



“Get Me in This Thing...” Joining the US Coast Guard Auxiliary



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In the days that followed September 11, 2001, those words kept running through my head... What could I do that would be something more concrete than writing a check to the Red Cross? While many Americans turned to volunteerism in order to put their hearts, hands and minds at work, I was faced with two realities - at nearly 48, I wasn't exactly what the Army Recruiter at Times Square in New York had as #1 on his list of potential (or wanted) candidates and, secondly, it was apparent that the terrorists were seriously dedicated to wiping out as many Americans as possible. The unthinkable - suddenly - became thinkable. "Terrorists are coming here to kill my wife and kids" kept running through my mind...



I suppose I could have fallen into a mental "Maginot Line" at that point - board up the windows, form caches of water, medicines and food and just keep peering over the ramparts - and hope they never came...

A friend in the US Military advised me to "Do something you love... many school-age children wanted to be firefighters or police officers when they were kids... go volunteer to help them..." So, I thought about it - beyond family, nation and our God above, what do I love...? The sea spread out before my mind's eye...

So, I turned to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, an integral part of the United States Coast Guard Forces. I submit that it is among the most effective ways to "get in this thing..." If you live, work or "summer" "Out East" on Long Island, please read on.

Over two hundred years ago, Richard "Light Horse" Harry Lee, one of George Washington's commanders and ironically the father of Robert E. Lee, coined the immortal saying about George Washington himself - "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." The key about an Auxiliarist is that they are neither for war nor for peace but are all about being for America. The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is a creature of the Congress itself.

Congress established the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1939 to assist the US Coast Guard active-duty corps in promoting boating safety. It boasts more than 32,000 members from all walks of life who receive special training so that they may be a functional - and functioning - part of US Coast Guard Forces.

Today the USCG Auxiliary plays a larger role with greater responsibilities than at any other time in history. Auxiliarists are at the helm of Marine safety and security patrols, serving as foreign language interpreters, educating the public on recreational boating safety, and supporting many other vital operational and administrative missions. In 2010, USCG Auxiliarists up and down the east coast of America donated over 2.6 million hours in service to our country - from cooks in galleys to search and rescue.

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary, like any large organization, has an organization - there is a national level, a district level, a divisional level and, ultimately, the flotilla level. The flotilla is where the rubber meets the road or, better put, where the hull meets the waves.

All members join the Auxiliary by joining a local flotilla and that is where the real work gets done - everything from crew augmentation on USCG sea-going vessels to helping out in the mess hall at a duty station. And, there couldn't be a better time to join as USCG Auxiliary is in the midst of a concerted recruitment campaign!

Do you need a boat to join? Absolutely not! We'll train you to become a certified crewmember. However, if you have one and want to get it certified as an "Operational Facility", you one day could find yourself leading a patrol as coxswain on the deck of your own vessel with a crew under your responsibility.

Do you need to know how to swim to join? Again, no! There are many jobs within the USCG Auxiliary that are wholly land-based - public education, public affairs, radio watch standing at a USCG Coast Guard station or helping out as a mechanic at the motor pool. You don't even have to like the water... you just have to want to "get in this thing" and do something for your nation.

It has been said that this will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.

Be brave. Get in this thing.

Email me at JoinUSCGAux@aol.com or go direct to the D1SR Human Resources department, who are in charge of new members matters, at DSO-HR and we will help you "get in this thing..."



by TONY SALERNO

FISHING WITH TONY MORICHES ANGLERS SHARK TOURNAMENT ON TAP FOR THIS WEEKEND

They've been hosting it for the past 37 years and it keeps on going strong at each and every event. I'm talking about the Moriches Anglers 37th Annual Shark Tournament being held this Saturday, June 18th. In years past, traditionally the Moriches Anglers Fishing Club have held their shark tournament the Saturday before Father's Day, with the rain date being Father's Day. This year will be no different as anglers hope to bring home the cash along with a little luck from Mother Nature and the fishing gods in hopes of good weather and a variety of sharks.



In recent years past, a blue shark usually wins the tourney; however last year's event saw a tiger shark take the grand prize. Hopefully, something different will win this year and we'll find out late Saturday afternoon. June is the month blue sharks move off their living quarters of the Continental Shelf and spread out along the sandy fringes and fingers just north of the shelf off Long Island to spawn. This usually results in an abundance of the blue shark sometimes making it difficult to reach good eating sharks like makos and threshers.

"To cut down on the kill of blue sharks, we moved the tournament to a time when edible sharks such as makos and threshers are more abundant and have a better chance at winning the tournament" states Bill Daniels, director of the shark tournament. "Although we do have tournament size regulations to cut down on the possession of captured sharks, we would be delighted if makos and threshers were the only contenders brought back to the Weigh Masters." Daniels adds. The Moriches Anglers Fishing Club is a conservation-minded club, which in fact will also be awarding trophies for "Tag and Release" as well as cash prizes for 1st through 3rd place.

Check in and starting points for the tournament will be from Moriches and Shinnecock Inlets at 6 A.M. sharp, Saturday, June 8th. Weigh in will be at the Union Ave. Dock in Center Moriches no later than 5 P.M. the evening of the tournament.

Entry and Captain's Meeting will be on Friday, June 17th at K of C Hall at 313 Frowein Rd., Center Moriches. For further info, please contact Chet Wilcox at (631) 878-9280.

Spectators will find a fun filled afternoon starting at 4 P.M. at the end of Union Ave. where tee shirts can be purchased supporting the tournament and shark displays.

Tides for Moriches Inlet starting with June 15, 2011

Day	High/Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise/Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
Wed. 15	Low	12:57 AM	-0.2	5:19 AM 8:24 PM	Set 4:56 AM Rise 8:29 PM	98
	High	7:02 AM	3.0			
	Low	1:00 PM	-0.1			
	High	7:24 PM	3.8			
Thur. 16	Low	1:48 AM	-0.2	5:19 AM 8:24 PM	Set 5:59 AM Rise 9:18 PM	99
	High	7:53 AM	3.1			
	Low	1:52 PM	0.0			
	High	8:12 PM	3.8			
Fri. 17	Low	2:36 AM	-0.2	5:19 AM 8:25 PM	Set 7:05 AM Rise 10:00 PM	98
	High	8:43 AM	3.0			
	Low	2:40 PM	0.1			
	High	9:00 PM	3.6			
Sat. 18	Low	3:21 AM	-0.2	5:19 AM 8:25 PM	Set 8:11 AM Rise 10:34 PM	95
	High	9:34 AM	3.0			
	Low	3:27 PM	0.2			
	High	9:48 PM	3.4			
Sun. 19	Low	4:03 AM	-0.1	5:19 AM 8:25 PM	Set 9:15 AM Rise 11:03 PM	89
	High	10:25 AM	2.9			
	Low	4:11 PM	0.3			
	High	10:37 PM	3.2			
Mon. 20	Low	4:45 AM	0.1	5:19 AM 8:26 PM	Set 10:18 AM Rise 11:29 PM	82
	High	11:15 AM	2.9			
	Low	4:57 PM	0.5			
	High	11:24 PM	3.0			
Tus. 21	Low	5:26 AM	0.2	5:20 AM 8:26 PM	Set 11:18 AM Rise 11:54 PM	74
	High	12:03 PM	2.9			
	Low	5:46 PM	0.7			
	High	6:43 PM	2.9			
Wed. 22	High	12:11 AM	2.9	5:20 AM 8:26 PM	Set 12:16 PM	65
	Low	6:10 AM	0.4			
	High	12:48 PM	2.9			
	Low	6:43 PM	0.8			
Thur. 23	High	12:57 AM	2.7	5:20 AM 8:26 PM	Rise 12:18 AM Set 1:15 PM	55
	Low	6:57 AM	0.4			
	High	1:33 PM	2.9			
	Low	7:45 PM	0.8			
Fri. 24	High	1:44 AM	2.6	5:20 AM 8:26 PM	Rise 12:42 AM Set 2:13 PM	46
	Low	7:48 AM	0.5			
	High	2:18 PM	2.9			
	Low	8:45 PM	0.7			
Sat. 25	High	2:34 AM	2.5	5:21 AM 8:26 PM	Rise 1:09 AM Set 3:12 PM	37
	Low	8:39 AM	0.5			
	High	3:05 PM	2.9			
	Low	9:39 PM	0.7			
Sun. 26	High	3:28 AM	2.5	5:21 AM 8:26 PM	Rise 1:38 AM Set 4:12 PM	28
	Low	9:29 AM	0.5			
	High	3:56 PM	3.0			
	Low	10:28 PM	0.5			