



WET GAZETTE



May 2019
Department of Homeland Security
USCG Auxiliary
Flotilla 11-10
Dunedin, Florida

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

Commander's Corner



May has been very busy and with National Safe Boating Week upon us, we have participated in the Dunedin City Hall meeting to receive the Proclamation.

We held a joint Public Affairs event with the Palm Harbor Fire Department, which also resulted in a Suddenly in Command class and several Vessel Exams.

Saturday May 18th was Armed Forces Day and we held a fellowship gathering at the Dunedin VFW and Sunday May 19th we participated in the Dunedin Triathlon with a safety patrol.

I have been very pleased with the amount of Flotilla participation this month. We are also continuing our well received Flotilla fellowship events.

June 1st is our fellowship baseball game at the Blue Jays Spring Training field where the Thrashers play. We have 47 people signed up with purchased tickets to attend. This will be one of our largest events in several years and we are all looking forward to it.

June 22nd is our Island Clean up and Family Picnic on one of the Dunedin Spoil Islands. We have 6 boats signed up to take everyone over to the island from the Dunedin Marina. We encourage people to sign up and bring your family.

June also is the start of our Hurricane season and I would like to remind everyone to start preparing his or her emergency kit, stock up on non-perishable food and water, and know your evacuation routes.

You never know when you might have to evacuate quickly, so be prepared....

Kristi Mackey, Flotilla Commander

Semper Paratus



Member Training Update



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

Diversify

It is great for an Auxiliarist to find an area of interest and excel in it. Some vessel examiners perform over a hundred vessel examines a year while some Auxiliarists are volunteering a day per week at a local Coast Guard station. Thank you to each of them for their dedication and effort.

BUT... there might be a way for them and the rest of us to improve upon what we do. A vessel examiner who is an active crew member is likely to have current knowledge of the area and might be able to warn a boater of a missing aid to navigation. An instructor who is also a watch stander might have a better understanding of what the Coast Guard will need to know when the boater declares a Mayday (current Position, what is the Problem, how many People onboard, put PFDs on, what is your Plan of action).

Flotilla 11-10 member Larry Gilbert recently became the flotilla's latest AUXOP member. AUXOP or Auxiliary Operational Specialist is a series of courses designed to give the member a good knowledge of various aspects of operational related activities. While the program has been modified from the original seven course, it now encourages participation in areas of Coast Guard operational need besides safety and regatta patrols.

Consider taking an Auxiliary course to improve your knowledge base. Also, consider volunteering in areas where you have not previously participated. Help at a Public Affairs event. Be an aid at a boating class. Help Joan Gutek change the publications on aircraft. Talk to your neighbors with boats about joining the Auxiliary.

Consider the idea that it is time to expand your education. There are many courses available to you so choose one.

New Auxiliary Operational Specialist

Flotilla 11-10's Larry Gilbert is the latest member to achieve AUXOPS status.

The AUXOP, or "Operational Auxiliarist" Program is an advanced training program available to members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary who wish to increase their practical relevance to Coast Guard missions, and better assist the Coast Guard to fulfill needed skill sets.



Members who successfully complete their training are authorized to wear the prestigious AUXOP Device, shown here, and their membership level advances from Initially Qualified (IQ) or Basic Qualified (BQ) to Operational Auxiliarist (AX), or just "AUXOP".

The program has sometimes been called the "Ph. D of the Auxiliary", and members who attain AUXOP status should be justly proud of their accomplishment, increased utility to the Auxiliary and to the Coast Guard, and in their ability to serve as role models for their shipmates.

Bravo Zulu, Larry.



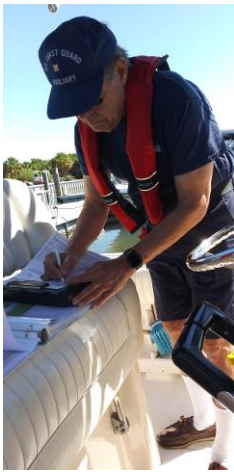
Division 11's Karen Miller presenting AUXOPS pin to Larry Gilbert, photos by Rob Bonnem

Caladesi Vessel Exam Blitz

The Flotilla partnered with the Tampa Bay Grady-White Boat Club for a vessel exam blitz on Caladesi Island.

Three VE's from 11-10 took the ferry to the island to meet the boaters; Gordon Thomas, Dennis McKenna, and Ron Shebanek.

Six vessels were examined, and five safety decals were awarded to the well-equipped boats. Following the exams, the VE's were invited to join the boaters for lunch.



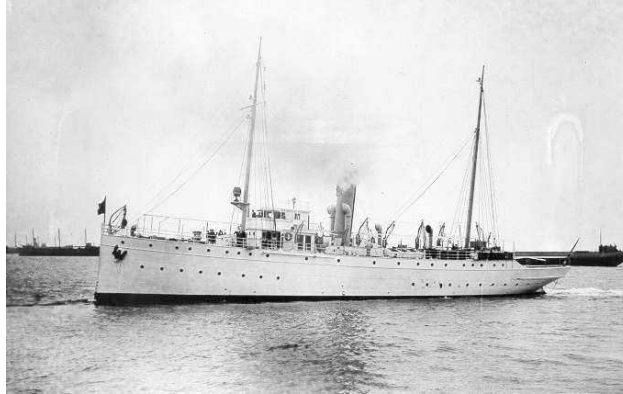
Ron Shebanek, photo by Gordon Thomas

Dennis McKenna, photo by Gordon Thomas



Gordon Thomas, Dennis McKenna, Ron Shebanek, and boaters, photo courtesy of Grady-White Boat Club

Coast Guard History – USCGC Tampa



USCGC Tampa, originally known as Miami, was built by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, Newport News, Virginia. Construction was authorized on 21 April 1910. She launched on 10 February 1912 and was commissioned on 19 August.

Following the sinking of RMS Titanic in April 1912, Miami was assigned ice patrol duty with Seneca in 1913 and saw extensive duty as part of the international ice patrol.

That same year, Miami and her crew participated in the city of Tampa's Gasparilla Pirate Festival, a celebration of a mythical Spanish pirate. That tradition continued until the United States entered World War I in 1917. The cutter and crew enjoyed a close relationship with the city of Tampa and was re-named in honor of the city in 1916.

Tampa, under the command of Captain Charles Satterlee, was one of six Coast Guard cutters assigned to convoy duty in European waters during World War I. Armed with four 3-inch guns, she escorted eighteen convoys, losing only two ships and earning a special commendation for exemplary service.

On 26 September 1918, having just detached from her 19th convoy, and sailing alone through the Bristol Channel toward the Welsh port of Milford Haven to re-coal, Tampa was torpedoed by the German submarine UB-91. Exploding amidships, she sank in just under three minutes. One hundred and thirty men lost their lives, including 111 Coast Guardsmen.



The sinking of the cutter was the single largest loss of life for the Coast Guard during World War I. The sacrifices of her crew were not forgotten.

The city of Tampa conducted a fundraising campaign, "Remember the Tampa!" to an effort to sell war bonds. In 1921, the Coast Guard christened a new cutter in her name.

Seven years later, on 23 May 1928, The US Coast Guard Memorial was dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery, honoring the sacrifice of those who had served aboard Tampa.

Honor Flight

The Honor Flight Network program was conceived by Earl Morse, a physician assistant and Retired Air Force Captain. He wanted to honor the Veterans he had taken care of for the past 27 years.

In May of 2004, the World War II Memorial was finally completed and dedicated in Washington, D.C. and quickly became the topic of discussion among his World War II Veteran patients. The inaugural Honor Flight took place in May of 2005.

Honor Flight® of West Central Florida was established as an official regional hub of the Honor Flight Network in October 2010. It's purpose is to recognize American Veterans for their sacrifice and service by flying them FREE OF CHARGE to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at the memorials dedicated in their honor. Top

priority is given to WWII and terminally ill Veterans. Honor Flight is also committed to fly Veterans from the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf Wars and others.



On 07MAY19, Jon Nichols from Flotilla 11-10 along with 15 active duty Coast Guard Officers and Crew from the Air Station attended the sendoff for Honor Flight #37 at St. Petersburg Clearwater Airport to honor 70+ veterans from WWII, Korea and Vietnam. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's department provided the honor guard.

Photo on left by Jon Nichols

There will be two more honor flights this year.



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	Larry Gilbert
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 Environmental Protection	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-SR Secretary/Records	Judith Ann Deeley
FSO-VE Vessel Examination	Gordon Thomas

Upcoming Dates

Dunedin Proclamation	May 16
Wear Your Life Jacket to Work	May 17
Safe Boating Week	May 18-24
Palm Harbor Fire Department Event	May 18
Armed Forces Day – VFW	May 18
Memorial Day	May 27
Thrashers Baseball	June 1
Flotilla Meeting	June 13
Island Clean-up	June 22

Hurricane Preparedness



Are you prepared?

Compiled by Robert Bonnem
VFC 11-10

It only takes one storm to change your life and community. Tropical cyclones are among nature's most powerful and destructive phenomena. If you live in an area prone to tropical cyclones, you need to be prepared. Learn how during Hurricane Preparedness Week (May 5-11, 2019). hurricanes.gov/prepare

The threats from hurricanes to you and your family can vary widely depending on where you live. It's not just those along the coast that can experience significant, life-threatening impacts. Evaluate what you need to do to protect your home and family NOW, before the first storm of the season even forms. hurricanes.gov/prepare

Take some time this week - Hurricane Preparedness Week - to make sure you have a hurricane evacuation plan. The first thing you need to do is find out if you live in a storm surge hurricane evacuation zone or if you're in a home that would be unsafe during a hurricane. If you are, figure out where you'd go and how you'd get there if told to evacuate. You do not need to travel hundreds of miles. Identify someone, perhaps a friend or relative who doesn't live in an evacuation zone or unsafe home, and coordinate with them to use their home as your evacuation destination. Be sure to account for your pets, as most local shelters do not permit them. Put the plan in writing for you and those you care about. hurricanes.gov/prepare

Just having enough supplies to make it through a hurricane isn't enough. You need plenty to make it through what could be a LONG recovery period too. Water and electricity could be out for a week or more. Have enough non-perishable food, water and medicine to last each person in your family for a MINIMUM of one week. Also make sure you have extra cash, a battery-powered radio, flashlights, and a portable crank or solar powered USB charger to charge your cell phone. ready.gov/kit

This Hurricane Preparedness Week, call your insurance company or agent and ask for an insurance checkup to make sure you have enough homeowners insurance to repair or even replace your home. ...and remember, standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding. Whether you're a homeowner or renter, you'll need a separate policy for flooding. floodsmart.gov. Act now as flood insurance requires a 30-day waiting period.

If you plan to ride out a hurricane in your home, make sure it is in good repair and up to local hurricane building code specifications. Have the proper plywood, steel or aluminum panels to board up the windows and doors. Remember, the garage door is the most vulnerable part of the home, so it must be able to withstand high winds. fema.gov/what-mitigation

Many Americans rely on their neighbors after a disaster, but there are also many ways you can help your neighbors before a hurricane approaches. Learn about all the different actions your community can take to prepare and recover from the hazards associated with hurricanes: ready.gov/neighbors

The time to prepare for a hurricane is NOW, before the season begins. Once you're under pressure, having a written plan will take the guesswork out of what you need to do to protect you and your family.

Know where you will ride out the storm and get your supplies now. You don't want to be standing in long lines when a Hurricane Watch is issued. Those supplies that you need will probably be sold out by the time you reach the front of the line.

Being prepared now will mean the difference between your being a hurricane victim and a hurricane survivor. [ready.gov/make-a-plan](https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan)

Remember, it only takes one storm to change your life and community. For more information on hurricanes and hurricane safety, visit [weather.gov/safety/hurricane](https://www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane)



KNOW YOUR REQUIRED SAFETY GEAR







Boat Type	Length	Life Jacket	Whistle or Horn	Flare, Flashlight, or Mirror	Extinguisher
	Less than 16'	CG approved type I, II or III life jacket for each person	Whistle or horn	Flare, flashlight, or mirror. Night signals required when operating in the dark	B-I style extinguisher for vessels with inboard engines
	16' - 26'	CG approved type I, II or III life jacket for each person, plus throwable	Whistle or horn	(3) day and (3) night pyrotechnic signals or an orange distress flag and electric SOS light	B-I style extinguisher for vessels with inboard engines
	26' - 40'	CG approved type I, II or III life jacket for each person, plus throwable	Whistle or horn	(3) day and (3) night pyrotechnic signals or an orange distress flag and electric SOS light	(1) B-II style or (2) B-I style extinguishers
	40' - 65'	CG approved type I, II or III life jacket for each person, plus throwable	One bell and one whistle or horn required	(3) day and (3) night pyrotechnic signals or an orange distress flag and electric SOS light	(1) B-II and one B-I, or three B-I style extinguishers
	65' - 165'	CG approved type I, II or III life jacket for each person, plus throwable	One bell and one whistle or horn required	(3) day and (3) night pyrotechnic signals or an orange distress flag and electric SOS light	To 50 gross tons: (1) B-II 50 - 100 gross tons: (2) B-II