



Homeland Security

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Vessel Examinations Department

To: VCO Michael L. Williams D11NR
From: Michael J. Lauro – DSO-VE 11NR
Cc: DCO Victor J. Connell, IPDCO Eric Jacobson, DIRAUX, All RCO's,
 All DCPs, All DSO's, ADSO-VE, and All SO-VE's
Subject: DSO-VE Report



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM: February 2008

-DIVISION 1 SAN FRANCISCO NORTH (Richard Saber SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 1-2 Reports 36 VSC's

Flotilla 1-4 Reports 26 VSC's

Flotilla 1-5 Reports No VSC activity

Flotilla 1-7 Reports 19 VSC's

Flotilla 1-9 Reports 5 VCS's

Summary of activities conducted in this period:

Flotilla 1-2 held VSC weekend at Corinthian Y.C. & Paradise Cay group 9-10 February.

Flotilla 1-4 CANCELLED VSC day (20 boats) due to problems with UPV interpretation.

VSC total above reflects 2 passed Facilities

Activities planned for the next 30 days:

Flotilla 1-4 had to cancel a 20 vessel planned inspection due to new interpretation of fleet being considered UPV's by MS. This greatly hampered an opportunity. There is a definite need for UPV training to correct this deficiency.

VSC COUNT YTD: 98

VSC COUNT PYTD: 61

-DIVISION 3 CENTRAL VALLEY (James Goff SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 3-1 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 3-9 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 3-3 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 3-10 Reports No VSC activity

Flotilla 3-5 Reports 2 VSC's

Summary of activities conducted in this period:

Sacramento flotilla handled the Surf and Turf Boat Show. Many VSC cards were provided. Attempted to contact the FSO-VE officers who filed no report, but all three had their emails returned as invalid addresses. Plan to announce at the February Division meeting that all Flotilla Commanders must have their FSO-VEs provide their reports and valid email addresses.

Activities planned for the next 30 days:

Flotilla 3-5 has scheduled a dozen VSC's to be performed on the boats of the U.S. Geological Survey in Sacramento. Also, Flotilla 3-5 will be holding VSC stations at Discovery Park the last Saturday of every month from March through August. All Division 3 vessel examiners are invited to attend.

VSC COUNT YTD: 2

VSC COUNT PYTD: 0

-DIVISION 4 SAN FRANCISCO SOUTH BAY (Joaquin Duran SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 4-1 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 4-3 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 4-6 Reports no VSC activity

Flotilla 4-8 Reports no VSC activity

Flotilla 4-9 Reports 12 VSC's

Summary of activities for this period:

Flotillas 4-6, 4-8 and 4-9 have started distributing forms, pamphlets, and decals to their VE members. Flotilla 4-9 has a new VE, Jim Higuchi, who passed the VE exam at the recent PCA Fair. Jim is pending the 5 supervised VSCs, which will be scheduled for early March. Congratulations Jim !!!

Meeting on 2/26 with Flint Glines, ranger at Calero Lake, to discuss plans for combined effort at the lake this boating season. VSC Plan for our Division was approved at regular meeting on 2/27/08.

Activities planned for the next 30 days:

A training day has been scheduled for all VEs on 4/5/08. Preparing a set of guidelines for general operations at these locations. Flotilla 4-6 is planning a VSC event on March 30th 2008 in the Redwood City area.

VSC COUNT YTD: 47

VSC COUNT PYTD: 47

-DIVISION 5 SUISUN BAY (Robert Smith SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 5-1 Reports 1 VSC

Flotilla 5-2 Reports 18 VSC's

Flotilla 5-3 No Report submitted

Flotilla 5-5 Reports 1 VSC, 4 CFVE, 5 UPV's

Flotilla 5-7 Reports 12 VSC's

Summary of activities conducted in this period : Continued VSC effort.

Activities planned for next 30 days :

VSC Event at Vallejo City Ramp on 3/15/08. Flotilla 5-1 reports a scheduled VSC station

March 15th at Vallejo City Ramp. Flotilla 5-5 reports a new examiner-Ron Kram.

Congratulations Ron !!! Flotilla 5-7 reports a VSC Station scheduled mid-May at Rio-Vista.

VSC COUNT YTD: 30

VSC COUNT PYTD: 21

DIVISION 6 MONTEREY BAY (Stan Wolfberg SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 6-1 No VSC activity, 3 operational facilities

Flotilla 6-4 Reports 1 VSC

Flotilla 6-7 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 6-10 Reports 1 VSC, 3 CFVs

VSC COUNT YTD: 8

VSC COUNT PYTD: 7

DIVISION 7 UTAH (Riley Turpin SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 7-2 Reports 3 VSC's

Flotilla 7-3 Reports no VSC activity

Flotilla 7-8 Reports no VSC activity

Flotilla 7-6 Reports no VSC activity

Summary of activities conducted in this period:

Set-up a PA booth at the Utah Boat Show on Feb. 20 thru 24. Several people interested in having a VSC. Their names were taken for future contact.

Activities planned for the next 30 days: Assisting Utah State Parks booth @ the Sportsman Expo on Mar. 13-16. More VSC inquiries expected from this show.

VSC COUNT YTD: 6

VSC COUNT PYTD: 0

-DIVISION 8 NORTH COAST (Douglas R. Pohlson SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 8-6 Reports No VSC activity.

Flotilla 8-11 Reports no VSC activity.

Flotilla 8-7 Reports 1 VSC

Flotilla 8-8 Reports 2 VSC's

Summary of activities conducted in this period: Cold & Rainy Weather this month, but with Salmon Season open in Fort Bragg area, boats are going out. Crescent City and Eureka weather has been poor. Clear Lake weather and boat activity is starting to improve.

Activities planned for the next 30 days: Flotilla 8-7 reports the Whale Festival Auxiliary Booth at Point Cabrillo Light station will open 4 days in March. NSBW plans continue at all Flotilla's

VSC COUNT YTD: 3

VSC COUNT PYTD: 0

-DIVISION 10 SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY (Mike Lauro SO-VE)

Vessel Safety checks:

Flotilla 10-2 reports 157 VSC's (Jan. and Feb.)

Flotilla 10-3 Reports 23 VSCs

Flotilla 10-4 No report submitted

Flotilla 10-5 No Report Submitted

Flotilla 10-6 12 misc.VSC's

Activities conducted this period: Spring VSC stations are commencing at Lake Camanche on March 1st, and March 8th and Don Pedro. VSC station dates have been established at both facilities for the summer. Flotilla 10-03 reports 23 misc. VSC's performed. 2/16 Tony Leonardi and Bill Correll did Vessel Safety Checks for Mike Lauro's Favorite Bayliner Club at the San Joaquin Yacht Club in Bethel Island. Mike was working at the PCA and has been doing safety checks for the Club for many years. A very pleasant bunch of people.

Activities planned for next 30 days: 10-02 reports VSC events planned at Camanche and Don Pedro Lakes. 10-03 reports Blessing of the Fleet planned for April at Stockton Sailing Club. Most of in house training will be going on in March. Future dates include: April 5th - 'Blessing of the Fleet' @ Stockton Sailing Club, April 26th - VE/PA booth at B&W Marina and Resort, May 3rd - Boat Festival VE/PA Booth @ Delta Marine Services, Stockton, May 10 - Paradise Pont, May 17th - Hogan and May 18th - B&W. Marina & Resort. Flotilla 10-06 reports still in the planning stage for scheduling stations at our lakes.

VSC COUNT YTD: 254

VSC COUNT PYTD: 257

-DIVISION 11 SIERRA (Ray Ellen Wise SO-VE)

Reports no activity this month. VSC events planned at Lake Tahoe in forthcoming weeks.

VSC COUNT YTD: 0

VSC COUNT PYTD: 4

-DIVISION 12 EAST BAY (Richard Scheuerman SO-VE)

Vessel Safety Checks:

Flotilla 12-2 Reports 15 VSC's

Flotilla 12-3 Reports 13 VSC's

Flotilla 12-21 Reports 6 VSC's

Flotilla 12-91 Reports 6 VSC's

Due to bad weather, event at Ballena Yatch Club postponed for following weeks.

VSC COUNT YTD: 31

VSC COUNT PYTD: 27

-VSC Calendar

-NSBW-National Safe Boating Week-May 17th to May 24th

-VSC Mega-Weeks- ENTIRE month of June

-Vessel examiner Class at the PCA Fair August 16th and 17th-Coast Guard Island

-District Statistics*

YTD DISTRICT VSC COUNT: 421*

PYTD DISTRICT VSC COUNT: 503*

We are **6%** of the District goal of 7,500 VSC's and **84%** of 2007 production. Stats from AUXINFO* indicate that 165 or 39% of our VSC's are First Time VSC's. In addition 164 or 39% are High Risk VSC's.

*As shown in AUXINFO thru February 2008.

-District/National News

In the continuing evolution to provide information to assist both the new and experienced vessel examiners, there have several NEW additions and updates on YOUR Vessel Examiner website:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html>.

1st, I've also asked Irene Wetzel DSO-CS to add my link to the AUXINFO page instantly showing Division/District VSC activity. This page is updated every Monday morning. By simply clicking on the AUXINFO link, you will have local VSC production instantly available. Simply: If you LEFT click on your Division, it will show Flotilla activity. If you LEFT click on the Flotilla, it will show you individual flotilla member activity. There is a wealth of additional information available on this page.

2nd, 2 new power points and the Facility Manual Supplement to the VE Manual have been added to the Vessel Examiner page: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html> They can be found under:

"Qualification and Study Opportunities". The 1st is: The 1st is: VSC Review on Power Point and the 2nd is: Facility Review on Power Point. In addition, the manual is also located under: **D11NR VESSEL EXAMINER INFORMATION**.

3rd, the "How to Perform a VSC on a PWC and How to Perform a VSC on a SUB" have been refreshed reflecting new information.

4th, is a recent photo of Bill Correll and Tony Leonardi from 10-03 along with the Sacramento Bayliner Club mugging for the camera proudly displaying their recent VSC decals. In the works is a photo page and many new features. If you have any VSC related photos, please send them to me. With over 1050 views in the last 3 months, the site is apparently being used as an informational resource for which it was designed. If you have ANY ideas or suggestions, please let me know.

Coast Guard to Emphasize Life Jacket Wear

A key outcome of the Coast Guard's Recreational Boating Safety program is to reduce loss of life on the water. A major component of that program is to convince boaters to wear their life jackets while on the water. Various media campaigns have been utilized in the past without a major shift in the desired outcome.

A Vessel Safety Check (VSC) provides the vessel examiner an opportunity to educate the boater on the value and importance of life jacket wear. During the VSC, the criteria for selecting, sizing, and inspection of life jackets is reviewed and demonstrated to the boater.

Public education courses are another venue to demonstrate the variety of life jackets available. Of paramount interest is the inflatable life jacket which offers the boater a comfortable and reliable life saving option.

Public affairs activities, such as safety exhibits at boat shows, provide another venue to illustrate to the public the variety of life jackets available in the market place.

The Coast Guard's Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety firmly believes that our vessel examiners, public educators and public affairs representatives should be role models for life jacket wear and are encouraging them to wear their life jackets during vessel safety checks, public education classes, and public affair events. As an incentive for demonstrating the "right behavior" on and around the water, inflatable life jackets branded with the "**Wear It**" logo will be made available (on a loner basis) to each Flotilla.

Inflatable life jackets will be distributed to local units, which will be responsible for the custody, maintenance, and utilization of this equipment and annual reporting of the local inventory through respective chain of command to the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, Program Operations Branch (CG- 54222). The expectation is that they will be leveraged to provide the maximum possible exposure to support the wearing of life jackets.

Source: Peter Urgola, DC-V

The newest edition of For Safety's Sake, Volume I - 2008 has been released. This new issue was released on February 26th and is available for downloading or viewing from **YOUR VE** website: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html>. Or from the National V Departments Newsletter page at: <HTTP://SAFETYSEAL.NET/NEWSLETTERS/>. In this issue is: The 60th Anniversary Winner, New Outreach Opportunities, Wear It: The Theme for 2008, Coastal Warning Display Signals, VSC Mega Weeks and more!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following students who passed the Vessel Examiner class held at the recent PCA Training Fair over the weekend of February 16th-17th.

Kathi Karish	03-03	Kenneth Nash	03-09
James Higuchi	04-09	Ronald Kram	05-05
Deana Mc Allister	08-08	Harmen Lyzenga	11-05
Robert Niccum	12-03		

Please provide assistance to help these future examiners complete their qualification! Thanks to everyone especially Joaquin Duran ADSO-VE who provided assistance to support the class. Please recommend new members for the August class!

Congratulations to ALL the following examiners who have performed 40 or more VSC's during 2007 and have qualified for STARS certificate signed by the National Commodore:

Richard A. Saber	01-02	Robert J. Aston	01-04
Diana R. Serchia	01-05	Phillip M. Cannon	01-07
Stephen R. Salmon	01-07	Robert A. Albain	03-01
Charles M. Duncan Jr.	03-09	Hannelore Maddox	03-09
George T. Cusak	03-10	Paul S. Verveniotis	04-06
Jeffery L. Wilcox	04-06	Joaquin P. Duran	04-09
Mark Mushet	04-09	Michael F. Nolan	04-09
Charles C. Lafferty	05-01	Curtis S. Han	05-02
Charles E. Mc Carty	05-03	Wilfred A. Sumner II	05-05
Gary N. Murray	05-05	Shirley C. Maxson	05-05
Jim D. Blackburn	05-07	Paul K. Clausen	05-07
Scott L. Galloway	06-07	Charles A. Poplinger	08-07
Michael J. Lauro	10-02	Joseph M. Madden	10-02
Michael A. Rafatti	10-02	Anthony D. Leonardi	10-03
Marion A. Rider	10-03	Phillip E. Grove	10-06
Leslie J. Pearlman	11-01	Keith A. White	11-03
Rickey A Thomas	11-05		

The certificates will be presented to the Division Captains at D/Train for future presentation.

Please share this report with your FSO-VE's and local examiners. In addition to other important information, you can always find a copy on the District website:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.html>.

As always, if I can be of ANY assistance to any DCP or SO-VE, I hope there will be no hesitation to contact me. Working together we can once again make D11NR one of the top VSC performers nationwide for 2008!

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Lauro DSO-VE

Joaquin Duran ADSO-VE

