

August 2023

# IN VISION 26

A publication of

US Coast Guard Auxiliary

Ninth Central Region - Northern Great Lakes Area, 091-26



## WELCOME!

Welcome to our In Vision 26, August 2023 newsletter.

We are excited to highlight our events and accomplishments of the summer. I hope you find the information contained in this edition to be enlightening, encouraging and motivating.

I invite all of you to support our newsletter with articles and photos showing what is happening throughout our division.

As a reminder, each flotilla created a vision at the onset of 2023. Embrace your visions and allow them to further your mission.

Lynda Stolt, Editor, In Vision 26

*Your vision is a picture of the future which creates passion in the present.*

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### Shout-out to Charlevoix and Traverse City Flotillas

I wanted to reach out and give my sincere appreciation on behalf of station Charlevoix for all the assistance you have been providing and continue to provide! We literally could not do half of what we do without you and with all we have been going through with the unit it has made things a lot easier knowing you have the watch right along side each and every one of us. I can not sing your praises enough and we are all truly blessed to have such dedicated and motivated individuals supporting us from both flotillas. Thank you again so much!! Put a bow on the MAJOR marine events we have a few smaller ones left but the bulk is wrapped! Please let me know how we are able to support you all and I am looking forward to seeing you all soon.

V/R

BM1 Dalton Smith  
Executive Petty Officer  
USCG Station Charlevoix

## On Deck

Division Commander Mike Harbin

### The Lighthouse (paraphrased story)

There was a small town near a light house and lifesaving station that sat along a rocky shoreline. It was a dangerous passage and there were frequent ship wrecks. A small group from the town would go the station whenever the weather was bad. If there was no ship wreck, it gave them time to socialize and prepare the facility and supplies for the inevitable. And, when the inevitable occurred, they would work tirelessly to help the survivors off the rocky shoreline and into the station where they would be well taken care of.

Accolades for their efforts came from near and far. With their publicity came increased interest in helping at the station. So much interest, that they began to meet there on a regular basis to greet newcomers that wanted to help. The old station was fixed up and became quite the social club.

Unfortunately, there became fewer and fewer people that were willing to help with the ship wreck survivors. They were dirty, smelly, hungry and it took a lot

*(Continued on page 3)*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

# U.S. COAST GUARD

AUGUST 4, 2023

Happy 233 Birthday to our  
US Coast Guard

August 4, 1790

## WHY THE U.S. COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY IS IMPORTANT

### It's America's oldest continuing sea going service

The U.S. Coast Guard, first known as the "Revenue Marine," has been around for more than 200 years. The service is crucial to our national security.

### It's the world's 12th largest naval force

The U.S. Coast Guard does a lot more than search and rescue missions. As Commander-in-Chief, the president can transfer U.S. Coast Guard operations to the U.S. Navy when necessary.

### It inspires future generations

Celebrating the U.S. Coast Guard on its birthday can help in recruiting young people who want to make a difference in the world. Plus, the intensive training will thoroughly prepare young men and women for the technological challenges and changes in fighting crime on the seas.

### Our US Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary Bond

Established in 1939, Auxiliary members have worked alongside our Active, Reserve, and civilian shipmates for 84 years.

"The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed volunteer component of our Service. The Coast Guard's guiding principles of SERVICE TO NATION, DUTY to PEOPLE, and COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE are only achievable through the combine efforts of all Coast Guard forces. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is a valuable, dedicated and indispensable part of the Coast Guard team.

Under Coast Guard administration the Auxiliary is organized into four unit levels: Flotilla, Division, District, National. At the District and National levels the Auxiliary is aligned with the Coast Guard organizational structure. Divisions may or may not be aligned with Sectors.

(Continued from page 1)

of work. That kind of work didn't seem to fit with such a clean social club.

But it was, after all, a light house and lifesaving station. There didn't seem to be a way to keep survivors from coming ashore, so members of the social group either stopped helping, and some found another building to move to and stopped their aid to survivors.

In their absence, a few of the old regulars and some new town's people carried on the work of assisting ship wreck survivors, rebuilding the original mission. The work was harder with fewer numbers, but the incentive was the same.

The mission never changed. What changed was the perception and the attitude toward the mission.

*"Effort brings reward and reward is deepest when it's not for you".*

- Michael J Fox

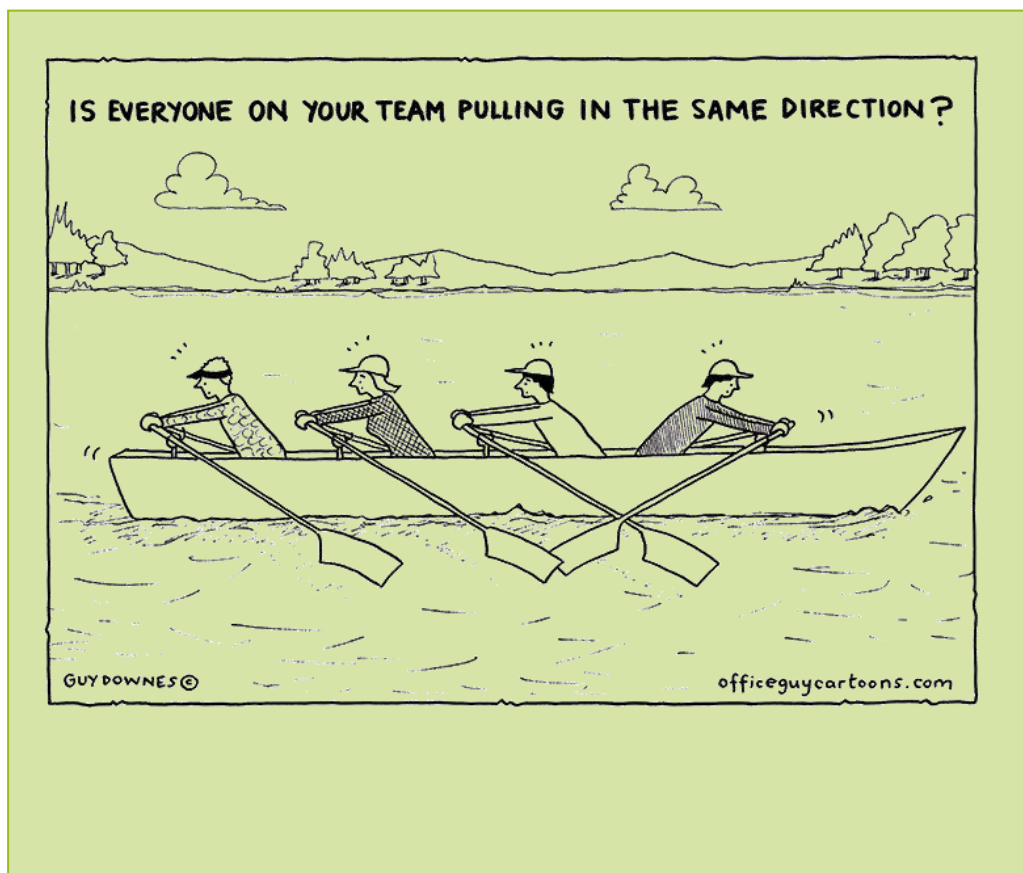
Our mission has not changed. What has changed is AuxData, Covid, shutdowns, a new finance system, new requirements, etc. And there will always be changes.

You will see this exact message in Commodore Slabaugh's message in an earlier edition of The Mainstream. Her words: "Would you like to know what hasn't diminished? The mission... the boating public and Coast Guard still need us."

Your flotilla needs you to accomplish our mission! In terms of the lighthouse, it is stormy weather and you are needed more now than ever.

Thanks to all that have continued with the mission. Your time and effort have been greatly appreciated by

both the Aux and the Active-Duty. My message continues as it has that we need everyone's help.



**"All that you do is significant and important! Share it with others in this publication"**

[Lynda Stolt, SO-PB](#), Editor for IN VISION 26 - Is there something you would like to see in our newsletter? Please let me know how we can improve our communications, share our victories, support our members and unite as Division 26.



# Cheboygan vies to be designated a Coast Guard City

By John Maynard, Vice Flotilla Commander  
Upper Great Lakes Flotilla

A committee of local citizens in Cheboygan MI is working to have their community named a Coast Guard City. The Upper Great Lakes flotilla (0912601) has joined the group to help in its efforts to earn the prestigious designation.

Cheboygan applied unsuccessfully to be a Coast Guard City in 2019. But according to Sherry Nelson, who co-chairs the committee with Joanne Cromley, the city is much better prepared this time.

“We have developed consistent programs that we think are sustainable and appreciated by the Coast Guard,” Ms. Nelson said.

In addition to its individual members, the committee includes representatives from the Cheboygan City Council and the Cheboygan Chamber of Commerce.

According to the Coast Guard, a city must show “a broad range of activities, programs, and actions that demonstrate an unusual and sustained level of support for local Coast Guard members and their families.”

Cheboygan is home port to the US Coast Guard Mackinaw ice cutter. The station’s contingent includes approximately 60 enlisted personnel and officers.

Currently, 29 cities in the United States have been designated Coast Guard cities, including Grand Haven and Traverse City in Michigan.



Volunteers and Coast Guard crew loading Christmas trees.  
Photo by Dan Welihan

The Coast Guard Connection committee organizes several activities during the year for the Coasties, including recruiting volunteers for the Christmas tree program at Thanksgiving where the Mackinaw transports Christmas trees to Chicago.

The committee also hosts quarterly potluck dinners, a skating party and a welcome picnic in August, when most new Coasties arrive for duty. The committee also provides new crew members and their families welcome kits. The committee is also working on facilitating a

mentorship program between service members and local youth.

## Potluck Dinner



# Flotilla Highlights

## Traverse City

On Monday, August 1 at our monthly flotilla meeting we had the opportunity to get a tour of the TC Airstation hangar with our AuxLO Lt. Teddy Keenan.



TC Flotilla members on tour of the Air station TC



Lt. Terry Keenan and Jim Johnson



Dianne Walker trying out the pilot seat in a Coast Guard Jay Hawk helicopter

Our flotilla assisted with the AuSable River Marathon this past weekend. The marathon is a 120 mile event from Grayling to Oscoda. This year was the 75 anniversary of the race. Members of the flotilla, Auxiliarists Stan Sionkowski, Bill Kumpula, James Munger and Karen Munger did the pre-race safety inspections of 110 boats (paddle craft) on Friday evening and Saturday morning. On Sunday, Auxiliarists James and Karen Munger assisted with the post-race inspections. The actual race started at 2100 hours on Saturday and the first team crossed the finish line on Sunday with time of 14:23:06.

There were teams from all across Michigan and the US along with teams from Australia, Canada, Germany, Belize, Utah and Louisiana.

On Tuesday, August 1st the Flotilla



Night before race inspections



Post race inspections

participated in the Roscommon National Night Out

## Roscommon County

event. Auxiliarists James Munger and Karen Munger were there with COASTIE. COASTIE was a hit with not only kids but adults as well. Well over 200 kids and adults stopped by to see COASTIE and pick-up a variety of water and boating safety information. New Flotilla member Auxiliarist Larry Williams also assisted in the event.



Larry Williams



National Night Out with Auxiliarists James and Karen Munger

## C School Aux 06

**WOW. I had NO idea - of what I didn't know.**

Jim Frick, DSO-NS

I have been an ATON verifier for about 4 years and have always done the assigned ATONs, verified or discrepancy reports. Easy. Or, so I thought.

I live in a remote area of the D9CR and we have ATONs that are

generally fixed on posts, pilings, light houses, etc. They usually mark some static area like a marina or entrance to something. They are either present and in good repair and watching properly, or they are not. Done deal. That's in my world. When I was tasked with being DSO-NS, I had some reservations, but agreed since how difficult could this be? WOW – I had no idea.

In other areas, as I just completed my AUX 06 C School, I learned that many ATONs actually float, tethered in place (Usually) and sometimes are actually in rivers where they are subject to currents, winds, weather, and mark actual shipping channels. We don't have shipping channels in Traverse City. Are they on station? In the Traverse City region – East and West Bay, a light might be extinguished, dimmed or damaged, but it is always on station. Doing our class activities these buoys in rivers or big waters may actually have moved beyond the allowable variance. That is a discrepancy. They can be damaged, dimmed, extinguished, at an improper depth. Depending on if the discrepancy is Critical, Urgent or routine there are different reporting obligations. My world was very narrow. It is now much wider. It was great fun to learn so much more about the investigative aspect of ATON verification. I can be great fun figuring these possible variances that result in discrepancies. The



aux is generally charged with verifying ATONs and PATONS with particular frequencies depending on their Class, I, II or III. This is Enormously important work for recreational boaters, but even more importantly for Commercial marine traffic (of which Traverse City really has none). The entire aspect of ATON/PATON verification took on a new level of importance for me.

In researching further statistics for my role, I have just been provided with a report that implies to me, that the ATONs that have been checked (Verified or discrepant) have been underestimated. I will further research this so we can actually get the proper credit for our assistance to the Coast Guard as force multipliers.

I will be co-presenting a session with a CWO2 from Sector Sault Sainte Marie at the fall DTrain on the world of ATONs. Hopefully those established ATON verifiers who attend will be updated, or new potential verifiers will be inspired to join the ranks of the group who provide this invaluable service to the Coast Guard. Bridges surveys – we don't have bridges for verification in our AOR – but the bridge surveys look to be lie an awesome activity and I hope to get the opportunity to work on some – great fun, great service. What could be better. I hope to see you all at D-Train.



**Share—Link—Engage**

[Welcome to the Division 26, District 9CR Web Site](#)

[U.S. Coast Guard Station Charlevoix— Facebook](#)

[U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City— Facebook](#)





## Start each day with “How Can I Help”?

There was a news section on emergency preparedness in Taiwan. I wasn't paying that much attention, but when I looked up, I saw the saying on their T-Shirts – “I Can Help”. I like that!!

Mike Harbin

Thank you to those who jumped in to help me work through some hurdles and resistance in one of my staff positions. I know the people I can rely on. They aren't the ones that say that's too much, they are the ones that say “How Can I Help?” or “I Can Help”.

Lynda

**“How can I help?”**

IS MUCH *more powerful* THAN

**“How are you?”**

ONE IS A REQUEST FOR **INFORMATION**

THE OTHER A REQUEST FOR **ACTION**

## Diversity Thought

The Auxiliary has a vast Diverse population. Each of our flotillas need to be able to acknowledging differences and adapt practices to create an inclusive environment in which diverse skills, perspectives and backgrounds are valued. This means we need to understand individual differences among our members. We come from a broad range of backgrounds and lifestyles. We need to recognize the value of using those different perspectives and ideas to enhance the quality and outcomes of our mission.



**WE LOVE YOUR UNIQUENESS**

*It is when we acknowledge diversity and inclusion that we can accepted and recognized our friends and colleagues for their unique identities, perspectives and talents.*

Let's do more to recruit new members and retain current members. Inform them of the many

mission sets available beyond those of Air and Surface Operations, Recreational Boating Safety activities and Public Education. Although these missions are at our core existence, there is so much more...

The strength of the team is each individual member.

The strength of each member is **THE TEAM.**



**Is your team strong?**



# AUXPAD

Kateri Janavicius, ADSO-OP AUXPAD  
Promoting paddlecraft safety and education

## AUXPAD Meet-up

On July 8, we held our District's first AUXPAD Meet-up, which aimed to provide an opportunity for members to get to know each other and build camaraderie while practicing on-water skills. It is also a great chance to try out new styles of kayaks, check out different types of gear, and ask any questions about all things paddling. We even had a couple of attendees who were just curious about the program and wanted to see if it was a good fit for them. The event was held at Bruin Lake near Pinckney, Michigan, and the lake was situated next to a campground so that out-of-town attendees could set up camp for a weekend of fun. Pat Groves and Kelly Rudolph, level 1 ACA Instructors from Toledo, led the group through a pre-planned agenda of skills that will need to be demonstrated in order to qualify as an Operator.

True to the forecast's word, it rained on and off on the day of the event; however, that is not a deterrent for a paddler! The number one rule of paddling is to dress for immersion, so the likelihood of getting wet was already very high. We started with some exercises in the water with our life jackets on so we could get a sense of how it feels to maneuver in the water while constantly being pulled to the surface. The lake was very warm, much warmer than any body of water I've been submerged in in Northern Michigan. Unfortunately, that did not make doing backflips and somersaults in the water any easier! We moved onto practicing forward and backward strokes, as well as draw strokes that enable a paddler to inch closer to a specified point in a parallel fashion. These maneuvers are where I experience the greatest chance of overturning, and I know I'm not alone!

For lunch, we all gathered at campground and ate at a picnic table while the fire roared nearby and warmed up some members rotisserie-style. We discussed the AUXPAD program, some of the obstacles we have encountered, and those that we have yet to overcome. There is a need for level 2 ACA Instructors in our organization

who can certify Operators so that patrols can be conducted. Access to funding for equipment continues to be a concern as well, and there is still some lingering uncertainty about the parameters of the program as outlined in the AUXPAD Handbook. Despite these barriers, we keep trudging forth and gaining traction; the dedication of our small group is evident, and we are determined to see this program thrive.

After lunch, we hopped back on the water to finish the afternoon with some rescues, both self and assisted. We even took the opportunity to experiment with a quick-release towline that is required for Facilities. The sun started to play peek-a-boo at this point, although the rain hadn't entirely cleared out yet. Everyone had a chance to practice being in both the positions of the rescuer and the one needing rescue. With the occasional passing shower, the warm lake felt welcome against the colder rain. After the last person had completed their self-rescue, we called it a day. It had been a long day on the water and paddling has the tendency to expend a lot of energy.

Overall, the first AUXPAD meet-up was a success and went off without a hitch. It was well-organized and ran according to schedule. The lunch break discussion was productive and by listening to everyone's input, we were able to recognize what the next steps are and how to move forward from here. We are currently seeking ways to provide opportunities for those interested in becoming AUXPAD Operators to have their PQSs signed off this fall so that we can hit the ground running next year. I look forward to seeing the growth of the program and welcoming new members who are passionate about protecting paddlers!





## HOW TO WEAR THE ALTERNATE WORK UNIFORM (AWU)

Please review this information before wearing the new Alternate Work Uniform **AWU**.

- All uniform parts must match (no use of other uniform parts with the polo.) (Example: wearing ODU pants with the AWU shirt).
- The **ripstop material ball cap** is authorized with the AWU. (If you do not have a ripstop cap, you need to get one. No outdated or faded caps.)
- Only 5.11 pants and 5.11 shorts may be worn with the polo. Do not use off-brand shorts or pants with the polo shirt. Do not wear ODU pants with a polo shirt.
- Members may wear either a long sleeve or short sleeve polo shirt. It **MUST** be purchased from the online source identified on the Aux Association website. There can be nothing on the back of the shirt.
- Women are authorized to untuck or tuck in the shirt. Men are not authorized to wear the shirt untucked.
- If approved by your Active Duty District Commander, you may wear the summer uniform, which consists of the short sleeve polo and 5.11 shorts with at least a 9-inch inseam.
  - AWU with shorts is not authorized for any PA or PE event. **(9CR Only)**
- Cotton undershirts are authorized but not recommended for summer because they negate the advantages of the wicking polo. Wicking dark blue undershirts are authorized.
- Members wearing full SAR gear (PFD and SAR vest) are authorized to wear the cotton Aux t-shirt or dark navy wicking t-shirt. These are not authorized for wear alone as part of the uniform.
- Footwear: one of three types of footwear are allowed:
  - Authorized boot
  - Authorized boat shoes, brown or blue, without decoration.
  - Postal style walking shoes- all black including sole, top, very few or no seams. (no decoration, and soles must be black.)
- Socks- black- either crew or ankle. Socks must be worn.
- Cover rules apply when wearing the AWU
- Unit Command may identify the AWU as authorized for meetings and social engagements.
- AWU is not authorized for any indoor PA or PE event. **(9CR Only)**

### Components

Men's Pants are available at this link: [Men's Pants](#)

Women's 5.11 pants: [Women's Pants](#)

Shorts are available seasonally: (must be within two inches of knee): [Shorts](#)

Shirts are available at this link: [Shirts](#)

Caps are available at this link: [Caps](#)



Honor our Auxiliary by  
wearing this uniform  
professionally



## Open Base Day at Station Cheboygan



The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw, stationed in Cheboygan.

On July 22, 2023 Auxiliarist Don Warren, Sue Warren, Stewart Dibley and Tom Griseto joined Coast Guard Service Members, Cheboygan police and fire support teams for **“Open Base Day”** and the rare opportunity for the community to **“Tour the working U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw”** and learn about the service members who

Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw. The Upper Great Lakes Flotilla (26-01) handed out information on vessel safety checks, public education and distributed safe/boating-related literature to all that attended. And a great day was had by all.



Don Warren, Stew Dibley and a Cheboygan police officer prepare for the influx of visitors. Photo provided by FC, Tom Griseto, 26-01

***Thank you to our Coast Guard service members who help to keep our country safe, break ice to keep shipping lanes open, do search and rescue missions, and take care of navigational aids and buoys throughout the Great Lakes.***

transfer in and out of Cheboygan every 2-3 years, hear stories about their previous stations, see line-throwing demonstrations and more.

The Mackinaw is stationed in Cheboygan on the Cheboygan River. The Mackinaw is the only heavy icebreaker on the Great Lakes and was designed to provide multi-mission capabilities with state of the art systems.



The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw breaks ice for freighters shipping goods around the Great Lakes during the winter.

Tom Griseto FC - 091-26-01, reports that there were over 800 community members that took the tour on the

Joanne Cromley & Sherry Nelson, Co-Chairs, Coast Guard Connection wrote:

*Thank you so much for participating in the Coast Guard "Open Ship Tours." It was a huge success for our community.*

*The Auxiliary's presence was important and we look forward to working with you in the future.*

# 2023 Division 26 Operation Events

Glen Stolt, Charlevoix FC, SO-OP 091-26  
231-557-6050

Don't miss the **operations opportunities** to get underway and build patrol hours. Take advantage of as many opportunities that will fit into your schedule. **Don't limit yourself** to personal flotilla events. **Build your experience!** Volunteer to crew outside your area, learn new skills, get to know other flotillas and experience new waters.

## August 2023

Aug.12-13 Top O Michigan boat race  
Aug. 12 Hessel Art and Boat Show  
Aug.19 Jobbie Nooner -Oyster Bay, Lake Charlevoix

## September 2023

Sept. 4 Labor Day Bridge walk  
Sept. 15-16 Paddle Antrim



We have had a great event season so far and there are still some good boating time available – I want to thank everyone for the events supported and the work it took to get Division 26 (and beyond our boarders) back into Operations Current and Ready. Lets stay up on the wave!

Time to get **Annual Currency Task sheets** in - Sign offs by Coxswains with Patrol numbers and dates - then in to Dora for entry into Aux Data 2. If anyone has trouble or questions - please let me know. We need to show we practiced and did some night practice to be qualified for next year.

### Patrols and End of the Accounting Year **OCTOBER 1, 2023** - Important

- Patrols up to September 30, 2023 – Close them out by Sept 30. Yes – same day if on Sept 30.
- Patrols in October – hold off closing them out until you hear that the CG financial system is ready to take the new fiscal year reimbursement requests. This is typically only a week or two delay. But, closing out too soon could delay your reimbursement. CG will let everyone know and I will send an email to FSO-OP and FCs to be sure the word gets out.

**12 hours** – Please stay current in 2023. It is tough to get people out of REYR the following year, especially if there are several in the situation. There have been many opportunities for time on the water so, none of us should have excuses. But, if you are currently short hours, get with facility owners to get your UW time in.

Glen Stolt, SO-OP 091-26

**Enjoy the remained of your summer and be safe!**



Key Dates

## DIVISION MEETINGS

*FCs, VFCs, SOs and guest*

### October 7

In-Person, Station St. Ignace. Lunch provided by AUXCAs.

### November 4

Change of Watch: Audies, Mackinaw City 1200 hours

## District Dates

September 6, AUXCA Training in Saginaw

September 8, Fall D-Train





July 13, 2023

**EDUCATING WITH COASTIE**

*Roscommon United States Coast Guard (USCG) Auxiliary Flotilla Service Officer Karen Munger talks with children as they look over "Coastie" during Engineers Day in Sault Ste. Marie. The annual event was held June 30. (Courtesy photo)*



Members of the Roscommon United States Coast Guard (USCG) Auxiliary Flotilla participated in the 2023 Soo Locks Engineers Day in Sault Ste. Marie June 30. Engineers Day is a partnership between the USCG and the Army Corps of Engineers. Visitors are allowed to tour the Soo Locks facility as well as attend an open house at the USCG Station.

The USCG had a variety of assets on interactive display and the USCG Auxiliary was there with Coastie, an animated robotic character, and an information booth.

From the Roscommon Flotilla, Commander James Munger and Flotilla Service Officer Karen Munger were on-hand along with Auxiliary members Mark Cole and Kim Cole from the Jackson Flotilla to demonstrate and operate Coastie.

Coastie also has navigation and searchlights, a rotating beacon, a siren, an air horn and eyes and eyelids that move meaningfully. He talks, plays music and interacts with the instructor and the children during the presentation. He even has a bilge pump that pumps water like a real boat which always brings smiles and laughter.

Coastie also has his own built in squirt gun that the kids just love. Coastie is 44 inches long, 30 inches wide and 45 inches tall. He is painted bright blue and has decals promoting boating and water safety from many boating safety organizations. He flies five colorful flags, the United States Ensign and Coast Guard Auxiliary Ensign.

Coastie teaches rules about what to do and not do in a water emergency situation. For instance, Coastie teaches "Reach or Throw But Never Go In." This message along with interaction and instruction with Coastie teaches children how to throw or reach something to a person who is in trouble in the water rather than going in to try to save them. He also teaches slogans that kids remember like "Don't Just Pack It! Wear Your Life Jacket!" and "Always Swim With A Buddy In A Supervised Area."

Coastie is available for all types of events, from school events, boat shows, parades and other community events. Anyone interested in having Coastie be a part of an event can contact Flotilla Commander Munger at [jgmcfps@bellsouth.net](mailto:jgmcfps@bellsouth.net) or (256) 736-3840.

*Submitted by FC Jim Munger*



**COASTIE THE SAFETY BOAT**



## MEMBERS ARE NEEDED for our Culinary Assistance Program!



*The Coast Guard is short personnel and the Auxiliary is being asked to assist.*

Our Auxiliary Culinary Assistance program is looking for members interested in cooking for our Active Duty and Auxiliariest during active duty personnel absence , at CG Change of Commands, VIP events, Auxiliary events, aboard cutters in their galleys and more as the needs arise.



Our District, 091 has 29 CA1 specialist and our Division, 091-26 currently has only 4 CA1 specialist. We have provided 161.5 hours of service May through June 2023.

We have stations throughout our AOR that will benefit from the services we can provide them through our Culinary Assistance Program.

CA1 Jim Frick, Traverse City reports:

*We have 2 CA1s working weekly in the galley. We're doing mostly dinner since those are ala cart and only 1 CS is on duty for dinner. We've helped with multiple larger scale daytime events, retirements, all hands meeting's- serving about 75 several times. We are currently standing duty 1 to 3 times weekly.*

*We have 2 auxiliariests who are anxious to*

*begin CS training, and one gentleman beginning the Auxiliary enrollment process solely to get his CA1 and help at the Air Station. Our goal is to provide a minimum of coverage 5 nights a week and any special events requested.*

*Our current CSs and Chief have agreed to train our new trainees with our help in the process with the OJT.*

*Every time we serve, multiple active duty members express gratitude for our service.*

### JOIN OUR MISSION:

The AUXCA Program serves to support the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary for all culinary needs. It is a very rewarding program for all participants regardless of expertise or abilities. There is a place in the AUXCA program for all members.

### Information about AUXCA1 Training @ USCGSTATION SAGINAW RIVER

**Hands-on AUXCA 1 training** necessary to complete the PQS and become certified as an AUXCA1 will be offered on 6, 7, and 8 September at the US COAST GUARD STATION SAGINAW RIVER (Essexville, MI.) This training will only be open to those members who have completed the necessary prerequisites, especially the initial Hepatitis A vaccine.

If members have not taken the AUXCA Basic Training (virtual or in person), it will be offered in person at STATION SAGINAW RIVER on Wednesday 6 SEP beginning at 1000 AM.

All students will meet at 1900 on Wednesday 6 SEP for introductions, safety briefings and galley familiarization. Actual cooking will begin at 0600 on Thursday 7 SEP.

Mentors/instructors will be the CS2 of the station, the DSO-CA of D9CR, and the BC-HCE.

Prerequisites, an exact schedule and [other information can be found here.](#)

**[To sign up for this class or the virtual basic training classes go to the AUXCA SignUp Genius here](#)**

*An in person CA1 class is also being considered for October 2023 at Station Charlevoix. More information on page 18 of this publication.*

Lynda Stolt, SO-CA 091-26

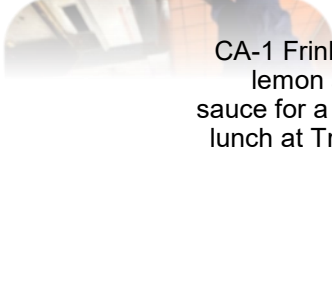


# Our Traverse City CA Team at work.

*Working the Culinary Assistance Program*



CA-1 Lavanture cooking fantastic Plantains for the lunch crew. Everyone enjoyed them. And yes, we do dishes, mop the floor, and clean everything before leaving each shift. Jim and I totally enjoy the work. You will too!



CA-1 Frink finishing a lemon and cheese sauce for a great pasta lunch at Traverse City Air Station.



CA-1 Lavanture adds spices to large pork loins in preparation of the next day's lunch. Cooked at 215 degrees for 12 hours then smoked prior to shredding.



## Got your back!

CA-1 Jim Frick and CA-1 Dick Lavanture cooking mixed vegetables on the grill with their secret spice.

**Join the TEAM**  
**Join the MISSION**



Lynda Stolt, SO-CA 091-26, [lyndastolt@gmail.com](mailto:lyndastolt@gmail.com)





# Public Education / Public Affairs

## Introducing the New Personal Watercraft (PWC) Seminar Course from the Public Education Directorate!

We are pleased to announce the launch of an exciting and comprehensive Personal Watercraft (PWC) seminar course designed to enhance safety, skills, and knowledge for PWC enthusiasts. Developed by the Public Education Directorate in consultation with PWC experts, this seminar course is designed for instructors who want to expand their flotilla's course offerings.

This course is designed to teach participants the basics of safe PWC operation, including:

- How to operate a PWC in a variety of conditions
- How to avoid accidents and injuries
- How to be a courteous and responsible PWC operator



What's new about this seminar course?

- Emphasis on safety, ensuring a safe and enjoyable PWC experience.
- Expertly crafted comprehensive curriculum with updated and enhanced graphics and videos.
- Environmental awareness that emphasizes the importance of environmental conservation and educates participants about the potential impact of PWCs on marine ecosystems.
- Updated legal and regulatory information to keep students informed and compliant.
- Certification: Upon successfully completing the course, the student will take a short exam to determine proficiency in the material and receive a completion certificate.

[PWC Seminar URL](#)



### Public Education Team

All of our Flotillas did an outstanding job this past spring and stepped up the game with Public Education.

Thank you to our PE leaders and all the instructors for the efforts made to educate our communities using our many different Boat Safety class opportunities.

# Who is Division 26?

We have six Flotillas within the Northern Great Lakes Area:

- Flotilla 26-1, Upper Great Lakes
- Flotilla 26-2, **Charlevoix**
- Flotilla 26-3, Roscommon County
- Flotilla 26-4, Alpena
- Flotilla 26-10, Traverse City
- Flotilla 26-11, Marquette



Let's learn a little bit about **"Who is" Flotilla 26-02, Station Charlevoix.**

Charlevoix Flotilla is a growing and expanding flotilla. In 2022-23 we welcomed 7 new members. All of these members bring great talents to better our flotilla. We currently have 24 members.



July meeting at Station Charlevoix

All members are onboard for furthering the reach of our active duty at Station Charlevoix and supporting them in all ways.

**AUXAIR:** Station Charlevoix is a small boat station but we are excited that we have welcomed two pilots into our Flotilla. Each of which are working toward receiving their AuxAir pilot certification and other members are interested in AuxAir Observer.

**AUXSCOUTS:** Charlevoix Flotilla is the charter organization for SeaScout (AuxScout) ship 2602. Associate member Chris Anderson is the Ships Skipper and is eagerly recruiting members to the AuxScout program. These youth are ages 14-20 and are from across Northern Michigan. We are excited to have active involvement with the youth.

Skipper Chris writes: The ship has added 2 new scouts. Kole and Harrison. We are in a transition at the moment with many of the older scouts going to college. We are recruiting younger ages around 14-16 years old.

The ship toured the USS Edson Destroyer in Bay City and went to a bridge of honor for a Quartermaster rank with the ship in Midland.

We are going on our annual east coast trip in August to visit historic places. Last year we did many maritime stops with Baltimore inner harbor and visiting 3 historic ships.

We will hold a ceremony honoring the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald on November 10 and maybe honoring the Carl D Bradley as well since it's a local wreck. Auxiliary members are invited to attend.

*(Continued on page 17)*

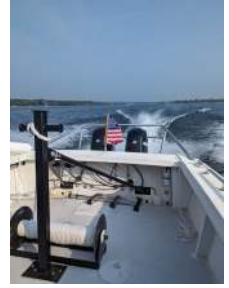
## Tell us about your Flotilla!

### Who's next? Roscommon





**FLOTILLA FACILITY:** Charlevoix Flotilla continues to support our Aux facility, recently named “Guardian R7”. R7 had her first mission at East Jordan’s Freedom Festival fireworks display. R7 will be fitted with a static stick and will be working with Air Station Traverse City’s active duty Helo-Op trainings.



Thank you Maple Tree Ice cream for the special treat and treatment.

IPFC Antanas Janavicius,  
FC Glen Stolt

FC Glen Stolt, VFC Douglas Colwell



**PUBLIC EDUCATION:** 2023 brought us a lot more Public Education than what was allowed the past few years.



Petty Officer Dalton Smith, Senior Chief Bradley Bishop, Flotilla Commander Glen Stolt present at the Charlevoix Public Library. Front row, center is Greg and Marla Weston, recruited from this event.

**CULINARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Our Culinary Assistance Program is active and we have been able to support Station Charlevoix on numerous occasions.



**GREAT NEWS for Division 26!**  
**LIVE CLASS COMING SOON to Northern Michigan!**

**FUN ~ INFORMATIVE ~ INTERACTIVE**

If you are interested in the AUXCA Program, please contact me

Lynda Stolt, SO-CA 091-26 [lyndastolt@gmail.com](mailto:lyndastolt@gmail.com), 231-330-3610.

I hope to host a training weekend at Station Charlevoix in October 2023. Senior Chief Bradley has eagerly and graciously offered the use of Station Charlevoix. We are seeking qualified trainer(s) who are willing to travel north.

**Before the class meets, you must:**

- Have a favorable OS-PSI, evidenced in AuxDATA by an IQ, BQ, or AX member status. BQ or AX status must be achieved prior to qualification.
- Been interviewed by a SO-CA – provide a copy of the interview email for inclusion with the PQS
- Take the Introduction to Risk Management online class.
- Take ICS 100 and ICS 700 from fema.gov.

- Be current with AUXCT (Core Training)
- Have taken BCQ2
- Have taken at least the first dose of the Hep A vaccine – your Health Care provider should sign the PQS or you may bring a copy of the vaccine certificate. *Please note – this is a mandatory requirement prior to working in a CG Galley. The second dose must be taken within 6 months to maintain a qualification.*
- The member’s health care provider must complete the Record of Medical Examination on page 3 of the PQS – this is required prior to certification.

At the end of the class you will have the experience sufficient to complete the AUXCA1 PQS and become qualified as an AUXCA1.



**AUXPAD:** Charlevoix Flotilla is an active supporter of the AUXPAD Program. *Page 9 of this publication highlights a recent AUXPAD event.*

**WATCHSTANDING:** Charlevoix Flotilla has a new member in training and another beginning soon who is eager to support our Division through watchstanding.

**OPERATIONS:** Charlevoix Flotilla is always willing to get out on the water for operations and training. We have 3 facilities and we aim to support our station as needed. Members throughout our division are encouraged to take the opportunity to join us on the water.

**OUR TEAM:** We are so encouraged by our membership. We are a group that continues to grow together with a heart to serve in so many different mission areas of the Auxiliary. We strive to be a benefit to our local station and use our training and skills to assist the Flotilla, Division, District and Nation.

Above all else, Charlevoix Flotilla is always on the ready to support our small boat station, Station Charlevoix.

### 26-02 PROUD!



Back home following the Bay Harbor Fireworks with the Charlevoix Draw Bridge behind us.



Photos provided by Eric Kessler while patrolling the Bay Harbor Fireworks aboard Aux Facility Saunter 26-02.

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

#### Why do we ask for project deadlines?

Deadlines help us to “**team up**” toward achieving a shared goal, and to keep projects on track to establish expectations. Deadlines make clear what we're expected to deliver and when. This means that we can take control of our work and lessen confusion and frustration.

A deadline is meant to prompt people to take action in a timely manner, and consequently reduce the likelihood of procrastination.

Missing deadlines is a leading cause of project failure. It can cause frustrations, delays, put projects at risk, and disrupt team and work flows.



# Top O'Michigan Outboard Marathon National Championship

Submitted by Tom Griseto, FC 26-01



The Top O'Michigan Outboard Marathon National Championship race will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2023. Race weekend is Aug. 12 and 13. Starting point: DeVoe Beach, Indian River.

***This year we will have CG Auxiliary representation from the Upper Great Lakes, Charlevoix and Traverse City Flotillas with 4 facilities and several auxiliary members at the ready to assist the event and participants.***

Top O' Michigan is highly competitive. For both drivers and spectators, the race ends up being something of an annual reunion. Many of the thousands of spectators who line the shorelines plan vacations around the race. Community members and local law enforcement agencies assist in patrol boats to help make the race safe and help racers when they break down. Over the decades, the race has become part of the area's culture.

Unlike closed-course races that go round and round in laps on a single lake or river, the Top O' Michigan race is a marathon with a little bit of everything: open water on Burt, Mullett and Crooked Lakes that can be pleasant enough to skim across at full throttle or have white capped waves that pound boats and drivers just trying to finish the race. The Indian, Cheboygan and Crooked Rivers include tight turns where drivers move forward in the cockpit and lean to bring boats around and also have straight stretches where drivers slide to the back of the boat, crouch down, squeeze the throttle and feel the rush as the boat accelerates.

The race is organized by the Top O' Michigan Outboard Racing Club, a group of volunteers that meets throughout the year and spends many hours doing the work necessary to have the race carry on as a Northern Michigan tradition. In recognition of the race's 75th anniversary, the racing club is planning to have special events. They want to have a Saturday night celebration with live music and food, boats on display, and a meet-and-greet for people to talk with veteran racers.





# Meet our newest Auxiliarists

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

WOW our Division has recruited 26 new members in the past 12 months.

### Upper Great Lakes 26-01, 3 new members

Robert Stowe -

Mark Meiners -

Francene Barbro-Meiners -



### Charlevoix 26-02, 7 new members

Jeff Anderson, Club Manager at the Chicago

Club Charlevoix. Jeff grew up in Garden City, Michigan and received his Bachelor's degree in Business from The School of Hospitality Business at MSU. Jeff has been in the private club business since starting his career nearly 35 years ago. He has managed city clubs, country clubs and home owner association clubs. He received his CCM (Certified Club Manager) and his CCE (Certified Chief Executive) designations from CMAA (Club Managers Association of



America). Jeff has been an active member in Rotary for over 23 years and is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Charlevoix. He also serves on the Charlevoix Chamber of Commerce Board as a Director. Jeff and his wife Jackie and have two children son Brady and Carly. They split time between the Chicago Club Manager's residence and their condo in Harbor Springs. Jeff, a longtime lover of Boats, has enjoyed spending time on Torch Lake for over 30 year at his wife Jackie's family home.



Scott Barrett from Central Lake. I have 32 years in Law Enforcement and am currently serving as the Chief of Police in Central Lake. I have three adult children, and one granddaughter.

I joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary after hearing a promotional interview on WTCM Radio. I hope to retire soon and spend more time helping out with the auxiliary.

In my free time I enjoy building and working on cars.



My name is Scott Basel. I rejoined the Auxiliary in 2019 and the Charlevoix Flotilla in 2022. As a pilot, my initial interest was in Aviation, and I became an Air Observer. I am a lawyer and was appointed as an Assistant District Staff Officer – Legal (ADSO-LP). Another reason to join the AUX was a desire to augment the Coast Guard. I was able to do that by

deploying to the Southwest Border in support of the U. S. Customs and Border Protection Agency. It was a privilege to be allowed to serve alongside active-duty Coast Guard members and all the agencies involved with securing ur nation's border.

I have been a lawyer for nearly 20 years. Wanting to put my law degree to better use, I joined the Michigan Army National Guard and served as a judge advocate, leaving the military at the rank of Major in 2018. I am looking forward to beginning watch stander training soon in support of Coast Guard Station Charlevoix.





**Rich Borowitz:** I grew up in the Detroit area as the only child of an auto worker and a homemaker. I got my bachelor's degree from Oakland University in Rochester and met my wife Anne there. We loved the Rochester area and lived there for 30 plus years, except for 2 years living in Chicago where I got my Master's degree in Computer Science at DePaul. In 2020 we got tired of the rat race and moved to Boyne City, where we live now. We have 3 grown children who are thankfully all gainfully employed and self-

sufficient. My wife teaches and works as a gardener, and I've been working in IT for many years. I currently work from home for Wells Fargo Bank. Moving towards retirement, I've been looking for volunteer opportunities that are organized, physically active, with a clear purpose, and where I can apply my skills to help others. I saw a TV commercial for the Auxiliary and then did some research and new immediately that was a good fit. So far I've been very happy with my experience in the Charlevoix flotilla - the camaraderie and friendliness of the group has far exceeded my hopes and expectations. I look forward to many more missions and other activities with the Auxiliary.

**Tom Cook –Charlevoix**

**Greg and Marla Weston** live in Traverse

City, and spend weekends in Charlevoix. They enjoy sailing and kayaking. Greg is a lifelong summer resident of Charlevoix, whose first exposure to boating was a Coast Guard

Auxiliary sailing course when he was 7 years old. Greg is an Assistant Prosecuting

Attorney for Charlevoix County. Marla

works for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as a TSA Officer at the Traverse City Airport.

Greg and Marla came to us through a presentation we held at the Charlevoix Public Library. To date they have been very active as

crew trainees and are expediting all the requirements for BQ.



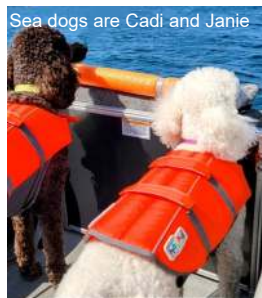
**Roscommon 26-03, 1 new member**

**Larry Williams:** I grew up on Watkins Lake in Waterford, and Rattalee Lake in Holly, Michigan. I have owned boats since 1963, from a 12 ft. aluminum, with a 5-hp outboard, to a 25 ft. cuddy cabin with a stern drive.

I worked as a field service technician on EMD diesels on great lakes freighters and most recently retired from our equine event photography business after 30 yeas of service to the equine photography industry.

I currently live happily in Northern Michigan, near Higgins Lake. We recently traded in our bow rider for a pontoon that provides comfort and relaxation for us, and our 2 standard poodles.

While on vacation in Englewood, Fl., we visited the local downtown market where we met the local Coast Guard Auxiliary members that were providing information about boater safety and vessel inspections. Prior to orientation, and taking delivery of our new boat, we requested a vessel safety inspection online through the Coast Guard Auxiliary website. We were promptly contacted by James Munger to arrange an appointment to provide that service. During the inspection of our boat, Mr. Munger asked if I would be interested in joining the Auxiliary. After doing some research and attending their meeting, it looked like a good fit. Now it's time for further education and quality time with good people.



## Alpena 26-04, 2 new members

**George Liscic** is a retired Federal Employee with 35 years of service.

He served as The Chief, Internal Security Operations, US Department of Energy at Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Production Facility, Colorado. In this capacity he directly managed a federal staff of field investigators, analysts, polygraph testers and interviewers. He served as the primary point of contact, coordinating with contract Board Certified Psychiatrists Drug Testing Laboratory and federal and contractor Attorneys in determining eligibility, granting, suspending and revoking "Q" level security clearance for nuclear weapons production personnel.



He served as a senior Organization Development and Effectiveness Internal Consultant in The US Department of Energy, US Office of Personnel Management and The National Park Service. In his role he served as a trusted advisor to senior career civil servants and senior political appointees in these organizations, leading large scale change initiatives designed to increase organizational performance and results.

He is an Eagle Scout, Army Veteran and devoted husband. He joined the USCGAUX to learn new skills and continue to engage in public service.

**Michael Manchester—Alpena**

## Traverse City 26-10, 8 new members

**Chelley Vician** retired in 2021 after an information systems career spanning academia (1990-2021, university professor 1994 onward) and industry (1981-1990). With her husband, Larry Davis, she moved to the Traverse City, Michigan area in Summer 2022. She is now enjoying her interests, hobbies, and passions now that she has more time under her control!

Why did I join the Auxiliary?

Although family and career were both priorities for me, I've always tried to provide service to something larger than myself. Prior to retirement, the service tended to be church-related, our daughter's school-or-activity-related (e.g., Girl Scouts), and work-



related. My family has numerous members who have served our country through the military and I've always admired their service, though my own life did not have much room for me to do so earlier. While I sat in the May 2023 boating safety classes, and heard more about the volunteer Auxiliary and what we do in the community and for the Coast Guard, I wanted to learn more about such opportunities. With the help of my flotilla members, I learned about options like being an Air Observer and helping with Communications and Watch Standing. I'm excited to work on my training and to begin serving more actively with my flotilla!



**Jeffrey Jaeger** is a merchant mariner who is currently working on his unlimited third mate's license and first class pilotage for the Great Lakes at Great Lakes Maritime Academy in Traverse City, MI. He is also a medical examiner investigator for several counties in northern Michigan. Jeff is a former law enforcement officer and served in the US Army in both enlisted and commissioned roles in the infantry. He joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary to further develop his maritime skills, use those skills to help others, and to continue his long history of public service.

**James Adair** is retired and worked 38 years in the Natural Gas Industry in many roles for pipeline and storage ops. Served in the US Navy and Army active and reserve and then retired from the Army after 27 years total.

I joined the Auxiliary to help enhance boater safety and protect the Great Lakes water quality. A goal is to accomplish AuxOP and be active in my roles of FVC, FSO-MT, FSO-NS and DSO-NS and gain additional training in all areas. I would like to assist where possible and remain flexible and open for further growth in the Auxiliary.

**Denise DeKett** I am retired from the State of Michigan, living south of TC for approximately 8 years. My husband, Jim of 44 years, is also in the AUX, we joined together. We moved Up State mainly because our son, DIL, and grandson are here in the area. Our daughter is in AZ.



I have a degree in Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, and a Masters in Political Science. After I retired, and have taught CJ at SVSU. I loved teaching.

I mainly joined the AUX to teach, educate on boater safety, and to be on the water. I have kayaked for over 35 years, and it is in my soul. I am really not interested in motor boats, but we have two. My second joy is swimming, if I am not on the water, I want to be in the water, all the time. Jim and I do our community service work around hiking, we are both sawyers for the National Park Service, and maintain sections of the North Country Trails in the area. We also do service work with the kayaks for the Ironman in Frankfort, supporting the swimmers with our kayaks why they are doing the swim portion of the Ironman (the USCG was there last year), we partake in the Paddle Atrium helping kayakers prepare and paddle the 42 miles. During the past 20 years, it as been very apparent of kayaker deaths. Many have died in the area of Port Austin near where Jim and I raised our children for 33 years. Jim and I both know the importance of paddle safety. It is very sad to see people with little if any knowledge, buying kayaks from Walmart and taking them on the water. I

wish more took safety classes. Many deaths could be avoided. There is a lot to know being on the water with a kayak.

Jim and I both feel it is important to be and give back to the community in some way. Since my knowledge is in the kayaking, that is all I can really give, or really want to, however,

if there was a need, I could help in other ways. I think the public needs to be reached and understand there is more to learn about paddle sports. (thus I reached out to Tom Walker) I really think I can help on educating the public through those public groups that have a desire to learn more like the Rotary, Optimist, Newcomers, through speaking to them about safety, and other public events by just our presence and literature. (I have done this by setting tents/booths up last year at farmers markets, passing out literature and talking to people about the NCT). I think this is very beneficial, and I am good at it. However, I do not know enough about the CG to do it alone, this year.

I would like to set up about six events this year to be at and to do this, but only with a skilled and knowledgeable member.

Also if there ever comes a time, when more classes are needed to be taught on boater safety, I would be interested in teaching these classes. When I completed my training for the AUXPAD Operator, TCO, and instructors training, I would then be interested in cooking.

Little, by little, I am working my way there, but it is way slower than I wanted!

**Jim DeKett** - Worked in auto plants, retired as Machine Repairman. Also 7 years working as an A+ Certified computer technician. When retired I joined the Auxiliary because my wife wanted to join. The intent was to spend time doing things together.

Her focus is paddle safety. There are too many stories of unskilled and uneducated kayaker's out there risking their life and the lives of their family's.

My expectations and goals are to first assist her in that endeavor and then find areas that I can be productive and of use to the flotilla.





**Thad Shumway** I'm a lifelong Michigan resident born in Lansing on 10-1-1962; currently living in Traverse City; I have 3 adult children and 3 Grandchildren; I am the owner/operator of a Natural Gas Marketing Company that services oil and gas producers in Northern Michigan; I'm a golfer, fisherman and active outdoorsman.

I love being on the water, and have always appreciated the Coast Guards mission to aid and assist boaters; I'm looking forward to the fellowship and the feeling of assisting those I admire in the Armed Services.

I want to be used on the water for search and rescue or similar activities in support of the Coast Guard; As I get ready to retire from full time work, I want a "purpose" for that next season of my career.

**James Millar**—Traverse City

**Audrey Ouillette** - Traverse City

## Marquette 26-11, 5 new members

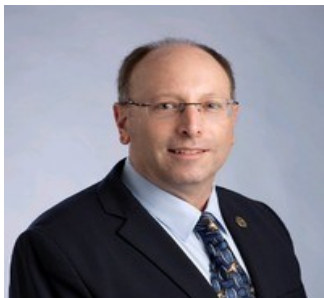
**Ann Silverman** I am a retired gastroenterologist. I did research, taught medical students, residents, and fellows and saw patients at various hospitals in Michigan. I retired about 3 years ago. In the summer I do volunteer guided tours of the Marquette Lighthouse. I enjoy kayaking and paddle boarding in bodies of water around Lake Superior. During the school year I work as



a substitute teacher hoping to excite children to explore the sciences and consider medicine as a career. I hope to work with people in the UP of Michigan teaching safety for small crafts on Lake Superior. I am also hoping to be a liason with the media to advertise the advantages of a career in the Coast Guard. I have 4 adult children and 5 grandchildren.

**Jay Spreitzer** Jay is the Senior Vice President on the Strategic Intelligence Outreach Team at Wells Fargo Bank. He previously was the APAC Information Security Lead for 6 years based in Hong Kong and team lead for the cyber threat intelligence team for 11 years at Wells Fargo. Jay retired from the US Army, after 23 years of service working in various technology and information security roles. Jay served overseas in Germany, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea.

Jay is a volunteer firefighter for the Eagle Harbor Township and the Keweenaw County Sheriff Search and Rescue team. He was an active member of Civil Air Patrol member for over 15 years first as a cadet and later as senior member. He has also volunteered abroad in the Philippines multiple times in remote villages, building schools, churches, toilets and teaching first aid and survival classes.



Jay holds a BS in Information Technology and a MS in Information Assurance and Security. He completed the Criminal Intelligence Analyst Course, and the FBI Citizen's Academy. He holds GIAC Continuous Monitoring and Security Operations, Enterprise Defender, Forensic Analyst, Cloud Security, Open-Source Intelligence, and Incident Handler certifications.

Jay has been an active member of the Board of Directors for the FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association and Minnesota InfraGard. He is also a past chair of the APAC Threat Intelligence Committee for the Financial Services – Information Sharing Analysis Center (FS-ISAC).

**Kyle Button** - Marquette

**Caleb Nimee** - Marquette

**Gerald Cory** - Marquette

**Soooooo happy you joined our**

**TEAM!**

**TEAMWORK**  
—→  
*makes the dream work...*



# Charlevoix Auxiliary Boat School Success!!

Click here for [2023 Charlevoix Boat School Photos](#)

*Photos with the name Lynda Stolt were posted by Lynda but they were taken by Doc Borth*

Even with 4 late cancellations and 4 no-shows our annual boat school still had great representation of:

- 091-26: 23 members
- 091-22: 3 members
- 091-16: 1 member
- 091-18: 1 member
- 091-20: 2 members
- 091-30: 1 member
- 2 members of Air-Station TC
- 4 members of CG Auxiliary- Canada

Members from across our district and our Canadian counter-parts descended upon Station Charlevoix for a weekend of gain. For the gain of skill, for the gain of certifications and for the gain of friendships. As a result of this weekend our District gained qualified Coxswains, Crew, Watchstanders and Culinary Assistance, through first time certifications, re-certifications, needed hours and night ops to correct REYR status or remain 2023 current.



## Boat School 2024

Planning for Boat School 2024 has already begun. We will be forming a planning committee soon. If there is another flotilla that would like to ACTIVELY co-facilitate this event along-side us, contact us as soon as you are able.

Boat School 2024 will be a pre-pay event. Why? Because we begin to make food purchases 2 weeks prior to the event based on the number

registered. This year we planned on 8 additional registrants. We don't cushion our cost or aim to profit from the event. Late cancellations and no-shows create a financial challenge. We provide meals at no charge to our active duty on station out of appreciation of all they do for all of us. Pre-pay will help to budget more effectively.



## Boat School Comments

Scott Walker on behalf of the Canadian Crew wrote: Everyone enjoyed themselves and it was another excellent weekend. Thanks for all that you do for the Boat School as well.

Great job on Boat School and the meals were fantastic! Sue Warren

AuxCA1s Sue Thurlow and Lynda Stolt prepare for breakfast



AuxCA1s Lynda Stolt and Rob Kerr placing marinated pork loins on the Traeger Grill.

Thanks for all the hard work. Well organized and well attended.

James C. Frick, MS, PA-C, DFAAPA

Greetings to my fellow Auxiliarists,

I wanted to give you my impression of our recent Boat School in early June as a fairly new member and newly certified Boat Crew Member. I didn't know what to expect, but if I had any they were far exceeded! Working with so many auxiliarists at once along with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary members. The training was challenging, realistic, and fun! I really enjoyed all the skills building and training scenarios. The chow was truly exceptional and really hit the spot every time. The various classroom training sessions were just long enough to understand the material without wasting anyone's time. I feel confident about future operations and am excited about what the USCG Auxiliary has in store!

Semper Paratus! Eric Kessler

Denise DeKett wrote that her favorite experiences of the event were: food! camaraderie, the free clothes, PFD's and the boat rides.

A suggestions was: "As Guardians of the Great Lakes, I would think we would have more respect for our actions as it pertained to plastic, non reusable water bottles. As most know, our single use plastic is only 6-9 % recycled, the rest is in landfills and oceans. It is convenience vs waste. It needs to start somewhere, so for me, I choose, the reusable. Some day I would like to see the single use plastic not available."

*We appreciate helpful suggestions for a better Boat School experience. Next year we will encourage participants to bring their own reusable water bottles. However, our facilities will have water bottles available to them while on the water training. LS*

She also writes, "it was a very new and different experience. I learned SO much, and met SO many nice people. I thought about the center cut pork ALL the way home. Wished I had room to have eaten two! They were so good.

Thanks for feeding me well. I hesitated eating there (dietary restrictions), but there was plenty for me.

I also enjoyed my time at Fisherman's Island State Park. That was nice. The beach was great at night."



### Thank you to our August 2023 In Vision 26 Contributors

Lynda Stolt  
Mike Harbin  
Kateri Janavicius  
Glen Stolt  
Tom Griseto  
James Munger  
John Maynard

Glen Stolt  
Jim Frick  
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Chris Anderson  
Eric Kessler  
Scott Basel  
Rich Borowitz

Greg and Marla Weston  
George Liscic  
Ann Silverman  
Denise DeKett  
Jeff Anderson

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