

“THE MISSOURI RIVER SKIPPER”

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 1, WINTER 2021



SCHEDULE OF FLOTILLA MEETINGS

085-33-01	Omaha	3rd Monday
085-33-02	Lincoln	2nd Sunday
085-33-03	NP Dodge Park	3rd Tuesday
085-33-04	Des Moines	2nd Saturday

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**Published by and for members of
The Great Plains Division,
8th Western Rivers Region,
U.S. Coast Guard
Auxiliary**

**Opinions expressed herein are
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**Want to see more pictures?
Please remember to check out the website at:
http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.php?unit=**

Staff Roster

Division Commander Barbara Westcott
 Vice Division Commander Douglas Eubanks
 Immediate Past Commander Brandon Butters
 Flotilla Commander 01 James Wolfe
 Flotilla Commander 02 Mary Poe
 Flotilla Commander 03 Randal Evans
 Flotilla Commander 04 Samuel Mitchel
 Finance (SO-FN) George McNary
 Secretary of Records (SO-SR) Barclay Stebbins

Chief of Logistics Douglas Eubanks
 Communication Services (SO-CS) Douglas Eubanks
 Human Resources (SO-HR) Constance Walters
 Information Services (SO-IS)..... Doug Eubanks
 Materials (SO-MA) James Westcott
 Public Affairs (SO-PA) Randal Evans
 Publications (SO-PB) Barbara Westcott
 Diversity (SO-DV) Brandon Butters
 Auxiliary Scout (SO-AS)..... Brandon Butters

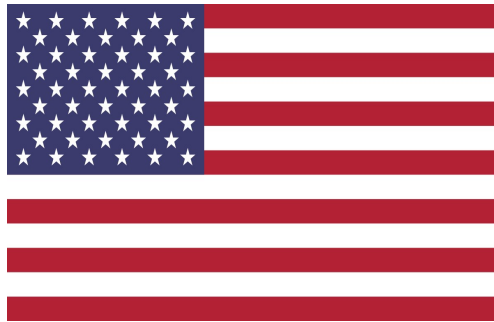
Chief of Prevention Daniel Smith
 Member Services (SO-MS) Roland Newton
 Member Training (SO-MT) John Hawkinson
 Navigation Systems (SO-NS) Roland Newton
 Public Education (SO-PE) James Westcott
 Public Visitation (SO-PV) Daniel Smith
 Vessel Examination (SO-VE) Daniel Smith

Chief of Response George McNary
 Communications (SO-CM) James Westcott
 Operations (SO-OP) Norma Newton

Other Appointments

Liaison to Iowa Douglas Ives
 Liaison to Nebraska Constance Walters
 Liaison to Gasconade Barclay Stebbins
 Liaison to Bass Pro Council Bluff..... Douglas Ives
 Liaison to Bass Pro Des Moines OPEN
 Liaison to Cabela's James Westcott

DIVISION COMMANDER'S MESSAGE WINTER 2021



Shipmates,

We are starting a new year, with new leadership in the Auxiliary. With COVID, we still have to abide by the restrictions placed upon us by the Coast Guard and the locations where we live and work. Hopefully we will soon be able to meet in person and enjoy each other's company.

I am truly sorry that we were unable to enjoy our Change of Watch Dinner, this is always a good time. I am also sorry that we could not have the "Lantern Ceremony," as this is a very impressive tradition within our Division.

I believe that we had a very productive first meeting on January 23rd. CDR Hemann was very gracious to attend and the message that she imparted prior to COMO Geddes giving the oath of office was extremely inspiring. We were honored to have them both at the meeting. We were also honored to have Susan Stocker from the Iowa DNR in attendance.

Our next Division meeting will be on April 17th. Information will be forthcoming as to the possibility of having a face-to-face meeting and our Awards Dinner. Please stay posted.

The Commodore's watchwords are: **PEOPLE, PROFICIENCY, PREPAREDNESS**. I believe that we can use those words to mean that: Our People need to be Proficient to be Prepared for whenever we are needed. So, let's get our training, our gear and ourselves ready.

Let's have a great year!

Barb Westcott, DCDR



Diversity and Inclusion

By Brandon Butters, SO-DV

The Oxford Dictionary defines diversity as “the practice or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds and of different genders, sexual orientations, etc.”. A real simple way to put it, maybe someone who is not like you or does not think like.

What makes up a diverse team? Defining a diverse team is not quite so easy to identify. Diversity encompasses all aspects of what makes us individuals and unique from each other. There are an infinite number of differences between us as humans, however most of diversity is boiled down to a few social classifications such as race, gender, age, sexual orientation, etc. There are certainly more visible and invisible aspects that make individuals diverse, but these broad categories are ones that society is comfortable placing individuals into.

There is another term that often used in tandem with diversity—inclusion, is a concept on its own. The Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) defines inclusion as “the achievement of a work environment in which all individuals are treated fairly and respectfully, have equal access to opportunities and resources, and can contribute fully to the organization’s success.”

Diversity refers to the traits and characteristics that make people unique while inclusion refers to the behaviors and interactions that make sure that people feel welcome. While these two ideas are separate terms, you **CANNOT** be diverse without being inclusive. Try these ideas for improved inclusion:

1. Work towards understanding and altering unconscious biases
2. Utilize inclusive language
3. Encourage everyone to contribute
4. Put your mission in writing
5. Don’t discourage the “difficult” conversations—(this can be hard to do!)

Not only is being included crucial for diversity efforts to succeed, creating an inclusive culture will prove beneficial for Auxiliary engagement and productivity.





WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW

[ALAUX 011/19 - CELL PHONE USE ONBOARD AUXILIARY FACILITIES \(govdelivery.com\)](http://govdelivery.com)



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

ALAUX 011/19 - CELL PHONE USE ONBOARD AUXILIARY FACILITIES

U.S. Coast Guard sent this bulletin at 07/23/2019 01:51 PM EDT

23 JUL 2019

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 011/19

SUBJ: CELL PHONE USE ONBOARD AUXILIARY FACILITIES

1. CG-BSX Policy Letter 19-05 (text copied below) prescribes the policy for cellular telephone use while operating under orders on Auxiliary surface facilities. This policy aligns with cellular telephone use guidance for active duty Boat Forces units.

2. This policy will be incorporated into the next revision of the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, COMDTINST M16798.3(series)

Continued on the next page

From: S. L. JOHNSON, CAPT /s/
COMDT (CG-BSX)

To: All DIRAUX (dpa)
All Auxiliary (AL AUX)

Subj: CELL PHONE USE ONBOARD AUXILIARY FACILITIES

Ref: (a) U.S. Coast Guard Boat Operations and Training Manual Volume I, COMDTINST M16114.32D
(b) Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, COMDTINST M16798.3E

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this policy letter is to provide guidance on the use of cellular phones, phone applications, and handheld devices while underway on Auxiliary surface facilities under orders.

2. ACTION. All Auxiliarists must comply with the provisions in this Policy Letter. Internet release is authorized.

3. BACKGROUND. Reference (a), chapter 3, section F.2 states the use of cell phones/texting devices and phone applications aboard Boat Force assets is prohibited without permission of the Coxswain; permission can be granted only on a case by case basis. This policy was incorporated into the annual Auxiliary Operations Workshop presentations but was never incorporated into Auxiliary directives.

4. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. These changes will be incorporated into the next revision of reference (b).

5. CHANGES. Major changes to the communication policy specifically the use of cell phones/texting devices and phone applications:

a. Auxiliary Patrols. A facility must have two-way communications with any Coast Guard unit; any Auxiliary Station or Detachments; any federal, state, or local agency (e.g., Army Corps of Engineers, police, fire department, etc.); or any local marina that agrees to maintain the scheduled communication guard, relay official information between the Coast Guard and Auxiliary facility. Local marinas must understand and agree to immediately report a loss of communications with the Auxiliary Patrol to the Coast Guard when the reporting period is exceeded.

Continued on the next page

b. VHF-FM is the primary method for communications during ordered patrols. The use of mobile phones and phone applications aboard Auxiliary Surface Facilities (vessels) is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Coxswain and only on a case by case basis. The Coxswain should take into consideration a variety of factors using risk management principles before allowing the use of mobile phones. When a crew member is allowed to use a mobile phone, the Coxswain will assure that there is a proper lookout posted and the rest of the crew are attentive to their duties. The helmsman is prohibited from using a mobile phone.

6. DISCLAIMER. This Policy Letter is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it a rule. It is intended to define requirements for Auxiliary personnel and is not intended to, nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.

7. QUESTIONS. Questions concerning this policy letter should be directed to the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, Auxiliary Division COMDT (CG-BSX-1) at CGAUX@uscg.mil. This policy letter and other policy documents are posted on the CG Auxiliary website at: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=T-DEPT&category=risk-mgt>

8. REQUEST FOR CHANGES. Units and individuals may recommend changes in writing via the chain of command to Commandant (CG-BSX-1), ATTN: Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, Auxiliary Division (CG-BSX-1), U. S. Coast Guard Stop 7501, 2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AVE SE, WASHINGTON DC 20593-7501.

