



D-7



Connection

Human Resources - Winter Issue—2021

Issue 55

Editor: Angela Pomaro

**Twas the night before Christmas and all through each state,
Coast Guard families were starting to celebrate.
Just then from the White House came an urgent call,
A crisis had arisen that would affect one and all.**

**In fact the U.S. State Department was frantic,
For Santa Claus had just landed in the Atlantic!**

**It was foggy as ever; Rudolph had made a blunder.
Santa, sleigh, and eight reindeer were going under.
Though the stockings were hung by the chimneys with care.
Poor Santa gurgled, "I'll never get there."**

**When what to his wondering eye should appear;
But some coast guard cutters with their rescue gear!
The officers and crew were so lively and quick;
Sure was a lucky break for good ole Saint Nick.**

**With a nod from the captain. they went right to work.
Rudolph was embarrassed, he felt like a jerk.
Poor Santa was soggy, but as anyone could see,
He was very grateful to the U.S.C.G!**

**And we heard him exclaim as they towed him from sight,
"If it weren't for age and weight, I'd enlist Tonight!"**

[A USCG Christmas - United States Coast Guard Forums and Information -
United States Coast Guard Forum - Off Topic - Boating and Coast Guard](#)



USCG Auxiliary

District 7



District 7 Commodore



Chief of Staff

John Holmes



Logistics Directorate



Tom Bamford DDC-L
Directorate Chief

The DSO-HR Team



Angela Pomaro DSO-HR
Human Resources Department



Mark Crary, ADSO-HR
Special Projects



Gil Thomas, ADSO-HR
HR Corner

The District 7 SO-HR Team



Vanessa Valle-Matos, SO-HR
Division 1—(Entire Puerto Rico)



Valerie Williams, SO-HR
Division 2—(Georgia Augusta, Marietta, Northeast Georgia, Hartwell, Central Georgia Lakes, Lake Lanier)



Ellmore Thorne, SO-HR
Division 3—(Ft. Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, Boca Raton, Lighthouse Point, Plantation, Dania Beach)



Walter Franek, SO-HR
Division 4—(Lake County, Daytona Beach, Sanford, New Smyrna)



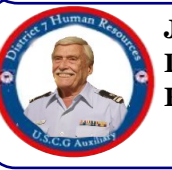
Sean Hart, DCDR
Division 5—(The Palm Beaches, Jupiter, Delray-Boynton Beach, Vero Beach/Sebastian, Ft. Pierce)



Marcelo Freire, DCDR
Division 6—(Homestead, Coconut Grove, Miami South, Coral Gables, Opalocka, North Bay, Miami)



Dan Helou, SO-HR
Division 7—(St. Petersburg, Brandon, Apollo Beach, Polk County, St. Pete Beach, Tampa, Gulfport)



Jim Barnard—SO-HR
Division 8—(Manatee, Longboat Key, Sarasota, Venice, Englewood)



Joe Rickard—SO-HR
Division 9—(Fort Myers Beach, North Port, Naples, Franklin Lock, Marco Island, Wiggins Pass, Charlotte Harbor, Cape Haze, Ft. Myers & Cape Coral)



Chris Poulos, SO-HR
Division 10—(Port Royal Sound, Savannah, St. Simons Island, Hilton Head/Bluffton)



Tim Dolan, SO-HR
Division 11—(Clearwater, Madeira Beach, New Port Richey, Hudson, Tarpon Springs, Dunedin)



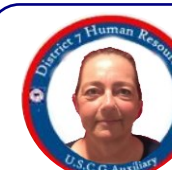
Jim Nelson, SO-HR
Division 12—(Inland Sea Lake Marion, Lake Murray, Central Grand Strand, East Cooper, Charleston, Georgetown)



Jim Matthews—SO-HR
Division 13—(Key West, Marathon, Big Pine Key, Ocean Reef, Upper Keys)



John Herald—SO-HR
Division 14—(Amelia Island, Arlington, Jacksonville Beach, St. Augustine, Jacksonville)



Melissa Frank - SO-HR
Division 15—(Crystal River, Ocala, Homosassa, Hernando Beach)



Doug Armstrong, DCDR
Division 16—(St. John)



Sharon Breece, SO-HR
Division 17—(South Brevard, Central Brevard, North Brevard, Osceola, Winter Park)

Thanks to all of you for doing such a tremendous job this past year.





Division 5

Chris Abernethy



**Taken from his Obituary in
the Palm Beach Post**

S. Chrisman Abernethy, "Chris", passed away on November 29, 2021 at the age of 81, but will live on in the hearts of the many people who have been touched by his service, generosity, and caring.

Chris spent most of his life living on Long Island. He served in the US Coast Guard for four years, and then pursued his dream of becoming a New York City firefighter, having been an active volunteer firefighter in East Williston, NY, for many years. He served the city of New York for twenty years, and then retired to Florida. In his retirement, Chris became active in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the Lake Worth Inlet Coast Guard station, where he manned the radios, served as Officer of the Day, and taught Boating Safety classes. He served as a mentor to many young men and women working there and was well loved and respected.

As the official end to his long career as an Auxiliary member, Station Lake Worth Inlet and Sector Miami dedicated the Communications Watch Room in his honor and it will forever be called the



His ashes will be buried at sea in a Coast Guard ceremony in the spring.





Division 8

Submitted by Salvatore Magro,
VFC Flotilla 81

IN MEMORY OF BRAXTON EZELL 1943 - 2021

Our shipmate Braxton was a born in Manatee County in 1943. Braxton was a graduate of Manatee High School, received a BS in Business Administration at Florida Southern College and his Law degree from Samford University, Cumberland school of law.

He served the Florida 12th Circuit Court as a Family Magistrate for 22 years at the Manatee County Courthouse.

Braxton's Coast Guard Auxiliary Career began in 2002 with Flotilla 85 and later in Flotilla 81.

During his 19 years in the Auxiliary, Braxton achieved the status of AUXOP (AX) and qualified in the competencies of Instructor, Air Co-Pilot, Air Observer, Vessel Examiner, Aid to Navigation Verifier, and Boat Crew Crewmember.

Braxton passed away peacefully at home on October 26, 2021.

Braxton's Awards:

AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD x3

AUXILIARY COMMANDANT LETTER OF COMMENDATION
x2

AUXILIARY COMMENDATION AWARD x2

AUXILIARY HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP SERVICE AWARD x4



Offices Held:

DCAPT W	District 7
DSO-LP	District 7
ADSO-LP	District 7
ADSO-IS	District 7
DCDR	Division 8
VCDR	Division 8
SO-FN	Division 8
SO-HR	Division 8
FC	Flotilla 85
VFC	Flotilla 85
FSO-VE	Flotilla 85
FSO-MS	Flotilla 85
FSO-FN	Flotilla 85

Think...

*of stepping on the shore, and finding it heaven,
of taking hold of a hand, and finding it God's hand
of breathing a new air, and finding celestial air,
of feeling invigorated, and finding immortality,
of passing from storm and tempest, to an unknown*



Division 11

Good Bye to a Friend and Member on his Retirement from the CG Auxiliary



Submitted by Karen Miller,
Flotilla 11-1

In 2001 John Keyes came to sense of duty after 9-11. John in an earlier life and wanted had aged out of active-duty

Fast forward 20 years later Coast Guard Auxiliary. But, the Coast Guard Auxiliary that

us at the Clearwater, Florida Flotilla in a had been a member of the Coast Guard to give back to his country again, but he service.

and John has now retired from the it's those twenty years that John gave to had such an impact on his shipmates.

When John was growing up, he lived for many years aboard a sailboat with his parents and siblings. Once he left Coast Guard active-duty, he worked for a sailboat chartering service and then for a bareboat chartering company. This background is necessary to explain why John was such a force in Clearwater's operation program.

Within a year of joining, John advanced to coxswain. He is one of the very few that I would let operate my facility and several other facility owners felt the same way. Despite a full-time job, John put in about 1,000 hours underway and has 56 assists in his Search and Rescue portfolio.

Two of the highlights of John's CG Auxiliary membership were his participation in both 2004 and 2006 International Search and Rescue (ISAR) competitions. His SAR skills were significant contributors to Team Clearwater making it to second place in 2006. As a result of many of the exercises that the team had to participate in to get to the finals, all four members of the team initiated Division 11's participation in the Operational Excellence program.

John also participated as Flotilla and Division Staff Officer in Navigation Systems (called Aids to Navigation then) and earned numerous individual, team and unit awards. He also believed in sharing his knowledge and became an instructor and was one of the go-to members for crew class.

While we wish John fair winds and following seas in his retirement, we are sure going to miss him, his skills and his friendship in the flotilla.



Welcome

October 1 to December 31, 2021



Division 1

Cabrera-Caceres, Luis
Santos-Gomez, Jose

Division 2

Alam, A&M Nur
Goode, Jennifer
Hernandez-Franco, Jose
McCarson, Nicole
McCarson, Richard
Ruiz-Caraballo, Belinda
Schwarzkopf, Michael
Taillon, Michael
Watts, Michael

Division 3

Bassiouny, Haitham
Garcia, Mercedes
Goffstein, Joseph
Kantor, Robert
Landi, Carmine
Rodriguez, Justo
Tundidor, Lawrence

Division 4

Boykin, Brittany
Brammer, Bradley
Brammer, Sylvia
Gettmann, Judith
Mussman, Patricia
Neve, Jordan
Yousuf, Rashad

Division 5

Johansen, Lawrence
Martinek, Matthew

Division 6

Robbins, Michael
Zambrano, Kaleia

Division 7

Brown, Trinity
Dematatis, Dewey
Hassett, Mary
Johnson, Joe
Kilmer, Erik
Marcet, Rick
Nicolaisen, Eric
Porter, Amber
Valencia, Diego
Wilkins, Duane
Wood, Colin

Division 8

Amabile, Joseph
Baron, Richard
Bibler, Angela
Bobey, Suzanne
Boyle, John
Bryant-Rivera, Maria
D'Arco, Joseph
Doyle, Jeffrey
Minor, Margaret
Mooney, Rodney
Strickland, Ronald
Shaw, Barbara-
Wawrowicz, Deborah
Wawrowicz, Ernest

Division 9

Cohen, Jason
Delaney, Timothy
Espinola, Michael
Gagnon, Robert
Horton, Lawrence
King, John
Lewis, Cade
Lewenberg, Peter
Mackenzie, John-
Nogalski, Matthew
Slobodow, Michael
Sties, Kathryn
Stone, Samuel
Sullivan, William

Division 10

Boggs, Jackson

Division 11

Lowman, Robert
Miles, Sheraz
Miles, Chelsea
Ritchea, Jeremy
Walkup, Gary
Wyrazik, Aleksandra

Division 13

Menditch, Frank

Division 12

Bailey, Connor
Kukuk, Evan
Myers, Rhett
Rankin, Wilson

Division 14

Brockwell, Paul
Cruise-Jones, Kimberly
De Gaglia, Michael
Dion, Edward
McCracken, David
McCracken, Robert
McGuigan, Robert
Mendoza, Luismer
Samperisi, Francis
Sanders, Sean
Stephens, Richard
Wall, Stephen

Division 15

Bowman, Audrey
Boyle, John
Digilio-Feldberg, Alexandra
Kohnken, Charles
Shaffer, Linda

Division 16

Davis, Kenneth

Division 17

Bergeron, Julia
Gonzalez, Ruben
Marcellari, Christina
Maselli, Peter
Merritt, Ashley
Ruriani, Thomas



D-7 Golden Anniversary Club

50 Years of Service



<u>Name</u>	<u>Flotilla</u>	<u>Enrollment Date</u>
Barry Porter	72	13 November 1959
Robert Strong	14-8	23 June 1964
William Benson	44	26 June 1964
Commodore Henry Pratt	10-11	9 September 1964
Philip Tallon	14-2	30 January 1968
Judith Davis	14-4	23 April 1968
Thomas McColough	9-10	3 June 1968

Your long-standing service is acknowledged and appreciated.

Thank you





2021 Retirees

October 1, to December 15, 2021

Department of Homeland Security

Takes pleasure in conferring to:

Thank you for your Service



<u>Members</u>	<u>Flotillas</u>	<u>Service Years</u>
Petritz, William	9-10	44
Cox, David	38	36
Meiere, Forest	12-10	34
Bier, Richard	14-2	32
McGill, Angela	29	32
Shappell, Joseph	21	32
Cox, Jan	38	30
Durden, Lee	14-1	29
Durden, Linda	14-1	29
Kennedy, Mary	98	26
Mayes, Robert	98	25
Wiggins, Charles	10-10	25
Mundall, Dennis	81	24
Johnson, Richard	59	24
Philips, Calvin	13-4	23

in the

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

*In recognition of significant contributions and devoted service to the organization and
its boating safety programs.*



2021 Retirees

October 1, to December 15, 2021

Department of Homeland Security

Takes pleasure in conferring to:

Thank you for your Service



<u>Members</u>	<u>Flotillas</u>	<u>Service Years</u>
Christensen, Jon	93	22
Graham, Thomas III	14-2	22
Clarry, James	44	21
Lore, Peter	11-3	21
Fesko, Robert	81	20
Keyes, John	11-1	20
Lattuce, Vincent	96	20
Luehrs, Ronald	94	20
Lysacht, Robert	91	20
Oesterling, Marilyn	10-1	20
Schwinn, Ruthan	12-6	20
Day, Terrance	36	19
Flanders, Stanley	65	19
Holler, John	14-8	19

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October 1, to December 15, 2021

Department of Homeland Security

Takes pleasure in conferring to:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Flotillas</u>	<u>Service Years</u>
Hudson, Judith	6-10	19
McMillan, Robert	69	19
Messina, John	69	19
Sprague-Williams, Jan	27	19
Sprague-Williams, John	27	19
Barnett, Bert	38	18
Meddaugh, Robert	79	18
Nabach, Elaine	74	18
Nabach, James	74	18
Stagliano, Mario	36	18
Hayden, Henry	14-1	17
Prieto, Marco	15-8	17
Huber, Craig	12-4	16
Kirkeby, Robert	14-7	16

in the

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2021 Retirees

October 1, to December 15, 2021

Department of Homeland Security

Takes pleasure in conferring to:



Thank you for your Service

<u>Members</u>	<u>Flotillas</u>	<u>Service</u>
Saylor, Richard	13-8	16
Butler, William	58	15
Farrell, William	13-4	15
Hendricks, Mark	14-2	15
Higgins, Michael	13-8	15
Humphrey, Stephen	25	15
Lambert, Deborah	25	15
Lambert, Joseph	58	15
McGill, George	29	15
Pelletier, Paul	15-8	15
Oliner, Richard	37	15
Polsinelli, Stephen	10-1	15
Powers, James	17-9	15
Rews, Howard	14-1	15
Young, MargaretMary	56	15
Zweban, Ron	54	15

in the

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

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Crossed the Bar

October 1, to December 15, 2021



Steven Johnson
Flotilla 29



Stuart Boyd
Flotilla 58



Leroy Glenn
Flotilla 79



Ronald Matz
Flotilla 74



William Joyce
Flotilla 11-9

PLEASE NOTE
A DECEASED MEMBER CAN ONLY BE HONORED IF
AN ANSC 7035 FORM IS SUBMITTED TO THE D7 HELP
DESK INDICATING HIS/HER PASSING.

*Sunset and evening star
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;
For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.*

By Alfred Lord Tennyson



Thomas Rose
Flotilla 72



Robert Carr
Flotilla 81



Braxton Ezell
Flotilla 81



Gustav Karlsen
Flotilla 94



Nancy Losneck
(RET)
Flotilla 12-4



Richard Whites
Flotilla 12-6



Robert Reis
Flotilla 13-4



Chris Abernethy
Flotilla 51



Franklin Drennon
Flotilla 72



Clifford Martin
Flotilla 79



Darren Hart
Flotilla 11-3



Mark Peterson
Flotilla 17-6

DID YOU KNOW?

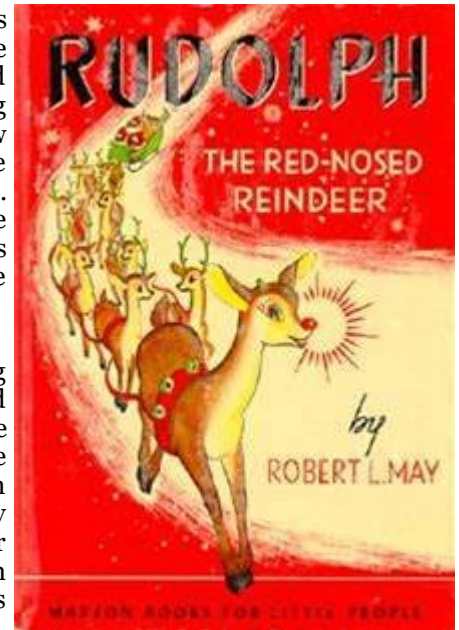
The Story of Rudolph

Facebook

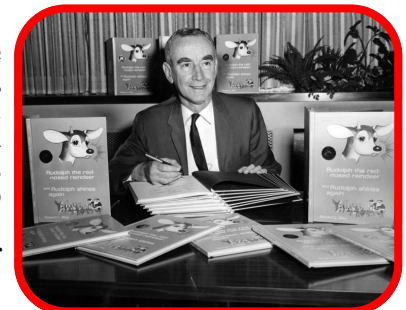
As the holiday season of 1938 came to Chicago, Bob May wasn't feeling much comfort or joy. A 34-year-old ad writer for Montgomery Ward, May was exhausted and nearly broke. His wife, Evelyn, was bedridden, on the losing end of a two-year battle with cancer. This left Bob to look after their four-year old-daughter, Barbara.

One night, Barbara asked her father, "Why isn't my mommy like everybody else's mommy?" As he struggled to answer his daughter's question, Bob remembered the pain of his own childhood. A small, sickly boy, he was constantly picked on and called names. But he wanted to give his daughter hope, and show her that being different was nothing to be ashamed of. More than that, he wanted her to know that he loved her and would always take care of her. So he began to spin a tale about a reindeer with a bright red nose who found a special place on Santa's team. Barbara loved the story so much that she made her father tell it every night before bedtime. As he did, it grew more elaborate. Because he couldn't afford to buy his daughter a gift for Christmas, Bob decided to turn the story into a homemade picture book.

In early December, Bob's wife died. Though he was heartbroken, he kept working on the book for his daughter. A few days before Christmas, he reluctantly attended a company party at Montgomery Ward. His co-workers encouraged him to share the story he'd written. After he read it, there was a standing ovation. Everyone wanted copies of their own. Montgomery Ward bought the rights to the book from their debt-ridden employee. Over the next six years, at Christmas, they gave away six million copies of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer to shoppers. Every major publishing house in the country was making offers to obtain the book. In an incredible display of good will, the head of the department store returned all rights to Bob May. Four years later, Rudolph had made him into a millionaire.



Now remarried with a growing family, May felt blessed by his good fortune. But there was more to come. His brother-in-law, a successful songwriter named Johnny Marks, set the uplifting story to music. The song was pitched to artists from Bing Crosby on down. They all passed. Finally, Marks approached Gene Autry. The cowboy star had scored a holiday hit with "Here Comes Santa Claus" a few years before. Like the others, Autry wasn't impressed with the song about the misfit reindeer. Marks begged him to give it a second listen. Autry played it for his wife, Ina. She was so touched by the line "They wouldn't let poor Rudolph play in any reindeer games" that she insisted her husband record the tune.



Within a few years, it had become the second best-selling Christmas song ever, right behind "White Christmas." Since then, Rudolph has come to life in TV specials, cartoons, movies, toys, games, coloring books, greeting cards and even a Ringling Bros. circus act. The little red-nosed reindeer dreamed up by Bob May and immortalized in song by Johnny Marks has come to symbolize Christmas as much as Santa Claus, evergreen trees and presents.



As the last line of the song says, "He'll go down in history."



Trivia



Happy Holidays

1. A lobster's blood is colorless but when exposed to oxygen, it turns blue.
2. The eighth most common New Year's resolution is to improve a relationship.
3. The ball drop is over 100 years old
4. Southerners eat black-eyed peas on New Year's Day for good luck.
5. Kissing when the ball drops is the most common ritual on New Years Eve.
6. White cats with blue eyes are usually deaf
7. Only female mosquitoes bite
8. Women blink twice as much as men
9. The average adult human has two to nine pounds of bacteria in his or her body
10. In 30 minutes the human body gives off enough heat to bring a gallon of water to a boil
11. "HTTP? Stands for Hyper Text Transfer Protocol
12. The Lion King is the highest-grossing production on Broadway ever
13. BMW stands for Bavarian Motor Works
14. The Ford Mustang is named after a fighter plane from WWII
15. The average human tongue has 10,000 taste buds
16. Between 1933 to 1947, the Hoover Dam was called Boulder Dam
17. Butch Cassidy was famous for stealing

