



**8TH EASTERN
REGION
DIVISION ONE**

**FLAGSHIP OF THE
HEARTLAND**

Special points of interest:

Armed Forces Weekend at the Indianapolis 500



**Emmanuel Ugono with
Staff Member**

(photo by: Walt Guntharp)

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The Tow Line

Summer 2025

Armed Forces Weekend - Indianapolis 500

Late Senator Richard Lugar supported Armed Forces Weekend at the Indianapolis 500 on Armed Forces Day. It normally occurs the weekend prior to the Indianapolis 500 race.

This year it occurred on 16 to 18 May 2025. It is always a wonderful weekend also known as qualification weekend on 17 and 18 May. Four intense laps at 230 plus MPH. It is very exciting seeing drivers seeking row one.

Sunday we had the pleasure of having our 8th Eastern District Commodore, Ronald Boneau and many members of his staff. We normally have a couple



Members of 8th Eastern Staff With COMO Ron Boneau

(photo by: Walt Guntharp)

members of the Indianapolis Colts and a couple of Indian-

apolis Colts Cheerleader. No luck this year. Still in all everyone had a great time.

It was a pleasure having District Commodore, Ronald Boneau and his staff attend. COMO Boneau and his staff really enjoyed the entire day.



Swearing In Ceremony of New Recruits

(photo by: Walt Guntharp)





Michael Richardt, Walt Guntharp and Richard Friedman

(photo by: Skip Nunweiler)

**“... few boaters
on the lake..”**



**Night Operation When
in Doubt STOP**

(photo by: Skip Nunweiler)

Geist Reservoir Patrol

On Saturday 24 May 2025 at high noon we met at Olio Road launch ramp at Geist Reservoir to pre-form a safety patrol. A great day for a patrol. They departed at noon (1200) and finished at 1800 in time to go home and have dinner.

Walt Guntharp was the Coxswain and Boat Crew was Tom Foreman, Ric Wiseley, Brent Abshier, Dave Owen, Dan Gillahan and Doug Jave. It was a chance to renew skills and learn new tasks.

This patrol was amazing. Very few boaters on the lake and no one was in trouble. It was a good day to make certain skills are up-to-date and those who are classified **as Required Yearly Qualifications Not Met (REYR)** are able to requalify by adding the required hours needed to receive their Boat Crew (BC) classification.

Some people may call it a boring day. Those on Patrol do not think it is. The action of greeting other boaters and checking on them makes the boater feel safe. That allows a boater to relax and make the boater and the boater's family a sense of security knowing **“America's Volunteer Lifesavers”** are here to help.

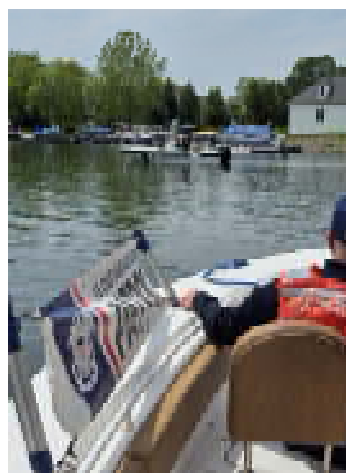


USCG Auxiliary Coxswain



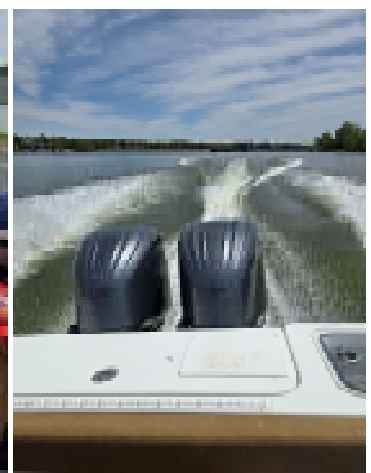
Coxswain, Walt Guntharp and Dave Owen

(photo by: Ric Wiseley)



Dave Owen on Look Out

(photo by: Ric Wiseley)



Twin 250 HP at Work

(photo by: Ric Wiseley)

**United States
Coast Guard
Auxiliary**



U.S. Coast Guard Racing Stripe

The Coast Guard "racing stripe" is the distinctive red and blue diagonal stripe found on many U.S. Coast Guard vessels and aircraft. The stripe is a form of visual identification and branding, helping to distinguish Coast Guard assets from other sea services.

The racing stripe was introduced in the late 1960s to improve the Coast Guard's visibility and recognition. Prior to its adoption, Coast Guard vessels were sometimes mistaken for Navy vessels, according to the U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office.

The stripe consists of a wide red band to the right of a narrow blue band, angled at 64 degrees. The angle is a deliberate choice, as it is the year the stripe was designed.

The stripe was designed by industrial designer Raymond Loewy and commissioned by First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy.

The Coast Guard's racing stripe design has been adopted by other maritime agencies and organizations, both in the U.S. and inter-



USCG Cutter with Racing Stripe
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)



U.S. Coast Guard Aviation
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)

nationally, as a symbol of sea service.

Coast Guard Commandant Edwin Roland, whose administration oversaw the

design and planning stages of the Racing Stripe design.

On 4 May 1966, the service's ad hoc committee for testing the Visual Identification System sent to the commandant a favorable report regarding service-wide use of the Racing Stripe. During the prototyping process, the Coast Guard's selection committee had decided against the Loewy stylized shield and opted for the service's traditional shield emblem instead. While the plan received the stamp of approval, details had to be ironed out over several months before final approval.



Racing Stripe U.S. Coast Guard Flag
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)

**"...
commissioned
by First Lady
Jacqueline
Kennedy."**



U.S. Coast Guard Birthday 4 August 1790
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)

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Geist Patrol 4 July 2024
(photo by: Doug Jave)



Division One

How Does USCG Celebrate Independence Day

The U.S. Coast Guard celebrates Independence Day, July 4th, by ensuring the safety and security of the nation's waterways and shores while also participating in local celebrations and parades. They increase boating safety patrols, enforce safety zones around fireworks displays, and remind the public about safe practices on the water, such as wearing life jackets and avoiding alcohol while boating, according to the USCG News. Additionally, Coast Guard units often participate in local parades and community events, showcasing their service and patriotism.

The Coast Guard ramps up patrols, particularly during Operation Dry Water, to enforce boating under the influence (BUI) laws and ensure safe recreational boating. They establish and enforce safety zones around fireworks barges as Division I does and other Independence Day events to prevent accidents and ensure public safety.



Viewing Fireworks Display On 45' Response Boat
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)

The Coast Guard educates the public about safe boating practices through social media and other channels, emphasizing the importance of life jackets, avoiding alcohol, and check-



USCG Auxiliary Patrol Boat
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)



Remembering Those Who Served Before Us
(photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)

ing weather conditions. Coast Guard units participate in local parades and community events, showcasing their role and fostering a sense of national pride.

The Coast Guard also uses the occasion to reflect on the values of freedom and the importance of service to the nation.

