



3 September 2007

## KEEP THE SPIRIT ALIVE

With the Labor Day holiday upon us, it would appear our Change of Watch at Flotilla 10-05 is not too far behind - December 11<sup>th</sup> at St. James Plantation and we've got a lot to accomplish. Let's reflect on our accomplishments for the year to date and see what's on the horizon.

While the four cornerstones of the Auxiliary are: (1) Courtesy Marine Examinations, (2) Public Education, (3) Operations, and (4) Fellowship, let us be ever mindful that the building blocks of the organization is each of you . . . [The Member](#).

Our Safety and Training patrols have been down slightly this year (7 more in 2006 over 2007) from last year; however the mere number of patrols is not a factor. How we execute and perform those duties determines the success or failure of those missions. [Accept nothing less than success](#).

10-05 had the privilege to be able to provide a safety screen escort for the M/V Zhen Hua 16 (China) that delivered four new cranes up the Cape Fear River from Southport to the Port of Wilmington. Immediately following we enforced a safety zone while the cranes were being offloaded. An offshoot of that was an article that was published about the mission in the USCG Auxiliary Navigator (national) and Blinker (regional) magazines.

Other patrols consisted of the Southport Fireworks, the "Jolly Mon" Fishing Tournament, and the "FLW" Kingfish Tournament. How about the recent joint surface and air search and rescue exercise off Oak Island. Participation in "Operation Bow Rider" over Labor Day weekend.

We held successful BS&S and two ABC courses early this year. Several new members came out of those classes. Boat Crew Academies at Station Oak Island were well attended with a Coxswain Academy underway at this time. Our two refresher TCT, and Operations Workshops were full. A Mentor workshop was also well attended. A Boating Safety presentation was made to Progress Energy employees with approx 125 attendees. Our instructors have received accolades.

Two members were fortunate to be able to get all expense paid trips. One went to a "C" School at the Coast Guard Academy and the other unfortunately had to go on a 30 day cruise aboard the USCGC "Eagle" somewhere in the Caribbean.

Some of us were in attendance at the USCG Change of Command ceremonies at Station Oak Island and the Marine Safety Unit in Wilmington.

We had some good publicity in the State Port Pilot this year and we continue to look for a story to tell.

Our fellowship events (2) are always a success with one at Waterway Park in St. James in April and the popular "Frogmore Stew" (shrimp, sausage, corn, potato, w/melon) at Station Oak Island in July.

While our membership stands at 104 plus 2 retirees, we know we'll have some disenrollments for various reasons. We accept those resignations as disappointments. We can do better.

Our Boat Crew Recertification program has gotten off the ground with a Coxswain Recertification with another checkride scheduled for this Tuesday. We added a new Crew to our ranks and we have a crew recertification being done this Tuesday. Additional trainees going for their Crew and/or Coxswain qualification are in the works.

Station Oak Island Tours will be winding down in mid-October; however if anyone is interested in becoming a tour guide next year, by all means consider it next April when tours resume.

“Just Enuff” #25690 became a new facility for 10-05 this year. The excitement was that the maiden voyage was a “night nav” with high seas. All went well.

Two Communications Watchstanders qualified this year at Station Oak Island while four members qualified as Jr. Officer of the Day (JOOD) Watchstanders at the Marine Safety Unit in Wilmington. We have one Aux Air Observer trainee and four additional Aux Air applications have been submitted. Two members qualified as Vessel Examiners with one going for a Commercial Fishing Vessel qualification. There were numerous awards and specialty course certificates

A new marine store signed on for an Auxiliary display for our literature.

Our on-the-water training with the USCG is an on-going process and always brings a sense of accomplishment as we work together as . . .



### **What's On The Horizon?**

- § PFD / Mustang Swim and Night Nav – Date(s) TBD (September 2007)
- § Red Cross First Aid Course – Date(s) TBD (September & October 2007)
- § Team Coordination Training (8 Hr. TCT) – Date TBD
- § US Open King Mackerel Tournament (October 5-6, 2007)
- § Fellowship Event – BBQ @ Waterway Park in St James (October 13, 2007)
- § Toys for Tots project – Date TBD (November 2007)
- § Change of Watch – Members Club @ St. James Plantation (December 11, 2007)
- § Anyone who has a boat and can sign it up as a facility would be appreciated.
- § For those who need it, prepare for your Third Year Recertification (Time is running out).
- § For those who are going for Boat Crew or Coxswain, let's get those tasks signed off.
- § Support other USCG and Auxiliary programs by getting certified in those areas.
- § Make certain all facilities (Radio & Surface Ops) are Ready for Operations (RFO) in case of emergency.

We must be ever cognizant of the America's Waterway Watch program and the reason we exist - to support the United States Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

If I forgot something, I apologize. If I embellished anything, so be it. I get excited about being part of this organization and I challenge each of you to not just be a member . . . Be part of the excitement!

The only way Flotilla 10-05 will survive is to . . . ***KEEP THE SPIRIT ALIVE.***

*Warren D. Edman, Flotilla Commander*