crisis Response and Management and Prepare for the Future.

I couldn't help but reflect upon how the Auxiliarists of Division 33 have honored the Commandant's charge. As he spoke, we had deployed Auxiliarists to North Dakota to help fight the 2011 Red River flood. In my view, they are the epitome of Mission Excellence and Enhanced Crisis Response. The previous month we hosted the first Flood Response Operations Group exercise to help us better prepare for seasonal flood duty. I am sure you will hear more about the FROG exercise in the near future but suffice it so say that they were extremely well prepared and are now introducing new and innovative technologies and techniques to the battle. (I must admit to feeling a bit sheepish. While they were up north slogging through ice, snow and sleet, I was in D.C. admiring the cherry blossoms. And I don't suspect they will sympathize with the dangers I encountered from the D.C. cabbies.)

In Twain's story Hank manages to save his life by introducing Camelot to a new and different way of thinking. As Auxiliarists, we too bring a valuable and different perspective to the Coast Guard. It's the perspective of those who are a stable and sustainable force in their state and local communities. Furthermore, it is a value added that my new gold side colleagues found important. How we work together to "exploit" this new resource will be the subject of upcoming discussions.

Hank left Camelot better for the experience. So it was with me. I left D.C. having shared valuable knowledge, made new acquaintances and with a handful of business cards. Let the networking begin!

Submitted by Nick Critelli, DIR-G, Legislative Liaison-Iowa



USCG members, including Gene Kellogg, with Admiral Mary Landry taken April 17 in Bismarck, North Dakota. Todd D. Epp, LL.M., Capt., CAP, photographer, submitted by Doug Jansen.



Water on I-29 north of Fargo between Fargo and Grand Forks (April 2011). Don Kramper photographer, submitted by Doug Potts.



WHAT'S NEW IN 2011?

LB 105, introduced into the Nebraska Legislature by Senator Ken Schilz of Ogallala, passed the Legislature and was signed into law by Governor Heineman on April 14. This bill will take effect January 1, 2012 and will change Nebraska's boating safety requirement from an age to a "born after" date. Currently, persons under the age of 18 must complete the boating safety course before operating any motorboat in the state of Nebraska, with the minimum age being 14.

When this new law takes effect, anyone born after December 31, 1985 will be required to complete the course. The minimum age will remain the same. So in essence, in 2012 anyone under 27 will need to complete the course, in 2013 under 28 and so on. Eventually, all boaters in the state will need to complete the course. This brings Nebraska in line with what many other states do—using a born after date rather than an age.

We will obviously have our work cut out for us in the first year. We won't be able to do it without our dedicated corps of volunteer instructors, most of whom come from the ranks of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Boating safety classes are in full swing for 2011. As of April 15 there are 51 classes scheduled, and we have already completed 26 classes.

Many of you have heard of the Game and Parks Board of Commissioner's decision to permit the consumption of alcohol at most State Parks and State Recreation Areas beginning January 1, 2011. This action was approved by Governor Heineman—with the exception of Lake McConaughy SRA. The consumption of alcohol will remain illegal at Lake McConaughy SRA.

Nebraska law (53-186) prohibits the consumption of alcohol on ANY public property in Nebraska unless authorized by the entity having control of the property. By authorizing the consumption of alcohol on its properties, the Commission's action supersedes this law.

However, it is important to note that not all waters in Nebraska are under control of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Even at some lakes with State Park facilities on the shoreline, the surface of the water may be under control of another entity such as the Army Corps, Bureau of Reclamation, an NRD, irrigation district, powers companies, etc. For that reason, boaters are best advised to find out locally whether or not the consumption of alcohol is permitted at a specific body of water.

Also remember that state boating laws are designed to apply statewide—regardless of who owns/controls a lake.

Operating a motorboat while intoxicated is still illegal. The BAC limit is still .08%. As always, alcohol and boating don't mix.

On March 15, we experienced our first boating fatality of the year. This accident happened at Branched Oak Lake, northwest of Lincoln. The cause of the accident is still being determined but preliminary investigation reveals that there was a definite maintenance problem that eventually caused an explosion and two occupants voluntarily left the boat. Our fatality attempted to swim to shore in 34 degree water and was overcome by hypothermia. The survivor stayed with the boat and suffered some minor burns and was treated for hypothermia and released from a local hospital. Many lessons are to be learned from this unfortunate incident. With boating season getting close, it's a good idea to start checking out your boating gear and boat, remember the dangers of cold water and wear your lifejacket. It doesn't work if you don't wear it.

Submitted by Herb Angell, Nebraska Boating Law Administrator