



# Winter Conference 2009 Preview

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS ON OKALOOSA ISLAND – 12-15FEB09

## LOCATION

Join us at the Ramada Plaza Beach Resort on Okaloosa Island, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida for the kick-off District Conference of 2009 and the inaugural conference of our new District Commodore, Larry R. Richmond. The hotel is located



right on the beach and our plans include some special opportunities for both our fourth cornerstone, FELLOWSHIP, and some unique learning experiences. Your conference planners also have some very special events in store!



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### WELLNESS

Come early! Join us on Thursday afternoon to participate in either a golf outing at Shalimar Country Club or a Dolphin Cruise out of Destin Harbor. Both events will kick-off around 1200 and conclude in time for everyone to gather for the barbecue that evening.

For the golf outing, the cost is \$48 including green fees, golf cart, and lunch provided by the country club.



The Dolphin Cruise, lasting about two hours takes those on board to where the action is for seeing the dolphins in the neighborhood. For those members who spend their boating lives inland, it's a great

experience to share with your family and, who knows, you



might see some other interesting local critters like turtles and indigenous waterfowl. The cost of the dolphin cruise arranged by our conference coordinator is \$25.00 for adults and \$13.50 for children.

## SADIE VISITS THE GULF

Friday evening, the traditional Sadie's Night is being replaced by a program that we hope you all will enjoy and will



be attractive to all D8CR Auxiliary family members... including children. Starting at 1630 on Friday, we will adjourn to the Gulfarium, a few hundred yards to the west of the Ramada Inn, where a private Gulfarium experience will be provided just for the Auxiliary. Among other things you will see Gulf reef fish, dolphins, sea lions, turtles, and otters. A cash bar will be available serving wine and beer and at the conclusion of the private show, we will return to the Ramada Inn's Ambassador Room for a dinner get-together.

## AWARDS BANQUET

The Winter Conference Awards Banquet will feature a keynote presentation by our friend, the Commanding Officer of the 8<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District, RADM Joel Whitehead. Not only will you have an opportunity to hear more regarding the modernization of the US Coast Guard but those who participated in the Marine Safety Training Ribbon program will

receive their MSTR at the Awards Banquet and have those new ribbons presented by RADM Whitehead.

New members and first-time conference attendees receive special treatment at our Award Banquets. We make certain that these special attendees are scattered throughout the banquet area with no more than two per table and, similarly, we make certain that key District elected and selected leaders as well as Active Duty leaders present are distributed at every table. This approach and the absence of a "head table" assures that new members really have an opportunity to get to know their leaders, enable the leaders to get to know them, and give them an opportunity to chat with and ask questions of members who have been around a while.

## FOR SPOUSES ON FRIDAY

At each District Conference, the Conference Coordinators attempt to find an activity for spouses that takes them away from meetings and sessions that they may not find of interest. Conference Coordinator Dallas Cochran has arranged for a tour of the Indian Mound Museum in Ft. Walton Beach followed by luncheon at the historic Magnolia Grill while their spouses are likely in the District Mee McInt followed by the Honors Luncheon.

## LEARNING

A primary focus of your District leaders for the 2009 Winter Conference has been assuring that you, the members, take something away from the Conference that is perceived BY YOU as having value.

Your time and the conference expenses are a significant investment on your part and we want to assure you that when you leave to go home on February 15<sup>th</sup>, you will know that your investment was worthwhile.

### ALL-HANDS SESSIONS

At professional conferences worldwide, learning opportunities are usually classified as general sessions or break-out sessions. At our Winter Conference this year, there will be two general or ALL-HANDS sessions where there will be no scheduling conflicts. These two all-hands sessions address National Safe Boating Week and Member Training...two areas of vital interest to every Auxiliarist.

### NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK



National Safe Boating Week is 17-23 May 2009. The National Safe Boating Council has raised a concern:

An increasing number of adults over the age of 50 are being killed and injured in boating mishaps! In partnership with the US Coast Guard, the Council has set goals to address this problem. One goal is to get information directly from the affected group. The Coast Guard Auxiliary can be an integral part of the discussion, as well as sharing this information with our members...possibly SAVING LIVES. Come give your input on how best to deliver this important message to everyone. Also hear from the leaders of Flotillas and Divisions that have had particularly successful National Safe Boating Week campaigns in years past.

### MEMBER TRAINING

Vitally important to the value received by our members, the Member Training Department has

entirely new leadership for 2009-2010. Department leaders will present the detailed steps to simplify achieving an initial qualification, as well as completing the specialty courses leading to the AUXOP award. Using flow charts, you will understand the progress of the exam/qualification processing from the time the exam is taken to the member's receipt of the qualification certificate. Attendees will be updated on the current edition of course materials and exams since obsolete materials should not be used. Emphasis will be placed on the responsibilities of the Flotilla Commanders and Flotilla Staff Officers for Member Training, eliminating any confusion as to "what goes where", "when" and "to whom?" Questions of course, are encouraged.

Take an AUXOP exam! This conference will be your opportunity to advance yourself toward AUXOP. Specialty Course Examinations will be proctored, and graded at a yet to be announced time and location during the conference. Charts and plotting instruments (needed for AUXNAV and AUXSCE) will be the responsibility of the member.

### BREAK-OUT AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

#### NEW MEMBERS

As he has in the past, our Director of Auxiliary, CAPT James Montgomery, will conduct a training session familiarizing all new members with a broad scope of what the Coast Guard Auxiliary is and what it offers. In addition, the new members will be guests of Coast Guard Station Destin and, conditions permitting, will have an opportunity to be guests on board and underway Coast Guard vessel.

### FIRST-TIMER ORIENTATION

Both Friday and Saturday morning, at 0730, members who have not attended a District Conference previously can visit the Senator room for a short briefing on what will take place at the District Conference.

### MARINE SAFETY TRAINING RIBBON

Many members who have come to conferences in the past ask WIIFM...What's in it for me?



At the 2009 Winter Conference you will have an opportunity to complete the entry-level requirements for pursuit of the Auxiliary Trident Device for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection. You need to arrive with, at a minimum, your ICS courses completed...100, 200, 210 or 300, 700 and 800 and you'll need to bring with you evidence that you have completed those courses. You will make pursuing the MSTR easier if you have completed Introduction to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection as well as Good Mate before you arrive. The examinations are not terribly difficult and can be completed online. In addition, the tests for these two courses will be offered in a proctored, open-book setting at the conference. Once you have sent in your registration form for the Winter Conference and checked that you want to participate in this special program, a CD will be mailed to you with all three manuals that you'll need. Initial Indoctrination to Marine Safety (IIMS) is an Active Duty MS course that must be completed to earn the MSTR. LTJG Caskey will be joining us to facilitate the IIMS course assisted by our own Auxiliary DSO-MS Dick Frenzel.

The IIMS examination will be offered at the end of the day's sessions. Now, here's the punch line: If you have completed the three examinations mentioned here, you will be presented the Marine Safety Training Ribbon at the Awards Banquet that evening! Check the appropriate box and join us!

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Perhaps you have heard about HF radio communication as a tool for the Auxiliary. Come join your District Staff Officer – Communications and learn more about this aspect of communications as well as whatever the DSO-CM brought back with him from N-Train.

### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Do you know what courses are available and what is new? Come and find out. Do you need ideas about how to attract more students to your classes? Come and find out. We will be showing you all the available materials and where you can locate what you need for every course. Then, we will have an open discussion on what works for you. Bring your ideas and share it with the group. Better yet, you may gain ideas from others.

### **OPERATIONS**

POMS, QE changes, new ICS requirements...all things that impact us in our day-to-day Operations activities. Our District Staff Officer – Operations will bring us up to date in two identical sessions offering you the opportunity to hear this vital information when it fits your schedule. See both Friday and Saturday schedules and pick the session that suits you best.

### **CONSTRUCTIVE COMPLIANCE**

Are Auxiliarists reluctant to obey regulations because they are volunteers? Does communication outside the chain of leadership hurt the organization? This presentation is a very frank look at how we respond to regulations and how we can better understand and obey, in a positive and constructive fashion. It explores the source regulations, the seductive call to break rules, methods to overcome bad regulations, and the proper method to communicate ideas intended to improve the regulatory process.

### **AUXILIARY AVIATION**

What exactly is AUXAIR (Auxiliary Aviation) and can I get involved? How does AUXAIR compare to surface operations of the Auxiliary? AUXAIR probably returns the greatest "bang for the buck" to the Active Duty Side as anything we do in the Auxiliary. Come join the District Staff Officer – Aviation, Mike Baker, to learn more about AUXAIR and what it does.

### **HAZWOPER**

During 2008, Sector Mobile started a program that will involve Auxiliary members in something quite new...initial investigations of vessels aground. While the program is still being "tweaked" to make it as responsive as possible, one aspect of the launch is well underway...Training members for HAZWOPER (Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response) Awareness. This short course familiarizes you with the Emergency Response Guidebook and the significance of Material Safety Data Sheets. A HAZWOPER Awareness course will be presented Sunday morning.

### **ICS 210**

We are all aware that ICS 210 or ICS 300 are new requirements added for many activities and positions in the Auxiliary. However, if you plan to pursue involvement in the MS area, the Trident for example, you must have ICS 210 or ICS 300 completed by 01APR09. So, if you plan to participate in the Saturday sessions to complete your MSTR, why not join ENS Murray from Sector Mobile on Friday afternoon and get the ICS 210 requirement out of the way. Of course, if you already have ICS 210 or ICS 300, you can participate in other programs being offered but if you don't, here's a great opportunity to knock it off.

### **NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEMS aka AIDS TO NAVIGATION**

We are in an ever-changing world in the Auxiliary, faced with new challenges and demands on our resources and volunteer time. The Navigation Systems Department is facing and hoping to meet these new challenges daily. Our relationship with the Coast Guard is in flux as we seek to find the best, most acceptable way to assist as volunteers. It is essential that Auxiliarists, especially Flotilla Commanders and those involved in the NS program, attend the workshop to become acquainted with the latest expectations that have been presented in St. Louis at N-TRAIN 2009.

### **ASK THE BRASS**

What's on your mind? Is there anything we're doing in the Auxiliary bothering you? Come to this session Saturday afternoon and you'll be greeted by an array of both Auxiliary and Active Duty leaders who will answer any of your questions and address any of your concerns.

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS – 2009 WINTER CONFERENCE

<b>THURSDAY – 12FEB09</b>				
0800-1200	BOARD & EXCOM (FORUM)			
1200-1700	WELLNESS – GOLF OUTING	WELLNESS – DOLPHIN CRUISE		
1700-1800	QE MEETING (SENATOR) – RESTRICTED TO QEs ONLY			
1800-2100	BURGERS/BARBECUE - COURTYARD			
<b>FRIDAY – 13FEB09</b>				
0730-0800	FIRST-TIMER ORIENTATION (SENATOR)			
0800-0920	RESPONSE DIRECTORATE (FORUM)	PREVENTION DIRECTORATE (FORUM)	LOGISTICS DIRECTORATE (FORUM)	
0930-1200	DISTRICT 8CR WINTER MEETING (EMPIRE)			SPOUSES' ACTIVITY INDIAN MOUND MUSEUM AND LUNCH AT MAGNOLIA GRILL (MEET IN LOBBY AT 0900)
1215-1320	HONORS LUNCHEON CAPT LINCOLN STROH, FEATURED SPEAKER (AMBASSADOR)			
1330-1420	ICS210 (EMPIRE)	NEW MEMBER SESSION (EMPIRE)	PUBLIC EDUCATION (FORUM)	SECTOR RELATIONS (SENATOR) CLOSED MEETING
1430-1520			OPERATIONS (FORUM)	QE MEETING CONVENES AT 1500 (SENATOR)
1530-1620			SADIE VISITS THE GULF (GULFARIUM)	
1630-1815	SADIE'S DINNER (AMBASSADOR)			
1830-2100	SADIE'S DINNER (AMBASSADOR)			
<b>SATURDAY – 14FEB09</b>				
0730-0800	FIRST-TIMER ORIENTATION (SENATOR)			
0800-0850	ALL HANDS – NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK (EMPIRE)			
0900-0950	COMMUNICATIONS (EMPIRE)	AUXAIR TRAINING (FORUM)	MARINE SAFETY TRAINING RIBBON (SENATOR)	NEW MEMBER TRAINING (MEET IN HOTEL LOBBY AND GO TO STATION DESTIN)
1000-1050	NAV SYSTEMS (EMPIRE)			
1100-1150	AUXAIR INTRODUCTION (EMPIRE)			
1200-1320	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN			
1330-1430	ALL HANDS – MEMBER TRAINING (EMPIRE)			
1430-1520	CONSTRUCTIVE COMPLIANCE (EMPIRE)	OPERATIONS (FORUM)	MARINE SAFETY TRAINING RIBBON (SENATOR)	
1530-1620	COMMUNICATIONS (EMPIRE)	PUBLIC EDUCATION (FORUM)		
1630-1700	ASK THE BRASS (EMPIRE)			
1800-1900	COMMODORE'S RECEPTION (OASIS)			
1900-2200	AWARDS BANQUET RADM JOEL WHITEHEAD, FEATURED SPEAKER (AMBASSADOR)			
<b>SUNDAY – 15FEB09</b>				
0900-1150	DIVISION 1 MEETING (FORUM)		HAZWOPER AWARENESS (EMPIRE)	