



**Homeland
Security**

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

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Vessel Safety Check Newsletter

October 2007

Volume 4 Number 6

Mike Lauro DSO-VE Joaquin Duran ADSO-VE

This newsletter is the publication of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, District 11NR - Vessel Safety Check program and published at no cost to either the Coast Guard or the Coast Guard Auxiliary. This newsletter will be distributed in PDF format electronically to each Vessel Examiner in D11NR with a CURRENT email. It can also be found on the D11NR website. It will be published on January 1st and each month starting with April and ending with October. Disclosure of the personal information contained in this publication is subject to the provisions contained in the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, roster of names, addresses, email address and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organizations. This newsletter is a team effort by the DSO-VE staff and is responsible for its content. If you have anything suitable you think should be included that others would benefit from, please send it to Mike Lauro. It may be discontinued at any time by the DSO-VE.

DSO-VE Comments

By Mike Lauro

As the 2007 VSC season comes to an end and my term as DSO-VE for 2007 is coming to a close, it has been my pleasure to serve on DCO Connell's District staff. This past year, as in recent years, I've traveled around to different National events, D11NR is very fortunate to have quality people on the District staff that are truly respected that I feel fortunate to be a part of. I appreciate EXCOM supporting my efforts to help support you, the examiner. Without their help, I could never provide the programs and assistance needed to make the VSC program the success it has been here in D11NR.

I'd like to thank all examiners for braving the local elements from the fog and heat in Northern California, to the snow and cold at Lake Tahoe, Nevada and Utah to help make this recent VSC season a success and helping to support the Commodore's goals for

the year. You certainly don't do it for the pay! It appears that because of poor water levels on our inland lakes and other forces at work that we're not going to attain the Commodore's goal of 7,350 VSC's, but it's still been a great year.

Apparently, the low water didn't hinder the Division 4 TEAM from producing over 275% over their 2006 VSC totals! Quite an accomplishment! Our examiner count that has produced 20+ VSC's is ahead of 2006 at this time and I'm optimistic that when all of the 7038's are in, the trend will continue. Additionally, the examiners that have produced 60+ VSC's also appears headed to a record level. We had 30 members attend the examiner classes at the PCA Training Fairs held in February and August. We also had a great interactive workshop at D/Train at the Doubletree Hotel in Modesto that was attended by CHDIRAUX Capt.

Barry Smith. It was well attended by the SO-VE's, and many examiners. It was a pleasure to meet everyone and I hope to see you at D/Train in 2008 at the same location. D/Train is for **YOU**, the member. Plan to take advantage of the many workshops and the opportunities to network with other members.

Sandi and I have appreciated everyone's hospitality as we traveled around the District to several local VSC stations. In late April, along with other members of the RBS team, I enjoyed the Division 11 RBS workshop at North Lake Tahoe. With some early advance notice, I look forward to these types of visits next year.

I'd like to remind everyone that there is still time to perform the 5 VSC's to maintain your qualification. Also, please promptly turn in your 7038 VSC recap forms so you receive credit for your hard work. To qualify for

special District recognition for performing 60+ VSC's you **MUST** have your 7038's turned in by November 1st. This is because many Divisions have their Change of Watch in November and this recognition is presented at your Change of Watch, For 2008, lets have some FUN with our VSC program! Let's get potential and new members to an outing and get them involved by helping greet, directing traffic, assisting by passing out literature, etc. By utilizing ALL of our flotilla members, especially the newer ones,

ADSO-VE Comments

By Joaquin Duran

The following starts a series of comments based on the **REQUIRED ITEMS** on the LEFT side of the ANSC 7012 VSC form.

Registration numbers must be painted or permanently attached to each side of the forward half of the vessel. State validation decals must, when required, be affixed within six inches of the registration number. The registration number consists of two letters identifying the state of principal operation (prefix), followed by a combination of numbers, and ending with one or more letters (suffix). These numbers are issued by the state and must be in plain block characters contrasting the background, and be not less than 3 inches in height. There must be a space or hyphens that are equal to the width of a letter (other than I) to clearly separate the letter and number

we'll have a true **TEAM COAST GUARD** Let's not forget the 4th cornerstone and include a potluck or a BBQ. Let's also not forget to invite our RBS partners, whether it's the Power Squadron or the local sheriff to these 4th cornerstone events. The 2008 VSC **RED** decals will be available by late December. Please encourage your Flotilla Commander and/or FSO-MA of **RECORD** to order the initial supply of decals and other materials promptly. Finally, I've asked Joaquin Duran to partner with me for 2008. Joaquin will be a huge asset as ADSO-VE.

groupings, read from left to right, and be the only number displayed on the forward half of the vessel. In case of inflatable craft, the number may be firmly attached to the forward half of the vessel by a method which meets all other criteria. If numbers are discolored, fuzzy, partially removed, or otherwise not clearly identifiable, the vessel does not qualify for a decal. Exceptions to this rule are: a) vessels used by a manufacturer or dealer for testing demonstration, which may display the number on a temporary plate firmly attached to each side of the forward half of the boat, b) documented vessels which must be at least 5 tons, and its identity established by the U.S. Coast Guard (these vessels must have the name and hailing port including city and state abbreviation, marked together in

Expect to see changes and new ideas for 2008. In the meantime, rest up and formulate plans for next year that includes targeting canoes, kayaks, and fishermen. These are our highest risk boaters. In the meantime, I look forward another great year and if there is anything I can do to help make your local VSC outings successful, I hope there will be no hesitation to contact me at: sumfun@juno.com

clearly legible letters not less than four inches in height, in some clearly visible part of the hull and it must also have an official number marked by any permanent method which cannot be erased, on some clearly visible interior part of the hull) c) vessels used exclusively for: d) racing, e) military vessels of the United States, and f) a vessel equipped with propulsion machinery of less than 10 HP and used as a tender for direct transportation between a documented vessel and shore. These may display the number of the numbered vessel followed by a suffix, e.g. "1", as required; Lastly, sailboats without auxiliary machinery power (although some states may require them to be numbered); and ship's lifeboats. For reference, the Federal Numbering Act of 1918 established the initial

requirements for numbering of recreational boats. Later on, The Federal Boating Act of 1958 transferred jurisdiction from the federal to state level. In 1971, the Federal Boating Safety Act was enacted to

cover all general requirements for recreational vessels. The owner/operator of a vessel must carry a certificate of number when the vessel is in use. When moved to a new state of principal use, the certificate is valid for 60 days.

As a final note, an interesting statistic: less than 1% of boats in the United States are documented.

Your comments are always welcome at: duzanjp@sbcglobal.net

Bet you didn't know...Final of the Series

As we've seen in several recently released movies, pirates were an interesting group of individuals. Believe it or not, they even practiced democracy while at sea! The captain was an elected position, and all decisions except those in battle were made by the majority through voting. The captain received two votes, with all other crew members receiving one each. The spoils were split evenly among the men and women. Women? Yes there were female pirates and a woman can and was elected captain!

I hope you've enjoyed these tidbits of nautical words, phrases and stories that are used in our everyday language.

VSC Calendar

No events reported.

VSC Questions -Answers can be found in another location in the newsletter

When a vessel changes owners, is it necessary for the new owner to apply for a new registration number or certificate of number?

- a. No, unless the new owner is leaving the state, since the number stays the same.
- b. Yes, even if the new owner is staying in the state and the number stays the same.
- c. This is one of those items requiring VE knowledge of the local/state laws since individual states have different requirements.
- d. Yes, but if the new owner trades in one boat for the other, the owner can just transfer the numbers from the old boat to the new boat without incurring the cost of a new registration.

2-An Auxiliary member wants to offer their 12' runabout as an Operational Facility. Can they?

- a. They need to have a VSC first.
- b. They cannot offer it for use because it needs to be at least 14' or over.
- c. The runabout needs to have a trailer.
- d. S/he is a VE so they can do the inspection.

Welcome Aboard and Welcome Back!

***RECERTIFICATION**

With the addition of these 7 new examiners for 2007, our examiner base total is 282 active examiners working towards our goal of 300 active examiners. This represents about 20% of our total District membership. This information is supplied by the Director's office, as examiners are qualified.

Richard A. Garcia	03-09	Richard M Goldman	04-09
Robert Whitehead	04-06	Ingemarc C. Olsson*	05-07
D. Scott Bonomi*	05-07	Victor M. Adams*	07-03
David A Young	11-03		

***Re-certification**

Congratulations!

Congratulations to ALL the following additional examiners who have performed 20 or more VSC's during 2007:

Laurence B. Draper	01-05	Andrew J. Clark	01-07
Alan A. Conley	03-03	Daniel Lavi	04-03
Jimmin Chang	04-08	Curtis S. Han	05-02
Johannes A. Pattiradjawne	05-02	Joseph M. Madden	10-02
George T. Cusak	10-03	Marion A. Rider	10-03
Roderick M. Rollins	10-06		

This brings our total to 53 examiners reaching this plateau!! This is approximately 17% of the total District examiner base. 2006 had 39 examiners or 6% at this time. **Where's your name?**

PLEASE be certain that all stats are reported MONTHLY using the CURRENT Form 7038 to your FSO-IS so you and your unit(s) will receive proper credit.

*Statistics as shown in AUXINFO thru September 2007

Division Statistics*

	<u>2006</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	<u>2007</u>
District 11 NR=	6336	-728 -10%	5608
Division 1=	293	+442	735
Division 3=	660	-203	457
Division 4=	386	+486	872
Division 5=	1150	-677	473
Division 6=	196	+028	224
Division 7=	462	-353	109
Division 8=	252	-024	228
Division 10=	2325	-268	2057
Division 11=	406	-112	294
Division 12=	219	-060	159

The goal for D11NR for 2007 is **7,350** VSC's. We are **76%** of our goal for the year and **89%** of 2006 production! The data source is AUXINFO. PLEASE be certain that all stats are reported MONTHLY using the CURRENT Form 7038 to your FSO-IS so you and your unit(s) will receive proper credit.

Preliminary stats from AUXINFO* indicates that **3480** or **61%** of our VSC's are First Time VSC's In addition **2799** or **50%** are High Risk VSC's.

Pacific Area Statistics*

	<u>PYTD</u>		<u>YTD</u>
D11NR:	6336	VSC's	5608 VSC's
D11SR:	7319	VSC's	6983 VSC's
D13 (Ore and Wa):	6205	VSC's	5911 VSC's
D14 (Hi):	681	VSC's	680 VSC's
D17 (Ak):	873	VSC's	977 VSC's

*Data from AUXINFO through: September 2007

National and District News

National News

Vessel Safety Check Program 60th Anniversary Motivational Contest

1. **Eligible participants:** All USCG Auxiliary currently certified vessel examiners.
2. **Contest qualification:** For every twenty (20) VSC checks performed and recorded in AUXDATA by 31 December 2007, the eligible vessel examiners will receive one chance at the prizes detailed below.
3. **Winners will be randomly selected at a drawing to be held at N-Train 2008.**
4. **Grand prize:**
 - a. A berth on the USCGC Eagle.
 - b. USCG Auxiliary winner to receive up to a \$500 stipend to cover travel, food and up to one nights lodging.
5. **Other prizes to be determined.**

Source:

Pete Urgola DC-V

District News

Nothing new to report.

Division Staff Officers

SO-VE 1	Richard A. Saber	captcrunch@mindspring.com	SO-VE 7	Riley Turpin	turpin@ixpres.com
SO-VE 3	Robert Albain	ralbain@msn.com	SO-VE 8	Doug Pohlson	dougs@pacific.net
SO-VE 4	Joaquin P. Duran	duranjp@sbcglobal.net	SO-VE 10	Phil Grove	groventer@aol.com
SO-VE 5	Robert Smith	nanapaah@hotmail.com	SO-VE 11	Ray E. Wise	rayellen@sbcglobal.com
SO-VE 6	Stanley T. Wolfberg	s_wolfberg@yahoo.com	SO-VE 12	Kathy Kindred	k2kindred@msn.com

Answer to VSC questions:
Question 1-"b" See Ch 3 page 12 of the VSC Manual
Question 2-"b" See Ch 1 page 3 of the VSC Manual

