

**United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
Central Brevard, Flotilla 46
USCG Auxiliary Building, Lee Wenner Park, Cocoa
General Meeting Minutes
Date: 07JAN08**

Attendance:

Officers: Roger Bonnett, FC, Gil Steinfert, VFC/FSO-IS, Judy Steinfert, FSO-PV, Richard Bloom, FSO-AN, Ann Bloom, FSO-PS, Chris Tanner, FSO-SR, Howard Miller, FSO-MS, Peter Macaig, FSO-MT/FSO-PA, Mike Kanis, FSO-MA, Dino Koutsaris, FSO-PE, George Hill, IPFC/FSO-OP, Harry Preston, FSO-CM, Frank Fortney, FSO-PB/FSO-CS, Denis Sullivan, FSO-VE

Members: Jack Kuehne, Gary Gunter, Becky Smoak-Preston, Donna Miller, Steve Brown, Jim Urick, Rick marten, Lou Pernice, Martin Steger, Carter Quillen, Bill Giers, Lee Woods, John Vitale, Frank Koneski, Pam Easterwood

Call to Order: 1900

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Moment of Silence

Quorum present: yes

Guests: none

Awards:

Coxswain: Gil Steinfert
Sustainment Awards: Richard Bloom – 1st Award, Ann Bloom – 1st Award, Lou Pernice – 1st Award, Michael Kanis – 5th Award, Gil Steinfert – 3rd Award, Jack Kuehne – 7th Award

Membership Service Award: Bill Giers – 5 years
Fingerprint Test – Bill Giers

Installation of new members/officers:

Harry Preston sworn in as the new FSO-CM

New Member Introduction: none

Minutes: Motion to approve, seconded, and passed.

Finance: report read by Barb Carolus; motion made to accept, seconded, and passed

Commanders Report:

I want to thank everyone who attended the memorial service for Chuck Grimmnitz. It was impressive to see the amount of support the Flotilla gave Chuck and his family.

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves at the boat parade. Everyone seemed to enjoy the parade (bigger than Cocoa Beach).

Since our ABC class attendance was lower than the previous year (2006), we need to be more diligent on how we spend our Flotilla Funds. If anyone needs to purchase supplies, make sure you go through the appropriate staff officer. If the cost exceeds \$30, it needs to be reviewed by the FC. For building and office supplies, you need to contact George Hill. We will be looking at other areas where we can conserve also.

I need to know who has EPIRBS with batteries that are expiring in the first six months of 2008 or the last six months of 2007. This list needs to be completed before the January conference. I also need the names of any coxswain who does not have an EPIRB. We will be getting replacement batteries at the conference.

We have rotating patrol lights for the facilities that do not have them. You can sign one out through the FSO-OP.

Staff Reports: Gil Steinfort, VFC

AN (Rick Bloom): Judy and Gil Steinfort completed the PATON Patrol in New Found Harbor. Harry Preston and Rick Bloom did an ATON Patrol from the Pineda Causeway to the 520 Causeway and found one discrepancy. The globe on the South side of the Pineda Causeway was missing, but the light was on.

CM (Harry Preston): no report

CS (Frank Fortney): Listed below are the items accomplished for the FSO-CS position:

1. Developed and published a new/revised page for posting photographs to the web. Rather than posting individual photographs I now build a "storybook" for each event, convert it to a PDF file and post it to the web. The "Blue Button" now brings up a page with links to the PDF files.
2. Updated the web with the new 2008 Elected and Appointed officers. The cPanel was updated to the email addresses for the new officers.
3. Completed AUXWEA. AUXSAR is the last AUXOP course remaining.
4. Added a counter to the home page. So far, since 11/25/07, we have had 446 hits on our web site.

IS (Gil Steinfort): 1. As I mentioned in my notice of the January meeting, all forms for 2007 must be in my hands without delay. The door on 2007 closes

on 15 January and I need at least a few days prior to get any last minute forms entered.

2. Some changes have been made to forms for 2008 as follows:

Added to the required attachments to the Membership Application, ANSC-7001 (1-08) is a copy of the document used to verify citizenship. The previous edition is obsolete.

The Activity Report-Mission, ANSC-7030 (1-08) instructions have been extensively revised to reflect the mission consolidation effort. Since only the pick lists for the missions have been revised in the Acrobat fill-in form for page 1 and page 1's only change is the form date, the previous edition paper copies can be used until the supply is exhausted. The changes are found in pages 2 through 8. Underlining their names on the mission description pages denotes missions whose names or definitions have changed.

The Activity Report - Vessel Examinations, ANSC-7038 (1-08) has had its AUXDATA callouts revised to reflect the new mission activity and submission choices in AUXDATA. There is no other change to the face of the form; copies of the previous edition may be used until supplies are exhausted.

3. Just received through the IS chain:

There seems to be some confusion on the change allowing AP members to go on patrol, become Crew Qualified, VE, PV, etc.

The AP members cannot do any of these missions until they have a **boating safety course** and it is **entered into AUXDATA**. At this time it is being done by DIRAUX West when a new member is entered. If they have taken the course after joining or did not submit certificate at time of enrollment, a certificate must be sent to DIRAUX so their records can be updated. If AUXDATA box is not checked in Member Status, AUXDATA will not allow you to enter missions.

MA (Mike Kanis): 1. The VFC, FSO-PV and I conducted a "clean up" of the South Room. It is not 100% neat and tidy, but it is much better than it was at the end of the year. Most of the publications are grouped together more or less (e.g., Kids stuff, Waterway Watch, etc.)

2. In an effort to maintain this room and our supplies, I would like to ask the cooperation of all members. The material is available to all, but the responsibility to keep this room somewhat tidy is also the responsibility of all.

3. An order has been placed for more FL State Regulations, both types. If Auxiliary National Supply Center (ANSC) materials, or other no cost items are needed please let me know via email. I can only place an ANSC order once per month and I will try to do so around the 10th of each month. If requests are

received after the ANSC order is submitted, they will have to wait until the next month.

4. Orders for items that require the expenditure of funds will require the approval of the FC.

5. It has long been a policy that the most publications being distributed to the public be stamped or labeled with Flotilla Contact information. The Steinforts and a few others have been attempting to ensure that all materials are properly marked. Please do not distribute unmarked materials. The Flotilla stamp in the Ira Bickham room and label will be provided on request.

6. We will not be able to obtain additional copies of the Brevard Boaters Guide. We obtained the last box available to the public and it is not known when it will be reprinted.

MS (Howard Miller): 1. I will be attending the District 7 Training 2008 Event in Orlando to cover the Marine Safety sessions for the Division Marine Safety Officer, Bill Sorrentino. Team MS members attending the event include Harry P, Rick B, Pete M and Bill G.

2. Joint Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) Port Canaveral (PCAN) and Flotilla 46 initiatives:

a. **UNINSPECTED VESSEL SAFETY PROGRAM** (POC Harry Preston):

(1) USCG Sector JAX reports the following for uninspected commercial vessel examinations, 2007: 66 Commercial Dockside Fishing Vessel Safety Exams, 123 Commercial Dockside Fishing Vessel Safety Check Exams, 38 Uninspected Towing Vessel Safety Dockside Exams and 19 Uninspected Passenger Vessel Dockside Safety Exams.

(2) The 2007 summary for the USCG Auxiliary Uninspected Vessel Examinations conducted out of Station Port Canaveral, supported by Flotilla 46, is:

(a) Passenger (SIX PACK): 08 conducted, 00 failed

(b) Commercial Fishing: 10 conducted, 05 failed

(c) Towing: 03 conducted, 00 failed

Note: Dock walking, to advertise Uninspected Vessel Examination availability, will increase as part of the program in 2008. Rick B walked the docks around Grills (PCAN) on 9 December, talking with skippers and crew in the area, discussing vessel examinations.

(3) Training: Uninspected Vessel Examiner training for Rick B, Pete M and Howard M is in the final phase. Each is preparing for their certification board, tentatively in January. Upon certification, each will be able to conduct commercial examinations on uninspected passenger (6 pack), fishing and towing vessels.

(4) Ed Weiss, Sector JAX offered Team MS members' quotas for a Commercial Vessel Examination Course in Yorktown, Virginia if there are "space available" quotas. Pete M and Rick B have requested to attend if there is space available.

(5) No change: Quotas to the Spring 2008 USCG Wood Hull Course being conducted in Yorktown, Virginia have been extended to the USCG AUX Uninspected Vessel Examiners. Quotas will be space available. The Fishing Vessel Safety Program Coordinator, Seventh Coast Guard District, Prevention Division, Miami extended the offer. Rick B, Pete M and Howard M have requested quotas.

b. **MARINER LICENSING AND DOCUMENTATION** (POC Harry Preston):

(1) Processed 54 mariners (oath, identification verification and fingerprinting) since the last report in support of mariner licensing.

(2) Training: Second day of mariner licensing and documentation support training for MSD PCAN continues. Pete M, Gary G and Bill G are working toward certification.

c. **POLLUTION PATROLS TO SUPPORT MSD PCAN** (POC Howard Miller): No patrols have been involved with pollution patrols or observations since the last report – nothing to report.

d. **SHIPBOARD INSPECTION ASSIST BY USCG AUX** (POC Howard Miller): Initiative on hold - nothing to report.

e. **MSD PCAN FACILITY SAFETY INSPECTIONS** (POC AI Medici): Nothing to report.

f. **AUXDATA SUPPORT FOR MSD REPORTS** (POC Howard Miller): Division AUXDATA summary statistics is not accessible - nothing to report.

g. **WATERWAY AND SPOIL ISLANDS** (POC Howard Miller):

(1) East Central Aquatic Preserves, Department of Environmental Protection:

(a) The next island enhancement event is planned for 12JAN08. The island(s) involved will be the same as the 08DEC07 event, Honeymoon Island (east and west) in Newfound Harbor. Volunteers are being solicited for. Boats

will leave from Kiwanis Park, Merritt Island at 0900 and return around 1300. Of note is that this event will conflict with those attending the District 7 2008 Training Event in Orlando (10, 11, 12, and 13 January).

h. **SEA CADET PROGRAM / USCG AUX INTERACTION** (POC Howard Miller):

(1) Sea Cadets Battalion, Melbourne requested, via an e-mail to the FLOT 46 VFC, to meet to discuss assistance with cadet training. Will work to orchestrate a meeting in January.

(a) No change: FLOT 46 FC and FSO-MS met with the CO and XO of the Sea Cadet Battalion at their open house to discuss potential resourcing. A joint meeting with this organization and the Sea Cadet Division of Port Canaveral (the two local Sea Cadet organizations) is being planned for JAN08. I will orchestrate the meeting, inviting representatives from local FLOTs and the Division. The intent of the meeting will be to discuss how the Auxiliary / Flotilla can assist with cadet training within the guidelines promulgated by the AUXMAN. There will be more discussion on this at the FLOT 46 Staff Meeting.

i. **BREVARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** (POC Howard Miller):

(1) No change: At the request of Mr. Ernie Brown, Brevard County Director of Natural Resources (also a LT in the USCG Reserve) and Matt Culver, Boating and Waterways Program Manager, and with the approval of the FLOT 46 FC, I am working to support an introductory meeting of Auxiliary leadership residing in Brevard County. The meeting will be planned for JAN08. The County is interested in developing a working relationship with the Auxiliary. Mr. Brown has appointed Mr. Culver to be the FLOT 46 FSO-MS POC for the Department of Natural Resources, Brevard County.

j. **SEA PARTNERS** (POC Howard Miller): No change: I received a delivery of USCG Sea Partners information, which I ordered through the AUX supply system. The material includes related DVDs and VHS videos, specifically on environmental control, pollution control and Waterway Watch. I also received posters and banners for Waterway Watch. I am proposing to include the short videos as background presentations during the ABC lunch break (not required viewing). The material can also be used during any outreach programs, wither it is conducted at a ramp, marina or other facility.

k. **American Waterway Watch Program** (POC Howard Miller): Manufactured a bracket that would support attaching a large American Waterway Watch Program poster to the USCG AUX Program Visitor brochure stands in place around the county. This initiative was approved by the FLOT-46 FSO-PV (Judy S) for attaching to stands where the signage would be appropriate based on counter space. I am distributing the posters (w/ brackets) to members of Team PV

MT (Pete Macaig): Currently there is a boat crew class in progress. Rick Bloom is requesting that members enrolled in the class schedule on-the-water training this Tuesday evening.

19JAN08, Mike Kanis will be teaching an AIDS Verifier class at Flotilla 46 in Cocoa. The class starts at 0900 and will last about 6 hours. Bring your lunch.

23JAN08, a new member indoctrination class will be held in Cocoa at the Flotilla building starting at 1800. It is advised that all new members attend. The class is an informal introduction to the Auxiliary. I request the staff officers to attend to pass on specific information about their areas of expertise.

I have been asked about starting a Coxswain class and I will be working out a schedule and instructors in the near future.

Training is available at the D7 Conference in Orlando.

No other training is currently on the agenda.

OP (George Hill): no report

PA (Pete Macaig): 2 e-newsletters have been sent out to the membership. First issue was on the Change of Watch. Next was a general newsletter containing information about Chuck Grimmnitz, the spoil island cleanup, and a mention of position as gate guard at CG Station Canaveral. Last sent on 06JAN08 containing general information on class and meetings as well as D7 conference.

The information about any other public functions has not been done due to lack of public education seminars scheduled.

The current January newsletter is out with information on a new member class, D7 conference, and future OP courses or other select courses.

PA will be looking for volunteers to assist with information at boat shows and civic events. I am compiling a list of shows and events we should attend.

There have been instructions from District to follow procedures and submit a copy of the newsletter to the SO-PB.

PB (Frank Fortney): The following FSO-PB items were accomplished during December 2007:

1. Maintained the flotilla member roster. Distributed the roster via email/mail to all members. The roster was updated with changes in membership, revisions to current members data, and the new staff positions were annotated.
2. Put together two officer appointment packages. One for FSO-CM and one for FSO-FN.
3. Began taking the AUX-26, Introduction to Digital Photography. I have completed all of the course work and will be taking the final examination shortly. My assessment is that this is an excellent course and is a must for anyone interested in improving their digital photography skills. The site can be accessed

at the following address:

<http://64.207.134.26/usr/moodle2/course/view.php?id=42>.

4. Developed and distributed the flyer and tri-fold advertising the Feb, March, and April ABC course.

PE (Dino Koutsaris): In process of scheduling instructors for ABC course, scheduled to take place on February 16, 2008, with morning crew checking in at 0700.

I would like to make a motion to order a dozen or so copies of the new course, "*About Boating Safely*" and supplements, so that we can begin to study the material, even though as stated previously in the *Education Connection* issue, no lesson modifications would be necessary from the ABC to the new "ABS" course.

Still need to fill Chapter 5, kitchen crew, and grill chef slots for Feb 16 class.

PS (Ann Bloom): Nothing to report this month so far. We have new membership application forms that I will start using

PV (Judy Steinfort): 1. In spite of holiday activities, the PV team has continued to visit our partners on a regular basis.

2. The newest PV team member, Howard Miller, has made his supervised visits, thanks to mentor Jack Kuehne, and is awaiting certification.

3. There is now a good supply of flotilla stamped publications available for distribution.

4. Thanks to Frank Fortney who will continue to create the tri-folds and posters for our ABC classes. PV team members and others should download and print them as needed.

SR (Chris Tanner): thanked everyone for emailing their reports in a timely fashion

VE (Denis Sullivan): 1. The 2008 VE decal are here, I received about 200 of the decals, and after the Flotilla meeting, I will probably have issued all the initial batch of decals. Will get with Mike Kanis at the meeting, and submit for another issue of 2008 VE decals.

2. I am planning to conduct a VE workshop, 26 JAN 08 at the Flotilla Bldg. Start time for workshop will be 0830 hrs and will finish up around 1230 hrs. Any member of the flotilla is invited; you do not have to be VE qualified.

3. I am also planning to man Kelly Park, the last Sunday of every month. Will spend most of the day at this location conducting VE's, any member who needs to get there five VE's to get qualified after they have passed

the VE exam, you can find me there. This will be a yearlong event.

4. I will be also operating at other boat ramps and marinas in the AOR.
Will coordinate some surge events as we go the year.
5. When you submit your 7038 copy me at dencats@bellsouth.net

Committee Reports

Fellowship Committee: Jack Miller - absent

FC resumes chair

Old/New Business:

These are addendums to the Staff Reports:

Denis Sullivan – The last Sunday of every month will be VEs at Kelly Park beginning at 0800

Dino Koutsaris – The ABC class is changing to ABS, “About Boating Safety”. Suggesting that 100 books be ordered and make sure the Supplements are available. So far 12 have been ordered.

Gil Steinfort – Reports need to be sent to the FC, VFC, SR, and SO. Please get 99 hours for 2007 in right away. On form 7038, there is nowhere to put the date of the VSC. Please put this in the “Remarks” section.

Comments re: the Communication trailer – have a committee to work on this project; have committee develop a budget and bring ideas to the membership

AP Qualified members must have a Boating Safety course and have this in AUXDATA before obtaining any other qualifications; AP – applicant; IQ – initially qualified without boating safety course, BQ – basically qualified with boating safety course

Question about uniform for classes – The policy of D7 is that the instructor sets the uniform for class

Question re: renewal of ID cards – Cards are good for 5 years; there is a form to fill out

Harry Preston mentioned that some Marinas have requested PA booths at their events

There will be a Staff meeting 30JAN08

On 23FEB08 and 01MAR08, there will be QEs here for crew; no time yet

Suggestions for MT: Harry Preston - show the different uniforms; Jack Kuehne - do a workshop for crew/coxswain requal reviewing the new changes; Lou Pernice – the required IT workshop

There is an OPS/TCT workshop after the meeting

Comments by Attending Senior Aux. Officers or C.G. Officers:

Barb Carolus, DCP: The next Division meeting is 09FEB08 here at Flotilla 46.

Barb fielded a question re: an 8-hr TCT course. There is no course on the schedule yet.

Next Meeting: 04FEB08 1900

Motion made to adjourn, seconded, passed.

Adjourned: 2026

Respectfully submitted:
Chris Tanner, FSO-SR