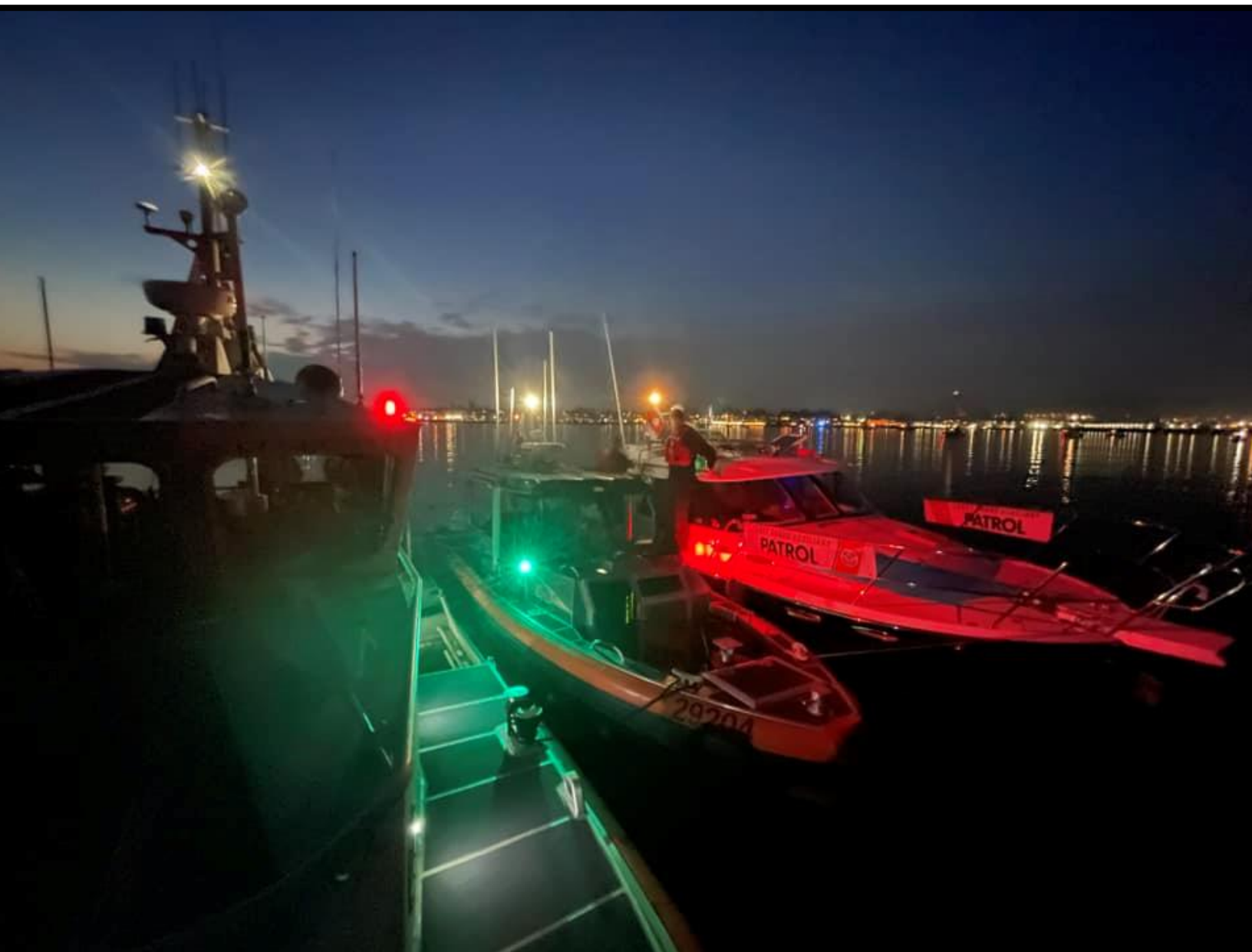




ALERT 11

Volume LX Issue 3 • July 2023



UNDERWAY

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Alert 11 is a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary District 13, Division 1, Flotilla 1 Publication, authorized by IAW COMDTINST 1800.5D & COMDTINST M5728.2C. It is published several times a year and is chiefly circulated to Auxiliary members of Flotilla 11 via email. The Alert 11 contains news of general interest, suggestions, and information for Coast Guard Auxiliary members. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Coast Guard. Material is informational only and not authority for action. Internet release is authorized. Submission of Material consistent with Auxiliary publication guidelines may be made via email to mhayner.cgaux@pnwsoft.com. The inclusion of photographs of boating safety equipment are not meant in any way to endorse a specific manufacturer or product.

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Cover Photograph: July 4th Fireworks Patrol, Squaticum Harbor. Photo by U.S. Coast Guard Station Bellingham

Commander's Comments

Ahoy Shipmates,



This is your Flotilla update for the Summer.

Our Flotilla has accomplished a lot this year, especially given the percentage of participating members. Look at the accomplishments section later in this newsletter for details

on our activities! As an example, on the Ski-to-Sea Patrol, the crew rescued a distressed kayaker who was going hypothermic (and delivered him to shoreside EMS)!

Another example, at our three recent Meetings we had the following speakers:

- ✳ April: Megan Bugai, Bellingham AIS Program
- ✳ May: Mike King, Whatcom Deputy; Sheriff's Marine activities
- ✳ June: Bridget Trosin, Washington Sea Grant, Sucia State Park Water Quality

Just after the accomplishments section is a list of Flotilla Program & Unit Plans & Requests. I would like repeat several here for your consideration:

- ✳ A USCG request for "Whale Wise" dock walks by VEs. (Pam has materials, if needed).
- ✳ The boat crew is actively scheduling Patrols (mostly Mondays). If you are a crew and not yet dialed-in, contact Manny Eusebio or Jeff Shaw for details.
- ✳ We plan to conduct a Zoomed Boat America class 9/25-28. If you are an instructor, have not yet volunteered and would like to, please contact Pam.
- ✳ Our Dues Campaign commences next month (August 1). Make a plan to either pay (via a check mailed to Jim Appleby or direct to our PayPal), or notify Pam that you will not be continuing.
- ✳ Our next Hybrid Flotilla Meeting is Sept. 21st. Please attend (in-person or remotely)

Be sure and look at the Plans & Requests sections and the online calendar to keep apprised of upcoming activities and needs. Review those activities for what best suits your reason for joining the Auxiliary. In particular at this time, we will need a replacement Finance Officer by year end, as the current holder is retiring. Remember, there are only two positions in the Flotilla that are required (and need to be separate) – Flotilla Commander and Finance Officer. Without both, we cannot continue. Talk to me if you think you might be interested.

I hope that you will continue to invest in our Flotilla. Your participation is valued; your involvement ensures that our Flotilla programs are viable; and you never know when your efforts might save a life!

Semper Paratus ~ Semper Tutus
Always ready – Always Safe
Pamela Chelgren-Koterba, Flotilla Commander

Flotilla Calendar

August

- 1: Begin Dues Campaign
- 3: FL 11 Staff Meeting, 7PM (may not have)
- 4: Coast Guard Day (picnic; +FL11?)
- 4-5: Drayton Harbor Days
- 31: Div. 1 Meeting

September

- 7: FL 11 Staff Meeting, 7PM,
- 21: FL 11 Meeting, 7PM, (Hybrid)
- 22-24: DTRAIN (Clackamas OR)
- 25-28: Boat America Online, Zoom, 6:30-8:30PM
- 30: Dues Campaign Cutoff

October

- 5: FL 11 Staff Meeting, 7PM

- 19: FL11 Meeting, 7PM, (Hybrid)
- 26: Div. 1 Meeting

November

- 2: FL 11 Staff Meeting, 7PM,
- 16: FL 11 Meeting, 7PM, (Hybrid)
- 23 Thanksgiving

December

- 3: CoW Division1
- 7: FL 11 Staff Meeting, 7PM, (Planning meeting, Hybrid)
- PH: Holiday Activities

ACRONYMS

CoC	Change of command event
CoW	Change of watch event
D13	District 13
DTRAIN	Districtwide training event
FL 11	Flotilla 11
PH	Placeholder when the exact date is not yet known
PPE	Personal protective equipment
QE	Qualification exam
RSSO	Rescue and survival systems officer
TBD	To be determined
VSC	Vessel safety check
YC	Yacht Club

Flotilla Accomplishments

The following program and unit accomplishments are for 2023 year to date.

Public Education: We have taught three Boat America classes which totaled 43 students including one youth.

Vessel Examiner: We have performed 140 Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) and 132 Marine Dealer Visits (MDV).

Operations: We have performed four patrols, of which two were for the Sea-to-Sea Regatta establishing a safety perimeter. On one of those, a rescue was performed for a hypothermic kayaker. In addition, two training patrols were performed. One with Station Bellingham 29' and one down to Anacortes.

Other Member and Unit Activities:

- ✳ Monthly Staff Meetings via Zoom
- ✳ Participated in Opening Day events: Squalicum and Blaine (Fishermen's memorial)
- ✳ Three members (+2 retirees) attended Change of Commands for: Station Bellingham, Cutter Sea Lion, Cutter Terrapin

2023 Plans & Requests

By Pam Chelgren-Koterba

The following items are some of the plans and Flotilla Commander's requests:

- ✳ VEs: USCG has requested that members doing Dock Walks please pass out Whale Wise info. Then report that public contact info to Pam, who will then relay the information to the Station. Contact Pam if you have an interest. Note: One report has already been submitted by Jeff Shaw.
- ✳ Our boat crew are working to satisfy Annual currencies, plus a couple are working towards a qualification for coxswain. Good Luck, guys!
- ✳ IT's: We will conduct a Zoomed Boat America class 9/25-28. If you are an instructor, have not yet volunteered and would like to, please contact Pam.



DECEPTION PASS, Wash. – Auxiliary members on patrol. Performing patrols is one of the key ways that the Auxiliary helps out. U.S. Coast Guard Photo by Jeff Halbrook.

- ✳ Direct Support: Watchstanding (Nico); Chaplain (Lyle: 231 hours, deployed to Puerto Rico July-August!)
- ✳ Member code 99 Hours: 1,534

For our hybrid Flotilla meetings (at Station Bellingham and via Zoom), we had the following Speakers: April: Megan Bugai, Bellingham AIS Program; May: Mike King, Whatcom Deputy; June: Bridget Trosin, Water Quality.

- ✳ Aid Verifiers should be planning for their remaining Bridge and PATON assignments.
- ✳ Dues campaign commences next month (August 1). Make a plan to either pay (via check mailed to Jim Appleby or direct to PayPal) or notify Pam that you will not be continuing.
- ✳ Our current Finance Officer is retiring this year. We will need a replacement by year-end.
- ✳ Our next Hybrid Flotilla Meeting is Sept. 21st. Please attend in-person or remotely.

Member Training

Flotilla 11 has had good results with member training for 2023. Remember that the time for annual trainings and required workshops is now. All classes are either conducted online or with video conferencing. The following trainings have been completed by members listed:

Annual Risk Management/TCT Refresher

Peter Border, Pam CK, Manny Eusebio, Jeff Halbrook, Nico Lacchini, Lyle Schrag, Jeff Shaw (Feb)
Jeff Schutzler (June)

Operations Workshop

February: Pam CK, Manny Eusebio, Jeff Halbrook, Nico Lacchini, Lyle Schrag, Jeff Shaw (Feb)
Jeff Schutzler (June)

Core Trainings - 6 Initial

Ray White (Apr), Frank Brown (May)

Core Trainings - 5 Refresher

Steve Bell (Feb)

Basic Qualification Course II – 7 Modules

Ray White (May), Frank Brown (May)

ICS Courses

ICS/100,700: Ray White (Apr)
ICS/210: Manny Eusebio (Mar)

Introduction to Risk Management

(May): Ray White, Frank Brown

Navigation Rules

Jeff Shaw (refresher, Jan)
Manny Eusebio (initial, Jun)

Instructor Development Course

Ray White (May)
Frank Brown (Jun)

VE Course

Frank Brown (June)

VE 2023 Workshop

Steve Bell, Peter Border, Hoyt Hatfield, Jeff Shaw, Lyle Schrag, Gary Farrow, Fiona Cooper (Jan)
John Salinas (March)
Nico Lacchini (April)
Jeff Halbrook (May)

Instructor Workshop

Peter Border, Pam CK (Jan)
Jeff Shaw, John Salinas (March)
Nico Lacchini (April)

Communications 2023 Workshop

Ray Ulrich (March)
Nico Lacchini (Apr)

Good Mate

Fiona Cooper (Jan)

AuxOp Specialty Courses - Communications & Weather Courses

Frank Brown (June)

Bloodborne Pathogens

Frank Brown (May):

Administrative Procedures

Frank Brown (May):

Leadership-1

Frank Brown (May):

Awards



BELLINGHAM, Wash. - Award Ceremony at June Flotilla Meeting.
U.S. Coast Guard Photo by Peter Border

USCG Unit Commendation

Contributing to Sector Puget Sound accomplishments over the Covid time period, issued March 2023:

Steve Bell (5th), Peter Border (5th), Pam C-K (4th), Art Cummings (5th), Fred Eldred (5th), Hoyt Hatfield (5th), Lyle Schrag (4th), Jeff Shaw (4th)

Navigation Systems

We have completed 15 of our 36 PATONs and none of our 5 Bridges. Flotilla Aid Verifiers (AVs) should plan for when they will be conducting their assignments (or let Pam know otherwise).

Pam will be teaching an electronic navigation tools session at September's DTRAIN to coxswains. Other interested members can either participate (remotely) in FL 12's session on August 9th, or in one-on-one sessions with Pam. Please contact if interested.

Auxiliary VE/MDB Service Award

Awarded for completing a total of 60 or more vessel examinations, of any combination:

Peter Border (18th)

Auxiliary Membership Award

This award is presented to any member who completes five cumulative years of Auxiliary membership:

Peter Border (20 years)

Jim Appleby and Gary Farrow (15 years)

Change of Watch/Command

Station Bellingham

From the Facebook page of U.S. Coast Guard Station Bellingham:

Join us in welcoming LT Terrell Sisk as he took command of Coast Guard Station Bellingham following a ceremony on June 16th!

A change of command ceremony was held to symbolize the seamless transfer of responsibility, authority, and accountability.

Captain Youngmee Moon, Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound, presided over the event and presented CWO4 Justin Uyttewaal with the Coast

Guard Commendation Medal for his outstanding service.

After the change of command ceremony, we went on to congratulate our relieved commanding officer, CWO4 Justin Uyttewaal, with a retirement ceremony and a job well done for the dedicated service and outstanding leadership over Station Bellingham for the past 3 years. Thank you, sir, for the 26 years of service and contributions to our country and good luck on your future endeavors. BRAVO ZULU, Sir!



BELLINGHAM, Wash. - L to R: Change of Watch Ceremony, Visiting Royal Canadian Mounties with Peter, LT Terrell Sisk. U.S. Coast Guard Photos by Peter Border.

USCGC Sea Lion

On June 22nd, BMC Kevin Knutsen relieved BMCM Kevinn Smith as commanding officer of the USCGC Sea Lion.



BELLINGHAM, Wash. - L to R: Change of Command Ceremony, John and Penny Milczewski, LT Kira Drabowski and Pam CK. U.S. Coast Guard Photos by Peter Border.

USCGC Terrapin

On July 13th, LT Kira K. Dabrowski was relieved of command by LTJG Katya L. Armbrecht.



BELLINGHAM, Wash. - L to R: LT Armbrecht, LT Armbrecht and Chief Engineer, CoC Cake. U.S. Coast Guard Photos by Peter Border.

New Uniforms

The Auxiliary will be getting two new uniforms. The first is an Auxiliary version of the new ODU replacement for the active duty (CGU).



WASHINGTON D.C. – New Uniforms from the Coast Guard Auxiliary Uniform Update, Oct 2021. U.S. Coast Guard Photo.

The key differences from the active-duty uniform being the grey name tapes, and the non-subdued flag and auxiliary patch. This should be available in the later part of 2023.

The second is the new Auxiliary Working Uniform (AWU). From the Uniform Update,

This will be an optional work uniform authorized for all Auxiliarists to wear. It will be a mandatory work uniform for members who can't fit into the CGU.

This uniform is available to purchase now. Please see the district wide email titled, "Auxiliary Work Uniform (AWU) Information" on July 22nd for more details.



WASHINGTON D.C. – New Uniforms from the Coast Guard Auxiliary Uniform Update, Oct 2021. U.S. Coast Guard Photo.

Flotilla Staff Officers

The following members are your Flotilla Staff Officers. Please contact them if you have any questions or ideas, or wish to get involved in a particular type of activity.

FSO-CS	Mike Hayner
FSO-FN	Jim Appleby
FSO-HR	Steve Bell
FSO-IS	Nico Lacchini
FSO-MT	Pam Chelgren-Koterba
FSO-NS	Pam Chelgren-Koterba
FSO-OP	Jeff Halbrook
FSO-PB	Mike Hayner
FSO-PE	Ray White
FSO-PV	Peter Border
FSO-SR	Jeffery Halbrook
FSO-VE	Steve Bell

Parting Shot



BELLINGHAM, Wash. - U.S. Coast Guard Cutters Terrapin and Sea Lion at Fairhaven. U.S. Coast Guard Photo by Peter Border