



**United States Coast Guard Auxiliary**  
 District 11 Northern Region  
 Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



## Vessel Safety Check Newsletter

**October 2010**

**Volume 7 Number 9**

**Mike Lauro DSO-VE**

**Tony Budlong ADSO-VE Joaquin Duran ADSO-VE Phil Grove ADSO-VE**



### **DSO Comments**

By Mike Lauro



As another VSC season slowly draws to a close, the days are getting shorter and cooler, the leaves are starting to turn, the water cooler, and except for the Delta, water levels are getting lower. I'd like to once again reflect on this past year. However, before I do, I would like to announce that I've been invited by DCO-e Perata to continue as DSO-VE for 2011-12. In the meantime, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve on Commodore Williams staff. I appreciate the support and confidence the Commodore and the EXCOM placed in me to lead the Vessel Safety Check program for D11NR-the premier District in the nation! For without it, my programs for you, the examiner could not be successful. I also want to thank Joaquin Duran, Tony Budlong, and Phil Grove for being excellent ADSO-VE's and helping to lighten my workload. Each gentleman brought something unique to our program! Unfortunately, Joaquin will

be leaving the staff as he has been elected DCDR of Division 4. Best of luck to Joaquin!

Jim Goff will be added to the staff for 2011. Jim is an active vessel examiner, program visitor and was a previous SO-VE for Division 3. Jim brings many talents to the staff. Finally, I'd like to thank **YOU**-the vessel examiner for braving your local elements from the low water levels, fog and heat here in Northern California, to the snow and cold at Lake Tahoe, Nevada, and Utah. As you'll see, we've had a great VSC season!

Some highlights worth mentioning from the past year:

I had the pleasure to attend N/Train in January with other RBS team members to discuss how we could better serve both you and the public. In the fall, I had the pleasure to attend NACON where I was briefed on many upcoming changes from the National level.

D11NR was invited by the National V Director to participate in the alpha testing of the new 7012A VSC form

for SUBS. I'm happy to report that over 650 VSC's were performed with this form and I've submitted your suggestions back to the National level. Expect to see this form in time for next years VSC activities.

Thanks to your support, 22 members graduated from the Vessel Examiner class at the spring and fall PCA Fairs. The PCA events continue to add new enthusiastic examiners to our D11NR examiner pool.

Once again, District vessel examiners supported of the Delta Blitz by 8 law enforcement agencies that also included the Coast Guard in the Stockton area. In spite of over 100' temperatures that weekend, over 144 VSC's were performed at two locations.

Our VSC production for 2010 continues on another record setting pace. As of this writing, Commodore William's goal of 10,000 VSC's appears well within reach with **9,209** VSC's! The examiner count with 20+ VSC's also continues at a record setting pace. As of this writing, we have 72 examiners that have reached this plateau; 2009 had 77 examiners reach this plateau for the whole year and at this time and we still have 3 months to go! This will be a record year! Our examiner base is currently at with 329 examiners which has exceeded the 300 goalR's and maintain a solid base of 300 examiners. Our VSC average per examiner is 27 VSC's.

This surpasses the National average of 20 VSC's per examiner and is

**DOUBLE** the count from 2002!

As you can see, we've come a long way since 2002 when 3,562 VSC's were produced by 235 examiners at an average of 15 VSC's per examiner. These are only a few of the 2010 D11NR VSC highlights! Performing VSC's is hard work and next time you go to a Flotilla meeting, you should congratulate each other on a job **WELL DONE!**

Our D11NR VE website:

<http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve.ve.html> has had over 3,200 hits this past year to bring our number to over 11,000 hits-up from over 7,700 hits from 2009. It appears that we are using this resource as planned. Look for a new and slightly revised site in the near future.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that in order to qualify for the special District recognition for reaching the 60+ VSC plateau you **MUST** have your 7038's turned in **PRIOR** to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Again, this is because many Divisions have their Change of Watch in November and this recognition is presented at your Division Change of Watch.

In addition to the 2010 year stats, look for several refinements in 2011 which will be announced in the January 2011 VSC Newsletter. Hopefully we'll have the 2011 VSC decals by mid-December to help maintain our current momentum.

Last but not least, this is the final newsletter for 2010.

As always, your comments are always welcome at: [sumfun@juno.com](mailto:sumfun@juno.com)

## **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to the following examiners who have performed 20 or more VSC's this past month during 2010\*:

Gary L. Link	03-03	Manual Garcia	03-09
William R. Shepard	04-08	Jan Jewell	08-07
Kenneth N. Reynoldson	08-07	William H. Correll	10-03

**This brings our total to 72 examiners reaching this plateau!! This is approximately 21% of the total District examiner base. 2009 had 77 examiners or 23% 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 27, 2010

## **Welcome Aboard and Welcome Back!**

With the addition of new examiners for 2010, our examiner base is now **329** active examiners! This represents about 20% of our total District membership. This information is supplied by the Director's office, as examiners are qualified.

Jerry Adams	03-03**	Don D. Anderson	03-03*
Kathi A. Karish	03-03*	Jan Jewell	08-07**
Glenn A. Funk	08-07**		

\*denotes recertification

\*\*Graduate from the August PCA VE Class!!

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

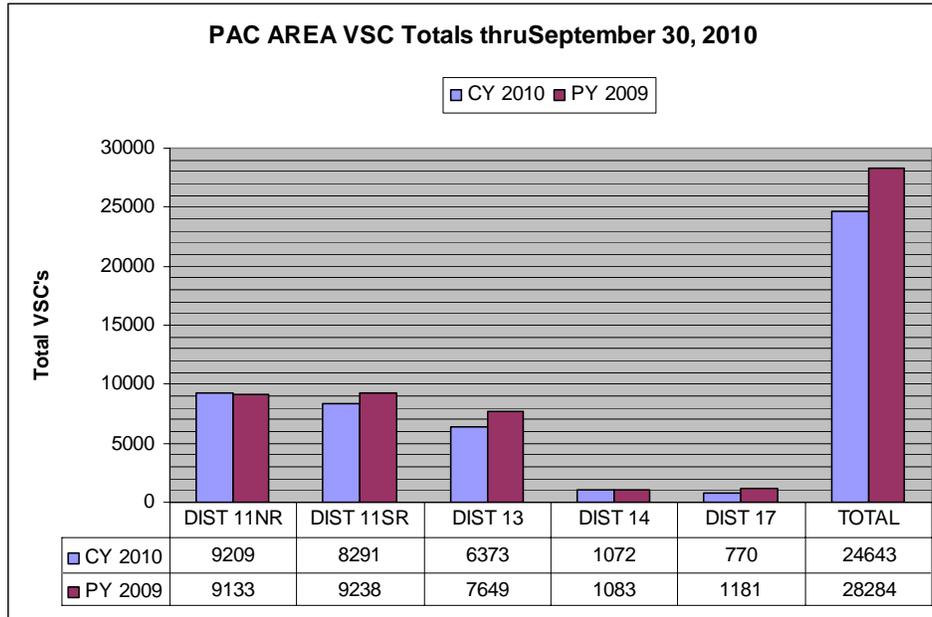
**1-If a vessel is required to be registered and display the registration numbers, to be eligible for the VSC decal, these numbers:**

- Must have spaces or hyphens that equal to the width of a letter (other than "I") to clearly separate the letter and number groupings and be at least 3" in height.
- Must read from left to right on the port side and right to left on the starboard side.
- May use any type style as long as it contrast to the color of the hull.
- All of the above.

**2-A documented recreational vessel is required to:**

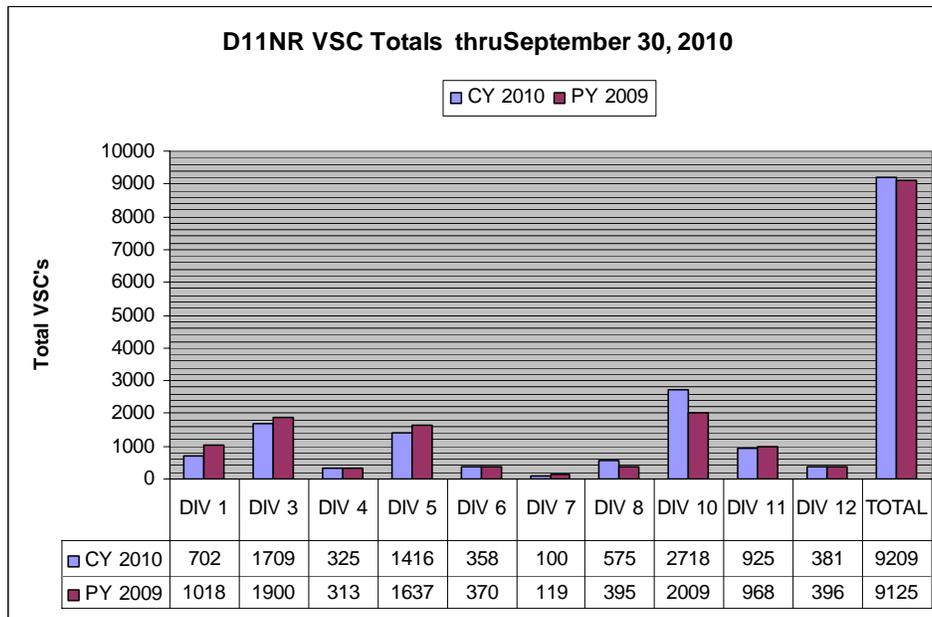
- Display the name and hailing port on the stern in letter at least 4" high.
- Display the name and hailing port on some conspicuous part of the hull in letter at least 4" high.
- Display the name and hailing port on both sides of the bow and stern in letter at least 4" high.
- Have the official number and net tonnage painted on the main beam in letters at least 4" high.

## PAC AREA 2010 Statistics\*



\*Statistics as shown in AUXINFO thru September 30, 2010

## D11NR 2010 Statistics\*



The goal for D11NR for 2010 is **10,000 VSC's**. We are **92%** of our goal for the year and **101%** of 2009 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.

Additional stats from AUXINFO\* indicates that **5298** or **57%** of our VSC's are First Time VSC's. In addition **6172** or **67%** are High Risk VSC's.

\*Statistics as shown in AUXINFO thru September 30, 2010

## **Congratulations!** -New Feature!

Each month RBS Device recipients will be listed here! This information is supplied by the Director's office as members become qualified.

**NO RECIPIENTS THIS MONTH.**

## **Bet You didn't Know...**

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and even today in some cases, food at sea was not necessarily of the highest quality. Breakfast and the midday meal would usually consist of a slice or two of bread, perhaps some cheese if you were lucky, and liquid refreshment to wash it all down. A much more substantial meal was served in the evening, which would include meat (of varying quality). As the quantities served in the evening were much larger, a tray was required to hold all the food. For ease of stowage, trays were square-and hence evolved the term "a square meal".

## **National and District News**

### **District News**

-All D11NR Vessel Examiners,

As we are closing out the VSC season, just a reminder please don't forget to submit your remaining 7038 (s) ASAP thru your I.S. system so you receive credit for your hard work. In addition, due to their popularity, the Vessel Examiner license plate frames for 20+ VSC's are in short supply. While the eligibility for this incentive continues until December 31<sup>st</sup>, once the frame supply is exhausted, there will not be a reorder. So, if you need to produce a few more VSC's to qualify, or for some reason you are holding a 7038 to put you over the top, please submit it ASAP so you don't get left out. Also there is still plenty of nice weather to get out to maintain your qualification.

One last reminder, to qualify for the 60+ VSC incentive, you need to make certain that your 7038's are submitted thru the I.S. chain **PRIOR** to November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Source:

Mike Lauro DSO-VE

-Congratulations to Flotilla 3-9 for winning the National VSC Flotilla of the Year award for 2009! The trophy was presented at NACON in Scottsdale.

**-A special request from the Director's office; PLEASE have the qualifying members 7038 with the 5 VSC's entered into AUXDATA by the FSO/SO-IS PRIOR to submission of the MT-2 to the Director's office.**

**-When** performing a VSC with the new 7012A, please give the boater the form and record your information on a separate 7038. At some point, please email me at: [sumfun@juno.com](mailto:sumfun@juno.com) with the total number of VSC's you've performed with the new form. This information along with any comments or suggestions you may have will be forwarded to the national level.

## **National News**

### **-Federal Requirements Booklets-**

Please pass the word to your FSO-MA or FC, that ANSC has received the following:  
ANSC#3006 - PAMPHLET, FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RECREATIONAL BOATS  
(BR/AWW) (REV. 2010)-

The booklet contains information about Federal boating laws, equipment requirements, and safety recommendations for recreational vessels. It's loaded with charts, graphics, and diagrams. This brochure covers navigational rules, cold water survival, life jacket requirements and America's Waterway Watch info.

The booklets are available in a maximum quantity of 150

Source: Mike Lauro DSO-VE

-In the continuing evolution to provide information to assist both the new and experienced vessel examiners, there have several NEW additions and updates for 2010 on YOUR Vessel Examiner website: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html>.

Expect to see many more exciting changes for 2010!

Question 1-"a" See page 12 of the VSC Manual

Question 2-"b" See page 13 of the VSC Manual

**Let's work together for our safety and the safety of others by setting an example and wear our lifejackets while performing VSC's especially when working around docks and when climbing aboard large vessels!**



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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.