



Nor' Easter

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

First District Northern Region
Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island



Last Issue of 2022



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Homeland Security



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

On the front cover of this issue is a painting by Chris Demarest. The image is of a volunteer.

“The Coast Guard Auxiliary, the service’s corps of dedicated volunteers, assists in many ways, including giving courses in boating safety and aiding in search and rescue. One volunteer from the Auxiliary’s 30,000 members even serves as a bugler with the Coast Guard Honor Guard.” (see the citation on this page ON THE COVER section)

The bugler has found a way to be a volunteer. He has found his fit in the Auxiliary.

In their article on page five, Gladys Benshimol and Leslie Schwartz talk about auxiliarists finding their “good fit.”

We at the Nor’Easter hope you will read their article and be inspired to find your “good fit.”



I want to thank all those who helped me as editor of the Nor’Easter. I could not have been the editor without your help and support. Thank you!!



Thomas Broderick, DSO-PB
Richard Keating, ADSO-PB SBOS

ON THE COVER: The title of this painting is “Auxiliarist Bugler at Arlington Cemetery,” painted by Chris Demarest, watercolor, 12 x 16. Chris Demarest is part of the Coast Guard Art Program. (U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Information Distribution Services (dvids) <https://www.dvidshub.net/tag/image/c>)

His many books include *Firefighters A to Z* (NY Times Best Book, 2000). Other children favorites among his books are *The Cowboy ABC* (2001), *Plane* (1995), *Bus* (1996), and *My Blue Boat* (2014). (Bainbridge Public Library (<http://bainbridgepubliclibrary.org/chris>))

The photo of the painting is by Maryann Bader (photo taken 11/21/2022).

A special thanks to Natalie Braunstein of Flotilla Cape Cod Canal for her help in getting out this issue of the Nor'Easter.

Also, a special thanks to Bob Braunstein of Flotilla Cape Cod Canal for his continuing assistance with our District's newsletter, the Nor'Easter; thank you.

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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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Past Division Commanders Association

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My term is winding down, and we have new leadership assuming roles in 2023. I want to thank everyone for your efforts, dedication, and fellowship over the last two years. We had some exciting times, but we continued to meet the challenges. We developed new and innovative ways for us to operate. We all learned to use ZOOM, sometimes too much, and devised new ways to meet the public in a no-contact environment. We met these challenges head-on and are determined to continue serving our communities and the boating public. From no-contact proctoring to virtual training events, we remained relevant and safe. Now we are getting back together, rejoining friends in person, and sharing time is essential too. Please reach out to each other, especially during this time of year, stay connected and relish our fellowship cornerstone. I can honestly say it has been my honor and privilege to represent you as the District Commodore and that you are the ones who got the job done. Thank you all for your dedication, and I look forward to continuing to work with the best Auxiliarists in the organization.; Have a safe and happy holiday season.

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



Diversity and Opportunity in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary



By

Gladys Benshimol

SO-DV, DIV II, Sector Northern New England

And

Leslie Schwartz

BC-PSE, NATIONAL PREVENTION DIRECTORATE

Gladys Benshimol and Leslie Schwartz are members of
Flotilla Portsmouth Harbor, Portsmouth Harbor, N.H.

Our nation watched in horror as Hurricane Ian, the second-deadliest storm in the continental U.S. since Katrina, bore down on Florida earlier this year. Thousands of homes, businesses and public spaces were destroyed, putting countless lives in peril, and resulting in injury and death. Devastating damage to infrastructure and utilities caused ongoing chaos.

The Coast Guard response during Hurricane Ian was made possible in no small part by volunteer Auxiliary resources. Personnel trained in disciplines as diverse as Air Operations & Photography, Coxswain & Boat Crew, Marine Safety & Environmental Protection, Communications, Interpreter Corps, Incident Command, AUXBUILD, Instructor, Risk Management, Information Technology, Public Relations, and Publications are some of the crucial resources.

Given our vast array of missions, "good fit" opportunities exist for each and every member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to contribute meaningfully. Hurricane Ian is an extreme example of needs to be met; countless contributions are made by members around the country who are equally valuable in keeping our forces Mission Ready and Mission Capable. Unsung heroes can be found everywhere, quietly maintaining our great nation's health, safety, integrity, and security, with the core values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty underpinning each of their respective efforts.

Diversity and Opportunity in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (continued)



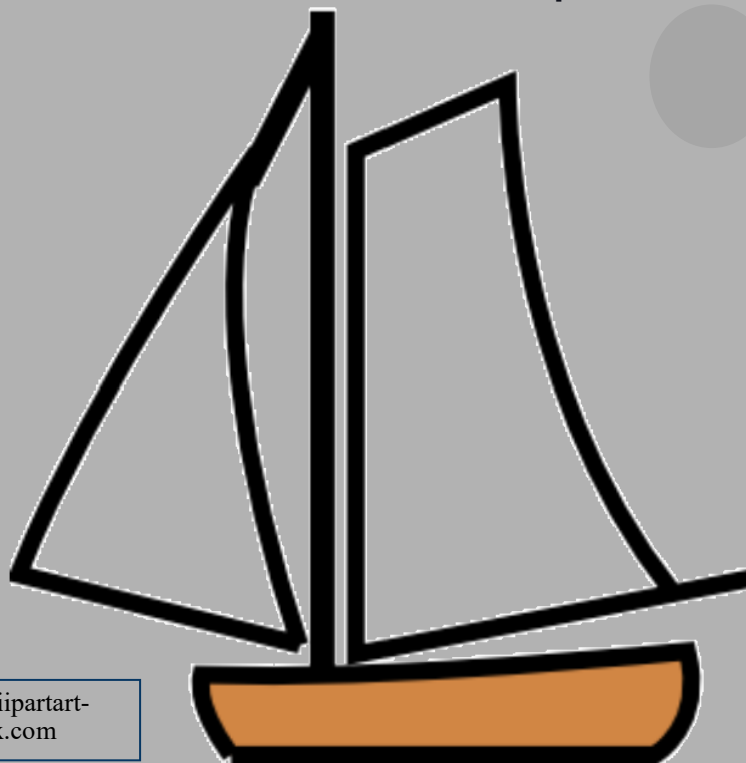
"The U.S. Coast Guard and its Auxiliary are considered the "Swiss Army Knife" of our nation in that we all prosecute a myriad of missions. Have you ever wondered what it takes for you, the Auxiliarist, to get involved and... did you even know these programs existed? Please take the time to review the source material on this site and see what interests you."

<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=D-DEPT&category=mission-diversity>

In February 1941, the volunteer U.S. Coast Guard Reserve was re-designated the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. With the exception of law enforcement and military operations, the purpose of the Auxiliary was, and remains, to support the U.S. Coast Guard in all its functions. Auxiliarists can be found on the nation's waterways, in the air, in classrooms, docks, and elsewhere, performing maritime domain awareness patrols, reconnaissance, public education, vessel safety checks, and many, many other missions.

YOUR skills, YOUR unique background, and YOUR enthusiasm are needed to help us be *Semper Paratus* -- Always Ready -- and to become an even better U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Diverse opportunities lie in store...Come and explore one or more!



Drawing courtesy of Clipartartix.com at <http://clipartix.com>

USCG Auxiliary Opens Museum



First of its Kind, no Waiting in Line, and Tickets are Free

You don't even need to travel to get there. Just hop on your computer, and the museum is right in front of you on your computer screen. Like the headline says above, the online visit is free, and no line to stand in.

There is no coat rack to find to hang up your heavy, bulky winter coat. As you can guess, this museum is a virtual museum. This virtual museum is the creation of the History Division of the Public Affairs Directorate.

"The mission of the Virtual Museum of the Coast Guard Auxiliary (VMCGA) is to present, in a museum-like setting, historical objects of interest from our organization's past."

So why not visit this new museum on some nasty, cold, windy, slippery road conditions night? Pop some popcorn, get the fireplace going, and start your tour.



USCG Auxiliary Silver 1966 - 1976

Description: The cap device was worn by Auxiliarists from 1966 to 1976.

Material: Brass

Image courtesy of Stephen Marthouse Collection

USCG Auxiliary Opens Museum



First of its Kind, no Waiting in Line, and Tickets are Free (continued)

Directions to the museum: put the road map away and turn your GPS off and type in "A-Directorate Public Affairs Museum USCG Aux" and click on: Welcome to the Public Affairs Web Site - USCG Aux; you are there.



Below and on the previous page are just some of the exhibits you will find at the museum.

The newsletter *Topside* of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary of the Fourth Naval District in December 1944 had paid advertising.

The Fourth District consists of southern Pennsylvania and the east coast of New Jersey.

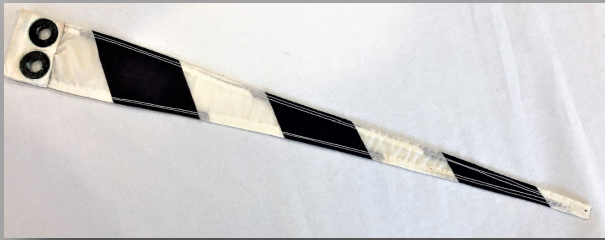
The Fourth Naval District of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is now the Fifth District, Northern Region of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.



USCG Auxiliary Opens Museum



First of its Kind, no Waiting in Line, and Tickets are Free (continued)



USCG Auxiliary Operational Facility Pennant 1968 - 1984

Description: This pennant was flown above the Auxiliary Ensign while the facility was under orders.

Material: Nylon and brass grommets

Image courtesy of District 5NR Collection.

USCG Auxiliary Ensign Blue Variation 1942 - 1968

Description: This flag was approved for use on any Auxiliarist's vessel.

Material: Nylon, cotton and brass grommets.

Image courtesy of District 5NR Collection.



USCG Auxiliary Opens Museum



First of its Kind, no Waiting in Line, and Tickets are Free (continued)



USCG Auxiliary Efficiency Pennant 1942 - 1968

Description: Vessel rated "Excellent" was entitled to fly above the Auxiliary flag. Later awarded as well to mobile radio units.

Material: Wool and brass grommets

[Additional Image](#)

Image courtesy of District 5NR Collection.

Don't hesitate to contact the museum if you want to exhibit any items at the new museum. Also, please read Collections Management Policy for contributing items.

The information and photos of exhibits about our history are from the Public Affairs Directorate's website. The quote on page eight is also from that website. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary - Public Affairs - History Program (uscgaux.info)

The photo of the ad on page nine is from Fifth District's Northern Region website by a link to the Directorate's website.

A special thanks to the men and women of the Fifth District. Their sense of history and dedication to keeping our past safe and secure is appreciated.

Nor'Easter Needs an Editor or Two



Think New

Think A New Start

Have you been thinking about volunteering to be an editor of our District's newsletter, the Nor'Easter but are intimidated by the usual 25-page layout?

Our District is rethinking how the newsletter should look. How it looks and what information is to appear in the newsletter are being reassessed.

The newsletter could be just one, two, or three pages.

More information and ideas are on the way.

So please keep an open mind to the potential our District's newsletter can have in communicating with our members.

If you have any ideas about how you would like our District's newsletter to communicate information to its readers, please let your thoughts be known.

Nor'Easter

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

First District Northern Region
Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island



Drawing courtesy of Clipartartix.com at <http://clipartix.com>



A new and improved Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



By Rona Trachtenberg, FSO-PA, FSO-AS

Rona Trachtenberg is member of Flotilla New Bedford,
New Bedford, MA,



Photo: Team Coast Guard Color Guard and the crew of the Rapid Response boat.

Photo by Jae Ramirez , Saturday, November 19, 2022 outside Plymouth Memorial Hall, Plymouth, MA

A new and improved Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



Saturday, November 19, 2022, dawned clear, cloudless, and cold as dedicated members of both the Gold and Silver sides prepared to march in the 26th America's Hometown Thanksgiving Parade in Plymouth, Mass.

This year marked Team Coast Guard's 16th year of participation in the only American chronologically accurate parade that visually brings America's rich heritage to life by historically representing each century from the 17th through the 21st.

This representation of each century is accomplished through artistically creative floats, expertly executed Drum & Bugle Corp marching bands, community organization representation, and the military presence of every stripe to create an event that rivals Macy's Parade in NYC.



Drawing courtesy of Cliipartartix.com at <http://clipartix.com>

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



As of 2021, the Parade was broadcast live on TV's Channel 5 - WCVB (an ABC affiliate), and the starting point was Plymouth Rock. As we were to learn, several nuanced differences this year made our participation more interesting.



Team Coast Guard Color Guard, Photo courtesy of Jae Ramirez, MSTC

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



First, at 0745, Team Coast Guard mustered indoors on the second-floor auditorium of the Plymouth Memorial Hall instead of shivering outdoors in the cold for several hours. Plymouth Memorial Hall is where MSTC Jae Ramirez, the Coast Guardsman photographer for the day, started to document our exciting experience. Many thanks to the VFW for inviting us and providing donuts and coffee.

Second, the Coast Guard drove and parked their 29-foot Rapid Response Vessel right in front of the Plymouth Memorial Hall and their recruitment exhibit. I saw many spectators taking selfies alongside this vessel. It was an eye-catcher and offered maximum PA visibility. Kudos to whoever decided to bring it along.



Drawing courtesy of Cliipartartix.com at <http://cliipartix.com>

Third, continuing in the spirit of public affairs and recruitment, our new orders were to continue marching in formation until we passed the Reviewing Stand and then to break ranks and hand out Coast Guard “swag” (whistles, lanyards, and CG literature).

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



On the lower level of the Plymouth Memorial Hall, Company Commander MK1 DeMond, of Station Cape Cod, drilled the 24 Coast Guardsman and six of us Auxiliarists on how to: line up; swing our arms properly; position ourselves within the three rows; to start with the left foot and to turn our heads 45 degrees when passing the reviewing stand.



Team Coast Guard with Commander DeMond MK1 of Station Cape Cod on the right.
Photo by Jae Ramirez MSTC, November 19, 2022, lower level Plymouth Memorial Hall, Plymouth, MA.

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



Fourth, instead of our entire complement of marchers all wearing the same Foul Weather Parkas, as in previous years, there were five Aux Air members in their green one-piece aviation flight suits with flack jackets, one Maritime Enforcement Specialists, and one Maritime Security Team member, both in full law enforcement gear, minus their weapons. This recruitment modification was enacted so the spectators could see the various careers that the Coast Guard offered.

At 0915, we staged a group photo, in front of the 29, and all walked down to Court Street to find our place within the line-up.

Fifth, the Parade organizers eliminated the need for participants to wait on side streets. Instead, they ingeniously created three columns: the left was for floats, the middle was for marchers, and the right was for bands. This way, they could move into position, from each column, whichever group was to start next.

Fortunately, the sun's warmth kept us from noticing the brisk 39-degree weather and WSW 5 knots of wind as we stood in formation and observed the controlled chaos around us.

Then things started moving; bands practicing in place started moving forward and floats started moving past us to begin their processions. We saw Amelia Earhart's red plane, the 1972 Space Shuttle celebrating its 50th anniversary, Santa's reindeer and sleigh, and the replica of the Mayflower that looked very authentic as their team stepped the masts, shipped the yards, and hoisted the sails.



Coast Guardsman Ryan Sweet waiting to move forward to start the Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Photo by Jae Ramirez MSTC, November 19, 2022.

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



We saw a man standing in front of the Lincoln Monument float, dressed in period garb and whose face, beard, and hair looked eerily similar to our 16th President. It is details like this that make this parade so historically accurate.

The eight beautiful-coiffed Clydesdale horses gracefully glided beside us, pulling the 111-year-old wooden wagon built by the Studebaker Company in Chicago, Illinois. This exquisite sight prompted many spectators to take photos.

Speaking of horses, when a regiment of Police Horses clopped by us, I noticed that each horse had a poop bag strapped to its hind quarters to catch output. What a wonderful invention!

Near us are women placing free water bottles, drinks, and a large assortment of pre-wrapped snacks on a table for the marchers to enjoy. We all appreciated her kind gesture.

While we waited, I had time to get to know my fellow Auxiliarist marchers. Joe Cabral, from my own flotilla (New Bedford) , Joe is our FSO-VE.

In addition to Kevin Ritchie, the other two Braintree Flotilla members were James Thomson, who previously served as our parade photographer, and Sally Snowman, the Lighthouse Keeper for the Boston Light.



Drawing courtesy of Cliipartartix.com at <http://clipartix.com>

Brady Connors of the Worcester Flotilla in Worcester joined the Auxiliary this summer and got his BQ status. He expressed his admiration on his first marching: "It was an honor to help represent the USCGAUX in this year's parade. I want to say thank you to all of my fellow Auxiliarists, Active Duty, and Reserve Coast Guardsmen. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is a crucial member of Team Coast Guard, and I am glad I can help represent and be a part of it. I love my time in the Auxiliary. As a senior in High School, I hope to pursue a Coast Guard Officers' Commission when I graduate college."

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



Ron Brian of Flotilla Charles River recently achieved an Aux Op award. He said, "It is an honor and a privilege. The floats were outstanding! Marching with the Coast Guard offers a chance to reflect on our great country and what it stands for. To see all the families showing military appreciation and support was truly heartfelt. A special place is reserved in my heart for the Coast Guard, and marching in my dad's honor filled me with a great sense of pride. My dad served as a Coastie from 1951-1953 on the Casco. He was a QM-2 and a ship's photographer. I am grateful. God bless our country and troops."

Soon it was our turn to step off, which eventually came at approximately 1100.

Another change this year was that there wasn't an identifying banner for us to carry. So, Kevin marched in front of the Color Guard and called cadence for them, while MK1 DeMond called cadence for our Team Coast Guard formation.



The May Flower, Plymouth Harbor, Plymouth, MA Photo courtesy Brian Hamburg, Foursquare City Guide (<http://foursquare.combsquare>)

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



A salute from the reviewing stand, From left to right: COMO Grossimon, Glen Gayton, DCOS(E), COMO Byron Moe, CDR Joel B. Carse XO Sector Boston, and Chief McNamara from Air Station Cape Cod. Photo courtesy by Jae Ramirez, MSTC.

As we passed the Reviewing Stand, MK1 DeMond saluted, and those in the second and third rows turned their heads 45 degrees, as we were instructed.

The Color Guard continued to march in formation as the rest of Team Coast Guard greeted the spectators by waving, saluting, smiling, shaking hands with the adults, and high-fiving the children whose waiting hands were out. At one point, we were enveloped in bubbles as one of the children playfully aimed her bubble machine at us.

If we saw a young man or woman who we believed would be a good Coast Guardsman candidate, we gave him/her a recruitment brochure. This new, friendly strategy was a crowd-pleaser.

Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade



As we passed Plymouth Memorial Hall, many Coast Guardsman returned to the Recruitment Exhibit to replenish their supply of literature and swag.

One thing that remained the same for me was the pride and goosebumps I always get during the Coast Guard Fly-over. Everyone erupted in cheers and applause. Also, I never get tired of hearing, "Thank you for your service," and "Yay, Coast Guard," as we march.

After walking up and down a few more hills and troughs, lined five-deep with spectators, the parade ended. We found a parallel street to walk back to Plymouth Memorial Hall, where the VFW graciously provided sandwiches on the second floor.

In conclusion, this was one of the more enjoyable parade experiences I will remember for a long time.



From left to right: Ritchie, DSO-PA, USCG Aux., Ryan Sweet, HS2, Jorge Sanchez YN3, Colin Beres, BM1, Micah Powel, YN3, Mahlon Kirk, YN3, USCG.

Photo by Jae Ramirez, MSTC, November 19, 2022, Plymouth Memorial Hall

That's How Many Seconds There are Till the First Day of National Safe Boating Week! (start your count down clock 1/1/2023)



National Safe Boating Week is May 20-26, 2023

Is your flotilla ready? It is never too early to start planning.

Put May 20, 2023 on your flotilla Calendar

Find a location to set-up a RBS information booth

And/or a Vessel safety Check station

Order supplies: brochures and pamphlets

What about a table cloth that ID's your flotilla (your flotilla budget can be modified)

During this winter qualify more VE's and PV's

Time calculation courtesy of Time and Date (<http://www.timeanddate.com/date>)

The poster features the text 'NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK' in large, bold letters, with 'SAFE' in orange and 'BOATING WEEK' in blue. Below this is a wavy line and the dates 'MAY 20-26, 2023'. At the bottom left is a graphic of an orange life vest with 'WEAR IT' written below it. To the right of the life vest are social media icons for Facebook and Twitter, both with the handle '@boatingcampaign'. Further right is the website 'SAFEBOATINGCAMPAIGN.COM'. At the bottom of the poster are several logos: the National Safe Boating Council, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and 'YOUR BOATING DOLLARS AT WORK'. A small disclaimer at the very bottom reads: 'Published under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. Reference to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of the public, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the U.S. Coast Guard.'

[Resources - Safe Boating Campaign](#)



NOR'EASTER

USCGAUX District 1NR

Last issue of 2022

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Nor'Easter is published quarterly by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, District 1 Northern Region. The *Nor'Easter* Production Team, consisting of the Editor and sector ADSO-PBs, welcomes submission of content including but not limited to special recognition of individual members and units, flotilla and division events and activities, sector and division training, all aspects of recreational boating safety, and district matters that are of general interest to members or warrant their attention. Submissions are reviewed by the Editor and Production Team and approved by the District Commodore or designee.

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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
AUXILIARY
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS
DATED MATERIAL

Semper Paratus
"Always Ready"

TO:

VISIT US ON THE WEB:
a013.uscgaux.info



NOTICE: Newsletter Requirement for Publication

All flotilla and division newsletters must include the date they were approved for publication after receiving clearance from Richard Keating, ADSO-PB. Example:

"This publication received clearance on 9 June 2022."

District 1 Northern Region Mission Statement

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is a component of the United States Coast Guard, which is a multi-mission maritime service and one of the Nation's five Armed Services. The mission of the Auxiliary is to protect the public, the environment, and U.S. economic interests, in the Nation's ports and waterways, along its coasts, on international waters, or in any maritime region as required, and to support national security in a non-military role and non-direct law enforcement role.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023

2023 events to be announced

See the district website for additional details, other events, and updates.

This issue of *Nor'Easter* received clearance on 17 December 2022.