



THE LAKE PILOT

Flotilla 81

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Sunshine Report

BIRTHDAYS

David Barbour
Karl Elsea
Mickey Frece
Tom Lamons
Poul Larson
"Slim" Lockerman
Dennis Morgan

Oct 7
Oct 7
Oct 17
Oct 25
Oct 17
Oct 31
Oct 26

ANNIVERSARIES

Ron and Debbie Collins
Tom and Joyce Conroy
Paul V. and Cathy Howell

Oct 19
Oct 18
Oct 7

John and Carole' Krogmann are expecting a second little Krogmann! The new baby is due to arrive in mid-April. Will it be a boy or a girl? We'll have to wait and see since John and Carole' like surprises!

Congratulations are in order for Flotilla 81 Commander, Danny Foster, on his recent retirement from the Southwestern VA Water Authority!

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Flotilla 81

July 1 thru July 31, 2009

Financial Report

Beginning Cash Balance: \$2,655.87

Income:

Dues: \$0.00

50/50: \$20.00

Total Income: \$20.00

Expense:

Division/SARDET Fee: \$0.00

Sardet Expenses \$82.91

Name Badges \$0.00

Sunshine: \$0.00

Miscellaneous Expense: \$0.00

Total Expense: \$82.91

Cash Flow: \$62.91

Cash Balance 4/25/2009: \$2,592.96

TIME FOR WINTERIZING

With the Boating Season coming to an end, now is the time to replace items that you've been putting off since the beginning of the Boating Season. Some, if not most of the boating supply stores, will have special sales and marked down items. Now is the time to replace those worn out life jackets, cushions, and outdated flares.

Winterizing your boat before the first snow and heavy frost is a major concern. Get it done early before the rush if you have it done by your local marine dealer. If you winterize your PWC, make sure that you drain all of the water out of the engine, exhaust system, and hull. Check all of the hoses, clamps and cables for wear. It has to be perfectly dry before putting on the cover.

Remove all electronic devices such as radios, depth finders, GPS, etc. and store them inside out of the cold. LCD screens cannot tolerate extreme cold. Remove all batteries from flashlights, strobes, all electronic devices, and other PPE. This will keep batteries from corroding inside and ruining equipment. Remove your boat battery and place it in a cool, dry and well-ventilated area where it will not be exposed to freezing temperatures. Place it on a trickle charger at least one a month.

Your life jackets should be washed off with warm water and mild soap to remove grease, dirt, and mildew. Allow these to dry thoroughly before storing them away. Check them for any damage or wear and check all of your PPE that you carry.

All of the hatches and compartments should be left open to dry out any moisture before covering up your boat until spring. Check your prop for any damage and have it repaired now, before the spring rush. If time and the weather permit, start those small projects that you have been putting off. Maybe it's installing a new depth finder, or radio.

Trailer maintenance is also important. Check the tires, all electrical connections, and lights; grease the wheel bearings and check the brakes, if applicable. Also check your license plate! The last thing you need to start off or end the season is a ticket for an expired decal.

For those who have campers at the AUXSARDET, they need some TLC as well. If you have water and sewer, empty the tanks and winterize them. Seal up any air leaks or holes around vents, windows and A/C's. If you don't do any winter camping you should remove any foods that could expire and drinks and/or fluids that could freeze and burst. The boating season might be over for some, but the maintenance never stops.

Dean Nimax

COMING UP

26 September – Team Coordination Training (TCT) at National Radio Observatory, Charlottesville, VA, 0900 hours, presented by Mickey Frece. This is the last TCT of the year.

26 September – Big Lick Triathlon, SML State Park, begins 0900 hours.

27 September – Flotilla 81 meeting and pasta dinner, 1500 hours, Danny Foster and Susan Lowe, hosts.

17 October – 70th Coast Guard Auxiliary Anniversary Nation-wide Communications Contest, 0900 – 1600 hours, SML AUXSARDET. Contact Jeff Demers or Vince Popowitch if you plan to attend and/or participate.

18 October – First session AUXCOM and TQS Class, 1000 – 1600 hours, SML AUXSARDET.

24 October – Second session AUXCOM and TQS Class, 1000 – 1700 hours, SML AUXSARDET.

24 October – Division 8 meeting and election of officers, Louisa County Library, 1000 hours, Flotilla 87, host.

25 October – Flotilla 81 meeting and election of officers, SML AUXSARDET, 1500 hours, Mickey and Linda Frece, hosts.

7 November – SML Fall Chili and Craft Festival, Bridgewater Plaza, 1000 – 1600 hours.

20 – 22 November – Leadership Academy, Yorktown, VA. Class begins at 1900 hours on Friday.

22 November – Flotilla 81 meeting, SML AUXSARDET, 1500 hours, Al Perdue, host.

5 December – VA Dare Flotilla for Toys Christmas Boat Parade. Boats leave the VA Dare Marina at 1900 hours.

SEPTEMBER MEETING TO FEATURE PASTA DINNER

Flotilla 81 will meet at 1500 hours on Sunday, 27 September. Following the business meeting, members will enjoy a pasta dinner. Danny Foster, FC, and Susan Lowe, VFC, will provide ice and drinks for the occasion, and the Flotilla will provide dishes, cups, and cutlery. Members staying for the meal are asked to bring a pasta dish, salad, or bread.

DIRECTIONS TO THE SML AUXSARDET

Directions to the SML Search and Rescue Detachment are as follows: from Rt. 122, turn on Merriman Way Road (Rt. 666) at the Epworth Methodist Church. Turn left on Oldfield Road, then right on Oak Grove Lane. Follow Oak Grove Lane to the end, turn left – look for the AUXSARDET sign on the left.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUGUST MEETING



Flotilla 81 met at the SML AUXSARDET on 28 August. Here, at left, Gary Fisher is sworn into membership in Flotilla 81 by Tom Merriman, Division 8 Vice Commander, at center, assisted by Danny Foster, Flotilla 81 Commander. In addition to receiving a Certificate of Membership in the Auxiliary, Gary received a Certificate of Completion of the AUXSEA specialty course and a Certificate of Qualification as an Auxiliary Instructor.



Flotilla 81 members receiving U. S. Coast Guard Certificates of Completion of the National Incident Management System ICS-210 Initial Response Training at the 23 August meeting are, left to right, Gail Elsea, Bob Thompson, Paul M. Howell, Betty Lamons, Tom Lamons, Jeff Demers, John Krogmann, and Danny Foster. Several members received additional awards: Paul M. Howell, Annual Service Performance Award for Public Education for 2008; John Krogmann, the U. S. Coast Guard Sustained Service Award, Annual Service Award for 2008 (750 points), N 95 Nav Rules Renewal, and the U.S.C.G. Annual Service Award for Operations for 2008; Jeff Demers, Certificate of Qualification as Crew Member and Certificates of Completion of the Operations Policy Exam and the AUXPAT Specialty Course. Not pictured is Susan Lowe who received a Sustained Service Award and an Annual Service Award for Vessel Examinations in 2008.

COMMANDER, SECTOR HAMPTON ROADS AND LIEUTENANTS VISIT SML AUXSARDET



Capt, Mark S. Ogle, Commander, Sector Hampton Roads, center, discusses Auxiliary Station Vessel 055 with Marty Hallgren of Flotilla 85, Officer in Charge (OIC) of SML AUXSARDET, at left, and Vince Popowitch, Assistant OIC, during his visit on 29 August 2009.



Left to right, Flotilla 81 members Debbie Robbins, Tom Merriman, John Krogmann, and Vince Popowitch chat with Lt. Tiffany Duffy and her husband Tom. At far right is Bill Lindsay of Flotilla 85. Other Auxiliarists on hand to greet the visitors were Gail Elsea, Karl Elsea, Danny Foster, Mickey Frece, Paul M. Howell, Paul V. Howell, Betty Lamons, and Susan Lowe, all of Flotilla 81. Also on hand were Bob Rorick, Flotilla 84, and Debbie Hallgren, Flotilla 85.



Photo by Paul V. Howell

U.S. Coast Guard visitors to the SML AUXSARDET on 29 August were treated to tours of Smith Mountain Lake by Auxiliary members. Here, aboard Paul M. Howell's facility, *Ruby Ellen*, are Lt. Corey Kerns with his wife, children, and her parents who had just flown in for a visit from Japan. Paul M. Howell, fourth from left in background, was assisted on the cruise by Paul V. Howell.

Capt. Ogle and his family joined Debbie Robbins at her lakeside home for an afternoon of swimming, fishing, and riding on her personal watercraft. Boat rides were also provided aboard 055 and Bob Rorick's facility.

FLOTILLA 81 PROVIDES COLOR GUARD FOR FLAG AND FLAGPOLE DEDICATION



Flotilla 81 provided a color guard for an event held at the old Virginian Railway Passenger Station in Roanoke, VA, on 11 September beginning at 1100 hours. Above, left to right, Tom Lamons, Danny Foster, Tom Merriman, and Paul M. Howell prepare to post the speakers' colors at the dedication of a new flag and flagpole at the station. Betty Lamons served as back-up.

The purpose of the event was three-fold: it served as a remembrance of those who perished in the events of 11 September 2001; as a dedication of the American flag and flagpole donated by the Woodmen of the World; and as a kick-off of the renovation of the old Virginian Railway Passenger Station. Built in 1909, it ceased operation as a passenger station in 1959 following the Virginian's merger with Norfolk & Western. The building later housed a feed store and was gutted by fire in 2001.

The ceremony opened with a greeting and introduction of special guests by Jim Cosby, Treasurer of the Roanoke Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS). Among the guests were State Senator John Edwards, Congressman Bob Goodlatte, Roanoke's Mayor David Bowers, and Bev

Fitzpatrick, Director of the Virginia Transportation Museum. Following the introductions, the Flotilla 81 color guard posted speakers' colors.

An invocation was given by Bev Fitzpatrick who introduced Skip Salmon, Secretary of the Roanoke Chapter, NRHS. Following his remarks, Salmon introduced Terry W. Carroll, VA State Manager, Woodmen of the World. On behalf of the Woodmen of the World, Carroll presented an American flag to Salmon who, along with Mayor Bowers, passed the flag to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Color Guard.

The American flag was hoisted on a new flagpole, where it flew at half-staff in honor of the victims of "9-11." As the flag was raised by members of the color guard, a diesel locomotive train bell was tolled in memory of those who lost their lives on 11 September 2001 at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, PA.

After the flag was raised, Mayor Bowers led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge, short remarks were given by Senator Edwards; Landon Gregory, a former Virginian Railway employee who serves on the board of the Roanoke Chapter of the NRHS and as Station Committee member; and other community leaders.

A closing song, "Proudly We Serve Again," was performed by Woodmen of the World members Kenny Widener, Steve Bishop, and Timmy Underwood. Following the song, the Color Guard retired the speakers' colors.



M-1 bearers Paul M. Howell and Tom Lamons stand at attention as Danny Foster and Tom Merriman raise the American flag on the new flagpole at the old Virginian Railway passenger station. Both the flag and the flagpole were donated by the Woodmen of the World.

Note: Information for this story was gathered from an article which appeared in *The Roanoke Times* on 17 September and from notes by Skip Salmon, Secretary, Roanoke Chapter, NRHS.

FLOTILLA 81 HOLDS EIGHTH BOATING COURSE OF THE YEAR



Photo by Paul M. Howell

Betty and Tom Lamons prepare student course completion cards at the most recent Boat VA class on 15 September at Trinity Ecumenical Parish in Moneta, VA.



Photo by Paul M. Howell

Tom Merriman quizzes students on navigations light configurations at the most recent Boat VA Class on 15 September.

Flotilla 81 presented its eighth Boat Virginia Course for the year 2009 during the evenings of 14 and 15 September at Trinity Ecumenical Parish, Moneta, VA. Instructors were Paul M. Howell, John Krogmann, Betty Lamons, Tom Lamons, and Tom Merriman.

Thirty-seven persons were enrolled in the class with everyone receiving a wallet card certifying successful completion of the course. There were three students under the age of eighteen.

Sponsors for the course were Debbie Robbins State Farm, *The Smith Mountain Eagle*, the Smith Mountain Lake Water Safety Council, the SML Boating Association, the SML Power Boating Association, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Department of Homeland Security
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
The Lake Pilot
FSO-PB 08-01 5SR
5629 Brahma Road, S.W.
Roanoke, Virginia 24018-3203

THIS AND THAT

ANOTHER REMINDER TO FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICERS: All staff officers should submit written reports to Flotilla Secretary/Records Debbie Collins, Vice Flotilla Commander Susan Lowe, and Flotilla Commander Danny Foster. Reports should also be submitted to staff officer counterparts on the Division 8 level via e-mail. Hard copies may be brought to the monthly meeting. If an officer is unable to attend the meeting, the reports should be sent by e-mail or regular mail. (It is suggested that copies be sent by regular mail to FSO-SR Debbie Collins.)

Auxiliarists patrolling the upper reaches of the Roanoke River on Smith Mountain Lake are reminded to be aware of debris washed into the lake during rains earlier in the summer and to use caution.

Jeff Demers, FSO-CS, plans to put a Swap Page on the Flotilla 81 website.

Jeff, who also serves as FSO-MA has on hand stamps, envelopes, and study materials for Advanced Skills Weekend. Jeff also has Vessel Safety Check (VSC) decals available for Vessel Examiners.

The sew-on patches for work uniforms are changing from navy blue to black.

A new TV antenna has been installed at the SML AUXSARDET by Vince Popowitch, FSO-CM. This should improve reception considerably.

Members of Flotilla 83, Christiansburg, VA, hope to form a new Detachment at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA!

Vessel 055 is presently out of service due to one of the engines having locked up. The engine has been sent back to Portsmouth for repairs.

Both Flotilla 81 and Division 8 are ahead of goals set for 2009 – Keep up the good work!