



Volume 2008-Mar

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Commander's Corner

The New Year is off and running. Our January and February meetings have gone well. February was our 1st training meeting and we were honored to have Jim Crosby (see picture below on right) and his wife Patsy present a very interesting and enlightening presentation on Ropes and Knots.

We learned all the different kinds of ropes available and how to care for them. We practiced how to tie the major knots we need to use and will practice one knot each month at our meetings in the future.

Our March meeting is a planned social dinner with a round table discussion. The members have been very busy with training. Two members are taking the navigation course in Richmond, several took the DGIF instructor training in Charlottesville and others went to the FSO Round Table in Lynchburg. Several have applied for training at Yorktown in late March.

Our first PE ABC Class is scheduled for the 15 of March at Kirk O'Cliff Church. We also taught the first of 2 scheduled ABC classes under a new partnership with The Louisa County Parks & Recreation at the Betty Queen Intergenerational Center. Our VE Workshop was held on March 1st and the schedule for inspections has been posted. Some members have already signed up for patrols. We welcomed a new member in February and expect two more in March.

Our Flotilla has relocated to Kirk O'Cliff Church where they are glad to support the Coast Guard Auxiliary and their needs. It is a little further away for members but manageable.

I look forward to spring and the boating season and hope that all stay well. Watch the newsletter for further information.

Barbara Kerr
Commander 87



Orange County Fishing & Sportsman Show

Flotilla 87 returned to the Hornet Sports Center at the Orange County High School on March 1st and 2nd for the 2nd consecutive year with an exhibit on Boating Safety and Flotilla 87 activity at Lake Anna.

The exhibit staffed by rotating flotilla members throughout the 2 day event handed out Boating Safety material to visitors at the show, answered questions on the new Virginia Boating Education rule, provided information on Flotilla 87 Boating Classes and other class opportunity. The materials were provided by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF), the

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Orange County Fishing & Sportsman Show (continued from page 1)
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and Flotilla 87.

The DGIF orange bags, whistles, and bandaids were a big hit with all show visitors. There was good interest in the ABC classes offered by Flotilla 87.

In support of the Orange County High School 4-H & B.A.S.S. Anglers (the show hosts), Flotilla 87 presented 4 certificates for a seat at any ABC class the flotilla sponsors this year as prizes for show visitors.

A vote of appreciation goes out to the flotilla members supporting this event. Jean McCormick, Mo Daniels, Dave Aitken, Bill & Carol Shutt, Jack and Virginia Gorski, Lynwood Hancock, Dick Shrum and Andy Gibson. This activity was spearheaded by Dave Aitken and Andy Gibson.

And many thanks to the VDGIF for providing many of the handouts used in this exhibit.

FSO-Roundtables

A record twelve staff officers and members of Flotilla 87 carpooled the 100 plus miles to the Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy in Lynchburg, VA on Sat, Feb 23 for the opportunity for all to sit around with their counterparts in the other Div 8 flotillas to discuss their jobs and brainstorm about better ways to do the jobs.

In the picture below on right, Flotilla 87 members Carol Shutt and Gena Kunz participate in one of the concurrent roundtables with other members of Div 8 Flotillas.

Whether the staff officers were new in their appointed positions or have served for a while, all considered the activity of value. There was no set agenda other than the open discussions.

Flotilla 87 has planned to conduct a Round Table discussion at the March flotilla meeting .

This Flotilla 87 Monthly e-Newsletter is sent to flotilla members and selected others 1 week prior to the Flotilla monthly meeting. Please send feedback, articles and contributions to the FSO-PB at fsopb@a0540807.uscgaux.info. Due date for input is the 1st of the month.

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VE & PV 2008 Workshop

Flotilla 87 held a combined VE & PV workshop for 2008 at the home of Dick Shutt on Saturday, March 1, 2008. Shown below is FSO-VE Bill Shutt, sitting at the laptop, addressing the workshop VE presentation material with flotilla members (l to r) Jean McCormick, Rich Kunz, and Gena Kunz looking on. FSO-PV, Dick Shrum finished the workshop presenting the PV material. A total of 10 flotilla members were present and listened to the presentation material.



The FSO-VE reminds all VE certified members to begin planning which of the announced VE station dates they can support and to provide their list of availability to him as soon as possible.

Member Activity Log

Flotilla 87 has 973 total hours submitted so far this year which make us 2nd in Division 8. The Number One Flotilla has more than twice the hours. Did they really surpass us by that many hours or have we not submitted our forms in a timely fashion?

The 99 Forms (7029 - Member Activity Log) are now part of the 100 Point Awards and are extremely important to support from the Coast Guard. The 99 Forms now have more weight than ever before. How much time was spent reading and sending emails, how much prep time will you spend getting your facility ready for the season and throughout the year? These are just some of the items for 99 Forms. FSO-IS, Gena Kunz



Photo Credits: Page 1, 2 & 4: Andy Gibson

Mission Complete? Paperwork In?

No matter what the mission (eg: a PE class, a PA exhibit, or a Maritime Observation Mission), there are 3 P's involved which represent 3 mission phases.

Planning - Getting Ready

Performance - Doing the actual mission

Paperwork - Completing the paperwork

The message here is not the existence of the 3 Ps but that *“The mission is complete when the Paperwork is complete and turned in.”*

When there is no other specific time requirement for paperwork to be completed sooner, let's work this year to complete and turn in all paperwork no later than 7 days (1 week) after the Performance phase of your Mission.

The task may be yours but others may depend on the submitted information for yearly qualification, certification, etc and this year with optional methods of submitting your paperwork (electronic form, or simply an email to the FSO-IS), it's almost painless. So remember, let's set a 7 day maximum for all paperwork to complete all missions.

Seven Complete ABC Class at Louisa County Parks & Recreation

Flotilla 87 made history on February 28 with the successful completion of an ABC class under a new partnership with The Louisa County Parks & Recreation (LCPR) at the Betty Queen Intergenerational Center in Louisa. All students were successful in earning their boating safety certification.

The next scheduled 2 session (Tue, Thur) ABC class begins Apr 15 at the Betty Queen Center. The next ABC class for Flotilla 87 is March 15th at the Kirk O'Cliff.

**Congratulations to Ron Ellis
on having the first Flotilla 87
operational facility (OPFAC)
inspected for 2008!**

Proposed Virginia Watercraft Boating Safety Education Regulation

Responding to a Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) email soliciting comment on the proposed new Virginia Watercraft Boating Safety Education Regulation, 4VAC15-410, three members of Flotilla 87 got together and submitted comments on the proposed regulation individually direct to VDGIF. Submissions to VDGIF represented their personal thoughts, not the Auxiliary. The new proposed regulation are available at URL (<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/regulations/comment/display-boat.asp>) for reviewing and/or commenting. Public comment deadline is 16 March 2008.

Submitted by FSO-MT, Dave Aitken

VDGIF Instructor Workshop Feedback

Mary Loose DeViney, Region 4 Coordinator, hosted the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) Annual Instructor Workshop on 23 February in Charlottesville, Virginia. The gathering was not well attended. Only seven instructors could make it (owing to previous commitments) and, of those seven, all were Auxiliary instructors--three from Flotilla 87, two from Flotilla 84, and one each from Flotillas 81 and 88.

The workshop reviewed the status of the Boating Education Branch of VDGIF, the new Boating Education Law, Instructor requirements, and the Boat Virginia Course. Of importance is the fact that VDGIF is expecting budget cuts and, as a result, will have to tighten its fiscal belt starting 1 July 2008. This anticipated reduction in the budget will likely affect VDGIF's ability/capability to provide a level of support that we have become accustomed to, especially items such as whistles, bags, etc., in support of non-VDGIF sponsored activities/events.

The bottom line is we should continue to submit requests for support to VDGIF, however we need to be more judicious in the quantity requested, and, in worst case, be prepared to have the request denied. A copy of the Workshop power point presentation has been made available to all VDGIF instructors in Flotilla 87 for their information/retention as appropriate.

Submitted by FSO-MT, Dave Aitken.

Flotilla 87 2008 Elected Officers

Abbr	Position	Member
FC	Flotilla Commander	Kerr, Barbara
VFC	Flotilla Vice Commander	Haley, Jane
IPFC	Immediate Past Commander	Griffes, Jim

Flotilla 87 2008 Staff Officers

Abbr	Office	Member
FSO-AN	Aids to Navigation	Hancock, Lynwood
FSO-CM	Communications	Shrum, Dick
FSO-CS	Communication Services	Gibson, Andy
FSO-FN	Finance	Ness, Richard
FSO-IS	Information Systems	Kunz, Gena
FSO-MA	Materials	Shutt, Carol
FSO-MS	Marine Safety	Haley, Jane
FSO-MT	Member Training	Aitken, Dave
FSO-OP	Operations	Daniels, Maureen
FSO-PA	Public Affairs	Ellis, Ginger
FSO-PB	Publications	Gibson, Andy
FSO-PE	Public Education	McCormick, Jean
FSO-PS	Personnel Services	Kerr, Barbara (A)
FSO-PV	RBS Visitation Program	Shrum, Dick
FSO-SR	Secretary/Records	Kanary, Donna
FSO-VE	Vessel Examination	Shutt, Bill

Excellent TriFold!

Flotilla members Jean McCormick and Mo Daniels have created an excellent picture tri-fold that is used at many classes and flotilla activities. They did a great job.



Calendar

3/15 Sat - 0830, About Boating Safely Class, Kirk O'Cliff
 3/15 Sat - 0830, Sector Hampton Roads Conference and Workshops
 3/18 Tue - 1900, March Flotilla Mtg, Kirk O'Cliff
 3/28-30, Fri, Sat, Sun, Fifth District (5SR) Advanced Skills Weekend at Yorktown
 4/05 Sat - 1000-1600, Div 8 Meeting, Louisa County Library
 4/12 Sat - 1000-1200, OPs Workshop and TCT training, Louisa County Library
 4/15 Tue - 1900, April Flotilla Mtg, Kirk O'Cliff
 4/15 & 4/17 Tue - Thu 1900, Boating Safety Class, Louisa County Parks & Recreation, Betty Queen Center

The Blue Ridge Division Quarterly Meeting

Flotilla 87 hosts the quarterly meeting of the Blue Ridge Division 8 on April 5, 2008 beginning at 10AM at the Louisa County Library.

All are invited. There will be a Recruiting and Retention Roundtable after the meeting.

It's important that as many Flotilla members as possible be present as Flotilla 87 is the host for the meeting and this is a once a year opportunity to see your Division organization in action locally.

Lake Anna

Private Aids to Navigation



FSO-AN, Lynwood Hancock asks that all observed Private Aids to Navigation (PATON) discrepancies observed while on patrol should be reported to him.

Details for the reporting procedure are being worked out by Lynwood and Steve Falkenthal, the LAAC member in charge of the Navigational Aids on Lake Anna.

Discrepancies include missing, out of position, and damaged PATONS.

Until there is other notice, this effort is an informal effort only assisting LAAC and does not involve reports going to the U.S. Coast Guard.

Submitted by FSO-AN Lynwood Hancock