



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
PREVENTION (Marine Safety) DEPARTMENT
NAVIGATION SYSTEMS DIVISION
AN MONTHLY REPORT 08-03
FIRST NORTHERN AID TO NAVIGATION TEAM
March, 2008



This newsletter is distributed to all Division Captains, Vice Captains and all Aid to Navigation Staff Officers. Please distribute to all your members.

**NAUTICAL CHART and SMALL CRAFT FACILITY
UPDATE HANDS-ON WORKSHOP on April 12th**

sponsored by

USCG AUX – Division 7 and the First Northern AN District Staff

on SATURDAY, April 12, 2008

Classroom session - 0930 to 1200

Lunch (on your own) - 1200 to 1300.

Field work at local marina – 1315 to 1530.

Classroom Session – 1545 to 1700.

at the

Robinson Trowbridge Center

10 Heath Lane, Warwick RI 02886, Suite 102

(Next to Kent Hospital @ 455 Toll Gate Road, Warwick, RI 02886

Registration Required by April 08, 2008 to:

Mike Quinn, SO-AN 7

E-mail at MichaelSQuinn@gmail.com

Phone at 401-413-8671

Please review all guides, forms and training presentations on the SCF-Small Craft Update and CU-Chart Updating web pages on the First Northern Web Site at www.uscgaan.com This is a prerequisite for the workshop.

If you have a handheld GPS, a digital camera with download cable and a tape measure, please bring them to the workshop for use in a practical exercise at a local marina.

Space is limited, reserve today.

MARCH AN STAFF OFFICER ACTIVITY CHECK LIST



Here are the AN Tasks that you should be reviewing with your team members during March. Include the progress that you make as part of your monthly AN report.

- Make plans to attend the April Awards Conference.
- Get commitments from your Bridge Checker volunteers and explain to them how to use and print out the Bridge Safety Check / Survey Reports from their home PC.
- Remind your ATON Team that all of the ATON, PATON, BRIDGE, and Chart Updating Forms are on the First Northern Aid to Navigation Website at www.uscgaan.com. Download these forms to your PC to help save time and paper. Remind everyone that computer-generated forms give a more professional impression to the Coast Guard.
- Start setting dates for your Flotilla AN Workshops. There are plenty of PowerPoint AN training programs available for this purpose. Remind your ATON Team members of Division and District scheduled workshops that are available.
- Remind your ATON Team members of the AV Qualification Workshop at the April District AV-Aids Verifier workshop scheduled on Saturday April 26th. Members can become AV Qualified during this all-day training session.
- Your Bridge Checking program, Chart Updating, and Small Craft Facility programs should be on-going during MARCH.
- Introduce yourself to the local CG ANT. Check with your SO-AN or ADSO-AN.. Most of these staff officers work closely with the local CG ANT—Aid to Navigation Teams.
- Introduce yourself to your SO-AN. Remember, that as an FSO-AN, you are part of your Division’s Chart Updating Team. Help your ADSO get this program started in your Division.
- Remember that if you plan to work with the CG ANT as an AV-Aids Verifier, you will need to get approved for a PATON System Access Code.



The SCF—Small Craft Facility Web Page is Updated.

Click on to the SCF Web Page on the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site and check out the new format developed for this site. Log onto www.uscgaan.com and click on “SCF.” This site explains the elements of the First Northern Small Craft Facility program and provides access to the New **SCF Worksheet** and a **50-slide PowerPoint Training Presentation**. Encourage your members to use this web page for self-training in this program. Each Division Chart Updating Team has been assigned a goal of completing a minimum of three SCF Updates during 2008. **A 30-minute SCF Workshop is available for presentation at Flotilla and Division Meetings. Contact your AN Staff Officers for more information.**

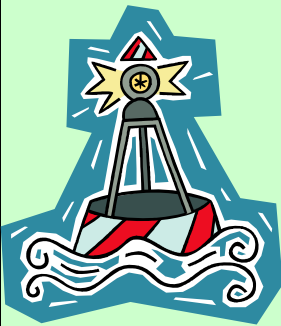
Check Out the Newly Updated BAP—Bridge Web Page

The BAP—Bridge Page on the First Northern Web Site has been updated. Log onto www.uscgaan.com and click on “Bridges.” The First Northern Bridge Administration Program is explained. There is a link to the **First Northern Bridge Database**, a revised Excel **Discrepancy Report** format, plenty of bridge background information and PowerPoint training available on this web page. Bridges can be checked year round and, often, a boat is not necessary. A **60-minute BAP Workshop** is available for presentation at **Flotilla and Division Meetings**. Contact your AN Staff Officers for more information.

AV – Aids Verifier Training will be presented at the Spring Awards Conference in Nashua, NH.

On **Saturday, April 26, 2008**, an AV training session will be conducted from 0830 to 1700. You can become AV-Qualified with this training. The necessary check-offs will be provided at this workshop. Note that there are reading prerequisites for this workshop.

Students should download the **D1NR-PATON03-AV-Aid Verifier Training Guideline and Check off List (02-22-08)**. This AV Training Guide contains a list of the various tasks that will be checked off at the conference workshop. Candidates should download this document from the PATON Web Page of the First Northern Web Site.



Candidates can also download the prescribed training forms, and guides from this web site. Each task lists the background materials that are available for study. Read this material before the workshop and check-off session. There is a lot of information to internalize in order to become AV Qualified. You will not be able to accomplish this task during the workshop unless you complete the prescribed readings and study in advance. If a candidate has any questions, contact DSO-AN, Frank Larkin at 978-263-3023 or FrankJLarkin@verizon.net.

Tell your members about this AV Training Program. If you have AV members who have not been active in the PATON program, this is a chance to get them updated.

An Updated Federal Short Range Aid to Navigation Web Page is now available at www.uscgaan.com

Click on “Federal Aids” to access this newly updated web page that contains everything you need to know about checking Federal Aids. The new **First Northern Federal Short Range Aid to Navigation Study Guide** is available. A 14-page **ATON Kit** is provided for download and printing. This is a handy tool for your Navigation Kit. It can be used as a handout for an ATON Workshop. Every Auxiliary OPFAC should have a copy of this kit for reference while underway.



Also available is a new “**ATON-Observation Worksheet**” and a “**Pre-Underway Checklist for ATON/CU Patrols**.” Samples are shown below. A 60-minute ATON Workshop is available for presentation at Flotilla and Division meetings. Contact your Staff Officers for information.

AN11 - Pre-Underway Checklist for ATON/CU Patrols

Boat Name		Length	OPFAC Number	State Reg. Number	
Item	Process	Status	Item	Process	Status
Engine	Fuel - Indicate amt of fuel in tank.		Boat Gear	Are there sufficient Anchors (2 required)?	
	Oil - Checked reservoir			What is length of the Anchor Rode?	ft
	Is there spare oil on board?			Are the heaving lines available on deck?	
	Is the Tool kit readably available?			Are there mooring lines?	
	Is the Backfire Flame arrestor mounted?			Are there sufficient Fenders?	
	Belts – good condition? – spare belt?			Is there a Horn?	
	Batteries – charged and covered.?			Is there a Bell?	
	Fuel shut offs – where located?			Is a Boot Hook available on deck?	
	Transmission fluid – checked?			Radio is operating? Working channel:	CH
	Engine Coolant – checked?			Alternative channel:	CH
	Fire Extinguisher System operational?			Are the mooring cleats backed?	
	Pollution Placard mounted?			Are the towing cleats backed?	
	Ventilation? Bilge Blower – checked?			Is there an alternative means of bailing?	
	Bilge pumps – Fore and Aft?			Is a MSD installed?	
Nav Gear	Are the NOAA Charts of AOR on board?		Is there a Swim Platform or Is there a Boarding Ladder?		
	Is the Navigation Kit on board?		Is there a spotlight on board?		
	Are the Binoculars on board?		Are there flash lights on board?		
	Was the compass pre-calibrated? Read out is (True or Magnetic)? Is a Deviation Table available?		Is there a Capacity Plate?		
	Is a RPM Table available on board?		Is there a Certificate of compliance?		
	Is there a Timepiece on board?		Is there a galley trash disposal card?		
	How was Echo Sounder pre-calibrated? Correction for transducer location:		Knife (min. 3" inches)		
	Does the Vert. Datum match the chart?		Are navigation lights operating properly?		
	Is the Light List on board?		Is the anchor light operating properly?		
	Is the Coast Pilot on board?		Are there spare bulbs on board?		
	Is the Tide Tables on board?		Electrical System condition? Are there spare fuses on board.?		
	Is the Nav Rules on board?		Is the National Ensign installed?		
	Forms, pencils, and paper on board?		Are there Fire extinguishers plus 2?		
	GPS	How was the GPS calibrated?		Is there a First Aid Kit on board?	
Is the Hor. Datum the same as chart?			Are Blankets (2) available?		
Does GPS Distance = Nautical Miles?			Are PFDs (wearable) plus 2 available?		
Heading (True or Magnetic)?			Are PFDs (throwable) available on deck?		
Vertical Datum (Feet, Fathoms)?			Are VDS available on deck?		
SAR	Is there a Portable Pump on board?		Is Auxiliary Ensign on board?		
	Is Towing Harness on board?		SAR	Are SAR Accident Reports on board?	
	Is Towing Line faked out on deck.			Are Patrol Orders on board?	
	Are Bridles available on deck?			7030 - Activity Report Mission on board?	
	Are Spring Lines available on deck?			Are extra Fenders available on deck?	
	Are Sign Boards installed?			Are Wire Cutters available on deck?	
Is Kicker Hook available on deck?		Is SAR Plotting Guide on board?			

Make copies of the checklist and keep them available in your navigation kit. Fill out this checklist before every ATON/CU patrol. You will need the data from this checklist for preparing a discrepancy or verification report for the Coast Guard or NOAA.

ATONers in Action

Mike Quinn, BC-MNI—Branch Chief for Information on the National Staff of the Prevention “M” Department, Navigation System Division and the SO-AN for Division 7 in Rhode Island, has established **a new web page** on the First Northern Aid to Navigation Web Site for photos of First Northern Aid to Navigation Team members in action. Check it out and send us your own photos for inclusion on this site. **This is a great method for providing recognition for your Aid to Navigation Team Members.**

Every Auxiliarist, while underway on an OPFAC, should be checking every ATON, PATON and Bridge that they encounter for discrepancies, and also be checking the shoreline for charting errors as well as providing update reports on all Small Craft Facilities in their AOR.