

The St. Augustine BUOY

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The Nation's Oldest City - St. Augustine, Florida

www.mysafeboating.com

David Patrick FSO-PB



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Jacksonville, FL - Sean Fynn (right) is interviewed by News4Jax anchor Corley Peel prior to the start of National Safe Boating Week.

Photo courtesy WJXT website, <https://www.news4jax.com>

Thank you to all the participants in National Safe Boating Week 2022. It was a successful week, with activities at West Marine, Vilano Boat Ramp, St Augustine Marina, the Blue Crab Festival, Ridgeview High School and multiple individual action items to improve boating safety in NE Florida. Media included an article in the St Augustine Record, an interview at the Vilano Boat Ramp and in the studio with the local TV station WJXT. A special note of thanks go to Henry Seiden, David Patrick, Butch Albano, Joe McCoy, Bill Candeletti, Jose Riera, beth Elliott and Bob Elliott. You all did a great job in getting us out in the public eye. More notes on the items are included in the following articles.

**SEAN FLYNN
FLOTILLA COMMANDER**



Jose Riera is working diligently to get our AuxAir, an Auxiliary aviation operational program, launched and we appreciate his diligence. This gives our flotilla additional mission capabilities. Missions can include sea and air training, which can be fun, informative and help prepare for needed capabilities when called upon.

I would encourage members to get active this year. The USCG is in full speed ahead mode and is in need of many of our resources, missions and activities. We always need the help. Reach out to me for mission opportunities.

We have an upcoming Division 14 fellowship with gold side in September at the Jumbo Shrimp baseball game. It's a great way to have fun and get to know our counterparts in the USCG.

Boat Crew training is in the works for our flotilla and we are completing some qualifications needed prior to getting back to on the water training. You can get up to speed by reviewing our previous

classwork conducted by David Patrick. New Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRB) are being distributed and you should receive yours prior to August deadline, when our batteries are to expire.



Jacksonville, FL - Sean Flynn, FC 14-7, speaks live on local TV about plans for National Safe Boating Week. He stressed the importance of always wearing your life jacket, using an Emergency Cut-off Switch (ECOS), sometimes referred to as a kill switch, purchasing a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB), especially when planning offshore trips, and other ideas to make boating safer and more enjoyable.

MORNING SHOW

National Safe Boating Week

Published: May 22, 2022, 10:17 AM

Tags: National Safe Boating Week, Dock, Water, Sea, Flotilla, Boating, Equipment, Boats, Summer, Safety, Watercraft, Vessel, Morning Show, Ocean

National Safe Boating Week is a great opportunity for boaters to go over their safety checklist before heading out to the water. Flotilla Commander, Sean Flynn joins us to discuss the importance of safe boating, what equipment to take, and common mistakes boaters make.



From the St Augustine Record published before National Safe Boating Week

Ed. - The following article is reprinted with kind permission of the St Augustine Record, was submitted by Henry Seiden, FSO-PA and published before the start of National Safe Boating Week.

The waters in and around St. Johns County draw boaters from all over the country, especially during the summer months. With more than a million registered vessels in Florida, it's no wonder that the state also leads the nation in boating accidents with 751 recreational accidents reported in 2021.

U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in four out of every five recreational boating fatalities in 2020 and that 86% of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

National Safe Boating Week serves as a reminding to all boaters to brush up on boating safety skills and prepare for the boating season.

The National Safe Boating Council also recommends that boaters take a boating safety course and schedule a free vessel safety check with local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons to make sure all essential equipment is present, working and in good condition.

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 14-7 St. Augustine Flotilla Commander Sean P. Flynn agrees.



St Augustine - Coxswain Steve Parsons and crew prepare to get underway on a recent patrol.

Photos courtesy Henry Seiden

"Wearing a life jacket is the most important thing a boater can do," Flynn said. "We also encourage every skipper to investigate, own, register and wear a 'Personal Locator Beacon, and if your vessel has or will have one, please wear your Engine Cut-off Switch (ECOS) whether manufacturer-installed or one you've added, as required, whenever piloting the vessels."

Flynn continued, "If we compare the fatality rates for boaters who have taken a boating safety course in the past ten years to those who did not, we find an "untrained" boater is five times more likely to die in a boating accident than one who received boating safety training. The training course is required in Florida if you're 24 years of age or older. You must complete the course to obtain a Boater Safety Card, to legally operate most motor-powered boats on your own, including Personal Water Craft (PWC)."

St. Augustine's Flotilla 14-7 is one of hundreds of volunteer flotillas nationwide whose mission is to contribute to the safety and security of boaters, ports, waterways, and coastal regions with the focus on recreational boating safety and education. Flotilla members come from all walks of life. Some are retired military. Others are experienced or unexperienced boaters just looking to learn more about their local waterways, with the desire to become part of the local boating scene. Members are trained in boating safety and other aspects of on-the-water experiences.

Boater education courses aren't just for boaters. The Florida Wildlife Commission urges owners of human powered watercraft, such as paddleboards and kayaks, to take a boating education class to be better prepared for risks they may face.

Boaters and other water enthusiasts have many ways to get educated, from classroom courses offered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary and United States Power Squadrons to online offerings available anytime--day or night.

Learn more about boater safety education by visiting MyFWC.com/boating and clicking on Boating Safety and Education. To learn more about the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 14-7, email pa@mysafeboating.com. Find information on safety courses at boatsmartexam.com/Florida.



St Augustine, FL - Henry Seiden, FSO-PA, Butch Albano, FSO-MA, and Jose Riera, VFC spent most of one day during National Safe Boating Week talking to shoppers at West Marine. Photo courtesy the store manager.



Palatka, FL - Beth and Bob Elliott take a 'selfie' after walking the Blue Crab Festival in their life jackets to advertise National Safe Boating Week.



St Augustine, FL - Corley Peel, left from New4Jax conducts another interview with Sean Flynn, this time on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the Vilano Boat Ramp as part of NSBW.



St Augustine, FL - Bill Candeletti, FSO-VE, right, conducting a Vessel Safety Check on a personal watercraft (PWC) at the Vilano Boat Ramp.



St Augustine, FL - Butch Albano completing another Vessel Safety Check on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the Vilano Boat Ramp.



St Augustine, FL - Henry Seiden discusses boating safety on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the Vilano Boat Ramp with unknown father and son prior to boarding their boat.



Bringing National Safe Boating Week to Work in the High School Classroom

What do you do when National Safe Boating Week (NSBW) coincides with the closing activities of the school year? You try to be creative and bring it home to the students before they leave for the summer break. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-7 Staff Officer for Finance, Joe McCoy, works as a Biology/Chemistry teacher at Ridgeview High School in Orange Park, Florida. For this year's NSBW activities, he coordinated 22 Vessel Safety Checks with former students, teachers, and colleagues who have worked with his students. In the classroom, he wore his Vessel Examiner's uniform and safety vest to discuss the contents of several U.S. Coast Guard and Florida Fish and Wildlife (FWC) brochures that were placed on display in both his classroom and the school's Media Center during NSBW.

Besides the normal safety emphasis topics of wearing the proper life jacket and having a personal locator beacon (PLB), he discussed biological topics on protecting marine mammals, such as dolphins and manatees. He also discussed the protection of sea turtles and coral reefs. Adding some chemistry topics, his discussions ranged from the importance of water quality to the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. It is his hope that such discussions will result in careers allied to these topics for his students.



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officediscounts.org/cgauxa



Jose Riera, VFC 14-7, recently attended AUXAIR (USCG Auxiliary Air Operations Division) training at the Savannah Air Station, Georgia. This is yearly required training for all Aircraft Commanders and Aircrew. Team Coordination Training (TCT), Cockpit Resource Management (CRM), physiological factors, air regulations and Search and Rescue (SAR) procedures were reviewed.

JOSE RIERA VICE COMMANDER

Attendees also take an annual swim test (pictured below) where they are required to swim 75 yards with full gear and then get into a single-man raft.

Picture below shows Bob Hastie, ADSO-AV, who is in charge of personal protective equipment (PPE) and Jose is one of the volunteers demonstrating how the PPE works, what is in all the pockets in the vest and then what it looks like when the vest is inflated.



Savannah, GA - All photos courtesy USCG Auxiliary.



PARTNER VISITORS

GEORGIA YOUNG

RISK MANAGEMENT REFRESHER

Program Visitor members were hard at work during May contacting all our Marina Partners concerning the hurricane season. Sector Jacksonville requires us to make personal contact with all marinas or places that are on the water to make sure all have plans in place in case of a pending hurricane. We ask them questions like - Do you have a hurricane plan in place? Do you have any fuel storage, what kind, and how much? Do you have any vessels with significant fuel capacity? We verify the marina contact information. We provide them information as to whom to contact in case of any hazardous materials release. We inform them that all boats remaining on premises must be securely tied down and that all potential hazards and missile materials must be cleared from the premises. In case of evacuation, boaters need to evacuate early as traffic may get very congested and bridges will be locked down eight hours prior to predicted arrival of sustained gale force winds. A form is filled out for each marina, and we forward those to Sector for use by the active Coast Guard in the event of a hurricane. If a hurricane is predicted, it is our additional responsibility to briefly contact the marinas to be sure everything is progressing and then again to contact them after the hurricane has passed to assess damage and see if any help is needed.



Now that we are in the midst of hurricane season and all our reports have been forwarded, we are back to visiting our Partners, refilling displays with boating safety materials, and acting as liaisons between the U S Coast Guard and the boating public. We occasionally perform a public service event with our Partners. This June we spent time at West Marine in Palm Coast passing out boating safety materials and talking to customers about boating safety and federal and state boating requirements. If anyone is available to help with this important responsibility, please contact me. It is very rewarding and informative to visit the different marinas and boating outlets.

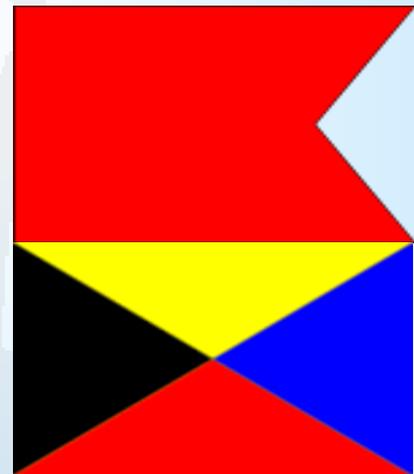


If you used **AmazonSmile** while shopping on Amazon, **Lifetime donations amount to \$24,664.42** to our Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc.

COMO Ken Jacobs and COMO Rick Saunders, have scheduled a Risk Management Refresher (TCT) class for Saturday, July 16, 2022, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. This session is being offered on ZOOM, and the facilitators are COMO Kenneth Jacobs and COMO Rick Saunders. Rick emphasizes that this course also is mandated for those members looking for the initial qualification of such missions as boat crew. You may want to alert those members interested in operations of this opportunity. They should communicate directly with Ken Jacobs (kntjacobs@aol.com) who is administering the course.

BRAVO ZULU

The combination of the Bravo and Zulu nautical signal flags, i.e. Bravo Zulu, also referred to as "BZ," is a naval signal, typically conveyed by flaghoist or voice radio, meaning "Well Done" with regard to actions, operations or performance. In addition to the British Royal Navy, it has also been used as part of vernacular slang within NATO and other Allied naval forces. It can be combined with the "negative" signal, spoken or written as NEGAT, to say "NEGAT Bravo Zulu" to convey "not well done" for a given action.



"BZ" is widely used as shorthand vernacular amongst members of the sea services. In the Royal Navy, when the sovereign wishes to reward the crew of a British warship with the order to "splice the mainbrace,"[clarification needed] it is ordinarily followed simply with Bravo Zulu.

Ed. Thanks to Henry Seiden for submitting this interesting information.



Would you, or an Auxiliarist you know, like to become an Auxiliary Certified Instructor?

The Public Education Directorate, authors of "Instructor Development 2020", is again offering an instructor-led online version of Instructor Development. The 2022 offering of Instructor Development 2020 will be held in July, beginning on Tuesday evening July 26, 2022. This is an opportunity for up to 12 Auxiliarists to complete most of the requirements of the ID 2020 Personal Qualification Standard (PQS) in an online, videoconferencing, instructor-led format.

The course will consist of ten to 12 hours of online virtual classroom instructional time spaced over the following four evenings in July and August:

- Tuesday, 26 July from 1900 to approximately 2130 eastern time
- Wednesday, 27 July, from 1900 to approximately 2130 eastern time
- Monday, 8 August, from 1900 to approximately 2130 eastern time
- Tuesday 9 August from 1900 to approximately 2130 eastern time

Upon completion of this course, the candidate instructor will have completed all the PQS requirements for Instructor Certification, except for the one to two-hour classroom presentation. The one-to-two-hour presentation will be completed locally at a subsequent date to be scheduled by the candidate instructor. Long presentation critiques and final sign-offs of the PQS will be performed locally by a currently certified Instructor.

The entire course material is located at [2020 Instructor Development \(uscgaux.info\)](https://www.uscgaux.info) and can be downloaded in advance of the class.

Platform: Zoom - Access codes will be sent to the 12 accepted enrollees.

Class Size: 12 maximum to accommodate 15-30 minute presentation critiques and PQS completion. We will maintain a "waitlist" if more than 12 Auxiliarists respond positively.

Instructor team: PE Directorate staff

Students must have a Webcam/Microphone and the bandwidth to accommodate webcam video. Phoning in to the class will not be acceptable.



Other requirements include:

- Ability to block out and attend the above time slots.
- Quiet space in which to participate
- Commitment to attend all four sessions as well as completion of all required homework in between sessions

This is not a workshop, but these are sessions that will lead to a new – not previously certified instructor certification and is intended to provide a pathway to the final certification steps that will take place at the local flotilla level.

Interested members can register at:

<https://forms.gle/jEzFHNo6RWoV22ts9>

This is the only way to register.

We have also been requested to include seasoned instructors as auditors, so that they can see how the E-Directorate conducts the ID2020 Course. To accommodate that, potential auditors can register at the same location as above and just select Auditor vis-à-vis Student.

The deadline for registration is July 5, 2022. You will be notified no later than July 12th if you have been enrolled in the class or are on a waiting list.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

Karen L. Miller
USCG Auxiliary
Division Chief – Instructor Development

ALEXANDER MALEWSKI, NATIONAL COMMODORE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY, INTRODUCES THE 27th COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

In a Change-of-Command ceremony held on June 1, 2022, Admiral Linda L. Fagan was sworn in as the 27th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. She is the first woman to serve as Commandant, the first woman to earn the rank of four stars in the Coast Guard, and the first woman Service Chief of any U.S. military service. Admiral Fagan served as Vice Commandant from June 18, 2021 and relieved Admiral Karl L. Schultz, who has served with honor and distinction as the Coast Guard's Commandant since June 1, 2018.



“Admiral Fagan's prior flag assignments include Deputy Commandant for Operations, Policy, and Capability; Commander, First Coast Guard District, and a joint assignment as Deputy Director of Operations for Headquarters, United States Northern Command. Operational tours include Commander, Sector New York, more than 15 years as a Marine Inspector, and sea duty in USCGC POLAR STAR, a 399ft heavy polar icebreaker. Staff assignments include Executive Assistant to the Commandant and Vice Commandant, and Division Chief of the Foreign and Offshore Compliance Office. A 1985 Coast Guard Academy graduate, Admiral Fagan's tenure in the Coast Guard earned her the Coast Guard's first Golden Ancient Trident, an honor given to the officer with the longest active marine safety service.

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, I extend our heartiest congratulations and welcome aboard to Admiral Fagan on assuming her new role as Commandant. We are excited to implement her vision for the Auxiliary, continue to search out innovative and effective means to enhance our multi-mission capabilities, achieve excellence in our recreational boating safety mission, and augment Team Coast Guard wherever and whenever needed. We thank Admiral Schultz for his outstanding service to our nation, our Coast Guard, and our Coast Guard Auxiliary, and wish him God's speed, fair winds, and following seas as he charts his next course on this voyage we call “life”.”

SEMPER PARATUS!
Alexander Malewski, National Commodore
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

HAPPY 83rd BIRTHDAY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



**America's
Volunteer
Guardians**

Promoting Boating Safety, Security and Stewardship since 1939

EST. JUNE 23, 1939

Some excerpts from our Commandant's ALCOAST on June 23, 2022:

- To the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Happy 83rd Birthday from everyone in our United States Coast Guard!
- The men and women who serve in the Auxiliary have selflessly devoted their time, skills, and expertise across an increasingly diverse array of roles and missions to assist the Coast Guard, and to preserve and protect our Nation's maritime interests.
- Persevering through these uncertain and unprecedented times, the Auxiliary and its membership have continued to make significant impacts nationwide.
- Auxiliarists have faithfully augmented Coast Guard units as watchstanders at communications centers, delivering critical assistance to resolve search and rescue cases; as culinary specialists, preparing outstanding meals in dining facilities ashore and at sea on multiple long voyages aboard the CGC EAGLE and CGC HEALY; as healthcare professionals, providing much needed healthcare services and augmenting our shortage of Flight Surgeons.
- Guard Auxiliary interpreters provided critical services on over 75 translation missions in support of DHS and the Coast Guard.
- Auxiliary Chaplains have improved the mental and spiritual health of our workforce by contributing over 10,000 hours of operational support in crisis care and religious ministry.
- In 2021, the Auxiliary completed over 42,000 vessel safety checks and nearly 50,000 marine dealer visits; truly extraordinary results that highlight the exemplary commitment displayed daily by the Auxiliary to ensure safety on our waters.
- More recently, Auxiliarists have supported the Coast Guard's response along our Nation's Southwest border.
- We are extremely proud of our Coast Guard Auxiliary.

ADM Linda L. Fagan, Commandant (CCG)



St Augustine, FL - Sean Flynn, FC 14-7, congratulates Butch Albano on qualifying as a Vessel Examiner. Jose Riera, VFC 14-7, and Steve Bergman look on.



St Augustine, FL - Sean Flynn, FC 14-7, congratulates Henry Seiden, FSO-PA 14-7, in recognition of his Meritorious Team Commendation Award for being part of the Division 14 Memorial Wall Team.



St Augustine, FL - Sean Flynn, FC 14-7, congratulates Bill Hall in recognition of his Meritorious Team Commendation Award for being part of the Division 14 Memorial Wall Team.



St Augustine, FL - Sean Flynn, FC 14-7, congratulates David Patrick as he is presented with a Meritorious Team Commendation Award for being part of the Division 14 Memorial Wall Team.



NEXT MEETING
JULY 7, 2022, 7:00 PM
AT THE
ST AUGUSTINE YACHT CLUB
420 OCEAN VISTA DR
ST AUGUSTINE FL



The BUOY is the official publication of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-7 and is intended to provide articles of interest and information for its members. The Privacy Act of 1974 protects names, addresses, telephone numbers of Division 14 members in this publication. The Privacy Act prohibits publication of this information by groups outside the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

