



Above Board

Newsletter of Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 4, Des Moines, Iowa

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2009

FLOTILLA 4
PO BOX 93621
DES MOINES, IA
50393
WWW.FLOTILLA4.ORG

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- USCG 2
Commandant
- Boating On 3
The Brain
- Don't Drive 3
and Talk
- Event 4
Calendar

Flotilla 4 Makes Strides in 2008

In 2008 many things happened in Flotilla 4. Here is how the Flotilla stacked up against the other 77 Flotilla's in the entire 8WR DISTRICT with regard to just a few things:

AUXOP Test Completions:
(District) / (Flotilla 4) / (% of total)

AUXCOM 35/ 10/ 29%

AUXNAV A 8/ 1/ 13%

AUXPAT 27/ 9/ 34%

AUXSAR 40/ 7/ 18%

AUXSEA 8/ 1/ 13%

AUXWEA 6/ 3/ 50%

Two exams that helps lead to the Trident are the Good Mate and IIMS.

Here's how you did against the DISTRICT:

GOOD MATE 28/ 9/ 32%

IIMS 17/ 3/ 18%

Likewise on specific competencies:

APC 62/ 15/ 24%

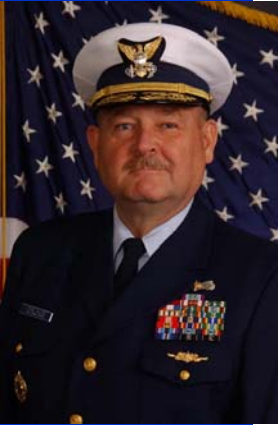
AIROBS 5/ 2/ 40%

PILOT 3/ 1/ 33%

This was due to the help from Division 33, particularly the Pauline Longnecker and Frank Reiss from Division who helped facilitate our testing.



Iowa's Volunteer Lifesavers!



Admiral Thad Allen
USCG Commandant
Official CG Photo

USCG Commandant New Year's Message

I To the Men and Women of the United States Coast Guard:

We have witnessed the passing of another year. Proper log entries have been made and the watch continues. For those deployed or standing the watch this holiday season I pass on the thanks of your shipmates and our Nation for your service and sacrifice. We hope that soon you can embrace the arrival of the New Year, restore your personal readiness, and spend time with loved ones. For those fortunate enough to celebrate the holidays with family and friends, I hope you return to your duties having taken time to reflect and refresh.

In the last year your personal effort and dedication have been critical in post-hurricane disaster relief, dramatic search and rescue and law enforcement cases, complex environmental responses, record setting drug seizures, effective maritime safety and security, unprecedented support to U.S. Combatant Commanders around the world, and the establishment of a presence on the north slope of Alaska. You are America's Maritime Guardians.

Looking forward, the New Year brings a transition in our Nation's government. The peaceful, orderly and respectful transfer of power from one administration to another is the enduring legacy of our effort to create "a more perfect form of government." Working with our Homeland Security partners we are providing briefings, background materials, and data that describe the Coast Guard's unique role as a maritime, multi-mission, law enforcement and military Service. We are working collaboratively to ensure a seamless transition with the President-Elect's Agency Review Team (ART) and the designated Secretary of Homeland Security. At the same time we are committed to insuring the continuity of mission execution. I continue to meet regularly with Secretary Chertoff and recently had my first meeting with Secretary Designate Napolitano.

Transition and change in leadership are routine for military personnel. The traditional change of command script recites the purpose as "conveying to the officers, enlisted personnel, civilian employees and auxiliaries that although the authority of command is relinquished by one person and is assumed by another, that command authority is maintained without interruption." The uninterrupted transfer of total authority mirrors the transition of our civilian senior leadership. The difference between these transitions is the transfer of political power of our civilian leadership and the apolitical continuity by the military in providing for the defense of the Nation. It is a long established concept that began with George Washington's voluntary resignation of his commission in 1783 before becoming our first President. In that long standing tradition we will continue to execute our military roles and missions under the direction and orders of our Commander-in-Chief as we "support and defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic."

Let us commit ourselves to mission execution and mission support in a modernized Coast Guard, to living our core values, and being Guardians of the American Public and one another. Thank you for the tremendous work you do every day.

Happy New Year!

Admiral Thad W. Allen

Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

Despite the Weather, Boating is on the Brain

With -20 degree wind chill factors, Flotilla 4 members decided to do a little dry dock work during the December Training Weekend. Sunday was the tear down day in the Auxiliary facility project.

The crew got together and pulled this soon to be facility apart. The radar came off, radios, cables, stereo, and trim pieces littered the floor of the shop. Wiring was checked, and in the end we now have a blank canvas from which to build an optimized Coast Guard Auxiliary patrol vessel. Stay tuned as this build project takes on a life of its own.



Flotilla 4 members work on the new boat
Photo Courtesy of John Halbrook

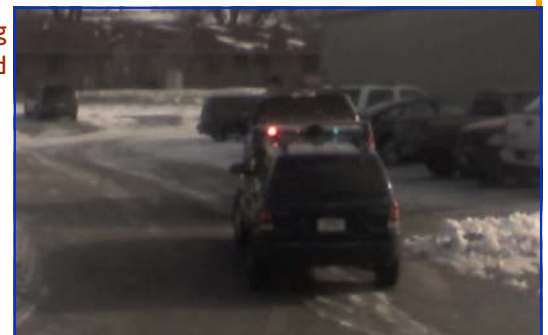


Left, Roland Newton peeks out of a hole in the console of the boat
Photo Courtesy of John Halbrook

Don't Talk and Drive on Camp Dodge

The Department of Defense has prohibited the use of cell phones while driving on bases. Camp Dodge Security vehicles are cracking down on violators, and are pulling over offenders.

Be warned. If you are talking on your phone you will get pulled over.





Flotilla 4, Des Moines, Iowa

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Travis Daniels
 Flotilla Commander
fc@flotilla4.org

JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 10 & 11 —Flotilla Training Weekend

Saturday: 0800—1700 hours—New Member Training

Saturday: 0800—1700 hours—Boat Crew Training

Sunday: 0800—1350 hours—Boat Crew Training

Sunday: 1400—1600 hours—Business Meeting

UOD: ODU

January 10 & 11 —ICS 300 Training

Saturday: 0800—1700 hours

Sunday: 0800—1350 hours

UOD: ODU

FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

January 24, 2009— Division 33 and Flotilla 4 Change of Watch

Location: Des Moines Club in Des Moines, IA, 1800 hours

UOD: Dinner Dress White or Appropriate Civilian Attire

February 14-15 —Flotilla Training Weekend

Saturday: 0800—1700 hours—New Member Training

Saturday: 0800—1700 hours—Boat Crew Training

Sunday: 0800—1200 hours—Boat Crew Training

Sunday: 1400—1600 hours—Business Meeting

UOD: ODU

MARCH 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

March 6-7, 2009— District Spring Conference

Location: Peoria, IL —Holiday Inn City Centre

UOD: Tropical Blue Long