

# Potomac Currents

Division 25, 5th Southern Coast Guard Auxiliary District  
'Potomac Guardians'



Honor, Respect, Devotion to Duty

April 2010

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# From the Bridge



Please remember the potential dangers faced ashore simply because they are wearing the uniform and may stumble across the mentally unstable, petty criminals, and possibly even clandestine intelligence / terrorism operatives (this is, after all, the national capital region). Afloat or at an MTSA facility - we are on guard. Ashore for other missions, or even commuting, we may not be. We are increasing our presence in the NCR (Prevention, Response, VBST, Station, deployable forces, intelligence, auxiliary) over the next two weeks - let's stay sharp.

<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/leb/2006/march2006/mar06leb.htm>

Also, please focus on raising awareness for all-hands about the dangers of concealed weapons during "casual" encounters (i.e., not a VBST Boarding-Officer-Certified-Ashore at an MTSA-regulated facility). Here's a link to the FBI's Law Enforcement Bulletin - see the article "Dead Right" about suspicion of concealed weapons.

For local flavor, an MNRP officer (about two years ago?) had to draw and use force against a person during a low-risk boat-ramp encounter. Had one of our unarmed shore teams - for any reason - encountered that person, what would have happened? Let's make sure we don't stumble into something we could have avoided. People trying to conceal weapons are concerned with firearm concealment, accessibility, and security: their behavior and manner of dress will be adapted to these three concerns.

Thanks,

CDR Brian Penoyer  
Deputy Sector Commander

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*On the cover:* On patrol on the Potomac



## Sector Baltimore Workshop



Sector Baltimore will hold its annual all-day winter workshop on Saturday, March 27th from 0830 to 1630 at Southern High School in Harwood, Maryland, just south of Annapolis—the same place that we held it last year.

We'll get an update on where the Auxiliary is going from Coast Guard Capt. Mark O'Malley, our Sector Commander. We'll offer workshops on operations, mentoring and Team Coordination Training (TCT); an orientation session for new members; a short-course for new FCs and VFCs; special classes for Auxiliarists on GPS, marine radio procedures, AUXDATA, AUXINFO and the new Forms 7029 and 7030. The District Store will be open from 0830 to 1500 so you can stock up on insignia, Auxiliary golf shirts and other items.

Uniform will be tropical blue long or winter dress blue. Please make sure you're wearing the proper uniform, and that you're wearing it properly as well. It's important.

### **Courses being offered:**

**ALL-HANDS ASSEMBLY**

**OPERATIONS WORKSHOP**

**ONE-HOUR TCT REFRESHER**

**MENTORING**

**WEARING THE UNIFORM**

**NEW MEMBERS' WORKSHOP**

**INSTRUCTORS' WORKSHOP**

**VESSEL EXAMINER MEETING**

**NAVIGATING DIRAUX**

**SECRETS OF A FLOTILLA COMMANDER**

**HOW TO USE AUXDATA**

**GETTING A HANDLE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**AUXCHEF: COOKING FOR THE AUXILIARY**

**ICS-210**

**BRUSH UP YOUR RADIO PROCEDURE**

**GPS FOR AUXILIARISTS**

**AIMS**

**INTRODUCTION TO MARINE SAFETY**

**Note: The District Store will be open from 0830 to 1500 so you can stock up on insignia, Auxiliary golf shirts and other items.**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS and REPORTS**



### **Paddlesports America – Now AVAILABLE**

Celebrate the arrival of spring by launching the 2010 boating season teaching the new Paddlesports America course to our newest budding audience – novice canoeists and kayakers. It is NOW ready and available for ORDER as an Auxiliary approved course.

Materials may NOW be ordered through the District's normal ordering procedure. The order number is 1PA-10150. Supporting materials – Power Point Presentations and Chapter Summaries – are available for download on the E-Library Resource Center. The direct link is:  
<http://www.cgauxed.org/paddle.htm>

The course has been added to the 7023 Form – Intent to Teach as code – PA. When submitting the final Course Completion on Form 7030, the mission code for Paddlesports America is 14J. Reach out and help save the lives of all recreational boaters by including the kayakers and canoeists.

### **Activity Report Form**

New Activity Report – Mission Form 7030 is available on-line at:  
<http://forms.cgaux.org/archive/a7030h.pdf>

### **Division website**

The new web site for the division is taking shape. It can be found at  
<http://a05425.cgauxonline.com>

### **Division Reports**

#### ***DCDR Report***

- Sector Baltimore Workshops to be held 27 March 2010
- Member info needs to be updated.
- AIMS drill upcoming
- Advanced Skills Weekend 16-18 April 2010
- District policy Manual to be revised

#### ***Flotilla Reports***

25-01  
Nothing to report

25-02  
Nothing to report

25-03  
Nothing to report

25-05  
Nothing to report

25-06

- Jerry Little qualified as a Recreational Boating Safety Visitor
- Jeff Poole has applied for upcoming training in the AUXCHEF program
- An Enrollment Application has been submitted for one new member (Scott Williamson) prospective new member is scheduled to attend our next Flotilla meeting
- Brian Gritte has set up a Calling Tree for Flotilla 25-06; testing of the Calling Tree to be conducted soon

25-07  
Nothing to report

25-08  
Nothing to report

25-09

- Conducted the one-hour TCT class at the February Flotilla meeting.
- Signed member application for two new members at the February Flotilla meeting.
- The following PE classes have been scheduled:
  - April 10 and 11 – Fairfax Yacht Club (ABS)
  - April 12 thru 21 – Hoffmaster’s Marina (ABS)
  - May 10 thru 19 – Hoffmaster’s Marine (ABS)

25-10  
Nothing to report

25-11  
Nothing to report

25-12  
Nothing to report

### ***Staff Reports***

#### *Communications*

- Revised Division 25 ERP Chapter 5 Appendix D-1 Logistics
- First Quarter Sector Baltimore Auxiliary Radio Drill to be conducted on 9 March 2010. The Drill will start at 1930 (7:30 P.M.) on channel 23A. As always members are reminded

that this Drill may be delayed or canceled at the last minute, due to Coast Guard needs of the radio channel.

- Sent a memo to all radio operators in Division 25, regarding the Radio outage at Sector Baltimore, and the problem encountered trying to notify Auxiliary Radio Operators to stand up the Auxiliary Radio Net and monitor Channel 16.
- The memo also includes information how we can set up an Auxiliary Incident Management System (AIMS) drill for our Division 25 Radio Operators.
- Sent a memo to the Division 25 Commander regarding revisions and updates to USCG Station Washington's Organization Manual, as well as their "Watchstanders Telephone Directory"
- Contacted several Radio Operators regarding upcoming Radio Facility Inspections
- We have at the present time, 8 Fixed Land Radio Facilities, and 11 Land Mobile Radio Facilities.

#### *Communication Services*

- The Division 25 web site development is progressing, but with only some minor changes during this past month. Most updates have to do with corrections, announcements, and calendar entries. I request that all staff officers please send any news items, announcements, and calendar entries to me for inclusion in the web site if they feel they are appropriate.

#### *Finance*

- District Dues Assessment was paid and Annual Dues Invoice Notices emailed and hard copy of said invoices distributed to flotilla commanders that attended the February 4, 2010, division meeting. Second notices were sent on February 22, 2010.
- The Division has received annual dues payment from the following nine flotillas: 25-01, 25-05, 25-06, 25-07, 25-08, 25-09, 25-10, 25-11 & 25-12. I thank the FSO-FNs for their prompt dues payments.

#### *Information Services*

- Nothing to report

#### *Liaison Office*

- Corresponded with Station Washington and SO-VE (John Queen) regarding request for VE assistance at Capitol Cove Marina (at Bolling AFB) on 10 April 2010.

#### *Marine Safety*

- Nothing to report

#### *Materials*

- Conducted Cold Weather Training Course in Stafford County
- Ordered life Preservers as requested for Spring Crew Training. Will distribute at next Division meeting

#### *Member Training*

- Plans are continuing for Spring Training

- 25-05 is working on crew qualification
- 25-08 is doing informal training and mentoring.
- 25-09 will be starting weekly training at the end of March. They may have space available and will let your FSO-MT know.
- Notices have been sent to all Div. members about the Workshop on March 27 and the training weekend in April.

#### *Navigational Systems*

- I have obtained a draft of the ATONs in our AOR's and will begin to break them out for the Flotillas this month. This should be completed in time for a counterpart meeting with the FSO-NS's in April.
- A NS workshop has been scheduled at Curtis Bay for all FSO-NS's and other interested parties for 1 May. The FSO's in Div 25 have been notified.

#### *Operations*

- Nothing to report

#### *Personnel Services*

- Nothing to report

#### *Program Visitor*

- PV Workshop is planned for 02 May 2010 (0830-1200) at Berry Hall, CG Curtis Bay
- Performed 3 PV visits
- Corresponded with DSO-PV and FSO-PV regarding current year activities and data base updates

#### *Publications*

- Nothing to report

#### *Public Education*

- ABS Classes taught
  - 31 students enrolled
  - 30 passed exam, 1 student yet to take exam
  - 1 student under 17, passed exam
  - 1 class scheduled, no data received

#### *Vessel Examination*

- All FSO-VE's should now have VSC decal ordering instructions, decal allocation table and ordering form. Please let me know if you are missing any information.
- The District should be able to supply necessary decal quantities to support all Flotillas through Division.
- After initial Flotilla orders, all decal requests must be sent through SO-VE per National policy.
- New district RBS initiative will impact VE program - more details to come as they develop.
- I need a report from all FSO-VE's by March 15th detailing any VE events coming up in the Division during the next quarter (through June 30th, 2010). Please provide date(s) and time of event, location, and any assistance needed from other Division VE's.



## **AUXDIRECT - SECTOR BALTIMORE**

UPDATED MARCH 15, 2010



### **NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT CONFERENCE – APRIL 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>**

Sector Baltimore has asked the Auxiliary to provide patrols to help support the presidential Nuclear Security Summit that the U.S. has scheduled for April 12th and 13th. The event, which will draw heads of government from around the world, will be held entirely on land, but the Coast Guard has been assigned to maintain security on the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. We don't have all the details yet, but we do know that we're going to need at least two Auxiliary patrol boats per day to serve as the Coast Guard's eyes and ears below the Wilson Bridge, and we want to get an early start on mustering boats and crews. The operation will be similar to the one in which the Auxiliary took part for the State of the Union address in January. However, so far we don't have any requests for shore side support. As was the case before, the Sector has established specific requirements for boats, coxswains and crew members. If you (or your vessel) meet these specifications, and you'd like to sign up, please fill out the sign-up sheet that we've included as a separate attachment and e-mail it back to Art Pine, Auxiliary Sector Coordinator (Sector Baltimore), at [ap99bc@starpower.net](mailto:ap99bc@starpower.net). For more information, call 301-652-7836. Here are the specifics:

#### **BOATS**

The Coast Guard is looking for four Auxiliary OPFACs to conduct eight-hour patrols on the Potomac River—two each day to patrol from 0800 to 1600. The mission is likely to be to serve as eyes and ears for the Coast Guard below the Wilson Bridge and to inform the captains of vessels heading north toward Washington about what's going on and what security zones will be in force. Here are the requirements for boats to be considered:

- Length. Must be between 23 feet and 40 feet long. NO SAILBOATS.
- Cabin. Must have a closed cabin capable of protecting crew members from the weather.
- Power. Must be capable of responding at a safe speed (10 knots) to provide search-and-rescue response—communications, person-in-the water, medevac and towing—in a cold-weather environment.
- Fuel capacity. Must have a fuel capacity great enough to be able to keep the vessel under way for at least eight hours. Fuel tank must be filled before you shove off.
- Crew. Must have a crew of at least three persons, including the coxswain. Please don't overload your boat with excess crew.
- Overnight slip space. Please indicate on your sign-up form whether you'll require this.

#### **COXSWAINS and CREW MEMBERS**

- Certification. Must be currently certified by DIRAUX, experienced, and capable of conducting search-and-rescue operations that include communications, person-in-the-water, medevac and towing in a cold weather environment.
  - Cold-weather training. Must have undergone cold-weather training course as specified in CAPT O'Malley's recent memo.
  - Cold-weather PPE. Must have all cold-weather PPE (dry suits or anti-exposure coveralls) required by Auxiliary Operations Manual and Sector Baltimore. If conditions require it, you must have regulation dry suit, properly inspected, with all components of the prescribed ensemble (gloves, undergarments, boots, headgear, etc.) Note: Crews will be required to wear PPE gear during the entire time that the vessel is under way.
  - Uniform. Operational Dress Uniform (ODUs).
  - Availability. Must be available on weekdays to attend at least two operations briefings, probably at Station Washington.
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**STILL OPEN – PLEASE SEE DETAILS**

**USCGC RANKIN**

**RIDE ALONG ON A DAY-TRIP DOWN THE BAY AND BACK**

The USCGC James Rankin will be able to take two to three Auxiliarists a day for day-trips down the Bay and back on a regular basis over the next several months. The ship will get under way at 0800 each weekday and return to port at about 1700 (no trips on weekends, at least for now). Here's a great opportunity for you to ride along on a day-trip, see what a buoy tender crew does and help out where you're able. The Rankin's skipper says once you and the ship's crew get to know each other, you can discuss ways that you might supplement the crew on a more regular basis. Uniform: ODUs and whatever life-jacket or dry-suit is prescribed. Fill out the sign-up sheet at the end of this form and let us know when you're available. Note: Once the ship shoves off at 0800, you won't be able to get ashore until 1700 or so. The offer for you to ride along is open indefinitely. You must have a USCG or DoD decal on your car and an Auxiliary I.D. Card to enter the base, or you'll need to apply for a one-day vehicle pass (take your registration and proof of insurance).

Reference number: CGC-8030

In-Port Security Watchstander

Junior Officer of the Deck (JOOD)

Cook - AUXCHEF

Reference number: CGC-8031

Reference number: CGC-8032

Reference number: CGC-8033

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Interested in working more closely with the Coast Guard? This is the latest installment of the listing that we send out containing jobs in Sector Baltimore for which the Coast Guard wants Auxiliary help. In the preceding page, we've listed each job by its title and location, then described the duties and qualifications needed and shown the hours that you'd be expected to serve. If you're interested in applying, please fill out the sign up sheet below and send it—along with your resume, if requested—to Art Pine, Auxiliary Sector Coordinator (Sector Baltimore) at:

By e-mail to:

ap99bc@starpower.net

or by postal mail to:

Art Pine, ASC(SB)

3519 Raymond Street

Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3227

**Note:** Please do not send your application directly to the Coast Guard or to the installation.

A word about commitment. Once you sign up for a job or training course with the Coast Guard, you'll be expected to stand regular watches or work regular hours at the job after you've been certified. Please sign up, but please know in advance that doing so will require your continuing commitment.

# I'M ANSWERING THE WANT-AD

FROM AUXDIRECT– SECTOR BALTIMORE

Please fill out this form and send it to:

Art Pine, Auxiliary Sector Coordinator (Sector Baltimore)  
3519 Raymond Street  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3227

Or e-mail it to him at: [ap99bc@starpower.net](mailto:ap99bc@starpower.net)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Division \_\_\_\_\_ Flotilla \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cellphone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which job are you interested in?

Job title (at top of want-ad): \_\_\_\_\_

Job reference number (at bottom of the want-ad): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR RESUME IF THAT'S REQUESTED**

Days and times you'll be able to work:

- Mondays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Tuesdays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Wednesdays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Thursdays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Fridays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Saturdays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Sundays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Holidays \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Your qualifications:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# AUXILIARIST

## SPOTLIGHT



### Officer Snook at the Boat Show

By  
Rodney Pendleton  
Flotilla 054-25-5

On 20-21 March, Officer Snook made an appearance at the Washington Capital Boat Show at Prince William Marina, Woodbridge, VA. The Officer Snook Water Pollution Program is a key element of the United States Coast Guard Sea Partners campaign. Officer Snook, a cartoon fish, is a symbol of protecting our water environments worldwide. Officer Snook is all about educating young individuals and adults about the importance of pollution prevention. In addition to the appearance of Officer Snook, members of the Auxiliary were able to distribute approximately 70 Officer Snook coloring books and speak to both parents and children about what they can do to fight water pollution. Needless to say, Officer Snook was a big hit with both children and adults.

Officer Snook is scheduled to appear again on May 14 at the National Zoo's Guppy Gala in Washington, D.C. A crowd of 5,000 (3,000 children) is expected at that event.

Thanks are due to LTJG Collin Hester and ENS Tara Collins, HQ, USCG, who provided guidance and access to the Officer Snook costume; MST3 Alex Lord-Flynn, Sector Baltimore, and Hedda Marie Babilonia who portrayed Officer Snook; and members of Flotillas 25-5 (Alexandria) and 25-6 (Fairfax), who provided watch-standers for the Auxiliary display at the boat show. Thanks also to LT Marie Castillo-Bletso, Chief of the Port Safety and Security Branch, Sector Baltimore, for providing the guidance that made this outreach possible.





**April 10 2010 – Division 23 hosted 8 HOUR TCT class**

**Where:** Calvert High School; 600 Dares Beach Road; Prince Frederick, MD 20678-4235

**When:** 0900 to end

**Contact:** Joe Jenkins, joeandgloria@gmail.com

**April 11, 2010 – Auxiliary Search Coordination and Execution class**

**Where:** College Park, MD

**When:** 0800 to 1700

**April 16-18, 2010 – Advanced Skills Weekend**

**Where:** TBA

**When:** All Weekend

**Contact:** Mitchell Mutnick

**May 1, 2010 – ATON Verifiers Workshop**

**Where:** Coast Guard Yard - Berry Hall

**When:** 0830 to 1600

**May 22-28, 2010 – National Safe Boating Week**

**Where:** Nation-wide

**When:** All week

# National Safe-Boating Week



May  
22-28  
2010



**'Potomac Currents'**  
**Kenneth Horton SO-PB**  
Fifth Southern Region – Division 25  
[hortonkw@gmail.com](mailto:hortonkw@gmail.com)



<http://a05425.cgauxonline.com>

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns about this,  
or any Division 25 publication