



The Grayfox Association

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January 12, 2022

SUBJ: NSCS GRAYFOX TWR 825 ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

The Grayfox started off in January with a move from the St Clair River riverwalk dock to the Black River by the Zebra Lounge in Port Huron. In May and June, the crew moved the Grayfox to historic Fort Wayne and then to US Gypsum on the Rouge River. The Grayfox operated excellently! USG has been awesome and permitted the Grayfox to remain there for the winter. This opportunity allowed the crew to complete engine maintenance, change all filters, service the engine clutches and generators, replace some of the communications equipment on the bridge, replace a circuit breaker, service all of the flags, rebuild the engine room heaters, and more. The crew was busy. The move allowed reconnection to the area.

As for Sea Cadets, training was completed with the NSCC Wolverine Div in November and the NSCC FC Sherman Div on the ADM Sherman and Seafarer boats in August. Sea Cadet training on the boats was a first in 2 years. Youth summer camps and Sea Cadet training is planned for the summer. The Grayfox and boats remained open despite COVID precautions. We are optimistic that we will have more youth training this year.

A lot of attention was performed on the auxiliary boats; ADM Sherman (38ft Marine Trader), Seafarer (26ft Thompson Trawler), The Mary Jane was formerly renamed the Seafarer. The registrations for the Grayfox, ADM Sherman, and Seafarer were updated with the State of Michigan. We also made progress to certify the Seafarer for USCG Auxiliary. Both boats spent time at River Bend Marina in St Clair and Desmond Marine in Port Huron. A lot of maintenance was completed on both boats. In September, we acquired a Sea Ray boat. The Grayfox Association is represented now by four boats.

A couple of supported events: US Coast Guard Northwest Passage reunion, Tuskegee Airman memorial service in Port Huron, St Clair River Classic (boat race), Port Huron to Mackinac race, ADM Sherman ancestor visit, and Sea Cadet training.

The organization is strong with the addition of new Board members, supporters, and crew. Crew members Derek Steinoff and Ed Lulko were added. Capt John O'Loughlin, Jeff Haeseker, Dave Hohlfeldt, CDR, USCG (Ret), and Scott Liebold are noted for their significant contribution. Administration of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) Grayfox unit for Grayfox crew administered by the Magellan system was performed by LCDR Jerry Van de Vyver. Five crew members are now USCG AUX Officers. Three crew members completed the 200-ton Captains training in Toledo. Insurance is provided by USLI, NSCC for Cadets and crew, and Hold Harmless Agreements. Additional progress has been achieved with administration record keeping and documentation, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), project plans, work repair records, and ship logbooks.



With the move to River Rouge, the Grayfox team is reestablishing connections with the City of Wyandotte and River Rouge. We also re-ignited contacts with the Wyandotte American Legion and River Rouge High School. The Grayfox Association continues to work with the Bluewater Convention & Visitors Bureau, Desmond Marine, City of Port Huron and the local community to improve the community and visitor experience. We are a member of the Bluewater Chamber of Commerce.

Our attention continues to pursue and achieve US Coast Guard certification (COI) as a passenger vessel for hire. The Grayfox is currently considered a private vessel; Sea Cadets can stay overnight; but cannot train underway. A waiver was approved by the Commandant of the Coast Guard to certify Grayfox as a 100 Ton T-Boat. We expect to complete the COI at a shipyard in Cleveland this spring.

Year 2021 was a great year for the program and boats. Challenging, Yes ! Year 2022 seems even more promising with the resumption of Sea Cadet training. Our focus this winter is to obtain the funding to get the Grayfox in the shipyard, USCG certified, painted, and finding a new homeport. We want all of the boats to fulfill the training mission of The Grayfox Association and support the Sea Services and US Coast Guard.

We expect the Grayfox will get underway in 2022 as it goes to the shipyard in Cleveland. We are always looking for additional volunteers. You can find me on the Grayfox most weeks. When the US Flag is flying, I am on board.

Since 1997, the Grayfox has been committed to providing American youth with a drug and alcohol-free environment to foster their leadership abilities, broaden their horizons through hands-on training and guide them to becoming mature adults. Grayfox crew complete Darkness to Light, for responsible youth training.

We encourage you to visit the Grayfox website at www.nscsgrayfox.org or contact us at nscsgrayfox@gmail.com or 586-825-3706. We sincerely thank you for your continued support.

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