

USCG AUXILIARY FIFTH NORTHERN

DIVISION



MARINER

Division Commander (DCDR) – Cristen Gleason

Editor – Robert Babezki, SO-PB

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Spring 2018

Message from

the Bridge

DCDR Cris Gleason



Message from

the Bridge

VDCF Jim Hans



Shipmates:

As we begin the patrol season I'm reminded that all of us are volunteers. The importance of this is not lost on me as I am thankful for all that each of you do. Your commitment to the Auxiliary, the public and the Coast Guard we serve results in thousands of Division 8 volunteer man-hours each and every year. By the same token, many are asked to do even more and while that works for some it does not work for all. That is why I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you on behalf of VCDR Jim Hans and myself for all that you do regardless of the time expended. The Auxiliary competes for that time and also has a responsibility to give back to each member satisfaction and recognition for the job that each of you do.

(Continue on Page 2)

Shipmates of Division 8:

What seemed like an endless winter has finally give way to warm weather and the start of the 2018 boating season. Snow shovels, ice scrapers and foul weather gear can finally get stored away as we all prepare to do what we as Coast Guard Auxiliarists do best: Promote boating safety.

As we forge ahead with Vessel Exams, Boating Safety Classes and patrols we are reminded that during the summer months, recreational boating in Southern New Jersey can be one of the busiest areas in the nation. Let us not kid ourselves, the efforts by all Auxiliarists in terms of training, education and patrols plays a tremendous impact on public awareness and most importantly , it SAVES LIVES.

(Continued on Page 2)

DCDR Gleason (continued from page 1)

With that said I'd like to comment on one thing that comes to mind which is also one of our core values—**Respect**.

What I really want to point out is that it is important to be kind to one another which of course is one version of respect. In volunteer organizations it is difficult to gain consensus, particularly in a bureaucracy like the Auxiliary. Having fun must be a cornerstone of what we do. After all ,why give your time if it is not fun or if one is not recognized for the contributions made or time expended? The Auxiliary is not a democracy ,so there are times that we must simply accept what is being asked and move forward. There will be disagreements ,but that is why it is so important to be kind to one another and to think about what we do. Recently I had the opportunity to look at an acronym which epitomizes respect. That acronym is "THINK"

Is it TRUE

Is it HELPFUL

Is it INSPIRING

Is it NECESSARY

and Is it KIND

Leadership in the Auxiliary is often faulted for the dissatisfaction that members sometimes come to feel. So it is important to THINK about what that means. Integrity starts with truthfulness and is the first Letter Of THINK. Each of us has a responsibility to be certain that we communicate honestly with one another.

(Continued on Page 3)

VDCF Hans (continued from page 1)

Throughout Division 8, our primary focus again will be promoting Auxiliarist recruitment. Every member who proudly wears the uniform is an ambassador to the Auxiliary. Take time to get to know the boating public. Promote and encourage the ideals and core values of the Auxiliary. Encourage prospective members to attend your Flotilla meetings, and most importantly, stress the camaraderie and the impact we can make in the lives of the boating public by being an Auxiliarist.

In closing, I'll reiterate what I've said before. From Brigantine to Cape May, from the Villas to Bridgeton and all points in between, it continues to be the honor of my life to work and serve with the Auxiliarists of Division 8. Your work, dedication and commitment to promoting boating safety capture the true essence of our American heritage and serving our nation.

Sempar Paratus,

James E. Hans

VCDR. D58NR

DCDR Gleason (continued from Page 2)

H stands for helpfulness. Are we being part of the problem or part of the solution. Are we helping our neighbors (our fellow Auxiliarists)? If they are sick, are we surrounding them with support or moving away. There are times when an FSO has an issue and we need to help that individual do their job. That does not mean however that we let the job go undone but rather find a means to support the individual while at the same time accomplishing the mission.

Is it inspiring? Leadership requires one to inspire others. And make no mistake that one does not have to be an elected or appointed officer to inspire others. Some of the best inspirational moments I've known in the Auxiliary have come from simple committee meetings whereby everyone was given an opportunity to voice a solution to an issue.

Is it necessary? We all can agree that the requirements for training have increased dramatically so it is even more important to look carefully at those things we might want to task that are not really necessary or in the end not that important.

And of course "Is it kind" which is all part of my respect for each of you and for your respect of each of your fellow Auxiliarists. So as we begin the patrol season let's "THINK" about all that we do and remember it should be FUN! If you "THINK" about this I guarantee that it will be FUN and rewarding.

Very Respectfully

Cris Gleason DCDR

Division 8 Leadership

DCDR - (Division Commander)

Cristen Gleason (8-5)

VCDR (Chief of Staff) -

James Hans (8-6)

IPDCDR (Immediate Past Division Commander)

Richard Weiss (8-2)

Division 8 Flotilla Leadership

William Fithian, FC Flotilla 8-1

Frank Bigley, VFC 8-1

James Carey, FC Flotilla 8-2

Tony Kupstas, VFC 8-2

William Holmes, FC Flotilla 8-3

Scott Supplee, VFC 8-3

John Percy, FC Flotilla 8-4

Richard Dale, VFC 8-4

Calvin Bartechko, FC Flotilla 8-5

Ken Novakoff, VFC 8-5

Brenda Hollway, FC Flotilla 8-6

Nick Holland, VFC 8-6

John Mastrobuono, FC Flotilla 8-7

Rich Sampson, VFC 8-7

DIVISION 8 STAFF - 2018

Division Staff Officers

SO-CM (Communications) - Stanley Friedman (8-5)
SO-CS (Communication Services) - William Fithian (8-1)
SO-FN (Finance) - Greg Lavin (8-4)
SO-HR (Human Resources) - Tony Kupstas (8-2)
SO-IS (Information Services - South) - Bernadette Hofer (8-2)
SO-IS (Information Services - North) – Michael Colondrillo (8-4)
SO-MA (Materials) - Joe Lee (8-6)
SO-MS (Marine Safety) - Lorraine Bianco (8-2)
SO-MT (Member Training) - Cris Gleason (8-5)
SO-NS (Navigation Systems) - John Gallagher (8-2)
SO-OP (Operations - South) - Scott Supplee (8-3)
SO-OP (Operations - North) – Frank Bigley (8-1)
SO-PA (Public Affairs) - Ron Zuggi (8-1)
SO-PB (Publications) - Bob Babezki (8-1)
SO-PE (Public Education) – Marilyn Hughes (8-1)
SO-PV (Program Visitor) – John Percy (8-4)
SO-SR (Secretary/Records) – Fran Krajewski (8-3)
SO-VE (Vessel Safety Check) – Jim Carey (8-2)

From The Fo'c's'l (*folk-sel*): **A New Beginning**

By Bob Babezki, Editor

When I was asked to take over the publication of the Division 8 newsletter after a publication hiatus of many months, I realized that I had big shoes to fill. The previous editor of this newsletter, Howard Friedman, had expended a lot of personal time and energy to create this journal of the Division 8 Auxiliary activities. I hope that I can devote that same level of commitment to this newsletter as we move forward.

It is my belief that this newsletter represents you, the membership of Division 8. As the largest and most active Division in the 5th District Northern Region, we have multiple activities taking place at the same time. Since I can't be at all places at all times, I will rely upon you, our membership, to submit articles and reports of the activities that you have participated in over the course of the previous months. Together, we can weave this information into an interesting publication that we can all be proud of.

To this end, this publication will provide a forum for the discussion of Auxiliary topics and a place where the creativity of Auxiliary members can be showcased. I will begin this process by publishing an essay that was written a few years ago by a former member, Richard Sorokin.

Why The Auxiliary?

The United States Coast Guard and its Auxiliary's prime function is safety on the water. The Auxiliary, made up of citizen volunteers, augment the Coast Guard's effort to accomplish this goal. How is this accomplished?

The Auxiliary uses many methods to promote water safety. They go out and patrol our waters. They promote safety by correcting negative behavior on the water and by being there when a boater needs assistance, and correcting poor safety practices. The public knows we're there and often give us a friendly wave.

The Auxiliary visits marinas and marine stores, distributing information literature promoting safe boating. They give safe boating courses that meet state requirements. Examining boats for safety is another function. Does the boat have the right lights, safety equipment, flares, and life jackets? Does the owner have the boat registered? Has he or she taken the Safe Boating Course?

The Auxiliary is there for the public's safety. We aim to make your experience on the water as safe as possible. Especially now when government funding is in trouble

National Safe Boating Week

Robert Babezki, AUXPA-3

Every year, the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary team up with the National Safe Boating Council to promote a week of safe boating awareness. This public awareness effort is known as National Safe Boating Week. Nationally, this event runs from the Saturday before Memorial Day to Memorial Day, a period of 10 days. In 5th Northern, we have proven that this time-frame is too early for the boaters in our area. There are too few boaters on the water and too little interest. People are focused on getting their summer homes ready for the summer and not thinking about their boats.

Several years ago the 5th Northern Auxiliary delayed its observance of National Safe Boating Week (NSBW) by one week, to begin on Memorial Day Weekend. This delay gives us better exposure to the boaters in our area as it is the recognized start of the summer season. This event gives the Auxiliary the opportunity to get in front of the boating public in an organized and coordinated fashion. Each Flotilla should be planning their events for both weekends of NSBW.

In Division 8, National Safe Boating Week activities take many forms. From information booths in high traffic public areas, vessel safety activities, on-water safety patrols or participating in community Memorial Day activities, the Auxiliarists of Division 8 provide active support to the Auxiliary's commitment to boating safety.

Shown below, Flotilla 81 members Joe Libby (left) and Bill Quain discuss boating safety with a member of the public on the Ocean City Boardwalk on the first day of NSBW.



Auxiliary Aircraft Support Coast Guard Surface Units

by Joseph Giannattasio, AUXPA1

Coast Guard Auxiliary District Fifth Northern aircrews conduct flyovers to assess the inlets and waterways for Coast Guard Small Boat Stations in New Jersey. These waterway assessments are conducted in order to identify and photo-document shoaling and navigational obstructions around major inlets and the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW).

Initiated in 2012, the Auxiliary overflights specifically focused on increasing the Coast Guard's maritime domain awareness. Another key benefit of the missions have resulted in better situational awareness - Coast Guard surface units gaining observations of local waterway conditions following the winter season, after major storms, and providing marine mammal observation data.



Hereford Inlet, NJ from the air. Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Bill Fithian.



LCDR Noel Johnson, Commanding Officer USCG Station Atlantic City describes the benefits of these missions, “The overflight photographs were invaluable to our crew. We conducted all hands training viewing the pictures and discussing current shoaling and best ways to travel through certain areas. In fact, based on the pictures we added additional restrictions to transiting through Corson Inlet. Following the winter storms we had identified that there was increased shoaling in the inlet, but we did not know the severity until seeing the aerial shots.” LCDR Johnson included, “The photographs possibly prevent our crews from grounding. This mission was another example of how well the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary work together to achieve common goals.”



Auxilairists Bill Fithian, Air Crew and Howard Davis, Aircraft Commander plan the route for an aerial waterway photo mission.

Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Joseph Giannattasio

BMC Kristopher Knowles, Executive Officer USCG Station Cape May states, “The overflights benefit the surface units in determining the location of shifting shoals and or sand bars. This enables us show coxswains and break-in coxswains where the best water would be when transiting. This also benefits us in having a real picture of the AOR so the communications watch standers get a real picture of the AOR rather than just a plain chart.”

According to Auxiliarist Bill Fithian, ADSO-AV-Training, “The information gathered from area overflights informs the district air program’s future requirements by, for example, improving pilot familiarity with the region, providing information on the individual capabilities of aircraft, and allowing air crews to develop and experience new skillsets.”

BMC Knowles sums it up succinctly, “The saying that ‘pictures are worth a thousand words’ is completely fitting for this.”

Date: 19FEB2018
From: Joseph Giannattasio, DSO-AV D5NR
RE: DeBrief – Operation HUNTAIR
(HUNTer/AIR Training Exercise)

On 19FEBRUARY 2018 there was a successful practice evolution of an Auxiliary aircraft performing a search and visual locating of a lost sportsman in a small duck boat in the back-bays off Ocean City, NJ and vectoring an Auxiliary Land Mobile Radio Facility (LMFR) Team to the location. This is the first documented mission of this type in 5NR. The purpose to determine and photo-document the practical challenges of locating camouflaged individuals and vessels in a marine environment and directing first responders to the location. The findings may prove useful in targeting practical boating safety information to hunters and sportsmen and exercise the interoperability of air and ground radio teams.

Mission Overview:

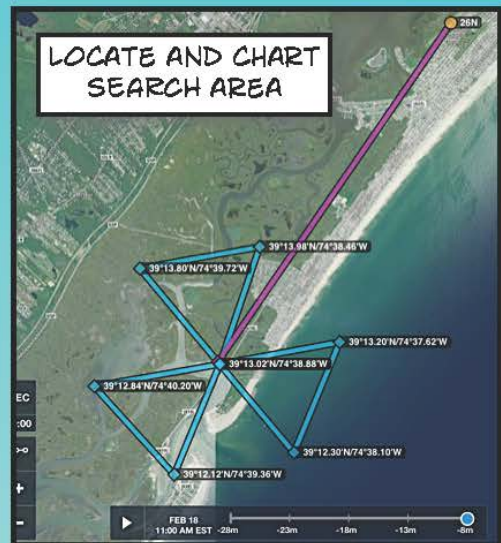
- 1.) Participants rendezvous at Ocean City (NJ) Airport 26N for mission pre-brief.
- 2.) Auxiliary Land Mobile Radio Facility (LMRF) transports and launches a tethered (unmanned) small duck boat and decoys at Corson's Inlet State Park.
- 3.) Auxiliary Aircraft takes-off and establishes Radio COMMS with LMRF.
- 4.) Aircraft flies to the general location and conducts a Victor-Sierra search pattern attempting to establish a visual of duck boat.
- 5.) Secondary evolutions involve monitor/document use and effectiveness of Visual Distress Signals (Orange Distress Flags and Signal Mirror) by LMRF Team.
- 6.) Upon completion of exercise, assets rendezvous at Ocean City Airport (26N) for debrief.



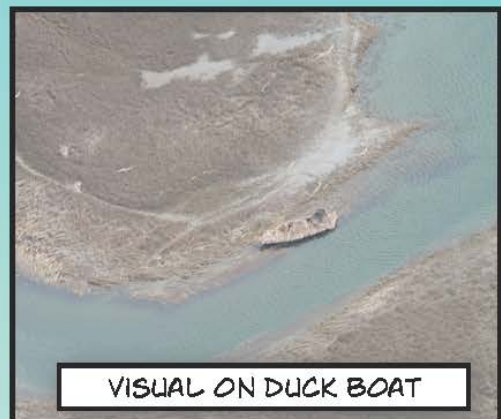
AUXAIR AND MOBILE RADIO TEAM
(L to R) B.Fithian, F. Bigley, J. Giannattasio, H. Davis



**LMRF AND DUCK BOAT
READYED FOR LAUNCH**



**LOCATE AND CHART
SEARCH AREA**



VISUAL ON DUCK BOAT



**ORANGE DISTRESS
FLAG DEPLOYED**

DIVISION 8 Members Demonstrate Vessel Safety Inspection on Recreational Vessel

Story & Photos by Joseph Giannattasio, AUXPA1

Atlantic City, N.J. — The Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 8 (5NR) invited media members to attend a vessel safety inspection at Coast Guard Station Atlantic City in Atlantic City on April 27th. Before video crews from three regional news television stations, Auxiliarists simulated a vessel safety inspection, talked about required marine equipment and provided recommendations to boat owners operating in local waters as boating season begins. Vessel safety inspections are important because it gives recreational boaters peace of mind that their boat meets federal safety standards and that in an emergency they will have the necessary equipment to save lives and summon help.



Auxiliarist Jack Kelly (standing) and Stan Friedman (in boat) also talked about “If Found” stickers, which are recommended for owners of kayaks, canoes, wind-surfing boards and paddleboards. "If Found" stickers are meant to readily identify the owner of a found paddle craft, enabling emergency services to confirm the whereabouts of the owner. The idea is to make certain that no one is missing or in need of assistance, saving search and rescue efforts and resources while reuniting

the craft with its owner. Viewers were also informed that boat owners interested in getting a free safety check can download the United States Coast Guard mobile app or visit their website.



DIVISION 8 CONDUCTS SCHOOL FOR BOAT CREW TRAINEES

Story & Photos by Joseph Giannattasio, AUXPA1 and Robert Babezki, AUXPA3

Part of the mission of the Auxiliary is to provide surface patrols to augment the activities of the Active Duty Coast Guard. In order to perform this mission, it is necessary for the Auxiliary to properly train members in the proper ways of a surface crew member of the Auxiliary. Each year, Division 8 holds one or two Crew classes, typically one in the northern area of the Division and one in the south.



The Spring is the best time of year to prepare your vessel, your equipment, and your PPE for the start of Auxiliary Patrol season. It is also a perfect time to prepare members with Boat Crew training. AUX-TCT provided the trainees a well-rounded curriculum of training to prepare them for task completions and qualifications.



In the beginning of this year Division 8 (South) members interesting in pursuing Boat Crew qualifications attending a six-weekend Crew School organized and coordinated by John Tredinnick and Ralph Atwell (FL82). Joseph Giannattasio QE and a cadre of instructors included Glena Tredinnick, Tony Kupstas, James Carey, and Jim McCarty.



The last day of classroom training was scheduled to take place at Small Boat Station Cape May on Saturday, May 12th. As the class members assembled outside in the parking lot, they were notified that the Station building was closed due to a fire in a machinery room. The final tasks to be completed for the qualification will be on the water activities, which are scheduled for later in the month of May, when

there are more boats in the water.

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The Coast Guard Auxiliary Boat Crew school provides trainees with theoretical and practical knowledge in safety, first aid, seamanship, navigation, boat operations, vessel construction, basic principles of marine engines and minor repairs, vessel handling, distress situations, and other topics related to Auxiliary vessel operations. Shown here are the Crew trainees doing their in-water training.



Working with experienced Trainers and active duty personnel, Boat Crew Schools organized within Flotilla or Division units provides members wishing to obtain their Boat Crew qualification a wonderful venue to learn and work as a team.



Upon completion of these activities, a small graduation ceremony was held for the Crew School graduates. Once qualified, Members can patrol area waters assisting the Coast Guard in recreational boater safety.



Crew Trainees line up for instruction by Active Duty at Station Cape May



Instructor Tony Kuptsus instructs Crew Trainee Manny Sannino on the proper tying of a Clove Hitch



2018 Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show

Robert Babezki
ADSO-PA Special Events

The 5th Northern District of the Coast Guard Auxiliary participated in the 2018 Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show, held from February 28th thru May 4th at the Atlantic City Convention Center. The Auxiliary's participation in this event was hosted by Division 8, New Jersey. For the eighth straight year, Division 8 has invited other local Auxiliary Divisions to participate in the boat show. This year's event included participation from 5 additional Divisions, representing half of all the Divisions in D5NR. Participating Divisions included Divisions 4 and 17 from the D5NR Central Area and Divisions 7, 8, 16 & 18 from the Eastern Area. All told, 48 individual Auxiliarists participated in the actual show booth.

The booth that the Auxiliary manned this year was different from previous years. Typically, our booth consists of a 50' x 10' space. This year, the show's sponsors set-up a children's scavenger hunt type of activity called Touch the Boats. Each vendor was given a stamp and as the children came through our area, we stamped their game book to indicate that had visited our booth. The sponsors also requested that the Auxiliary re-locate their booth into a 50' x 50' space that was shared with two boats from Sea Tow, The thought being that having 3 boats in one space would increase our overall traffic. This space was donated to the Auxiliary by the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) and Progressive Insurance, producers of the event. According to NMMA, the total attendance over the 5 day run of the show was 38,603, which is a 8% increase over 2016. We observed that the majority of boats displayed were less than 28' in length.

Each Auxiliary unit was invited to have representatives participate in a series of three GoToMeeting webinar planning meetings. This eliminated the need for travel during winter weather. These webinar based planning meetings made the event more inclusive for all aspects of the Coast Guard and Auxiliary. These meetings took place on January 24th, February 6th and February 20th. Minutes of these meetings were taken and distributed to all participants.

The Auxiliary received outstanding levels of logistical support from Coast Guard Small Boat Station Atlantic City, NJ. The Station provided a new 29' RB-S for use by the Auxiliary for the week of the show. The Station allowed the Auxiliary to load up all of its materials into the RB-S before the boat was brought into the show Exhibition Hall on set-up day. This eliminated the need for Auxiliarists to hand carry about 500 pounds of materials into the Exhibition Hall by hand. The Station returned on Monday after the show to retrieve the boat, which the Auxiliary had filled with all the materials that needed to be removed from the Exhibit Hall, allowing Auxiliary members to leave the Exhibition Hall at the conclusion of the booth breakdown activities on Sunday. Station Atlantic City designated BM1 Greg Panas as the Active liaison between the Station and the Auxiliary planning group. The Auxiliary retrieved their material from Station Atlantic City once the RB-S was returned to the station.

LCDR Noel Johnson, Station Commanding Officer of Small Boat Station Atlantic City was outstanding in his support of our activities. He arranged for one Active Duty member of the

Station to be in our booth each day. Our thanks go out to LCDR Johnson for all his support for this event.

The staffs at the Atlantic City Convention Center were outstanding in their support. They took us right in and opened up a passageway between the already erected booths in order to get our RB-S into our booth. What was interesting was the fact that the new RB-S is 4' longer than the old model, but the overall length on the trailer was 3' shorter, allowing more room in the booth for materials and personnel.

Station Atlantic City also provided logistical support to those members manning the booth by allowing the members to park their personal vehicles on base and the Station further provided a shuttle service from the Station to the Convention Center. This provided free, secure parking for the Auxiliarists who were manning the booth. The Station also stored overnight the two computer systems that the Auxiliary used in the booth. The Auxiliary provided a daily roster of members who would be attending the show to the Communications Center at the Station so the

Communications Center would know how many Auxiliarists would need transportation. Table 1 details the breakout of the number of Auxiliarists per Division, per day at the Boat Show.

Table 1: 5NR Member Participation in the Atlantic City Boat Show*

Member	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Totals
Unit	2/28	3/1	3/2	3/3	3/4	
Division 4	0	0	0	0	1	1
Division 7	0	3	0	6	0	9
Division 8	7	3	4	4	6	24
Division 16	2	5	5	1	0	13
Division 17	2	2	2	1	1	8
Division 18	1	0	3	0	0	4
Total	12	13	14	12	8	59

* Some Members participated on more than one day.

Table 2: 5NR Member Hours in the Atlantic City Boat Show

Member	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Totals
Unit	3/1	3/2	3/3	3/4	3/5	
Division 4	0	0	0	0	8	8
Division 7	0	14	0	35.5	0	49.5
Division 8	39	20	14.5	24	37.5	135
Division 16	14.5	38.5	26	7	0	86
Division 17	15	17	15.5	9	8	64.5
Division 18	2.5	0	12	0	0	14.5
Total	71	89.5	68	75.5	53.5	357.5

This year, the booth layout that the show sponsors set-up for the Auxiliary was not conducive to lead collection. The data collected during the course of the show indicates that the public did indeed come into the booth to have their children touch the Coast Guard RB-S, but their focus was on their children, not on speaking with the Auxiliary regarding boating safety. During the first 4 days of the show, our total count on leads recorded was 40, or 10 per day. However, on Sunday, due to a flood from the booth next to ours, the open area in the center of the booth was closed off for safety concerns by the show's maintenance staff. This forced the Auxiliary to re-position our presentations to a more traditional set of tables along the front of the booth. This different arrangement allowed for a greater degree of public interaction with the Auxiliary, as indicated by the fact that on Sunday alone, 33 leads were collected.

The leads broke out into three categories; interest in taking an "About Boating Safety" class (39), people interested in joining the Auxiliary (6) and people requesting a Vessel Safety Examination (20), with a few people requesting more than one service. The detail collected allows the Auxiliary to direct the lead to the specific unit best suited to meet the needs of the person requesting the service. The one lead collected for the boater in D5SR will be forwarded to the D5NR District Prevention Officer (DDC-P) for forwarding.

This year, we positioned an Auxiliarist in the RB-S to assist the children who wanted to climb into the vessel for a tour and/or photographs. This member wore an Auxiliary Personal Floation Device (pfd) to re-inforce the message to the children and their parents of always wearing your lifejacket while on your boat.



Auxiliary Booth at start of Show
Photo by Auxiliarist Bob Babezki



Dave Sedlak of FL-82 speaks with a member of the public about joining the Auxiliary
Photo by Auxiliarist Paul Casalese



Auxiliarist Alan Moose of FL-85 hosts tours of the Coast Guard 29' RB-S
Photo by Auxiliarist Paul Casalese



Dave Kirk of Division 17 discusses the Coast Guard Academy Program
Photo by Auxiliarist Bob Babezki



Auxiliarists (l to r) Bob Babezki & Joan Richio (FL-81) and Dave Kirk (FL 17-4)
Photo by Auxiliarist Charlie Wilkins



Sunday's Booth layout after the flood.
Photo by Auxiliarist Bob Babezki