



Central Arkansas Flotilla 15-8

8th Western Rivers Region

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

2024 Highlights

Boating Safety and Education

The primary purpose of the Auxiliary is to promote boating safety and we do that through a variety of programs.

This year we taught 7 classes and graduated 91 students at events held at the

Auxiliary station as well as one off-site class.



Additionally, we conducted free boat safety checks and distributed boating safety

literature at local marinas, boat dealerships, outdoor recreation stores and at events such as the Little Rock boatshow.



Arkansas River Patrols

The Auxiliary conducts patrols on the Arkansas River to assist boaters in distress, check the status of river navigation aids, demonstrate Coast Guard presence in the vicinity of critical infrastructure, and assist local



agencies upon request. We often encounter other agencies while out on the water such as the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission or the North Little Rock Fire Department.



We conducted 7 patrols and were underway 22 hours in 2024.



A significant amount of time was dedicated to training new boat crew members from our flotilla as well as from the

Hot Springs and Memphis units.

Marine Safety and Environmental Protection

Central Arkansas members performed a shoreline cleanup in April in the vicinity of Rockwater Marina. Members picked up trash from the dock and the shore and several members used

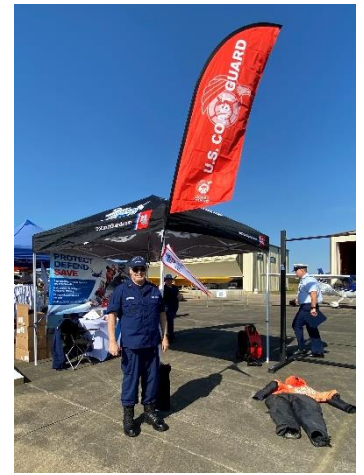


kayaks to access other areas along the bank where trash had accumulated.

The Flotilla presented a certificate of appreciation to the members of the Central Chapter of the Arkansas Canoe Club in February for their ongoing and significant support of similar cleanup efforts along the Arkansas River and its tributaries.



Local Auxiliary members helped staff the Coast Guard booth at the North Little Rock Airshow and at two performances of the Coast Guard band at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway.



Coast Guard Recruiting Support

Like the other military services, the Coast Guard has faced difficulties in recruiting both reserve and active-duty members in recent years. A Coast Guard recruiting detachment was recently assigned to the area and the Auxiliary is helping with this mission and there are now three Auxiliary members qualified to assist in recruiting efforts.

The Coast Guard official opened their recruiting office in Little Rock in June and Auxiliary members from multiple units and states were in attendance to assist with the event.



Auxiliary Station North Little Rock



Located within the North Little Rock RV Park since 2012, the station is used for regular meetings, training by active duty and Auxiliary personnel, and is occasionally used by groups visiting the RV Park.

This year it was also used for training and event management by the Central Arkansas Radio Emergency Net.

This is an official publication of the Central Arkansas Flotilla 15-8, 8th Western Rivers Region of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

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