

## Flotilla 24-3 1st SR



# MILFORD



# BEACON



Timothy Mulherin, Commander

Jeffrey Cieplak, Vice Commander

January 2009

Volume 10, Issue 1

## January Flotilla Meeting

### Flotilla Meetings

First Tuesday of month  
19:00 Training  
20:00 Business  
Milford Training Center



### Special points of interest:

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**Summary:** The January flotilla meeting was conducted on January 6<sup>th</sup> by Flotilla Commander Tim Mulherin and Vice Commander Jeffrey Cieplak using a modified agenda. The meeting consisted of the distribution of awards, a lengthy commentary by the flotilla commander and his vision for 2009, swearing in of staff officers and brainstorming sessions for improvements to public education, recruitment and public affairs. No staff reports were required for this meeting.

### Summary of Flotilla Commander's Comments:

- Tim Mulherin thanked John Godfrey for his time and efforts as flotilla commander and his dedication in performing over 50% of the 45 patrols this past boating season and training three new crew members; Pat Collins, Andrew Mortensen and Steven Weiss.
- The change of watch will take place at the Milford Yacht Club at some undefined date.
- The Coast Guard and the Auxiliary are always in a state of change since inception. The District and Division organizations are more closely aligned to the Coast Guard organization of Response, Logistics and Prevention brought about by Admiral Thad Allen.

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## Wreaths Across America

December Motorcade escorts trucks carrying wreaths through Milford. Destined for Arlington National Cemetery the wreaths will adorn the final resting place of the nations hero's

Visit the *Wreaths Across America* web site using the link below to get the story behind the growing movement to honor our veterans.

<http://www.wreaths-across-america.org/>



Photos courtesy of Pat Collins



Photo by James Varhegyi



**Schedule of Activities**

**January**

- 6 Flotilla meeting
- 7 Division meeting
- 18 PE registration
- 24 About Boating Safety

**February**

- 3 Flotilla meeting
- 4 Division meeting

**March**

- 1 PE registration
- 3 Flotilla meeting
- 4 Division meeting
- 7 About Boating Safety
- 9-10-11 Chart, NAV, GPS
- 14 Kayaking
- 16 Sailing (4 nights)

**Awards**

**Fred Bietsch;**  
Enhanced Crew Resource Management  
Air Crew Re-qualification

**John Godfrey;**  
Sustained Service Award, 5th, 3830 hrs

**Stephen Perrone;**  
Sustained Service Award, 2nd, 1518 hrs

**Michael Gabriel;**  
Annual Service Performance, PE

**Arthur Newberg;**  
Annual Service Performance, Ops

**Jeffrey Cieplak;**  
Administrative Procedures Course

**Jeffery Whitlock;**  
Membership Service, Five Years

**Robert Bowolick;**  
Membership Service, Ten Years

**Kevin Purcell;**  
Membership Service, Fifteen Years

**Boat Basin**

AT

<http://a01424.uscgaux.info>



I want to wish all a HAPPY NEW YEAR and thank every one for their support over the last 3 years. We have a new bridge coming in and I hope every one will continue to support them.

John Godfrey, IPFC

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**Base & Boat**

**Base** No activity

**Boat** No activity

**Staff Officers**

John Longobardi	FSO AN
Peter Purcell	FSO CM
Jeffrey Cieplak	FSO CS
Bob Parker	FSO FN
Bob Brill	FSO IS
Steve Foisey	FSO MA
Steve Perrone	FSO-MS
Mike Gabriel	FSO MT
Pending	FSO PA
Bob Bowolick	FSO PB
Steve Perrone	FSO PE
John Godfrey	FSO OP
Bob Bowolick	FSO SR
Steve Krawczyk	FSO VE
Steve Foisey	FSO PV
Pat Collins	FSO-PS
Steve Weiss	PPE

# Awards



Fred Bietsch



Jack Godfrey



Steve Perrone



Mike Gabriel



Art Newberg



Jeff Cieplak



Left, Jeff Whitlock

Right, Bob Bowlick

Flotilla Commander Tim Mulherin presenting awards during the January meeting.

## Congratulations to All



## Snowbirds in Florida

When the weather starts to turn cold in the north-east, snowbirds, **Jerry and Christine Downey** (Flotilla 24-03), head south spending the winter months working with Flotilla 42 in Palm Bay, Florida and at USCG Station Port Canaveral.

Jerry, who is boat crew qualified, spends many hours on patrol aboard the *Nancy M* and helping with maintenance of the facility. One of the missions in support of CG Station Port Canaveral is to provide a security zone during the shuttle launches. To date, Jerry has participated in four shuttle launches and is scheduled for another in February.

Auxiliary activity begins sixteen hours before shuttle lift-off with Flotilla's 42 and 46 patrolling the southern limit of the restricted area which is five miles south of the launch pad.

Flotilla Commander Jules Moquinj presented the crew of the *Nancy M* with commemorative shuttle trophies during the flotilla change of watch dinner on December 3rd. Photo Below

Michael Locke, CWO from Station Port Canaveral also thanked the Downey's for their work at the Station. At the present time, Jerry is working on becoming Watchstander qualified and Christine works on the gate checking identification.

Christmas Day found the Downey's at Station Port Canaveral helping out in the dining room. Christine made cream cheese and celery appetizers, five pounds of glazed carrots, two pounds of homemade cranberry sauce, homemade cookies and decorative pineapple.



Crew of the *Nancy M* receive trophies for support of shuttle missions. From left to right are Edward Meyers, Terrance Riley, Jerry Downey and James Empkin. Presenting is Jules Moquinj, FC and also the coxswain on the *Nancy M*.

**Winter months**, cold weather, no boating for another ten to twelve weeks...what to do? *Project Gutenberg* is available for both the avid and occasional reader. An internet site that has thousands of free books available for downloading to your computer will keep you entertained while the winter months drag on. Just click on the link [http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page) to get started.

## January Flotilla Meeting, cont.

The Division has embarked on the re-alignment brought about by the modernization program. Tim cautioned all to be patient with the changes as they occur.

- Standardization of training within the Division, participation in the Emergency Response Plan and the maintenance of member qualifications will be high priorities during 2009.
- The Flotilla Commander invited members to attend division meetings to see what transpires on the next level up the chain. He especially encourages new members to attend a division meeting.
- A call for help was made for members to participate in helping staff officers accomplish their respective tasks. Participation improves knowledge of the various aspects of flotilla administration preparing members to move up the chain in addition to lightening the load of the staff officers.
- Use discretion when replying to e-mails that contain a long list of recipients. Generally, questions should be directed to a specific individual rather than the complete list of recipients.
- Wear the correct uniform at the correct time. Chapter 10 of the Auxiliary Manual describes the correct combination of clothing for specific functions.
- A call for members to attend meetings was made.

## Official Business Mail

Every year there are a number of new elected and appointed officers that need to mail Auxiliary documents of one sort or another. There is a specific procedure to use if it falls under the designation of official mail.

**Official Business Mail** USCG Auxiliary Manual, Chapter 5, Section F, in conjunction with COMDTPUB P16794.49 define the correct use of "official" mail.

A common mistake made by members, new to using official mail, is to use their name in the return address. The correct format is to eliminate the name and use only the office designation as shown below.

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

**United States  
Coast Guard**

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

SO-PB  
347-A Heritage Village  
Southbury, CT 06488

Official Business

The street address, city and state are used without a name if there is no office designation. The Auxiliary Manual defines what is and what is not considered official mail.

## WANTED, FSO-Public Affairs

The flotilla is looking for a "get-up-and-go" person to fill the Flotilla Staff Officer– Public Affairs position vacated by Arlene Brooks. Arlene performed the duties of FSO-PA for nine years and is now moving on to be a lady of leisure while concentrating on other Auxiliary activities.

The primary job description according to the Flotilla Procedures Manual are:

- Provide news releases to newspapers and radio and TV stations concerning flotilla activities in order to increase local knowledge of the Auxiliary and promote the best possible public image of the Auxiliary.
- Coordinate and cooperate with the FSO-VE and FSO-PE to encourage effective coverage of their activities.
- Mail news releases for all PE classes to all newspapers, radio and TV stations so that publicity is given four weeks before the scheduled start of classes.
- Coordinate PA activities with the SO/FSO-PB for news releases in the flotilla and division newsletters.
- Coordinate PA activities with the SO-PA.

A full job description can be found in the Flotilla Procedures Manual, Chapter 5, page PA-1.

In addition, a visit to the national Auxiliary web site, "A" Department, Public Affairs accessed at <http://www.auxpa.org/> will provide additional information and guidance.

Work from home and set your own pace while providing a valuable service to the flotilla and the division.

## Staff Officer Reports

**Aids to Navigation**, John Longobardi,

**Communications**, Peter Purcell,

**Communication Services**, Jeffrey Cieplak,

**Finance**, Bob Parker

Flotilla is financially healthy. Details available by request.

**Information Services**, Robert Brill, Check your desk or files for those 2008 forms that need to be submitted to AUXDATA. *Aids to Navigation* re-named to *Navigation Systems*.

**Program Visitor**, Steve Foisey

Dec.9<sup>th</sup> Conducted PV visits to all ten (10) local marine businesses. Distributed the following:

- 2009 ABS PE & Specialty class "Glossy" posters.
- 600 2009 "Quad fold" PE schedule & Milford Harbor Tide table.
- Jan.24<sup>th</sup> colored PE class poster.
- Various RBS publications.

### 2008 PV Report

Conducted 100 PV visits.

Conducted five (5) PA events at the following locations:

Boaters World - 4/26

West Marine - 5/17

CT Post Mall -7/2

Milford Oyster Festival 8/15 & 16

**Marine Safety / MDA**, Stephen Perrone

**Materials**, Stephen Foisey

- Ordered & received various mailing supplies.
- Training materials for FSO-MT
- 2009 VE stickers & forms.
- Still unable, after 4<sup>th</sup> attempts, to secure multiple copies of publication 3010 "Boating Fun" booklet for use in Elementary school education.

**Member Training**, Michael Gabriel, A division-wide AUXNAV class will start on January 19th.

**Operations**, John Godfrey,

**Personnel Services**, Pat Collins,

**Personal Protective Equipment**, Steve Weiss

**Public Affairs**,

**Public Education**, Stephen Perrone,

**Publication**, Robert Bowolick,

●The December Milford Beacon was published and is posted on the flotilla web site.

●Milford Beacon 2006 thru 2008, hard copy and CD, have been archived in the flotilla records. A CD containing the Milford Beacon, 2006 thru 2008, has been sent to Art Riechling, District Historian.

●2008 Milford Beacon has been printed and sent to the Auxiliary Collection housed at the Joyner Library, East Carolina University. A copy is ready to be sent to the District Awards Committee.

●Flotilla staff officers are requested to include the Milford Beacon when submitting electronic reports to the bridge.

●Inputs to the Beacon are due no later than the night of the flotilla meeting.

**Vessel Examiner**, Steve Krawczyk,

**Secretary / Records**, Robert Bowolick

●January meeting notice sent via e-mail on December 31, 2008.

●It is the intent of the Secretary to develop and maintain a yearly calendar of flotilla activities to assist in the annual planning of flotilla activities and to allow for advanced member planning in support of flotilla projects. Staff officers, to the extent possible, are invited to plan well in advance and have their plans integrated into the flotilla schedule.

**Reports were not required for the January meeting.**

**Attend a flotilla meeting,  
Members always welcome**