



Navigation Systems has been assigned an aggressive 2012 PATON verification and bridge program by the Coast Guard.

The Auxiliary is at the end of a three-year commitment to the Coast Guard District Commander to verify every PATON in First Northern and to clear up all the errors in the PATON specifications and owner data.

As a result, we need the assistance of all of our AVs to accomplish this task. We have been making plans for the past two months and are starting to publish detail planning spreadsheets for each AOR in the District. Aggressive AV training plans have been established as you will see as you read this newsletter. Training will be provided at the April Awards Conference for new AVs. We will also be providing WebEX on-line training starting in a few weeks that will be focused on new AVs who won't be able to get to the conference or who live at the extreme edges of our District. We will be offering training for those Navigation Systems Staff Officers who missed the January Conference. This Staff training is critical to the success of our programs. Later in May, we will be presenting Chart Updating training using the WebEX on-line system.

We encourage everyone to get involved this year. There is plenty to do right now surveying bridges, checking annual-designated PATONs, training, and getting updated with the Bridge and PATON on-line systems. Chart updating and Small Craft Facility updating are other year-round activities.

Here's how you can help. *Become AV Qualified.* The procedure is explained later in this newsletter. If you are AV Qualified, *become active in 2012.* There are many training opportunities scheduled to provide you the knowledge of the various changes that have occurred. Pick a topic below and sign up for the training.

Navigation Systems needs your assistance in 2012

AV - AID VERIFIER TRAINING

is scheduled for the
APRIL AWARDS CONFERENCE
on Saturday April 14, 2012

You are invited to become AV-Aid Verifier qualified. The Coast Guard needs your assistance to verify the many PATONs – Private aids to Navigation and survey the Bridges throughout the District. AV qualification consists of the following training:

- Qualification Check Off Guides, both the District Specific AV Qualification Guide and the AV/PQS Qualification Guide should be downloaded from the Aid Verifier-AV web page at www.uscgaan.com. Use these documents for study and check offs.
- Pre-conference readings that are listed in the District Specific AV Qualification Guide that is located on the Aid Verifier-AV web page at www-uscgaan.com. Try to complete these readings before the conference.
- Download documents to your PC Desktop. These are the navigation documents that you will need for reference while performing PATON verifications and Bridge surveys as an AVC and an eventual AV.
- If you are not Boat Crew or Coxswain qualified, there are 15 Boat Crew tasks that must be completed as part of your AV qualification. Contact your Member Training and/or Operations Staff Officers and sign up for available Boat Crew training right away. These are safety-related tasks that are common sense and won't take long to complete. Any qualified Coxswain should be able to assist you. Note that these Boat Crew tasks must be signed off by a Boat Crew program QE.
- There are two ICS-Incident Command System courses that you must complete – ICS 100 and ICS 700. Be sure that the ICS course completion certificates are sent to DIRAUX to be recorded in your personnel record. Contact your MT-Member Training Staff Officer for instructions for achieving this qualification. These qualifications are tracked by AUXDATA.
- Attend an 8-hour Team Coordination Training (TCT) course. Contact your MT-Member Training Staff Officer for availability of these training sessions.

AV training that is scheduled for the April Conference on Aid to Navigation and Bridge topics, such as:

- The IALA-B Aid to Navigation System. (40 min PowerPoint presentation)
 - Typical Aid to Navigation Discrepancies. (40 min PowerPoint presentation)
 - Federal Regulations for Private Aids to Navigation. (30 min Lecture)
 - Set up and operation of a GPS and guidelines for taking a Fix. (PowerPoint and lecture)
 - Set up and operation of a GPS and guidelines for taking a Depth. (PowerPoint and lecture)
 - Using the Web-Based PATON System for on-line reporting. (Live on-line)
 - On-line AUXDATA Activity reporting using the PATON and Bridge systems. (Live)
 - Federal Regulations for Bridges. (PowerPoint and lecture)
 - Typical Bridge Discrepancies. (PowerPoint presentation with explanations)
 - Using the Bridge Database System for on-line Bridge reporting. (Live presentation)
- For candidates who cannot make the April Conference, WebEX on-line training is scheduled. See the schedules below.
 - Verifying Officers will be available all day Saturday at the April Conference to check off the District Specific and AV/PQS tasks that you have completed.
 - ON-LINE NOAA charts will be available for download to your personal computer at the April Conference. This activity satisfies your NOAA Chart task. There is no charge for this service and we will supply monthly on-line updates that will keep your charts current at no charge. This chart package covers Maine to New Jersey. Be sure to bring your Laptop to the conference.

What's New!

The **2012 Light List** has been released. Log on to www.uscgaan.com and click onto the "Helpful Links" web page and drill down to Light List. AVs should keep a copy of the Light List on their Desktop for ease of reference when reviewing their AV verification fixes before submitting reports to the Coast Guard.

WEBEX Training is here!

...providing AV and NS Staff training on-line from the comfort of your home.

WebEX on-line training that you can access from your home computer will be used this year to reach out to those AVs who cannot make it to the District Conference or who missed the training that was provided at the January Conference. You only need a high speed internet connection. And, you can use the microphone/camera/speakers on your

laptop to connect, view and listen or speak. A user manual with a short video on accessing the system should be ready shortly.

WebEx is a web-based service, that can be used from any computer (Windows, Mac, Linux, or Solaris) – as well as your iPhone, BlackBerry, or any other Wi-Fi or 3G-enabled mobile device. There's no complicated installation. You just log into your WebEx account to start or schedule a session. AVs don't need to be WebEx subscribers to join the online training sessions.

For new AVs who may not be able to attend the AV training scheduled on Saturday, April 14 at the District Awards Conference, WebEX training will be presented on-line starting on *Thursday evening, February 16 at 7:00 PM*. The full training schedule is shown below.

Training Topic	Time	Presented by:
AV TRAINING SESSION 1 – FEB. 16, 2012 @ 7:00 TO 9:00 PM		
a. NS-AN05 BASIC ATON TRAINING PRESENTATION	7:00 – 8:00 PM	DSO-NS
b. NS-AN06 ATON DISCREPANCY REVIEW B	8:00 – 9:00 PM	DSO-NS
AV TRAINING SESSION 1 – MAR. 1, 2012 @ 7:00 TO 9:00 PM		
a. REVIEW OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS FOR PATONS	7:00 – 7:30 PM	DSO-NS
b. SET UP AND OPERATION OF A GPS AND GUIDELINES FOR TAKING A FIX.	7:30 – 8:10 PM	DSO-NS
c. SET UP AND OPERATION OF AN ECHO SOUNDER FOR TAKING AND REPORTING A DEPTH.	8:10 – 9:00 PM	DSO-NS
AV TRAINING SESSION 3 – MAR. 8, 2012 @ 7:00 TO 9:00 PM		
a. USING THE WEB-BASED PATON SYSTEM FOR ON LINE REPORTING	7:00 – 9:00 PM	DSO-NS
AV TRAINING SESSION 4 – MAR. 15, 2012 @ 7:00 TO 9:00PM		
a. NS-BP05 BRIDGE LIGHTING AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT TRAINING PRESENTATION	7:00 – 8:00 PM	ADSO-NS
b. USING THE BRIDGE DATABASE SYSTEM FOR ON-LINE BRIDGE REPORTING	8:00 -9:00 PM	ADSO-NS

**“All Auxiliarists
 when underway should be checking all
Aids to Navigations and bridges
 for any type of **Discrepancy**
 and should be checking the
Charts, Coast Pilot & Shoreline
 for any type of **Charting Errors.**”**

For the Navigation System Staff Officers – FSO-NS’ and SO-NS’ who missed the January Conference, Navigation Systems Staff Officer Training will be repeated on-line starting on **Thursday evening, March 22 at 7:00 PM**. The full training schedule is shown below. Every NS Staff Officer should plan to attend this training,

Training Event	Time	Presented by
NS STAFF OFFICER TRAINING SESSION 1 – MAR 22, 2012 @ 7:00 PM		
a. 2012 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	7:00 – 7:20 PM	DSO-NS
b. NAVIGATION SYSTEM WEB PAGE ORIENTATION	7:20 – 7:40 PM	DSO-NS
c. REVIEW OF THE DETAIL PATON PLAN SPREADSHEET.	7:40 – 8:00 PM	DSO-NS
d. PREPLANNING REQUIREMENTS FOR A PATON PATROL	8:00 – 9:00 PM	DSO-NS
NS STAFF OFFICER TRAINING SESSION 2 – APR 4, 2012 @ 7:00 PM		
a. ACCURACY STATEMENT	7:00 – 7:20 PM	DSO-NS
b. PATON PATROL PROCESS PRESENTATION	7:20 – 7:50 PM	DSO-NS
c. HORIZONTAL ERROR CALCULATOR	7:50 – 8:10 PM	DSO-NS
d. CRITERIA FOR REPORTING A PATON AS WATCHING PROPERLY	8:10 – 8:40 PM	DSO-NS
e. UNDERSTANDING AQUACULTURE AIDS AND FACILITIES	8:40 – 9:00 PM	DSO-NS
NS STAFF OFFICER TRAINING SESSION 3 – APR 12, 2012 @ 7:00 PM		
a. MANAGING THE NAVIGATION SYSTEMS FUNCTION BY A NS STAFF OFFICER	7:00 – 7:30 PM	DSO-NS
b. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEB-BASED PATON SYSTEM	7:30 – 8:00 PM	DSO-NS
c. COMMENTS ON THE 2012 FEDERAL ATON PROGRAM	8:00 – 8:10 PM	DSO-NS
d. COMMENTS ON THE 2012 CU-CHART UPDATING PROGRAM.	8:10 – 8:20 PM	DSO-NS
e. COMMENTS ON THE 2012 SCF-SMALL CRAFT FACILITY PROGRAM	8:20 – 8:30 PM	DSO-NS
f. COMMENTS ON THE 2012 BRIDGE PROGRAM	8:30 – 9:00 PM	DSO-NS

Participation in any WebEX training session is limited to 23 students. Reserve your slot by e-mailing the DSO-NS at FrankJLarkin@verizon.net. Indicate the Session Number and the date in your e-mail. You will receive an e-mail confirming your reservation and instructions (Web Address) for joining the on-line class. You will need a Personal Computer with a broadband Internet connection.

I have used an earphone and microphone with a USB connection in the past with good success. This may not be necessary on newer computers.

Reservations are on a first come, first serve basis.

Free on-line chart plotter (Open CPN) software is available for download to your PC.

Check out the “Most Popular Links” section of the First Northern Navigation Systems Web Site at www.uscgaan.com for downloading and updating instructions. Many AVs have also added an on-line GPS to their PC that tracks their movement when underway.

Navigation Systems staff will be available at the April Conference to provide downloads and update of the software. [Bring your laptops with you to the April Conference.](#)

For any Auxiliarist that is interested in the NOAA Chart Updating Program, training is scheduled to begin on **Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 7:00 PM.** The training schedule is shown below.

TRAINING EVENT	TIME	PRESENTED BY
CHART UPDATING TRAINING SESSION 1 – APR 26, 2012 @ 7:00 PM		
a. SMALL CRAFT FACILITY UPDATING	7:00 – 9:00 PM	FRANK COTTER, DIV 7
CHART UPDATING TRAINING SESSION 2 – MAY 3, 2012 @ 7:00 PM		
a. CHART UPDATING	7:00 – 9:00 PM	FRANK COTTER, DIV 7

This is an introductory training session for the Chart Updating (CU) Program. You don’t have to be AV Qualified to perform this activity. However, much of the positioning and depth guidelines are similar. Upon completion of this one-night session, you should be able to perform simple CU tasks and accurately prepare the proper reports to NOAA. CU reports are mailed to the DSO-NS with the proper evidence and supporting data for final review and forwarding to NOAA. The instructor has investigated and made many CU Reports to NOAA with very effective results.

<p>There are multiple chart updating opportunities in the picture shown to the right. However, you won’t be able to find them without the proper CU training. Plan to attend a Chart Updating Workshop soon.</p>	
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In order to get the true focus of the 2012 Navigation Systems Programs, the 2012 Navigation Systems Goals and Objectives for your review. Hopefully, this will provide some ideas on how you can contribute this year. There are many opportunities provided this year and we are already well underway researching the many corrections that are scheduled.



2012 Navigation Systems Program Goals and Objectives

PATONS:

First Priority – Coordinate and verify all of the PATONs that have never been verified before in your AOR.

- At the end of the 2012 verification season EVERY Paton should have been verified at least once in the previous 3 years.

Second Priority – Coordinate and verify all "seasonal" lateral aids. (Aids that are pulled and reset each year).

- This is an ANT specific priority.

Third Priority – **Coordinate and verify those PATONs that have not been verified prior to 2010.**

- ALL PATON ownership data should be filled on each PATON record, there should be ZERO blanks.
- Along with filling in the ownership info, each owner should be assigned Local Authority and be able to log on and see/update/change their online permit.
 - a. This is a DPW 1 project with the information being provided by the field.
 - b. We have a ways to go for that I know, but part of the verification process needs to check this owner usage function (by verifying via phone and email).

BRIDGES:

First Priority - **Survey all Class 1, 2 and 3 bridges that have never been surveyed before.**

- If a bridge is not navigable from the sea, let the DSO-NS know and the Class Code will be changed to 4.
- Do not survey Class 4 Bridges unless specifically requested by the Coast Guard.

Second Priority - **Recheck and report the current status on all bridges that are showing a discrepancy on the Bridge System.**

- If a bridge is not being corrected in a timely manner, make a report to that effect so that follow up with the Bridge Branch is initiated.
- Bridges showing discrepancies should be rechecked monthly to verify whether any discrepancies were corrected.

Third Priority - **Survey the rest of the bridges.**

- At the end of 2012, every bridge in your AOR should have a survey or a discrepancy report.

CHART UPDATING

1. Encourage members to participate in Chart Updating WebEX Training and live workshop programs.
2. Prepare and publish a list of Chart Updating opportunities for your AOR.
3. Plan and facilitate some Chart Updating events and submit CU reports to NOAA.

SMALL CRAFT FACILITY UPDATING

1. Identify and publish a list of Small Craft Facilities within your AOR that meet the criteria for inclusion on a Small Craft Chart.
 - Review existing charted and listed entries for accuracy.
2. Encourage members to participate in the Small Craft Facility WebEX Training programs.
3. Plan and facilitate some Small Craft Facility events and submit SCF reports to NOAA.

ATONS

1. Encourage OPFAC owners to check every Federal Aid to Navigation that they pass while underway on a CG AUX patrol.
2. Encourage members to participate in the Federal ATON WebEX Training programs.
3. Encourage OPFAC owners to make discrepancy reports to the Coast Guard.

OVERALL NAVIGATION SYSTEMS PLANNING

It is the ADSO, SO and FSO's responsibility in each AOR to formulate a plan of execution to accomplish these goals. This planning should include items such as:

1. Forming a Navigation Systems Team of NS Staff Officers for your AOR.
2. Preparing and publishing a list of AVs and members who are committed to execute the work required to meet each Goal and Objective listed above.
3. Preparing and publishing a list of OPFACs that are committed to support the work plan defined in (1) above. [OPFAC owners do not have to be AV trained.]
4. Tracking and reporting the performance throughout the year.
5. Following up and re-planning for success when schedules are not met.
6. Constant communication and feedback to your volunteers.

Note The specific PATON plans will be developed at the DSO and ADSO levels. Various options are available for assigning responsibility in the field.

PATONs may be assigned to Division, Flotilla or Patrol Areas.
BRIDGES may be assigned to Division.

If a *NS Staff Officer* doesn't make a detailed plan for achieving their assigned annual goals and objectives, usually, nothing gets accomplished in their AOR during the year.

Good planning is the most essential element of every great success.

PLEASE PASS OR E-MAIL THIS NEWSLETTER ON TO YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER AND **BE SURE TO USE THIS INFORMATION AS PART OF YOUR NS MONTHLY DIVISION OR FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS.**

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FrankJLarkin@verizon.net

Distribution is encouraged to all members of the Coast Guard and CG Auxiliary.

