



USCG Auxiliary
Flotilla 11-04 8th Western Rivers
PROP WASH

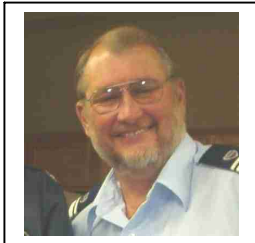


Newsletter Dec 2006

Hudson, Wisconsin
Meetings held third Thursday monthly
St. Croix Marina, 16 First Street

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**The
 Commanders
 Helm...**



This will be my last time addressing the members of Flotilla 04 as your Flotilla Commander. Best of luck to the incoming Bridge. I trust our membership will stand behind them, and assist as needed. With most of the vessels out of the water, blocked, winterized, and covered, our thoughts tend to stop thinking about boating, and our attention goes elsewhere. This would be a perfect time, to look for some Member Training activities. I know the Division will be holding an ACN class this winter. This would be a perfect time to help gain new knowledge, and work on another specialty course. Jerry Frederick mentioned he was going to teach a Boat Crew class this winter, and I know I have passed along several names to him already. One last thing, again thanks for allowing me the opportunity to have served as your Flotilla Commander for 2006.

Semper Paratus
 Rick Hollenbach VCP-Elect 085-11, FC 11-04
 USCGAux

National News

**DISCARDED RADIOBEACON TRIGGERS
 FALSE ALARM**

SEATTLE - The Coast Guard received a distress signal from an Emergency Position Indicating Radiobeacon, or EPIRB, registered to a boat home-ported in Missoula, Mont. Wednesday.

No people were in trouble, but the Coast Guard didn't know that when they first received the signal. However, it wasn't long before they discovered the call was a false alarm.

The owner of the EPIRB had failed to unregister the device when he sold his boat, the 42-foot motor vessel Good Medicine, to a man in Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. After a series of phone calls between the Coast Guard District Office in Florida and the broker who sold the boat, it was learned the EPIRB was thrown some time during the week of June 18-24.

Continued on page 2.

Next Meeting
Thursday, January 18
Fellowship 1830
Meeting 1930



**HAPPY NEW
 YEAR!**

Calendar

January

- 12 – Change of Watch Party
- 13 – PE Class America's Boating Class for Hudson EMT Crew
- 10 – Division Meeting Bishop Whipple Bldg. Fort Snelling
- 17 – 21 – Minneapolis Boat Show
- 18 – Flotilla Meeting

February

- 14 – Division Meeting (all Auxiliarists welcome)
- 15 – Flotilla Meeting

EPIRBs are devices intended to save lives by transmitting a signal to rescuers with the position of troubled boaters. When they are improperly disposed of they can cost the Coast Guard valuable time and taxpayers thousands of dollars in resource costs.

The International Maritime Organization and the Coast Guard recommend that unwanted EPIRBs be disposed of by either removing the battery and shipping the unit back to its manufacturer or rendering the unit inoperable by demolishing it. The EPIRB should also be unregistered with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in any case when the unit has been disposed of or transferred to a new owner.

The Coast Guard routinely refers cases involving the non-distress activation of an EPIRB (either as a hoax, through gross negligence, carelessness or improper storage and handling) to the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC can prosecute cases based upon evidence provided by the Coast Guard, and will issue warning letters or notices of apparent liability or fines up to \$10,000.

By following the rules for proper EPIRB disposal, boaters can save themselves a lot of trouble and the Coast Guard an unnecessary trip to the dump. For more information on EPIRBs, please contact NOAA at 1-888-212-7283.

On Line "Value Added Training" Available

Value Added Training has been developed for Auxiliary members looking for supplemental information to aid them in their Auxiliary programs. The following are available.

Electronic Communications Course

The New Member - The First Six Months

Influencing the Spectator Fleet

Program Management

Rules of Order

Department of Homeland Security publications

The National Strategy for Maritime Security

Good Security Habits

Real-World Warnings Keep You Safe On-line

Division "Change of Watch" Dinner Party

The Change of Watch Dinner will be Friday Evening, January 12, 2007, 1830 at The 934th Air Lift Wing Club \$20.00 per person plus an auction donation per household.

The buffet style menu is highlighted by Carved Prime Rib and Baked New England Cod.

Watch for your invitation.

PLEASE

All Auxiliarists and guests welcome.

Mark your calendar and plan on attending the first division fellowship event of the year.

Note

We are trying something new this year! Tickets are reduced but each household is asked to donate a useful or fun item to be auctioned at the end of the evening i.e. your unwanted Christmas gifts.

Call Bill Harris 654773-3809
Or Rick Hollenbach 715386-0565
For information.

GEEDUNK

by Chief Jeff Hobrath



"Stealth Carrier"