I have had the pleasure of attending several Division meetings this summer and I wanted to let you know some of the great things I’ve seen happening across the District. I had a great reception in Division 24. This Division has been doing fantastic work, especially in their partnership with Redstone Arsenal, home to over 80 tenant commands and Government agencies. Division 11 then impressed me with one of the best run meetings I’ve ever attended. They have streamlined their meetings by sending all reports to each other electronically in advance of the actual meeting. This lets them discuss the meaty issues when they’re together and has freed them up to hold a Division Training every other month (rather than monthly business meetings). I went to Division 8 with the excellent partnership with Marine Safety Unit, Paducah Division 8 even succeeded in getting me out on the water. Following that, I went up to Division 5 and got to see the presentation of a beautiful original painting that was donated by Divisions 1, 5, and 6 to Marine Safety Detachment, Cincinnati. Division 5 is also hard at work planning for the Fall D-Train.

I am looking forward to attending several more Division meetings this year and hope to see many of you at the D-Train. Please be safe, beware the summer heat, fatigue and driving long distances, and have a great summer.

Commander Juliet Hudson
Director of Auxiliary

On 10 July Flotilla 18-6 had a combined cookout and flotilla meeting at the Alum Creek Sailing Association Pavilion. A gas grill was provided for our use. Eric Piper was our designated grill man and his wife Mary was his assistant. They did an outstanding job with the hot dogs and hamburgers. Our members brought many delicious dishes for everyone to share. There was more than enough food and drink for our members and their guests. Our special guest was Ranger John Wargo, Army Corps of Engineers. The cookout began at 1830 and lasted until our flotilla meeting began at 1945. The uniform of the day was civilian casual attire. Thank you to our Fellowship Committee for organizing this fun event.

The location of the cookout was very successful and our Division 18 has requested the use of the pavilion on 31 July for our Division 18 cookout and meeting.

Photo Right: In the chow line

Photo and Story: Ron Tvorik USCGAUX
Auxiliarists Open Up New Techniques and New Audience at Cub Scout Day Camp

To spread our message of Boating Safety among younger generations, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has several tried and true methods. We are accustomed to instructing groups, including early teenagers, in classrooms for eight hours of About Boating Safety. Some of us are experts at speaking via Coastie for a couple of minutes with delighted boys and girls at shows and festivals. Several others find ways to get young sons and daughters involved if they are aboard while their parents have a Vessel Examination, but what do we do with a group of fifteen 7 to 11 year old boys, for forty minutes at a time? Not exactly in our repertoire.

This was the challenge presented to members of Division 5, when Scouting volunteer Shawn Ragle, after hearing about the BSA/AUX Memorandum of Agreement, invited the Coast Guard Auxiliary to Cub Scout Day Camp. The solution required a little ingenuity and improvisation, and brought about a new way of thinking about how we deliver our programs.

The Maketewa District of Dan Beard Council, BSA, serving youth on the northern side of Cincinnati, OH, held its annual Cub Scout Day Camp during the week of July 9 to 13, 2012, at the Sharon Woods Park in Sharonville, OH. The 140 campers were assigned to one of ten Dens based on age group, and during each day of the camp, rotated around various activity stations including nature, crafts, BB and archery shooting, Scout skills, and a daily ‘special’ station. Ragle, the Day Camp Director, asked the Coast Guard Auxiliary to provide the special activity for the second day of camp.

Wade Love, FC 5-3, who served as Liaison between the camp staff and the Coast Guard Auxiliary, described planning for the event. “To discuss boating safety, it helps to have a boat. Sharon Woods has lots of trees, lots of grass, not much water. An AUXOPFAC on a trailer, with gunwales sitting 5 or 6 foot off the ground, isn’t going to cut it for 3 ½ to 4 foot tall Cub Scouts. I needed to improvise. So I grabbed some scrap wood, went into my shop, and made what I could.”

The result was not much to behold, consisting of two lawn chairs filling in for seats, a painted contraption resembling helm, throttle, and gauges, and yellow polypropylene line threaded between stakes forming the outline of a boat. However, a few extra props added in formed the basis of the activity.

A team consisting of Wade Love and Carl Mosbaugh, Flotilla 5-3, Thom McQueen and Dave Leistner, Flotilla 5-5, and Ron Tvorik, Flotilla 18-6, greeted each Den and introduced the imaginary vessel. They then stated they were preparing to take the pretend boat out on the pretend lake for a fun voyage, yet were not sure if the boat was ready, and whether everything was safe. The challenge was to walk all around the boat, look at it carefully, and find anything that might not be entirely safe.

Wade J. Love USCGAUX

**COASTIE ADVENTURE**

**Division Eight**

In June Coastie and members of the Coastie Team for Division Eight assisted in promoting a combination Public Affairs and Vessel Examination Day Event held at Eddy Creek Marina on Lake Barkley in Lyon County, Kentucky. The event was hosted by Kuttawa Flotilla Eleven.

Coastie and our Event Team were afforded a great location in the parking lot near the Echo Charlie Restaurant and the ramp to the boat dock. Coastie was very visible and able to attract visitors with ease. Flotilla 11 manned a PA table with ample boating safety literature. Our table supplied literature for the children. Members conducted VEs on the dock.

Dealing with a slow, hot day and few boaters the team visited with 50 adults and children who interacted with Coastie and chose literature from the two tables. It was a good day for the two flotillas to work together.

Coastie traveled approximately 110 miles round trip and is now back at the home site recharging batteries.

Sylvia Canon USCGAUX
"What a great way to spend a Saturday", was the most often heard comment from members of Flotilla 53. Under the premise of "who'd a thought it", the comments were of a guided Segway tour; you know, those "two-wheeled bicycle/ skateboard/motor scooter type thingies" that allows you to remain standing upright and stationary as you whiz along past the pedestrians.

As the "4th Cornerstone Officer" of her Flotilla, Wendy McAdams wanted a 4th Cornerstone event that would be more than "let's meet and eat hotdogs", something that would be a lot of fun while doing something different, exciting and memorable; she dug deep into her imagination and presented Flotilla 53 with a great way to have fun and fellowship. "I was trying to think of something really cool that the folks would like to do" she said. The results exceeded her expectations.

Even under the threat of rain, their two-hour Segway tour experience took the Auxiliarists through some of the most beautiful places in Cincinnati's Eden Park. After 20 minutes of operational instructions, the tour began at Mirror Lake. With the sun shining and a gentle breeze in their faces, the guided tour featured fourteen points of interest, with comment and history thrown in for good measure. The sites included Mirror Lake and Krohn Conservatory, the Water Tower and the Reservoir.

The route also covered such picturesque scenes as Liberty Gardens, the 911 Memorial, the Veterans Memorial and the parks' Melan Arch Bridge. There was also the Memorial Groves with the Presidential Trees. "Scott and I had taken this tour last year and I didn't even know about the Presidential Trees and the Memorial", Wendy said. Along the way, there are several overviews that include fantastic views of the Ohio River and Northern Kentucky, from the Twin Lakes and Donald A. Spencer Overlook.

As 4th Cornerstone events go, this was far from the ordinary "let's meet and eat hot dogs". Different, exciting, memorable. This could set the standard for future fellowships. With thought-provoking ideas and imagination, the ones of us that did not get to be with our fellow Auxiliarists on that day, can look toward our own 4th Cornerstones with a bit more excitement.

"We learned a lot about Eden Park that I never knew before." one of the excited tourists exclaimed. "This is fantastic."

The Segway tours have become a popular way to tour Cincinnati's landmarks and seems to have made a definite impression of the members of Flotilla 53. In his best Arnold Schwarzenegger voice, one was heard to say, "I'll be back".

Thom McQueen
ADSO-PB 082
Students Learn About Careers on the Water During 11th Annual Coast Guard Day

Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary welcomed more than 30 students and counselors from across the country to Coast Guard Day. Jointly sponsored by Auxiliary flotilla 18-7 from District Eight’s eastern region, and Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, the annual Coast Guard Day gives a chance for the attending youths to explore careers performed on the water.

This was the 11th year for Central State to bring the students, ages 14-17, up to Delaware, Ohio to participate in the program. The day is part of their four-week “Summer Transportation Institute,” with each week being devoted to learning about careers in a different segment: Air, Land, Water and Energy. Coast Guard Day is the highlight of Water week.

The Auxiliary invited professionals from various occupations operating on or near the water to speak to the students. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) state watercraft officer, Pete Angelas, detailed his role in patrolling the various lakes in central Ohio as well training the county law enforcement officers. John Vargo from the United States Army Corps of Engineers explained how important man-made bodies of water, such as Alum Creek Reservoir, were in the big picture and how they affected areas as far away as Louisiana. Finally, USCG Chief Petty Officer, Nathan Little, thrilled the crowd with some of his more harrowing adventures in the Coast Guard as well as detailing the benefits of enlisting in the service.

Flotilla Commander, Jay Garcia, was instrumental in starting the program more than a decade ago and explained why he still is so enthusiastic about it every year. “The Majority of these kids have never set foot on a boat in their entire life,” explained Commander Garcia, “So besides communicating the importance of boating safety and wearing your life jacket, it’s satisfying to help them see that there’s more out here than what they’ve been exposed to in their lives.”

OCEEE AREA SAFETY DAY

On Saturday May 5, 2012 Flotilla 16-09 Sponsored it’s first annual Ocoeex Area Safety Day. This event was a huge success thanks to those who participated and the members of the community that came to experience the event. The area Emergency Response Community showed up in force to help out. There were representatives from TN Wild Resource Agency, Cleveland Police Department, Bradley County Sheriff’s Department, 10th Judicial Drug Task Force, TN Highway Patrol, Bradley County Emergency Medical Service, Cleveland Fire Department, Bradley County Fire/Rescue and members of the USCGAUX. Auxiliary Member Rudy Achata of Flotilla 16-07 was on hand to take pictures along with photographer Kevin Myers. Also on hand to help make the event such a success was Eddy and Teresa Smith from Flotilla 16-02. The Smiths gave of their time to operate Coastie. We also had Barry Sullivan of Triple S Entertainment there to handle broadcasting services. I wish to thank all of the agencies and their members that were present and helped to make the first annual Ocoeex Area Safety Day a great success! With partners like this I look forward to the 2nd annual Safety Day, which we are planning for now and are expecting even greater things next year.

Stephen E. McLain, FC
Flotilla 16-9