

By Wilbur B. Scott

SAILORS WANTED!

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for visiting our website. I sincerely hope that you have found my articles interesting and the topics and suggestions offered of some help to you. I will continue to try to provide you with timely and accurate information in future articles. If there is a particular topic that you would like me to address please feel free to drop me an email at the email address listed at the end of this article. Now having said that, **IF** you really want to learn about safe boating why not become a member of our fine organization? Here you will receive excellent training and “hands on experience” while at the same time providing a valuable service to not only the boating public but to your country as well! The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is a volunteer organization that was created by an Act of Congress in 1939 as a support group for the U.S. Coast Guard.

If you are looking for something interesting and exciting to do while at the same time providing a valuable service to your fellow boaters and the general public as well, then look no farther! No matter what your area of interest is, you will find it with Homosassa Flotilla 15-4 of your United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. For those of you who love boats, and being on the water, (you obviously do or you probably would not be reading my articles), we have room for you as a member of one of our boat crews. As a crew member you will be participating in surface patrols and exciting search and rescue operations as well as interesting training missions. By the way, you **DO NOT** need to own a boat to become a member! Perhaps your interest is in the environment. Then how about becoming involved with us as we patrol for oil spills and other hazardous material and dangers to our waterways? Perhaps you would rather qualify as one of our “Courtesy Vessel Examiners”, providing a valuable service to both recreational boaters and commercial vessels alike.

You say that you enjoy the water, but you love flying more? Then why not be a part of our air operations as a well trained air observer, flying air patrols, search and rescue missions as well as environmental patrols? If you are a licensed pilot or aircraft owner we can definitely use you and perhaps your aircraft too.

Do you enjoy teaching others? Then why not become one of our certified instructors, teaching a variety of subjects to the boating public as well as training your fellow U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary members?

Maybe you are someone who has always wanted to be a reporter or writer. If so, then our “Public Affairs” officer would sure like to have you come onboard. Covering patrols and rescue missions, writing stories and meeting with members of the local media.

Perhaps you are an amateur radio operator or someone else who has an interest in radio communications. If so, then you will love becoming one of our “Communications Specialists”, standing radio watches, (you really don’t have to stand), monitoring and participating in, exciting search and rescue operations and patrols! If that isn’t exciting enough for you then perhaps the

USCG will invite you to stand radio watches at their “Station Yankeetown” as well! If you happen to be one of those communications equipment technician types then you too will find enjoyment here keeping our equipment in tip top shape.

These are just some of the interesting and exciting areas of Flotilla 15-4 that you can become a part of, and there are many more. Fellowship too plays a large role in our flotilla. Here you will meet new friends and find a common bond with others who enjoy the out of doors and our waterways. Men, women, young and senior citizen alike, Flotilla 15-4 invites you to join us and wear our uniform proudly! Become a part of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary family. By the way, did you know that the U.S. Coast Guard is a volunteer organization that was actually created by an “Act of Congress” in 1939? For membership information, please feel free to contact Robert Currie at, rgcurrie@bellsouth.net.

Wishing you all safe and happy times on the water!

Scotty

“Scotty” may be contacted at seacapt34447@yahoo.com.