



America's Volunteer  
Lifesavers (SM)

Volume 2021, December Issue

# The Ripples

*DIVISION EIGHT, EIGHTH  
EASTERN AUXILIARY REGION*



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Another year is drawing to a close and what a year it was for the members of **The Four Rivers Division, Division 8 of the Eighth Eastern Auxiliary Region**

Issues continue to linger as a result of the Pandemic. Contact with the membership and public, being the primary means we in Division 8 obtain and share information and provide support to the Coast Guard, has been either eliminated at times or restricted in varying degrees up to the present time.

The Auxiliarists of Division 8 have shown their dedication and determination from the onset of this event in the many different manors in which they conducted routine business and handle the unique challenges presented by the needs of the Coast Guard of Division 8 during the year of 2021.

With the dedication and determination repeatedly displayed by the members of Division 8 during 2021, the upcoming year of 2022 will prove to be more successful and productive.



The core missions of the Auxiliary will remain Division 8's primary mission objectives in 2022. One mission however that is becoming a Division 8 priority is that of membership; recruitment and retention.

Over the past several years there has been a variety of reasons that have reduced Division 8 from five well performing Flotillas to the current level of three Flotillas that presently make up Division 8 and each Flotilla continues to perform well; but in a Division that is currently understrength.

To remedy this situation it will take the efforts of all the members of Division 8, not just the Flotilla / Division Officers. The Officers of the Flotilla(s) / Division are to provide the leadership / guidance for Division 8's Auxiliary activities in the upcoming year; recruitment being a very important activity. Without the commitment and support of the members in this critical matter along with the member's support of their preferred Auxiliary work areas, Division 8's plight will

not be improved, as it must be.

Remember why you joined The Coast Guard Auxiliary and the enjoyable times you experienced thereafter. Share these with others as you participate in your chosen, as well as other Auxiliary activities in 2022. There is an immeasurable amount of satisfaction and rewarding experiences in the future for the Coast Guard Auxiliary in **The Four Rivers Division** aor. All members of Division 8 need to rise to the challenge and ***“BE PART OF DIVISION 8’S SUCCESS”***.

## ***Elected Officers 2022***

### **08E08 Four Rivers Division**

DCDR – Debra A. Guffey 812 453 0010,  
[tdjk4@aol.com](mailto:tdjk4@aol.com)

VCDR – Sam E. Story JR. 573 380 3792,  
[samstoryjr@aol.com](mailto:samstoryjr@aol.com)

### **08E0805 Kentucky Lake Flotilla**

FC – Francis M. Sorg 270 226 5235,  
[captrob@att.net](mailto:captrob@att.net)

VFC – Merle H. Probasco 815 761 7287,  
[papasfishinforfun@yahoo.com](mailto:papasfishinforfun@yahoo.com)

### **08E0807 Paducah Flotilla**

FC – Sally J. Memmer 270 987 1535,  
[sally.hardt@gmail.com](mailto:sally.hardt@gmail.com)

VFC – Kevin T. McMeel 573 225 3424,  
[ktmcmeel@yahoo.com](mailto:ktmcmeel@yahoo.com)

### **08E0811 Kuttawa Flotilla**

FC – Willie J. Stegmann 270 994 6205,  
[jean.stegmann@gmail.com](mailto:jean.stegmann@gmail.com)

VFC – Douglas R. Arnott 518 878 3339,  
[renoalbany@yahoo.com](mailto:renoalbany@yahoo.com)

These individuals are the first to step up to the challenges of Division 8 for 2022. All members of the Division can assist those above by supporting their efforts whenever and wherever possible.

## ***Upcoming Events***



***The Murray, KY Boat Show***

The boat show will be held in the CFSB Arena at Murray State University in Murray, KY, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Setup will start at 1200 on January 7. Public attendance will be **1600 to 2000 January 7, 1000 to 1900 January 8 and 1100 to 1600 January 9** with teardown to occur immediately after the show close on January 9. Douglas R. Arnott of Flotilla 8-11 is the Auxiliary event coordinator for the Boat Show. Individuals willing to participate in the event can contact Doug via e-mail at [renoalbany@yahoo.com](mailto:renoalbany@yahoo.com) or by phone at 518 878 3339. Auxiliary members working in the booth are instrumental in making initial and follow up contact with the public and their participation clearly shows their desire to support the U. S. Coast Guard and its mission(s) as well as their support of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. I can personally attest to the initial contact point as I have 30 + years of membership in the Auxiliary and many great memories and my initial contact with the Auxiliary was at a boat show in Indianapolis, IN where I went to view a boat and visited the Coast Guard Auxiliary booth which culminated in my joining the Auxiliary. So step up and help out at the Boat Show and be a part of Division 8’s success in 2022. See you at the booth.



## **Upcoming Events- continued**

### **Division 8 Change of Watch**

The Division 8 Change of Watch (COW) will be held at Kenlake State Park Resort and Lodge on January 22, 2022 at 1200 in the Dining area of Kenlake Lodge. The State park area is south of Aurora, KY, with the entrance to the Park and lodge being immediately west of the Junction of US route 68 and KY route 80. [Proceeding from Aurora you will be traveling in a southerly direction on US route 68, at the junction of KY route 80 you will turn right in a westerly direction, you will turn left to enter the Park area and Lodge]. A room rate of \$75.00 is available to the Auxiliary. The meal consisting of; Salad Bar, Smothered Chicken or Pork Loin with 3 sides, Dessert and Ice Tea or water is available at a cost of \$25.00 per person.

Auxiliary business [swearing of officers for 2022] will be conducted at this gathering, with one of the most important functions of Auxiliary business being conducted for all to participate and enjoy; **FELLOWSHIP**. So mark your calendar and attend the one yearly Auxiliary function that puts the Auxiliary's strongest attribute on display. Invitations are planned to be mailed in early December. So please respond quickly and enjoy **The Four Rivers Division** Change of watch.

### **History Corner**

The birthday of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is traced back to when the Coast Guard Reserve was authorized by act of congress on June 23, 1939 and June 23 is considered the Birthday of the Coast Guard Auxiliary to this day because of the composition of The Coast Guard Reserve at the time. The Coast Guard Reserve of 1939 was a non-military service comprised of unpaid

volunteer U.S. citizens who owned motorboats and yachts. Less than two years later on February 19, 1941 congress amended the above mentioned action with the passage of the Auxiliary and Reserve Act of 1941. This action formally established The Coast Guard Reserve as a military part of the Coast Guard and the former Coast Guard Reserve comprised of unpaid civilian volunteers became the present day Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The current day Coast Guard has been referred to in the past by several names; Revenue Marine, Revenue Cutter Service, etc., however called, the Coast Guard has a history of using volunteers even prior to 1939. In 1848 congress appropriated \$10,000.00 for the purchase of surf boats, rockets, carronades and other apparatus for the better preservation of life and property from shipwrecks along the coast of New Jersey. Structures were constructed in several likely spots along the coast that seemed appropriate and the equipment was placed in each location. While the funds were provided for the sites and equipment, no funding was established for employing people to man or use the sites. The remedy to this situation was to pick an individual with a trustworthy appearance from the local population. This investment did not have to wait long to prove its importance. When the British bark Ayrshire ran aground in a severe winter storm in January 1850. All but one of the 166 passengers and crew of 36 were saved by station volunteers using a metal Francis Life-Car from the local station; the seas being too rough to use the surf boat or other equipment. The roots of volunteerism are firmly established over the history of the **United States Coast Guard**.

