



NEWS RELEASE

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US Coast Guard Auxiliary Adds New Facility

Prairie du Chien – 11 July 2015 The US Coast Guard Auxiliary Prairie du Chien Flotilla now has a new facility ready to respond to missions on the Mississippi River. The Kaylee-Annie, a 22 foot pontoon boat owned by Steve Gress of McGregor was placed into service this week.

Docked at the Winneshiek Marina North of Prairie du Chien the Kaylee -Annie is available for routine patrol and search and rescue missions as a facility of the US Coast Guard.

Auxiliary members provide their own boats which must meet stringent requirements to be accepted by the US Coast Guard as a Coast Guard facility. When acting in an official capacity these vessels become US Coast Guard vessels (facilities) acting under orders from the United States Coast Guard and display the orange and white US Coast Guard Auxiliary patrol flag and signs.

Auxiliary members serving on these facilities as crew and coxswain must also meet the same training and qualification requirements as their counterparts in the US Coast Guard.

The mission of the Kaylee-Annie and her crew is to patrol the waters of pools 9 and 10 assisting boaters in distress and watching for environmental hazards, hazards to navigation and other activities as directed by the US Coast Guard. She is available to assist local authorities with on the water missions.

It takes a year or more to train as a crewmember and another year to qualify as coxswain. The flotilla has two more boats being readied for service and is currently training crews to man them.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U. S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information please visit www.cgaux.org

The Auxiliary is always in need of volunteers. If you are interested please call Roger Richter at (608)994-2784.



Steve Gress (L), Coxswain and Dan Brewer (R), crewman, aboard the Kaylee-Annie

USCG Aux photo