



ALERT 11

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A NEW YEAR

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Cover Photograph: Bellingham, Wash – Flotilla Staff Officers being sworn in at the Change of Watch. US Coast Guard photo by Manny Eusebio.

Commander's Comments



Ahoy Shipmates,

Thank all of you who participated in the hybrid Change of Watch on January 04.

It was a gratifying event. Before the ceremony, we sampled each other's potluck

desserts! Ten members

attended. And we had two guests, in-person: incoming D13 Commodore Klaas Nihaus and via Zoom: Bill Baumann, Vice CDR Division 1. We acknowledged the 2024 Flotilla Staff, and swore-in the 2025. We presented Manny Eusebio with (our Unit's) Bill Daniel's Award for going that extra step in supporting on-water operations and Flotilla Staff functions.

2024's Accomplishments: 11 Patrols totaling 43 hours (utilizing 6 Boat Crew members), one of whom made Auxiliary Coxswain in 2024. Five Instructors presented three Zoomed Boat America classes to 31 students. We conducted 147 VSCs and 174 Marine Dealer Program Visits. We participated in two Opening Day events. Two members provided direct support to the CG with 780 hours of Chaplain Support and 158 hours of watchstanding. We verified 5 Bridges and 41 PATONs, 6 of which were reported discrepant, with three additional ('come upon') Federal Aids reported discrepant.

We have a draft 2025 Calendar (see page 4). Notable events coming soon:

- ✳ Feb. 06, 6:30-8:30PM: a remotely-conducted TCT Refresher (for crew, TCOs, AVs). Instructor: Ed Madura. Email Pam if you need it and have not yet enrolled.
- ✳ Feb. 13, 7PM: Staff Meeting, location TBD. (Dinner at 6PM) A working meeting; all members are welcome.
- ✳ Feb. 20, 7PM: Hybrid FL11 Meeting at Station Bellingham. Note: We need to approve our Budget and other Flotilla business. Please attend. I will email

link to a remote vote (earlier that week) if you know you cannot attend.

- ✳ Feb. 20-23: D13 DTRAIN, Tukwila WA. (Separate emails from D13 Auxiliary provide details and registration information.)
- ✳ Feb. 27, 7PM: Division 1 Meeting via Zoom, covering Division reports, events, discussions. All members are welcome.
- ✳ Mar. 06, 7PM: Staff Meeting, location TBD. (Dinner at 6PM) A working meeting; all members are welcome.
- ✳ Mar. 10-13, 6:30-8:30PM: Boat America sessions via Zoom.

Member Training will be covered in more detail on page 11. Special notes include:

- ✳ The required Annual Operations and Telecommunications Workshops are available. (Note: TCO's is required for members having/operating Radio Facilities)
- ✳ Instructor, Vessel Examiner, and Program Visitor Workshops are available and can be completed online (but not required)
- ✳ As FC, I will conduct Uniform inspections for active members this year. Be sure to set it up with me (or show up at a Flotilla Meeting)

We are planning on remotely conducting 3-4 'Boat America' Public Education classes - the first 10-13 March. Posters will be created soon, as well as notices to local media. Thank-you to the instructors who have stepped-up (again) to provide this public service.

Be sure to ongoingly check out the newsletter and website calendar to keep apprised of upcoming activities. Review those activities which best suit your reasons for joining the Auxiliary. I hope that you will continue to invest in our Flotilla. Volunteer to take a staff position, support an event or activity. 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

January

31 – Feb 8: Seattle Boat Show

February

6 TCT Refresher: 6:30PM (via Zoom)
13 Staff: 7PM
20 FL11 Meeting: (Budget)
20-23 D13 Conf/Train
22 USCG Band performance at WWU
27 Div1 Meeting

March

6 Staff: 7PM
10-13 Boat America (Zoom)
20 Ops Workshop
20 FL11 Meeting

April

3 FL11 Staff: 7PM
7-10 Boat America (Zoom)
17 FL11 Meeting
24 Div1 (Zoom)
26 PPE Swim

May

1 FL11 Staff
3 Opening Day, B'ham
4 Fisherman Memorial (Blaine)
5-8 Boat America
15 FL11 Meeting
17 Sandy Pt VSCs
17-23 National Safe Boating week
25 Ski2Sea Race
On-water Patrols

June

5 FL11 Staff
7 BBV VSCs: 7
9-13 Boat America/Zoom
19 FL11 Meeting

Please note that some dates are tentative. Please double check closer to the time of the event to confirm.

26 WA360 Race, Patrol
26 Div1 (Zoom)
On-water Patrols

July

3 FL11 Staff
? Hydro for Hero's
25 Joint Towing Practice
On-water Patrols

August

1 Dues Collection commences
7 FL11 Staff
4 CG Day Picnic
? Drayton Harbor Days
28 Div1 (Zoom)

September

4 FL11 Staff
18 FL11 Meeting
26-29 D13 DTRAIN, Clackamas
30 Dues Deadline
On-water Patrols

October

2 FL11 Staff
? SeaFeast
16 FL11 Meeting
30 Div1 (Zoom)

November

6 FL11 Staff
20 FL11 Meeting
27 CG Sta. Thanksgiving

December

4 FL11 Planning
7 Div1 CoW

ACRONYMS

B'ham	Bellingham
CoC	Change of command event
CoW	Change of watch
D13	District 13
DTRAIN	Districtwide training event
FL11	Flotilla 11
?	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

Change of Watch

Flotilla 11 held its Change of Watch ceremony on Jan. 4th 2025 at the Squalicum Yacht Club. The Change of Watch is the Auxiliary's recognition of new terms of office for elected and appointed Staff officers. Officers who served in 2024 were recognized, and Officers serving in 2025

were sworn in. Manny Eusebio was recognized for his exemplary service with the Bill Daniel Flotilla Award. Klaas Nijhuis, the incoming District Commodore (DCO), spoke about increasing member engagement and the upcoming DTrain (Feb. 20-23/25, Tukwila).





Bellingham, Wash – Auxiliary members at the Flotilla 11 Change of Watch. US Coast Guard photos by photo by Manny Eusebio.

2024 Flotilla Awards

The following members hard work was recognized by the indicated awards in 2024.

Award	Member
AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP SERVICE AWARD	CHOCK, STEVEN
	PARKER, SARAH
	SOWASH, DEBORAH
AUXILIARY OPRNS SERVICE AWARD	SCHRAG, LYLE
AUXILIARY PE SERVICE AWARD	CHELGREN KOTERBA, PAMELA
AUXILIARY VE/MDV SERVICE AWARD	BORDER, PETER
CG UNIT COMMENDATION	ALBERT, MARGARET
	ALBERTSON, GERALD
	ANDREW, LUCIUS
	APPLEBY, JAMES
	ARMFIELD, VICTOR
	BANJANIN, CLAIRE

BANJANIN, MILAN
BELL, FRED
BELL, STEVEN
BILOF, RANDALL
BORDER, PETER
BREITENEDER, ANDREW
BROWN, FRANK
CHELGREN KOTERBA, PAMELA
CHOCK, ANNIE
CHOCK, STEVEN
COLON, AL
COONS, RICHARD
CORDREY, GARY
DEMARIS, LEVI
DOUTRE, CHRIS
DYKAS, THOMAS
EBERHARD, SUSAN
ELDRED, FRED
ENGLAND, DAVID
EUSEBIO, EMMANUEL
FARINHA, MICHAEL
FARROW, GARY
FORD, GARY
GUIMOND, PATRICK
HALBROOK, JEFFREY
HATFIELD, HOYT
HAYNER, MICHAEL
HOVING, TIM
JONES, SEAN
LACCHINI, NICO
MILCZEWSKI, JOHN
MILCZEWSKI, PENELOPE
NOBLE, ANDREW
NUTT, ROBERT
OSINSKI, DAVID
PARKER, SARAH
PARKS, LESLIE
RYBKA, TIMOTHY
SALINAS, JOHN
SCHRAG, LYLE
SCHUTZLER, JEFFREY
SHAW, JEFFREY
SMOTHERS, DIANE
SOWASH, DEBORAH

	TENNEFOSS, BJARNE
	TILLMAN, THOMAS
	ULRICH, RAYMOND
	WELLINGTON, KATHRYN
	WELLS, JEANETTE
	WEST, DREW
	WHITE, RAYMOND
	WINCHIP, GERELYN
SUSTAINED AUXILIARY SERVICE AWARD	CHELGREN KOTERBA, PAMELA

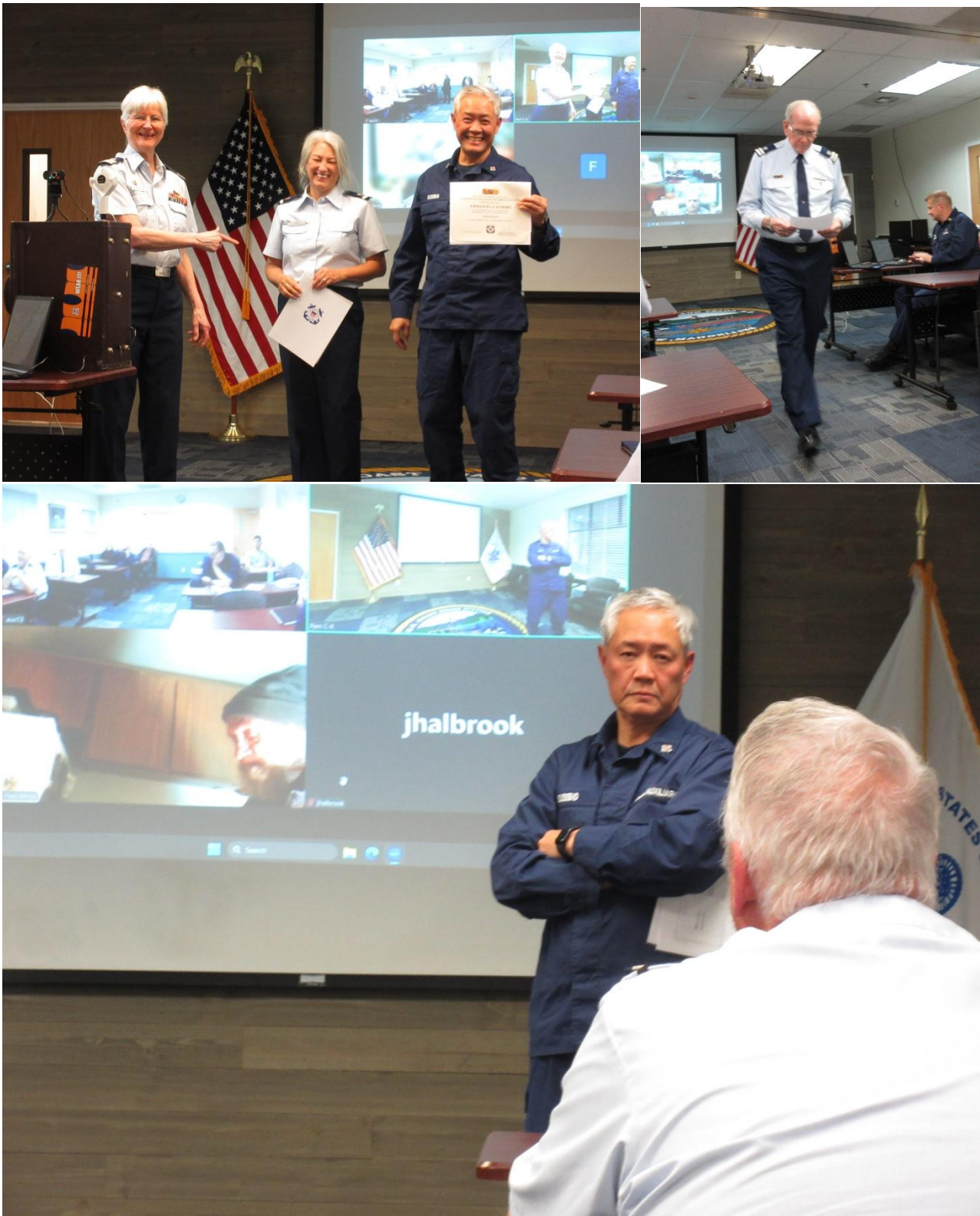
2024 Flotilla Hours

The flotilla performed various missions and activities for the Coast Guard in 2024. Below is a summary of those hours.

Mission	Hours	Instances
99E: OTHER ADMIN/LOG SUPT	179	31
99D: TRAINING SUPPORT	227.5	54
99B: RBS SUPPORT	84	19
99A: LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES	1199.5	46
97A: AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN SUPPORT	555.5	30
91H: PADDLECRAFT INSPECTION	4	4
91B: FACILITY INSPECTION	2	2
91A: VESSEL SAFETY CHECK	100	37
34: ATON PROGRAM TRAINING	5	6
32: BRIDGE NAV SYSTEMS	3.5	1
31: PRIVATE NAV SYSTEMS	18	9
22A: OPS TRAINING (QUALS)	20.5	24
20B: RADIO WATCHSTANDER	104	6
14B: BOATING SKILLS & SEAMANSHIP	2	1
14A: BOAT AMERICA	25	63
11: RBS VISITOR MISSIONS	71	21
10J: COMREL	2.5	3
06B: OTHER, MEMBER TRAINING	25.35	5
06A: OPERATIONAL TRAINING	34.25	11
03: NAV SYSTEMS PATROL	3.5	8
02: REGATTA SAFETY ZONE SPRT	6	3
01D: NON SAR STANDBY	14.15	72
01A: MARITIME OBSERVATION	4.85	1
Total	2691.1	457

November Flotilla Meeting

The Flotilla's November meeting was well attended, and awards were presented to several members.



Bellingham, Wash – Auxiliary Flotilla meeting in November. US Coast Guard photos by Peter Border.

USCG Band

The United States Coast Guard Band is performing at Western Washington University this February 22. MU1 Patrick Nyren reached out to Flotilla 11 to see if we would be interested and available to provide support by means of having a presence at the concert, both before (display in the lobby) and during.

They will be performing at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA on February 22, 2025 at 7 pm. They say that they would love to have us there with them. If interested, please contact Ray White, rayewhite@gmail.com.

American Forces Travel Service

AL AUX 035/24 confirmed the eligibility of active Coast Guard Auxiliarists in the American Forces Travel Service (AFTS). The Coast Guard Community Services Command oversees MWR programs and applicability of the AFTS to Coast Guard personnel. It recently issued the attached flyer as a reminder of the incredible travel opportunities and services provided by the AFTS including a full-service booking platform that assists with:

- a. Airfare (all flights cancelable within 24 hours).
- b. Over 70,000 hotels worldwide at discounts up to 60%.
- c. Access to major car rental brands globally.
- d. Travel packages and cruises with discounts up to 80%.

2025 Auxiliary C-Schools

The Coast Guard has released the 2025 C-School calendar. C-Schools are courses that members can take to improve their knowledge and skill in performing Auxiliary missions. Members need to receive orders to

attend the course, and many have prerequisites. You can find an up-to-date version of the calendar at <https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=aux00>.

Course	Course Name	Location	Estimated Dates
AUX 01	Senior Dir of Aux (Active Duty Only)	No in-person session planned	NA
Aux 02	Auxlams Resident Course	TBA	TBA
Aux 05	AULOC	No in-person session planned	NA
Aux 05A	AMLOC	St Louis, MO	Mar 17-19, 2025
Aux 06	Aton & Chart Updating	Yorktown, VA	Apr 11-13, 2025
Aux 07	ASOC Senior Officer Training	USCG Academy	TBA
Aux 09	Operations Training Office	No in-person session planned	NA
Aux 10	Info Sys Auxdata II	St Louis, MO	Mar 17-20, 2025
Aux 11	Jr Diraux Staff	No in-person session planned	NA
Aux 12	Public Affairs	St Louis, MO	Mar 17-19, 2025

Aux 14	Aux District Flight Safety Off	No in-person session planned	NA
Aux 15	Aux Air Coordinator And AUXLO	No in-person session planned	NA
Aux 17	Crew Resource Management CRM	Alameda, CA Detroit, MI	Feb 15-16, 2025 March 1-2, 2025
Aux 18	Aux Aviation Spatial Disorientation & Survival Training	Oklahoma City, OK Oklahoma City, OK	Feb 24-25, 2025 Apr 21-22, 2025

Member Training

All Auxiliary members are required to complete core training to participate in many of the Auxiliary's activities. You should take core training online on at the Auxiliary Classroom. Get access using the following link: <https://classroom2.cgaux.org/moodle/>. You might need a new login if you have not visited the site in the last few years. For questions about access, you can contact Pam. Note: If you have lapsed on any of these courses, you will not be able to participate in your program activities nor receive some Auxiliary awards, ID cards and other benefits. An email was sent last November or December to members who were recently overdue.

Workshops are required for TCT Refresher, Ops, and TCO Workshops, and suggested for VE, PV, and IT instructors.

These workshops are offered in both webinar and in-person formats depending upon the course. Materials for Workshop Instructors are available from the recent ALAUX 005/25 link:

https://wow.uscgaux.info/Uploads_wowII/BX-GROUP/005_25_2025_NATIONAL_WORKSHOPS.pdf.

The first offering of TCT-R is via Zoom on the evening of 06 Feb. If you need it and have not yet emailed Pam, please do so ASAP.

Jeff Shaw plans to conduct the 2025 Ops Workshop before the Flotilla Meeting on 20 March.

Pam will check with other Units for their schedules of these Trainings and pass that along. Also refer to our online FL11 calendar and the D13 Calendar for sessions. D13's can be found on the home page of the D13 Aux Website. It requires a Member Zone Login (lower left,

then the calendar is in the left column, 5th item from the top:

<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=130&category=calendar>

D13 DTRAIN (Feb. 20-23, in Tukwila WA) has training sessions for: Aux10 (for -IS), an AV Workshop, several Comms and Operations related trainings, etc. The Training and Activity schedule can be accessed on the District website at:

<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=130&category=district-meeting>

If you are not under orders, the travel costs are at your own expense. Several members are going from our flotilla; some under orders, some not. If the travel costs are impacting your decision to attend, contact Pam to discuss the possibility of partial reimbursement. The cutoff date for lower cost hotel rooms was 30 January, and for conference registration is 12 February.

Boat Crew Training and Qualification materials: Handbooks updated in January 2023 can be downloaded from the national website. Log in to: <https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=R-DEPT&category=boat-crew-and-ge-resources>. Members wanting to pursue crew, should contact Pam, thence will work with Flotilla coxswains to schedule sessions.

The Auxiliary Training Directorate hosts a variety of distance learning courses on the Auxiliary Online Classroom (Moodle). Visit the Training Directorate: <https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=t-dept> to view and take other member training.

Navigation Systems

We completed 41 of our 42 PATONs and all 5 Bridges in 2024. Four PATONs and one Bridge were discrepant.

Pam is teaching an in-person AV Workshop at DTRAIN on February 21-22. (The Conference runs from February 20-23, 2025.)

The annual AV Refresher will probably be in April, via Zoom. Date/details to follow later.

Thanks to all the AVs who are continuing to participate in this direct support mission! It has a direct impact on navigational safety.

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.

Office	Name	Email
FC	Pam Chelgren-Koterba	pamck.cgaux@gmail.com
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Parting Shot



Bellingham, Wash – USCG Station Bellingham Christmas card. US Coast Guard photo by USCG Sta Bellingham.