



Wet gazette



Department of Homeland
Security
USCG Auxiliary
Flotilla 11-10
Dunedin, Florida

March 2019

Kristi Mackey, Commander
Rob Bonnem, Vice Commander
Sam Walker, Immediate Past Commander
Ron Shebanek, Publications Officer

Commander's Corner



We have had two fellowship events with a very nice turnout starting out in 2019. I am encouraging all Flotilla members to sign up and take part in our next few scheduled events.

I want to thank the outgoing 2018 Staff Officers for a job well done and to welcome the new incoming 2019 Officers. Rob and I have many new events scheduled throughout the year, but we cannot do it without everyone's support and attendance.

We will be supporting a new Public Affairs event on Saturday April 6th for Paddle with Kids. Please sign up to work a shift at our booth with games, temporary tattoos and more.

If you have not been active in a while, we understand how everyone's lives can get busy. However, if you are thinking about getting more active, I encourage you to look at our website with the pictures of our most recent activities so you can see the FUN things we have done so far and a big Thank You to Walt Murray for keeping it current.

Your USCG Auxiliary at a Glance

Average Day in the Coast Guard Auxiliary

- Completes 62.5 safety patrols
- Completes 6.2 regatta patrols
- Performs 10.2 vessel assists
- Assists 28 people
- Saves 1 life
- Saves \$341,290 in property
- Participates in 100 operational support missions
- Participates in 48.7 administrative support missions
- Completes 13.4 recruiting support missions
- Educates 369 people on boating safety
- Performs 299 vessel safety checks
- Attends 70 public affairs functions

Auxiliary Resources

- Operational Vessels 4,971
- Aircraft 226
- Communications Stations 2,641
- Members 32,950
- Personal Watercraft Facilities 263

Auxiliary Volunteer Mission Hours

- Public Affairs 96,628
- Safety Patrol Hours 143,871
- Air Patrol Hours 10,038
- Support of CG Missions 269,652
- Hours of Public Education 73,097
- Hours of Member Training 51,212

Auxiliary Qualified Team Members

- Boat Crew 7,098
- Auxiliary Coxswains 5,240
- Air Observers 294
- Pilots 263
- Navigation Aids Verifiers 2,829
- Instructors 8,547
- Personal Watercraft Operators 30



According to the last published figures the Coast Guard Auxiliary consisted: of 33,000 members, conducted over 38,000 boating safety classes, 161,000 boating safety checks, 30,000 surface patrols and saved 10% of the lives saved by the Coast Guard and prevented the loss of millions of dollars in property. The Auxiliary is credited with helping to reduce the number of fatalities from 10.1 per 100,000 to 5.9 per 100,000 at a cost to each taxpayer of less than one penny a year.

Member Training Update



Harvey Prior, harvb4@aol.com, is the Flotilla Staff Officer (FSO) for member training.

What We Are Part Of

The Coast Guard Ethos

I am a Coast Guardsman
I serve the people 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 proud to be a Coast Guardsman
We are the United States Coast Guard

The Coast Guard Core Values

Honor
Respect
Devotion to Duty

Admiral Papp said that...The Auxiliary Service priorities include:

Promoting and Improving Recreational Boating Safety;

Providing trained crews and facilities to augment the Coast Guard and enhance safety and security of our ports, waterways and coastal regions;
Supporting Coast Guard operational, administrative and logistical requirements.

To those Auxiliarists who are trained and active, we say "THANK YOU!"

To those Auxiliarists who are training, we say "Learn Well and Join In."

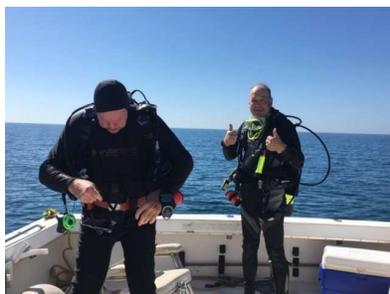
To those Auxiliarists who are on the sideline, we ask "Why not give a little time and get active?"

Flotilla Staff Officers

ELECTED OFFICERS	
FC Flotilla Commander	Kristi Mackey
VFC Vice Flotilla Commander	Robert Bonnem
IPFC Immediate Past Flotilla Commander	Samuel G. Walker
FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICERS	
FSO-CM Communications	Edward Roots
FSO-CS Communications Services	Walter P. Murray
FSO-DV Diversity	Robin S. Turner
FSO-FN Finance	Jimmy R. Ryder
FSO-HR Human Resources	Kristi Mackey Wally Weakley assistant
FSO-IS Information Services	Walter P. Murray
FSO-MA Materials	Charles Whitener
FSO-MS Marine Safety And Envrn Prot	Douglas W. Simpson
FSO-MT Member Training	Harvey Prior
FSO-NS Navigation Systems	Larry Gilbert
FSO-OP Operations Lawrence	Larry Gilbert
FSO-PA Public Affairs	Judith Ann Deeley
FSO-PB Publications	Ronald Shebanek
FSO-PE Public Education	Cono F. Casale
FSO-PV Rbs Visitor Program	Robert Bonnem
FSO-SR Secretary/Records	Robin S. Turner
FSO-VE Vessel Examination	Gordon Thomas
FSO-PV Rbs Visitor Program	Robert Bonnem
FSO-SR Secretary/Records	Robin S. Turner
FSO-VE Vessel Examination	Gordon Thomas

C-130 Training Items Recovery

Have you ever wondered what happens to lost C-130 practice cans & chutes?



Photos by Sharon Bonnem

On 7 November 2018 USCG Auxiliaries Harvey Prior and Robert Bonnem set out on a non USCG mission to recover some lost USCG equipment. Let's move back about three weeks prior to set up the story.

Auxiliary Prior was out as crew doing C-130 drops. The drop was made from the aircraft and all five bags were recovered, but the pump can pad and its drogue chute sank. Much effort was put into trying to pull in the line (still attached to the sunken can and chute), to no avail. It would not budge.

It was finally decided to cut the line and proceed back to base. Before leaving, Prior asked for the lat/long position.

Harvey, being a longtime and accomplished diver was hatching a plan. Harvey and Rob regularly dive together from Harvey's Boat, the B4IV (also a facility). Having the approximate location of the sunken materials, why not try a search/locate and if possible, recover the can and chute? He mentioned his plan to Rob and they both agreed to try for this close to needle-in-a-haystack dive.

The rest of the story, as told by Rob: "Early morning on the 7th of November, Harvey, my wife Sharon (as surface watch) and I set out from Prior's Marina. It took about 75 minutes in smooth seas to reach the approximate position. Using the vessel's bottom and sidescan sonar we hit on some possible targets. A couple of quick stops and short drops in to check the bottom kept us moving on. We anchored at the approximate position where the line was cut and I descended the 35-40 feet to start a search. Using a finger spool - a lifeline for wreck dives - I fastened one end to the down line and proceeded to swim circle searches in 15 foot progressions. The underwater visibility that day was 15 feet, so that dictated the sweep lengths. On the second sweep at 30 feet from the anchored vessel, I saw a small chute floating up from the bottom, wrapped many times around a coral head. As I got closer I saw the bright red of the can, on its side with a split seam and full of water. At this point, Harvey knew I had something once he saw my bubbles staying in one area. I attached a line



and deployed my orange lift bag to mark the spot. Now it was Harvey's turn!



Harvey rolled in and swam to the target. He attached his lift bag as well, cut the lines around the coral head (no easy job) and swam back to the boat, towing the chute and the can, which were still underwater. Once he was back to the boat, we pulled in the chute. We got that onboard easily but the can was

another matter. Being split on the bottom and full of water it took both my pulling and Harvey pushing up from the water to finally get it up on the platform. All in all, an excellent adventure!"

The end of the story occurred a week later. A night C-130 mission on the B4IV, with Harvey as coxswain and Rob as crew. They turned the gear over to the Coasties onboard, with the promise that the can was never to be used again.

Pirates Invade Tampa Bay!

It all started in 1904, when the legend of Jose Gaspar came to life.

Jose Gaspar was a mythical Spanish pirate who supposedly operated in Southwest Florida from the late 1700s until the early 1800s. Gaspar and his scar-faced, eye patch wearing band of pirates soon became known to Tampa residents as Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla.



Gasparilla magically appears at the south end of Hillsborough Bay. A multitude of pleasure crafts, all intent on defending the city, boldly sail forth to meet the ship. Quickly seeing the error of their ways, they turn to join forces with the Captain and his Krewe's flotilla. The colorful Gasparilla Flotilla then makes its way north across Hillsborough Bay and into Seddon Channel towards downtown Tampa where the invasion begins. The Mayor with little resistance surrenders the Key to the City of Tampa to the Captain of Ye Mystic Krewe. With the Key to the City in their hands, they launch their victory celebration in the Parade of Pirates down Bayshore Boulevard.

Each year in January, the siege is repeated. The pirate ship Jose Gaspar sails into the harbor near downtown Tampa with a flotilla of hundreds of boats. The pirates blast away with pistols and cannons as they prepare to invade and take the Key of the City. The captain and his krewe share their wealth of trinkets, doubloons and necklaces with the enthusiastic crowd.



Today it's one of the most popular attractions in Tampa and brings in over 300,000 spectators to line the street for the Children's Parade and Gasparilla Pirate Fest and Parade.



Division 11 Commander Leslie Long and Flotilla Commander Kristi Mackey of 11-10 both belong to Gasparilla Krewes.

Kristi is a member of **Krewe of Venus**, Tampa's second-oldest Gasparilla Krewe. Venus started the tradition of throwing beads in the Gasparilla Parades and was founded in 1965.

Leslie is a member of **Grace O'Malley**, which was formed in 1992 when fourteen women, active in the Tampa community had a vision about forming an all-female Krewe. Their inspiration being Grace O'Malley, a real female Irish pirate from the 16th century.

Article by and photos courtesy of Kristi Mackey

Gasparilla Beads in the Bay – Clean-up after the Fun

Gasparilla is a party in Tampa Bay that occurs every year. Hundreds of people parade down the channel in boats and throw beads to parade-watchers that crowd the shores.

Often the beads don't make it to the shore, and land in the water, where they sink to the bottom and can stay for years. We found beads that were brand new from the 2019 Gasparilla parade and beads that were covered in marine life that could have been sitting under the water for years.

There are still tons of beads that need to be pulled from the Channel, we intend to go back and continue removing the beads so we can show the city how much damage that part of the festivities does to our waterways.



Rob Bonnem from 11-10 and his wife participated in this event on 2/17/2019 to retrieve beads thrown at Gasparilla Children's Parade and the Ye Mystic Krewe Day Parade that were inadvertently thrown into the bay. Since the dye is harmful to the plants and animal life along Bay Shore Boulevard in Tampa, a group walks along the shoreline to pick up the beads and others like Rob Bonnem scuba dive in the water to remove beads and other debris.



Great work from all who participated in the Beads out of the Bay Cleanup! The Aquarium in partnership with Tikkun HaYam: Scubi Jew, Green Gasparilla, USCG Aux 11-10 Dunedin and Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful collected 139 pounds of trash and retrieved 116 pounds of beads (2,030 beads) out of the Bay! 🌍💡❤️ #ProtectAndRestore



The more people who come together, the more good we can do for the environment.

Article by Kristi Mackey, photos by Sharon Bonnem

Joan Gutek Letter of Appreciation



Photo by Walter Murray

Joan Gutek received a letter of Appreciation from Captain Edward W. Sandlin, Commanding Officer Air Station Clearwater for her volunteer activities at the Air Station.

“Your tireless dedication was critical to reducing workloads, saving time, and greatly increasing our operational efficiency. Your actions ensure that 4 HC-130Hs and 10 MH-60s were equipped and outfitted with updated charts and publications to ensure compliance and safe navigation. Air Station Clearwater deeply appreciates your diligence and commitment.”

HOW LONG UNTIL IT'S DECOMPOSED?

IF ONE BOTTLE OF WATER MADE IT INTO THE SEA, HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE TO FULLY DECOMPOSE?

The infographic is set against a blue background representing the ocean. At the top, a person on a beach throws a blue bottle into the water. A red sailboat is visible on the surface. Below the surface, various pieces of trash are scattered. Each item is enclosed in a circular frame with a white background, and its decomposition time is listed below it. A small fish with a speech bubble that says "WE LIVE HERE" is on the right. At the bottom left, a red crab holds a sign that says "THIS HAS TO STOP".

Item	Decomposition Time
Toilet Roll	1 Month
Cardboard	2 Months
Plastic Bags	10-20 Years
Cigarettes	10 Years
Drinks Cans	200 Years
Fish Hooks	600 Years
Glass	4000 Years
Plastic Cutlery	100-1000 Years
Diapers	450 Years
Some Plastics	Never

Brought to you by:



Division 11

Awards Dinner

Dunedin Country Club
1050 Palm Blvd
Dunedin, FL 34698
727-733-2134

www.dunedingolfclub.com

Uniform:

Tropical Blue, or
Appropriate Civilian Attire

Friday, April 12, 2019

1800—Attitude Adjustment Hour

1900—Dinner

2000—Ceremony

Food is \$35
The fun and camaraderie are free

Menu

- Chicken Marsala
- Salmon with citrus glaze
- Pork Loin with gravy

Includes house salad with a choice of dressings on the table, rolls and butter, Parmesan garlic orzo, Italian seasoned squash medley, cobbler with vanilla ice cream for dessert, and coffee or tea.

Please use this reservation form and submit it with a check to your flotilla. Deadline is April 7

\$35 per person

Division 11 Awards Dinner — April 12, 2019

Name _____ Member # _____

Number of Persons Attending: _____

Choice of Entrée: _____ Chicken Marsala
_____ Salmon
_____ Pork Loin



Please make check payable to USCG Auxiliary Division 11. Send check and reservation according to flotilla policy.