

TOPSIDE

DECEMBER
JANUARY
1946-47

COMMODORE
W. LYLE HOLMES, JR.
U. S. C. G. A.



FOURTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

TOPSIDE

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
FOURTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

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District Coast Guard Officer

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TOPSIDE is the official publication of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, 4th Coast Guard District. It is issued monthly to approximately 2000 members. Contents not copyrighted, but the courtesy of a credit line is requested when material is reprinted. Address all communications regarding TOPSIDE to Jerry Marcus, 642 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia 30, Pa.

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PURPOSES OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

- (1) To promote safety and to effect rescues on and over the high seas and on navigable waters;
- (2) To promote efficiency in the operation of motorboats and yachts;
- (3) To foster a wider knowledge of, and better compliance with, the laws, rules and regulations governing the operation of motorboats and yachts; and
- (4) To facilitate other operations of the Coast Guard.

NEXT DEADLINE FOR TOPSIDE

13 JANUARY

Send copy and photos to

JERRY MARCUS

642 N. BROAD ST., PHILA., PA.

If your flotilla is not represented in the LOG, get after your publication officer. We'll print it, if he sends it in.

The Director's Scratch Pad



Commander Hewins

The Commodores' Ball was enjoyed by at least one couple after the speeches were taken care of and the party got fully underway.

It appears that the coronation was generally well done with no major misplays along the line of march. The outstanding part of the whole affair was the headaches of the committee, headed by Travis Coxe, caused by the reluctance of the members to let anyone know their plans to attend up to the final minutes before the starting gun.

Admiral Farley has now come out with a clear-cut directive which puts plenty of teeth in the boarding program. We have all we need now to go to work on our end and make the public service of the Auxiliary pay off in increased membership for all participating Flotillas. The Chairmen of the membership committees should see to it that their members are on hand at the boat inspection stations to snap up the prospects as they appear.

The 83464 has been assigned to this office for use by the Auxiliary from now on, so it is now necessary that the Flotillas produce some support to an activity they have long demanded. It is thought that this is not the only craft we will have to schedule during the spring and summer to come. In this connection it might be stated that the 464 will not be seen underway in any condition less than could be expected of "Astor's pet horse." It is expected that she will always be ready to get underway.

There are two important conferences coming up in the near future. A study of the *Florence V* and her future in the Auxiliary is necessary from a financial point of view. The finances of the entire District are tied up in this investment and serious consideration of both the value of the vessel to us and our future financial condition depends on the outcome of this conference. The second scheduled meeting will be of paramount importance. This will be the meeting of the Flotilla Commanders and Training Officers. It is essential that all concerned be present for these gatherings. Be on the lookout for notices and give them prompt and affirmative response.

We are glad to note that some definite progress is being made in the communications group. The field tests have indicated that a degree of mobility can be counted on in future operations and one ham-test has been conducted by the net on amateur frequencies. The first of a series of tests on the District working frequency is scheduled for the 16th of December and will be finished prior to this issue going to press.

This office is in receipt of a communication from the Puerto Rico District which tells of the organization of a Flotilla of fifteen planes. This new unit is charged with an important part of the disaster relief plan of the Auxiliary there in the West Indies and is closely coordinated with the communications and marine sections. Down in that country the hurricane is something real and close to the lives of all the inhabitants.

Our aviation plans are taking shape through the method of discarding unsuitable schemes and working toward a workable system. The Aviation staff officer is plugging away at the future of our flying group with no rash statements and can be relied upon to come out with a sound program shortly after the holiday season.

NEW OFFICERS APPOINTED TO USCGA FOUNDATION, 4ND

Since numerous vacancies in the membership of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Fourth Naval District, Foundation, exist, by reason of expiration of terms of office and other causes, and in order to ensure the proper functioning of the organization for the best interests of all the members, it was necessary that these vacancies be filled.

Therefore, on the second day of December, 1946, Spencer F. Hewins, Commander, U. S. Coast Guard, Director, U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Fourth Coast Guard District, by virtue of the authority vested in him by and under the charter and by-laws of the Coast Guard Auxiliary,

Fourth Naval District, Foundation, did appoint as members of the said Coast Guard Auxiliary, Fourth Naval District, Foundation:

H. Earl Huston, reappointed; F. Travis Cox, reappointed; Bertram K. Wolfe, reappointed; W. Lyle Holmes, vice Richard W. Nelms, relieved; Harry R. Vandegrift, vice Henry L. Schimpf, Jr., relieved; William N. Feaster, vice A. K. Brouwer, relieved; Philip W. Ziegler, vice Frank B. Hine, relieved; G. Frazer Hadley, William H. Burdge, Walter T. Whitehead, and Charles H. Sprowles.

CABIN TALK

BY THE
COMMODORE



With elections past and new officers at the helm it is appropriate to study the problems ahead of us in 1947. We must find solutions that will result in an Auxiliary second to none in the country. The 4th District under past officers has been outstanding and only continuing effort will keep us to the fore.

It is my plan to bring to your attention each month some particular part of our activities. The success of the Auxiliary is not and never will be due to the sincere efforts of a few men. What those few men can do will get us by, but an outstanding job can only be done by the combined efforts of a larger number.

At the head of my list is our magazine TOPSIDE. With the exception of the Flotilla Publicity Officers, Editor Jerry Marcus has been carrying on for many months with help from a few members. We all appreciate their work and I hope they will continue to serve. I think you will agree that TOPSIDE could and should be a better magazine. But Jerry and a few others can't do all that could be done. Jerry needs more help than he has had. I am certain that somewhere within our membership there are men with enough pride in their Auxiliary to be willing to devote a little time each month helping the Editor. And I mean each month! In and outers can't be depended upon and only a continuing effort will get results.

We need a number of Associate Editors to undertake special features. If I have been able to arouse your desire to help just drop me a note at Erie Ave. & K St., Phila. 24, Pa. Something to the general effect of "Commodore, you can count on me for TOPSIDE."

In the near future I will call a conference of those interested in helping in order that the situation can be discussed with the Editor and a program developed.

We need men from each division so do not let distance deter you from giving a "Heave-ho" in pulling up TOPSIDE to where it belongs—at the top of all District Magazines.

W. LYLE HOLMES, JR.

THE FIRST ANNUAL COMMODORES' BALL

DECEMBER 1946

Starting off with cocktails at 1830, the First Annual Commodores' Ball carried through the balance of Friday, December 16 and went well into Saturday morning. The scene of activity became slightly vague about midnight and some difficulty is being experienced by your correspondent in obtaining a clear picture of events after that time. It seems though, that the success of the party was undiminished.

After a preliminary of cocktails and renewal of old acquaintanceships, the dinner got underway at the scheduled hour, a matter greatly influenced by the arrival of most participants on or before the hour set to commence hostilities. In fact, the attitude of the entire gathering was that a good time was in order and nothing was going to deter them from that end. Nor did it.

Coast Guard Headquarters was represented by the Assistant Commandant, Admiral Merlin O'Neill and Mrs. O'Neill, Admiral C. H. Jones, Captain and Mrs. C. A. Anderson. Admiral Jones was accompanied by Mrs. Ruth Hendricks, formerly in the Auxiliary office of the Third District as Lieutenant Commander Hendricks. All of our guests were generous in their praise of the party and seemed to enjoy every minute of the proceedings.

The business of the meeting was



Commodore Earl Huston "swears in"
Commodore W. Lyle Holmes

held down to a minimum to make time for the general pleasure of the gathering. Commodore Earl Huston took the opportunity to thank his staff for their hard work during the year and handed the job of leading the Auxiliary over to Commodore Lyle Holmes (it seemed

with a sigh of relief). The incoming Commodore was seen holding the bag firmly with both hands, just as the photographer ran out of film. The assembly was privileged to see a group of new officers, sworn in to leadership of the Auxiliary, that have accepted the responsibilities involved with open arms and the determination to expand our organization to its wartime strength and prestige. Under such leadership, the future can be faced with the greatest confidence.

This Ball is regarded, by many that attended, as the most successful uniformed gathering staged in Philadelphia for many years. In any event, it can be considered to be, like the dog show, a howling success. Those that missed the affair are to be pitied, not censured, and should determine now, not to be among the missing at the next one.



Left to Right: Captain Mauerman, USCG; Commander Hewins, USCG; Commodore Earl Huston, USCGA; Admiral O'Neill, USCG; Captain Sexton, USCG.

RADIO COMMUNICATION DRILL

LOG OF TRIP TO WRIGHTSVILLE, COLUMBIA, PA.

By WILLIAM L. YINGST, District Auxiliary Communications Officer

1. Left Camden 1215, stopped at Dist. Office 210 W. Washington Sq. to pick up Lt. J. L. Mitchell and chief E. J. Lincoln, in Aux. truck 8554, left Dist. Office at 1235, headed toward rendezvous. Arrived at Wrightsville, Penna. at 1615. Quarters were obtained for eleven (11) men at Fogelstanger Cabins about one mile out of Wrightsville, good beds, plenty of heat.

After a good night's sleep transmitters were all ready for operation before we went to breakfast.

2. At approximately 0900 men began arriving from various points of the district. Also had three (3) men who were sent by their Commanding Officer from the 899 AAA Nat. Guard to observe and participate in the drill work, altogether thirty-three (33) men were logged in.

3. Five (5) men had their cars equipped with B-19 tank transmitters. They were:

Clyde Ellis, from 31 Ocean City, N.J.
George Wakefield, from 27 Salem, N.J.

Boucher, from 22 Essington,
W. E. Gibson, from 22 Essington,



District Aux. Comm. Truck, equipped with 2 Transmitters and Receivers, 1 battery operated, 1 AC power, 50 watts output.

L. E. Mayward, from 52 Lancaster, Pa.

By using the crystal calibrator we were able to set up units on frequency and men were dispatched to various vantage points in the vicinity; each unit had an official call assigned and an official dispatch to send back to the Comm. Center, which was manned entirely by the Auxiliary from our own dist. truck, with the mobile units sending their dispatches by relay to Comm. Center. Good communication was held all day in spite of the rain, which has happened every time we made

a trip into this area.

4. Lt. J. L. Mitchell was very well satisfied with the results of the day's work. Also he inspected the five mobile units.
5. We broke camp about 1400, had another good dinner and headed for home more than satisfied with the results.
6. In conclusion, the men who participated in this drill were well pleased with the way communicating worked and are more than willing now to study up on their procedure so that they will be more proficient in the future.
7. We are very desirous of getting as many amateurs into the Auxiliary as possible. Their stations will be inspected by the Coast Guard Communications Office and call signs assigned, so that drills and nets will be set up on an official communication basis. In fact, four stations have been inspected thus far. They are: J. B. H. Bougher of Cape May, N.J.; R. Huntley, Millville, N.J.; George Wakefield, Wenonah, N.J.; C. Oberst, Swedesboro, N.J. Call signs designating them as net control stations.



30 Auxiliary Comm. Men and the Chief of Radio Comm., Lt. James L. Mitchell, and E. J. Lincoln, CRM, also 3 men from 899 AAA Battery, Nat'l Guard of Penna.



C.G. Comm. Truck and the Dist. Comm. Truck set up for operation in Wrightsville, Pa.

ATTENTION — ALL DIVISION AND FLOTILLA COMMANDING OFFICERS

The Director is anxious to have a complete list of Division and Flotilla Officers, with addresses, home and business telephone numbers. Also, usual night of the month for Division meeting, Flotilla business meeting, and place of meeting.

File your report as soon as possible so that District Office records can be brought up to date.

The **LOG** of FLOTILLA ACTIVITIES

FLOTILLA 13, SEASIDE PARK

The annual election of officers of Flotilla 13 was held at a meeting called for that purpose on 4 December, at Sunset Cabin, Lakewood. Our Commanding Officer, William H. Burdge, organizer and only Commander of Flotilla 13 throughout its six-year history, was adamant in his refusal to accept re-election, though against his wishes he had been persuaded to continue last year when he sought to retire.

All our members realize the burden Commander Burdge has borne, especially during the years of the Temporary Reserve, and appreciate his devotion to the interests of the Flotilla and his impartial, efficient administration of its activities. Plans are being made for a dinner in his honor in January.

The nominating committee's slate of officers was unanimously elected. This means that the Flotilla will in 1947 be in the hands of Lloyd A. Case, promoted from Executive Officer to Commanding Officer; Charles H. Sutorius, moved up from Training Officer to Executive Officer; and Maurice W. Brink, Training Officer. John P. Arthur, Secretary, and Victor H. Panek, Treasurer, were re-elected.

Commander Case, who is now a year-round resident of Normandy Beach, has declared himself in favor of the policies sponsored by Past Commander Burdge. He has appointed committees to plan a budget for the outfit, to enlarge its social activities, to cooperate with the Coast Guard in matters of boarding and inspection, to consider acquisition of a boat or boats, and to collaborate with David Grimes Chapter of the Coast Guard League.

The regular January business meeting will be held, as in the war years, aboard the good ship Seaside Park School on Wednesday, 8 January. The dinner meeting in honor of Past Commander Burdge is tentatively set for Wednesday, 22 January, and details will be settled at the business meeting.

—Victor H. Panek, Publicity Officer

FLOTILLA 22, ESSINGTON

Monday night, December 30, will be the last Flotilla meeting for 1946. This

meeting will also feature the installation of our new officers for the coming year.

Commander, Harry P. Hyatt.

Vice-Com'der, William Cooper.

Training Officer, Claude S. Brubaker.

Staff Officers, Crew Chiefs, and Committees will be named at the December meeting.

During the November meeting, Mr. Swink reported on a staff meeting, outlining the Auxiliary program for 1947. Special training courses will be offered for those making up the boarding parties.

At a meeting held in Springfield, November 11, moving pictures, loaned to us by the District Office, were shown. Those attending saw pictures on resuscitation. Two methods were demonstrated. One, the six-man team fostered by the Coast Guard; the other was called the Official Prone-Pressure Coast Guard Method. Other pictures shown were:

The Use of the Breeches Buoy

The True Glory

Boxing

Camera Magic

Rules of the Road

The last-named film will be made available to us for the December meeting, and is one of the finest educational films of its type. It shows (in color) practical examples of exact distinctions between burdened vessels and privileged vessels. Whistle and horn signals are demonstrated. The sequence showing the position of lights on different types of vessels completes the film.

"Aids to Navigation" is the name of

another picture which will be loaned to us for the December meeting. We are planning to use these educational and training films in conjunction with Mr. Brubaker's educational program.

The Communications Group is one of the most active and progressive units in the Flotilla. Bill Gibson advises us of the following: *Williamson and Lahm have purchased transmitters which they will get set up in the near future, and as soon as these sets have been inspected our Flotilla will have four transmitters on the air.*

The Third District plans to start a communications group, and as soon as the ground work is done, the Fourth District Group will go over to the Third District to work with them on a combined field test.

—Martin J. Sandberg,
Public Relations Officer.

FLOTILLA 23, DREDGE HARBOR

The December meeting of Flotilla 23 was held the second Tuesday at the Naval Militia Armory.

Commander Knorr urged all members to actively participate in a membership drive to bring along any men interested in our peace-time aims.

All members holding keys to Harvey Cedars were requested to turn them in as locks are to be changed. The base will be closed during the winter because of heating problems and will re-open in the spring.

Announcement was made that an 83 ft. cutter is being assigned to the Glou-



Since 1921, we have handled over TEN THOUSAND Boats for HUNDREDS of satisfied owners. Our equipment has been improved, and improved again, until we have the best boat handling equipment in this section. All boats are handled on steel tracks, from the time they settle on the cradle in the water until they reach their position in the Yard. No rollers or wood skids to strain your boat (see picture above). At launching time, you do not have to wait for the boat next to you to get ready to launch or have to pay a charge to move it. You go over when you are ready, of course, subject to launching schedule and weather.

ESSINGTON YACHT YARD

ESSINGTON, PA. TINICUM 4028-4029
OUR MARINE STORE IS OPEN SUNDAYS

chester Base for use of auxiliarists for river patrol duty this coming summer. All members interested in duty on the cutter must report to the Gloucester Base on the 4th or 5th of January at 0900 to be certified by Commander Hewins as being capable of acting as Skipper or Chief Motor Machinist. Other crew members do not have to report at this time.

It appears highly probable that with the advent of spring auxiliarists will again be called on to aid the regular Coast Guard at various stations.

There will be no social night at the Legion Hall during December. However, plans are under way for a party for members and their wives during January.

The business meeting ended with the arrival of a most convincing Santa Claus. Word is out that Walt Jones spent some time growing and bleaching a beard. The red nose was natural. His pack contained many interesting gifts for the second generation.

—Paul W. Carleton, Jr.,
Publicity Officer.

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FLOTILLA 24, DELAWARE RIVER

On several occasions we have tried to learn something about the Coast Guard League, but always without results. It seems that no one knew the answers and we at 24 could see no reason for becoming members.

The recent convention of the League, held in Philadelphia, was attended by two of our men who reported favorably concerning the League and its objectives. We were also fortunate in having as a speaker at our December meeting, Mr. John P. Henrie, one of the organizers at Washington, who answered our questions so thoroughly that we will devote most of our January meeting to completing our chapter.

The League now boasts of some 19,000 members and is still growing. These men are of course interested in the Coast Guard, and the League's main purpose is to aid the regular service.

The League has already taken strides to aid the Regulars by sending games, food, fishing tackle, etc., to men stationed at an isolated outpost somewhere up Alaska way. These men were practically out of touch with civilization and have praised the League no end for the increased morale their letters and packages have brought them.

Flotilla 24 is convinced that the Coast Guard League is a sure-fire organization and that the League needs us. The Regular Service knows, too, that the Coast Guard needs the League. It is probably their best hope of getting the men and equipment they so badly need.

DISTRICT STAFF APPOINTMENTS

It gives me great pleasure to announce the following appointments to the District Staff:

Aviation Officer	SIDNEY S. BLAKE
Communications Officer	WM. L. YINGST
Finance Officer	F. TRAVIS COXE
Legal Officer	BERTRAM K. WOLFE
Legislation Officer	STERLING G. MCNEES
Membership Officer	JOHN J. SADER
Publications Officer	JEROME M. MARCUS
Training Vessel Officer	JOHN W. BROWN
Vessel Inspection Officer	FRANK H. RIEPEN

I have confidence in them and know they will faithfully discharge the duties of their various offices.

All of these men have been active in the Auxiliary for many years. Their knowledge, earnestness and capabilities are well known throughout the district.

In looking forward to 1947, I anticipate a year of complete co-operation from the staff and trust all Division and Flotilla officers will be ready and willing to assist when requested.

W. LYLE HOLMES, JR.,
Commodore.

So, to all Flotilla members who are interested in the future of the Coast Guard, the men of 24 urge you to do as we are doing: start a chapter of your own or join one already formed. You'll be helping yourself as well as the Regulars, who cannot continue to save lives and boats without men and equipment.

—Edward P. Willard, Publicity Officer.

• • •

FLOTILLA 25, FARRAGUT

The December meeting was held at the Delaware Gardens Fire Hall, Pennsauken. It was Monte Carlo night for the members, prepared by Ed Cox and his committee. A gay time was had by all, especially the winners, Pearl, Sharpless, Davis and Bianin, who came out on top with all the money. Let's have more of this kind of entertainment.

On the serious side, which preceded the social affair, Elmer Jackson Pearl was sworn in as new Commander for the year 1947, followed by James McHenry, Jr. and Samuel P. Hunt, Jr. as Vice-Commander and Training Officer, respectively. Secretary James H. Mears and Treasurer George C. Helker were appointed by the new commander.

A lot of credit must be given our past officers Clair C. Bowden, Edward

(Continued on Page 8)

COMPLETE MARINE INSURANCE

• CASUALTY

• FIRE

• BONDING

Marine Boat Inspections and
Quotations Cheerfully Given

JOHN M. HAYS

1528 WALNUT STREET

LOG

(Continued from Page 7)

A. L. Cox, and Fred Branin. These men did a swell job in keeping the Flotilla afloat. Many a stormy night was encountered but with loyal "Cy" at the wheel and his able bodied crew everything became smooth sailing again.

Ratings are still being earned by none other than Hunt and Cox, who are now Chief Boatswain Mates; Dick Davis to Chief Motor Machinist's Mate; and Tom Maguire, Conrad Deuter, Stephen Holmes, who became Boatswains 1/c.

The U. S. Coast Guard Repair Base at Gloucester will be our place of meeting, temporarily at least, every Monday night at 8:30 P.M., until further notice.

Commander Pearl, while attending the Commodore's dinner and dance at the Ritz-Carlton, Philadelphia, met a few of the new commanders of the other flotillas, who have the same feeling as our commander, that there should be some inter-flotilla activities. A little more get-together of one flotilla with another. What do you other fellows think? Let's hear from you.

With an 83-foot training boat on the way to the Gloucester Base, there will be plenty of training being scheduled for this spring.

Courtesy Boarding Program means a lot of Monday evenings at the Gloucester Base learning the correct procedure in how, why and where.

Come on, fellows, this is what you have been wanting—action. In all, this spring expects to be a big year in the 4th Coast Guard District among the Auxiliary. Are you going to be with us or just sit back and do nothing to make this program a success?

Meeting at Gloucester Base (the old Immigration Building), Gloucester.

—James McHenry, Jr., Publicity Officer.

• • • FLOTILLA 31, OCEAN CITY

Some members of this Flotilla have formed a rifle and pistol group known as the "Flotilla 31 Gun Club" and have applied for a National Rifle Association Charter under the sponsorship of the Flotilla's Foundation.

This group is meeting twice weekly at the Longport (N.J.) Police Range, in the Borough Hall, having business meetings and matches on Monday nights and practice matches on Saturday nights.

Recently they had a very enjoyable pistol match with Maurice River's (Flotilla 34) team who were splendid sportsmen and did a grand job on the range, considering that they lack the experience of Flotilla 31.

THE 'I'M ON THE TRAILER



Don Sheard and Phil Modelle

I'm only 18 feet long, but I'm tough, rough and ready, taking all the Lower Delaware Bay has to offer, and coming back for more. But it's now the time of the year for me to be hauled out and taken home for my winter's rest. The weather has been very unsettled and the water here in the Fortescue Creek has been so cold that my goose pimples were beginning to look more like barnacles than the ornery little devils themselves.

Saturday afternoon Dom Dalesandro, my owner, came down with a friend, Don Sheard, to look things over and see where they could haul me out without breaking my back. It was dead low tide, and they moved me under the bridge to the bay side. I can't quite squeeze under at high tide—and ran my nose in the deepest mud flat they could find, and then left me.

As they walked away I heard them mumbling in their beards about finding a spot where they could get the trailer close to the water, far down the creek. And they were cussing the tide for be-

ing high so early the next morning. Said they didn't feel like getting up at 6:00 on a Sunday morning just to haul out a blankety blank boat, it wasn't worth it, etc. I guess they had forgotten all the times they had awakened me early during the summer. And then rushed me off down the creek before I could get my breath—almost choked me to death they did—running me through the mud cutting corners between reaches, bouncing me back and forth amongst the oyster stakes; and all because they were in a rush to get some fishin'. But that's a man for you. No matter how you try to please him, you can't do it. No gratitude at all.

About 7:30 next morning an atomic bomb exploded above me—my mistake—it was just Dom with his truck and trailer coming over the bridge. Dom and Don came aboard and started me down the creek—after splicing the main brace and saluting the quarter-deck, of course—in an early morning fog. Worst I remember seeing, couldn't see my stem block before my porthole. In the



Easy Does It

They had a return match on Nov. 25th at the National Guard's Armory near Vineland—the competition was really keen!

Next on these "Sandy-footed-gun-toters'" schedule was a Turkey Shoot on Dec. 21st at Longport that was open to everyone; skilled shooters and "lucky potters" alike.

The gang in this Flotilla usually has something on ice for excitement, but they can ALWAYS rely on Nyman's "bitching" when things grow dull. Incidentally, now he is shooting cigarettes out of the mouths of clothes-pins with both eyes open!

We just called Bob Merford to blow out our ears by hearing his dulcet tones again. Some of you guys may know that Bob was elected as Commander for the coming year to take over where Dick Gifford left off. And maybe you know Paul Ake was elected Vice-Commander and Ted Seidel as Training Officer.

Most of you all probably don't know a thing about all this, so we're giving it to you straight from the feed-bag.

Bob allows as how an innovation will be the naming of a Flotilla Chaplain to open and close each meeting with an invocation and a benediction. Frank Carter is slated for this post.

The boat boarding and inspection program will require qualified men to serve on the teams and about one hour of intensive training will be given at each meeting to further this.

So, this may be considered the off season for Auxiliary affairs, but you'd better keep your hand in if you want any cake next summer.

—E. L. Johnstone, Publicity Officer.

• • • FLOTILLA 35, CAPE MAY

At our weekly meeting on Thursday, 5 December, 1946, the following officers

AGAIN BLUES''

meantime Phil Modelle, another summer time fisherman self-converted to a dry-dock expert, took the truck on down to the scene of the crime.

It was a Spring tide, and the spot on the bank they had picked was under about a foot of water. I was coasting in nicely between two mooring posts just off the bank when Dom suddenly jammed the throttle open the limit. Naturally I jumped, what girl wouldn't, and drove myself right up on the bank for about 20 feet, just as if I were first cousin to an assault boat. But my dignity was dealt a severe blow by a cedar piling protruding about six inches from the sand, just inside the edge of the bank. Dom saw it yesterday at low tide, but his memory being about as short as my exhaust pipe, he had forgotten all about it.

That post caught me just about my third rib and scraped my side clear down to my girdle (you can censor this if you want to, Jerry), and threw me over on my side so that I took in about ten gallons of cold salt water, and almost tossed Dom and Don overboard. But I finally righted myself and settled down in the sand.

From there on in it was just a matter of brute strength; the boys trying their best to pull off my forward deck with a tow cable from the truck, and to stave my sides in with crow bars. With me pulling against them with my full weight all the way. But they finally rolled me on the trailer and started through the sand for the road. Trying to get the last word in, I broke one of the planks

were elected to direct the Flotilla for the year 1947:

Donald Lear, Commander.

Frank W. Hughes, Executive Officer.

Andrew Knopp, Training Officer.

The two top officers have done such a fine job in the past year there was no alternative than to re-elect them for another year. Our Training Officer, Harry Collins, has been hospitalized for some time and due to his unfortunate absence, Andy Knopp was elected to fill the job of Training Officer. The boys have sure missed our good friend

By PATTY ANN, Flotilla 34



'Ats A Good Girl

under the trailer wheels; which promptly proceeded to give me a mighty smack on my skeg, and bent my rudder post almost double. Right then and there I gave up, and was towed quietly home to Vineland without any more argument. They played too rough to suit me.

So here I am, on a trailer in the back yard, with nothing to look forward to for the next four months, but a lot of scraping, sanding, painting, cussin', and general overhauling. I'm telling you—what we girls have to put up with is just awful. But I'll get back at them next summer when I take away their appetites by rolling them in the trough, and making them miserable and wet by dumping half the bay on them over the port bow as I take them home through a squall.

See you then.

Lyrics by Patty Ann, 11M-956, one of the few surviving facilities of Flotilla 34.

Harry and elected him honorary Commander for next year. We all hope it will be possible to have Harry back with us in the very near future. Congratulations, newly elected officers, may you GO GET 'EM IN '47.

It may be the end of the year, but it doesn't mean the end of work for 35. We are on the air with our newly assigned call letters for our radio. Being the first Flotilla in the 4th District to be given call letters we of course are mighty proud. Our new letters are NA4AA and NA4AB, the first of these calls to be used only when the station is in operation as a net control unit; otherwise the latter call letters are used for regular transmission. At our meeting of Thursday, 12 Dec., "Skipper" Bouher held a three-way conversation "Ham Fest" with Flotilla 24 station, W2TLM, operated by George Wakefield, and Flotilla 34 station, W2PBV, operated by Larry Obert. This conversa-

tion was carried on by "KEY" and lasted from 2000 to 2048. THE AUXILIARY IS ON THE AIR. This outstanding work in radio can be credited to the untiring efforts of "Skipper" Bouher, our very able and competent Communications Officer. "Skipper", as mentioned in other publications is also very talented in the instruction of celestial navigation, and for the past few weeks has had the boys standing on their heads shooting stars.

Our drive for new members still continues and we are glad to welcome aboard the following new candidates: Milton Deputy and Walter Rubsamen. Our two new applicants are co-owners of a 40-ft. party fishing boat, which has been inspected and passed by our Flotilla Committee.

Congratulations to our newly elected Division and District officers and may we offer them our whole hearted support for the coming year.

—Andy Knopp, Public Relations Officer.

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FLOTILLA 41, WILMINGTON

Flotilla 41 held its annual election of officers at the base at Edgemoor on the night of 5 December. The following were elected:

Commander—Henry Steinle.

Vice-Commander—George Lyons.

Training Officer—Jim Benton.

The election was followed by a fine program of training and recreational films. Refreshments were served after the program. The evening was declared a great success by both the members and our invited guests from the base and buoy tender personnel.

Commander Steinle expects to have a full program and plenty of activities for everyone during the coming year. He will announce his staff appointments in a bulletin to be sent to Flotilla 41 members before the January meeting, which will be held on 9 January, 1947.

Division Vice-Captain Jim McCloskey attended the Commodore's Banquet on 7 December and reports that he had a swell time.

For the present, activities at the Auxiliary Training Base at Hance's Point are in the usual winter season dormant state, but a full scale program for the coming spring and summer season is now being planned. Many guests are expected at the base next summer and plenty of mooring facilities will be provided in addition to the other recreational activities possible with those now there.

—James W. Laughlin,
Public Relations Officer.

(Continued on Page 10)

Editor's Note . . .

**HEY, ANDY,
HOW ABOUT
SOME PICTURES
DOWN CAPE
MAY WAY?**

LOG

(Continued from Page 9)

FLOTILLA 51, READING

Theodore Cuyler, 3rd, former district training officer, was nominated for commander of the Reading Flotilla, as the organization formally received a charter from the Berks County court incorporating the Reading training base. The ceremonies took place after a dinner in the Wyomissing Club as Philip W. Ziegler relinquished leadership of the group, which he guided during the war years. Other officers nominated were: Richard G. Kemp, vice-commander; O. Eugene Dellinger, training officer; Charles M. Seitzinger, secretary; C. Robert Eiseman, treasurer; Carl E. Keefer and Samuel H. Rothermel, executive committee members. Several city officials witnessed the ceremony. Attorney Charles R. Sheidy, Jr. presented the charter, recently signed by Judge Warren K. Hess, to his fellow members of the Flotilla.

Possession of the charter makes it possible for the Flotilla to lease from the city the former Shepp farm, along the Schuylkill River, as a base for its operations and to acquire from the government radio equipment for the setting up of a central communications system to be used in emergencies such as floods. Councilman Jerome J. Stabb, head of the department of parks and public property, informed the group that the city's legal department is taking steps to make the property available to the Flotilla by January 1. Councilman Charles M. Stoner related how the idea of using the Shepp farm for the purpose occurred to him when he was approached months ago by Eugene R. Andes, who headed the committee working with city officials. Reading is expected to be the center of an eastern Pennsylvania radio control system to be used by the Coast Guard for flood work and other disasters, explained Commander Spencer F. Hewins, director of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Other speakers were Commander R. R. Waesche, a son of the late head of the Coast Guard, who illustrated a talk on "Loran and Radar" with motion pictures, and Commander J. Bennett Nolan, of Reading, who described his air trip to England with Gen. Carl Spaatz, head of the Army Air Force, and his meeting Winston Churchill.

Because the Reading Training Base, Inc., must have a separate group of officers, the following nominating committee was named by the retiring commander to report at the December meeting: Andes, chairman; Kemp and David



The Skipper Smiles For Us

It has been suggested that an article on sailing would be interesting—a simple explanation of the handling of small craft, rather than the intricacies of some

difficult maneuver which would be read, perhaps, by the dyed-in-the-canvas sailor, but not by those who contemplate trying or buying a sailing dink for afternoon fun.

It is useless to talk sailing unless the reader understands some of the nomenclature, and nothing is worse than to hear a boat described as a "ketch-rigged schooner," as was termed a vessel aground recently on the Jersey shore, or to describe a lady "in the shade of the mainsheet," the latter being a line not a sail. Let us then consider the names of the common sailing rigs in use today:

The names apply to the arrangements of the sails, not to the hulls, and are applicable whether the sails be Marconi (jibheaded) or with a gaff, as are the cat and the foresail of the schooner below, although a schooner may have a Marconi foresail. The mast in the cutter is more nearly amidship in the cut-



CAT

SLOOP

CUTTER

Witman. A committee to draw up by-laws consists of Keefer, James P. Snyder, Rothermel and Sheidy. Otto Schumann was introduced as a prospective member.

A number of Readingites witnessed Ziegler sworn in as captain of the Fourth and Fifth Divisions, and Hendrik Wentink, training officer of the same units at the Commodore's Dinner at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Philadelphia. Those in the party were Mr. and Mrs. Cuyler, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. James P. Snyder, Rothermel, Kemp and Ralph Kauffman.

—Matthew P. Romanski,
Publicity Officer.

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FLOTILLA 52, LANCASTER

With the coming new year we also find new officers. Those newly elected at the last meeting of 1946 were: Jack P. Schleenbaker, Commander; James F.

Smith, Vice-Commander, and Joseph R. Forrest, Training Officer. These fellows were very appropriately chosen for their respective offices and we all know we will have good leadership for the year 1947.

Our retiring commander, Ralph A. Taylor, has served the past two years very faithfully and we all appreciate his guidance and perseverance in keeping us together during the trying times which followed our disenrollment. Ralph's new assignment is Vice-Captain of the Fifth Division.

Among others to take new offices or positions are: O. L. Williams and Wm. L. Bomberger as members of Flotilla 52 Executive Committee and Park Bohm, chairman of the Grounds Committee at the Hance's Point Base.

We have recently been challenged to a basketball game by the Lancaster Battery, 899th AAA Weapons Battalion, so Commander Taylor immediately got

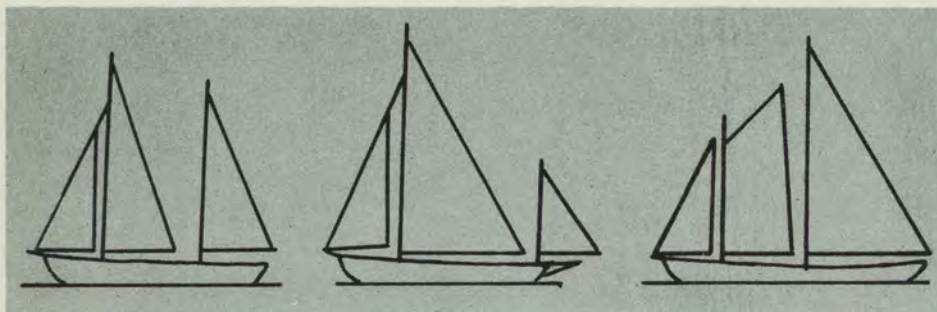
(Continued on Page 11)

BY A. S. "PETE" BAUER
SKIPPER OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS



ter than in the sloop, and, although there are very few of the real English cutter types about, cutters generally carry a flying jib in addition to the stay-sail. Anyone of the below without a

bow-sprit is termed "knockabout." The yawl has a much smaller aft, or mizzen sail than has the ketch, in proportion, and the mizzen mast is near the aft water line.



KETCH

YAWL

SCHOONER

REPORTS ARE LOUD...FROM PISTOL TEAMS

It seems to be a growing activity among many flotillas, to organize pistol teams and challenge other teams. As you can see in this issue of TOPSIDE, several of such matches have already taken place. Any flotillas who wish to enter into a district or division wide competition, should advise the Editor and we will try to get such a schedule set up.

HOW ABOUT A "PICTURE PARADE" OF AUXILIARY FACILITIES?

Most organizations, the size of ours, have a running record complete with pictures of the facilities for all members to see.

Your editor would like to run such a column in TOPSIDE.

How about everybody pitching in and making it possible.

Here's all you have to do . . . send in a photo of your boat or radio station, or if you are one of the "bird-men" — your plane. Also let us have a short description (about 50 words).

All the men are anxious to see what the other fellow has, so let's show our "Pride and Joy."



*This is as much as I can lengthen it, dearie—
and I'm sure it won't reach.*

LOG (Continued)

Rod Hawthorne and F. Saxinger busy on the sports aspects of Flotilla 52. Lo and behold, they came up with a bowling team, a volley ball team and a basketball team, so look out, 4th CG District, here we come! All challenges accepted.

Flotilla 52 extends to all flotillas the Season's Greetings, Good Health, Good Fortune and Happy Sailing in '47.

—Wm. L. Bomberger,
Public Relations Officer.

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LOOK . . . THEN ASK!



Look around you, next time you go down to the boat yard. Perhaps there are some new-comers who have not yet been invited to join the Auxiliary.

Let's not be so immersed in our organization that we forget to invite new members to the ranks.

In order for the Auxiliary to continue to hold its place among the leading "boating-man's" organizations, we must have new members coming in all the time.

Each week there are many new owners who have never had a boat, each week scores of old-timers are once again "buyin' a boat." Get to these fellows . . . invite them up to your flotilla meeting, they will be just as anxious to join up as you were . . . remember?

The same goes for "Hams." You fellows in the Communications Division . . . when you get on the air on Sunday afternoon . . . talk up the Auxiliary during all those QSO's.

We have about 2,000 members at this writing, let's double it by the end of 1947!

If every present Auxiliary member will make it his personal responsibility to bring in JUST ONE NEW MEMBER . . . voila! the trick, she is done.

BEST WISHES FOR THE
NEW YEAR
FROM
TOPSIDE'S EDITOR AND STAFF

