



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

A magazine for Coast Guard Auxiliary members First Quarter|2019



Shop **Amazon Smile** for St. Patrick's Day and Amazon will Contribute to AuxA™! As you celebrate St. Patrick's Day - it's good luck for the AuxA to shop through Amazon Smile... for each purchase Amazon will make a contribution to the Coast Guard Auxiliary through AuxA!

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You shop. Amazon gives.

"AuxA provides the financial stability that the Coast Guard Auxiliary must have to ensure it's readiness to meet its mission at all times."

- COMO Larry King, Chairman, AuxA



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the Auxiliary. On your first visit to AmazonSmile <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52=6056326> you are prompted to select a charitable organization from our list of eligible organizations, select USCG Auxiliary Association.



Auxiliary Aspirations

Auxiliary Association

by Commodore Vincent Pica, President and CEO

"Brevity is the soul of wit"

~ Polonius, Act-2, Scene-2, Hamlet.



So I will be witty! Hopefully, you've seen by now the more energetic, engaged and sleeker "AuxA™" – what IBM is to the International Business Machines Company – AuxA is to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association. From your perspective, this should be evident via these quarterly Benefits of Membership magazines and the orange-backed email blasts about deals for your consideration.

You may have heard this before but it bears (near-constant) repeating – if you're a member of US Coast Guard Auxiliary forces, you're a member of AuxA which, to you personally, is a membership in essentially a buying club at no additional cost to you. And we are continuing to bring new ideas and new opportunities to you.

And remember that buying through the AuxA website - <https://www.cgauxa.org/auxa/shop/> - creates a small trickle of revenue sharing by the vendors back to AuxA – which gets channeled back into supporting your RBS efforts – Job#1!

And don't forget – you can use the AuxA Amazon Smile portal – <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6056326> – for all your shopping needs. Imagine turning baby diapers, books, magazines, Whole Food shopping and laptops, amongst the zillion other products on Amazon, into AuxA RBS dollars? And it costs you absolutely nothing extra!

From tiny trickles, tsunamis...! Hopefully, that's witty enough!

Semper Paratus,
Vin

Vincent T. Pica, II
President & CEO
AuxA™

Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc

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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.

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Savings and Specials throughout the entire issue!



80% off for AuxA members
Get ready for NSBW!

6

75th Anniversary
80% off select items

9



60% off for AuxA members
Get ready for summer fun!

6



Savings on Travel Dates
through September 30th

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Free Consultation  **American**
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A Starkey Hearing Technologies Program



Boats For Life

Donate your Boat to AuxA™ to Promote Boating Safety

Donate your boat to the Coast Guard AuxA Safety Program and help save lives!

It's Simple.

Certified Sales Inc. has been designated by AuxA to assist Auxiliarists who are interested in donating their boat's value to the Coast Guard Auxiliary through AuxA. All boat donation proceeds will be a contribution to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association to help ensure that the Coast Guard Auxiliary is always "mission ready."

How does the boat donation process work?

CSI will ask you to describe the current condition of your boat and for photos of your boat. CSI will analyze the information to confirm that the boat can be sold for enough to cover transport, storage and other selling costs to have enough funds to donate to AuxA. If you are interested in donating your boat call Mike Costa directly, he can answer your questions.

Once I donate my boat, who is responsible for the boat and when can I stop boat insurance?

Once your boat is accepted for donation by AuxA, the donor then sends the original ownership documents to CSI. Upon receipt of the documents, CSI will take responsibility for the care and custody of the boat. The boat's storage needs to be current along with any open invoices. If the boat is on private slip or property CSI will arrange to transport the boat to a storage facility. Once successfully sold, AuxA pays the shipping, storage and related cost, plowing the difference into RBS programs.

The two best days in a boat owners life is the day you buy it... and the day you donate it to AuxA!

Just contact the AuxA boat donation specialist Mike Costa at Mike@certifiedsales.com or call him directly with any questions you have at 401-732-6300.

AuxA™ Member Benefits are the Best!

Testimony by Virginia Luchetti

A great side benefit of being a member of the USCG Auxiliary is having access to excellent discounts as an AuxA member.

I want to share two personal stories with you about the incredible savings available through the AuxA™ website.

First.....I love my sunglasses! Thank you AuxA and Provengo!

A little over a year ago, I needed a new pair of sunglasses. They had to have excellent UV protection and be designed for boating. The frames need-



ed to be durable and also look good. After shopping around at a few of the most well-known sunglass manufacturers and being discouraged by the high prices, I decided to look on the [AuxA Member Benefit](#) site to see if I could find something. I saw a link to a company called "[Provengo](#)" and clicked on it. Next thing I knew, I was "oohing" and "ahhing" at a few different types of Costa sunglasses. I saw that the discount prices offered

to AuxA members were fantastic!!

I had never even heard of Provengo until I saw their logo on the [AuxA website](#). Now, I'm a regular customer. Provengo offers excellent brand name merchandise at significant discounts for AuxA members. Their brand names include Yeti, Under Armour, Black Diamond, Gerber, Growlerwerks, Lacrosse, Luminox, Sperry, 5.11, HUK, Bates and Costa.

Here's my second AuxA Member Benefits story. We were getting ready for our Division OPTREX last June. I had to get some photo enlargements of the AOR and make lots of copies of handouts for participants. I dreaded learning the cost estimate. On the advice of another member, I first went to the AuxA Member Benefit website and downloaded my [Office Depot discount card](#). I brought the card with me to Office Depot when I got my printing and photo enlarging done. I was expected a nice discount, maybe 20% or even 25%. What I didn't expect and was delighted to learn was that the discount was a whopping 70%!!!!!! The full retail price for my order was \$63.90. I ended up paying only \$21.43. Amazing!

If you have not yet started using the wonderful discounts you earn as an AuxA member, make sure you go to the AuxA Member Benefit site and check out Provengo and Office Depot. While you're there, you'll also see [PENFED](#), [Dollar Car Rental](#) and other fantastic discounts available to you. Happy Shopping!



Costa Del Mar



Simply register for an account through the CGAuxA members only access to save up to 60% off on Costa, YETI, Sperry and more!



Because you're a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association you now have access to exclusive members only discounts up to 80% off at Office Depot and OfficeMax.



Click above to print your in store member purchasing discount card.



We're proud to offer secure financial services to those who help keep our coasts and waters safe.



Fly away with up to \$600 off your vacation.
Our biggest sale of the year. Travel 5/1/19-9/30/19

TNT Vacations Powered by FunJet: with more than 900 destinations in Mexico, Hawaii, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and the U.S., as well as more airlines and thousands of more hotels to choose from, your trip will be more enjoyable and easier to plan. With your exclusive CGAuxA 5% member discount and Price Match Plus, you're guaranteed to have the most cost-efficient trip, or we'll match it!

\$100 DONATION - WIND SHIRT
\$75 DONATION - GOLF SHIRT
\$50 DONATION - BALL CAP



FRAN FISHER

ROBERT FABICH

USCG Benefits for Coast Guard Auxiliary/AuxA™ Members

Coast Guard Auxiliary members are proud to wear the Coast Guard uniform while volunteering their time to get trained, qualified and serve as a member of Team Coast Guard. The Coast Guard in turn as a "thank you" for your service not only gives members the privilege of wearing the uniform but also provides MWR and Coast Guard Exchange benefits to each Auxiliary member in good standing with your Auxiliary I.D. Card.

Check out the many benefits that Coast Guard MWR (Morale,

Wellbeing and Recreation) offers you in your AOR, from discount attractions tickets to recreation facilities. The key reason to be a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is to serve, to donate your time and talents to be trained, qualified and serve as a member of Team Coast Guard.



HELP AuxA™ HELP YOU!

All donations to your Coast Guard Auxiliary Association-AuxA™ - goes to support the RBS missions of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

AuxA has a new logo reflecting the renewed commitment and increased need to provide financial support for the Coast Guard Auxiliary when Federal budget constraints, shutdowns and sequestration occurs.

AuxA ensures that the Coast Guard Auxiliary is mission-ready at all times. For example, during the recent Federal shutdown when DHS was unfunded, the AuxA supported National Board meeting in St. Louis so it did not have to be completely canceled.

Make a donation and receive new AuxA gear!

CLICK TO [DONATE](#)

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Program

Being a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is an honor and a privilege and a way in which many civilians give back to their country in the support of one of our five armed forces. No other branch of the services has an organization such as ours. The vast majority of our membership devote untold hours supporting the Coast Guard and never ask for anything in return.

There are many benefits of being an Auxiliarist but the most important one is being part of the “family.” The Coast Guard truly takes care of its family in many ways. One way is an often forgotten organization called the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Program. What is interesting about this is that this applies to the active duty, reserve, Auxiliarists, civilian employees, etc. Their motto is, “We take Care of Our Own.” Their help can be in the form of non-interest bearing loans or even outright grants, depending on the circumstances.

This is a non-profit (501(c)(3)) organization set up to help ALL members of the family when times get really tough. How to get help? http://www.cgmahq.org/manual/forms/CGMA_05.pdf

Here is a small list of the kinds of assistance this program provides:

Disaster and Emergencies

- Basic Living Expenses (food, utilities, rent)
- Unexpected repairs (home, vehicle, etc.)
- Emergency travel
- Fire, hurricane, other disasters (dislocation, repairs, deductibles, food, personal property)
- Loss of funds

Education Assistance

- College Loan
- Supplemental Education Grants (SEG): books, fees, supplies
- Stafford/PLUS Loan Fee Reimbursement

Family Support

- Adoption • Funerals • Financial counseling • Service animals • Disability access
- Layette for newborns • Special needs • Respite care • Pet support (medical, etc.)

Over the past 5 years alone here are some examples of how Auxiliarists have been the recipient of their help.... **2013**-\$41,545.24, **2014**-\$41,962.57, **2015**-\$29,164.84, **2016**-\$62,449.63 and **2017**-\$51,737.57

An Auxiliarist and spouse in D7 were in an automobile accident; \$1500 loan was provided to help with the cost of car repairs.

An Auxiliarist in D5 received two Special Education Grants (\$500/year) while pursuing an Undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice.

A disabled veteran Auxiliarist in D9 got behind on bills; an \$1100 loan helped prevent eviction.

Continued on page 9



Coast Guard Mutual Assistance

Continued from page 8

An Auxiliarist in D8 received a \$2300 Disaster Grant following damage to the home due to Hurricane Harvey.

An Auxiliarist in D1 got both an Education Loan and Supplemental Education Grant while pursuing an undergraduate degree in Homeland Security.

There are a number of organizations that have Coast Guard in their name and most are very worthy organizations. Here's one that helps us when we really need it. If you find that you are a victim of a natural disaster or your immediate family needs some extra help, don't forget that you have a family member who just might be able to help. And by the way, since this is a self-funding organization, anything you care to give to the organization will be most appreciated and it will go toward keeping the "family" together. There are a few ways that you can donate.

1. A secure donation, via the website: <https://cgmahq.networkforgood.com/>
Monthly donations are most appreciated!
2. Check or money order: http://www.cgmahq.org/manual/forms/CGMA_41.pdf
3. Conduct a flotilla fundraiser: https://www.cgmahq.org/campaign/2018/2018_Guide.pdf
4. Include CG Mutual Assistance in your estate or via your 401 (k):
<https://www.cgmahq.org/donation/plannedGiving.html>
5. If someone passes and you wish to send funds in memorial:
<https://www.cgmahq.org/donation/memorialDonation.html>

From Auxiliarist:

"Harvey flooded our home. I know many had the same and much worse. Please use my CGMA donation to help those in need on their way to recovery from Harvey, or any other request for assistance."

"Thank you for the grant. It is permitting me to start rebuilding my home after Florence. I have over 20 years with the Auxiliary and have really appreciated the opportunity and Fellowship."



Meet your AuxA[™] Team

AuxA™ Reaches GuideStar Platinum—Allows Donors to Focus on Progress and Results

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, AuxA™, earned the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency, the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar, the world's largest source of nonprofit information. By sharing metrics that highlight progress the AuxA is making toward its mission, the organization is helping donors move beyond more simplistic ways of nonprofit evaluation.

"In accordance with our long-held belief in being transparent about our work," said Larry King, Chairman, "we are excited to convey our organization's results in a user-friendly and highly visual manner. By updating our GuideStar Nonprofit Profile to the Platinum level, we can now easily share a wealth of up-to-date organizational metrics with our supporters as well as GuideStar's immense online audience, which includes donors, grant makers, our peers, and the media."

To reach the Platinum level, the AuxA added extensive information to its Nonprofit Profile on GuideStar: basic contact and organizational information; in-depth financial information; qualitative information about goals, strategies, and capabilities; and quantitative information about results and progress toward its mission. By taking the time to provide this information, the AuxA has demonstrated its commitment to transparency and to giving donors and funders meaningful data to evaluate the organization.

"I encourage you to visit our profile on GuideStar to see what we're all about," added Vincent Pica, President and CEO. "We're thrilled that our

GuideStar Platinum Nonprofit Profile and its associated benefits help us better communicate our organization's exciting initiatives."

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, or AuxA, is a national nonprofit organization established in 1957 to support Coast Guard Auxiliary activities. For over 60 years, AuxA has conducted the fiscal and business management responsibilities for the Auxiliary including fundraising, partner-

ships, and donations that enable America's Volunteer Lifesavers to accomplish their primary mission responsibility: recreational boating safety

About GuideStar Nonprofit Profiles

The GuideStar database contains a profile for every tax-exempt nonprofit registered with the IRS.

GuideStar encourages every nonprofit to claim and update its profile at no cost to the organization. Updating allows nonprofits to share a wealth of up-to-date information with the more than 8 million people who visit GuideStar to learn more about nonprofit organizations each year. Updating also allows nonprofits to share information with the more than 200 philanthropic websites and applications that are powered by GuideStar data. To reach a given participation level, organizations need to complete all required fields for that participation level. The GuideStar participation levels, acknowledged as symbols of transparency in the nonprofit sector, are displayed on all updated participants' profiles in the GuideStar database.

News Contact: Tom Lane, Chief Operating Officer, coo@cgauxa.org.





Hearing Benefits



As a member of **AuxA™**, you and your family are eligible for exclusive American Hearing Benefits (AHB).

- Discounts on today's latest technology, including hearing aids and tinnitus options
- FREE annual hearing consultations
- Access to a nationwide network of 3,000+ hearing professionals
- FREE one-year supply of batteries (40 cells per hearing aid purchased)
- One year of free office visits (limit of six)
- 60-day trial period**
- FREE Deluxe Warranty Plan, including loss and damage**
- Financing plans available (subject to credit approval)

To learn more and schedule your FREE hearing consultation, call (888) 516-0517 or visit us online.

*Patient benefits may vary by contract type. **Professional service fees may apply.

Legacy

As a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary we are proud to wear the uniform and to volunteer our service to the Coast Guard and nation. The Coast Guard values "Honor," "Respect," "Devotion to Duty" serve as our waypoints. As we pay tribute to our 80th Anniversary this year, we salute those members on whose tall shoulders we stand.

COMO Vin Pica, CEO of AuxA™ and Susan Ludwig, President of the Coast Guard Foundation have been working together for over a year establishing a new program to ensure that the Coast Guard Auxiliary will continue to serve the nation into the future- a legacy giving opportunity for Auxiliarists who would like to leave a bequest in their will, living trust or with a codicil to AuxA which helps ensures financially that

the Coast Guard Auxiliary will always be ready to meet its mission.

AuxA is partnering with the Coast Guard Foundation and is launching a legacy giving program with the bequests going to AuxA and the support of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.



JOINING TOGETHER TO
LEAVE A LEGACY OF SUPPORT

It's a great way to pay tribute to the Coast Guard Auxiliary as well as to your service as an Auxiliarist.

As you consider your estate planning, and have interest in the Coast Guard AuxA Legacy Giving Program please contact Brad Sisley at the

Coast Guard Foundation- 860-535-0786, bsisley@cgfn.org. Brad will be glad to answer any questions you may have and provide you with information.