



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Flotilla 81

Ocean City, N.J.

HENRY ALAN WOOD, FC
KENNETH WILDE, VFC

July 2008

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FLOTILLA 81 WEBSITE

a0530801.uscgaux.info

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Flotilla 81 Meetings 2008, Senior Center

(unless noted otherwise)

- July 10th Flotilla 81 Meeting
Stainton Senior Center, Ocean City, NJ
- September 11th Flotilla 81 Meeting
Stainton Senior Center, Ocean City, NJ

DIVISION MEETINGS

- July 9th Division 8 Meeting FL83,
Community Center, N. Wildwood, NJ
- August 13th Division 8 Meeting FL84,
Ventnor Senior Center, Ventnor, NJ
- September 10th Division 8 Meeting FL85,
Civic Center, Brigantine, NJ

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

- August 14th Flotilla 81 Picnic
Log Cabin, Margate, NJ
- September 19th - 21st Fall Conference
Gettysburg, PA

PUBLIC EDUCATION (PE)

There are no boating safety courses scheduled for this summer. Classes will resume in the fall.

FROM THE BRIDGE

We have completed the first phase of our Public Education plan with the class at the Strathmere Fishing Club on 28 June. Twenty-two students and two Coast Guardsmen with one wife attended the class. All were successful in completing and passing the class.

ABC classes will begin on September 7 in Ocean City. Most of our instructors are involved in the Operations program during the summer along with program visitation and vessel examinations taking most of the time

Information Services has not experienced the increase of form 7029s I had hoped for after the June meeting. Please keep track of every thing you do for the Auxiliary. Those hours should be recorded on a form 7029, submitted to Howard Phillips on a regular basis. Your time is our money, hours and activities all count for the Coast Guard Budget. It all goes into the Auxdata System, which reflects our effort on behalf of the Coast Guard. Nothing in to the system means nothing out and Congress cuts funding.

The operations program is in full swing with our facilities participating in two-boat training with Station Great Egg crews. The coxswain class is ready to qualify with QEs from the coast guard on our facilities. Several crewmembers will be added to the operations program this year.

The June 30 numbers have improved from Auxdata in all categories. We are now number two in the division with the exception of member training and public education. Flotilla 82 has 84 members and is still number one in most areas.

Henry A. Wood FC 8-1

OPERATIONS REPORT

FLOTILLA 81

Operations Report - June-July 2008

We are in the process of completing training for our four coxswain candidates, which is a long hard road, and have three crew persons who will be ready for their final QE soon.

The major upcoming events of the summer include Night in Venice on July 19 and the Atlantic City Air show on Aug 19 and 20.

Although we have not had as many patrols as I would like, we have been doing training with the crews at Station GE.

Our small boat is now fully operational and is docked at Station GE.

Walt Alsegg FSO-OPS

AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES



Petty Officer Freedman of Station GE hands out whistle to boater with Auxiliary's Card



Alan Wood receives a painting of his boat, painted by Richard Keast



Walt Alsegg receives a painting of his boat, painted by Richard Keast



Harry Norcross's new facility 191069 on its first patrol



Amanda Quain is congratulated by Commander Wood after being sworn in



Bev Ryan receives 15 year service award



Mary Grant receives membership certificate

A VIEW FROM THE BLUE

The last few months have been pretty busy on local waters. One of the more notable events was the sudden “Mother’s Day Storm” that slammed Ocean City with winds in excess of 80 mph. While the damage could have been worse (most boats were not in the water yet), the high tides and near-hurricane force winds did wreck a number of vessels.

Unfortunately, one of the boats sunk in the storm was a USCG Auxiliary facility belonging to our operations officer Walt Alsegg. Walt’s Grady White was a complete loss. However, we are happy to report that Walt is back on the water in another Grady, and conducting operations in his usual exemplary manner. We wish Walt all the best with his new center console.

Bizarre Rescues

In Early May, the Coast Guard searched the waters 34 miles off Cape May for two injured crewmembers who had abandoned their commercial fishing boat. Rescuers searched for nearly fourteen hours before the men were found - in Cape May Harbor.

It seems they had been picked up by another commercial boat, but a lack of radio contact with the USCG led to the confusion. I read this story in the *Atlantic City Press*. *The Press* seemed to do its best not to scold the rescuers for not having a radio to contact the Coast Guard. However, because of the

communication problem, valuable manpower and facility resources were diverted, and could have endangered other rescue efforts if they were needed.

LEARNING POINT: In case of a rescue or other emergency, complete all communications!

Lost And Found

The *Atlantic City Press* reported another unusual story from the sea on May 12 - with more lessons for USCG Auxiliary members. A man was plucked from his live-aboard sailboat off Atlantic City as the boat was pounded by 20-foot waves. Three weeks later, another sailboat came across the abandoned vessel near Connecticut. They hailed the vessel and, after receiving no reply, *radioed the Coast Guard for advice and permission to board the abandoned sailboat. The Coast Guard advised them to mark the vessel, “Inspected by USCG (with the date).”*

I am not sure why these men did not take the vessel undertow for salvage. It was reported in good condition, though the engine would not start. It is expected that the abandoned boat is now heading for Europe on the Gulf Stream.

NOTE TO USCG AUXILIARY MEMBERS: There are two great lessons to be learned from this incident. First, approach all “abandoned” vessels with caution. Second, follow Coast Guard instructions to the letter! By marking the vessel “Inspected by USCG,” the rescuers helped prevent a lot of future confusions, concerns, and paperwork. One final note: If anyone finds an abandoned 22-foot Grady White with a newer motor and good electronics, please throw a line on it and bring it to me.

- Bill Quain -

Member Profile

Bill Quain is living proof that USCG Auxiliary has a place for everyone!

Bill Quain is legally blind from Macular Degeneration. But the 55-year old has a home – and important duties – in Flotilla 81. Bill teaches a segment of the Boating Safety Course, and assists FSO-PB Richard Keast with the Pelorus Newsletter. Bill has another important duty as well. He recruited Flotilla 81's newest (and youngest) member Amanda Quain, 17.

Bill began considering a role as a volunteer in the Auxiliary after the attacks of 9/11. He wanted to serve, but wasn't sure there would be jobs for him to do. At the time, he was living in Miami. His local Flotilla was glad to have him and, after the usual lengthy background checks, Quain was initiated and began doing what he could.

The Quains moved to Ocean City full-time last July after Bill retired from his position as a professor in Florida. As he puts it, "Doesn't everyone retire in Miami and move to New Jersey?" He sold his 30' boat *HurriQuain* in Miami, and is looking for a smaller boat for O.C.

Quain is an author and professional speaker. His 15 books are published in over 20 languages. He travels extensively, speaking to audiences about his books. He was in China in 2007, and will return there again this fall.

Bill studied and taught Hotel and Restaurant Administration. He is a former executive chef, and because of his ability to help people with limited vision learn to cook, he was the chef-host of PBS television's *Cooking Without Looking* (a cooking show for the blind), and a guest consultant on ABC's *Extreme Makeover Home Edition*. (See photo with co-star Marlee Matlin).

Bill looks forward to many years of service in Flotilla 81.



Bill Quain on set of Extreme Makeover Home Edition with Oscar-winning actress Marlee Matlin. Ms. Matlin is not in the USCG Auxiliary, but a nice person nonetheless.