



Volume 11 [2007]

Department of Homeland Security, USCG Auxiliary Casco Bay Flotilla 211NR

November 2007

**Monthly Flotilla Meeting
Monday — November 12, 2007**

TIME: 1900
PLACE: The Rusty Scupper Club
UNIFORM: Winter Dress Blue, TBL, or appropriate civilian attire
AGENDA: Election of Officers for 2008

Standing Rules state "a quorum of 25% of the eligible voting membership of the flotilla is required" to vote on your flotilla's elected officers.

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From Our Commander...

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead (1901 - 1978)

The Coast Guard Auxiliary elects its leadership. Our flotilla elections are on 12 November 2007. In order to hold a valid election we are required to have a majority vote of the members in attendance and a quorum present at that meeting.

This is a terrific opportunity for two individuals to step up and proudly, represent the Casco Bay Flotilla within our own chain of leadership, with the active duty, and with the general public.

At the meeting on October 8th, the Nominating Committee Chair, Ken Cyll, reported that David Drake, our current VFC, and Ken Caprio FSO-PS are candidates for Flotilla Commander and Flotilla Vice Commander. As a reminder in accordance with our standing rules, nominations may also come from the floor, the nominator is responsible for ascertaining the eligibility of the nominee.

I encourage everyone to join me, and lend your support to the election process and attend this very important meeting. David and Ken are stepping up, going above and beyond accepting these roles in our organization. We are very fortunate to have such talented and committed individuals that have agreed to take the helm and navigate us through 2008. I have tremendous confidence that they will always do their best, and look after our flotilla. I look forward to seeing you all there.

David Bilodeau
 Flotilla Commander 21-1 NR



ELECTRONIC TESTING There is a new electronic National Testing Center for use by Auxiliary members seeking qualification in a wide range of mission areas.
 This "eTesting" Center is available at <http://ntc.cgaux.org>.
 When you go to the link above for the first time, chose the link "New User Get Password." The log-in on that page requires you to use the password from your CG Auxiliary eDirectory account.
 If you've never used the eDirectory and therefore don't have an account, the page you're on at that point has a link "Auxiliary eDirectory" use that and then follow the instructions.
 Finally, you can go to <http://auxtdept.org/FAQTesting.pdf> for answers to the most frequently asked questions about creating eDirectory accounts and on-line testing.



Staff Reports

Finance [G. Leblanc]—I processed reservations for October 8 dinner meeting. Fifty-one flotilla members attended. I invoiced SMCC for the BS&S and ACN courses being held this fall. I sent out final dues letter to seven individuals on the membership roster who did not respond to the dues requests. I seek membership support in developing a budget committee to assist the finance officer with the budget for next fiscal year.

Informational Services [J. Davidson]—Continue researching, producing reports for members, and helping fix errors in Auxinfo. Continue monitoring reports for inaccuracies and look for a fellow member interested in learning more on the IS side of the organization. I recommend individual members monitor their own activity in order to have timely corrections made.

Materials [L. Lemieux]—I ordered and received the required text books for the up coming 'new member' course. I fed requested material for the 'Marine dealer visits' for the current month.

Personnel Services [K. Caprio]—!New member class starting up this Thursday w/possible 5-7 interested people.

Public Affairs [J. Hume]—I worked with SNNE and the Pine Tree Council Boy Scouts of America to staff and operate the Coast Guard Boating Safety Exhibit at the Maine Jamboree on October 20th.

We had five Auxiliarists and five gold side personnel. The Auxiliary featured seamanship, safety and knot tying demonstrations, and Coast Guard Personal displayed a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat, and a Damage Control Trainer.

RBS Visitation [N. Magoon]—At this time I would recommend planning for a replacement FSO-PV. I will be submitting my resignation due to family and work issues. I will be happy to help and support my replacement in any way possible. I have enjoyed the time and support received while serving as FSO-PV with a special thanks to Joel Glass for the many hours spent in making the Recreational Boating Program a success for the Flotilla.

Vessel Examination [S. Polans]— F21 conducted over 300 Vessel Safety Checks this summer. At the October Flotilla Dinner Meeting I gave out VE Awards. The Awards were clip boards that Bill Weeks kindly supplied us with. I will be giving presentations to the BS&S Class and the New Member Class on Vessel Safety Checks.



Thank you to Ken Cyll [Chair] and Steve Birmingham for their efforts as this year's Elections Committee.

2007 Flotilla 21 Holiday Party

8 December 2007 ~ 1800 ~ 5 Stonebrooke Road, Scarborough

Steve & Brenda Babirak are inviting all FL21 members to share some holiday cheer together.

Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy this festive evening.

The party will be potluck. Telephone or email Brenda Babirak to RSVP.

The flotilla provides the paper goods, soda, punch, and coffee.

Come along and share some holiday spirit with your fellow flotilla members!



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE—PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 —The disclosure of the personal information contained in this newsletter is subject to the provisions contained in the Privacy Act of 1974. The subject Act, with certain exceptions, prohibits the disclosure, distribution, dissemination, or copying of any material containing the home address, home telephone numbers, spouse's names, and social security numbers, except for official business. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Coast Guard and/or civilian criminal sanctions.

Remember, any time there is a change to your Name, Address, Phone Numbers, Fax Number, Cell Phone Number, Emergency Contact Information, or Email Address you need to fill out and submit ANSC form 7028 and send it to FSO/IS Judy Davidson, fsois@uscgauxsoportlandme.com, for the correction to go on your records. Refer to the flotilla directory for her USPS address. This URL <http://www.uscgaux.org/~forms/archive/a7028f.pdf> will get you the form.



**Minutes of FL2 1 Dinner Meeting ~ On 8 October, 2007
Rusty Scupper. Station South Portland**

Honored Guests: USCG Sector NNE Commander, Captain James Rendon and Wife Folicita Ltjg Kevin Miller, USCG Petty Officer 3rd. Class Ozzie Negron, USCG, Reserve Chief Petty Officer John Hart and wife Nancy, Rear Commodore (elect) Peter Dupuis, USCGAux

Call to Order: Following an agreeable social hour for attitude adjustment, the Flotilla Commander David Bilodeau called the meeting to order at 1900. He welcomed the honored guests and reviewed the agenda for the evening.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was conducted by the Vice Flotilla Commander David Drake II.

Election Nomination Committee Report: As required by bylaw, the report of the nomination committee for the Flotilla elected offices was presented thirty days prior to the election by the committee chairman, Ken Cyll. The nominees are as follows: FC – David Drake II, the current VFC, and, VFC - Ken Caprio, currently FSO-PS. Ken stated that the committee had examined the qualifications of each candidates to be satisfactory. He asked that any additional nominations be given to him as soon as possible. Ken closed his remarks by reminding the members present that a quorum is necessary at the November flotilla meeting in order to allow the elections to take place.

Flotilla Commander's Remarks: The retiring FC thanked the membership for their support of him during his two years as commander, and he also thanked David Drake II for his support as VFC during the last year. David continued by expressing his appreciation to Frank Leavitt and Dave Olney for the educational programs, and to Ltjg Miller ,Chief Hart and Brad Thompson for their support. He expressed his deep appreciation to all of our spouses for allowing us to serve, and especially to his own wife Debbie, who had given him her unconditional support and had shared his passion in serving with the Coast Guard family.

Dinner: A splendid dinner was then served and was greatly enjoyed by all. The writer savored what had to have been the very best prime rib that he had ever enjoyed! Praise and sincere thanks to The Rusty Scupper staff for providing a superior dinner. We look forward to more of the same!

Dinner Presentation: The dinner presentation on the WWII Liberty ship *John W. Brown* was made by Mark McGill, a relatively new Flotilla member, who serves as a volunteer crew-member on the historical ship *John W. Brown*. **

Address by SNNE Commander, Captain James Rendon: Captain Rendon introduced himself briefly by reviewing his twenty-four year active duty career, and summed up by observing how satisfying and how much fun it had been with the simple but moving words: "*To love what you do and to know that it matters!*" Captain Rendon gave us a little of his vision for the future: Basically, to do what the Commandant wants, and even though some re-organizations will be severe, we must still get the job done. To assist in accomplishing these challenges he is promoting the triad of the core values of honor, duty and service, setting aside time for planning, and, taking care of our health – mentally, physically and spiritually. Captain Rendon then made sure that it was understood that he included the Auxiliary in this vision. During his travels in the Sector he said that he had seen auxiliarists conducting a variety of tasks, and described Flotilla 2 1's contributions as "magnificent service!"

From the audience, Dan Abbott thanked Captain Rendon for not closing with a song! Laughingly, Captain Rendon said that Captain Garitty had left him neither song-book nor joke-book! The Flotilla Commander then presented Captain Rendon with a Flotilla mug, which the Captain said he would enjoy using.

Presentation to VE's: Sue Polans made presentations of clipboards provided by Bill Weeks, DSO-VE. The top two examiners in terms of number of vessels inspected were John Hume and Ken Caprio, with Dick Robichaud a close third; two new VE's were Jessica Crossman and James Thomson.

There being no further business the meeting was closed by the FC at 2110.

Respectfully submitted, Geoffrey J. Sturgess, FSO-SR



[**Mark McGill's presentation is on page 6]

Sincere condolences to the family of Chief Smith, OIC Station Boothbay Harbor who was recently killed in a car accident.



FSO-OP — The Operations Program is wrapping up a successful season

Accomplishments include:

- Addition of one newly qualified crew, Geoff Sturgess
- Addition of three newly qualified coxswains, Bryan Spivey, Ron Powell, and Robyn Fink
- Addition of three new trainees who received underway training, Pirun Sen, Richard Robichaud, and Gus Leblanc
- Completion of five three-year currency maintenance checkrides for coxswains
- Completion of five three-year currency maintenance checkrides for crew
- Removal of crew from trainee status to crew status after a year of effort, Mike Michaud
- Completion of two mock oral-boards for qualification preparation for coxswain/crew
- Completion of a four month, first time, classroom coxswain course followed by six months of underway training running well into October
- Six members passing the initial closed book Nav Rules Exam
- Addition of two facilities including a 21' Lund and a 25' Grady White bringing the total in our fleet to twelve (11 powerboats and 1 sailboat)
- Responding to a couple of SAR cases including assisting tired swimmers and assisting a boat taking on water
- Assistance with at least six Marine Events including Peak's Island swim, Blue Angels Air Show, Freeport Lobster swim, annual tugboat races, Pott's Harbor lobster boat races, and an East End Beach kayak event
- Instruction and attendance at two new TCT refresher courses offered by Brad Thompson to meet new qualification requirements
- Building a strong team with Station South Portland and Sector Northern New England. The following active duty personnel were crucial in our training and offered support in all our endeavors:

Lieutenant JG Kevin Miller

OIC Ken Walberg
XPO Einar Mattson
BM1 Dan Benoit
BM1 Josh Kinser

BM1 Peter Meacham
BM2 Dan Jendro
Aux liaison Osvaldo Negrón

Thank you, gentlemen!

The next **Boat Crew Training course** will begin in January of 2008.
Please contact Robyn Fink if you wish to sign up or assist in some way.

Respectfully submitted by, Robyn Fink ~ Boat Crew Training Coordinator



Recently Elected District Officers [District Bridge] for 2008:

Renelle LeBlanc - District Commodore [DCO]
Paul Smith-Valley - Vice Commodore [VCO]
Peter J. dePuy - Rear Commodore [RCO]-NNE
Ron Booth - Rear Commodore [RCO]-Boston
William O. Griffith II-RCO,SENE
COMO Penny Pendergast, Immediate Past District Commodore

Division Election Results for 2008 (DCP/VCP):

Division 2—Joseph Hogan, John M. Dempsey



4 Nov Sun Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.
 6 Nov Tues Election Day
 11 Nov Sun Veteran's Day
 22 Nov Thurs Thanksgiving Day
 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov THURS AUXPAT [Auxiliary Patrols] Specialty Course, 1900, Sta. Classroom
12 Nov, 1900 Monthly Flotilla Meeting, Rusty Scupper
 6, 9, 13, 20, 27 Nov, TUES Advanced Coastal Navigation 1900, **105 Jewett** — SMCC
 7, 14, 17, 21, 28 Nov, WED Boating Skills and Seamanship 1900, **101 Hildreth Hall** — SMCC
 26 Nov 1900 Monthly Flotilla Staff Officer Meeting Station Classroom
 1, 8, 15, 29 Nov, Thurs, New Member Course, Rusty Scupper

November 2007

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	

December 2007

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					

8 Dec, Sat Flotilla Holiday Party, Home of Steve & Brenda Babirak, 5 Stonebrook Road, Scarborough

4, 11, 18 Dec, TUES Advanced Coastal Navigation 1900, **105 Jewett** — SMCC

5, 12, 19 Dec, WED Boating Skills and Seamanship 1900, **101 Hildreth Hall** — SMCC

7 Dec 1800 District Board/Staff Meeting/Dinner, Marlboro, MA

10 Dec 1900 Flotilla Staff Planning Meeting Station Classroom

17 Dec Deadline for hotel and meal reservations for Winter Conference and Commodore's Ball Marriott Hotel, Quincy, MA

TCT Workshop requires pre-registration via e-mail.

Register tct@cox.net

Include: name, flotilla, and member number.

Email registration 15 thru 31 Dec 07 only

The answer to October's question: **Two Liberty Ships survive. We have learned about the Liberty Ship John W. Brown. What is the name of the other Liberty Ship?**

S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien, is the other Victory class freighter that is docked at Pier 45 at Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco and is open to the public as a museum. The liberty ship visited Portland some fifteen years ago.

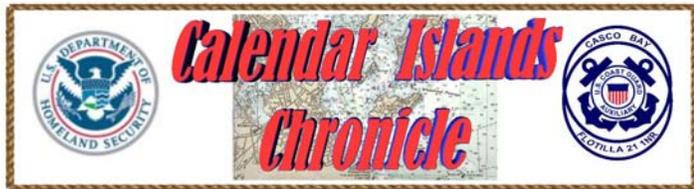
South Portland Shipyard Oral History Project: Homefront Veterans & Liberty Ships document series can be viewed by entering the following link into your Internet search engine: <http://www.wmpg.org/news/ship.htm>

Thanks to Daniel Villacci, Steve Birmingham, Meredith S.S. Smith, and Brian Spivey, for responding correctly to this month's question.

Let's put on our thinking caps....

**The World Champs Boston Red Sox did it again!!!
 But, speaking of the opposing team, the Colorado Rockies.
 At Coors Field in Denver Colorado,
 why are the baseballs placed in a humidor before use?**

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October 10, 2007 Dinner Presentation by Mark McGill

The *John W. Brown* is one of only two survivors from the over 2,700 Liberty ships produced between 1941 and 1945, and is the only one based on the East Coast, being berthed in Baltimore. She was built in Baltimore (hull no. 312 with the best quality steel), and was launched on Labor Day 1942 after only 41 days work; Her namesake, John W. Brown, was a labor organizer at the Bath Iron Works. Her maiden voyage was to Russia via the nine month safer long route around South America, across the Indian Ocean and up the Persian Gulf. Upon return she was modified to carry 500 troops in the forward 'tween-decks, in addition to cargo in the lower holds. For the remainder of the war she served in the Mediterranean, and was never seriously damaged by enemy action despite numerous near-misses during her thirteen maritime voyages. Liberty ships could carry about 8,500 tons of cargo. In December 1946 she was loaned to the New York City to serve as a vocational high school until 1982, and was well-maintained. The *John W. Brown* returned to Baltimore in August 1988 from the reserve fleet, and her restoration to 1942 condition was completed in August of 1991. The only modern features aboard are Coast Guard approved for safety.



Liberty Ship *John W. Brown*,
Maine State Pier, 2007

Mark McGill started his volunteer service as a wiper in the engine room, and is now a fireman water-tenderer on the mid-watches. The ship has two main boilers that produce 450°F steam at 220 psig for the nineteen foot high, three-cylinder, triple expansion steam engine which has a stroke of four feet and turns at 65 RPM. (design value 77 RPM). This old-fashioned design was selected for its great reliability, and would propel the 441.5 foot long ship at about eleven knots via a single screw. Lubrication of this engine is done manually every half-hour, and from the video shown, is an extremely dangerous task on its own.

Mark's presentation was greatly enjoyed by all present at the October dinner meeting, and reminded us of the difficult working conditions and dangerous times endured by the brave and dedicated men of the Merchant Marine in WWII. A tour of the *John W. Brown* during her recent visit to Portland was a deeply moving experience, and disturbingly reminded two flotilla members of their long ago childhoods in England when the parental admonition: "Eat everything on your plate because brave sailors are dying in bringing you that food!" was indeed, and sadly, all too true, and even as kids we knew the truth of it.