



WAVES

Watercraft and Vessel Safety

THE NEWSLETTER FROM THE U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF BOATING

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FROM THE CHIEF

Jesse L. Harrup, Jr., DC-B

I wish to extend an open invitation to all Auxiliarists who may once have considered, or may currently be considering, applying for a staff position in the Boating Department. For various reasons, vacancies often open up, and we look for the Auxiliary's best and brightest to join our department.

But what might you encounter upon joining the Boating Department? What type of organization are we? What is our "culture"? Do our operational practices fit with your management style?

Let me answer, in part, by sharing with you a few of my recent responses to a P Department survey. (The excerpted questions which follow are "theirs"; the responses "mine".)

Q. When first appointed to a Boating Department office, who or what was most helpful to you in "learning the ropes"?

A. Free-flowing, candid communication between myself and the DVC, DC-Bd, and DC whenever I had a question; their provision to me of a written job description.

Q. What practices help or hinder the orientation of new staff members?

A. Help: Free-flowing communication, i.e., a philosophy that lets new staff members feel comfortable in asking a question or making recommendations without an atmosphere that intimidates or otherwise discourages them from doing so. In other words, an "open door policy", without the office but instead through email/phone calls.

Hindrances: Restrictions, i.e., expecting new staff to act in the same manner as the old staff. While the expected output may be identical, we must allow for different personalities.

Q. What advice would you give to someone recently appointed to the National Staff?

A. Be open-minded about keeping what works and discarding what doesn't; be prepared to justify your decision. Always feel free to speak candidly and honestly to your direct supervisor. Contact other staff members to learn the "culture" of the department leadership. Work diligently to complete all assignments on time. Remind new members that the USCGAUX is not a "social club"; though fellowship is a cornerstone mission, we exist to save lives and in doing so, we always must look at our staff assignments as directly supporting that role. Work hard and you will be recognized for promotion opportunities. You will rise as high as you want in the department to the extent that you demonstrate commitment to carrying out the responsibilities of your office in a diligent manner.

If what I wrote above represents an organizational culture you admire and in which you think you could develop your skills, using them to their fullest, then please keep a watch on the HELP WANTED page on the USCGAUX National Website for opportunities in our department. Like the US Marine Corps, we're looking for a few good men and women.

"Till next time, keep 'er 'tween the buoys."

Jess

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**SOUNDINGS PUBLICATION SIGNS
NEW AGREEMENT WITH AUXILIARY**

John Potts, DVC-BL

Soundings Publications, LLC, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc., have agreed to work together to promote boating safety throughout the US through public education, vessel safety checks, Maritime Domain Awareness and numerous other outreach efforts.

Soundings Publications publishes the boating safety-focused *Soundings Magazine* and the marine trade journal *Trade Only*, the latter of which is helpful to those involved in boating trades, including Coast Guard Auxiliarists.

This new agreement results in many valuable benefits to Auxiliarists:

- Discounted annual subscription rates to *Soundings Magazine* for all Auxiliarists
- Free annual subscriptions to *Soundings Magazine* and *Trade Only* for consenting public education officers at the flotilla, division, district, and national levels; and all consenting flotilla commanders
- Free copies of *Soundings Magazine* for all flotilla PE officers, upon request, for distribution to PE class students. (Each free copy includes an application for students to obtain their first year's subscription at a discounted rate.)

Additionally, all flotilla PE officers can submit course listings for publication in the regional edition of *Soundings* and cross-posting on the *Soundings* website. *Soundings* will consider publishing press releases regarding recreational boating safety issues written by authorized Auxiliary staff officers.

David Delich, BC-BLP, has been appointed to manage the Soundings agreement. David lives in Bartlett, Tennessee where he serves as FSO-VE and the 08ER Liaison Officer to Group Lower Mississippi. He holds certification as a Master Marine Surveyor in Pleasure Sail and Power, Cargo, and Fishing Vessels. He is a Professional Mechanical Engineer and is the current owner of an engineering/equipment company.

Mr. Delich is very excited about this agreement with Soundings Publications. He states that *Soundings Magazine* is coordinating with the Auxiliary to create a page on their website which

will make it simple for Auxiliary members to take advantage of the benefits listed above.

To view the complete MOA and a summary document, visit the Boating Department's website at <http://www.auxbdept.org>. For interim specific information and questions, contact David Delich, BC-BLP at southcross@bellsouth.net. The Soundings Magazine public website is <http://www.soundingspub.com>.

WELCOME ABOARD!

Two New Branch Chief Liaison Officers

John Potts, DVC-BL

Two new branch chiefs were recently appointed to manage agreements with Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatU.S.), Boater's World retail stores, and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Daniel P. Meade will serve as the Boating Department's Branch Chief Liaison to BoatU.S. and Boater's World. Dan lives in Maryland and is very active in the Fifth Southern Region in Sector Baltimore. He is a communications watchstander at Station DC and a very active coxswain and vessel facility owner.

Dan's career background includes over 27 years of management within a diverse, multi-priority, task production environment, including over eleven years with the US Air Force working in the intelligence field. Since 1990, he has served as an Operations Supervisor with United Parcel Service.

Dr. Atul Uchil, PhD, will serve as the Boating Department's Branch Chief Liaison to the US Army Corps of Engineers. Dr. Uchil is very active in the Fifth Southern Region in Sector Baltimore where he serves as FSO-CS and SO-CS.

Dr. Uchil is an executive with a proven track record of building and growing professional service organizations. Dr. Uchil has extensive commercial, federal civilian, DoD, and international experience. Prior to founding his own management consulting business, Dr. Uchil spent over 18 years in a variety of senior management positions at several large consulting organizations.

In addition to his PhD in Business Administration, Dr. Uchil also holds an MBA in Consulting Operations Management, a BSEE in Electrical Engineering, and a Diploma in Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering. (con't)

To view the complete agreements with BoatU.S. and Boater's World, and the MOU with the US Army Corps of Engineers, visit the Boating Department's website at <http://www.auxbdept.org>.

Welcome aboard, Dan Meade and Atul Uchil!

GRANT PROPOSAL TIPS: PART 1

Thomas Nunes, BC-BRG

Editor's Note: Watch upcoming issues for more valuable tips on preparing grant proposals.

Why Grants?

Since the Coast Guard Auxiliary is an instrument of the U.S. Government, why should a flotilla seek grants from Boat U.S. or other one-time funding sources?

As with most budgets, the Coast Guard's funding for the Auxiliary is limited. Various divisions and flotillas have great ideas to improve water quality, boating safety, or otherwise improve Auxiliary service to the public. But implementation of those ideas often requires outside funding.

In this issue, we present Auxiliary grant regulations as well as hints and guidelines on developing a strong grant proposal.

Grant Procedures

Any Coast Guard Auxiliary unit is authorized to submit grant applications directly to Boat U.S., the National Water Safety Congress, and/or the National Safe Boating Council. There is no need for approval by Division, District or National staffs. *An "info copy" of any grant applications would be appreciated by the National Staff (address: Tom Nunes, BC-BRG, 3614 East Kent Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85044; FAX: 480-706-0648; or Email: tnunes1@cox.net). Currently, BoatU.S., the National Water Safety Congress, and the National Safe Boating Council are the only approved grantors for Auxiliary units.*

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc. (CGAuxAI) is the only corporation approved by the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard to support the activities of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. CGAuxAI is a non-profit corporation, which conducts certain fiscal affairs peculiar to the National Board of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. However, CGAuxAI is a separate legal entity. CGAuxAI is authorized to receive excess

Coast Guard property, receive boating safety grants and accept other items for appropriate purposes. As such, it can hold title to real and personal property for use by the Auxiliary in the performance of its missions. CGAuxA may accept grants and funding which cannot be given directly to Auxiliary units. It may also obtain and hold copyrights, trademarks and service marks. It may provide for the ownership of motor vehicles, aircraft, boats and mobile trailers. Any grants awarded to Auxiliary groups must be via the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc.

Preparing a Proposal

Proposal writing is time-consuming. You must first clearly describe a specific problem, design a program that will address it, and finally, describe the program in detail for the grantor (funding source). If this is your flotilla's first attempt at applying for a grant, the entire process will benefit the flotilla, even if your first proposal does not land any funding. Your goal is to end up with a well-conceived proposal that lays out a strategy to address the problem, as well describing what funding is necessary to pay for it.

Identifying and Developing a Project that Supports the Auxiliary's Core Mission

Although ideas for projects usually abound, proposal writers may generate fresh ideas by reading newspapers, journals, or newsletters; and by discussing with colleagues which topics currently seem to attract the most attention. Try to find a unique approach to solving a problem or combination of problems. If the grantor receives 10 proposals dealing with similar issues, any unique angle your proposal offers will help it stick out in the reviewer's mind.

Brainstorming with the people who will benefit from your project will help generate project ideas. Involving these people in the outline and design process will also make the project more practical and will generate alternative methods for achieving your proposed objectives.

If you are still having trouble finding a project to develop – or with finding a solution to a thorny problem you've identified, next time we will share some proven brainstorming strategies to help you get past those roadblocks.

2006 BOATU.S. SAFETY GRANTS
Auxiliary Awarded over \$29,000 for Boating Safety

From BoatU.S.

In 2005, the Coast Guard Auxiliary submitted 42 requests for BoatU.S. Safety Grants. Out of a total of 87 applications received from multiple organizations, BoatU.S. approved 25 grants totaling \$91,119. Sixteen grants, with a total value of \$29,059, are being awarded to various US Coast Guard Auxiliary units to promote boating safety.

BoatU.S. 2006 Auxiliary Boating Safety Winners

Flotilla 01NR-02-06 (York, ME):

\$542 to upgrade the flotilla's visual display booth.

Flotilla 08WR-33-04 (Des Moines, IA):

\$1600 to produce floating key chains with a boating safety message.

Flotilla 08WR-05-06 (Rogers, AR):

\$2500 to produce 400 children's T-shirts with a boating safety message.

Flotilla 01SR-02-07 (Atlantic Highlands, NJ):

\$2280 to establish signs at ferry terminals, marinas, and state parks promoting VSCs and Boating Safety courses.

Division 07-01 (San Juan, PR):

\$2800 to produce 20 signs in Spanish displaying boating regulations and promoting VSCs.

Flotilla 05-10-05 (Bolivia, NC):

\$651 to produce 100 signs promoting Boating Safety courses.

Flotilla 08-09-02 (Whitaker, PA):

\$700 to establish an AM transmitter in the Monongahela River Region airing boating safety messages.

Flotilla 13-01-19 (Blaine, WA):

\$473 to establish 14 brochure kiosks at Washington State parks.

Flotilla 11N-11-01 (Crystal Bay, NV):

\$4,000 to produce 1500 nautical charts of Lake Tahoe.

Flotilla 07-13-08 (Key Largo, FL):

\$2,300 to produce 20,000 placemats in English and Spanish focusing on PWC operations. Placemats will be distributed to restaurants in the Florida Keys.

Flotilla 05SR-20-04 (New Bern, NC):

\$3060 to establish 6 boating safety kiosks at boat ramps.

Flotilla 05SR-08-87 (Louisa, VA):

\$1800 to produce 5000 brochures promoting VSCs and Boating Safety courses.

Flotilla 01NR-09-97 (Indian Orchard, MA):

\$1805 to purchase rescue mannequins (with BoatU.S. logo) to practice man overboard recoveries.

Flotilla 9CR-20-04 (Zeeland, MI):

\$833 to produce 2000 nautical charts of Lake Macatawa, depicting safe boating areas.

Flotilla 05-15-08 (State College, PA):

\$1715 to establish a weather station kiosk for boaters on Savers Lake.

Flotilla 09C-20-08 (Manistee, MI):

\$2000 to produce 25,000 restaurant placemats with safe boating message.

The Boating Department extends its congratulations to all grant winners!



Distribution: All FCs, DCOs, VCOs with email addresses in AUXDATA, plus NEXCOM, G-PCB-2, and G-PCX-1 via direct email from DC-B. Upon receipt, FCs are asked to copy and provide copies to Flotilla members.