

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**

**Flotilla 81**

**Ocean City, N.J.**

**KENNETH WILDE, FC  
ROBERT BABEZKI, VFC**

**APRIL 2011**

**Editor: Art Zack FSO-PB**

**Flotilla website: [www.uscgaux-ocnj.org](http://www.uscgaux-ocnj.org)**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Wed, Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>**-Division 8 meeting, FL84 VFW Post 3361 in Ventnor Heights

**Thurs, Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>**-Flotilla 81 meeting, Ocean City Library,( 1900-2100)

**Wed, MAY. 11<sup>th</sup>**, Division 8 meeting, Civic Center, Brigantine

**Thurs, MAY. 12<sup>th</sup>**-Flotilla 81 meeting, Ocean City Library, (1900-2100)

**Wed. Jun 8<sup>th</sup>** Division 8 meeting, FL86, Cold Springs Church, Cape May, NJ

**Thurs June 9<sup>th</sup>** Flotilla 81 meeting, Ocean City Library, (1900-2100)

## FROM THE BRIDGE

### COMMANDERS COMMENTS



We are quickly approaching boating season and now is the time to review our skills and equipment for the season. The winter seems so long but every year it seems like all of a sudden boating season is here and we just rush to get back onto the water. Plan now for replacements and upgrades. Take a good look at the PFD's we carry back and forth from the garage to the boat every year and same for the lines. Are the flares up to date? Do we really remember know how to use some of the lesser used functions of our electronics we may need? Did we know how to use these in the first place? How about the MMSI number we've been meaning to get but just haven't gotten around to it yet. Acting on these items now will ensure a safer and more pleasurable season on the water.

Ken Wilde  
Commander, Flotilla 81 (5NR)

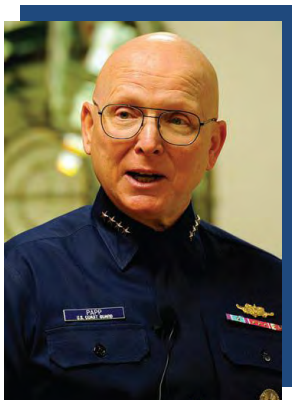
### VICE COMMANDERS COMMENTS



We have a new home!!  
That's right; our days of being homeless are over. Flotilla 81 has signed a long term lease with the Ocean City Public Library to use their facility for our meetings. Our first meeting in our new home will be our April meeting. There will be one change that we will all have to get use to. Since the library closes at 9:00 PM, we will need to finish our meetings by that time. So, we will be changing the meeting times to start at 1900 and run to 2100. Also, we will be changing the month for our annual cookout. This year, it will take place in July instead of August. Please check the flotilla website for details of these and any other schedule changes.

Bob Babezki, VFC Flotilla 81

**Excerpt from “Commandant Direction 2011” speech by Admiral Bob Papp.**



We are defined by our Missions, our People, and our Heritage  
Your dedication to our missions keeps our Nation safe and secure. Coast Guard men and women - Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian and Auxiliary - get the job done in the most demanding environments. And you continue to enrich our heritage with countless inspiring actions to save lives, enforce laws, protect citizens, and keep waterways clean

From our maritime borders and littorals; through the Great Lakes, Polar regions, and the Arabian Gulf; to the U. S. Exclusive Economic Zone, territorial waters, and our many ports and inland waterways; your performance has been superb, and for me, a source of pride. You have earned our Nation’s trust as the lead federal agency for Maritime Safety, Security and Stewardship. Demand for the Coast Guard’s unique capabilities has never been higher. As we have for over 220 years, we will remain ready to meet the Nation’s many maritime needs. We will always fulfill our duties and obligations to the American people, true to “Semper Paratus, Always Ready.”

R.J. Papp, Jr.  
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

The list of officers has been reprinted to remind you that these are the people who keep our flotilla running smoothly.

**FLOTILLA OFFICERS FOR 2011**

<u>FSO-Communications</u>	Jim Earle
<u>FSO-Communications Service</u>	vacant
<u>FSO-Finance</u>	Dave Wilson
<u>FSO-Information Services</u>	Howard Phillips
<u>FSO-Materials</u>	Marilyn Hughes
<u>FSO-Marine Safety</u>	Ruth Keck
<u>FSO-Membership Training</u>	Bill Quain
<u>FSO-Navigation Systems</u>	John Bodin
<u>FSO-Operations</u>	Walter Alsegg
<u>FSO-Personnel Services</u>	Beverly Ryan
<u>Assistant</u>	Joe Skutlin
<u>FSO-Public Education</u>	Marilyn Hughes
<u>FSO-Program Visitor</u>	Joe Skutlin
<u>FSO-Public Affairs</u>	Terri Pierce
<u>FSO-Publications</u>	Art Zack
<u>FSO-Secretary/Records</u>	Mary Grant
<u>FSO-Vessel Safety Check</u>	Charles Wilkins

## **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

**Art Zack FSO-PB**

Now that I have completed my first issue of POLARUS, I have the problem of trying to top it with my second edition. From the feedback I received at the February meeting, my first effort was a big success. I did not do it alone. I had help from many members who contributed articles to educate and inform our members. I now have to start all over with a clean slate and it looks like I am getting the same cooperation for my next edition. As many of you are flotilla staff officers, you have interesting jobs and the facts of your jobs are not reflected in the brief reports you give at our flotilla meetings. Write an article about how hard you work and give our new members some insight as to what it takes to keep a flotilla moving forward. As a bonus you can get credit for your hours on your 7029.

Send your articles to me in Word at [minart5@comcast.net](mailto:minart5@comcast.net) or call with questions (609)706-2202  
Thank you very much for your help

## **OPERATIONS**

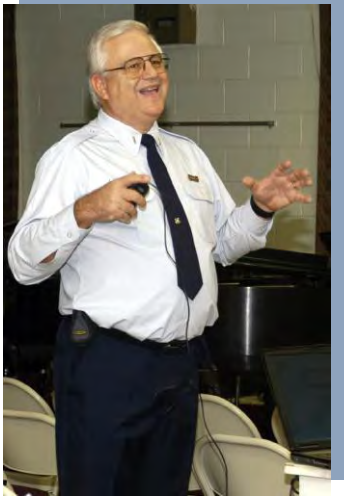
**Walt Alsegg FSO-OP**

Since winter is “hibernation time” for our operation activities I travelled to Leesburg Florida until the weather improves up North. There are many lakes here, and our campground has its own marina. I borrowed a 14 ft aluminum boat with an old 15 hp Merc from my nephew in Jacksonville so I can get out on the water. It’s very strange to tie up to a fixed dock (no tides) with ¼ inch line with no wind or waves! We also rented a pontoon boat one day with friends to cruise the lakes. Now I know why they don’t work very well in our back bay.

I attended a meeting of the local flotilla (4-3) and found many transplanted Yankees, including 3 from 5NR. They allowed me to participate in a VE event at our campground, so I am ahead of everyone up north on inspections for the moment. Most of the boats are pontoon, so bailing devices aren’t really needed.

Although I enjoyed our stay here, I am definitely a salt water person and look forward to our patrol season starting May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## MEMBER TRAINING



Before the regular flotilla meeting on February 10, 2011, **Bob Babezki** VFC gave us a review of Auxiliary planning and its importance. Related topics were appointing committees, Fellowship events, meeting locations and gold side guests. The second phase of his lesson was personal planning which covered attending conferences, personal training, and submitting activity reports.

Important to all flotilla members is emergency planning, which covers reviewing updating calling trees, evaluating alternative contact methods and updating surge plans. Functional planning is necessary to the success of any flotilla. Scheduling annual workshops and annual specialty qualifications are important as well as operation schedules and patrol schedules.

As Auxiliary missions grow in complexity and numbers, integrating multiple Auxiliary units with active duty units will be necessary to insure all mission commitments are met and necessary resources are obtained.

## PROGRAM VISITOR REPORT

Joseph A. Skutlin FSO-PV

The Ocean City bay area is typical of most of the barrier islands and the mainland bay points. Intermingled are private slips and public access areas, numerous bait and tackle shops, boat dealers, kayak and sailboat rentals. This is a great place to become involved in the recreational boating safety visitation program. The business or facility will usually become receptive to becoming a program partner and welcomes the Coast Guard Auxiliary. We provide safe boating information and updates and keep the public informed on a one-on-one basis or in small discussion groups. The PV also interacts with VSC/VE, PE and PA staff members. The present PV members are doing an excellent job, however we must continue to remain strong in this outreach program by having more involvement from our members. This will enable us to keep boating a safe and rewarding pleasure.

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## **ADDITION TO YOUR NAUTICAL LIBRARY**

The book Heavy Weather Boating Emergencies by **Chuck Luttrell** was written in 1998, but its message is just as important today. The book is intended to provide the boater with the knowledge and skills needed to manage and control heavy weather emergencies. It is a practical, how-to guide with a serious message that could save your life.

### **TROUBLE BELOW** Charles Wilkins, FSO-VE

The poet, Lord Alfred Tennyson, was almost right. In the Spring, a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of bottom paint and that's the way it's been for many centuries. Bottom fouling has always been with us. Bottom fouling has great financial significance – measured by speed restriction, extra fuel consumption and structural damage to hulls. Early on, wood-hulled vessels felt the expensive impact of hull degradation.

Consider that 90% of the time a vessel is in a static position in the water. Fouling begins immediately upon cessation of motion. The vessel is predisposed to the accumulation of bottom inhabitants. Barnacles and zebra mussels attach to stationary hulls. They apparently feed more efficiently when attached to a static feeding platform. However, the goose barnacle has been found to have the ability to attack and adhere to moving vessels. Also, ordinary sea weeds can attach to a vessel. This generally occurs at the water line where sunlight is available. For the most part, these weeds drop off when the vessel gets underway, however, some are known to be resistant to varying degrees of vessel motion.. Another common adherent is slime. Colonies of algae and other organisms can form a thick coating which is resistant to vessel motion and very difficult to remove once it's established.

Steel and aluminum hulled boats are at risk not only from fouling, but also from the applications used to prevent fouling. For example, electrolysis occurs when copper is applied to aluminum – the damage can occur very quickly. With an appropriate primer, copper thiocyanate can be used on an aluminum hull but the risk of electrolysis still persists to some degree.

Papyrus dating to 400 B.C. indicated that vessel fouling was prevented by applying a combination of arsenic and sulphur. Christopher Columbus used a mixture of tallow and pitch but also subjected his vessels to mechanical debridement when possible. Eventually, the metallic deterrents came into vogue – especially copper. The old clipper ships used copper sheets attached to their hulls and Lord Nelson found that copper sheeting attached to the hull not only deterred fouling but also increased the maneuverability of his vessels. As a matter of fact, the Royal Navy coppered all of their boats from 1770 to the end of wood-hulled ships.

Presently, most of the available deterrents are in the form of ablative paints, sloughing paints, epoxy and vinyl. Tributyltin (TBT-tin) paints have been found to be highly effective as a fouling deterrent but potential hazard to sea life has made it less desirable from the environmental standpoint. TBT has had diminished usage over the last two decades. In NJ, TBT can only be used in commercial boatyards for vessels more than 25 meters in length and for vessels with aluminum hulls. Over time, it will probably be totally replaced with more modern concoctions. Almost 20 years ago, EPaint Company introduced a light- activated catalyst which produced hydrogen peroxide which has been shown to be effective against fouling organisms without harm to surrounding sea life. The desirability of teflon paints has been explored but these are not in

widespread use at this time. Teflon has a coefficient of friction that is lower than ice and is one of the most slippery materials in existence.

Today, the recreational boater has at his disposal a wide array of anti-fouling paints of varying composition from many different manufacturers. The decision is not always easy and the state of the art is constantly changing. For the present, however, there is something available to meet the specific needs of each individual boater.

### **WHICH CAPTAIN TOOK AN AUX SAFE BOATING COURSE?**



### **AMAZON ADVENTURE**

Art Zack FSO-PB

My wife Minnie and I flew across the Andes Mountains from Lima, Peru and landed in the frontier town of Puerto Maldonado. We then made our way to the banks of the Tambopata River, a major tributary of the Amazon. We traveled upriver in a traditional wooden motorized canoe (see photo) covered with canvas to protect us from the sun. On the way to our camp we passed several small villages on the banks of the river. The dugout canoes are their only link to civilization (see photo). After four hours we arrived at a remote and rustic jungle camp, deep in an area of primary rainforest, high on the banks of the river. Our four star hotel was a thatched hut on stilts. It came complete with insect screens and candles, but no hot water or electricity.

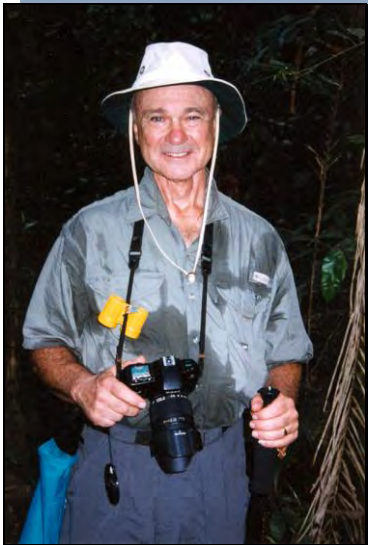
Our resident naturalist-guides spent two days showing us the beauty of the rain forest. The trees were filled with wildlife of every kind and the plants and trees were amazing (see photo). We went out in dugout canoes after dark with bright lights to watch Caiman (South American alligators) come out to feed. The next day we got in our canoes again and went fishing for piranha. We used bread for bait. The fish are only six inches long, nothing like the ones we caught in Alaska. As beautiful as the rain forest is, after two days of heat we were ready to leave ( that's me with the camera sweating like crazy). Our next stop was Machu Picchu, and then on to cruise the Galapagos Islands by small boat with wet landings.



This was our transportation up the river



I wanted to stop and do a VE, but where would I put the decal?



And you think Ocean City is hot in the summer?



They don't have trees like this in New Jersey. That is Minnie in the foreground

### **GREAT EGG INLET UPDATE**

The latest information I could get from a local charter captain is that nothing has been done to correct the dangerous situation in the inlet. Right now, only local knowledge will get you through safely.



## A STUDY IN MARINE BIOLOGY

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RUTH KECK FSO-MS

While I was working on my B.S. in Marine Biology at Richard Stockton College of N.J., I had done several research projects. One of my projects was the NJ Seal Study. This research included several components: behavior, and diet, just to name a few. I had chosen, "Seal Diet" because I wanted to see what kinds of fish these seals were eating in our local area-----this is done by scat analysis. How the process works is that you would collect the scat (feces) from their haul-out area, which was located near the old fish factory in Great Bay. Once I collect the scat, I would bring it back to the lab, and it would be processed by a machine called, "Elutriator". What this machine does is separate the fish otoliths (fish ear-bones) from the scat. This is very helpful because each otolith are different for each species of fish. My findings were that the seal's main food was mackerel, and herring.

Seal species seen were primarily Harbor Seals (*Phoca vitulina*); other northern species included a few Harp Seals (*Phoca groenlandica*), and a few Grey Seals (*Halichoerus grypus*). Seals season is from early to mid November to April. It is believed that the number of seals increased after the Marine Mammal Protection Act went into effect in 1972.

## ACA and USCGAUX PROMOTE PADDLESPORT SAFETY

The American Canoe Association and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary have signed a Memorandum of Agreement to promote safety among those who use kayaks, canoes and other paddle craft. The new agreement establishes cooperative efforts broadening outreach and education to the paddle sports community. The cooperative effort will reach out to the growing population of paddlers, providing needed training to keep them safe on the water. ACA provided input for a new Auxiliary Paddlesports America Course, a classroom-based course that provides paddlers with the knowledge to operate safely

This paddling presentation contains basic information on safety, and helpful tips on boating skills. It can help you learn to avoid some of the simple mistakes that can cause problems for a new paddler, but please remember that there is a lot to know about paddling safely .

The American Canoe Association, ACA for short, has developed many beginner, intermediate and advanced paddling and safety instruction courses that can help prepare you for the more challenging adventures in your paddling future Printed with permission from the Helmsman Flotilla 13-03

## **WELCOME ABOARD NICHOLAS SEDBERRY**



The life blood of any organization is the enrollment of new members and we are lucky to have Nicholas Sedberry join our flotilla. He is a senior at Ocean City High School and captain of the varsity swim team. He enjoys fishing, hunting, and working out at the gym. During the summer months he works for the Ocean City Beach Patrol as a life guard. His future plans include enlisting in the United States Coast Guard, where he hopes to work in marine law enforcements or train as a rescue swimmer.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

As of January 1, 2011 members are no longer allowed to have a metal cap device on their ball caps. This ruling was a result of an unusual accident where a crew member was hit in the head by a broken tow line and the metal device caused serious damage. Sew-on devices are allowed.

### **For Safety's Sake, Volume I - 2011.**

The newest edition of For Safety's Sake, Volume I - 2011 has been released. This new issue was released on February 24th and is available for downloading from the V Departments Newsletter page at <http://safetyseal.net/Newsletters/>. (Use CTRL + click to follow the link)

In this issue is: Promote Vessel Safety Checks With the "I Want a VSC" System; What's New in the V Department; Meet **Lillian Haines**, 2011 Director of the V-Department; Increasingly Popular Paddle sports Has Much to Accomplish This Year; Thinking Outside the Box: Program Visitor Pointers; What are you doing to promote VSCs and PVs?; Creative Ad Campaigns Increase VSCs and much more!

Download your copy and pass it on to your associates after you've read it.

Source: [Lillian M Haines DIR-V

**US Coast Guard Auxiliary has a Virtual Classroom.**

Check it out. Using on-line training is another way the members of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary can complete areas of training. Many colleges today offer credit courses via the web. The mandatory courses for the Flotilla are listed at the following link. <http://aux.virtualclassroomuscg.org/> (Use CTRL + click to follow the link.)  
If you are not taking some kind of training this spring, why not?

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR FLOTILLA WEB SITE. IT IS UPDATED WITH NEW PICTURES AND INFORMATION.**

[www.uscgauxocnj.org](http://www.uscgauxocnj.org) (Ctrl + click to follow link)







**OUR BOATS COME IN EVERY SIZE AND SHAPE**

Photos by Art Zack

**SWEARING-IN OF ADDITIONAL FSOs**



Photo by Richard Keast

**MARILYN HUGES** presided

**Left to right RUTH KECK FSO-MS, BILL QUAIN FSO-MT  
JOE SKUTLIN FSO-PV, HOWARD PHILLIPS FSO-IS,**



Our RBS committee is mapping out plans for the 2011 boating season.

**Clockwise: TERRI PIERCE FSO- PA, MARILYN HUGHES FSO-PE, CHARLIE WILKINS FSO-VE, BOB BABRZKI VFC, MARY GRANT FSO-SR, DICK SOROKIN AFSO-MT**



**BOB BABEZKI** received the Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service award for 2660 hours of service.



**ALLEN WOOD** received The Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service award for 6016 hours of service.



**ART ZACK** received The Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service award for 774 hours of service



**Bill Quain FSO-MT** presented a group participation program where we split into small groups and practiced the construction of written examinations.

### **2011 ATLANTIC CITY INDOOR BOAT SHOW**

**By Bob Babezki VFC**

This year's Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show took place between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> at the Atlantic City Convention Center. This year's show took on several changes in the way the booth was manned and presented. This year's booth committee was chaired by **Bob Babezki**, with **Joe Skutlin** as Vice Chairman and **Mary Grant** as Recording Secretary. The committee met three times between Thanksgiving and the first show date to plan the event. This year, Divisions 3, 7 and 16 were invited to participate in the show.

Some changes to the show included two hour shifts in the booth mixing people from different flotillas and Divisions and using a PC to collect contact information for visitors who wanted additional information about boating safety classes, vessel safety exams and who were interested

in joining the Auxiliary. Altogether, we had 48 Auxiliarists who participated in the planning and manning of the booth. In addition to Bob, Joe, and Mary, other Flotilla 81 members who participated were **Fred Ruddick Charlie Wilkins, Ken Wilde and Ed Henne**.

Unlike last year's show that was closed due to a blizzard, this year's show was well attended, partially due to several days of windy, rainy weather that precluded outdoor activities. While the show was physically smaller than in previous years, for the Auxiliary it was a very good show. We collected 130 leads in the computer, 13 of which are for our flotilla. We are hoping to get at least one new member for our flotilla from these leads.

The Auxiliarists that participated all felt that it was a good show.

### BOAT SHOW PHOTOGRAPHS



Auxiliarist **Joe Skutlin** (Flotilla 8-1) connects with our future boaters at the Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show. (Photo by Joe Giannattasio, Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer)





Coast Guard Auxiliary Booth at the Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show. (Photo by Joe Giannattasio, Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer)



Joe Giannattasio, Bob Babezki and an interested boater.



L-R) Coast Guardsman Aversano (Station Atlantic City), Auxiliarist Mary Grant (Flotilla 8-1), Auxiliarist Paul Schell (FL 7-4) and Auxiliarist Larry Yaskulka (Flotilla 7-9) were manning the Coast Guard Auxiliary booth at the Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show. (Photo by Charlie Wilkins, Vessel Examiner)



**SEMPER PARATUS**

PHOTO BY Art Zack



UNTIL NEXT TIME, HAPPY BOATING AND BE SAFE.