



Seventh Coast Guard District Auxiliary  
 Flotilla 56 Vero Beach-Sebastian Florida  
 The Indian River Pilot



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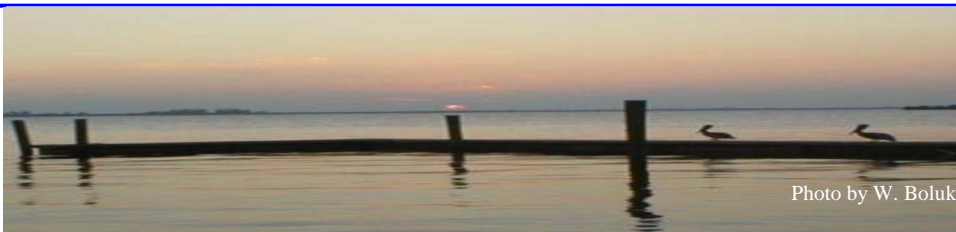


Photo by W. Boluk

APRIL-MAY  
 2009

Frederick C. Combs  
 Flotilla Commander

Linda Boluk, Editor  
 FSO-PUBLICATIONS

William T. Boluk  
 Flotilla Vice Commander

FLOTILLA PHONE # 772-453-9042

**FROM THE HELM**

It's been pretty busy so far this year, Flotilla 56 has successfully negotiated the series of late winter special events and festivals which we all look forward to each year. We dined well from the Holiday Party in December to our picnic following the Vero Beach Spring Boat Show in April.

We significantly improved our appearance and profile at public affairs events with a new tent, signs and banner.

We plotted and navigated our way across the 1210 TR Chart in a valiant attempt to get from NAV A to NAV B (Congratulations to all on NAV A; the jury is still out on NAV B).

We now have a firm grasp on emergency preparedness due to the ICS 210 training.

And we moved from one temporary meeting place, the First Presbyterian Church in Vero Beach, to another the old City Council Chambers in Sebastian. We continue to throw ourselves into the breach to do whatever is necessary to support Flotilla activities. We continue to keep everyone informed of Flotilla plans and accomplishments. We also continued to work with the ANT at Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce, conduct patrols, and train the public as part of our efforts to promote boating safety.

Now we are in the midst of planning activities for National Safe Boating Week and preparing for that part of the year when we expect really big emergencies. We have been working with the City of Vero Beach to conduct vessel inspections on May 9, and we are working with Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce for the Station's Open House on May 16.

Our emergency planning efforts are being geared towards realistic expectations for performance in the event of either adverse weather or man-made events.

That's a lot of success for a Flotilla in a small, quiet region in this state. It reflects a lot of care, a lot of devotion to duty and a lot of work. I'd like to thank our members for their accomplishments.

Fredrick Combs  
 Flotilla Commander

## VICE COMMANDERS REPORT

Summer is coming on fast and most of our valued “Snow – Bird” Visitors will be heading for cooler climates again. Those of us left behind to sweat it out will continue the Flotilla’s missions.

We have several people who are due for QE requalification. So we will be conducting training missions for them to sharpen up their skills. Summer is a busy boating season and we need to be active in Operations.

On March 21<sup>st</sup> I stood in for Flotilla Commander Combs at a meeting of Flotilla Commanders with CO Kagarise at Station Fort Pierce. Some of the items discussed were:

- Rescue 21 System – not yet on line at Station Fort Pierce, hope to have it activated in May 2009
- The new 42’ RBM Response Boat will replace the 47 footer sometime in 2010
- July 10<sup>th</sup> 1700 COW for Station Commander Kagarise ,who will be going to new billet in California
- The number of SAR cases has gone down, however law enforcement and migrant interdiction, usually with drugs on board has gone up.
- Station is putting together a SAR exercise with both the Gold side and Auxiliary Air & Surface operations participating.
- Station is requesting all Flotillas assigned to Station Fort Pierce to conduct Patrols during 2 day Mini-Lobster season in July
- Station could use more Auxiliarists to qualify as Radio Watch standers
- Flotilla 59, 58, 56, all expressed concern about , length of time it takes to get crew and Coxswain qualifications into AUXDATA.

Remember **Station Fort Pierce Open House on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>**. Let’s have a **LARGE** turnout of members from our Flotilla for this event. See Rich Steinbach FSO-PA for details.

FC Combs and I checked out our new **meeting location**, Sebastian City Hall Annex, the old City Council Chamber building, at 1225 Main St. in Sebastian. It is a good facility with plenty of seats and tables.

Bill Boluk Vice Commander

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## MAD MARINER FREE ONLINE PUBLICATION

The online daily boating magazine and web-based resource for boaters, is offering free one-year subscriptions to Auxiliarists. You get a new feature story every single day, marine news, blogs, forums, boat reviews, video podcasts and more. Go to <http://shopauxiliary.com/>, then click on Members Only; log in and click on Mad Mariner.

From: e-NEWS 3/31/09

## **A MESSAGE FROM DIVISION 5 COMMANDER**

I just completed a review of the ICS210 record keeping. I cross checked all our students in the four classes and matched against the reports in AuxInfo. I am happy to report that all the students that took the classes have all been entered properly. Only two students, one from 51 and one from 57, are still pending entry and that is because they did not have member numbers yet.

We provided training for 86 of our division members, 6 from other districts and 19 Active Duty members, for a total of 111 personnel.

This was a tremendous effort on everyone's part and could not have been accomplished without the total support of our station commanders. Their hospitality and dedication to our people was highly evident. BOSN Mullinax and BOSN Kagarise, we thank you for the support and effort you provided to this mission. It would have been impossible without it.

LCDR Rooke, upon learning that our personnel in northern flotillas might have to travel as far as four hours round trip to attend classes in Lake Worth, immediately set in motion the classes at Ft. Pierce. Again, the support of LCDR Rooke demonstrated the overall support of this mission and of our personnel by the active duty. Thank you from all of us.

I want to thank everyone, and especially our FC's, for your efforts, for returning my numerous emails as we put things together, and for providing the leadership needed to make this combined effort a success. Bravo Zulu to all!

Should there be anyone left that needs the 210 course, have your FSO-MT keep a close eye on class schedules. Even though there has been an extension on the class date, there are precious few classes scheduled and even less for next year. Get them in the first class available.

Respectfully  
Dan Jacquish DC

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## **OPERATIONS REPORT**

Year to date we have done 17 vessel patrols. In March we did 6 patrols with 1 cancelled due to lack of a Coxswain.

POMS has had some problems since early January, but they seem to be mostly fixed now. 5132 form approvals had been slow since Jan, but most of our outstanding 5132's have now been processed and sent to the finance center in mid March.

Remember the yearly mandatory (for OP's) TCT class plus the non-mandatory OP's workshop and other workshops will be given Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Phelps, FSO-OP

# **U. S. COAST GUARD OPEN HOUSE**

**900 Seaway Drive Fort Pierce, FL**

**Saturday May 16  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

## **Support National Safe Boating Week & Enjoy the Activities**

- **Tours of Coast Guard Cutters**
- **High Speed & Heavy Weather Patrol Boats**
- **Coast Guard Helicopter Rescue Demonstration**
- **In-water Life Jacket Demonstration**
- **Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission Marine Units**
- **St. Lucie County Marine Units**
- **Learn About the Coast Guard Auxiliary & the Part You Can Play**
- **Flare Demonstration by Chapman School of Seamanship**

## **Special Attractions for Children**

- **Smithsonian Institute Touch Tank**
- **Meet Coast Guard Members**
- **See Rescue Boats & Helicopters In Action**
- 

**Food & Refreshments Available**

**Free Parking**

**No Admission Charge**

***You & The Coast Guard....Partners In Safe Boating***

## **AIR OPERATIONS**

### **RIGHT WHALES OBSERVED**

On February 27th while flying with Dave Caswell (pilot 56) we came across a pod of Right Whales approximately 2 miles outside the Jacksonville Inlet. Right Whales are the rarest of all large whales. These whales live in temperate Atlantic or Pacific waters, often near the coast and in shallow waters. There are only 300 Right Whales in the North Atlantic.

Adults are generally between 45 and 55 feet in length and can weigh up to 70 tons. Females are larger than males and calves are 13-15 feet in length at birth.

It definitely made our day to see so many whales in one area. In all of the years I have been an Air Observer that day was one of the best.

Janee R. Henderson, Air Observer



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### **JOINT SEARCH & RESCUE EXERESSES**

A Search and Rescue exercise using Flotilla 56 ,58 & 59 surface facilities, 56's Air facility and Station Ft. Pierce is being planned for April 28<sup>th</sup>. As of this writing details are being discussed.

Also the Aux Air has been supporting boat station Brunswick Georgia for the last 3 weeks. Its nice to have the Coast Guard Stations using the Aux Air. We are hoping more stations will pick up on this activity and start using the air program as well. It's a break from safety patrols.

Dave Caswel ARFP (Air Program First Pilot)

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NEXT STAFF & FLOTILLA MEETING TUESDAY MAY 19TH  
STAFF MEETING 1800 GENERAL MEETING 1900  
SEBASTIAN CITY HALL ANNEX 1245 MAIN STREET SEBASTIN  
DEADLINE NEXT *PILOT* TUESDAY MAY 26TH  
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO LINDA BOLUK FSO-PB @ [lindybok@yahoo.com](mailto:lindybok@yahoo.com) OR MAIL TO  
530 DRAWDY WAY SEBASTIAN, FL 32958

## PATROLS

We were once again requested to support the Fort Pierce ANT. Our crew consisted of Harvey Niblack, Mike Wisniewski from 56 and Steffie Danforth from 58. After launching at 0900 Tuesday, 10 Feb. we got a call that they would be doing Pyros off the dock at the Station around 0930 and after that they would meet us in the turning basin for towing.

Needless to say we wanted to watch the Pyros so we stayed close by to the station while patrolling. It appeared as though they were training troops on the proper use of the devices so it took longer than they had originally estimated.

While waiting to see the Pyros, we heard several "Securite" broadcasts that the Right Whales were spotted between Sebastian and Fort Pierce inlets. We really wanted to go out and look for them, but we had to stay inside to support the ANT.

It was really cool to watch and to see how short lived the aerial flares are. They go up and fizzle out shortly after they reach their zenith and begin to fall. This makes you think about shooting them up when there may be no one in sight of them.

The Orange Smoke Flares sure put out a lot of smoke and they lasted much longer than the aerals. Of course they do not have the height of aerals, so height of eye and horizon affect the visibility distance.

The longest lasting flares were the Parachute Flares. They achieved great height and lasted a long time as they slowly drifted down.

After the Pyros we went to the Turning Basin to meet up with the CG Team. While waiting for them we heard police sirens on Seaway Drive and watched as a police car came quickly under the bridge to the waters edge. The officer went out on the catwalk and talked to the fishermen. Then the Coast Guard Boat came racing up with lights flashing followed by the Sheriff's boat and the State Law Enforcement.

Unfortunately since we were on the north side of the south bridge we didn't see the guy jump off on the south side. The jumper did it in an attempt to impress someone to give him a job. It was been replayed on the news for two days. The jumper just swam to shore and to the waiting police.

Soon the ANT got there. It appeared to be a Coxswain in training working on his towing tasks. As usual they did a good job, first towing us astern by a bridle that was presented to us by two heaving lines, (one on each leg of the bridle). After breaking the stern tow, they came alongside and took us in a side tow.

After all that excitement we had worked up an appetite so we patrolled north in the ICW to Vero Beach for lunch. Along the way we informed some fisherpersion about the potential negative effects of tying up to ICW Day Markers and anchoring in the ICW.

19 February Rich Steinbach, Bob Stickle, Mike Wisniewski under the guidance of Coxswain Fred Schlachter worked with the ANT Team practicing towing.

On 14 Dec 2008 we helped clear a path for the CG Cutter Drummond to get to Harbor Branch for some retrofitting. On 25 February Drummond left Harbor Branch to return to its port. The Coast Guard had adequate small boats available so they didn't need us to help. That gave us a good opportunity to photograph the event.

(Continued from page 6)

We were called upon that day to check out a reported leaning day marker in the ICW right at the turning basin. Number 187 was leaning significantly. It is on a heavy gauge steel post. I'd like to see the craft that hit it.

Harvey Niblack FSO-MT



ABOVE: Harvey Niblack at helm. Steffie Danforth in rear.



ABOVE: Mike Wisniewski & in rear Harvey Niblack.

AT RIGHT: Station Fort Pierce ANT boat & crew.



AT LEFT: Damaged day marker.  
AT RIGHT: VDS practice at station pier.



AT RIGHT: Clearing way for the Drummond's departure.



Photos submitted by Harvey Niblack

## **2009 INDIAN RIVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S BBQ**

Once again Flotilla 56 took part in the annual Indian River County Sheriff's BBQ to benefit the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch held at the Sheriff's Office complex on March 4th 2009 by providing a display table with safe boating brochures, life jackets and interactive Marlinespike display. In addition Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce provided, for static display, their 24' Patrol boat along with two crew members. Over 2800 people attended the BBQ many of which visited our display. We answered many questions regarding boat safety, rules of the road and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. One person signed up for the "About Safe Boating" class and two expressed interest in joining the Auxiliary.

The children were mesmerized by John Johnson's knot and line demonstrations and took an active part in learning about "Marlinespike Seamanship". The Patrol Boat was also a big hit, the "Coasties" invited the kids aboard for a tour, they came aboard a bit tentative but disembarked wide eyed and excited about their experience.

Sheriff, Daryl Loar thanked us for our support by providing a delicious complementary BBQ dinner and an invitation to participate again next year.

A huge thank you to those who made our participation in the event possible, our watch standers - Dick Woodbury, John Johnson, Bob Beer, Anthony DelGaudio, and Dave Caswell

Rich Steinbach FSO-PA,

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## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF REPORT APRIL**

Spring Boat Show - Held at Riverside Park, Vero Beach on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Our new display tent, signage and table cover marked Flotilla 56's presence. Estimated attendance was 2200 to 2300. Many of the attendees visited our display requesting information on boating rules, regulations and safety. Eight people signed up for and attended the 11 April "About Boating Safety" course. In addition two students expressed interest in becoming new members.

Many thanks to Bill Boluk for taking the lead on this event and to those who helped with set up/take down and Watchstander's: Dave Caswell, Don Rienzo, Frans Eyberse, Diane Buck, Neal Buck, Hank Dinunno, Linda Boluk, Bill Furphy, Agnes Mical, Harvey Niblack, Barney Giordan, Peggy VanGinhoven, Dom Demunda and our winter members, Dick Woodbury, Vic Silvestrini, Bob Stickle and Helen Horton.

Final Preparations are being made for – Safe Boating Week Vessel Exam Blitz on 09 May and the Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce Open House on 16 May. The Watch Stand Schedule will be distributed at the 21 April meeting.

Rich Steinbach FSO-PA

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## **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

So far this year we have had good enrollment for the two "ABOUT BOATING SAFELY" programs we offered. We had 10 students at the April 11<sup>th</sup> class. Next class is scheduled for Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> at the old Sebastian City Council Chambers. I have scheduled a PE class for August and October also at the old chamber facility.



# Sheriff



DERYL LOAR • INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

MEMBER FLORIDA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION  
MEMBER OF NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

4055 41st AVENUE

VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32960-1802

PHONE (772) 569-6700

March 23, 2009

Mr. Rich Steinbach  
Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 56  
4725 Josephine Manor SW  
Vero Beach, FL 32968

Dear Mr. Steinbach:

On behalf of the Indian River County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, I would like to personally thank you for participating in the static display at our annual barbecue.

Because of the generous support you and our community provided for our 15th annual barbecue fund raiser, we are going to be able to present a check for over \$41,000 to the Youth Ranches this year! During these rough economic times, you can be very proud to have played a part in helping these children.

Again, my thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deryl Loar". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Deryl Loar, Sheriff

DL:mej

The 173rd Internationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency  
Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Incorporated



## 2009 PELICAN ISLAND WILDLIFE FESTIVAL

Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> was an overcast, wet and windy day, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the large crowd that came out to enjoy the 2009 Pelican Island Wildlife Festival.

According to the Festival coordinator a near record attendance of 7900 was set, in spite of the weather conditions. Attendees enjoyed wildlife shows, performances by local Indian tribes and President Teddy Roosevelt himself as Master of Ceremonies.

Many of the attendees stopped by our booth seeking information and asking questions about boating safety. Once again John Johnson and his Marlinespike demonstrations were the hit of the show.

Two people signed up for vessel exams, two signed up for "About Safe Boating" classes and one requested additional information about joining the Auxiliary.

A big thanks to our watch standers, many of whom worked the entire day; Bill Boluk, Linda Boluk, John Johnson, Dick Woodbury, Bob Beer, Fred Combs, Agnes Mical and Don Rienzo who helped with loading my truck and setup.

Rich Steinbach FSO-PA



Sheriffs BBQ March 4:  
Above: 24 foot patrol boat with 2 "Coasties" was a popular display.  
Below: John Johnson doing his knot demonstration for a visitor to our booth.

All photos by Dick Woodbury

Above: John Johnson with his marlinespike display  
Below: Dick Woodbury, John Johnson & Rich Steinbach





Pelican Island Wildlife Festival March 9

Above Left: Dick Woodbury.

Above Right: L-R John Johnson, Bill Boluk, Dick Woodbury.

Middle: Rain did not dampen these youngsters amazement of John Johnson's knot tying.

Right : Agnes Mical & Linda Boluk.

Photos by Dick Woodbury & Rich Steinbach



April Boat Show  
 Photos by Neal Buck & Dick Woodbury



Above: Bill Boluk answering the questions of 2 visitors to the booth.  
 Right: Watchstander's L-R Neal Buck, Vic Silvestrini, Diane Buck & Bill Boluk



Left: L-R Neal Buck, Dick Woodbury & Vic Silvestrini look on while 2 visitors look at our materials.

Right: Bill Boluk & Neal Buck manning the booth.



Right: Vic Silvestrini assisting 2 visitors to the booth.

Left: L-R Don Rienzo, Agnes Mical, Harvey Niblack, Bill Furphy on duty at our booth.



## **EPIRB**

If you have an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) or contemplate getting one of these life-saving instruments, be sure it transmits on 406 MHz! Search and rescue satellites only receive digital distress signals on this frequency, as of February 1, 2009. The older analog EPIRBs transmit on either 121.5 or 243 MHz.

Mike Wisniewski FSO-CM

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### **U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Accepts Glen Raven Custom Fabrics, *Makers of Sunbrella® Marine Fabrics* Safety Decal Donation**

Washington - The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has accepted Glen Raven Custom Fabrics, the makers of Sunbrella® marine fabrics, as a supporter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's Recreational Boater Safety Visitation Program (RBSVP).

During their three-year sponsorship, Glen Raven will donate up to 25,000 window decals that retailers and other boating organizations who support the Auxiliary's RBSVP will display. The Auxiliary's visitation partners offer safety literature and serve as resources for safety alerts, recall information and technical boating issues. They also provide information promoting the Auxiliary's boating safety classes and vessel safety check program.

"The Glen Raven donation of decals allows our Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) partners to inform their customers that they are indeed 'partners in boater safety,'" said Peter J. Urgola, Chief of the Auxiliary's Department of Vessel Examination and Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program. "Boaters will now see each establishment with the safety decal as a boating safety resource with a direct connection to the Auxiliary."

The window decals, provided free of charge to RBSVP partners, feature Coast Guard Auxiliary and Sunbrella logos and include a toll-free number for reporting suspicious activity on America's waterways.

"The dedicated work of Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers is essential to assuring safe, enjoyable time on the water," said Derek Robinson, Marine Market Manager for Glen Raven. "Boater safety education by the Auxiliary requires the support of everyone in the marine industry, from manufacturers and retailers to marinas and yacht clubs."

According to Urgola, there are more than 1,800 Auxiliary volunteers who conduct 60,000 visits annually to 25,000 marine dealers, retail stores and other boating related organizations. "These men and women are the Coast Guard Auxiliary's ambassadors for boating safety and education and liaison for many of the Coast Guard's recreational boating safety concerns," he said. "Their work is one of many ways that the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary are working to assure the safest waterways possible."

Tom Nunes Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer

#### **EDITORS NOTE:**

As of April 1st Flotilla 56's 5 Program Visitors, Bob Beer FSO-PV, Bill & Linda Boluk, Hank Dinunno & Rich Steinbach had made 76 visits and enrolled 14 more partners in the Vero Beach-Sebastian area.



## FLOTILLA 56 CELEBRATES ST. PATRICKS DAY

Our very own Irish lass Kelly Young assisted by Dave Caswell once again prepared the traditional Corned Beef Dinner. As always the meal was delicious. Thank you Kelly & Dave & your assistant Edward.



Photos by Linda Boluk & Rich Steinbach

Above : Barney & Lillian Giordan



Above: Susan Steinbach & Harvey Niblack.  
Below: Joan Furphy, Dick Woodbury, Lillian & Barney Giordan



Left: Chef's Dave Caswell & Kelly Young



Left: L-R Hank Dinunno, John & Marie Neugebauer  
Below: L-R Susan Steinbach, Bill & Linda Boluk



Below: Dan & Peg VanGinhoven



**ATTENTION SKYBLAZER XLT OWNERS –  
SAFETY NOTICE UPDATE PRODUCT QUARANTINE LIFTED**

Orion Safety Products, manufacturer of the Skyblazer hand-held red aerial flare (“Skyblazer”) previously received a report from the field indicating the safety sleeve on the Skyblazer may become detached from the launch tube body during ignition. (Go to Orion web site for diagram of parts). A Safety Notice and Product Quarantine relative to the Skyblazer signal was issued on September 26, 2008 (the “Safety Notice”) until investigation and testing of the product could be completed. Based on test information supplied to the USCG by Orion and an independent USCG approved lab, it has been determined that the product in stock and in the field can be sold & used. The USCG product status designation of the Skyblazer product has been reissued as a “May Use” classification.

FROM THE ORION WEB SITE

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**FIRE EXTINGUISHER SAFETY RECALL**

**RECALL INFORMATION :**

Name of product: Kidde XL Fire Extinguishers

Units: About 167,000

**Distributor:** Walter Kidde Portable Equipment Inc., of Mebane, N.C.

**Hazard:** The pressurized cylinders in the recalled fire extinguishers could lose pressure and fail to operate. In the event of a fire, this failure could put a consumer and property at risk.

**Incidents/Injuries:** None reported.

**Description:** This recall involves the Kidde XL Fire Extinguishers with model numbers FX340SC, FX340H, FX340GW, XL5MR, FX210R, FX340SC-2, FX210W, XL2.5TCZ-4, E-340-3 and with manufacture dates between October 2007 and April 2008. “Kidde” and the model number can be found on the label on the front of the extinguisher. The manufacture year is on the bottom of the extinguisher. If your extinguisher is one of the listed model numbers and is marked with the year 07 or 08, contact Kidde to determine if you have a recalled extinguisher.

**Sold at:** Department, home, and hardware stores nationwide from October 2007 through April 2008 for about \$35.

**Manufactured in:** Mexico

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately inspect the pressure gauge. If it points to the red zone, contact Kidde to receive a free replacement extinguisher. If the gauge is not in the red zone, but you have questions about an extinguisher within the listed model numbers, please contact Kidde for additional information.

Additional details are available at the following web sites. <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml09/09151.html>  
<http://www.kidde.com>

**Action Required:**

RBSPVs: Share this information with retail partners

VSC VE: Share this information with boaters

From: E-NEWS 3/31/09

## **WELCOME TO FLOTILLA 56**

The newest member of Flotilla 56, Stuart Larcombe, brings a lot of maritime experience to the flotilla. Stu was born in New Malden, Surrey, England. His parents worked in India so he was raised in both England and India. At age 12 he decided he wanted to join the British Merchant Marine so he was enrolled at “The Nautical College Pangbourne” Berkshire, England in 1962.

Stu started his career as a Deck Cadet in 1966, hauling both general & bulk cargo, and finished as Captain of “Tall Ship” Passenger Vessels in the Caribbean.



Photo by D. Woodbury

An interesting “it’s a small world story” - when Stu was introduced as a guest at his first flotilla meeting, Rich Steinbach felt he had seen him somewhere else but wasn’t sure where. It wasn’t until they had a chance to talk at the ABS class that Rich discovered that he & his wife Susan had been passengers aboard one of the tall ship’s Stu was Captain of!

Stu and his wife Valerie have a daughter who lives in North Yorkshire England. They moved from West Palm Beach to Vero Beach in November 2007. Stu’s hobbies include boating, sailing, diving and cooking. He’s thinking of possibly getting involved with the Civil Air Patrol.

Stu says he has joined the Auxiliary to keep active in the boating community and help others to enjoy safe boating. He has already begun Boat Crew training and his former passenger, Rich, is serving as his mentor.

Linda Boluk FSO-PB

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## **APC Course Now Available Online**

The Administrative Procedure Course (APC) – is now available on Auxiliary eLearning. This course is will prepare you to take the APC test on the National Testing Center, which is a prerequisite for holding elected office . It takes the student through the subject matter in a systematic way, introducing and summarizing existing Auxiliary resources and evaluating the student’s progress. The APC covers a lot of material – essentially the entire Auxiliary Manual, and many of our members have had difficulty passing the test due to inadequate preparation. If you can take this course, and complete the chapter quizzes with a score of 90 percent, you will almost certainly pass the online test as well. You can access the course at: <http://64.207.134.26/usr/moodle2/course/view.php?id=43>. You may need to create an Aux eLearn account if this is your first visit. If you have any questions or comments on the course, contact Nick Tarlson, DC-Td at [nick@tarlson.com](mailto:nick@tarlson.com).

*[Posted: Apr 15, 2009. Source: Nick G. Tarlson, DC-Td]*

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## **TILL WE SEE YOU AGAIN:**

It’s the time of year when our winter guests begin to depart for their northern homes. Those of us who live here in the Sunshine state year round wish them a safe trip home and we want you to know you will be missed. We can’t thank you enough for the many contributions you make to Flotilla 56 while you were here.

So till we see you again, farewell and thank you to: Dick Woodbury, Vic Sivestrini, John Johnson, John & Marjorie Ignozza, & Frank Schmidt . Also to our newest winter guests Bob Stickle and Helen Horton it was great getting to know both of you and working together with you both.

Linda Boluk FSO-PB



**RECENT FLOTILLA HAPPENINGS**



Left: Agnes Mical presenting information to the April ABS class students.  
Below: April ABS class students.  
Photos by Bill Boluk & Dick Woodbury



**SPRING POST BOAT SHOW PICNIC**  
Above Middle Left: Kathy Caswell disinfecting tables.  
Above Middle Right: Bob Phelps & Hank Dinunno  
Above Left: L—R Bob Beer Dave Caswell, Edward Young, back to camera Karen Beer  
Right: Left side table Linda Combs, Right side table Vic Silvestrini & Mirabel Flanders.  
Bravo Zulu to Dave Caswell for a delicious dinner

Picnic photos by Bill Boluk

## AUXNAV PART A TESTING

On Friday March 27th FSO-MT Harvey & Bonnie Niblack opened their home to those AUXNAV students who needed to pass the Part A AUXNAV exam before taking Part B. As it had been the choice of the group to take the exam online they needed to be together so Proctor Barney Giordan could proctor them at same time. Bonnie & Harvey served a delicious hamburger, hot dogs and salad lunch. To top off the meal Bonnie made a yummy homemade key lime pie, The students who tested that day were Agnes Mical, Diane Buck, Linda Boluk & Mike Wisniewski, all past the exam.



Top Left: Harvey Niblack assisting Agnes with the signing in process.

Top right: Mike Wisniewski taking exam while in background Agnes Mical waits to connect to testing site.

Left: Harvey Niblack looks at Mike Wisniewski's test results.  
Below: Linda Boluk deciding which answer is correct.



**UNLESS ANNOUNCED DIFFERENTLY  
ALL  
FLOTILLA STAFF & GENERAL MEETING  
WILL BE HELD AT  
SEBASTIAN CITY HALL ANNEX  
1245 MAIN STREET SEBASTIAN**

# May 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK MAY 16-22</b>				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9  <b>VE BLITZ 0900-1600 RIVERSIDE PARK VERO</b>
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16 <b>CG STATION OPEN HOUSE 1000-1400</b> 
17	18	19 <b>STAFF MEETING 1800 GENERAL METING 1900</b>	20	21	22	23
24	25  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	26 <b>JUNE PILOT DEADLINE</b>	27	28	29	30
31						

## MAY EVENTS

**VESSEL SAFETY EXAM BLITZ  
SATURDAY MAY 9TH 9:00AM - 4:00 PM  
RIVERSIDE PARK VERO BEACH**



**COAST GUARD STATION FORT PIERCE  
SATURDAY MAY 16TH 10:00AM - 2:00 PM**

**NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK  
MAY 16TH - MAY 22ND**



### **PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT**

Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy roster of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization. Privacy of all rosters shall be safe guarded and the page clearly labeled. The publication of these rosters, addresses, and telephone numbers on any on-line service including the internet is prohibited by the Privacy Act of 1974

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

**United States  
Coast Guard**



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