



Safety Lines

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Protection

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“FIRST AND FOREMOST” – D1/SR’s Marine Safety Program

We’re pleased to highlight in this issue the active and successful marine safety program underway in D1/SR. Denise Castrogiovanni, DSO-MS and her team of ADSOs have organized a focused and effective work program and have put in place the local unit support efforts and communications tools to support their program. Here’s a summary of what makes the D1/SR program work.

1. The ADSOs have been given specific taskings and function as program managers for elements of the District’s marine safety program. The District leadership has authorized six ADSO positions. While each comes from a specific geographic region of the District, the principal tasking to each is by function. This organization allows the district MS staff to work “out of the box” and to be assigned to taskings throughout the district based on their functional responsibility.
2. The district program is goal-driven, with each function of the program aligned to correspond to the national program.
3. Each of the ADSOs is actively working with local divisions, providing them with support and involving them in MS activities. For example, HAZWOPER training is being conducted by one ADSO throughout the district; training in emergency response planning is being offered by another ADSO.
4. The district program features new ideas, with local innovations such as a Harbor Observer program; classes, publications and materials on Clean Boating; field

training with a marine service company to enhance the technical quality of the CFV program; and a district MS Web site with a wealth of program-related material and resources for use within the district.

5. Effective communications are an important part of the D1/SR program. The DSO and her team are using the suggested reporting format from the national MS staff and making sure that reports flow up the elected chain as well as the staff chain. The reports are in written form, complete and submitted each month, and posted on the district Web site by functional program areas. The DSO has involved the district CS officers in her efforts and enlisted their aid in developing a quality Web site.

The full text of the D1/SR’s current report is available on the national marine safety Web site, as well as on the D1/SR Web site:
<http://www.ftldesign.com/cgau1311/msep.htm>.

Keys to the success of the First Southern marine safety program are clearly defined goals; innovative program initiatives; an MS team of sufficient size and depth of experience to be effective; and a focus on supporting local programs, including the provision of training opportunities at the local level. In addition, the First Southern team has effectively communicated their work, using the reporting format presented at N-TRAIN at the beginning of the year. Activities, results, scheduled events and personnel assignments are included in every report. An MS Web site provides the means for constant update of First Southern activities, access to archived documents and a means to communicate with the District staff. Well Done to Denise and her First Southern marine safety team!

Marine Safety Staff Fight the War on Aquatic Nuisance Species

As the result of a special assignment from the Coast Guard's Environmental Standards Division, Coast Guard Auxiliary members from around the country have been busy over the last few weeks on missions to help fight the war on aquatic nuisance species (ANS).

Auxiliary members are conducting special patrol operations in support of surveys of the marine ecology by the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in selected locations throughout the United States. Working jointly with the Operations Department, members and facilities were tasked with field operations that involved the deployment of Smithsonian personnel and equipment on boats in Narragansett Bay, RI; Portsmouth, NH; San Francisco, CA; and Ketchikan, AK. These patrol operations provide a new dimension to Auxiliary operations and illustrate the continuing working relationship between marine safety and operations functions in the Auxiliary.

Initial reports from the District Staff Officers indicate that the June patrols have gone very well. Thanks to Pam Korejwa, DSO-MS, First Northern, and the D1/NR operations staff for their updates on the success of the Narragansett Bay and Portsmouth patrols. We're looking forward to more news on the San Francisco and Alaska patrols in the very near future.

June of each year marks the observance of "National Clean Boating Week" at various times throughout the month. Auxiliary marine safety officers participated in a variety of clean boating week programs throughout the United States to promote the theme "Boating is Good, Clean Fun – Let's Keep it That Way." At the historic Tuckerton Seaport in New Jersey, for example, members from D5/NR joined with CDR Stephen Minutolo, District Director of Auxiliary, to celebrate clean boating in New Jersey and to assist the New Jersey Marine

Trades Association in promoting the clean boating message. These public affairs events are wonderful opportunities to educate the public about clean boating and the prevention of the spread of ANS pests. Well done to CDR Minutolo and the South Jersey Auxiliary Team for an outstanding public affairs mission.

Finally, another ANS warrior took to the field this past month to educate the boating public on ANS pests and the ways boaters can stop them. John Shanahan, DVC-MO, was detailed by Coast Guard headquarters to travel to a multi-agency meeting of the 100th Meridian Task Force in Miami, Oklahoma. The 100th Meridian Task Force is the joint federal-state team of environmental agencies that work to prevent the spread of ANS pests westward of the 100th Meridian – a line just east of the Continental Divide where ANS pests have been stopped so far. How are they traveling west? By hitching a ride in the boat bilges and on the trailers of unsuspecting boaters. John joined the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Army Corps of Engineers and a group of state and Canadian provincial officials in a public affairs demonstration of how to inspect recreational boats and check for ANS pests that might be hitch-hiking a ride. Watch the national marine safety Web site for new initiatives and partnerships that you can participate in to stop ANS pests.

ANS Training Guides Still Available.

LTJG JoAnne Hanson asks us to remind members that ANS training guides remain available at the Auxiliary National Center. These are very helpful, step-by-step guides to insure that you are prepared to conduct an ANS check on a recreational boat (VE's, here's a document you must have).

SAFETY LINES is distributed to AUXWEB: the National EXCOM; all National Board Members; the Chief Director and all District Directors of Auxiliary; all DSO-MS and DSO-OP officers; and by copy to all District, Division and Flotilla M staff. Editor Karel Kester, BC-MOI; e-mail at kester@televiso.com Phone: 303-776-1834