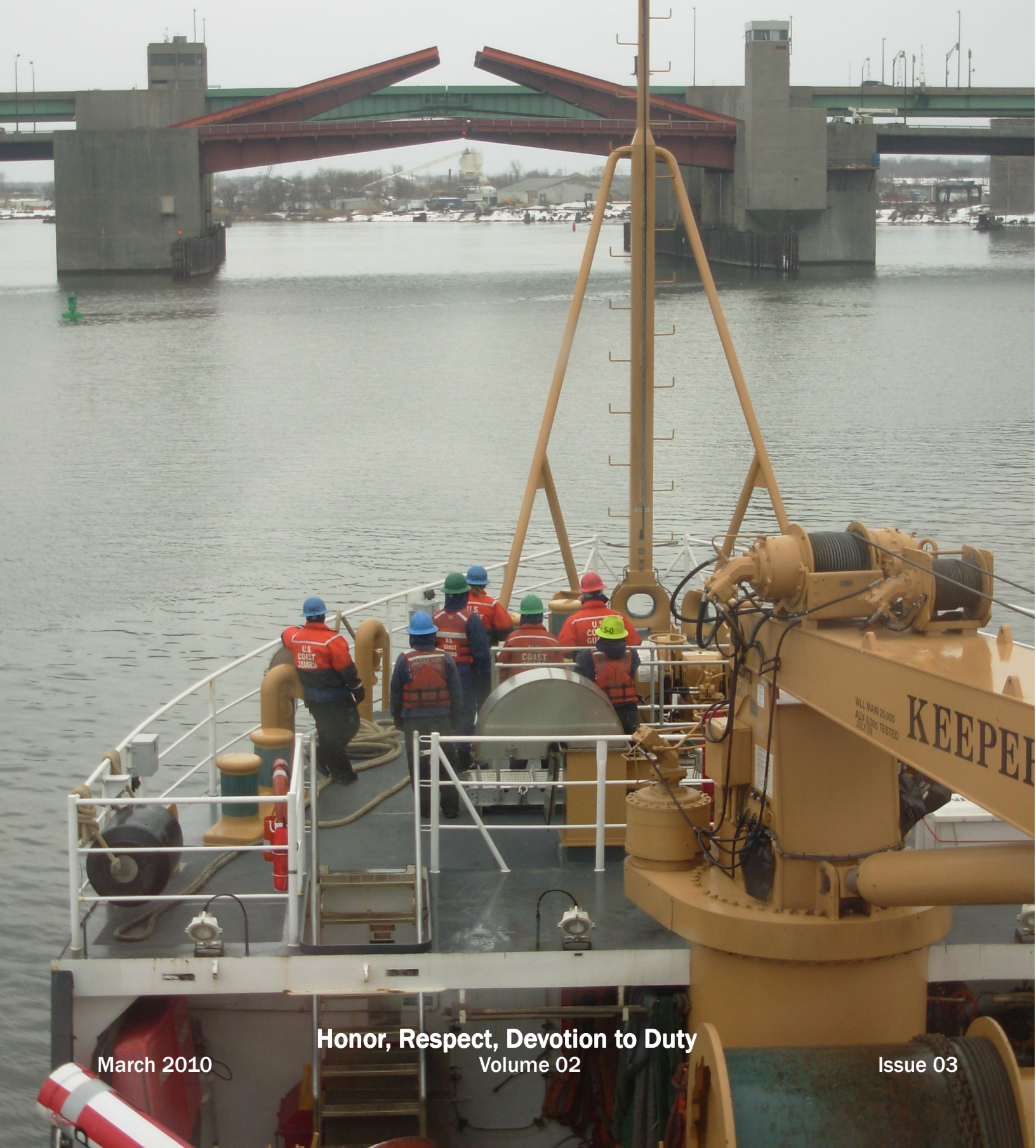


Potomac Currents

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



Honor, Respect, Devotion to Duty
Volume 02

March 2010

Issue 03



From the Bridge



Division 25 was honored with a visit from District Commodore Al DeJean February's Division 25 meeting.

Commodore DeJean added some remarks following the business part of the meeting.

Commodore DeJean has heard repeatedly from Fifth District Commander Admiral Justice that the Coast Guard would like the Auxiliary to enhance its efforts in Recreational Boating Safety. Between June 2009, when Admiral Justice assumed command, and January 2010, 80 lives were lost on the water. These were preventable losses. Recreational Boating Safety is also Admiral Allen's top priority for the Auxiliary.

There will be an Atlantic East Search and Rescue competition, to be held in Yorktown 22-24 July 2010, and Commodore DeJean would like the District to send a team. DIRAUX will cover expenses.

Commodore DeJean requests members check their personal entries in AUXDATA. Efforts to keep track of the physical location of members and facilities are hampered by errors in the latitudes and longitudes present in AUXDATA.

The Commodore also requests that Auxiliary Public Education efforts stick to Auxiliary classes rather than state courses. This improves the funding stream for the division and district levels – money for state courses stops at the flotilla level.

Finally the new version of the Auxiliary Manual should be available by March.

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On the cover: Entering Curtis Bay from the bridge of the USCGC James Rankin



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



Mark your calendars!

Less than two weeks until the “Wear It!” Free Resources will be available!



On March 1, 2010 the North American Safe Boating Campaign will once again be offering our Free Campaign Resources to help you with your own efforts.

Come visit our Resource Warehouse (www.BoatingOrders.com) to order your resources including the 2010 campaign poster, stickers, and great educational brochures from our member organizations.

Also be on the lookout in the next few weeks for the 2010 Campaign Press Kit. The Press Kit will be available on-line at www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com and will include helpful information like sample Press Releases, newly-released USCG Accident Statistics, and customizable PSAs to use to promote your National Safe Boating Week (May 22 – 28, 2010) efforts in your area!

Sector Baltimore Winter Workshops

Sector Baltimore Winter Workshops, will be held on Saturday, 27 March 2010 at Southern High School in Harwood, Maryland, just south of Annapolis. The session will begin at 0830 and last until 1630.

New 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>

Boating Safety PSAs

CGAUX produced Boating Safety PSA's featuring Don Shula and Dan Marino are available for download at www.vimeo.com. Type in USCG Auxiliary in the “Search Videos” blank to locate the videos. To download you will need to create a no charge account. Vimeo allows us to upload more videos without tying up bandwidth on CGAUX servers.

Division Reports

Flotilla Reports

25-01
Nothing to report

25-02
Nothing to report

25-03
Nothing to report

25-05
Nothing to report

25-06
Established dates for PE class. Flotilla 25-06 will be instructing an ABC course at the West Springfield Government Center on Saturday, 17 April 2010 and Saturday, 24 April 2010. The classes will run from 0900 to 1300.

25-07
Nothing to report

25-08
Nothing to report

25-09
Nothing to report

25-10
Nothing to report

25-11
Nothing to report

25-12
Nothing to report

Staff Reports

Communications
- Nothing to report

Communication Services
- Nothing to report

Finance

- The necessary accounting journals for 2010 year are developed. All banking accounts have been changed over to appropriate Division Officers.
- District Dues Assessment has been paid and Annual Dues Invoice Notices emailed and hard copy of said invoices distributed to flotilla commander at this Division meeting February 4, 2010.
- Division Commander approved \$50.00 memorials for the following departed members:
 - Thomas LaRue Myers, NHLBI GIFT FUND;
 - Perry Golden, USCG Foundation Fallen Heroes Scholarship Fund; and
 - Michael R. Codel, Capitol Hospice Fund.
- The proposed Division 25 Budget for Calendar Year 2010 will be distributed at this meeting.

Information Services

- Official mail should show the return address is an office symbol. That is SO-IS 25, FSO-IS 25-09. When the sender has no office, FC 25-09 should be used.

Liaison Office

- Station Washington wants to maintain 1 point of contact between the Auxiliary (SO-LO Jerry Little) and the Coast Guard (AUX-LO BM2 Eric Ciuca), so please channel requests of the Coast Guard through me.
- Auxiliarist Bartlett will continue to develop a calendar of available watchstanders and provide this list and coordination to the station, through his normal chain of command.
- When an Auxiliary facility is on patrol on the Potomac, down to Maryland Point, Station Washington should take your Radio Guard.
- Station Washington continues to support training and qualifying Watchstanders and Boat Crew for their Boats; however they are limited to assist 2 of each at a time.
- Station Washington will prepare a list of their training missions for which they could use an Auxiliary facility as part of the training mission.
- Station Washington would like to do a joint Spring / early summer Operation exercise
- Request use of Station Washington training room, only as a last resort, until, at least, the completion of their 2nd building. The training room availability will be reevaluated at that time.
- At the request of Station Washington, requested Art Pine to install POMS at Station Washington

Marine Safety

- Nothing to report

Member Training

- Cold Weather Training at Station Wash.
- Flotillas are beginning TCT refresher classes.
- We will be looking at starting the Crew and Coxswain training in March
- I have requested that FSO-MT's poll members for interest in an AUXOP College
- We are looking at a BCQ Qualification weekend the first weekend in June at Colonial Beach combined with a Division Float-in.
- Talking to Station Washington to establish a Spring training program on the water.

Navigational Systems

- Nothing to report

Operations

- Nothing to report

Personnel Services

- Nothing to report

Program Visitor

- Rescheduling Counterpart meeting from 04 February 2010 to a later date
- Completed exam for Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program and completed 2 trainees
PV visits, awaiting signoff by FC
- Accumulating data regarding existing PV contacts and analyzing data from DSO-PV

Publications

- Nothing to report

Public Education

- Nothing to report

Vessel Examination

- Sent VSC decal ordering instructions, decal allocation table and ordering form to all FSO-VE's.
- 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.



AUXDIRECT - SECTOR BALTIMORE

UPDATED FEBRUARY 28, 2010



STILL OPEN – URGENT

SECTOR BALTIMORE

DESIGNER, WEB-BASED DATABASE FOR SAR OPS

Sector Baltimore is looking for someone to design and build a web-based database outside the Coast Guard system, similar to the one that the Auxiliary has put together for the Abandoned Vessel Tracking Program. The objective is to enable state and local agencies—such as police departments and rescue services—to share information about search-and-rescue facilities and update the information themselves as needed. The database would include photos of SAR vessels, airboats or diving facilities. Important: Sector wants the database ready for unveiling at an April 13th conference of agency representatives and for immediate use after that. Agency personnel would be issued user names and passwords so they could sign on as needed. This would be an important asset for the Sector Command. Please use the signup form on a separate attachment and let us know something about your experience in this field.

Reference number: HQW-8050

STILL OPEN – URGENT

USCG HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR, MILITARY AWARDS BANQUET

Coast Guard Headquarters wants Auxiliary help in putting together an awards banquet that honors Hispanics in the government. Auxiliarists who apply for this should have excellent communications skills (writing and talking with people, not VHF-FM radio operations) and be proficient in using the Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Outlook software programs. The ideal candidate would have skills or experience with public affairs, joint service, or knowledge of military protocol, but none of these is required. Nor do you have to have Spanish language skills. You do need to live within easy commuting distance of Coast Guard Headquarters in downtown Washington, however. The hours are flexible, but you'd need to work either two days a week or part-time for a total of 16 to 20 hours a week. You can begin work as early as February 1st, and the project will continue through April 30th. Uniform: Tropical blue or ODUs. Parking is limited, but you can take the Metro to L'Enfant Plaza and catch a free shuttle-bus. For this listing, please e-mail a short summary of your qualifications along with your

AUXDIRECT signup sheet.

Reference number: HQW-8049

STILL OPEN – URGENT

USCG HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

HELP PREPARE THE USCG'S FY2010 BALANCE-SHEET

Coast Guard Headquarters wants Auxiliary help in cleaning up the Coast Guard's fiscal year 2010 balance-sheet. The Audit Remediation Division (CG-852) at headquarters would prefer a Certified Public Accountant who is familiar with government accounting and procurement procedures (no tax-preparers, please). The job would involve reviewing processes, drafting procedures and reviewing financial statements of the Coast Guard. Ideally, the division would like you to work at headquarters for three days a week (Monday through Thursday), from 0800 to 1600, but you can adjust the work schedule somewhat to fit your needs. Uniform: Tropical blue or ODUs. Parking is limited, and it would be best to take the Metro and ride a shuttle bus to USCG headquarters. There may be some (limited) travel. For this listing, please e-mail your resume along with your AUXDIRECT signup sheet.

Reference number: HQW-8034

STILL OPEN

USCG HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

HELP WITH SERVICEWIDE INVENTORY OF CG PROPERTY

Coast Guard Headquarters is looking for an Auxiliarist to help screen and review inventories of property and equipment submitted by some 1,100 ships, small-boat stations, air stations, and shore facilities. Work on the servicewide update will begin in March and continue for four weeks. Your job would be to screen and review inventory packets to make sure they are filled out properly. The Office of Financial Management Transformation and Compliance (CGC-852) at headquarters would prefer an applicant who has had experience with government inventory-taking procedures (the AOPS or ORACLE tracking systems), but it’s not a requirement. There may be some travel. Ideally, you’d need to work at the headquarters building five days a week. Hours: 0800 to 1600. Uniform: Tropical blue or ODUs. Parking is limited, and it would be best to take the Metro and ride a shuttle bus to USCG headquarters. There may be some (limited) travel. For this listing, please e-mail your resume along with your AUXDIRECT signup sheet.

Reference number: HQW-8035

STILL OPEN

SURFACE FORCES LOGISTICS CENTER – CURTIS BAY

HELP IN A VARIETY OF JOBS AT SFLC AT CURTIS BAY

The newly renamed Surface Forces Logistics Center (formerly the ELC) at Curtis Bay needs volunteers for a variety of jobs relating to its mission of providing equipment and technical support to Coast Guard cutters, small boats and icebreakers. The unit is located on the Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay near the Drydock restaurant. The jobs range from administrative assistants and website designers at SFLC offices to highly skilled mechanics, electricians, and marine surveyors who can travel to small-boat stations around the Sector. Let us know which job you’re interested in—and are qualified for—and we’ll put you in touch with officials who can explain them in more detail. Workdays and hours are negotiable.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Administrative Assistant | Reference number: SFL-8036 |
| Mechanic or Electrician | Reference number: SFL-8037 |
| Boat-Acquisition Specifications expert | Reference number: SFL-8038 |
| Operations Researchers | Reference number: SFL-8039 |
| Website Designer | Reference number: SFL-8040 |
-

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 | Reference number: CGC-8031 |
| Junior Officer of the Deck (JOOD) | Reference number: CGC-8032 |
| Cook - AUXCHEF | Reference number: CGC-8033 |
-

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

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:

Three Days on the USCGC Sledge (WLIC-75303)

By
Rodney Pendleton, USCGAUX



On January 12, 2010, I arrived at the Sledge for a three day experience. The Sledge is a construction tender (75 ft.) which pushes an 84 foot barge equipped with a crane and pile driver for replacing and repairing fixed navigation aids in the Chesapeake Bay and along the East Coast. It is commanded by CWO3 Paul Curtis. After a pre-underway briefing, we headed south out of Curtis Bay. As we got underway, I was allowed to sound the horn, and after we were safely in the bay, I was given a few hours at the helm. After I had conquered an over steering problem, I was able to maintain the prescribed course.

Our first destination was a fixed aid at the mouth of the Little Choptank River on Maryland's Eastern Shore. That location required us to break some significant ice to reach the aid. We were able remove the platform and pull the damaged piling before darkness halted our efforts. The next morning, the pile driver was called into action, and after the new piling was set, a rebuilt platform with new day boards and ladder were attached. Because of the ice, we backed out of that location through the ice that we had broken getting there. We proceeded further up the river where we rebuilt a platform and replaced the light on one aid and completely rebuilt and replaced another. We spent the second night on the anchored near the mouth of the river.



The third day we got underway to the western side of the Bay to Herrington Harbor North near Deale, Maryland. There we repaired three damaged aids, before starting our trip back to Curtis Bay.

I recommend this experience to any member of the Auxiliary. I promise you will view all navigation aids differently in the future. Here is what you can expect on the Sledge:

1. Captain Curtis and all crew members are happy to explain their work in detail.
2. The performance standard for the Sledge is perfection with excellence being barely acceptable.
3. The crew is highly professional, safety is a top priority, and teamwork is exceptional.
4. The food is excellent, and after nine meals on board, you may have difficulty getting into your uniform.
5. The rack space is a little larger than a coffin, so if you are claustrophobic, you may have a problem getting to sleep the first night; however, you'll be tired enough the second night to sleep well.





March 4, 2010 - Division 25 Meeting

Where: TISCOM Wardroom

When: 1930

Contact: Don Goff

March 12-14, 2010 – National Capital Boat Show

Where: Chantilly, VA

Info: http://marinesource.com/Boat_Shows/national_capital_boat_show.cfm

March 20, 2010 – 8-hour Team Coordination Training (TCT) class

Where: Berry Hall, CG Yard, Curtis Bay

When: 0800-1630

Contact: Instructor Dick Miller

March 27, 2010 – Sector Baltimore Workshop

Where: Southern High School in Harwood, Maryland

When: All Day

April 16-18, 2010 – Advanced Skills Weekend

Where: TBA

When: All Weekend

Contact: Mitchell Mutnick

"The Guardian Ethos"



I am America's Maritime Guardian.
I serve the citizens of the United States.
I will protect them.
I will defend them.
I will save them.
I am their Shield.
For them I am Semper Paratus.
I live the Coast Guard Core Values.
I am a Guardian.
We are the United States Coast Guard.



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