



# THE CUTTER

## United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



Flotilla 11-2, Twin Cities Metro South, Minnesota  
Division 11, 8th Coast Guard District Western Rivers

November, 2009

[www.8wrdiv11.org/flotilla2/](http://www.8wrdiv11.org/flotilla2/)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov. 1 Ham Radio Class 0900-1200 Review  
1330-1700 FCC  
Lehman's Garage
- 7 1000-1600 Elmer's WS/Field Trip
- 11 Division Meeting 1900  
Bishop Whipple Bldg.
- 19 Flotilla Meeting 1900  
133 Air Lift Headquarters Bldg.**
- 21 8 Hour TCT  
Lehman's Garage
- 24 Honor Guard @  
Nordic American Breakfast 0700
- 26 **Happy Thanksgiving**
- Dec 9 Division Meeting 1900  
Bishop Whipple Bldg.
- 17 Flotilla Meeting  
(TBD)**
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### Flotilla 11-02 Vice Commanders Report

#### "SAY IT AIN'T SO"

"I can't believe it". "It can't be true".

Fantasea is in "Charlie" status, on the "hard".

A normal October has a number of days in the 60's.  
This October has had 1, solo uno.

Not only that, to add insult to injury, my Operational Facility had to be scheduled to be out of the water on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Not to worry, we still had the weekend of October 2 – 4 to enjoy the company of our newfound friends on "F-Dock" at Ole' Miss Marina in Hastings, MN. Mother Nature had other ideas, however. The weekend was lousy and did not even afford the opportunity to get out on the river or enjoy our proverbial evening campfire.

This summer, my wife, Cherie and I took the opportunity to move our boat from Hastings, MN. down to Ole' Miss Marina in Red Wing, Minnesota.

I had been on a few patrols in that area of the country and envied my friends who had their boats in that marina. The scenery and bluffs are spectacular and not having to wait to go through Lock and Dam No. 3 to tour to the south was a great incentive to move. Moving my facility was also an opportunity to add my Operational Facility to the Division contingency already in place in our AOR.

So, ok, you would think October 10<sup>th</sup> would at least cooperate. NOT! I arrived at the dock around 0800 only to find a healthy covering of snow and ice on the bow. Scraping ice and snow from the bow and windshield just to be able to get my boat out of the water was not my idea of a pleasant morning. The temperature hovered around 35 degrees with blustery winds and the conditions made it just that much harder to move the boat to dry-dock.

At 0900 sharp I moved her over to the boat launch, loader her onto the trailer and then watched as she made the 4-block trek to the new storage yard to be put on blocks for the long winter ahead.

To make matters worse, when I called the company who was supposed to winterize my boat they said, basically, "are you nuts", it's 35 degrees outside. We will get to you "when it warms up". I wondered if that would be around July. Not to worry, though, within a couple of days of keeping the bilge warm, they were out and "put her to bed" for the winter.

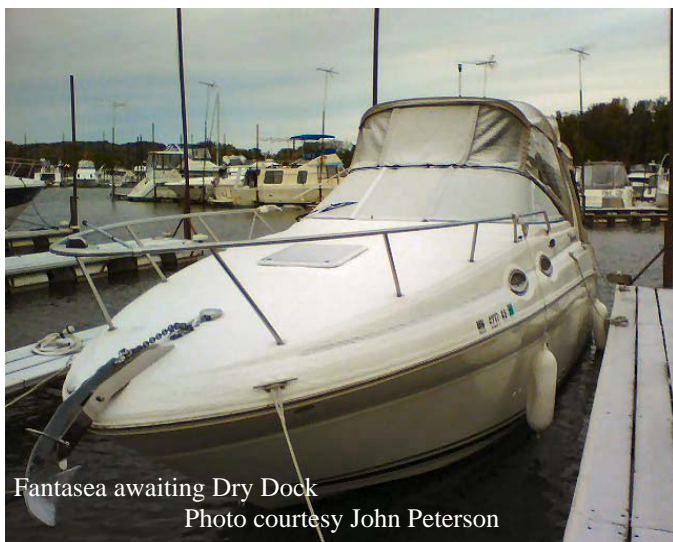
I have already visited Fantasea twice since she was put on the "hard" and the only consolation is that she has 3 other friends to keep her company over the winter, McTiki, Nomad and River Dancer.

I look forward to that Spring day when we can all get together again and enjoy the soft water.

Sleep tight.

John C. Peterson  
VFC Flotilla 11-02

(see picture next page)



Fantasea awaiting Dry Dock  
Photo courtesy John Peterson



Neil McMillin receives Auxiliary Achievement Medal for Red River flood flight communications. Also recognized but not present were Clif Brochman, Chuck Woodward and COMO Bob Heinz

Photo courtesy FALCON Photographer

## NATIONAL IT SCHOOL, FORT KNOX KENTUCK

OR

### HOW I BACAME AN INSTRUCTOR

by: Lloyd Fanum

Part 9

You will recall in last month's article, Jack and I just arrived at Fort Knox, Kentucky and we were driven to the Bachelor Officer's Quarters. (BOQ).

Jack and I checked into the office and were shown to our quarters. Our quarters were quite nice with two bedrooms, kitchen, living room and a latrine, not a head, REMEMBER, this is an army base.

WOW! Being here now is very different from my first visit here in 1950, as a draftee and recruit. We were told we were free until 1900 hours, at which time there will be an orientation of all students where we will be introduced to the school staff.

The orientation was for both VE and IT students, so Jack and I both attended from 1900 to 2000 hours. We were told to be out front at 0730 hours to catch our bus to school. School starts promptly at 0800 hours each day, Monday through Friday.

Since we had no home work to do and we were already unpacked, we headed out to the Officer's Club. The Officer's Club was very nice and friendly with reasonable prices, so we stayed for quite some time before going back to our BOQ.

Tomorrow will be my first day as a student in the Coast Guard Advanced Instructor Training school.

—to be continued next month—



- Mary Kaess—Nov. 1
- Barry Berg—Nov. 3
- Rex Stearns—Nov. 8
- Mary Cheney—Nov. 16
- Mack Stevens—Nov. 19

#### ¿Got Questions? We'll find the Answers'

If you hear three separate and distinct strokes before and after the rapid ringing of a bell, when in fog, what does it mean?

A vessel is aground.

#### INPUT

Suggestions, comments and articles you may have to this publication should be directed to the FSO-PB at 9733 Russell Ave. S.—Bloomington MN 55431-2468 or email to [condogulf@aol.com](mailto:condogulf@aol.com)  
Please submit articles for the next CUTTER no later than **0900—Monday, 30 November 2009.**