



**A Proud Tradition, A Worthy Mission**

# *THE SILVER ZEPHYR*

**Volume 5**

**January, 2010**

**Number 1**

**The Official Newsletter of USCG-Auxiliary Flotilla 01-04**

Each month, *THE SILVER ZEPHYR* profiles a member of our Flotilla. These small portals into the lives of our members enable each of us to learn a little more about one another and so discover the myriad personalities and talents of the wonderful men and women with whom we serve.

This month, the SZ recognizes and thanks all of the members of this Flotilla for their hard work and dedication in 2009. The effort was cumulative and amazing as well.

### **Flotilla 01-04 provided the public with:**

- excellent classes and information on boating safety and navigation
- vessel examinations that kept local boaters that much safer on the water
- community outreach with our partners that spread the message of marine safety
- regular safety patrols on the Bay in our Area of Responsibility (AOR)
- joined with other local Flotillas to patrol the Bay and local waterways
- ATON verification in our AOR which served to assist our local mariners
- introduced the Auxiliary's *Americas Waterway Watch* program which heightened public awareness of potential threats via our waterways by anyone bent on harming our people

### **Flotilla 01-04 also:**

- participated in District level events at ISC, Alameda
- participated in two Division level OPTREX events on the Bay
- developed and implemented a revised Flotilla website
- participated in and was recognized at D-TRAIN 2009
- began efforts to build an Auxiliary Honor Guard unit in conjunction with the USCG
- qualified and re-qualified boat crew and coxswains for our unit
- participated in the Novato 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade with our Gold Side brothers and sisters
- participated in plans to help commission USCGC Woesche in 2010
- began the steps to become a sister flotilla to our namesake counterpart in Hawaii
- assisted the Gold Side on the water and on land during Fleet Week 2009
- provided direct operational support to the USCG
- logged thousands of hours of service that translated into real dollars for the USCG

**Flotilla 01-04 is committed to mission excellence and getting the job done.**

**Flotilla 01-04 is *Semper Paratus***



### USCG-AUX Watch Stander

- Location: Hamilton, Hangar 1-2
- Compliment: 45
- Mission:**
- Deploy skilled personnel to assist Federal On Scene Coordinators (FOSC) in preventing or reducing environmental damage from oil or haz-mat spills
- Train FOSCs in spill response
- Monitor or direct cleanup

Some current activities involving the Pacific Strike Team:

- AMSAM Tsunami cleanup
- Alaskan hazmat spill

#### Liaisons:

Richard J. Celia, FC  
[rjcelia@comcast.net](mailto:rjcelia@comcast.net)  
415) 713-5727 (cell)

LT Karl Breedlove, OPS  
(415) 883-3311

**BECOME A PART OF THIS  
DYNAMIC GROUP OF MEN AND  
WOMEN AND HELP SUPPORT  
OUR GOLD SIDE!**

*Semper Paratus*

## **DISTRICT/DIVISION FLOTILLA** (upcoming events)

**Jan 13  
Flotilla 01-04 COW**

**Jan 23 Div 1 COW**

**Jan 27,  
Div 1 Mtg-YBI**

**Feb 21-22  
PCF ISC, Alameda**

**Mar 26-28  
D-TRAIN  
Rohnert Park, CA**

## **SOME THOUGHTS ON THE CHANGE OF WATCH**

The change of watch ceremony that is performed at every level of the USCG-Auxiliary (National, District, Division, Flotilla) is a ceremony steeped in tradition, sound reason, and a spirit of continuity and renewal.

Every ship has a pilot or helmsman whose job is to guide and steer the proper course. Our Flotilla is a sort of ship. It requires continual attention, course correction, and direction. When a ship sails, the helmsman first concerns are to make sure that the crew is safe, the integrity of the ship is maintained, and the mission defined by the bridge command is carried out as successfully and efficiently as possible. In our world, the bridge is the Auxiliary which supplies the guidelines and resources (our sailing orders if you will) to us. The helmsman is the Flotilla Commander, and the officers and members make up the crew. This is not a one-person job but a collective force where the best ideas and efforts that each member offers are used for the good of the ship, and those who sail in her.

Our Change of Watch is part of a tradition that goes back centuries. No one person could possibly keep watch over the ship all the time. Periodic relief gave the helm time to refresh and renew so that when that person's job came to steer the ship again, they could do it with the assurance that they had a rested and clear mind, as well as the comfort of knowing that others were there to back up and support the effort.

Tonight, Flotilla 01-04 commences a new watch. I have been honored once more to take my position at the helm. My officers and our members are ready to support our unit's mission. We will honor and carry out our organization's mission (which is grounded on what we call the Four Cornerstones (vessel safety checks, boater education, USCG operational support, and fellowship). In doing, this, we will be serving our community, our Coast Guard, and our nation.

In the prologue to the pledge I take, it states: "As a leader, you are charged with maintaining high standards in all Auxiliary programs and activities, never compromising honesty and integrity". As Flotilla Commander, I take this charge seriously. I believe in working hard to get the job done. However, I do not believe in taking myself so seriously that it would get in the way of getting to know each of you better while discovering new and more efficient ways to accomplish our goals. I hope you all feel the same way about yourselves.

That said, I wish each of you a wonderful 2010. We have a new year and a new opportunity to improve upon the past, and explore new ways to solve problems and deliver mission excellence. I know this will happen because I am fortunate to be part of a unit that is dedicated, focused, and Semper Paratus.

Richard J. Celia  
Flotilla Commander  
Flotilla 01-04  
USCG-AUX