



On Deck There



Hannibal, Mo – Flotilla 83's Doug Keller had a big -- no huge -- couple of weeks volunteering for the Auxiliary this month. Keller staffed a safe boating event at Mark Twain Lake one weekend, attended an active duty ATON maintenance course at MSD Peoria and finally went home after spending all day crewing on Clinton Lake. Photo by Jeff Poundstone.

Newsletter of Division 8 of the USCG Auxiliary's 8th Western Rivers District. Division 8's area of responsibility includes Central Illinois, Northeast Missouri (NEMO), and Southeast Iowa.



Division 8 Leadership:

- Butch Luhrsen,
DCDR, SO-OP
[Butch's email](#)
- Jim Konieczki,
VCDR
[Jim's email](#)

Division 8 Staff:

Jim Konieczki
SO-VE / PV

Kurt Ayres
SO-SR

Bill Slusser
SO-MA

Bud Grimm
SO-IS

Doug Keller
SO-CM

Butch Luhrsen
SO-OP

Chad Wiehe
SO-MT

Patsy Smith
SO-FN

Jeff Poundstone
SO-PA / PB

Shawn Burnley
SO-DV

Thomas Keagle
SO-PE

Anna Poundstone
SO-HR

Tyler Fortner
SO-CS

Fred Peterson
SO-NS

Commander's Comments

By Butch Luhrsen, DCDR



I'm happy to report that Memorial Day weekend and the start to boating season has arrived! There is a lot going on throughout Division 8. I hope everyone has sent their RSVP concerning OPEX. We're poised to have a great weekend of on-the-water training at Clinton Lake next weekend.

Flotilla 8-1

Flotilla 8-1 held their May meeting at Riverfront Park in Pekin with a concentration on fellowship. From what I heard, mission accomplished and the brats weren't bad either. They have two prospective members with completed membership applications turned in, awaiting their member numbers. Welcome aboard Chris and Jaime. The East Peoria flotilla is preparing to once again conduct a PE course for the Oak Run boating community.

Flotilla 8-3

In Hannibal, Flotilla 8-3 members met at Jack's Marina. John Davison, FC, encouraged the members to complete the National Member Survey. They also conducted some additional training after their business meeting concerning the best ways to recruit new members. John Davison, a retired Army officer, and Mike Huff, a retired Marine recruiter led the training. Jess Dawson has been named as an assistant district staff officer for diversity (ADSO-DV). She was nominated to serve in the stead of Mike Huff who badly injured his knee at work. I'd like to wish both Mike well and Jess good luck in her new position. Doug Keller, VFC-83, set up and staffed a PA exhibit at Mark Twain Lake during a

Corps of Engineers event. Doug then stayed in Peoria for a week attending an active duty ATON/PATON Maintenance C-School, which he successfully completed. Nice work Doug.

Flotilla 8-4

Flotilla 8-4 had its monthly meeting out on Dock 3 at Clinton Lake Marina. Floating Illini members were busy last month. Rich Wynne, earned both his instructor (IT) qualification and vessel examiner (VE) qualification. Rich can thank the Champaign Bass Club for his good fortune. He helped instruct an About Boating Safety session for the Bass Club and two weeks later the students all had vessel safety checks conducted on their fishing boats during their first bass tournament. Shawn Burnley also earned IT, VE, and Boat Crew qualifications. Jim Dunne, whose 17' Boston Whaler has been a facility for over a year now, recently earned his coxswain qualification and we'll finally see Auxiliary 802 in operation. Pam Luhrsen successfully completed her 3-year crew check ride.

Flotilla 8-5

Peoria's Flotilla 8-5 had their 50th Anniversary celebration. Don Ackerman served as coxswain of the distressed vessel at Clinton Lake for several QE check rides. Thomas Keagle, VFC, attended the open house hosted in Keokuk, Iowa, by the USCGC SCIOTO. He was able to conduct several vessel exams while there.

Flotilla 8-8

Flotilla 8-8's Kirk Huettl, Calen Edgar and Christopher Ware received certificates of achievement at the division meeting. The Charleston flotilla also presented the State of Illinois Safe Boater Course at the city hall in Charleston. They are also planning to conduct vessel exams at Clinton Lake this month. Ron Stanford is planning on conducting member training on AUXDATA.



Flotilla 8-5's Don Ackerman and Chad Wiehe, FC-81 are pictured here aboard "Floating Illini" prior to a QE check ride. Photo by Anna Poundstone.

New Coxswain and Crew Member in Flotilla 84

By Jeff Poundstone, SO-PB

Another huge team effort by Division 8 Auxiliarists resulted in a new coxswain and a new crew member. Shawn Burnley successfully passed the QE check ride and dockside oral exam to earn his initial qualification as a boat crew member. James Dunne navigated the requirements to become the first new coxswain in the division in a number of years. Pamela Luhrsén was also aboard and completed her 3-year check ride. Congratulations!

The winds were a bit sporty, blowing straight out of the west. The fetch creating white caps building from 1 to 2 feet high. Don Ackerman, from Flotilla 85, trailered his facility to Clinton Lake from Peoria to serve as the distressed vessel. Doug Keller, from Hannibal's

Flotilla 83, was aboard serving as crew. Chad Wiehe, SO-MT, was also aboard Auxiliary 803, observing the training and lending a hand.

The division has three vessels which are approved as facilities that have not been on a patrol yet: Dunne and his Boston Whaler, Jim Konieczki and his Sea Ray 240, and Doug Keller and his Apache. The division is heading in the right direction as we'll see the Boston Whaler take her first operational patrol in the very near future with Dunne's qualification. We hope to see all three of these new facilities and new coxswains and crew out patrolling and training at June's OPEX at Clinton Lake.

Again, Congratulations!

Proficiency will be our watchword for 2013; to learn and improve in all that we do.

This means proficiency in our leadership to inspire, motivate, teach and mentor our membership. For our members, proficiency means taking the time to give your ability to do those tasks that you agreed to perform for the Auxiliary.
~ Commodore Lawrence

Operation Clinton Lake – OPEX 2013

By Jeff Poundstone, SO-PB

Division 8's annual operational exercise (OPEX) is scheduled to be held over the weekend of June 7-9 at Clinton Lake Marina. The Clinton Lake Sailing Association as well as the Clinton Lake Marina are also supporting the OPEX by allowing us to use their facilities over the course of the weekend. We'll be setting up our communications, first aid, and command centers on Clyde Barnes Point, which lies near the marina office. Briefings and meals, as well as Saturday evening's steak fry will be served at the sailing association's pavilion.

There will be several new operational facilities participating in this year's exercise as well as a pair of division work horses. Dirk Homan and Merwon "Smitty" Smith are again bringing their vessels over for an OPEX. Jim Konieczki's and Doug Keller's facilities will be serving in their first OPEX. Butch Luhrsén has traded in his Sea Ray and bought a Rinker 270, which will be

participating for the first time. The Pawnee Fire Department will also be bringing their rescue boat, a War Eagle 2047, and training alongside the Auxiliary over the course of the exercise.

Training will begin on Friday evening with night patrol training designed for both boat crew trainees who need to participate in a night patrol and current crews to practice patrolling in limited visibility. Our AUXCHEFs will be preparing meals for participants on Saturday and Sunday mornings as well as a Saturday lunch and Saturday evening steak fry.

Exercises will be conducted concentrating on search patterns, search and rescue, radio communications, chart work, first aid, and more. This year's OPEX will close on Sunday afternoon with the quarterly division meeting. Everyone is invited to attend.

Which Pro-word is Correct and How Do I use it?

By Chad Wiehe, SO-MT

I was asked to write a bit of a follow up to something mentioned in my recent article about the *HMS Bounty*. In that article it was mentioned that "Mayday" is almost never the first call to make. By all accounts that's a very true statement. So which one is the right one, and when should each call be made?

The answer is really kind of simple, if you understand the meaning of each pro-word, and why they exist. So I am going to use my outside of the box training methods to help guide you through this.

SECURITY (*pronounced See-cure-a-tay*)

Think of security like this - Timber!

Basically you're conveying that you're not in trouble, but if someone near you isn't paying close attention, they will be in trouble.

Most of us don't use this call very often, since we contact sector and let them know what we are up to, and if they feel it's necessary they will issue a UMIRB (Urgent Marine

Information Radio Broadcast). If you pay close attention (Remember Timber?), you will notice that sector starts the call off with "security security security." Now that they have your attention, they will give you the rest of the information.

Really anything you want someone to pay attention to (other than distress calls) should start with Security.

A good example: you encountered a tree (Timber?) drifting down river in the channel that poses a clear and immediate danger. You would be best to describe the nature of the warning, and what river mile you're at as well.

PAN-PAN - (*pronounced pawn-pawn or pahn pahn*)

This is another of those really under used pro-words. As CWO Vittonne (Ret.) mentioned in the article on the *HMS Bounty*, it should almost always be the first call you make if you just had an OOPS!

The reasons for using Pan Pan are



Chad Wiehe, SO-MT.
USCGAUX Photo.

extensive. If you're going along and you clip a wing dam on the Mississippi, or you suddenly lose engine power while you're still in the channel, are really good examples of when to use Pan Pan.

You're basically saying, "Houston, we have a problem!" You're not saying you gave up and are making a swim for it, or for some of us really shallow water sailors, walking to shore.

The procedures are the same as for Mayday, but the meaning behind the word is considerably different.

Keller has an Auxiliarist of the Year Week!

By Jeff Poundstone, SO-PB

It was a week of huge volunteerism for Flotilla 83's Doug Keller. His long week started when he responded to a Corps of Engineers request for support at their annual Days of Discovery at Mark Twain Lake in Northeast Missouri. He set up the RBS display which was seen by over 350 students who attended.

From Mark Twain Lake he traveled to Peoria where he attended an active duty NATON C-School which certified Coast Guardsmen serving on buoy tenders such as the Sangamon and the Scioto in climbing and maintenance of the Aids to Navigation used on the Western Rivers. Keller is one of the few Auxiliarists in the country to gain this

certification.

Keller, who attended the AUXCHEF course last May in Peoria, met with the Sangamon's cook, FS1 Craig Alger who readily agreed to mentor him in several of his remaining AUXCHEF tasks. He finished his remaining task with the FS2 on the Scioto. He's now a fully qualified AUXCHEF.

After spending a week in the barracks and eating in the galley, he graduated from C-School and headed to Clinton Lake Marina. Doug served as crewman on Don Ackerman's facility during a day of initial and 3-year QE check-rides.

Nice Work Doug!



Flotilla 83 set up and staffed a Safe Boating exhibit at Mark Twain Lake's Days of Discovery. Doug Keller is shown checking the brochures.
USCGAUX Photo.



Photo courtesy of Carol Lamberes.

In the Galley with Scott

Using the Smoker

By Scott Lamberes, AUXCHEF

Welcome to the galley!

Hungry for delicious smoked flavor? Follow the guide below to match the right smoking woods with the right foods. Whether you're using a traditional smoker, a gas grill, or a charcoal barbeque follow the guide below and match the right foods with the correct smoking woods for immense flavor and savory results time and time again.

Food: If you are using a water pan for smoking, place food on grate above pan. Peeking at the food allows heat and smoke to escape so try to limit any peeking. Every time you peek you add 10 minutes to your cooking time, and even more in cold weather! Smoking causes boneless meats to shrink significantly unless they have a heavy layer of fat. Simply shave the layer of fat off your pork shoulder or brisket before serving. Smoked foods also make great leftovers! The smoke flavor becomes more enhanced after a couple days in the refrigerator.

Water: Water is an important part of the smoking process. It adds moisture so the meats stay tender and flavorful during the cooking process. Give your meat a hint of flavor by adding sauces, marinades, wine, beer, fruit juices, herbs and

spices to your traditional smoker. Keeping the water pan full at all times is essential especially when cooking turkeys, roasts, and large cuts of meat. You may have to add water a few times throughout cooking. Water pans can be used not only in smokers but in charcoal and gas grills too!

Smoking Woods: Wood chunks should always be soaked in water for at least one hour before grilling. Be sure to drain all excess water off wood before adding them to your grill fire or smoker box. Smoking woods can be found in hardware stores, general purpose and home centers, or even in your own backyard! Specialty food stores and gift shops carry hard to find smoking woods like wine barrel chips.

Charcoal Grill: Arrange charcoal briquettes in an organized stack on each side of the grill grate, creating indirect heat. Between the coals, place a heavy duty aluminum foil pan filled with at least 2 cups water and desired spices, herbs, sauces, or flavorings. Light coals and pre-heat grill for at least 25 minutes. Place soaked smoking wood chips directly on hot coals and allow smoking to start before grilling. Food should be placed on top of cooking grate directly over the water pan. Close grill lid and keep peeking to a minimum! Add 6 to 8 briquettes to each side of the grill grate every hour. Replenish water, seasonings, and sauces in foil pan as needed.

Gas Barbecue: Some gas grills come already equipped with a smoker attachment, making it easy to turn your traditional barbeque grill into a sizzling smoking machine. If you don't have a smoker attachment, you can improvise with a heavy duty foil pans. Fill one foil pan with hot water, herbs, seasonings, and flavorings. Place presoaked smoking wood chips in a separate foil pan. Before preheating, place pans on each side of the grill grate, directly over the burners. Light grill and begin cooking when grill is fully smoking.

Smoker: Smokes should be placed on a level surface away from buildings, houses, and traffic. Smoke odors can linger for hours, so try to smoke as far

away from your house as possible.

Smokers are usually equipped with three different grates: one for charcoal, one for a water pan, and one for the food to be placed on. To prepare the smoker, place a large pile of charcoal on the bottom grate and ignite the coals. When the coals appear to have an even grey ash, spread them evenly along the bottom of the charcoal grate. Next, place the water & seasonings pan on center grate directly above the flames. Finally, place soaked wood chips over the briquettes through the door on the front of the smoker. Be sure to keep all vents partially closed so the smoke stays inside the smoker. Place food on top smoker grate, leaving space for smoke to circulate evenly. While cooking, replenish coals, wood chunks, water and seasonings as needed.

Smoking Tips For Beginners:

Be aware that smoked foods look different from that of grilled or oven-prepared foods. Depending on the type of wood chunks used, the meat may have a colored tint to it. Always use a meat thermometer to make sure smoked foods are done and not undercooked.

Always use safety precautions when using a smoker. Use tongs or barbecue mitts when turning meats, refilling the water pan, adjusting the vents, or adding charcoal.

Self-starting charcoal briquettes should not be used in a smoker. They can cause an unpleasant taste to your smoke-cooked foods.

Different smoking woods create different flavors. Experiment with different types of woods until you find a combination you like!

Too much wood smoke can cause food to taste bitter. Start by using small amounts of wood to see how you like the flavor. Add more for an intense smoky taste!

As you become more experienced, try combining different smoking

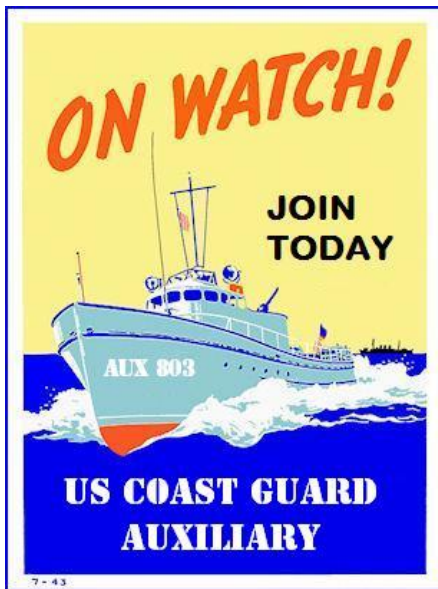
Recruiting Ideas and Best Practices

By John Davison, FC and Michael Huff, ADSO-DV

By Mike Huff (USMC Prior Recruiter) John Davison (Prior Army, Army ROTC and Army Reserve Recruiter)

Recruiting can be a challenge for any organization and here are some tips that might be of help. As in any great organization EVERY member is a recruiter! Our appearance, positive attitude and CG Auxiliary knowledge sets the stage. All members should be familiar with AuxMan and "talk Auxiliary" accordingly.

Although a boat show Information booth may be a great place to meet prospects it appears to me that the best recruiting is a one-one situation. You daily meet potential members every day and every place. In that setting here are some questions to have in mind; 1) what attracted you to join the CG Auxiliary? Give a "personal testimony" 2) What might they be looking for in their life? 3) How can CG Auxiliary membership fill that need? 4) Hand them your CG Auxiliary business card and CG Auxiliary Membership Information and 5) Plan to follow up with a phone call or e-mail.



Here are some more bullet tips;

- 1) "Friendship" recruiting is a good view to meet, greet and talk Auxiliary. When done visiting you should both should be friends if you were not already. Since our

recruiting efforts bring new folks into our flotilla's we would hope that we would all be friends. That friendship bonds the unit.

- 2) It usually takes 7 magic "touches" (That means contacts, literature ,e-mails, phone calls, Coast Guard Alaska TV events, etc.) to get a person to volunteer for any organization such as church ,4-H,garden club, CG Auxiliary.....
- 3) Your integrity sets the stage- don't over/under sell. Some folks are not really interested so leave them as "friends".
- 4) You must understand what your prospect is looking to find. Volunteer organizations fill needs of both organization and individual.
- 5) It's important to integrate new members into the flotilla as soon as possible.
- 6) Don't push commitment but "close the deal" when the prospect makes a decision.
- 7) Know your audience (boat owners, veteran, outdoors types, followers of 'Coast Guard Alaska' etc.)
- 8) Always remain positive when the Application Process appears slow and start to mentor just before after you close the deal.
- 9) Close the deal with a handshake. Don't lose confidence when a great potential member backs out.

We are the front line of recruiting for the Coast Guard Auxiliary and it is as important as any of the other missions we perform. Without plenty of trained and positive members we cannot fully perform our many missions.



A vintage USCG Auxiliary recruiting poster. USCGAUX photo.



Uncle Sam wants you for the USCG Auxiliary! USCGAUX photo.

2013 Coming Events

June 7-9
Division 8 Operational Exercise
(OPEX). Clinton Lake Marina.

July 4
Peoria Fireworks Support
Peoria

August 18-25
NACON 2013. USCG Auxiliary
National Conference. San
Diego, Ca.

August 18
Henry-Chillicothe
Canoe Float

September 6-7
8WR Fall D-Train. Lacrosse,
Wi.

October
Division 8 Meeting and Election.
TBD

On Deck There

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Flotilla 81 Celebrates Spring by Burning Bratwurst!

By Jeff Wilson, FSO-PB

Flotilla 08-01 celebrated the arrival of warmer weather with its first fellowship event of 2013. The location was Riverfront Park in Pekin, Illinois.

Fortunately, the Illinois River had fallen enough that it wasn't lapping at the gazebo. It was a beautiful day with perfect weather for grilling some brats.

The 08-01 fellowship committee members (Jeff Wilson, VFC, Bud Grimm and Fred Peterson) were all in attendance. Also attending from the flotilla were Chad Wiehe, FC, Chad's guest Mary Betzelberger, Langie Radeke, FSO-PE, Dirk Homan, FSO-OP, Dave Stroh, and Cooper, the flotilla mascot.

All of the basic food groups were present: brats, chips, homemade German potato salad (thanks Chad), cole slaw, and maybe most importantly, chocolate chip cookies.

Later in the day we got a nice surprise when Jeff and Anna Poundstone from Flotilla 08-04 showed up with Butch (their cock-a-poo, not DCDR Luhrsens!). The Poundstones brought dessert, so all the bases were covered.

"I wasn't late" said Poundstone, "I went the long way to avoid your business meeting."

It was a great location for watching the occasional boat or barge on the river. Somewhat surprisingly, several intrepid boaters launched near the boat ramp by the park. They couldn't really launch from the boat ramp due to the water level and flotsam that had accumulated on the ramp.

A plethora of topics were covered during the day. We even managed to have a short business meeting. All in all, it was a great day fellowship, and I think everyone had a good time. We're looking forward to the next event.



Flotilla 81 set up in the gazebo in Riverfront Park in Pekin. Photo courtesy of Jeff Wilson.



Bud Grimm is pulling the brats off the grill while everyone waits in anticipation. Photo courtesy of Jeff Wilson.



Lunch is served! Dave Stroh, Bud Grimm, Chad, Mary, Langie, and Jeff hit the food table. Photo Courtesy of Jeff Wilson.

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Newsletter Editor
Jeff Poundstone, SO-PB
jeff.poundstone@gmail.com

Contributing Editor
Jeff Wilson, FSO-PB
jeffcwilson@prodigy.net

Contributing Author
Scott Lamberes

Contributing Author
Chad Wiehe, SO-MT

Photographer
Deborah Dunne, FSO-PB

Photographer
Anna Poundstone, SO-HR

Photographer
Debbie Ayres

Newsletter Mentor
Linda Vogel, ADSO-PB

