



**U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**

# Flotilla 81

**Ocean City, N.J.**  
**HENRY ALAN WOOD, FC**  
**KENNETH WILDE, VFC**

January 2008

Number 4 Volume 1

Richard S. Keast, FSO-PB

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Flotilla 81 Meetings 2008, Senior Center

(unless noted otherwise)

10 January, 14 February, 13 March,  
 10 April, 15 May, 12 June, 10 July,  
 14 August, (Picnic at Log Cabin),  
 11 September, 9 October, 13 November,  
 16 December (Change of Watch)

### DIVISION MEEINGS

Division 08(5NR) meeting  
 2008 schedule

9 Jan FL 81 Stainton Senior Citizen  
 Center Bay, Ave Ocean City  
 6 Feb Fl 82 Shack Yacht Ave Cape  
 May  
 5 Mar Fl 83 Community Center,  
 10th Ave N. Wildwood  
 9 April Fl 84 VFW Dorset Ave Ventnor  
 14 May Fl 85 Civic Center Brigantine  
 11 June Fl 86 Cold Springs Church  
 Lower Township

### OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Spring Conference, 2008 York, PA  
 Fall Conference, 2008 Gettysburg, PA

### PUBLIC EDUCATION (PE)

**ABC Class Dates 2008 (Saturday),**  
**Senior Center, Ocean City,**  
**8:00 AM -5:00 PM**

1 March, 15 March, 5 April, 19 April,  
 3 May, 17 May, 7 June, 28 June,  
 13 September, 18 October

### FROM THE BRIDGE

I hope that we continue to set higher goals for all of our missions next year. I also hope that we continue to stress that each member get involved in one or more of our missions as well as help our new members become active and involved. The more involved you are the more satisfaction you can derive from our organization.

Walt Alsegg FC



### Vice Flotilla Commanders Report, 2007

I want to begin by thanking the



members for their confidence and trust exhibited by electing Ken Wilde VFC and me as your Commander for 2008.

The Flotilla has made major strides in Operations, Public Affairs, Program

Education. Fellowship has been outstanding over the years with the picnics at the Log Cabin and Station Great Egg. The Change of Watch is always well attended and provides the opportunity to meet the families of our members and guest. A major " Well Done " to all who work to feed the troops at meetings, picnics and Change of Watch.

Walter is a difficult act to follow, VFC elect Ken Wilde and I will do our best to continue to advance this Flotilla in 2008. We will have a staff meeting in December to make plans for the future and set goals for next year.

Some thoughts about the future: we hope to provide advance training for operations personnel, continue our excellence in Public Education and keep member training relevant, informative and interesting. We will encourage members to qualify in Vessel Examiner, Program Visitor and Operations Programs. Those interested in instruction for Public Education will be encouraged to qualify and participate in boating safety classes.

Walter has recommended a mentor program for our newest members and we shall attempt to put this program into effect starting with Staff Officers and our most experienced members. We are looking for one on one contact through E mail or phone to answer questions to help procure uniforms, qualification programs or information services forms. If the mentor does not know the answer they should go the appropriate staff officer and then to the Vice Flotilla Commander. This is a major goal for 2008 and requires team work to insure that no member is left out for a lack of encouragement, fellowship or information necessary to be a happy, productive member of Flotilla 8-1.

It will also be a goal to have more members attending the Division Meetings to encourage possible interest in Division Staff positions. Flotilla 8-1 has always been a leader and influential at the division and district levels of the Auxiliary. This is

proven by the recent election of Marilyn Hughes as Division Captain by the division board of directors, Past Commodore John Locasale and numerous other members who are past or present division and district officers.

In January it is the New Year of 2008 and Flotilla 81, may it be productive, prosperous, enjoyable, safe and healthy for all our members and their families.

Henry A. Wood VFC 8-1(FC Elect)

### **VFC ELECT MESSAGE**

Flotilla 81 has been an outstanding one for years. The membership, staff officers and elected staff together make it great. The elected staffs before Alan Wood and me have been dedicated and creative. They've raised the bar high but have also left a solid base from which we can work.



We want to continue the flotillas' reputation for its contribution to the Coast Guards' missions, great training for the public and its members, and the fellowship we enjoy. We also want to attract new members and retain out present members by making the flotilla as relevant and enjoyable as possible. To all members we look forward to another great year working with and for you.

Ken Wilde, VFC (Elect)

### **OPERATIONS REPORT** **FLOTILLA 8-1**

Operations Summary 2007

Flotilla 8-1 participated in 34 missions during 2007 . Those missions included safety patrols, regatta patrols [for marine events], training, area familiarization, and radio support for operation mission.[ Night in Venice ]

Eighteen members contributed 233 hours as coxswain, crew and watch stander during the 2007 operations program. We now have five coxswains active and one in

re qualification for 2008. The Flotilla has nine participating and qualified crew members for this year. Three members stood radio guard for Night in Venice at Station Great Egg . We had four operational facilities to start the season and added three new operational facilities during this summer. I want to thank Walter Alsegg, Richard Keast and Ken Wilde, Edward Shulde plus Harry Norcross for making their vessels available to the operations program. We hope to qualify new Coxswains and crew in the coming year.

Flotilla 8-1 received support from Flotillas 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-5 and Division 7 during the Air Show, Night in Venice and Rainbow Challenge Swim. This is an example of "TEAM Coast Guard" at work. I would like to thank Atlantic City Commander Lt. Jason Ingram and Supervisor of Great Egg Station BM1 Jimmy Holston with their Coast Guard team for their support, organization, cooperation and leadership this summer. The station door was always open to auxiliary and we felt welcome at their facilities. This made our mission enjoyable when supporting the regular Coast Guard.

As FSO-OP, I must thank SO-OP Bruce Long for our orders on request and FSO-IS Howard Phillips, SO-IS Dan Hartman and DCP Michael Colondrillo for processing a wave of paperwork for AUXDATA.

Henry A. Wood FSO- OP

We usually have a member biography at this point. In past we have had a number of interesting biographies. In an attempt to continue we have asked the few members not yet having submitted, to submit theirs. Having talked to some of them I feel their biographies would be interesting to members, but some are reluctant to write. Today's Biography is that of our Vice – Commander, Ken Wilde. I believe you will find interesting.

## BIOGRAPHY

I was born in Philadelphia and always had the sand in my shoes. My once a year vacation was always too short. I knew from my earliest memories I had to be at the shore. I met my wife in Avalon. We vacationed at the shore and both of us felt it wasn't enough. We eventually bought an up and down condo in Ocean City and, after a few years, decided to move down year round. We sold our condo and house in Broomall, Pennsylvania bought a single house in Ocean City.

I also had an attraction to boats. Before we were married my wife and I would rent small boats and go fishing and crabbing. We eventually bought a couple of boats and enjoyed them completely. I joined the Auxiliary to learn more about boating and contribute to boating safety.

I originally started out a "techy" and after electrical engineering at Villanova I worked for GE Missile and Space division as an engineer. As the space program started to run out of steam I decided to change careers. When I was in engineering at Villanova I talked to the engineering dean about switching to pre-med and he talked me out of it. After a few layoffs and callbacks at GE I decided that this was the time to make a career change. I was still fairly young and single. I figured the way to pay for this was by working a job and playing music. For the most part most of the money I made at that time was by playing music. This accomplished two things. I made money for school and it allowed me to be down the shore all summer. I returned to school at Temple for biology and also graduate school in physiology concentrating on electrophysiology. I went to graduate school while I was waiting to be accepted into medical school. I eventually got accepted to Hahnemann but only got about halfway through. Money, time and workload were against me. Having a dual background in engineering and

medicine/physiology, I blended the two into a career in biomedical engineering eventual becoming the head of the Biomedical Department at Temple University Health System. After 10 years and looking towards an early retirement at the shore, I moved to ACMC (now ARMC). I may return to one of the university hospitals but I will still live here and commute.

Ken Wilde. VFC 08-01

### **OBTUARY**

This year we lost one of our members, Bob Kapus. Bob was a regular in Coast Guard as Chief Bos'n Mate.



**Robert F. Kapus**  
(September 2, 1931 -  
November 8, 2007)

Robert F. Kapus 76, entered eternal life on Wednesday, November 8, 2007 at Meadowview Nursing Home, Northfield, after a lengthy illness.

Born in Riverside, NJ, the son of the late Francis and Laura (Schmid) Kapus, he attended local public schools. He joined the US Coast Guard in Cape May, NJ, in January 1949. He served proudly, retiring as USCG ENCS in January 1969. The recipient of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, and Good Conduct Medal with silver star, his duties included patrols, light ship, ice-breaking, and search and rescue. He often said that his proudest duty was aboard the much decorated USCG Cutter Ingham, now in a maritime museum.



A 42 year resident of Northfield, he also retired as a mechanic for Atlantic County. His service to community

included the USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 81,



USCG Chief Petty Officers Association, Fleet Reserve Association Branch 13, and the Somers Point Marine Unit. His favorite sports included skin-diving, swimming, boating and canoeing.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jo DiStefano Kapus.

Funeral was Monday, November 12, 2007 - interment at the Atlantic County Veterans Cemetery, Estelle Manor

(Obituary courtesy Cemetery)



The Atlantic County Veterans Cemetery,



Here we see Bob at one of Flotilla 81 affairs seated with Bonnie Bonner

**NEW MEMBERS**

We believe it's a little hard to get to know new members, particularly if you only see them at meeting time. Therefore we include pictures of a couple of new members that most folks may not have met, and thru these photos, hopefully you will be able to greet them next meeting.

To the upper right:  
Lewis Branin  
600 Revere Ave.  
Libwood, NJ 08221



To the lower right:  
Paul Bially  
647 Yorkshire Court  
Sewell NJ 08080



**AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES**

Howard Phillips  
is Master of  
Ceremonies Fl -  
81 COW



Lt. Ingrahm, Station  
A..C. is on hand to  
Swear in Appointed  
Officers



Lt Ingram  
Congratulates  
Joe Skutlin for  
his exceptional  
work during  
Hurricane



At Division  
COW  
Our own  
Marilyn  
becomes  
Division  
Captain



Flotilla wishes  
Jimmy Holston  
(CO-GE STN)  
well as he leaves  
for new  
assignment in  
Boston



Division  
Change of  
Watch Fl 81  
well  
represented

Flotilla COW  
A few of many  
members attending



Good Old Days  
9 Sept., 2007  
Terri Pierce,  
Fred Ruddick  
Visitor



Bayside Center  
The Ocean City Sailing  
Foundation will be using  
the Bayside Center on  
Bay Ave. to teach sailing  
to the youth / guests of  
Ocean City. The city will provide fund and  
will upgrade the area with a ramp and dock  
renovation. The auxiliary has a member  
involved with the foundation and we have  
been extended the invitation to use the  
facility for conducting safe boating classes.  
Joe Skutlin



As I indicated previously I  
do include marine related  
activities other than CGA if  
I think of interest.

### **NTH STREET ST. CAUSEWAY REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

The construction of the 9<sup>th</sup> St.  
Causeway still continues at an amazing  
pace, setting more pilings and roadway  
beams. If you recall Oct picture “The  
shovel that never seemed to get any  
where”- finally did- regrettably we didn’t  
see it. One day at end of October we  
passed there to see the little shovel on top  
of pile of crushed pilings had changed its  
cutting device for a clam shell and was  
putting the pieces in his pile into a  
“monster machine”, which in turn,  
pulverized the chunks of concrete to a fine  
material and started another pile. See  
picture taken 3 November. Here you see

the “monster machine” (looks like machine  
used to tear up and pulverize roadways)

( says on it” Lokotrack”) and to the  
left of it the finely pulverized material.  
Apparently the shovel transferred all  
crushed concrete to the “monster machine”  
and was able to return to grade level (it’s  
parked a ½ mile away) either that or as  
someone suggested- it was lifted off pile by  
one of “monster” cranes. (Wouldn’t put it  
past them)

On 17 Dec the completed portions  
of causeway were opened to traffic, both N  
and S bound, showing the progress made.  
(Open causeway estimated as half distance  
between waterways)



**REMEMBER!!!**

If you see something you think interesting  
to members-write it and photograph it –  
send it.

All FSO’s are reminded to send a  
report for publishing in Pelorus  
( suggest 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr Ed.)

Next issue 1 April- Please get to me at  
least a week before issuing. (it takes a little  
time to put all together) (The longer you  
wait to send it to me- the more I have to  
scramble to get it together.)

**From The EDITOR**  
**Richard S. Keast FSO-PB**  
**609-814-1802**  
[rkeabea@comcast.net](mailto:rkeabea@comcast.net)



Richard S. Keast FSO-PB-81

To: All Pelorus readers-Regret delay issuing Pelorus.-Prior to mailing had slight problem. Had been pushing hard to get out- was a bit tired. While driving over West Ave, AM Thurs, felt eyes getting heavy (in past under such conditions would have pulled over- a 5 or 10 min. nap would solved problem. Regrettably didn't) Next thing-bad chest pain-white blanket over face (air bag)- then see utility pole in

middle of hood) Managed to get SB unfastened- get out on ground-everyone coming to help- bus driver says barely missed him -OC's finest (Ambulance) takes me to SM Hosp. where all kinds tests taken -they conclude 5 ribs fractured-under such conditions and age must send me to AC Med Center (trauma)-another amb. ride. Am there 'till Sun AM-all kinds tests, cat scan etc- most amazing place -most knowledgeable people, finally get home(there's no place like)