



Safety Lines

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Department Staff

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USCG

- GM-O
- HQ Program
Managers
- Area Chiefs of M
- District Chiefs of
M;
- COs and XO's of all
MSOs, MSDs and
MSUs

A New Beginning for 'M'

By David Hand
DC-M

N-TRAIN 2005 held in St. Louis, Mo. was the first opportunity for the newly appointed District Staff Officers for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection to meet with their peers and the National M Staff. They had a chance to discuss current and upcoming M programs that they will be supporting during their term of office.



By David Hand
DC-M

Beginning with the accession of COMO Gene Seibert, NACO and COMO Helmut Hertle, NADCO-OMS, a new era has begun for the Auxiliary and the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Department.

N-TRAIN 2005 was planned to prepare the new group of District Staff Officers to start their terms trained and pre-pared to handle the challenges and changes that are part of the post-9/11 America.

The participants included ten newly appointed DSOs among the attendees. N-TRAIN provided them the opportunity to discuss their concerns with the experienced and seasoned DSOs who had "been there, done that" before.

The informal learning that takes place at such a meeting may be as important and informative as are the formal presentations.

This training program began with a review and discussion of their duties and responsibilities as the staff officer, and continued through a full exploration of the Department, the support available to the members and discussions and presentations on the programs.

Meeting Coast Guard Needs

The coming years will challenge our abilities to meet the needs of the USCG as they are taxed more and more to meet the requirements of changing missions and priorities. The reorganization of the Coast Guard into Sectors that is taking place now will improve the organization's ability to meet these challenges.

One of the most important opportunities afforded by N-TRAIN 2005 was to meet face-to-face with the active duty program managers who are responsible for the programs supported by the Auxiliary.

The importance of Auxiliary support was evidenced by the active participation of Captain Brian Salerno, G-MO, Captain Mikeal Karr, G-MOC, CDR Suzanne Englebert, COTP St. Louis, CWO Jim Upthegrove, MCPO Phillip Wright, and MCPO Linda Reid.

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Forum for Discussion

This involvement in the training of the District Staff Offices presented a unique opportunity to meet our active duty program managers and to discuss their needs, priorities, and perspectives on Auxiliary support and involvement.

The importance placed on Auxiliary support was further evidenced by Captain Brian Smith, CHDIRAUX during his address to the Department. This group formed the largest active duty contingent present at any of the training programs. We are indeed fortunate to be working and serving in the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Department during these exciting and changing times.



CVE Highlights Outreach to Districts



The Commercial Vessel Examination Division had one of its best years in 2004 with the success of its mission to encourage district MS officers to become more active in CVE programs, Denise Castrogiovanni, DVC-MV, said during an N-Train presentation.



Denise
Castrogiovanni

In a presentation to an audience of DSO-MS staff and guests, Denise gave an overview of each program the CVE Division supports and a description of the various interfaces between the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary, via different chains of leadership and command. She emphasized how valuable the DSO-MS is to the success of programs her Division supports, and the benefits that will be achieved by their involvement in reaching the missions and goals of the Coast Guard and Auxiliary.

DSO-MS Vital to Program

The discussion was invigorating, and the volume of questions about the CVE programs demonstrated a new area of DSO-MS interest in exploring, developing and initiating CVE support missions for their Districts. Communication at all levels is vital to the CVE Division success. The heightened energy level that was displayed during the CVE presentation will help by reaching out and educating the auxiliary membership in having more members involved in the various CVE programs available to them.

This year was the first time the CVE Division was given the opportunity to break away from the usual traditions by holding their own separate sessions away from the normal M training sessions.

The DVC-MV and her Branch Chiefs worked with the representatives from Coast Guard Headquarters, Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety program representatives LTJG Rob Trevino and Mr. Jack Kemerer. LTJG Trevino and Mr. Kemerer discussed, with the group, the Coast Guard's plan for fulfilling the CFVS program missions and goals for CY 2005.

These discussions provided an in depth fact finding mission for the Coast Guard and Auxiliary support group in breaking new ground by targeting key areas of concentration that will provide greater benefits in the success of the program that they support.

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Coming Soon to the Shelves Train-the-Trainer Guides



**By MCPO
Linda Reid**

The Sea Partners Train-the-Trainer Guide will soon be stocked at the Auxiliary National Supply Center. This guide has information on pollution issues, marine environmental protection laws and regulations, endangered species, aquatic nuisance species, coral reefs, outreach strategy and public affairs. The guide will be available under stock #4029.



A Sea Partners Campaign resource CD is also available to aid Auxiliarists in giving presentations. It contains a variety of documents and slide shows with information relevant to pollution prevention outreach. The disc also contains short videos on keeping marinas clean and how to clean ocean debris.

The following computer programs are necessary to be able to access the files on the disk: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Power Point, Windows Media, and Adobe Reader. For a copy of this disc, email or call MCPO Linda Reid at CG Headquarters (G-MOR-1) Lreid@comdt.uscg.mil, 1-800-842-8740 x.76891.



Coast Guard Initiates America's Waterway Watch Outreach and Awareness Program

Auxiliary to Help Spread the Word in Safety Classes, VSCs

Coast Guard Atlantic and Pacific area commanders have been asked by Commandant Tom Collins to encourage creation of new America's Waterway Watch (AWW) programs in local and regional areas and to support those already established by districts, sectors, groups, and captains of the ports (COTPs).

The March 5 commandant's instruction also urged the commanders to promote local coordination between the Coast Guard Auxiliary and COTPs in the administration of local AWW programs. The Auxiliary will assist the outreach and awareness efforts through boating safety courses, vessel examinations and other visitation program activities to both the boating community and recreational boating industry.

"If we can provide awareness training for a large segment of the maritime industry, recreational boating community and general public, it will significantly reduce the risk of a terrorist incident," the instructor said.

In addition, periodic train-the-trainer classes on topics such as goals and objectives; recognizing suspicious activities and how to report them; and familiarization with the educational materials for outreach activities will be provided to all units participating in AWW training to ensure a consistent message is presented to the public about the program.

The Coast Guard also has more than 2 million pieces of educational materials—such as pamphlets, wallet cards, decals and posters—for distribution to the maritime industry and the recreational boating public as part of the AWW program.

In Fact

The Sea: Having a Ball on the New England Coast

Residents of the Squibnocket on Martha's Vineyard, Mass., recently found their beach littered with as many as 100 baseball-sized spheres made of an intricate weave of seaweed, twigs, roots, and sea grasses.

It seems that just the right sequence of high winds and currents, beach topography, ocean debris and storm conditions can form these "sea balls," according to the Vineyard Gazette Online. One islander recalled sea balls coming ashore in the area about 35 years ago.

A similar phenomenon was reported in June 2002 on the coast near Hampton, N.H., in June 2002. According to The Hampton Union, residents found tens of thousands of the soft, spongy sea balls ranged from golf ball- to-softball size.



*Source: The Beach Monitor
(The Ocean Conservancy)*

Photo courtesy of mygazette.com
Vineyard Gazette