

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

# Flotilla 81

Ocean City, N.J.

HENRY ALAN WOOD, FC  
KENNETH WILDE, VFC

Oct 2008

Number 4 Volume 4

Editors: Richard S. Keast, FSO-PB; Bill Quain

## FLOTILLA 81 WEBSITE

[www.a0530801.uscgaux.info](http://www.a0530801.uscgaux.info)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Flotilla 81 Meetings – 19:30 hrs**

**Stainton Senior Center, Ocean City, NJ**

(unless noted otherwise)

- October 8<sup>th</sup> – Division 8 Meeting, FL86,  
Cold Spring Church, Cape May, NJ
- October 9<sup>th</sup> - Flotilla 81 Meeting

-November 12<sup>th</sup> – Division 8 Meeting, Stainton  
Senior Center, Ocean City, NJ

-November 13<sup>th</sup> – Flotilla 81 Meeting

-December 6<sup>th</sup> – Division 8 Change of Watch,  
Tuckahoe Inn, Beesley's Point, NJ

- December 11<sup>th</sup> – Flotilla 81 Change of Watch,  
Crab Trap, Somers Point, NJ

## PUBLIC EDUCATION (PE)

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Stainton Senior Center,  
Ocean City, NJ

## FROM THE BRIDGE

“You have all done very well”. As of our last Auxdata report we have made great strides forward in reporting mission hours. Remember, “ the mission is not done until the paper work is done.” “Time is money” for the Coast Guard budget each year and every hour counts.

Speaking of money, your annual dues for 2009 of \$35.00 are due beginning in October. Make checks payable to USCGAUX. FLOTILLA 8-1.

Our major summer projects of operations, vessel exams, marine dealer visits and public affairs have done well. Recruiting is also up with four new members sworn in and one processing at this time. Beverly has prospects lined up around the block. Attendance at meetings is up with 39 at the picnic and 41 at the last meeting in September. Public education resumed in September with over thirty registered for class. We have taught over 220 boaters this year and with two classes remaining should pass 250 by the end of October.

We have made major additions to the operations program this summer. Harry Norcross, Frederick Ruddick and Richard Sorokin qualified as coxswain and Lewis Branin qualified as crewman. Four members are nearly ready to qualify as crewmen and one man is ready to qualify as coxswain. This was an excellent training cycle this year.

## AUXDATA TOTALS END OF AUGUST

PE CLASSES	9
PATROLS	30
PATROL HOURS	161
# VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS	166
MARINE DEALER VISITS	80
TOTAL MISSION HOURS FOR ALL ACTIVITIES	<b><u>4664.3 HOURS</u></b>

“YOU DONE GOOD”  
Henry A. Wood FC 8-1

## THE WAVE

When I first went on patrol I noticed that most if not all boaters give us a wave.

They don't wave to the state police or even the Coast Guard. These are police enforcement agencies and the less they notice us the better. Why draw attention to your boat and get boarded? Stay low profile...

They do wave to the auxiliary, most everybody. At first I thought they were just being friendly but their expressions were serious. I gave it some thought and came up with this answer.

The wave is really saying, I see you and I'm glad you're here. Every time I now get a wave I feel good that I'm there, I feel appreciated. They like having us around.

Yes the auxiliary is doing a job, the public appreciates us being around we serve a needed function.

Dick Sorokin

## Summer Air Shows

### Flotilla 81 Patrols Two Air Shows

On September 14, 2008, two boats from our Flotilla braved rough seas off Ocean City during the Air Show here. Walter Alsegg's Facility (201059) and Dick Keast's (232408) made the long run through a rough inlet to show the colors. A picture in this issue's Photo Gallery shows Terry Pierce and Lew Branin at the controls of 232408.

On August 20, 2008, the Atlantic City Air Show again called upon the full resources of the Auxiliary, Coast Guard,

and local Marine Enforcement Groups. The diagram at the end of the newsletter shows the area set aside for the show (1 mile by ½ mile) There were all kinds of aircraft flying across the area, which was kept clear of transient boats by 13 Auxiliary as well as USCG and State Police Vessels. Flotilla 81 had 251269 (Ed Shulde) as Aux 2, with Marilyn Hughes as Coxswain; 201059, Walt Alsegg, Coxswain as AUX 3; and 232408, Dick Keast, Coxswain as AUX 4. AUX 2 was anchored at the south end of the area, AUX 3 & 4 patrolled the SE corner of the area. At the center of the area was Towboat US, Captain John Bodin. Alan Wood in his 221663 patrolled inside at Ocean City to relieve GE Station boat for duty at air Show.

### Three New Coxswains

Three members of our Flotilla completed their qualifications as Coxswains, and were awarded their new honors at the September meeting. Dick Sorokin, Harry Norcross, and Fred Ruddick earned their diplomas this summer. The Coxswain Qualifications are some of the most demanding in the Auxiliary. Congratulations to all three and thanks for your service to the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. See picture in Photo Gallery.

### PHOTO GALLERY



*A moment of silence at our picnic*

*More from the August Picnic in Margate*



*Ocean City Air Show*



*Terry Pierce and Lew Branin at the controls of 232408. during the Ocean City Air Show*



*Dick Sorokin, Harry Norcross, and Fred Ruddick earned their Coxswain diplomas, awarded at September 11, 2008 meeting*

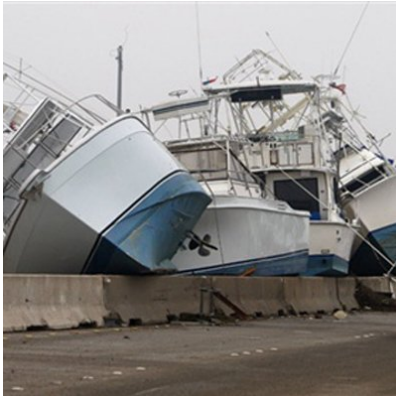




*Station GE crew*



*Atlantic City Air Show*



*Damages from Hurricane Ike in Texas*



*Atlantic City Air Show*



*Bill Quain & Amanda Quain talk to summer campers in Galloway about boating safety*

### **A VIEW FROM THE BLUE**

In this section, I usually impart some witty (at least I think they are) observations about happenings on the water. However, in this issue, it is time for a little more sober reflection.

On September 11, 2008, we paused to remember the terrible events that changed our country, and changed the lives of every Auxiliarist. Sometimes, it is difficult to recall that the Department of Homeland Security was created in response to the attacks. When the Coast Guard was moved into the Department a little later, the role of the full-time, active duty Coasties took on new

importance. In turn, our roles as proud members of the Auxiliary also became more significant.

Personally, I joined the Auxiliary as a way to serve the country after the attacks. I can remember seeing Auxiliarists at boat shows before 2001, and then seeing them in an entirely different light after the attacks. When the Division Captain explained how the Auxiliary freed the U.S. Coast Guard up so the active duty Coasties could concentrate on keeping our waters, our borders, and our citizens safe, I was hooked!

I wear the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary uniform proudly all year, but it has special significance every September, when I realize just how important our work is in protecting the lives of our fellow citizens. I would like to call on each of our members to find new ways to serve, new ways to support the mission. You don't have to become Coxswain qualified, or do Search and Rescue mission. You just need to find your special area and contribute to the best of your ability.

While my own contributions are not very impressive, they are an example of how we can all find our "spot" in the Auxiliary. As many of you know, I am legally blind. So, the Coxswain's exam is probably out of the question for me! In fact, if any of you see me piloting a boat out there – head for shore and lock your families away. Something bad is about to happen.

But, there are duties that I can do. For example, there are the Boating Safety Courses, where, with the help of my Auxiliarist daughter Amanda, I teach

Chapter 2, "Before You Get Underway." You will also find me at boat shows and other events, and, of course, there is this newsletter. Small things, I know – not the glamorous jobs – but they make a difference, because it frees up someone who is able to drive the boats and rescue the boaters.

So, here is the question: What can you do? What is the small thing you can do to make the whole effort better? On behalf of our Flotilla, please allow me to call on each member to *take a second look*. If you are already working to capacity, thank you and great job. If you can do a little more, this is the time to do it.

If you do make a change, if you are able to find some area where you can make a positive contribution, let us hear about it. This newsletter is a perfect place to capture the spirit of volunteerism, and celebrate it. It will be a pleasure to report it in the "A View from the Blue" section.

Oh, wait, I almost forgot. Whatever you do is appreciated, but whatever you do, REPORT IT! (The last part of this message is a special salute to FC Woods.)

Bill Quain

**Member Profile**  
**Fred Ruddick, Sr.**

I graduated from Kingston High School in Kingston, Pa. in 1958. I also graduated from Wyoming Valley Tech.

I enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1960 and headed for Cape May, N.J. for training. After boot camp I was stationed at Corson Inlet Lifeboat Station for two years. At Corson Inlet I was assigned tower watches and operated 30 and 36 foot patrol boats.

I then was transferred to Ship John Shoal Light Station for two years. At Ship John Shoal Light Station our duties were to maintain the light and keep it operating and keep watch on Delaware Bay. There were four men stationed on the light. We stayed on the light for two weeks and were off for one week. Being on a lighthouse out in the middle of Delaware Bay wasn't too bad. We had all the comforts of home, plus you could fish for relaxation. The longest I stayed on the lighthouse was six weeks due to the fact that we were iced in.

Normally we would go to shore on Wednesday and I would drive to Ohio for a week.

I would then come back to Lewes Delaware on Tuesday night and we would head out on Wednesday morning, after we picked up our chow. We would leave Lewes at 0700, stop at Brandywine Shoal, Fourteen Foot Bank Light, Miah Maul Shoal Light, and then head up to Ship John-ETA 1100 or 1200. The boat would then head back to Lewes.

I have a lot of memories from being stationed on Ship John Shoal. I was on the light during the Cuban Crisis and also when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. I also have some good memories.

After I was discharged from the Coast Guard I settled in Ohio. I married and

started a family.

Then in 1968 I returned to New Jersey and started to work for Egg Harbor Yacht Company. After working there for 26 years, I went to work for Post Yacht, in Mays Landing, NJ for 11 years.



I am still involved with the Delaware Bay lighthouses and on the board of directors of the Delaware Bay Lighthouse Keepers and Friends Association. My wife Martha is also involved with the association.

I am also a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 81 in Ocean City, NJ. This keeps me active with the Coast Guard.

This is just a short summary of my life with the Coast Guard and what being on a lighthouse is like.

I have many more stories I could tell!!

In addition I like music, mostly Rock and Roll and Country rock and I also do a little guitar picking.

As a hobby, I like boating, of course. I have also built Delaware Bay lighthouse models.

As for family, I have four daughters, one son, twelve grandchildren and two great grandchildren. I have four step children and seven step grandchildren.

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We need a new volunteer to provide their bio for the January 2009 issue of Pelorus. Please contact Bill Quain, [billquain@aol.com](mailto:billquain@aol.com) or Dick Keast, [rkeabea@comcast.net](mailto:rkeabea@comcast.net) . If no one volunteers, Bill & Dick will choose a Flotilla 81 member at random, and simply make up things about them.

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## Obituary

SMITH, HERBERT R., 83 - of Ocean City and Naples, FL, passed away Friday, August 1, 2008 in Shore Memorial Hospital, Somers Point. Born in Philadelphia, Pa, Octobre 21,1924, he had lived in Dresher, Pa before moving to Ocean City in 1978. Mr. Smith was a Mechanical Engineer and Owner of Seeler Smith & Assoc, Atlantic City, NJ for many years before he retired in 1994.

Mr. Smith was a Veteran of the U. S. Marine Corps. having served during World War II before his Honorable Discharge. He was a member of St. Peter's United Methodist Church and Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 81, both in Ocean City. Predeceased by his parents Harry and Ruth Smith and a brother: Arthur Smith. Surviving are his wife: Jane (Nee Bureau) Smith of Ocean City, a Son:

Brian H. Smith (Mindi) of Mays Landing, four



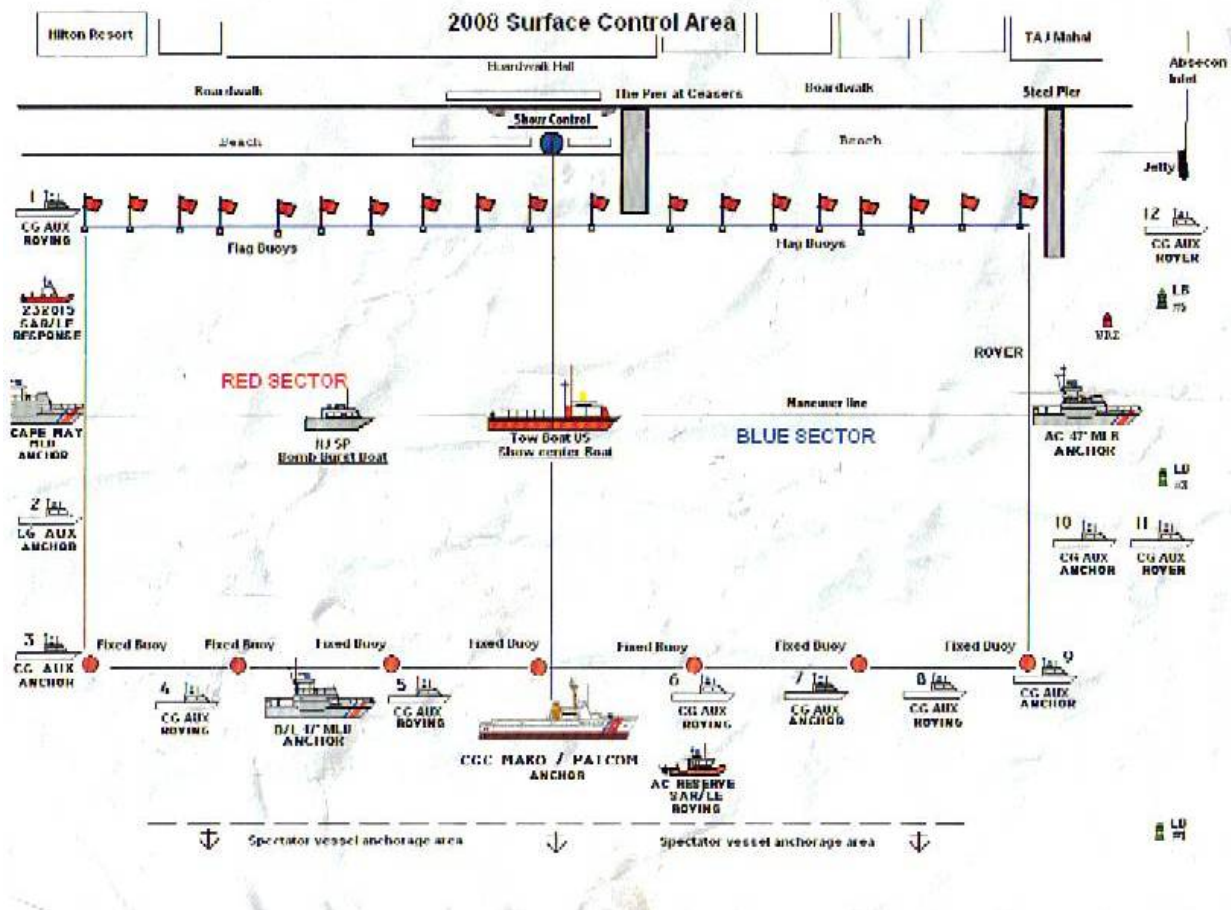
daughters: Linda J. Korey (Joseph) of Reading, Pa, Deborah L. Webster (David) of Stone Harbor, Sandra Miller (Douglas) Of Ocean City, Cynthia Riegel (Edward) Of EggHarbTownship, and 10 Grandchildren. Funeral Service was held Wednesday 6 th August, 2008 in St. Peters United Methodist Church, 8th Street at Central Avenue, Ocean City, Burial at Seaside Cemetery, Palermo. Herb was proud owner of 31' Bertram

“Leatherneck II” and the boats life ring with vessel name thereon was buried with him.



# Atlantic City Air Show

20 August, 2008



Again the Air Show Returns to Atlantic City .The above plot shows area set aside for the show (1 mile by ½ mile ) with all kinds of aircraft flying across the area, which was kept clear of transient boats by 13 Auxiliary as well as CG and State Police Vessels. Flotilla 81 had 251269 (Ed Shulde) as Aux 2, with Marilyn Hughes as Coxswain; 201059, Walt Alegg, Coxswain, as AUX 3; and 232408, Dick Keast, Coxswain, as AUX 4. AUX 2 was anchored at the south end of the Red Sector. AUX 3 & 4 patrolled the S.E. corner of Red Sector. At center of the area was Towboat US, Captain John Bodin. Alan Wood in his 221663 patrolled inside at Ocean City to relieve the GE Station boat for duty at air Show.