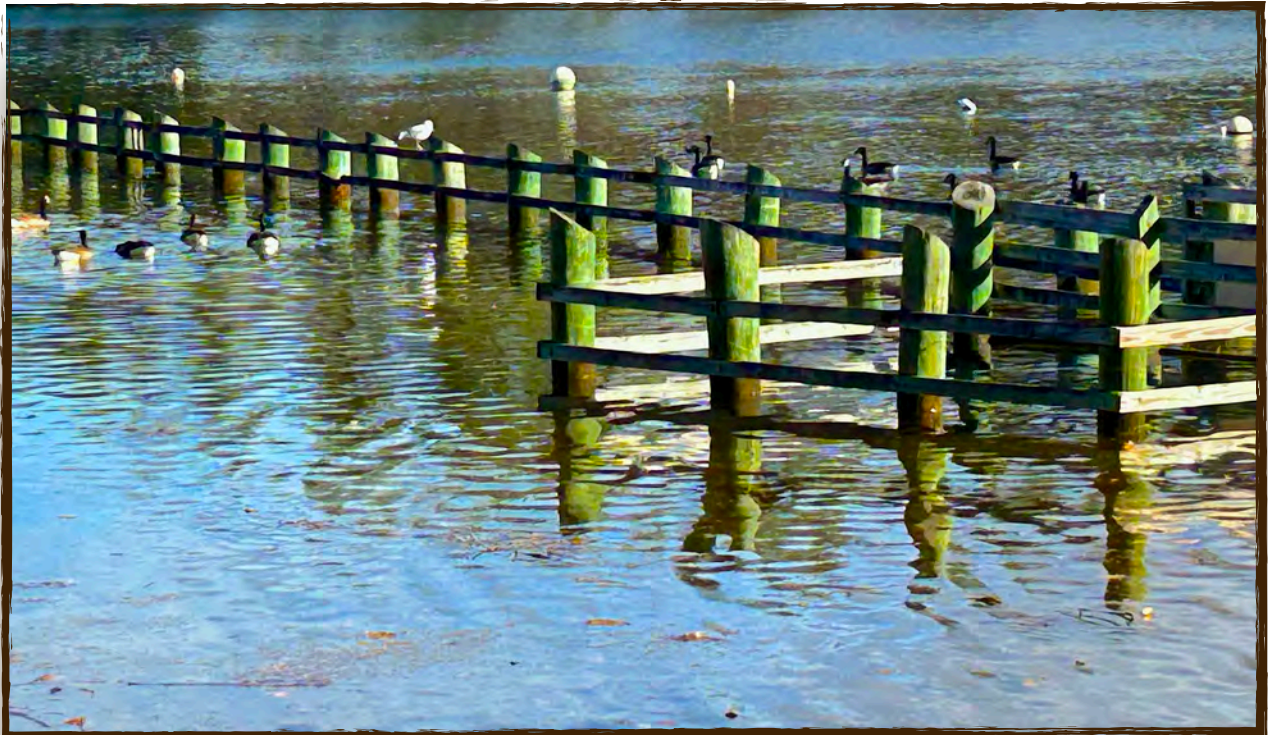


# NOR'EASTER

MAINE | NEW HAMPSHIRE | MASSACHUSETTS | RHODE ISLAND

## WHAT'S UP, DOCK?



**KING TIDE ON THE OYSTER RIVER, DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

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# DISTRICT COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

As I deliver my final Nor'easter message for the members of the First District Northern Region, it seems like it was just a short time ago that I was preparing my first. Two years have passed and much has changed as the efforts of the Coast Guard Auxiliary expand from our Recreational Boating Safety roots to many different types of Coast Guard mission support. The boating public will continue to benefit from our guidance through Public Education, Vessel Examination, and related industry support, while the Coast Guard's need for augmentation in other missions is likely to increase. To paraphrase ADM Fagan, tomorrow's world will look different, and tomorrow's Coast Guard Auxiliary will look different too. As many of us grow older, we are fortunately attracting new members from the paddle craft community, the AuxScout program and other, diverse sources. The coming year will bring familiar challenges and fresh ones too. As I prepare to pass the gavel to Commodore Gayton and his team, I am confident that the incoming leadership, and all members of the First District Northern Region, will rise to the tests put before us and continue our fine tradition of supporting the Coast Guard and the maritime community *Semper Paratus*.

Commodore John Hume





# THE HISTORY DIVISION

PUBLIC AFFAIRS A-DIRECTORATE

## 85 Years and Counting

*By Janice K. Koleszar, D1NR Historian*

Since the last historian's article in the Q2 2019 issue of our *Nor'Easter*, the Auxiliary has experienced shut downs and rule changes due to COVID restrictions. I've since enjoyed returning to the Cape Office to resume documentation of our district archives, and have been going once a month as time and weather permit since the spring of 2022. I look forward to sharing more of our history with the district, and discovering what additional district history may be known by our members. The position of Historian is now recognized under the Public Affairs (PA) Directorate, and is designated as ADSO-PA-H for Historian at the district level. Going forward for 2025 I hope to have pictures and information for future articles.

### CURRENT FACTS OF INTEREST

**The oldest continuously operating flotilla in the country** is 013-06-03 (Onset-Wareham-Marion, Massachusetts). I've begun documenting information we have for division and flotilla archives in an Excel file, and am in the process of confirming the second and third oldest. Additionally, I've found original charters for some flotillas and will hopefully find more as files get reorganized and a bibliography is further developed. A copy of the Excel file was sent to D1NR Auxiliary leadership in late 2022, and to D1NR active duty leadership in 2023. I hope to work with our DSO-PA in 2024 to begin scanning some of the more fragile and lengthy documents on hand.

**The U.S. Navy's newest destroyer**, being built in Bath, Maine, is named in honor of WWII veteran USCG Captain Quentin R. Walsh: <https://www.c6f.navy.mil/Press-Room/News/News-Display/Article/1870515/warship-named-for-coast-guard-wwii-vet-us-naval-forces-staff-member/>.

*continued*

**Copies of the *Nor'Easter* dating back to 1974** have been found and grouped according to decade. These paper publications are very fragile. All have been added by year to the data base in process.

**The Virtual Museum of the Coast Guard Auxiliary (VMCGA)** was launched on the A-Directorate, History Division [website](#) on October 6th, 2021, after a year of dedicated preparation by History Division staff. A visit will likely surprise you its digital exhibits provide a glimpse into the Auxiliary's unique history and honor the organization's eight-decades long heritage and culture. Currently, the VMCGA features a variety of covers, devices, flags, and buttons dating from the Auxiliary's inception in 1939 to the present day.

Over time, the virtual museum's digital archive will expand to display historic artifacts and even historic Auxiliary facilities. The VMCGA strives to reflect the Auxiliary's unique history, which encompasses scientific, cultural, and social themes from both past and modern contexts. To achieve this goal, the History Division is seeking images of Auxiliary maritime and aeronautical equipment and gear, uniforms, heraldry, models, and artwork.

The VMCGA is in phase one of its comprehensive plan, and more artifacts will be displayed once they are properly photographed and the staff establishes provenance. Auxiliarists can do their part by spreading the word, looking for artifacts in their unit's possession, sharing oral histories, coordinating with their district's historian, and visiting the virtual museum as it builds its exhibits and archives.

Prior to visiting the virtual museum, I recommend that you review the presentation, "[The History of the Coast Guard Auxiliary](#)" by Mark A. Snell, PhD., Division Chief of History, A-Directorate. The presentation is a brief chronological overview which provides the necessary historical context that will streamline a virtual visit to the VMCGA.

<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=A-DEPT&category=history-museum>

**Museum at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.** It's open in summers to the public. Check the Academy website for details.

**A National Coast Guard Museum** is scheduled to open in New London, Connecticut in 2026 and the Auxiliary may train members as docents to guide visitors through the museum's various exhibits and presentations.



Team Coast Guard was invited to present Colors for Game 5 of the NBA finals by the Boston Celtics On June 17th. Team Coast Guard has been working directly with, and presenting colors for, the Boston Celtics since 2008. Team members included Auxiliarist Kevin Ritchie and active duty personnel from Station Boston and Station Pt. Allerton.



The Colors presentation was telecast live on WABC-TV and viewed nationally as well as globally by an estimated 12 million viewers. This was the third time Team Coast Guard Color Guard has appeared on national television at an NBA Finals presentation for the Boston Celtics. The USCG Auxiliary flag was carried in the presentation.



Story by Kevin Ritchie

Photos by Lisa Castoldi

## OPERATION PADDLE SMART REVISITED

By Chris Lawrence, East Providence Flotilla

Since 2007, paddle craft has grown immensely in popularity as a recreational alternative to traditional recreational boating. Whether it's canoes, kayaks or stand-up paddle boards (SUPs), these smaller craft are more affordable to the public (be it rental or purchase) and easier to maintain and transport.

As the popularity of paddle craft grew, however, so did the number of fatalities associated with their use. In 2009, the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary launched "Operation Paddle Smart" as an outreach program to curtail this concerning trend. It was a natural fit for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, as our primary mission has always been to promote recreational boating safety. This operation continues to this day, and still has a significant impact on the public.

Paddle craft can be found on rivers, lakes and in coastal waters. Just as statistics show with respect to most recreational boaters, many paddle craft enthusiasts haven't received any formal instruction or education with regard to handling or safety. The Auxiliary developed and implemented a basic paddle craft course for this particular boating group, similar to the longstanding boating safety courses offered through our public education (PE) efforts. Both Auxiliary and Power Squadron Vessel Examiners (VE) were eventually brought into the fold. Paddle Craft safety checks are conducted by VEs as a further extension of this outreach effort, and our Program Visitor (PV) members and boating partners also support spreading the safety message.

One of the most popular things resulting from "Operation Paddle Smart" was an orange, reflective, "IF FOUND, PLEASE CONTACT" safety decal. It became so widely used that it's now a staple among the various materials offered through our Auxiliary National Supply Center (ANSC). This decal allows the owner to place basic contact information (name and phone number) on their paddle craft in the event that it's found unaccompanied. It was developed to help mitigate impacts on Coast Guard assets in terms of time and search efforts. A simple phone call using the provided decal information could help personnel determine the appropriate response regarding a located, unaccompanied paddle craft. The decal was a positive game changer for the Coast Guard: Best case scenario, an unaccompanied paddle craft is reunited with its owner; in the worst case, however, an unaccompanied paddle craft is returned to a surviving family member. Unfortunately, the decal does not educate the owner on paddle craft safety or best practices. This is where our PV, VE and PE members play a collective role in the whole effort.

When "Paddle Smart" was first rolled out in my district, there was an effort to put together a small packet of existing boating safety literature along with the orange decal. The idea was to provide some level of awareness and education to new paddle craft enthusiasts. But the majority of literature was geared toward primarily toward recreational boaters, and the initial effort was phased out within the

-Continued-

first four years. Both the idea and effort, however, potentially offered much greater promise than originally envisioned.

Looking for a way to tailor these packets toward paddle craft enthusiasts, the American Canoe Association, or ACA (<http://americancanoe.org>), offered some great, free resources in the form of downloadable brochures. Thus a retooled paddle craft safety packet was born. This packet contains the orange decal, paddle craft orientated material from the ANSC, along with brochures from the American Canoe Association (downloadable ACA brochures are printed / tri-folded). Also included are brochures on flotilla recruiting, vessel safety checks and a wallet size card for America's Waterway Watch. These tailored packets serve not only to help educate paddle craft enthusiasts, but to encourage opportunities in other Auxiliary areas as well.

## PADDLE CRAFT SAFETY PACKETS



### ACA Pamphlets:

- Practices, Ethics and Conduct
- River Paddle Guide to Rescue
- Best Practices for Paddlers
- Cold Water Survival
- Rules of the Road
- Paddle craft Safety Checklist
- Low Dam Safety

### Auxiliary Pamphlets:

- Orange reflective safety decal (ANSC 3004)
- Be Smart, Be Safe, Have Fun (ANSC 3004a)
- Vessel Safety Check brochure (ANSC 3000)
- Flotilla Recruiting brochure

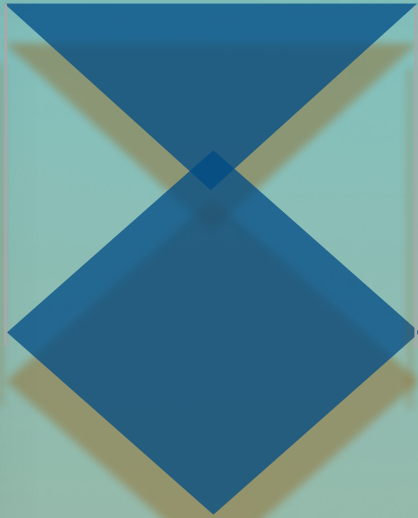
### Other Items:

- State Boating Handbook
- Handout on any recent changes to State boating laws

It takes time and effort to put these packets together. Around 200 are assembled annually and distributed within my flotilla to our PV and VE members as well as our public education officer. Packets are distributed in our boating safety courses, at boat ramps, and flotilla public affairs events. Our PV members stock them in boating safety racks alongside customary safety literature at the various partner venues they maintain. These packets have become so popular with some store managers that they automatically include one with a new paddle craft purchase. Over 1000 paddle craft packets have been distributed by my flotilla since 2009.

The educational outreach that the Auxiliary does is immeasurable, as it is a preventive phase of boating safety versus the Coast Guard's reactive phase. Hopefully, these packets have played a role in furthering the paddle craft safety message. Adaptation is something that the Auxiliary does best, given some of the challenges it has had since its inception.

This article is shared as an example of a best practice. If just one life is saved through the Auxiliary's effort, it was well worth it! And so, Operation Paddle Smart continues today. . .



# MARITIME CULTURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION UNIT

**M  
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The Maritime Cultural Resources Protection Unit (MCPRU) is a pilot program and initiative codified in 2020 that is entirely unique to the First District Northern Region (D1NR) U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. It was developed as a component of, and complement to, the D1NR Emergency Management (EM) mission, and is modeled in part upon existing cultural property protection programs and units such as those found in the U.S., British, French and other allied land forces. Its purpose is to provide the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, other U.S. government entities, and interagency partners with maritime-focused cultural property protection knowledge and capabilities. The MCRPU is comprised of directly-recruited professional cultural heritage subject matter experts, who cross train in emergency and disaster response as well as other phases of the EM cycle, to support incident command staffs with mapping, networking, and due diligence / compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The MCRPU also advises and assists with the development of cultural resource sections of emergency and disaster plans, furnishes education, training, and outreach, and conducts field surveys, monitoring and assessments associated with disaster response in order to advance and enhance EM mission duties.



# STANDING THE WATCH!

Four members of the Chatham Flotilla have been authorized to wear the Coast Guard's Boat Forces Insignia in recognition of their many years of standing Communications Watches at USCG Station Chatham and other active duty CG lifeboat stations. Together, the four Chatham members have contributed some 58 years and nearly 24,000 hours of watchstanding service in their Auxiliary careers. The members are: David Quincy, Michael Hays, Reid Oslin, and Richard B. Brady. The award is authorized for Auxiliary watchstanders who stand at least one Communications Watch per week for five consecutive years.

Announcement submitted by Reid Oslin

# HELP WANTED

## ~~WHAT'S~~ WHO'S COOKIN'?

The Auxiliary Culinary Assistance (AUX-CA) program enhances mission readiness, effectiveness, and execution by supporting the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary for all culinary needs on land and at sea.



There's a place for ALL Auxiliarists in this fun and rewarding program, regardless of expertise or ability!

Contact your SO-CA, ADSO-CA or DSO-CA for more information.  
Thanks for your interest in the AUX-CA Program!

Explore the website:

<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=H-DEPT&category=auxchef>

# PORT-POURRI



D1NR District Staff Officer - Secretary/Records (DSO-SR) Allen Padwa attended NACON 2024 where he participated in SR workshops and also taught a lesson for SRs.

Shown in the top photo from left to right are Paula Marcangelo (currently of Florida) who worked for ADM Fagan when she was in Boston; USCG Commandant ADM Fagan, who had just returned from a trip aboard an icebreaker in the Arctic Circle; DSO-SR Allen Padwa.



The photo at bottom features an award that was created by an Auxiliarist and presented to outgoing National Commodore Formato.

# D1NR LEADERSHIP

## U.S. COAST GUARD

District Commander: RADM Michael Platt

Chief of Prevention: CAPT David O'Connell

Director of Auxiliary: CDR Tyler Kelly

Operations Training Officer: BOSN<sub>2</sub> Elijah Reynolds

## U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

District Commodore: John Hume

District Chief of Staff: Glen Gayton

Immediate Past District Commodore: Byron Moe

District Captain SNNE: Bruce MacCormac

District Captain SBOS: Justin Wright

District Captain SENE: Dennis Bunnell

## AREA SECTOR COORDINATORS

SNNE: Donald Tyler

SBOS: John Keyes

SSNE: Jeffrey Thomas

## DIRECTORATE CHIEFS

Logistics: Mitchell Paine

Prevention: Ashley Hill

Response: COMO Ronald Booth

Civil Rights Coordinator: Wesley Baden

# D1NR LEADERSHIP

## DIVISION COMMANDERS

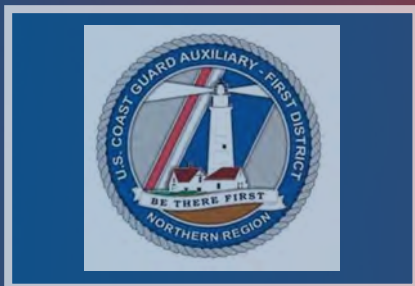
- Division 1: Elizabeth Eggleston
- Division 2: Bobby Joslin
- Division 3: Elissa Pepin
- Division 4: William Lee
- Division 5: Donald Zidik
- Division 6: Jason Oliveira
- Division 7: Arnold Butziger
- Division 9: William Bell
- Division 10: Michael Johnston
- Division 11: Peter Debakker
- Division 12: Marc Slechta

## PAST DIVISION COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION

COMO Carolyn Belmore, President

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS & AIDES

COMO Carolyn Belmore, D-AA  
 David Pierce, D-AD-DSS  
 Leslie Schwartz, D-AD-COMMS



## DISTRICT STAFF OFFICERS

### PREVENTION

Stuart Jerman DSO-MS  
 COMO Charles Grossimon, DSO-MT  
 Stephen Wagner, DSO-NS  
 Lance McNally, DSO-PE  
 John Flanagan, DSO-PV  
 Michael Sheehan, DSO-VE  
 Daniel Van Hise, DSO-PA

### RESPONSE

Paul Diamond, DSO-AV  
 Charles Motes, DSO-CM  
 David Cabral, DSO-EM  
 Harvey Leibovitz, DSO-OP

### LOGISTICS

April Oliveira, DSO-AS  
 Lorelle Mulvey, DSO-CA  
 William Bell, DSO-CS  
 Richard Brady, DSO-DV  
 Janice Koleszar, DSO-HR  
 Laurel Carlson, DSO-IS  
 Stanley Zoll, DSO-MA  
 Leslie Schwartz, DSO-PB  
 Allen Padwa, DSO-SR

### REPORT TO COMMODORE

Normand Choquette, DSO-FN  
 COMO Joseph Gordon, DLO  
 COMO Carolyn Belmore, DSO-SLO  
 Stephen Kokkins, DFSO



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**NOTICE: NEWSLETTER REQUIREMENT FOR PUBLICATION**

All flotilla and division newsletters must include the date they were approved for publication after receiving clearance from Richard Keating, ADSO-PB.

**EXAMPLE:**

"This publication received clearance on 06 MAY 2024."

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS - DATED MATERIAL**

**This issue of Nor'Easter received clearance on 31 DEC 2024**

VISIT D1NR ON THE WEB:

<https://a013.uscgaux.info/>

D1NR PUBLICATIONS:

<https://a013.uscgaux.info/members/PB.html>

Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Leslie Schwartz, DSO-PB

Richard Keating, ADSO-PB

John Lopez, ADSO-PB

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