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FEBRUARY FLOTILLA MEETING

Please see the commander's message in From The Helm for several reasons not to miss the February meeting, February 1, 2007 1930 hrs.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

PASSPORTS.

Marie Thompson, SO-ME, reminds us that, now, nearly everyone needs a U.S. passport!

Starting January 23, 2007, the United States is requiring that all persons, including United States citizens, traveling by air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda, will be required to present a valid passport, Air NEXUS card, or U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document, or an Alien Registration Card, Form I-551, if applicable. This is a brand new requirement for travel to our neighboring vacation spots. Previously, a driver's license or birth certificate was enough, but no more. Given the new rules, it's likely that many more U.S. travelers now need a passport. So I'm alerting Aux members to the new rules.

To find out more—including easy ways to apply for and get your U.S. passport—click on this link to the U.S. State Department

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cbpmc/cbpmc_2223.html

MEETING FEBRUARY 1, 2007 19:30

Key Dates for February

This section will highlight dates and events in the coming month. Items such as registration dates, initial start dates, and special events. For a full listing, see the Calendar.

Date	Start	Description
2/1	1930	Flotilla Meeting
2/3		Barefoot Mailman, Pier 66
2/6	1900	AUXOP Seamanship Lesson 1
2/13	1630	Boca Raton Fire Rescue
2/15	1900	Staff Meeting
2/17	0900	ABC Part 1

*February Agenda

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Introduction of guests
- Guest Speaker
- Commander's Report
- Awards and Recognition
- Vice Commander's Staff Reports
- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjourn
- Good and Welfare
- Fellowship

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FROM THE HELM

TOM RUTHERFOORD
FLOTILLA COMMANDER 36
FC@CGAUXBOCA.ORG

*BOW WATCH

Try not to miss the February meeting. There are several things going on that will be of interest to you.

First, we have lined up a Guest Speaker with an interesting presentation that I think we all will enjoy.

Second, we are handing out Annual Member Letters showing your volunteer activity for 2006 and your key dates and milestones. Please read your letter carefully and report any inaccuracies to FSO-IS Robert Sando as soon as possible. Please check the enrollment date, offices held, qualifications, awards, ICS courses, and facilities offered for use. He won't be able to help with volunteer hours for 2006, but he can get the rest corrected.

These letters show a wide range of activity across our membership, from over 1000 hours last year for one individual to none at all for some. We understand if you are busy with other priorities, like earning a living and raising a family. But I want to make sure that that's what the issue is and not that your membership experience is not meeting your expectations.

To that end, we will circulate Opinion Surveys to each of you, both as paper handouts at the February meeting, as well as electronically via email. Your opinion is valuable to us, and we are targeting responses from everyone. I really do want to help each of you achieve the goals you had in joining the Auxiliary. So please take a few minutes to tell us what you like and what changes you'd like to see.

If you were unable to attend the Change of Watch ceremony in January, you missed a great event and a chance for fun fellowship. Thanks to Shirley Fisher and the "4th Cornerstone Irregulars" for putting this event together. It was a pleasure to meet Lt. Scott Rooke, base commander at Station Ft. Lauderdale. Rear Commodore East Richard Leys and Division 3 Captain Gwen Leys were also on hand, as were retired members Mike and Sandy Gardner and many friends and family of Auxiliary members. Thanks to Steve Rogers, Pipe Corporal, and to the Kegans for the beautifully wrapped "baskets of joy."





***ANTONIO P. QUESADA**
VICE-FLOTILLA COMMANDER 36
VFC@CGAUXBOCA.ORG

On Friday January 12, 2007 through Sunday January 14, 2007, Tom Rutherford FC, and I attended sessions for FC's and VFC's at the District 7 conference in Orlando. I learned necessary skills to serve the members of Flotilla 36. I intend to apply as many of these concepts in our Flotilla.

The next two months will be busy.

In February 2007, our Flotilla will participate in the Deerfield Beach Founders' Days' Parade. The parade will be an excellent opportunity to show the boating public that our Flotilla is here to help with boating safety inspections, Public Education programs, ICW and ocean patrols as well as other assignments. Please provide our FSO-PA with necessary support in this enjoyable parade activity. By the way, we may be marching with a Coast Guard unit as well as other Auxiliary Flotillas in our Division.

On Saturday, March 3, 2007 the Flotilla will present a required TCT workshop as well as an Operations Workshop, a Communications section, and an Instructors Workshop. The TCT is required and the other workshops are strongly recommended for Coxswains, Crew, Watch standers, Vessel Examiners and Instructors.

Our PE program has started the year with an America's Boating Course program on January 20, 2007 and January 27, 2007. A possible BS&S program is scheduled to start February 5, 2007.

Please give our FSO-MT, Tom Kegan your attention and support. It's Tom Kegan's job to let members know if operational requirements have to be met. Once a member is notified, the member has the responsibility to fulfill the requirement.

The Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary (including Flotilla 36) relies on e-mail for timely and accurate communication. If you have internet capability, please make sure that USCGAUX has your correct e-mail address.

We should try to do more for the Flotilla and the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard needs the Auxiliary (and our Flotilla) more than ever.

Please bring activity ideas that might help the Flotilla to the Staff Officer coordinating that activity.

Thanks for your help and support. Keep up the good work.





FROM THE STAFF

***OPERATIONS**

C. SCOTT ELLINGTON, FSO-OP
FSO-OP@CGAUXBOCA.ORG

The January patrols are not a great start for 2007. We had one scheduled, it cancelled. Our total is 0. As our Flotilla Commander (FC) said at the change of watch ceremony, we have; the most vessels in the division, the largest number of crew members and coxswains, and again in 2006 we come in behind smaller flotillas with less resources in the “On the water” missions.

January was a tough time for patrols, with winter visitors, travel etc, but those reasons not to patrol are gone. Did you know that we had a Jet Ski/ boat collision with a fatality under the Linton Bridge on a Sunday in January, and we did not have a boat on the water for assistance or traffic control? Station Lauderdale had to send a boat. I feel guilty that I was not out there when we were needed, or better yet that our presence might have helped prevent the reckless operation that resulted in a death. Boca PD has publicly stated that they can see a behavior change in boaters when one of our facilities is on the water.

Don't know how to make the need clearer. Re-engage, if you are crew or Coxswain, we have a mission that makes a difference. Safety Patrol is much like conventional police work, your being there means you are not going to be needed 99% of the time. Don't let that rob you of the motivation. (Trivia: despite what we see on TV, 98% of policemen retire without ever discharging their firearm in the line of duty).

We need to be able to tow, retrieve man overboard, plot and execute a search, but we hope not to need the skill in practice. Get on the water, patrol and practice!

This brings us to the subject of requalification for crew and coxswains. As of January 2007 it is no more “go practice in the lake with your local coxswain who checks you off as Annual Currency Maintenance (ACM) complete”. A QE will now ask us all to perform from a more complete criterion a list of things which we all should know. This will be done every three years. If this is your fifth year in 2007, which it is for me, we will get the first requalification evaluations using the new criteria from the QE. The new criteria are found at: http://www.cgaux.info/g_ocx/publications/comdtinst/index.html Go down to Boat Crew and coxswain manuals. Beware they are big- don't print unless you have paper loaded.

POMS each crew and coxswain should be on-line with the Patrol Order Management System (POMS). Here is the web site to get started: <http://www.statronics.com/poms/citrix.htm> . **There are three places to click on this page,** each of them is underlined, and the video should be watched first. Call me if you have a problem—561-350-0927



Boat Crew Program Changes

Excerpted from: <http://cgauxsurfaceops.us/ABCTM.htm>

Implementation Plan for Re-certification Check Rides

Effective as of 01 January 2007 the five year currency maintenance requirements (check ride) cycle will change to a three year cycle. The three year cycle begins in 2007. Scheduling is as follows:

Last check ride 2002 or 2003-Next Check ride 2007 - complete New Tasks

Last check ride 2004 –Next Check ride 2008 - complete New Tasks

Last check ride 2005 or 2006 - Next Check ride 2009 - complete New Tasks

Revised Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Manual: See

DOWNLOAD NEW VERSION	DESTROY OLD VERSION
BOAT CREW TRAINING MANUAL COMDINST 16794.51A	BOAT CREW TRAINING MANUAL COMDINST 16794.51
CREW QUALIFICATION GUIDE VOL1 COMDINST 16784.52A	CREW QUALIFICATION GUIDE VOL 1 COMDINST 16784.52
COXSWAIN QUALIFICATION GUIDE VOL 2 COMDINST 16794.53A	COXSWAIN QUALIFICATION GUIDE VOL 2 COMDINST 16794.53

Brief Summary of Changes:

- Incorporation of a Qualification Examiner (QE) Guide to the Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Manual.
- Changed some initial qualification tasks from optional to required, removed some optional tasks, and changed some optional tasks to waivable by DIRAUX.
- Changed the required number of underway time from 8 hours to 12 hours per year, which can be earned as either coxswain or crew. (That is, coxswains can serve as crew members to achieve the new 12 hour requirement!)
- Annual tasks currency maintenance tasks have been removed!
- Five year QE Check ride will be reduced to every three years. (Implementation plan pending approval.) But if you are due in 2007 or 2008, be looking for the new task list. You will probably be completing the revised check ride with a QE sometime in 2007.
- Check ride tasks are being revised and will be published when approved. There will be a few additional tasks in the new check ride taken from the qualification check ride tasks. Nothing you haven't done before, but you might not have done some for a while.
- One hour annual TCT review, designed by the Department of Operations, that can be conducted without a TCT facilitator at the local level.



*** PUBLIC EDUCATION**
 ANDREA RUTHERFOORD, FSO-PE
FSO-PE@CGAUXBOCA.ORG

We finished our first America's Boating class on Saturdays Jan. 20 and 27. A big thank you to instructors **Scott Ellington, Bob Hersey, and Tony Quesada**

for helping get the year's PE program started. Thank you also to PE aids **Connie Sprake, Len Schwartz, Marie Thompson,** and our new instructor, **Liliane Meghabghab,** for their assistance with this class.

The next ABC class: Saturdays Feb. 17 and 24.

IT Workshop update: We will have an IT workshop tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 3, following the OP workshop. Although the main IT content is information sent from national, it will also give us a chance to talk about the 2007 PE program in our flotilla. Watch for further confirmation about the date.

Pop Quiz: Guess when the majority of boating accidents happen?

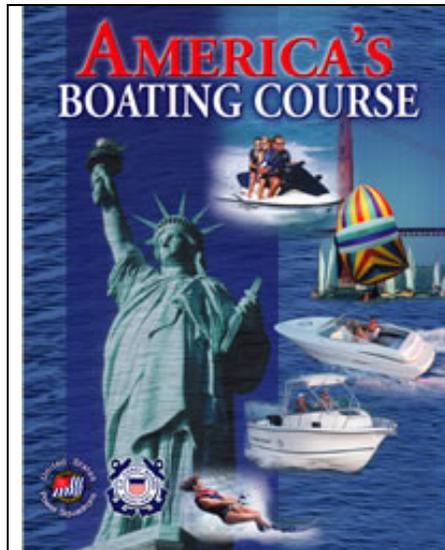
Night time? Nope. Rough seas? No again. I recently read the 2005 national boating statistics compiled by the USCG and most collisions happen on bright, warm, summer, weekend afternoons, with clear visibility, calm waters, and low winds.

So if weather and sea conditions do not play into most boating accidents, what does?

Answer: High speed, careless operation, no lookout, and inexperience. For tropical Florida, I suspect this data also holds true in the winter,

when our waters become more crowded with northerners escaping ice storms. The statistics remind us that we cannot get complacent or thoughtless in good conditions, but should even be a little more on our guard.

I'll talk more about the national and state boating statistics another time. I think you'll be surprised at some of the data.



America's Boating Course	
When:	
Saturdays February 17, 24, 2007	
Duration:	
0900 – 1300 (9am – 1 pm)	
America's Boating Course is a study program covering the fundamentals of boating. The program is designed for skippers and crew of all types of watercraft. The program material covers seven chapters, which touch on general information about boats and maintenance, information to make your boating experience safer and more comfortable, tips on being a more courteous boat operator laws and regulations to which you must adhere	
Topics include: Introduction to Boating Boating Laws Personal Safety Equipment Safe Boat Handling Navigation Boating Problems Trailer, Store, & Protect your Boat Hunting and Fishing, Waterskiing, and River Boating	
This program gives boaters 21 years and younger the knowledge needed to obtain a Florida Boating Safety ID card	



THOMAS H. KEGAN,
 FSO-MT
 Fso-mt@cgauxboca.org
 Member Training

WORKSHOPS

On January 14, we completed a vessel work shop 15 Vessel examiners attended.

The OPERATION/COMMUNICATION Workshop, TCT workshop, and Instructor Workshop will be given on SATURADAY, MARCH,3 Starting at 0900 at base and will continue into the afternoon. Please mark your calendars. Note: TCT must be completed by May 31, so this is your best opportunity. The 5 Year TCT Workshop requirement is still in force.

BOAT CREW TRAINING

The Boat crew land tasks have finished, Now Crew Candidates need to be assign to vessel for on the water training. (FSO-OP will do Assignments)
 Please download, review and bring the new Boat Crew Manuals (see box above) to OPERATION/COMMUNICATION Workshop where they will be discussed in length. This affects all members in operations.

2007 QE CHECK RIDES

Members who will have to do 3 year QE check ride in 2007 are: Ed Colina, Mark David, Dave DeBoben, Ron Dillon, Tony Elvas, Helen Houge, Martin Jaffe, Tom Kegan, Art Makenian, James Moore, Jerry Rappoport, James Smith, DeAnn Sutherland, Ken Weisberg, and Scott Ellington
 A list of members for years 2008/2009 will be posted in the office at the base.

AUXOP

On Tuesday February 6 at 7 P.M. we will start an AUXOP course: Aux. Seamanship. (These courses are referred to as the college of the Auxiliary) The following members are eligible to take this course: Adler M, Bartley W, Battle C, Beebe J, Beebe P, Bordelon R, Bourrassa A, Crawford T, David M, Derr, J, Dillon R, Ellington S, Fisher D, Glover J, Hannah J, Houge H, Jaffe M, Kenny D ,Megabghab L, Moore J, Nathan R, Neuman J. S., Oliner R, Oppenheimer R, Richards W, Rose J, Sando R, Sernaker Smith J, Smith J.C., Smith L.M, Teck R, Tepper R, Thayer T, Williams S,
 The Schedule of this course is in the sidebar.

The Next AUXOP course that will be offer will be AUX, Communications .Followed by AUXOP PATROLS.

AUXOP NAVIGATION AND AUXOP SAR will be taught together, followed by AUXOP Weather. Each of these courses when offered a list of members eligible will be posted in log. As you can see this is a year long program, all will be posted at February meeting.

AUXOP Course Seamanship		
Date	Chapter	Description
Feb. 6	1 & 2	Terminology, Boat Construction material, Steering Types
Feb.27	3 & 5	Internal Combustion Engines, Boat Handling
Mar. 6	8	Navigation Rules
Mar. 14	4	Marlinspike
Mar. 20	7	Assistance to Boats in Distress and Damage Control
Mar. 27.	6,& 9	Heavy Weather & Anchoring
April 3	10	Duties & Manners





4th Cornerstone
SHIRLEY FISHER
FSO-MS@CGAUXBOCA.ORG

Thanks to all who helped make the Change of Watch dinner dance a grand success. Lenny Schwartz made the original contracts. Tom Kegan built those beautiful baskets and brought the flowers. Rich Dunne conducted the raffle; Marie Thompson printed the table place cards and helped with the planning and logistics. And many thanks to all of you who attended. Please tell those who did not attend what a nice evening it was.

The next event being planned is a St. Patrick's Day party, so mark your personal calendars and save March 16, 2007 for the event. Any suggestions for events or activities at events that you would like us to consider are welcome. You are our only customers.



The Log Publication USCGAux Flotilla 36 Boca Raton, Florida

The following is the text of Commander Rutherford's COW speech.

Distinguished guests, beloved family, and Auxiliary volunteers both active and retired:

Because the Flotilla Commander position was uncontested this year, I didn't have to tell you why I was running and what I stand for. I'd like to remedy that now, even though I risk kicking off a recall election.

It's not complicated and it won't take long.

Andrea and I have benefited in numerous ways from our membership in Flotilla 3-6 since we joined 15 years ago:

- learning seamanship, boat-handling and navigation skills;
- enjoying the camaraderie of our fellow member-friends;
- knowing that we have helped the regular Coast Guard meet its goals;
- and last but not least, serving under many fine Flotilla leadership teams who have taught us so much about service to others...

...including the leadership of our immediate past bridge, Pat Feighery and Lenny Schwartz.

I am now at a point in my life where I am looking for opportunities to give back. What better place to start than here, where I have been given so much?

- I promise to do my best to make sure that each member of Flotilla 3-6 has a chance to fulfill their individual goals, whatever they may be.
- I will do my best to help each individual be – and know that they are being – a real member of Team 3-6.
- And I will do my best to create more opportunities for us to exercise our training and skills in supporting the regular Coast Guard in the strategic areas of:
 - Recreational Boating Safety
 - Maritime homeland security
 - And in its operational, logistical and administrative tasks

OK, so the election is over and it's Tony's and my turn to stand in the front of the room this year.

Earlier this evening, we passed out Annual Member Letters to each of you active Flotilla members at this Change of Watch dinner. We will get the rest out over the next couple of weeks.

These Letters show your part in Flotilla 3-6's 2006 accomplishments, and the significant contributions that so many of you make. We are all grateful for the hours of service that you donate to the Coast Guard Auxiliary and to the safety of your nation. Your individual efforts help us achieve the Flotilla's goals, which help the Division meet its goals, and so on. If you see a mistake in your Letter, please bring it to our attention immediately so that we can get it corrected.

One of my personal goals this year is to increase attendance at our monthly meetings. I would like to improve the value of the meetings to you, the membership. As a first step, I have lined up a Guest Speaker for the February meeting.

I am hoping that folks will step forward who want to help plan future activities for our meetings, whether they be speakers, training sessions, or other ideas.

In closing, I'd like to tell you why Andrea and I joined the Auxiliary, in hopes that it will trigger your own fond memories.

we had some sailing experience, we recognized that we needed more.

The Log Publication USCGAux Flotilla 36 Boca Raton, Florida

Commander Rutherford's COW speech, continued

We signed up for a Public Education class on Sailing and Seamanship being offered by Flotilla 3-6 in the Music Room at Boca Middle School. At that time, there was a "sailor" track and a "power-boater" track.

One evening, a new instructor rolled into the "sailor" classroom. He was a bandy-legged, crusty old salt who opened the evening by telling us his account of just having crossed the Atlantic in a 65 foot sailboat.

Wow, was I hooked! It was apparent that, by joining the Auxiliary, we could rub shoulders with people like that, and I was impatient to sign up and get started. And joining meant that we could continue our classroom education, AND build up our experience on the water even though we didn't even own a boat!

Well, times change and so do dreams. The world has changed since then and so have we. We now want simply to circumnavigate Florida in our powerboat.

And that's all right with us.

If you want to feel all jazzed up again about the Auxiliary, remember why you joined. Cherish your own dreams. And while you're doing that, please let us know about them, because we'll be asking.

The Log is published monthly by:

**US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 36
Marine Safety Building
3939 North Ocean Blvd
Boca Raton, FL 33432**

Phone: (561)391-3600

Email: fso-pb@cgauxboca.org



Flotilla Meetings are held on the
First Thursday of each month at 7:30PM

The Marine Safety building is immediately
South of Spanish River Blvd on A1A.

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