



December 2013



Navigation Systems Newsletter



It's time to get ready for the
2014 NS Program.

Our 2014 tag line is . . .

"Making it happen in 2014"

USCG AUXILIARY
NAVIGATION SYSTEMS

978-263-3023

FrankJLarkin@verizon.net

*We may not be able
make it happen
without your help!*

Were you inactive as an AV during 2013?

Both the PATON and AUXDATA Systems were checked for PATON or Bridge Activity. AVs that showed no PATON or Bridge reports and/or have no PATON, ATON or Bridge activity reported in AUXDATA are in danger of losing their AV Currency for 2014 and will lose their system access capability on January 5.

Check this list below to see if you are considered inactive as an AV.

Sector Northern New England

CG ANT Southwest Harbor

Division 1: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

01-02 M. Headd, R. Young.

01-04 B. Lear, S. Warner, L. Bex, C. Foote, J. Foote, F. Wiswall, E. Wiswall.

CG ANT South Portland

Division 2: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

02-01 K. Cyr, R. Robichaud, B. Thompson.

02-04 J. Clancy.

05-05 T. Chatham, R. Johnson, R. Loney, G. Nash, M. Potter, D. Ring, J. Cookson, R. Theve.

Sector Boston

CG ANT Boston

Division 3: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

03-01 G. James, S. James, R. Lemar, L. Musicoff, B. Kuran.

Division 4: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

04-01 P. Karwowski, K. Weston, J. Courtney, A. Goldstein.

Division 5: The listed AV shows no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

05-09 E. Cohen

Division 9: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

09-03 J. Lane

09-06 J. Mason.

Division 12: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

12-08 B. Blanchard, E. Bloomquist, F. Senkel.

Sector Southeast New England

CG ANT Woods Hole

Division 6: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

06-05 L. Lake, L. Montagne, J. Ulewitz, K. Mingola, R. Parker, P. Sadeck.

Division 11: The listed AV shows no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

11-02 A. Piemonte

CG ANT Bristol

Division 7: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

07-02 G. Resnick.

07-06 W. Anderson, D. Hensen, R. Pardi, D. Robert, R. Vanherpe.

07-08 R. Benito, W. Morris, H. Peters, B. Novakoff, R. Audette, A. Jenks, F. Lucca, D. Pouliot, J. Silva, J. Simek

Division 10: The listed AVs show no AV activity during 2013 and will lose their AV Currency in 2014.

10-02 P. Barnes, B. Lacey, D. Morin, M. Rachwal.

There is still time to avoid this loss! Review this checklist:

- Submit a 7030 AUXDATA Activity Report – Individual that reflects the ATONs, PATONs and/or Bridges that you verified or checked during 2013. Submit to your SO-IS right away.
- There are still some PATONs and Bridges to report so that you don't lose your AV Currency. We need you as an active AV in 2014. Check the Bridge System for a list of un-surveyed bridges.
- If you have already reported your NS activity to AUXDATA, check with your FSO or SO-IS. You may have to resubmit a 7030 AUXDATA Activity Report – Individual.
- If you thought another Auxiliarist was going to report your activity for you. Well, they didn't. So prepare your own 7030 AUXDATA Activity Report- Individual and submit it to your SO-IS before January 5th.
- You can also maintain your currency by attending the PATON Training session on Saturday afternoon at the January District Training Conference in Newport, RI. You will have to make up the two reports in 2014.
- If there were extenuating circumstances that affected your Navigation Systems activity last year, let your ADSO-NS know and we will save your currency for 2014.



Have you seen this aid during your travels this year? Perhaps not, since it is located on a river not generally transited by AVs. This is a registered private aid.

You may have a weird aid in your area that you would like to share with us. Send a photo via E-mail and we'll post it future NS Newsletters.

E-mail to FrankJLarkin@verizon.net



We mourn the loss of our shipmate, Joe Marshall from Division 11 on Cape Cod. Joe was a dedicated member of Navigation Systems for many years and was a major player during the development and implementation of the Bridge and PATON systems. He assisted at ANT Woods Hole as the representative of the Auxiliary for Navigation Systems and actually was provided his own office at that site. Joe was familiar with every private aid and bridge in his area and knew every owner. No problem was too difficult for him to resolve. We will miss Joe very much and are in awe of his service record, his knowledge and ability, and his service to the Coast Guard.

Many thanks Joe!

AV-Aid Verifier Qualification Training Program

Place: The comfort of your own home.

Everyone is welcome to participate. Here is a list of the planned training sessions for 2014:

- **Dec. 3 - Session 1 - NAUTICAL CHARTS AND ALMANACS ORIENTATION**

The NOAA Nautical Chart along with all of the other Nautical Catalogs that you will need as an AV will be explained in a [WebEX](#) training session from 8:00 to 10:00 pm. AVC will be introduced to all of the on-line charts and documents access and how to access them on the NS Web Site at www.uscgaan.com. AVCs will be shown how to download and update their on-line Open/CPN nautical charts. Other currently updated catalogs will be demonstrated.

- **Dec 11 – WebEX Training Session 2 – IALA-B Aid to Navigation System. Note the Date Change to Wednesday**

The IALA-B Aids to Navigation System will be explained in a [WebEX](#) training session from 08:00 to 10:00 pm. Also, the reportable documentation, operational and physical discrepancies will be explained. You will have a unique understanding and appreciation for every aid to navigation that you see in the future after attending this session.

- **Dec 17 – WebEX Training Session 3 - THE PATON SYSTEM**

The full use of the PATON System will be explained and demonstrated in a [WebEX](#) training session from 08:00 to 10:00 pm. You will learn how to logon, how to register, how to submit a PATON application and how to determine what PATONs are scheduled for your PATROL Area, How to prepare and submit a 7054 AV Verification Report, how to submit discrepancy photos and how to report your NS activity to AUXDATA.



- **Jan 4 – January Conference, Newport, RI - KIOSK** at January District Training Conference, Newport RI. Get your PC updated with on-line Open /CPN NOAA charts on Saturday morning – 8:30 am to 11:30 pm. Experienced AVs will be available to answer your questions about the Aid Verifier Program and perform check offs. Bring your PC and your hand-held GPS with you.

- **Jan 4 – January Conference, Newport, RI. – 2014 PATON and Bridge Program** at January District Training Conference, Newport RI on Saturday afternoon from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Discussions will include a review of the 2013 performance, the Goals for 2014, new features for 2014, the NS Team Concept, and successful program organization techniques.

- **Jan 4 – January Conference, Newport, RI – Chart Updating Program for 2014** Discover the secrets of getting your NOAA Chart, Light List, Coast Pilots corrected and updated. Chart updating is open to all Auxiliary members.

- **Jan 7 – WebEX Training Session 4 – The Bridge Program** Understanding CFR 117 – Bridges (Q&A), Typical Bridge discrepancies, how to conduct a bridge survey, how to report a Bridge Specification Update and how to report a discrepancy on a bridge in a [WebEX](#) training session from 08:00 to 10:00 pm.

- **Jan 14 – WebEX Training Session 5 - THE PATON SYSTEM OPERATIONS** The full use of the PATON System will be explained and demonstrated in a [WebEX](#) training session from 08:00 to 10:00 pm. You will learn how to take and report a highly accurate fix for reporting to a Federal agency. We will discuss how to determine and report a depth at datum. The use of the Standard Accuracy Statement on a USCG AV PATON Report-7054 will be presented. A discussion of the 2014 system upgrades will be held. These upgrades will depend on the sequester and the budget outcomes in February.

- **Jan 21 – WebEX Training Session 6 - Updating the Open/CPN Charts on your PC.** You will be able to establish waypoints and routes on your PC and track them when you are underway using your PC in a [WebEX](#) training session from 08:00 to 10:00. On line charts are faster to use for plotting courses, creating waypoints and routes for your GPS and are more accurate than the traditional paper charts because that can be updated and corrected each month. Getting the GPS dongle to function with your PC. This feature converts your PC to an on-line chart plotter that will track your position when you are underway. Since NOAA is planning to discontinue lithograph charts, knowledge of the use of on-line charts will be most important in the future.

Take this opportunity to learn from a unique group of skilled Auxiliarists who verify the Private Aids, check the ATONs and the Bridges of First Northern.

Current and qualified Aid Verifiers are also invited to upgrade their navigation skills and experiences narrated by highly skilled AVs. Coxswains and Boat Crew qualified Auxiliaries are especially requested to become Aid Verifier qualified since the PATON and Bridge programs are a perfect match for Operational activities.

Please pass this information to your Flotilla and Division members.

Contact Frank Larkin, DSO-NS 013 if you have any questions about these programs.

978-263-3023 Home - 617-997-7423 Cell - FrankLarkin@verizon.net

Log on to www-uscgaan.com and click on the **WebEX** Training Page.

**Navigation Systems
WebEx Training**

The NS Team has established two scheduled training sessions held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 2000 hours until 2200 hours.
You are allowed to connect at 1950 hours on the day of the presentation. Anytime before 1950 hours or after 2200 the link is disabled.

To join a training session
click on the appropriate link below
Note: Link is active at 1950 hours on day of presentation

[1st and 3rd Tuesday's of the Month](#)
[Special Wednesday 12/11 link](#)

2014 Aid Verifier Training

The following screen will appear. After 1950 hours, the **JOIN** box will open up. Click on the **JOIN** box. See the green arrow below.



USCGAUX NS WebEx Meeting

When: **Wed, Dec 11, 8:00 pm (2 hr)**
New York (Eastern Standard Time, GMT-05:00)

Where: WebEx Online

Host: Frank Lucca

[More information](#)

● When it's time, join your meeting here.

Join

 **Sign in**

Sign in to see more meeting details. Don't have a WebEx account?
[Sign up for free.](#)

There is no need to sign in. Be patient! Wait for the **JOIN** box to open. An entry form will appear. You will be asked to enter your name and your e-mail address. Please enter your first and last name so we know who you are. Also, you will be able to select your audio choice – either head phone and mike or a telephone hookup. A brief explanation of how to communicate during the training session will be made prior to the start of the training session.

If the meeting window isn't loading, close your browser and try to join the meeting again. Be sure to accept or approve any alerts requiring your approval to install the WebEx meeting application, and turn off any pop-up blocker that could be preventing the WebEx meeting window from opening. You may have to perform this exercise if you click on **JOIN** prematurely.

If your meeting window still doesn't load, close all browser windows, clear your browser cache, and then join the meeting again. To learn how to clear your browser cache, search the Internet for "**How to clear cache in <browser name>**." Also, you can click on HELP and select the FAQ section for further assistance



Understanding your Volunteer's Motivations

A must reading for all Navigation Systems Staff Officers

The Roles of Volunteers

Volunteers are our most important resource in the USCG Auxiliary. Across the United States, volunteers work in 4-H and Master Gardener programs. They volunteer for environmental groups and health organizations. They help the United Way and the American Heart Association. Volunteers give their time to religious and educational institutions. They serve cultural and art groups, social services, and agencies meeting the needs of communities. Navigation Systems operates entirely with volunteers at the direction of the Coast Guard.

Every manager of volunteers, such as an USCG AUX Staff Officer, can enhance their volunteer experience by taking and providing the training necessary to build skills that, most importantly, meet the goals of their volunteers. This is true for paid employees also but more so with volunteers.

Working with Volunteers

Understanding the different motivating factors for why a person volunteers can help a staff administrator work more effectively with their volunteers, assigning tasks, organizing and conducting meetings, training and recognizing/rewarding volunteer accomplishments.

The effective staff administrator has to learn to adapt to various styles of management in order to reach and understand the different needs of their volunteers. An effective Staff Officer recognizes and fulfills these needs thereby accomplishing their goals and assigned tasks of their programs.

Volunteers are individuals with unique feelings, motives, and ambitions. Managers must respect a volunteer's individuality and keep their volunteer's activity of volunteering rewarding and stimulating.

What inspires people to action? Some volunteers simply get pleasure from volunteering, while others want to work with their peers. Some want to further their knowledge. Some volunteers want to learn new job skills. Some volunteer just want to pass the time. It is fatal if you put all your volunteers in the same box.

Demand for volunteer services is always on the rise. You have to start thinking of volunteers as a market place. There are many other agencies and other functions in your own organization out there ready to grab your volunteers away from you.

Volunteer Motivations

Usually a volunteer acts from one or more of the following motivators:

1. **Improving Life Satisfaction**
2. **Achievement**
3. **Power**
4. **Affiliation**
5. **Recognition**
6. **Altruism**
7. **Availability**

1. **Improving Life Satisfaction.**

Older people often have more free time on their hands or may be filling a void in their life left by the loss of a loved one, or by retirement. To optimize the use of older volunteers:

Encourage them to become part of your volunteer network.

- Older volunteers provide can a unique set of skills that have been proven over the years in the work place.

Use them to fill important roles within your organizations to overcome dwindling staff and diminishing financial resources.

- Retired professional volunteers can provide critical experiences to the Coast Guard.
- Find things for them to do that they like to do best.
- Design your organization around the talents of your volunteers.

Provide a sense of belonging to older volunteers.

- Retirees are accustomed to a structured work place.
- Provide extensive orientation so that they feel comfortable with the new protocols that the Auxiliary presents to them.
- Veterans will be more comfortable in the Auxiliary environment.

Be aware that older volunteers can have multiple motivations.

2. The Achiever

The achievement-motivated volunteer looks for opportunities that require top performance in which they can excel. This volunteer likes to out-perform others by attaining unique accomplishments and enjoys striving for lofty goals. They are always looking for ways to do the job better by figuring out how to remove obstacles and improve performance. To work well with the achiever:

Ask for their help in setting the work pace and methods.

- They have a habit of finding ways around problems and roadblocks
- They have to provide solutions that are usable within the existing environment.

Give them challenging tasks that require efficiency.

- They like to win and be first.
- They have to be fully trained in the operations that they perform.

Allow them to learn new skills or material.

- Keep them at the forefront of your system development.
- They are always thinking of new ways to reduce labor time and improve communications.

Give them clear feedback on their performance.

- Keep them on a one on one basis.
- Asking their opinions produces great insights on time saving opportunities.

Caveats:

Be careful that they do not run rough shod over their people with their motivation to succeed.

- Combining highly motivated volunteers with low motivated A Staff manager assignment is the formula for disaster.
- Achievers that are people oriented perform the best.

Be sure that they understand the environment in which they must work and that they must stay within the boundaries of their chain of command.

- Without direction they often waste a lot of time performing unnecessary work.
- Be sure that they understand the scope of the project to which they are assigned.

Keep them focused on the job at hand in the short term and the job-improvement in the long term.

- Also keep them aware of our limited resources.
- They think big and often find resources to get the jobs done.

They can easily become bored and move on to another situation.

- Use these volunteers in brain storming sessions to help develop new systems and technique that further reduce paper work and processing time as well as increasing accuracy and professionalism.

3. The Power Seeker

People seeking power want to have impact by influencing others with their ideas. They want to win arguments and get others to do things their way. They seek ways to influence through communication. To direct power motivated volunteers:

Give them opportunities to direct others.

- Be sure that they are fully trained and aware of the programs goals and objectives or else they can go off the deep end.

Allow them to implement changes.

- They like to be in the limelight.

Have them interact with coworkers/volunteers and with supervisors.

- Force them to stay in the day to day operation and understand how the basic systems work in real time.

Let them control their work pace.

- They often can complete a large amount of work in a short space of time.
- Once they establish a track record for completing assignments, don't bug them. They will do the job on their own schedule.
- Keep them aware of deadlines.

Ask their opinion on how jobs could be done.

- They often feel left out if not included in the planning process.

Give them tasks that need managerial skills.

- Keep them busy or they can become destructive.

4. The Affiliated Volunteer

Being around other people is important to volunteers with an affiliation motive. The social aspect of volunteering appeals to them. They want to build friendships and to be respected. They like being with others want to help people and care about others' feelings. For success with affiliation-oriented volunteers:

Let them work with people.

- Fit them into existing teams.
- They learn quicker by doing.
- Eventually they will pick the team that they are comfortable with.

Find tasks that require cooperation.

- They become quite productive in a team environment as long as the team has similar motivations.
- You can lose them if they are attached to an incompatible team.

Give them off-task time to interact with their coworkers.

- They can be motivated with fellowship activity.

Allow plenty of relationship building time and activities.

- They can easily be turned off if not carefully cultured into the organization.
- They need extra orientation so that they feel comfortable in their surroundings.
- Walk them through the training process.
- They may need extra encouragement at times.

5. The Recognition Motivated Volunteer

For those motivated by recognition, prestige and status are important. They prefer clear ending, short-term tasks. They enjoy public relations. They want to be connected with popular projects. They want to advance to new tasks, so they desire timely completion of work.

When volunteers are motivated by recognition:

- Give them work that can be completed quickly.
- Let them be in positions of high visibility, on radio, TV, or in the news
- Award those medals, plaques, certificates, and public announcements of their achievements.

Caveats:

- Be aware that many let others do the grunt work and they take the credit.
- They can turn off other members on the team.

6. The Altruistic Volunteer

Altruistic people pursue attainment for the general good. They have high ideals and values. They are concerned about interests that benefit the public. They care about accountability. To work well with those motivated by altruism:

Include them with others of similar values and goals.

- A team of altruistic members can accomplish a high level of quality and quantity at their assigned jobs.

Have them work with highly committed and knowledgeable people.

- They will be quick learners and will advance quickly.

Provide this volunteer with opportunities that revolve around accepted community concerns and the mission of the agency.

- Sell them on the benefits of their work in saving lives and the benefits to the maritime public.

7. Availability

Be sensitive to the amount of time that a volunteer can contribute to your organization. They want to contribute but are limited by distance, work schedule, night jobs, young children at home and a lot of other interruptions in their lives. **To work well with those members limited by availability:**

Schedule assignments and events to times when they are available.

- Even fellowships event provide opportunities for one-on-one contact and conversations about their availability and contribution potentials.

Focus them on ‘individual contributor’ tasks that they can accomplish on their own schedule.

- Include them in tasks that they can perform alone.
- Save these tasks for these members.
- Give them the right of first refusal.

Keep them interested by communicating with them with periodic e-mails and monthly newsletters that define Navigation System programs that they could perform.

- You never know when they have large time breaks.
- Very busy people can get a lot of specialty work done in short spurts.
- Very busy people get bored in slack times.

Beware of overloading people with too much work.

Volunteer Expectations

A volunteer expects certain things from the organization with which they choose to participate. These expectations vary depending on the volunteer’s motivation. These include:

A Volunteer’s Expectation	A Volunteer’s Turnoff
Consideration, patience, courtesy, cooperation.	Disrespect, complaining, rudeness, lack of teamwork.
Clarity, tasks they are capable of performing, relevant information.	Ambiguity, unrealistic goals, confusing guides and lack of training.
Professional treatment, private constructive criticism.	Amateurism, public criticism, untrained staff.
Appreciation, sincerity, recognition, positive work experience.	Lack of member understanding, lack of candor, pettiness, lack of credit, lack of training.

Volunteers appreciate accomplishing tasks competently. This builds their confidence. A wise manager emphasizes tasks that build competency by reinforcing learning with positive appraisal. Volunteer management staff plays a serious and important role in the development of every member.



Obstacles to Success with Volunteers

A volunteer manager must avoid burning out their volunteers. Burn out is more common among enthusiastic volunteers who become leaders and have unrealistic goals. Underutilization of a volunteer's skills by a volunteer manager will also discourage individuals.

Common obstacles to success include:

- Neglecting to ask for help from a volunteer.**
- Assigning tasks without giving clear direction or training.**
- Making the volunteer feel unimportant or unnecessary.**
- Using volunteers for busy work.**
- Having low expectations for a volunteer.**
- Forgetting to thank a volunteer for their contribution.**

For success with volunteers:

- Find out and paying attention to your volunteer's needs.**
- Give volunteers jobs that they enjoy and from which they can learn.**
- Explain each job's goals and objectives clearly and completely to all your volunteers.**
- Involve your volunteers in program planning and decision-making whenever possible.**
- Provide full training involving both training guides and on-the-job training.**
- Always show volunteers that their experience is valued.**
- Reward volunteers from the moment of initial contact.**

Job satisfaction is the pay that a volunteer receives. The work needs to be meaningful, interesting, and allow for personal growth. Social interaction is important. Recruitment is only the beginning of a volunteer program. Retention is vital to program success.

Boring and routine volunteer work will become interesting to a volunteer depending on the motivation of the instructor and manager and the understanding of the need that it fills in the Coast Guard and Auxiliary.



How Volunteers Relate to the Auxiliary as an Organization

- A manager of volunteers must realize that an individual's motivation(s) can change over time. Initially a volunteer chooses an organization based on a preconceived idea of how that organization will fulfill their desires. As volunteers meet others who work within the organization and as they begin do the work themselves, they get a clearer picture of the values, constraints, and traits of the organization. They change their expectations to meet their more recently perceived reality.
- The effective volunteer Staff Officer will build more flexibility into their programs to meet these changes, allowing volunteers to grow, do new tasks, and meet their changing needs.
- A volunteer Staff Officer who is geared for success with volunteers will allow for personal variations in time, interest, and energy from their individual volunteers.
- A good manager allows and encourages the growth for each volunteer. Volunteers want supportive and constructive feedback as well as recognition for a job well done.

- Rules need to be easy to understand and limited to those that are necessary to ensure a smooth functioning within the organization.
- A volunteer manager must share the vision of the organization with all their volunteers and serve as a liaison between the organization and the volunteers.
- Volunteers usually take on the management style of their staff manager. The attitudes of the manager will be the number one reason why a volunteer gives up and leaves, or grows into a productive member of your Auxiliary Team.
- Effective Staff Officers talk with their volunteers to see what is important to them. They work with volunteers regularly to keep up-to-date with any changing needs. They find ways to solve their problems. They continually communicate with their volunteers in order to know and understand their problems.
- The ideal for Navigation Systems Staff Officers is to attract willing volunteers, then, keep them productive and satisfied within the volunteer experience. By keeping the magic in that experience, not only are volunteers' needs met, but the needs of the organization are also met.

So you see, as an Auxiliary Staff Officer, it is all up to you.

You can decide to not manage your assigned staff function. The usual result is that nothing gets done in your area when you chose this path.

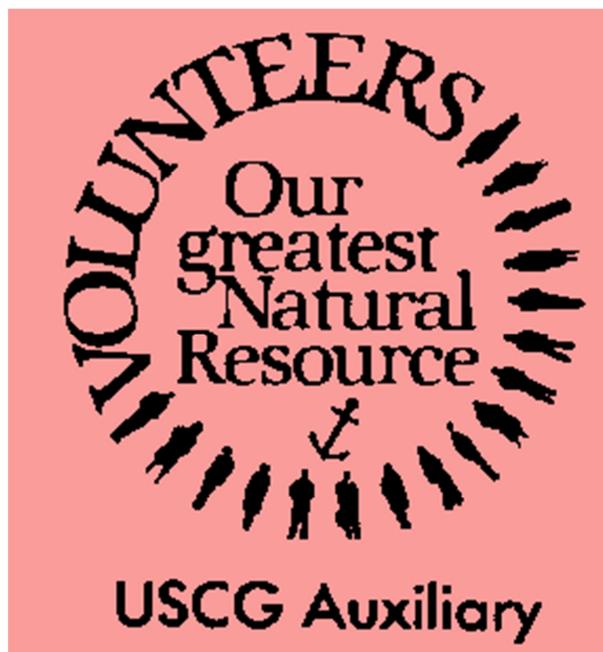
Or, you can decide to take the bull by the horns to learn and to act like a skilled manager and achieve your personal and assigned goals and objectives. Usually at the same time, the goals and objectives of your assigned Staff area are also met.

What type of motivation do you have?

It's never too late to change! **Management is a learned skill.** You will make errors during the learning process. Learning from your errors is the learning process itself. Acquiring good management skills will help you throughout your whole life.

The Importance of Credibility as a Navigation Systems Volunteer

Never forget that you are working for some Coast Guard Chief or Officer when you perform PATON verifications and checks or ATON checks. Actually, they are in charge of the aids to navigation, not the Auxiliary. Also, they are responsible for the activity that is performed in their AORS, not the Auxiliary. This means, that as Auxiliary AVs, we must continuously convince the Coast Guard of our skills, knowledge and ability to do a highly professional job for them as part of their extended crew. It is important that our Navigation Systems Staff get to know the Coast Guard Officers in charge of their patrol areas. Remember, that if an AV creates a problem, it is the Coast Guard OICs who must take the heat. Rightfully, their Coast Guard careers depend on everything that happened within their AOR. This was my reasoning behind our Navigation Systems tag line, "**Prevention, Accuracy, Credibility, Professionalism and Service to the Coast Guard.**" As AVs in the First District, this is who we must become. Live it! Show it in everything you do! And, above all, be proud of it!



You can get your highest job satisfaction as a NS Staff Officer when you use the Navigation Systems (NS) Team Concept . . .

A **Navigation Systems (NS) Team** is a group of Auxiliarists who are focused on the Navigation Systems Programs – **PATONs, ATONs, Bridges, and Chart Updating** projects which includes **Small Craft Facility** updating where applicable (1). A NS Team should consist of a minimum of at least one AV Qualified and current member, a Coxswain, an OPFAC and sufficient Crew to perform a patrol within their designated Patrol Area. Nothing stops multiple AVs from belonging to a single NS Team. All successful and effective AVs are normally identified with a NS Team. NS Teams can be assigned inter-divisionally as needed to achieve the First Northern Navigation Systems assignments from the Coast Guard. Only qualified and current AVs may submit USCG AV PATON Reports-7054 and Bridge Survey Reports to the Coast Guard. Any qualified Auxiliarist on the team may submit a PATON, Bridge or ATON Check and discrepancy reports. Any Auxiliarist may perform and submit a Chart Update Report.

A single Auxiliarist, who is AV qualified and current but who utilizes multi-mission patrols to perform their NS activity, can be designated as a NS Team. Two or more AVs on a NS Team is best but we can't ignore our very prolific individual contributors AVs.

A **NS Patrol Area** is a predefined area within an Auxiliary Division that can be geographically identified as a natural area for verifying and checking PATONs, checking ATONs, surveying Bridges and performing Chart Update projects. A specific number of PATONs, ATONs, and Bridges will be defined for each Patrol Area. Reporting on the activity in each Patrol Area is tracked each year and reported monthly to the Coast Guard from May through October.

Projected 2014 Navigation Systems Activity Plan.

All defined Navigation System Teams will be assigned to defined Patrol Areas for 2014 and will be responsible for surveying the scheduled PATONs, checking the unscheduled PATONs, photographing PATONs that currently do not have photos on record, surveying the Bridges, checking the ATONs and performing assigned Chart Updates. Division activity is estimated below.

Preliminary 2014 Schedule Data

SECTOR	DIV	Total PATONS	2014 PATON Verifications	Photos	BRIDGE Surveys
NNE	1	136	45	113	8
	2	268	90	217	47
	15	85	28	71	unk
Total NNE		489	163	401	55
BOS	3	92	31	57	9
	4	114	38	108	13
	5	70	Sector	18	41
	9	60	20	57	14
	12	166	55	67	9
Total BOS		527	176	322	72
SENE	6	200	67	96	11
	7/10	471	157	210	15
	11	1008	336	672	14
Total SENE		1679	560	978	40
District Total		2695	898	1701	189

Plans for an individual Auxiliary patrol should be limited to approximately 15 to 20 PATONs. This number could also be further reduced by the number of unscheduled PATONs, and the number of ATONs and bridges within the patrol area. In some cases, it can take multiple patrols to complete the available PATONs, ATONs and Bridges within a defined patrol area. For planning purposes, patrols should be at least four hours. Night patrols are also needed to check the light characteristics on PATONs and ATONs located and the lights on bridges located within a patrol area.

It is recommended that the ***NS Team Concept*** be used on each patrol so that the verification and that checking tasks be assigned to multiple AVs and Crew under the direction of an AV. This is a more efficient approach and minimizes the time expended on scene at an aid or bridge. It also increases the accuracy of each verification when each team member checks the other.

It is also recommended that **Open/CPN on-line charts** be used to facilitate position accuracy for the unscheduled PATONs and ATONs. Properly calibrated and chart-plotting GPS sets may also be substituted for this purpose. Hand-held GPS sets are recommended for PATON position verifications. Pre-checking of each Paton's documentation is always recommended in order to same time while underway. The Light List position, the charted position and the observed position should be checked against the Permitted position. Inclusion of the ***Standard Accuracy Report*** is now required for each PATON verification report. Updates to the charts on your PC will be available on Saturday morning, January 4 at the January Conference.

Uncharted PATONs should be pre-entered on the Open/CPN Chart System using their Permitted positions in order to facilitate their verification position check while on patrol. This technique is very useful for sorting out groups of identical aids such as speed buoys and no wake buoys and saves much time while underway. Trying to accomplish this work when on scene is disruptive and tedious.

PATON Off Station Criteria

PATONs may be declared as off station by an AV according to these criteria:

Fixed Lateral PATONs = 25 feet.

Floating Lateral PATONs = 50 feet.

Regulatory PATONs = 500 feet. (2)

It is suggested that AVs use the [Vertical and Horizontal Calculator](#) to determine the actual distance that a PATON is observed from its Permit position and to report this distance in the [AV Observation](#) field. Distance off can also be determined on Open/CPN charts.

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- (1) Small Craft Facility projects can only be performed in geographical locations that are showing on Small Craft (SC) charts.
 - (2) Our concern is their compliance to the standards for a regulatory buoy or daybeacon – white can or background with orange bands, regulatory shapes and black print. Major discrepancies are regulatory aids located in a navigable channel.

“All auxiliary vessels when underway should be checking all Aids to Navigations (ATONs and PATONs) for any type of discrepancy and also should check the Charts, Coast Pilot & Shoreline for any type of Charting Errors as well as provide update reports on Charts, Small Crafts Facilities & Coast Pilot data in your AOR.”



Wishing health and happiness to you and your family in 2014

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Distribution is encouraged to other members of the Coast Guard and Auxiliary

Please e-mail this newsletter to all your flotilla and division members. And, include this information in your Monthly NS Reports at your Flotilla and Division meetings.

Be sure that every one of your members gets a copy of this newsletter. We recognize that Navigation Systems activity is not suited to every member. However, you never know when a new member will want to try it out. Always keep them informed of the Navigation Systems programs and opportunities.

