



WET GAZETTE



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



In September we held another successful virtual flotilla meeting. We also completed another boating safety class and held a navigation class on a Saturday. Congratulations to Buddy Casale and his instructors for a job well done. Recently we were able to have a couple people begin working at the Air Station Clearwater, which means things are looking up as we enter the fourth quarter of 2020. I sincerely appreciate everyone continuing to hang in there and for being patient during this unusual situation.

In October, the Division will hold their elections and then in November our flotilla will hold our elections. We are also working to secure our 2021 Staff Officers. We are very excited about our plans for the coming year with 11-10.

Harvey Prior recently sent out a reminder that AUXDATA II access is open to everyone. Please make sure you sign in with the link provided a while back via email and verify all of your certifications have carried over. Pay close attention to those who are AUXAIR and Boat Crew.

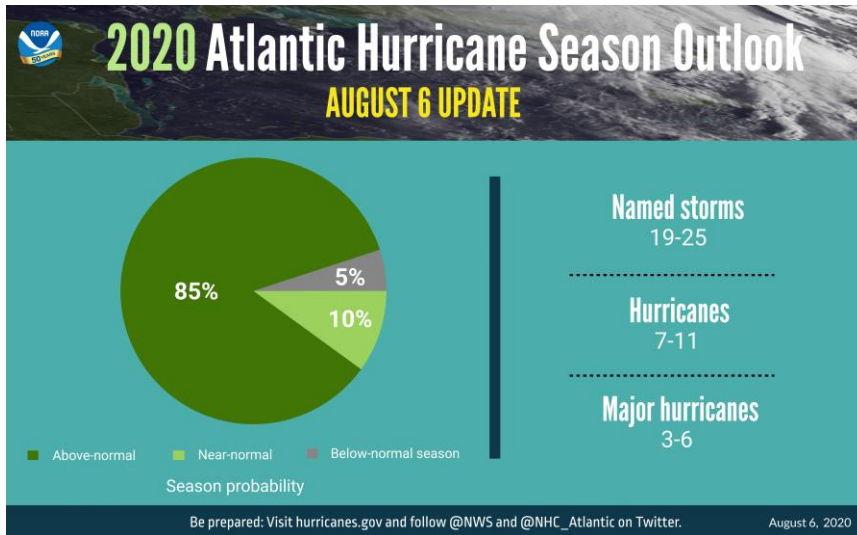
BE STRONG, STAY SAFE AND KEEP POSITIVE
Kristi Mackey, Flotilla Commander

2020 Hurricane Season Monthly Update

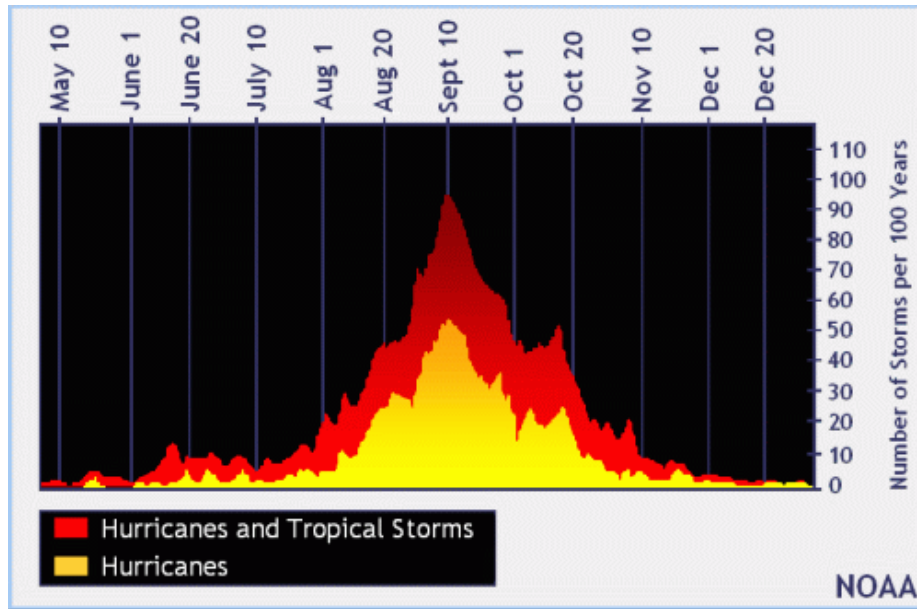
What a month! The outlook predicted a 60% chance of an above-normal season, a 30% chance of a near-normal season and only a 10% chance of a below-normal season. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30.

We have had 23 named storms including eight hurricanes with two major hurricanes. so far. That is an increase of ten named storms during the month of September! August through October are typically the peak months of the hurricane season. The statistical peak is on September 10. The current outlook predicts almost twice as many storms as an average year. 2020 is the second busiest on record, and only the second time we have used up the alphabet and are using the Greek storm names!

August 2020 land and sea temperatures were the second highest temperatures since records began, in 1880. The gulf temperature was 86 degrees at the end of September.



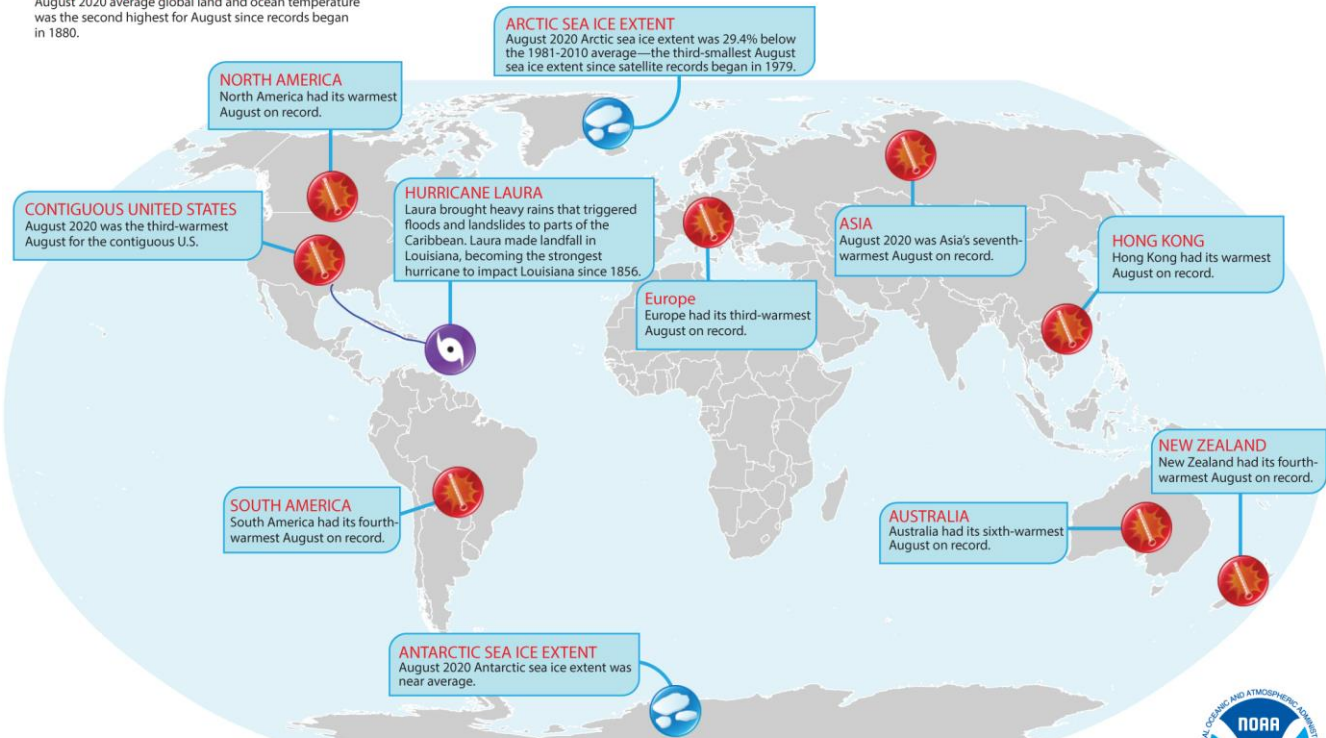
Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



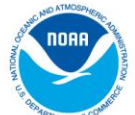
Selected Significant Climate Anomalies and Events: August 2020

GLOBAL AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

August 2020 average global land and ocean temperature was the second highest for August since records began in 1880.



Please note: Material provided in this map was compiled from NOAA's State of the Climate Reports. For more information please visit: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc>



Public Education Update



Buddy Casale, Cono Casale, boatinbud7@gmail.com, is the Flotilla Staff Officer (FSO) for Public Education.

We held another virtual About Boating Safety (ABS) class in September with 10 students attending.



The next virtual four-day ABS class will start on Monday, October 12, and a Weekend Navigator class will also be presented virtually on Saturday, October 17.

We also completed the postponed March Boating Skills & Seamanship (BSS) course online using Zoom, including the plotting exercise.

Member Training Update



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

Member Training

Wow! You are amazing. When I look at the member training numbers it is hard to believe that we have not been in an actual classroom for over six months. A number of our flotilla members have been busy taking various training classes. Thank you to every member who has gained new knowledge or refreshed existing knowledge.

Early this year more than a dozen members took part in Operations Workshops and the TCT Refresher. A few members took the Introduction to Risk Management and a few took the CRM Refresher. As the year progressed, several members have taken the Blood Borne Pathogen Awareness course that is now required for qualified crew members. Some members even took the Emergency Response – First Responder Awareness Level course before it was deleted from the crew requirements.

Core Training classes have been taken by ten of our members. Five of these courses must be retaken at least every five years to avoid becoming Required Yearly Not Met status (REYR) in most competencies or even as an Auxiliary officer. If it has been four or five years since you took any of these courses then this might be a good time to take them again.

A review of what else members have taken this year covers a big range in and out of Auxiliary offerings. First within the Auxiliary one or members have taken the following:

Good Mate
Introduction to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection
Introduction to Public Affairs
Instructor Training
RBS Visitor
Vessel Examiner
Vessel Examiner Workshop

Flotilla Leadership**AUXAPC****AUXCOM****AUXPAT****AUXSEA****AUXWEA****All the Leadership Exams 1 thru 5**

FEMA courses were the most common outside of the Auxiliary with the Boy Scouts Youth Protection Course taken by a couple of our members. The FEMA courses taken this year included the following:

ICS-100**ICS-200****ICS-210****ICS-241****ICS-242****ICS-300****ICS-305****ICS-400****ICS-700****ICS-800**

There was other training this year such as crew training that occurred before the Auxiliary was told to stop activities that required being near anyone else. Additionally, members have been training in classes and areas such as AUXDATA II that only show up as hours on the 7029 reports.

So...Thank You to all the members who have taken time to do training. Please remember to record the time you spend training as 99D on your form 7029 and submit the form each month. Most of us really enjoy what we do for the Coast Guard and the boating public so please get trained and stay ready.

Playing with AUXDATA II

I preface this with the acknowledgement that I am not an expert on AUXDATA II. The following is some general information and a bit of what is working for me.

There is a 74-page training manual “Auxiliary Member User Guide v1.3” available online. I get to the guide from our flotilla’s website by selecting AUXDATA on the dropdowns under Aux Members. The route to the guide is in the left column AUXDATA box as “Getting Started”.

Notice that the bottom item of this group in the left column is Account Activation. I recommend that you activate your account. Some of your information has been transferred from the old system and should be checked for errors and items that need updating. Some other information did not transfer and should be entered by you.

Now to enter AUXDATA in the future, you will have to go through the two-factor authentication process. You will enter your user ID and password. The system will now send you another code to be entered to confirm that it is really you. An option other than having to go to your emails every time is downloading an Authenticator app to your cell phone. The app will supply the six-digit code for you to enter and complete the login.

On the home page of AUXDATA II there are a number of choices. For example, the boxes under the Member Dashboard include information on becoming qualified in many different competencies. (A quick reminder that different districts sometimes have additional requirements.) The item that I select most often is the More in the upper right and on the dropdown that occurs, I select Reports.

The order and list of the reports changes but current list on my account includes:

Flotilla Member Report	Unit Member Training
Flotilla Member Roster	Unit Training Record
Flotilla Mission Activity	
Flotilla Mission Data	And more

The list has the report name in the first column followed by a brief description of the report in the second column to help you select what you are looking for.

Once you select a report you are going to see information on members you don’t know. You need to change report filter. In the upper right part of the page, you need to click on the filter icon. It looks like a funnel or a Y and it is located between the Add Chart and the refresh buttons. The first item to click on in the dropdown is the unit number.

Change the unit number to 0701110 and click apply. You should now be seeing information about our flotilla.

Another trick that works for me when I am looking for my own information is after getting to our flotilla in the filters, I click on Show Me and change it from All members to My members.

Depending on the report I am looking at, I can click on one of the other boxes and delete some of the options. An example would be if I only want to see who is in AP status or who is REYR. Different reports give me different filter options. When you exit the system, it will revert to its original format so do not worry when you click on the apply button.

When you have completed your filter changes, closing the filter list with the arrow pointing to the right will sometimes expose more information such as dates completed or dates expiring.

I am sure that other flotilla members have found other neat little tricks to make this system work for them. Please let the rest of us know what works for you.

The Coast Guard invested a lot of hours and money into providing us with AUXDATA II. For me, it is easier than the old system and I am slowly learning to let it help me as FSO-MT. So, join me in trying out AUXDATA II.

Harvey Prior

Vessel Examination Update



Gordon Thomas is the Flotilla Staff Officer for Vessel Examination (FSO-VE).

One of the issues I emphasize when I teach the Chapter on Boat Emergencies with the Auxiliary:

Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning is more common than we think.

Stay away from the back of the boat especially in an inboard/outboard (I/O) vessel even while it is moving.

Be aware of how long your boat remains in a stationary place with the motor running or boats next to you that may have an engine running.

Be aware of the symptoms and let everyone else know the symptoms before going out.

Early symptoms of CO poisoning include irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness. They often are confused with seasickness or intoxication. Move anyone with these symptoms to fresh air immediately.

The Importance of a Dive Buddy

By Kristi Mackey, Flotilla Commander

A couple weeks ago a local young man in his 30s disappeared while diving with friends a few miles off Anclote Key. The Coast Guard searched for many hours and over many miles without success. I thought I would take this time to share the importance of having a dive buddy. Harvey Prior, Rob Bonnem and I have gone on wonderful dive trips together and we are always an arm's reach away from one another when going below surface.

Just as in life, the best experiences are enhanced when they are shared. A good buddy will ensure that your gear is working and configured properly. Together, you can create a dive plan and check on each other throughout the dive.

A good dive buddy pays attention to where you are at all times. They avoid the temptation to go rogue and chase a turtle. They are ready to offer help in case of an emergency. Whether it's untangling hoses, helping you work out a leg cramp, or offering his or her diving octopus if you run low on air, a good dive buddy brings redundancy and makes your dive safer.

Have fun safe diving.

Picture by 



2019 Recreational Boating Safety Statistics

In 2019, the Coast Guard counted 4,168 accidents that involved 613 deaths, 2,559 injuries and approximately \$55 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.

The fatality rate was 5.2 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 1.9% decrease from the 2018 fatality rate of 5.3 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.

Compared to 2018, the number of accidents increased 0.6%, the number of deaths decreased 3.2%, and the number of injuries increased 1.9%.

Where cause of death was known, 79% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 86% were not wearing a life jacket.

Where length was known, eight out of every ten boaters who drowned were using vessels less than 21 feet in length.

Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents; where the primary cause was known, it was listed as the leading factor in 23% of deaths.

Where instruction was known, 70% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Only 20% percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had received a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.

There were 171 accidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these accidents resulted in 35 deaths and 155 injuries.

Operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, excessive speed, and alcohol use rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.

Where data was known, the most common vessel types involved in reported accidents were open motorboats (45%), personal watercraft (19%), and cabin motorboats (16%).

Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (48%), kayaks (14%), and personal watercraft (8%).

The 11,878,542 recreational vessels registered by the states in 2019 represent a 0.22% increase from last year when 11,852,969 recreational vessels were registered.

Source: US Coast Guard

9/11 Remembrance

On September 11, I visited the 9/11 Memorial at Curlew Hills Cemetery. I'm sure we all remember where we were that terrible day. I was working as an air traffic controller.

As the towers were hit, Ben Sliney, who was chief of Air Traffic Operations at the FAA command center in Virginia gave an unprecedented order to land all aircraft in the air at the nearest possible airport. It was his first day on the job in his new position.

A nationwide ground stop was made to stop all commercial, military, and private aircraft from taking off and all planes in the air were told to land at the nearest airport as soon as possible. International flights were told to return to their departure points or to land somewhere outside the US. According to the FAA radar records, almost 5,000 aircraft were safely guided to the ground in under two hours.



Article and photos by Joan Gutek

Air Station Clearwater Hurricane Sally Response

CG Air Station Clearwater deployed two H60 helicopters and crews in response to Hurricane Sally, with C130 aircraft providing logistical support.

Source: USCG Air Station Clearwater Facebook page.



Flotilla Staff Officers

ELECTED OFFICERS	
FC Flotilla Commander	Kristi Mackey
VFC Flotilla Vice 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	Keith Betzing
FSO-PV Partner Visitor	Rob Bonnem
FSO-PA Public Affairs	Rob Bonnem
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

About Boating Safely (ABS) virtual class – October 12-15
Weekend Navigator virtual class – October 17

Social Distancing When Boating



Only boat with those in your immediate household.



No beaching your boat right next to someone else.



Maintain your distance at the fuel dock – and remember to wash your hands.



No rafting up – keep your distance on the water.

No guests on your boat!
This includes family members not in your immediate household or your closest boating buddies.

Go right from your house to the boat and back –
no unnecessary contact with anyone.

Enjoy your boat, the water and the fresh air;
but enjoy it while boating responsibly.

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Social distancing is the best way to stay safe.

