

The evening began with a BBQ of burgers & dogs with Henry Marchi doing the honors on the grill. There was also a spread of salads and desserts. The meeting was then called to order at 1945. After the Pledge of Allegiance a moment of silence was had for all those who have crossed the bar and those who serve in harms way.

Board and Staff present: Ron Booth, DCP; Henry Marchi, VCP, PE; Frank Keslof, IPDC; Dick Lemar, FC33, SO-CS; John Carver, FN; Joe Amore, FC 34; Jeff James, FC 35, SO-MT; Rick Lutes, FC 37; Alan Gould, VFC 37, SO-VE; Charlie Pencinger, FC 38; Scott Crocker, VFC 38, SO-PS; Bud Kuran, SO-AN; Joe Antanavich, SO-IS; Wayne Cedres, SO-MA; John Merrill, SO-OP; Al DePietro, SO-PA; Charles Grossimon, SO-PB; John Swenson, SO-PV; Sheryl James, SO-SR.

Guests: Chief Jackson and his wife Tracey.

FLOTILLA REPORTS:

Flotilla 33 – Richard J. Lemar, FC:

- On 20 July at 1910 we had our monthly flotilla 33 meeting at the Chelmsford Police station with 8 Members present. Our next flotilla 33 meeting will be on 17 August.
- The FSO-SR Minutes and FSO-FN report was approved as read.
- On 22 July Members from Flotillas 33, 35 and 38 cooked dinners at CG Station Merrimack River after one of our members had canceled plans to cook at the station at the last minute. Thanks to Lynne Abell, Jeff James and Charles Grossimon for stepping up to the plate and putting together a delicious meal for the station.
- A lengthy discussion was held on our flotilla supporting the towns Abutting Lowell in our AOR. I will be investigating locations for our flotilla to conduct Possible PE, VE, PV and PA missions in one or more of the following locations. Chelmsford, Lowell, Dracut, Tyngsboro, Tewksbury, and Billerica are of high interest.
- We discussed having our annual Raw Chicken Bar-B-Q in late August or early September at Dennis Carragher's house in Pelham NH.
- Awards were presented to Gary Stappleford for 5 years of Auxiliary service (Auxiliary Service Award), ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800. Dick Muir Administrative Procedures Course (APC), ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800. Bertrand Dufour ICS 200 and 700.

Flotilla 34 – Joe Amore, FC:

- At our July flotilla meeting, held on the 12th at the Station, we had 9 members in attendance.
- At this meeting we conducted a training session for those members who needed to complete their IS courses and exams. To date we have 10 members who have taken and have successfully completed the appropriate IS Exams.

Flotilla 35 – Jeff James, FC:

- Our last meeting was held on July 6th at the Lawrence Police Department Community room with 7 members and 1 perspective member present.
- We are currently BQ'ing 2 perspective members.
- Our fall PE course will start September 5th at NECCO Andover Campus and will be a 4 lesson Navigation Course based on the BS&S chapter.
- The Flotilla has done a dinner for the Station on the 8th of July and will be doing another one on the 29th of July.
- Our next meeting will be on August 3rd at the Lawrence Police Department Community Center.
- *There will be a Flotilla Rendezvous/ Picnic at Palmer's Cove Yacht Club in Salem, MA on August 19th rain or shine. Anyone in the Division who wants to come is welcome. There is a choice of coming by boat or car. Moorings are free and some slips are available for a very nominal fee. Call me for more information or with a headcount. A blurb has been sent out to the Flotilla FC's and the Division Bridge.*

Flotilla 37 – Rick Lutes, FC:

- OPS: 2 facilities are active on Wed. night and the weekends. Those needing hours should contact Al or Rick. This weekend support was provided for the decathlon in Newburyport.
- The Flotilla is being asked to help conduct a clean up on Crane's beach.

Flotilla 38 – Charles Pencinger, FC:

- No Report.

STAFF REPORTS:

Aids to Navigation – Felix (Bud) Kuran, AN

- **Off station aids to navigation on the upper Merrimack River** - Following the repositioning of the aids to navigation after the spring flooding, we had still been getting reports from boaters upriver that several of the aids still appeared to be out of position from where they should be. An AUX safety patrol was conducted up river to check Lat / Lon of the buoys and compare them to their correct locations. All buoys upriver from Larry's Marina were found to be in their correct locations except for the red # 36 Nun, which is normally in position just upriver from Mackenzie Marina but was found to have been dragged down river and was now in mid river adjacent to the new Hat Factory Marina. This was called in to Station Merrimack River.
- **FSO-AN 33, Dick Muir Aid Inspection** - During a trip on the upper Merrimack River (from Haverhill to Rocks Village Bridge) on his PWC, noted that the private aids to navigation, which had not been registered with the CG, had been removed from the river. Dick also checked Lat / Lon GPS position and condition of the upper river Fed Aids.
- **Completed bridge inspection of Chain bridge between Newburyport and Amesbury** - During Sat Jul 22 patrol noted that the upriver lights on the Chain Bridge are out. I am preparing a report to District.
- **Flotilla Commanders** - Please pass the following information on to your members, we need their help and it's an excellent way for new members to get their feet wet performing valuable CG support.
- **Parker River ATON Patrol** - Looking to conduct an ATON's patrol to chart the private aids on the Parker River. Need to complete in the next couple of weeks. Anyone interested in assisting please contact Bud Kuran at 978-388-4830. Looking at early Aug to complete.
- **Bridge Inspections** - Still looking for volunteers to conduct inspections of Bridges in Division 3 AOR. Anyone in Div 3 interested please contact Bud Kuran at 978-388-4830 and we'll fill you in on the inspection process. This task is fairly simple and we'll provide you with one-on-one training to get you started. We'll work from a copy of the previous conducted inspection as a guide.

Communications – Gary Stapleford, CM:

Communication Services – Richard Lemar, CS:

- **What's New page:** Added the Div-3 May Minutes, Nor'easter Summer edition and the Station Merrimack River party PDF file.
- Checked for changes in the Flotilla 33 e-mail Addresses.
- Updated the Flotilla 33 Website.
- *Need updated PE information, Flotilla rendezvous, etc.*

Finance Officer – John Carver, FN

- Finance Report Division 3 For Dates 6/1/06 – 6/31/06
As of 7/22/06 I have received dues payments from Flotilla 35 (17 of 29 listed members paid) and Flotilla 38 (41 of 59 listed members paid).
Member dues payments made after 7/15/06 must include \$1 late fee. This additional dollar is added to the check amount made out to the USCGAUX D1NR, which the Flotilla finance officers forward to the Division finance officer.

Information Systems – Joe Antanavich, IS

- *I'm slightly behind in entering paperwork into AUXDATA (what else is new?). My backup that is handling Flotilla38's paperwork hasn't entered anything in a month, is anyone sending him paper for data entry? There is a real concern that he will lose his AUXDATA access if he doesn't get online soon. If that happens we will be back to square one.*
- *A reminder to all boat crew people, make sure that your currency tasks are entered on the patrol order so that you get credit for the tasks. The only time that currency can be entered into AUXDATA is when the patrol is entered. Once a patrol is entered it's almost impossible to go back and enter currency; you will just have to do it over again on another patrol.*
- *Anyone that is trying to get out of REYR (in any qualification) or trying to get a new qualification after passing the required exam, please contact me to facilitate this. Using the wrong procedures will just frus-*

trate you and take ten times as long to resolve your problems.

Materials – Wayne Cedres, MA:

- The store is back up and running after the audit.

Marine Safety – John McDermott, MS:

- The 2006 Coastal Cleanup at Crane Beach in Ipswich is scheduled for Saturday, September 16th from 0900 to 1300 with a rain date of the 17th. Division 3 members participated in this event in the past and it would be great to get more involvement this year.
- Dick Muir FSO-MS 33 reports that he has had no violations to report to date while on Marine Mammal Observer trips to Stellwagen Bank this year. He also reports that while on ATON patrols he has been picking up glass and plastic bottles with his fishing net and depositing them in proper containers on land.

Member Training – Jeff James, MT:

- The summer has been very quiet to date.
- On water training is being done by the Flotillas
- There will be an AuxSea beginning in late October. Please order the books for those of your members who are interested.
- One person has taken the AuxCOM exam and one will be taking the AuxPAT exam later this week.

Operations – John Merrill, OP:

- **Accomplishments** - Attended a meeting with the Sector Command staff at ISC Boston host by Capt. McDonald, Commander Sector Boston. The outcome of which for operations amounts to an official channel to address any issues we may have with the Active/Reserve anywhere in the sector. Procedure is to promptly report the issue through the Chain of Leadership and Management to RCO-Boston who will address the issue with the Planning Cell during the weekly meeting in Boston.
- **Activities to date (7/20/06) - Out of division**
May 3 Safety Patrols
June 6 Safety Patrols (4 Outstanding)
July 2 Training Patrols and 17 Safety Patrols (All Outstanding)
(Note: Outstanding indicates that the issued orders have not been cancelled nor confirmed in the Patrol Order Management system)
- To date the Division has provided support for the “Events” which have taken place in the Merrimack River AOR, including the July 3rd fireworks patrol, which we were unable to assist with in 2005.
- Several facilities have been performing underway training in the Merrimack River on Wednesday evenings.
- *John was looking for one more boat for the lighted boat parade on Saturday. Joe Antanavich volunteered.*
- *Joe Antanavich announced that the Coast Guard may start doing short notice response patrols during the day and the Station will be responsible for calling Sector to get the orders.*
- *If necessary to cancel a patrol try to do it in POM’s before the event. It makes it much easier trying to track the information.*

Public Affairs – Al DePietro, PA:

- There is a new movie coming out called “Coast Guard Rescue Swimmer” and National has suggested that we should contact theaters where it is due to be shown and try to set up permission for a booth in the lobby to facilitate member recruitment and to pass out information.

Publications – Charles Grossimon, PB:

- No report.

Public Education – Henry Marchi, PE:

- Get your dates into me on your fall classes.

Personnel Services – Scott Crocker, PS:

- I just finished processing a new prospect for Flotilla 35

Program Visitor – C. John Swenson, PV:

- **Accomplishments** - Follow-up visits at the two new partners, recruited for the April District Conference, have been made. As of this date, the only visits reported in Division 3 via the PV Web Site (uscgamdv) were reported by yours truly. I have done 12. We have four other certified PV’s in Division 3. What are we waiting for?
- **Problems/Concerns** - Recently, a problem surfaced regarding the entering of visits made by new or re-certified visitors. It appears there may be a misunderstanding among some members regarding the timing of mission entry

when one is initially certified or re-certified. You can do visits just as soon as you have been “signed off”. However, you cannot submit those visits (missions) until you receive a letter from DIRAUX indicating you are a certified PV because that letter also indicates that DIRAUX has entered your new qualifications in AUXDATA. Therefore, you must hold onto the mission data for any visits you have done until you receive the DIRAUX letter.

- **Looking Ahead - Now Hear This!** All PV’s in Division 3 must join me in visiting Partners. It is only through active participation in RBSVP that the U.S. Coast Guard’s “best kept secret” can be revealed! Please help me to get the “word” out and lean on your FSO-PV’s.

Vessel Examinations – Alan Gould, VE:

- The weather has not cooperated very well with the Cashman Park operations. The first weekend of the month was the exception. Flotillas 34 & 37 were able to accomplish over 51 VSC’s July 3, 2006. Some highlights of the day were 2 vessel operators left the park to go buy flares so that they could receive the VSC sticker and have the necessary safety equipment.
- Merrimack Station had a boarding team at Cashman Park also, and the people that were boarded wanted the VSC sticker for their boats. We were more than willing to follow up behind the Coast Guard and complete the VSC and issue the stickers. One boater fixed his NAV lights by removing the corrosion from the contacts. He said that he liked to do hands on things but he had no idea how to get access to the lamps in his navigation lights. Anyway we had a good day and it was fun to see people appreciate the effort put out by the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard.
- This past weekend was a bust because of the triathlon going on.
- Dick Muir, FSO-VE has indicated that he had submitted non-operational forms completed and they have not been returned 8 weeks later. He asked that I move it up the chain of command. I forwarded his concerns to DSO-VE William Weeks and Mr. Weeks provided a name and telephone number to call. I have not made the call as I type this but hopefully Dick Muir has and the issue is resolved. I will have called the individual by the time the Division meeting takes place.
- I went into AuxINFO and I was able to get the number of hours credited to each Flotilla for VSC’s though I could not get the numbers of VSC’s credited to each Flotilla. Please complete your paperwork and forward it to your IS officers. For the record and not to embarrass anybody, Flotilla 34 has no hours credited for VSC’s and I know that they have in fact spent the time out there doing VSC’s. So to say it again, please do the paperwork, not just the work! (Goodness knows I feel like a hypocrite typing the last sentence – but I am trying to do better with my own paperwork)

IPDCPREPORT:

- No Report.

VCPREPORT:

- No Report.

DCPREPORT:

- Thanks to Jeff for setting up the Station Saturday night dinners.
- I still have tickets for August 5th, which are available until Tuesday.

CWO JACKSON:

- There will be a wait for the permanent rails for docks at the Station. After a few snafus the bids have gone out.
- August 11th is the Change of Command at 10:00. Everyone is invited to attend. Uniform is Tropical Blue Long.
- Admiral Sullivan will be contacting the Maritime Museum on Tuesday to facilitate getting the Coast Guard memorabilia returned. He will also be going for a boat ride while at the Station.
- Lowell’s Boat Shop and the Maritime Museum have decided to go their separate ways.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The booze cruise is a dead issue from lack of response.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Joe Haskins appeared before the board and requested that we consider sponsoring his efforts in the Red Ribbon Ride, which helps AIDS organizations. He plans on doing the full 175 miles. A motion was made and seconded to sponsor Joe at @ \$1.00 per mile for a total of \$175.00. The motion carried.
- A Nominating Committee has been made up of Bud Kuran, Dick Lemar, and Jeff James. Please submit your letter of intent to one of these members if you are interested in running for either Division Captain or Division Vice Captain.

GOOD OF AUXILIARY:

- **Awards:** Dick Lemar was given his 15 year Service Award
- **Kite tubes** – Sports stuff Wego Kite Tubes have been withdrawn from the market after reports of deaths and injuries. The Sports stuff Wego Kite tube is a 10-foot-wide, circular, yellow inflatable watercraft designed to be towed behind a powerboat. These items were imported and sold through marine distributors, mail order catalogs, and various retailers from approximately October 1, 2005 to July 11, 2006 for \$500 - \$600. Consumers should immediately stop using the kite tubes and contact Sports stuff at (866) 831-5524 between 8 am and 5 pm CST Monday – Friday to learn how to obtain free replacement products. Consumers can also visit the firm’s Web site at www.sportsstuff.com for more information. **Include this information in your PE classes and be on the lookout for them while doing VE exams.**
- **Flotilla 35** reminded everyone of the open invitation for anyone in the Division to attend their rendezvous/ picnic at Palmer’s Cove Yacht Club on the 19th of August, rain or shine. Moorings are free and 9-10 slips are available on a 1st come, 1st serve basis (if you wish to come by boat communicate to me the length and width of your boat as soon as possible). Coming by car is also acceptable. For real short money you can have a steak dinner with lunch thrown in for \$12.00 and a chicken dinner with lunch for \$10.00. Otherwise lunch is \$2.00 and dinner \$8.00 for chicken and \$10 for steak. RSVP to Jeff James by 12 August with a headcount and choices of meal.
- The Riverfront Music Festival was mentioned as a golden opportunity for 2007 to do a Safe Boating Booth, as the crowds and foot traffic were phenomenal. This year it was held the week of July 8th.
- Much discussion ensued regarding doing VE’s and several suggestions were given as to how to set up visits with marinas and yacht clubs.
- ISC exams – Div. 3 is way ahead of the rest in the number of members who have already taken them.
- It was mentioned that Lou Verage’s mother had died.
- No ill members.
- **Our next meeting will be held on September 28th at 1900. The host Flotilla is Flotilla 37.**

The meeting was adjourned at 2045.

Respectfully submitted
Sheryl James, SO-SR

Note: *Italicized print = new information added.*