The governing body of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc. is the Board of Directors, which has all powers of governing and directing.

The board is charged with overseeing the management of the business and its organizational affairs. The Association’s governance principles are found in its formal policies as established in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP is the official publication of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc to provide articles of interest and information to its members.

9449 Watson Industrial Park St. Louis, MO, 63126
314-962-8828  info@cgauxa.org

Off Guadalcanal, Signalman First Class Douglas Munro, USCG, provides covering fire for the evacuation of a detachment of Marines in a painting by Bernard D’Andrea. After volunteering to lead the dangerous mission, Munro positioned his boats to allow the Marines’ rear guard to embark. Fatally wounded, Munro’s final words reportedly were “Did they get off”? He became the Coast Guard’s sole Medal of Honor recipient.

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AuxA™

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75th Anniversary of VJ Day
14 AUG 1945 to
14 AUG 2020

The War was over!
Our veterans were
going home.

New York City’s Times
Square 14 AUG ‘45
What is your Purpose in Life?

That title sounds like this article is written for some Philosophy course. That’s not what I intend it to be. During these days while we Auxiliarists are having to just “Swing on the Anchor” due to COVID concerns, it can become very easy to lose enthusiasm for what we do during normal times. So, what can we do as members to benefit ourselves and the boating public if we can’t co-mingle?

Many of our staff groups and individual members have stayed engaged administratively. Examples: Our RB staff folks have acquired authorization from NASBLA and state organizations to teach online PE classes. They have set up a new testing regime. They have innovatively created a new virtual VSC program from scratch to help ensure we deliver some measure of safety and maintain some contact with boaters as they head to the water in droves. COMO Vin Pica recently received a CG Innovation award for resurrecting a dormant program called #Estaple. This program links CG Public Affairs news tweets (e.g., saving people in the water from a capsizing) to a training lesson (e.g., How to keep your boat from capsizing). In a very short period of time these tweets had been viewed over 85,000,000 times. To quote our Commandant, Admiral Karl Schultz: “We have outsourced most all RBS outreach missions to the Auxiliary and ‘Estaple is a home run.’”

What can we do as individuals? One of the many benefits of membership is online access to training materials and reference documents. We can not only go back and do a little “Re-medial” training, which all of us can benefit from, we can enhance our importance to the boating public by acquiring new skills and qualifications using online training and online testing. This is all free to us as members and it certainly helps us as individuals in our knowledge base.

It is understood that we all want to get back to work as soon as possible but as we know, this must proceed with caution. Too many of our fellow citizens jumped the gun over the past few weeks with large gatherings, no masks, etc., and now the country is experiencing a resurgence in COVID cases. In order to be available to resume our greatly valued service to nation when the COVID virus finally gets under control, we must be “Semper Paratus”, Always ready.

In Admiral Schultz’s recent ALCOAST congratulating us on our 81st birthday, he wrote in part: “Our 23,000 uniformed volunteers are profound examples of selfless devotion to duty who have not only embraced and exemplified my watchwords of ‘Ready, Relevant, and Responsive,’ but have proudly added ‘Resilient’ to that list.”

We can demonstrate just how resilient we are by being ready to resume our very necessary activities as before when we are called. To me, that is a magnificent benefit of being a member of such a superb organization. We are needed because we remain very relevant, and ready, when called.

Larry King, National Commodore, USCG Auxiliary
Stay Engaged, Embrace New Challenges
Click and go to keep informed.
Resources mentioned in COMO King’s message “What is your Purpose in Life?”

Online Public Education Class  New virtual Vessel Safety Check  Resources for Virtual Classes

Follow on Facebook and Twitter @uscgauxvin
Training enables us to become valuable partners with the CG.
Important Corona Virus Information

Auxiliary Guidance  CHDIRAUX ALAUXs  81ST ANNIVERSARY
If the events of the past several months have taught us anything, it is that life is fragile and that every opportunity to do good – for our nation, for our beloved USCG or for a fellow citizen of this great Nation – is a God-given opportunity, expected of each of us.

As you’ve seen from the Blue-and-White “deal-o-grams” on the new DHS and VE shirts, from the PDF “class on ‘Who-Is-AuxA-And-What’s-In-It-For-Me”, and the news of the opportunity to honor your family service members with “Wreaths Across America” during the World War II 75th anniversary events, your AuxA is open for business. The business of AuxA is serving your needs in the RBS programs, in unit pride wear and OPs support. The eCommerce website (https://www.cgauxa.org/shop) is open, 24x7x365.

Please accept the current Benefits of Membership with the warmest wishes from the Board, volunteer staff and employees of AuxA for your health, safety and well-being, and that of your families, for they serve too. And it is your service that has earned you these “benefits of membership…”

Like you, AuxA remains
Semper Paratus,
Vin

 Vincent Pica
President & CEO
Coast Guard Auxiliary Association

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Association provides the financial stability that the Coast Guard Auxiliary must have to ensure readiness to meet its mission.

AUXCEN
Not sure what gift to give that special Auxiliarist. Let them choose their own with a Gift Certificate from AuxA.

click to Buy Now

Win a $100 Gift Certificate to Spend on Coast Guard Auxiliary merchandise at Your AuxA eCommerce store?

New performance material Official AUX logo wear VE golf shirt White or Blue $34.07 - $37.54 Plus S/H

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Learn About AuxA – What It Does, What Benefits It Provides You, Where Its Funding Comes From and Goes To? You’ve Been a Member of AuxA Since the Day You Joined the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.
AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app

You can now support CGAuxA on iPhone and Android phones

1. Join AmazonSmile
If you are not already an Amazon-Smile member, sign up on your web browser. Simply select Coast Guard Auxiliary Association to start generating donations, at no cost to you.

2. Get the app
Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android.

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Open the app and find ‘Settings’ in the main menu ((Device)). Tap on ‘AmazonSmile’ and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

Support Coast Guard Auxiliary Association

Same products, same prices, same services as the Amazon you know.

All donations from AmazonSmile support the Auxiliary Recreational Boating programs.

AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases to CGAuxA when you shop.
MetLife TakeAlong Dental<sup>SM</sup>
A Dental program that stays with you!

A Good Reason to Smile!

MetLife Dental

PPO or DHMO/Managed Care Program
OptionMetLife TakeAlong Dental is a Dental PPO or DHMO/Managed Care Program that stays with you even through different stages of your life. It provides dental coverage for you and your family today and in the future. With continuous coverage, this could be the last Dental benefit you ever have to enroll for. Now that’s a good reason to smile!

Discount Dental Program
The MetLife Discount Dental Program is not TakeAlong Dental insurance. The Dental Discount Program is designed to save you money on your dental needs. It provides discounts on a variety of dental services from a nationwide network of providers. The program also offers savings for you and your family. Now that’s a good reason to smile! Learn more about the MetLife Discount Dental Program and sign up today.

When you purchase the discount dental program, you will receive the MetLife VisionAccess Discount Program at no additional cost. Vision health is an important part of overall health, that’s why we offer MetLife VisionAccess. It provides you with valuable savings on vision care and eyewear so you can stay on top of your vision health.

Check this out
Finding the right coverage, at the right price, with the right carrier can be intimidating. That’s why Coast Guard Auxiliary Association is providing you a single place to explore all your health insurance needs.

Extreme Healthcare

Today’s hearing aids come in a variety of sizes and styles, and offer advanced features and technologies.
Integrated sensors and artificial intelligence

1. Tracks your brain and body activity.
2. Provides a wellness score including an engagement score for brain health.
3. Streams TV sound, phone calls and radio directly to your hearing aids.
4. Translates languages in real time for easy communication.
5. Earned rave reviews for more natural sound.

To help educate Coast Guard Auxiliary Association members about long-term care solutions, we are partnering with ACSIA Partners LLC, one of the nation’s premier experts in long-term care planning. ACSIA Partners has developed a comprehensive educational program to provide you with all the information you need to determine which type long-term care solution is appropriate for you.

At least 70% of people over 65 will need long-term care services at some point.
Life Line Screening can provide meaningful benefits for your body and mind. That’s why we’re committed to delivering accurate results and recommendations that could give you a healthier advantage in your everyday life:

Early detection of serious conditions - Prevention of disease progression - Peace of mind so you can enjoy life - Savings with more affordable screenings and Control, no insurance required.

Life Line Screening can provide meaningful benefits for your body and mind. That’s why we’re committed to delivering accurate results and recommendations that could give you a healthier advantage in your everyday life:

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How To Start Saving Today

Get your prescription ready.

Text, email or print your US Pharmacy Card.

Take the card & prescription to your local pharmacy to fill.

Save up to 80% on the cost of medications - for you, your family & your pets.

With over 20 years’ experience in the long-term care and association markets we realized people need something better. That’s why we developed LTCRplus.

We are very pleased to inform you that your membership provides you exclusive access to LTCRplus - the most innovative Group Long Term Care Benefit program in the market.

The financial protection options under this program are the best available and allow you to find the HIGHEST benefits for the LOWEST premiums with exclusive group discounts not available to the general public. You can even compare the newest coverage options that pay benefits even if you don’t need care.

The “plus” in LTCRplus is that the benefit program goes beyond financial protection. We know what happens when families face the complex emotional and financial challenges of long-term care and have added key benefit services.

The LTCRplus Group program is designed to ease the emotional burden and save you time and money. Let us help yours.
“Standing on Tall Shoulders”

The 75th Commemoration of Victory in WWII: 1945-2020

By Louis J. DiGiusto, III
CMO-AuxA

The cover illustration of this special edition of “Benefits of Membership” depicts an action that took place on Sunday, 27 SEPT 1942 at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal. A flotilla of ten Higgins landing craft from the Coast Guard manned USS Hunter-Liggett transport were assembled and lead by Signalman First Class Douglas Munro, USCG to extract over 500 of LtCol “Chesty” Puller’s 7th Marines off the beach under enemy fire at Lunga Point. Puller had landed his Marines on the beach on 23 SEPT in these same landing craft. His mission was to push back any enemy remaining on the perimeter of Henderson Field, the strategic target for the Battle of Guadalcanal. The 7th Marines ran into a large enemy reinforcement, the 124th IJA Infantry with over 4,000 soldiers. On 27 SEPT at 16:30 under withering enemy fire, Puller called for his Marines to be extracted off the beach. The Navy Destroyer USS Monssen, off Lunga Point, relayed the rescue message by signal flags to Signalman Munro who proceeded to rescue the Marines under enemy machine gun fire. Munro and shipmate Ray Evans, his close friend since they both joined the Coast Guard, positioned their landing craft to fire back at the enemy during the rescue. The Marines made it. Munro did not.

As his landing craft continued to fire, Munro was hit by enemy fire. Ray Evans held Munro’s head in his arms. Munro’s last words; “did they get off.” Evan’s answer was yes they did. And yes those Marines would go on to win the Battle of Guadalcanal.

Continued on page 11
Continued from page 10

President Roosevelt posthumously awarded Signalman First Class Douglas Munro, USCG with the Medal of Honor. Munro is the only recipient of the MOH in the history of the Coast Guard. His action embodies the core values all members of the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary serve by, “Honor,” “Respect,” “Devotion to Duty.”

During WWII, as the “Coast Guard Temporary Reserve” well over 50,000 Auxiliarists served in every mission of the Coast Guard. For example;

- The “Corsair Fleet” the Coastal Picket Force along the 50-fathom curve (75-100 Miles offshore) 48-hr patrols- anti-submarine and SAR (rescuing hundreds of Merchant sailors from enemy U-Boat attacks).
- Coastal beach patrols
- Port Security
- SPARS (Women Auxiliarists)
- Coast Guard Aviation observers & crews
- Supplement Coast Guard crews
- Transfer & crew 1000’s of private boats to Coast Guard patrol facilities

As we commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Victory in WWII, it’s a good time to reflect on the members of each of our families that served and are serving today. In a way, we stand on their shoulders, their service to our country is timeless. Many of us serve in the Coast Guard Auxiliary to thank them and continue in our own way their mission of service.

Personally, my dad and his two brothers are an example of that service 75 years ago. My father was a career Naval Aviator who lost his life in the line of duty in the 1960’s. During WWII he was a young co-pilot flying Navy B-24’s in the South Pacific. His older brother served in the 15th Air Force as a waist-gunner on a B-17. His younger brother was in the Merchant Marine serving on the crew of a tanker in Atlantic convoys. That’s just what the “Greatest Generation” did. I share that personal story because I think it’s probably typical of many of your families who now serve in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Service to your country is part of who your family was and is.

75th Anniversary Commemorations of Victory in WWII are being held throughout the world this year. 8 MAY- VE Day, 14 AUG- VJ Day, 2 SEPT-Peace Treaty Tokyo Bay, 7 DEC- Pearl Harbor Day, 19 DEC- Wreaths Across America Day.

This edition of AuxA “Benefits of Membership” salutes you and your family for your service to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. The biggest “Benefit of Membership” is the opportunity to serve in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

We thank the Coast Guard for that opportunity.
These columns discuss the numerous and varied benefits of belonging to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association. We can’t forget that membership in the Auxiliary Association is itself a benefit of membership in the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. You are automatically a member of the Association because you are a member of the USCG Auxiliary. In light of the challenging times we are now experiencing I think it best to talk of the challenges we are facing rather than the benefits we receive.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the whole world and consequently the Auxiliary too. I hear comments ranging from morale is good and we are getting things done to morale is terrible and members are frustrated. Well I am frustrated too but that is not unusual. Auxiliarists are always frustrated, at least a little, because we always want to do more. If we weren’t frustrated, at least a little, I don’t think we would be much of an Auxiliarist. The fact of the matter is that what we are going through now is another in a long list of challenges that we will face head on and overcome. Granted, it is probably the greatest challenge that we, our country and the world has faced in our life time but I have no doubt we will overcome it.

All of us have heard “We will get through this together” and the like and early on it was encouraging, now not so much. At this point we just want this to be over and get back to normal or the new normal whatever that is. Two years ago when I was elected to the position of Vice National Commodore I selected my Watch Words. Three words that sum up your position, vision, and outlook. Not an easy task, down right next to impossible for me. I chose Ready, Responsive, and Resilient. I chose “Resilient” because, over and over I have seen firsthand the Auxiliary meet challenges head on and overcome them. It is what we do, if being an Auxiliarist was easy anyone could do it. It is not easy, and it takes hard work, training, dedication and adherence to US Coast Guard core values of Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty. The rewards are more than worth the effort. Not only are we part of the best and largest volunteer organization in the world that serves a branch of the military and get to be part of Team Coast Guard, we are able to make a difference every day. The icing on the cake is membership in AuxA and be entitled to all the benefits of membership available to its members.

I have heard it said that this pandemic is going to be the end of the Auxiliary, that members won’t come back. I disagree 100%; members are knocking down the door to get active again. Not only will we come back, we will come back stronger than ever. We have adapted to the shutdowns and are conducting everything from meetings to training and even PE Classes virtually. Once things open up we will use these skills to be more efficient and effective than ever before. The Auxiliary will continue to serve the Coast Guard and our country and once again we will show the world that the Auxiliary is Semper Paratus.
This year commemorates the 75th Anniversary of Victory in WWII.

If you would like to honor someone in your family, or a friend who has served or is serving in the armed forces, for a commemorative contribution of $55 to AuxA, you will receive:

A commemorative certificate suitable for framing honoring your family member or friend who has served or is serving the nation.

A commemorative wreath which will be placed at Arlington National Cemetery in your honoree’s name on 19 December 2020. This is part of the Wreaths Across America national program.

A gift book from AuxA, “Guardian of Guadalcanal” the official biography of Signalman 1C Douglas Munro, USCG, the only recipient of the Medal of Honor in Coast Guard history.

To order call AuxA at 314-962-8828

Please have this information ready:
Your name, address, city/state/zip
Your email/phone number
Your Mastercard or Visa information
Your honoree’s name
His/her branch of service and rank
Note: you may submit additional honorees (certificate & wreath) for $20 each.
$15 of each contribution is for Wreaths Across America
The number one safe boating guide for America’s waterways has partnered with USCG Auxiliary AuxA

Order yours today

Every vessel should have a Waterway Guide on board. Flotillas use Waterway Guide as a training resource and background for local knowledge and navigation advice.

Support AuxA with your purchase

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10/16/16

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Changing of the Watch

Welcome Jim Losi,
Chief Operating Officer

This edition of the Benefits of Membership introduces Jim Losi, the incoming Chief Operating Officer of AuxA, relieving Tom Lane. Tom, who did a sensational job continuing the transition of AuxA from a business run like a charity to a charity run like a business, has the good fortune to have his businesses expand strongly. So much so, Tom asked for a reassignment, wanting to stay with AuxA but needing the additional capacity to take advantage of the business opportunities being afforded them. Tom is now my Senior Advisor and will be working with me on a number of initiatives, most notably on “AuxA Direct”, a systematic approach to building donations to AuxA’s RBS support via the internet.

Jim Losi comes to us with a very distinguished CGAux career in D11N, including being one of only a handful of members who has qualified as a Coast Guard Auxiliary Cutterman. When Jim and I first met, JFK was still in the Whitehouse. There’s a lot of water under the keel since then…

If you know Jim or Tom, please take a moment to thank them for their devotion, not just to duty, but to members,

Like you, AuxA remains

Semper Paratus,
Vin Pica, President & CEO

Welcome Aboard
Military Java Group!

A new benefit to AuxA members. For every order, Military Java Group will contribute $3.00 per order to AuxA. So, if you want to order multiple K-cup boxes or other coffee products, please purchase each item as a separate order to help AuxA. Remember all AuxA contributions support the mission of the USCGAUX!

“The crew runs the ship but coffee runs the crew…”

Thank you
Military Java Group!
Coffee with a cause
Stars & Stripes • Java Jarhead Java • Bravo Zulu Java

Introducing a new benefit for AuxA members!

As a thank you for your service, Military Java Group offers:

- FREE shipping to AuxA members.
- $3.00 contribution to AuxA — supporting the mission of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Coffee order must be placed through our website, militaryjavagroup.com. Enter coupon code: AuxA at final checkout for contribution.

At the Military Java Group, we serve exceptional coffee products. But what we’re most proud of is donating 50% of all profits to the Semper Fi & America’s Fund who assists our combat wounded, critically ill and catastrophically injured members of ALL branches of the United States Armed Forces and their families.

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A salute to your service from Bonnier Corporation
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Kationx’s products improve water quality and worker safety by displacing the toxic chemicals in common use today. All products are made from domestically sourced materials & packaging with zero imports.

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Bill Cox, CEO
Bill is a Auxiliary member with Flotilla 17-6 Central Brevard, FL
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Program now open to all Coast Guard Auxiliary Units from Districts to Flotillas.

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Email a PDF of this form to: coo@cgauxa.org

Total # of AUX Approved Ball Caps ________ (24 minimum order)

$25.00 ea. with $5.00 each rebate to District. Member receives receipt with each cover noting $10.00 charitable contribution to AuxA’s RBS support and USCGAux District support.

Size and quantity ordered:  Medium _____ Large _____ Extra Large _____

Unit Name: __________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________

Address 2: ________________________________________________________

City: _______________________________ State: ___________ Zip: __________

Credit Card # AMEX: ____________________________________________

Credit Card # Visa/MasterCard: _______________________________________

Expiration: Month _______ Year _________ CVCC: ____________
We’ll Split It With You!

Wondering what to do with that boat?

Shipmates, you’ve seen our “ads” for donating boats to AuxA, which we turn into a tax-deduction for the donor (gross proceeds) and plowing the net sales revenue – (gross proceeds less transportation, storage, brokerage, and/and/and) into donations to our RBS programs – PE, VE and PV.

Here’s an idea for you, patterned after a recently, successfully concluded process with a flotilla in D1SR. They had a vessel that had given them dutiful service for a number of years – but now presented more of a “challenge” than the flotilla was willing to continue to underwrite. AuxA was approached and a discussion was had about how to divide up the spoils as it were, if the boat was donated to the AuxA “Boats for Life” Program. We agreed that, whatever the net proceeds were, 2/3rd would go to AuxA for RBS uses and 1/3rd would go to the flotilla to help replenish their bank account. And we did!

Now the flotilla isn’t a taxpayer so no one got the tax benefits – but cash isn’t so bad!

But people are taxpayers – so here’s the idea. You have a boat that you’re tired of underwriting the costs of? Donate it to AuxA’s “Boats for Life” Program. You’ll get 100% of the tax benefits of the gross proceeds; two, AuxA will get 2/3rd of the net proceeds for RBS uses and your flotilla (or division or district – we’re open minded!) will get 1/3rd of the net proceeds. And I imagine you get meaningful recognition at the next COW and/or unit meeting!

Here’s an example:

1. Boat gets sold for: $15,000 – you get a $15,000 tax deduction
2. Expenses amount to: $3,000
   • Commission: $1,500
   • Storage: $1,000
   • Transport: $500 Immediate from your marina to CSI
3. Net proceeds of: $12,000
   • AuxA/RBS gets: $8,000
   • Your flotilla gets: $4,000
4. You get a gold star in CGAux heaven!

Email me at vincent.pica@cgauxnet.us
Vincent Pica, President & CEO

Never a better time to donate a boat! COVID19 has raised prices and volume as people buy boats instead of flying to a vacation! If you are thinking of tax deductions and doing good with the old clunker, now’s the time!
### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

**AuxA member partners**

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<th>Publications</th>
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You shop, Amazon gives.