

# ***THE BEAVER LOG***

A publication of the

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Beaver Lake Flotilla 56 8WRR**

**Vol XVII No. 6 June 2009 # 189**

<http://users.mo-net.com/flotilla6>



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## **Moments in History**



**MEMORIAL DAY – 2009**

**Lest we forget – when nations set upon nations**

### **JUNE 2009 MEETING**

***The meeting of Beaver Lake Flotilla 56 will be held at 7:00 PM 11 June in the Wal-Mart Aviation building at the Rogers Airport. Between 6:30 and 7:00 we will have coffee and fellowship, followed by the meeting. Come meet all the new members and members you haven't seen in awhile.***

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### **THE MESSAGE FROM THE FLOTILLA COMMANDER**



The 2009 boating season has officially begun! I look forward to being with all of you on the water this year. I would like to take a moment to emphasize the importance of our safe boating mission on Beaver Lake. So far this year there have been 2 boat collisions on the lake; one which caused the death of one individual, injury to 2 others, and extensive damage to 2 boats a few weeks ago, and one that occurred this past weekend which thankfully did not result in any injuries, but did significant damage to 2 boats. I do not have any more details on last weekend's collision at this time, but I would like to make a few comments regarding the accident a few weeks ago. That accident involved 2 bass boats, each bearing 2 passengers. Eye witness accounts confirm that both boats had their navigation lights on at the time of the collision. The people involved were all local folks, and of the 4 people involved, only a 14 year old boy was wearing a life jacket. All 4 people were ejected from the boats when they collided. Moral of the story - the only person who escaped injury or death was the boy wearing

the life jacket. While the cause of the accident may never be totally understood, I would wager that the boaters involved were not paying attention to their surroundings. They lost "situational awareness".

It is absolutely critical that we reach as many boaters as we can with our educational message. The fishermen on our lake tend to feel they are immune to the things we talk about as they already know all of that. The accident outlined above presents evidence to the contrary, and we need to increase our focus on this group of boaters. The accident could have been prevented, had the boaters been following safe boat operating procedures. It appears they were not and the result was loss of property and a tragic loss of life.

Let's make the most of each and every contact with the boating public to drive home our messages, in particular those related to the use of life jackets. Talk about the accidents that have happened this year and in the past. You never know when something you say will save someone's life.

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### **MESSAGE FROM THE FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER By Avard Hart, FVC**



As we concluded the month of May, it was a thrill to be back on the water. For me the highlight of the month was the On-The-Water training that we conducted on Saturday May 23rd. The training was an exercise in vessel towing and there were 7 members of the flotilla in attendance. Thanks to Alan and

Mac for providing the facilities.

On Memorial Day, the 25th; due to inclement weather, I had the entire day to reflect on why we celebrate Memorial Day. The Memorial Day weekend may be the official start of the boating season, but it is also the time to REMEMBER those that gave the ultimate sacrifice; to visit our National Cemeteries, to express our thankfulness to those who died, in defense of OUR freedom.

I personally consider freedom one of our nation's inalienable rights, but it certainly hasn't been free. From the Revolutionary War, down through the current conflicts in the Middle East (and elsewhere), we have learned the "price" of the freedom that we routinely celebrate every year at this time. Personally, I am grateful to be an American and I am honored to return something of worth to this great land as an active member of the United Coast Guard Auxiliary.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to every individual who receives the flotilla newsletter; an invitation to get engaged today; commit to be a difference maker from this moment forward; do it for ourselves, for our children and for the generations to come.

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### **MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF BEAVER LAKE FLOTILLA 56**

By Linda Hart, FSO-SR

USCG Auxiliary Beaver Lake Flotilla 56 met Thursday, May 14, 2009 at WalMart Aviation, Rogers, Airport. The meeting was called to order at 1905 by Dave Russell, FC, who then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. The guests, Bill Sarver, DCDR, and his wife, Carol were introduced and welcomed and also new member Matt DuFour.

Linda Hart, SR called the roll and announced 7 members were present.

The minutes of last month's meeting were approved as printed in the Beaver Log.

Jason from Boat US was not able to attend to discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> of July info from the Corps of Engineers.

**FALCON** -Bill Sarver, Division 5 Commander, presented information about Falcon. The dates are Sept. 25-26, 2009 in Branson, MO. It will be held at the Lodge of the Ozarks, 3431 W. Highway 76, Branson. Reservations can be made by phone: 1-877-327-9894 or online at <http://www.lodgeoftheozarks.com>. The room rate is \$70.00/night. Cut-off date for reservations is Aug. 24, 2009. MEMBERS MUST IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS A MEMBER OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY TO GET THIS RATE. Print off the Fall Conference Registration form from 8WR Division 5 website; [HTTP://USERS.MO-NET.COM/DIVISION5](http://USERS.MO-NET.COM/DIVISION5), fill it out and mail with payment back to Dorene Wendland, DSO-FN by Sept. 15, 2009. This includes registration for meals.

As the Host Division, Division 5 is in charge of several items.

- 1) A written article about the event for the newspapers...already have one written by Miles Brusherd, SO-PA.
- 2) Friday night's "Fun Night". This will be a Branson "Dinner and Show" with "SIX" being the entertainment. The cost is \$38.00/person. You must pre-register for this event.
- 3) Registration Table: Two people to man on Thursday and Friday respectively. Miles Brusherd is in charge of this. Let Dave Russell know if you are available.
- 4) Goodie Bags: about 200+ bags will be handed out at registration. Donations of "goodies" are needed as well as people to "stuff" the bags. Dave Russell will check with

Kellogg for possible donations for the bags as well as for the Hospitality Room.

5) Raffle: Donations for the raffle are needed as well as donations for the 'silent auction'. Tom Ryan is in charge of this. All donations can be given to Tom at the next Division meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup> at Twin Lakes, AR.

6) Radios/Communications: Bill Sarver, DCDR will determine how many radios are needed and where they are.

7) Hospitality Room: People to donate food items and help man the room. Plans are to offer breakfast and lunch and snack items for those who don't want to go to the luncheon or who just want a quick breakfast. There will be a bar that will offer mixed drinks (there will be a cost for drinks).

8) Greeters: need people.

9) Table decorations for banquet: Already taken care of by Ellen Fennessy, Flotilla 54.

10) Helping Hands: People needed for 'whatever else' comes up.

11) Conference Administration Center: Office supplies are furnished. Need people to staff.

**FALCON Agenda: Thursday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>** – Set-up. We need people to help.

**Friday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** – All Day Meetings. There will be a special Color Guard and Crossing the Bar Ceremony. Be seated by 0800 to see this. You won't want to miss it. The Color Guard is an Auxiliary group that is very, very crisp and professional. Also, Dave Russell will be getting info to Bill for Clif Jones for the Crossing the Bar Ceremony.

Friday evening will be the "Fun Night" Dinner and Show (with "SIX"). It will be in the Hughes Brother's Theater right next door to the Lodge of the Ozarks. Cost is \$38.00/person. (Normally just the show costs \$35.00). The dinner is served at small candle-lit tables. After dinner Auxiliarists and guests will go down the stairs/elevator to the theater for the show. You will enjoy this evening of entertainment!

**Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>** – Trainings for all. (FSO-MT officers please give input to Bill Sarver through the SO-MT as to what types of special trainings would be helpful for your flotilla members. You can contact Jerry Domann, SO-MT to let him know, or, of course, through your flotilla commander). The trainings will be posted on 8WR web-site.

**Sunday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>** – Clean-up. We need people to help.

**Uniform of the Day:** daytime sessions: tropical blue long, or appropriate civilian attire.

Friday night: civilian casual.

Saturday night: dinner dress white jacket, dinner dress blue jacket, dinner dress blue uniform, or appropriate civilian attire.

**Swearing In of New Members:** Two new members, Mike Boyce and Jeff Gunnoe were sworn in by Bill Sarver, DCDR.

**FC Comments:** An OTW member training is scheduled for Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> for the new members with Alan Main, Mac Meckley, and Keith Burt. It will be cancelled if raining.

IT- Keith and Alan have elected to have their workshops here as opposed to going to Flotilla 53 with David Besch, SO-PE at his home in Kimberling City.

There was a bad boating accident on Beaver Lake between two fishing boats. Only the 14 year old was wearing a life vest. Of the four victims, two are 'fine' one is 'fair' and one is lost. They have not recovered his body yet. This is unfortunate but a good opportunity to let people know we the Auxiliary is about boating safety and that in our classes we promote wearing your life vest. We can offer our assistance to help with searching.

Staff Officer Reports:

Alan Main-FSO-PA: He will be meeting OTW with the local TV station (40/29) tomorrow morning, May 15<sup>th</sup> with Keith Burt to kick-off the National Safe Boating Week. Pinnacle Hills Church has invited Alan to their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July ceremony/exercise.

Alan Main-FSO-PS: Matt and Jason's paperwork has been sent in. Mike Johnson will be sending paper work in (he is the brother of Rusty Johnson from Game and Fish). Daniel Woodard is still working on re-instating. He'll come in as a "new-recruit". Alan has the list from the Boat Show of people to contact.

Keith Burt-FSO-FN: reported on the money in the bank. He didn't bring his .39 stamps but he has other stamps and envelopes if anyone needs them. Be sure in let him know if there is something particular you need.

Linda Hart-FSO-SR: The booth registration for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual NWA Preparedness Fair has been turned which included a jpg of the CGAUX logo. The event will be Saturday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> from 1000/hours – 1500/hours at 1101 NE McCollum Drive, Bentonville, AR. We will have an inside booth (free of charge) where we can have hand-outs, and sign-up sheets for info and classes offered. We are also to supply info on ICS and how the Auxiliary helps with preparing for/and during national disasters. We have been asked to bring a "facility" for the outside display and info table. We are to provide our own staffing so mark your calendars to be available for this huge community event. Last year they had 5,000 visitors. This is also a great event to invite friends, family and neighbors.

New Member Orientation Questions and Answers:

The floor was opened to the new members for any questions they had.

Q: Jeff Gunnoe wanted to know about completing the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the Visual Aids to

navigation certification. A: John Cobb will take those who completed the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the certification out on the water. John will make sure those who attended the class finish getting certified.

Q: Matt DuFour wants to know what is his next step. A: Dave Russell, FC will get the CD to him (and a copy to Carol and Bill Sarver, DCDR). Alan Main has the books with all the sign-off sheets ready to go.

Q: Mike Boyce is not able to log on to the website. A: Keith will work with Mike to correct his email so he can log on. If anyone else has problems logging on to AUX-DATA contact Bob Haverfield, SO-IS.

Business Issues:

Old Business: Monthly updates for 2009 calendar:

The Touch-a-Truck event was rescheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> but Dave cancelled our participation due to lack of staffing available. We are on their roster for next year. He offered our apologies.

There is a VSC event scheduled for Sat. May 16<sup>th</sup> at Prairie Creek. There is a conflict with the FLW (Fishing Tournament) scheduled for this Saturday also. In addition to that, the water is still at a very high level. Dave Russell, FC has suggested the VSC be postponed. He will let Avard Hart, FSO-VE know.

The Calendar has OPEX exercise at Lake Darnell scheduled for May 29 – May 31<sup>st</sup>. This should be corrected to a DSAR event. Division 5 has one of the 5 teams competing. Since it is so close to our flotilla, all are encourage to come support this event. The dates will be May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Keith will attend.

New Business:

The Power Squadron members are doing VSC's at the Hwy 12 Bridge. They are offering FREE hot dogs. Alan suggests we use some of our funds to have hot dogs too.

Monthly training session was postponed since Mac is out of town.

Mac, Keith and Alan will work together to set up dates for OP and TCT trainings.

Dave will check with Gail Jones about possibly donating Clif's uniform shirts for one of our new members.

ODU uniform boots no longer need to have steel toes.

The Flotilla Fellowship Event for this month will be rescheduled for Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be a picnic BBQ/pot-luck at Dave's home following the OTW training at Prairie Creek. He will get the map and directions to us. He'll provide the meat and sodas, members to provide side dishes. Families are invited.

Next month's fellowship event will be an ice-cream social at Prairie Creek following the VSC on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Refreshments were provided by Jeff Gunnoe tonight.

Keith Burt volunteered to bring next month's meeting refreshments.

Mike Boyce volunteered for July's meeting refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned at 2045.

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## **STAFF OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **Material ~ Keith Burt, FSO-MA**

I need your help to keep the shed supplied with all the brochures and equipment we need. If you see that we are short of a certain brochure, please call or e-mail me so I can order some more.

### **Finance ~ Keith Burt, FSO-FN.**

The current bank balance stands at \$2,677.94.

### **Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program ~ Avard Hart, FSO-PV**

Since my last report, I have been able to visit the Rogers Outdoor Sports, WAVE and Arrowhead marine dealers. The main message for my visit was to invite active participation from the dealers during the National Safe Boating Week promotion. In addition, I conducted visits to four revenue offices in Northwest Arkansas (Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers and Bentonville) and delivered a second drop of boating safety information to be delivered to boat owners when they register their boats.

### **Vessel Examination ~ Avard Hart - FSO-VE**

Since last report. a vessel safety check event was scheduled at Prairie Creek Marina. However, due to a major fishing tournament that weekend, the event was canceled. However, due to the short notice of the cancelation, Linda and I went to Prairie Creek just in case there were folks who didn't get the word.

It was a good thing that we went, as it was the final day of competition and only the finalists were scheduled to be on the water. Linda took pictures and I was able to talk to several fishing aficionados about boating safety for anglers. It will be important next year to engage early the fishing tournament scheduling committee, so that the auxiliary can have a PA presence at the event, if nothing else.

The next VSC is scheduled for June 20th, at Prairie Creek.

### **Personnel Services ~ Alan Main FSO-PS**

Since my last report Mike Johnson has been given the initial presentation and interview for joining. I am currently waiting for his

decision to move forward. Mike is a quality individual that could add a lot to our team. He would be a great addition to our flotilla. I also have one more lead from Glenford Joseph that I will be following up on soon, and I thank Glenford for his good work!

#### **Public Affairs ~ Alan Main, FSO –PA**

Since my last report. Keith Burt and I entertained reporters from local Television stations KNWA and KHBS/KHOG out on the water. With the start of National Safe Boating Week beginning on May 16, it was an opportune time for us to get the exposure and message of safe boating. We stressed wearing a life preserver, taking a boating safety course, and getting free vessel safety checks from the Auxiliary in preparation for the boating season.

As an editorial note - we were both taken by the negativity that is often focused on by the television stations. It seems they want to report “they will get you” even though we stressed we were not law enforcement, and of course, the recent boating accident which we also stressed we did not assist in. I will say both crews had high points that were good, Melissa Kelly and Carly Gordon were both top notch and fun to work with. I particularly liked the 10:00 p.m. version of KNWA that did provide a more positive picture of the lake and the fun that can be had when knowing how to boat safely. We gave kudos to AGFC, Benton County Sheriffs Dept., and the Corps of Engineers for their work keeping it a very safe lake but unfortunately they did not report that. Too bad, this is overall a great area for having fun thanks to the efforts of us all.

## **FIRE EXTINGUISHER RECALL**

**By Don Spirk, SO-VE**

Here is some safety recall information that all Coxswains and VE’s should be aware of. This recall involves Kidde fire extinguishers with model numbers FX340SC, FX340SC-2, FX340H, FX340GW, FX210R, FX210W, XL25TCZ-4 XL5MR and E340-3 with manufacture dates between October 2007 and April 2008. “Kidde” and the model number can be found on the label on the front of the extinguisher. The manufacture year is on the bottom of the extinguisher. If you find one of the listed models and it is marked with the years 07 or 08, the owner should contact Kidde for a free replacement. If one of these is found, as with all fire extinguishers, inspect the pressure gauge. If the pressure is in the red zone the extinguisher must be replaced immediately. If the pressure is okay, it can be used until replacement but the pressure should be checked often to ensure its serviceability.

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## **AUXDATA ACCESS**

***Source: Marilyn McBain, DVC-IS***

A directive has come down from the Department of Homeland Security that all AUXDATA accounts that remain inactive for 45 days will be locked. Effective 1 June 2009. If you have access, please make it a point to sign-on the system at least once a month to maintain your access and keep from having your access locked and eventually deleted. This applies to both the Production and Training databases.

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## DISTRICT SEARCH AND RESCUE COMPETITION

“DSAR” was held May 21 through 23 at the Lake Dardanelle State Park near Russellville, Arkansas. Over all winners this year were from Division 16 and included, Marshall Bullard, David Starr, Charles Ingle, Jose Riera, and Pat Roberts.

Our own Division 5 team, of which we are mighty proud, was composed of Eric Vestal, captain and coxswain, Brock Stephens, Darrell Kerr and Miles Brusherd. The Division 5 team won SAR Planning and SAR Execution. They were runner-up in the P6 pump competition, missing out by only four seconds. Below are pictures taken at the event.



Division 5 DSAR team preparing for the next event



A DSAR SAR exercise on Lake Dardanelle



Sector Lower Mississippi River “Safe Boat” on Lake Dardanelle at DSAR



COMO Jack Gumb “da Judge”



Division 5 team ready to leave the dock



Captain Michael Gardiner, Commander, Sector Lower Mississippi River talks with Blaine Selby of Division 15

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## CALENDAR

**June 11, 2009**

Thursday

**6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Flotilla 56 Monthly Meeting --  
WalMart Aviation Building**

**June 20, 2009**

Saturday

**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM VE Event -- Prairie Creek Boat  
ramp**

**July 09, 2009**

Thursday

**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Flotilla 56 monthly Meeting  
WalMart Aviation Building**

**July 18, 2009**

Saturday

**10:00 AM – 2 PM VE Event – Prairie Creek Boat Ramp**