

The Daymark

Commander's Corner – Change of Watch

I am honored to have been elected by the membership to serve as the new Flotilla Commander of Flotilla 5-11 located in Upper Manhattan.



AUX Ted Wadsworth | Photo by AHA Society

The USCG Auxiliary is one of the greatest volunteer organizations in the world. The Auxiliary functions as a bridge between the active duty, civilians, retired military, and younger generations in search of their path.

My command philosophy relies on Relevance, Mentorship, and

Education. Each is a strategy on how I will approach the decisions I make for this flotilla and how we navigate the new world we live in.

The Auxiliary has had a long and varied tradition which has evolved to play a huge role in augmenting the Coast Guard. We continue to look for ways to do work that serves the greater good. I challenge you to make your mark, leave your community better than you found it!

I look forward to working with our members and partners to keep improving the city and nation we serve.

AUX Ted Wadsworth
Flotilla Commander

For a complete view of my command philosophy, please visit our [website](#).

USCG Auxiliary Upper Manhattan

Volume II, Issue 1, First Quarter 2021

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Flotilla Website: [Flotilla 5-11 Main Page](#)

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AUX John McNamara | Photo by AUX Alex Rico

With great honor, I look forward to serving with AUX Wadsworth, as the new Vice Flotilla Commander.

What is it that makes one stand above with respect and sense of purpose? It is the act of "giving."

I approach this position with resolve to support People, Fellowship, and Giving. At the core of the flotilla is its member's and those we serve. They must be at the forefront of how we pursue our goals.

All of us in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, especially the members of this flotilla are dedicated to the primary purpose of saving lives. We give time and talent in order to minimize the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and environmental impact associated with the use of

recreational boats. Through preventive means, our mission promotes safety and the enjoyment of our nation's waterways by everyone.

*AUX John McNamara
Vice Flotilla Commander*

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the Flotilla Commander for over two years. Our unit has evolved in that time which is in no small part due to the perseverance and commitment of each member.

I am immensely proud of the work we have accomplished together. Our flotilla is unique in our diversity and the work we provide to our community. Despite factors outside of our control, Flotilla 5-11 has increased membership, participation, and qualifications.

As I transition to an advisory role, I will continue to promote Diversity, Community, and Tradition. With a new year comes new possibilities; remember to continue to lean on each other and pursue new avenues for service.

*AUX Alex Rico
Immediate Past Flotilla Commander*



AUX Alex Rico | Photo by AUX Obed Fulcar

For a complete view of all the command philosophies, please visit our [website](#).

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Letter from the Editor

This is the first issue of 2021. We are working hard to make this publication useful and informative.

Some might ask, what are we doing during the pandemic?

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has been put the safety of its members and the public first. We have set aside all non-essential activities, but that does not mean that we have gone dormant. Quite the contrary, we ended 2020 with:

- 5 members achieving AUXOP
- 3 new Program Visitors
- 2 new Vessel Examiners
- 2 new Instructors
- 2 new Members
- 2 members out of AP and into BQ Status
- AUX Barth awarded Auxiliarist of the Year

During this time, we also continued our online training in mandatory and specialty courses. AUX John McNamara led a videoconference course about the hazards of weather while boating. AUX John Kiernan completed another course in radio communications. AUX Kiernan is also be conducting a HAM Radio Course which began in January 2021. If you want to find out more about Amateur radio go to ARRL.org which has a great deal of information.

In addition to mandatory training courses to attain our Basic Qualifications (BQ), there are numerous specialty courses members are encouraged to pursue to further their knowledge. Specifically, five members achieved the AUXOP device, a prestige qualification within our organization. To discover more about the AUXOP device, visit the Auxiliary [website](#).

We are always training so that we will always be prepared.

On a final note, we want to thank Alex Rico, our Immediate Past Flotilla Commander, and Michael Barth, our outgoing Vice Flotilla Commander for their outstanding and dedicated service. Bravo Zulu!

On behalf of the flotilla, we wish everybody a safe New Year.

Semper Paratus!

AUX William H. Linder
Editor-in-Chief

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In Memoriam – AUX Fred Knox



AUX Fred Knox | Photo by USCG Auxiliary

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our shipmate AUX Fred Knox.

Mr. Knox was a founding member of the Upper Manhattan Flotilla, a consummate volunteer, and a friend to all. In 2006, Mr. Knox joined the Auxiliary and immediately became an enthusiastic and active member.

During his service, he qualified as an Auxiliary Culinary Specialist, Auxiliary Telecommunications Operator, Vessel Examiner, and Program Visitor. Mr. Knox regularly volunteered on U.S. Coast Guard cutters and stations to cook for active duty and reserve personnel.

Mr. Knox also took part in local ceremonies and functions, including critical assistance during a World War I Bicentennial ceremony honoring the 369th Infantry Regiment "Harlem Hellfighters," a decorated African-American unit.

His service to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and the American public is in keeping with the highest traditions of patriotism and volunteerism.

For his service, Mr. Knox was awarded the Coast Guard Unit Commendation (3), the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation, the Examiner Program Ribbon (with bronze star), the Operations Program Ribbon (with bronze star), and the Membership Service Award (2).

Mr. Knox was also an active member of Squadron 379, NYC Group of the Civil Air Patrol.

AUX Fred Knox is survived by his wife, sisters, and step-children.

Fair winds and following seas. Rest easy, shipmate. We have the watch.



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Boating Tips



Dress properly

Always check and dress for the weather before heading out on the water. Wearing layers during cooler fall weather will help to keep you warm, and be sure to bring an extra set of clothes, pocket warmers, and a thermos filled with a hot drink or soup in case you get wet.

Always file a float plan

File a float plan with someone you trust that includes details about the trip, boat, persons, towing or trailer vehicle, communication equipment and emergency contacts.



Find out more at: <https://floatplancentral.cgaux.org>

Health and Safety

Suicide Prevention

As U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary members, we support the Coast Guard mission to rescue people at sea and save lives. There is another kind of lifesaving that we can learn to do and that's being highlighted by the U.S. Coast Guard.

During stressful times and during the holiday season, those who suffer from depression may be prone to suicide. During the COVID-19 crisis, there has been an increase in symptoms of depression accentuated by the isolation caused by virus restrictions. Suicidal risk has increased during coronavirus, according to the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov).



AUX Henoch | Photo by AUX Ahron Rosenfeld

Depression has been shown to be a chemical disorder in the brain and can be treated through therapy and sometimes by medication. With proper treatment, depression can be reduced. While not all people who experience depression experience suicidal ideation, it is vital to recognize the signs of both and check in with our loved ones and neighbors. The US Coast Guard has highlighted suicide prevention month and has [online resources](#) that can help.

Are you feeling desperate, alone or hopeless?

Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **1-800-273-TALK (8255)** or text **“HOME”** to **741741**
Prestamos Servicios En Español **1-888-628-9454** | Call The Veterans Crisis Line **1-800-273-8255**

[Ask, Care, Escort \(ACE\) Card](#)- Guided questions to assist with members who may be suicidal

AUX Avraham Henoch, MD
Flotilla Staff Officer – Program Visitor

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Flotilla 5-11 Awarded USCG Auxiliary NACO Three Star Award for Diversity Excellence



AUX Obed Fulcar | Photo by USCG AUX

*AUX Obed Fulcar
Flotilla Staff Officer – Diversity*

According to the [USCG Auxiliary Inclusion Directorate](#), "Diversity & Inclusion is about acknowledging differences and adapting practices to create an inclusive environment in which diverse skills, perspectives and backgrounds are valued. It is about understanding the individual differences among our members that arise from a broad range of backgrounds and lifestyles, recognizing the value of using those different perspectives and ideas to enhance the quality and outcomes of our mission."

This past July, our flotilla was awarded the NACO Three Star Award for Diversity Excellence. AUX Alex Rico, our Immediate Past Flotilla Commander made diversity a priority for the flotilla when took charge in 2018. This award is presented annually to recognize Flotillas and Divisions for distinction in managing and valuing diversity. This prestigious award comes bears the title of the National Commodore (NACO) and recognizes Flotillas and Divisions for distinction in managing and valuing diversity each year.

Units must fulfill a minimum of four action items in each of the main goal categories. Our flotilla hit the four action items for each goal and therefore was granted the award. This is the second time in three years that we have received this honor.

Boats for Life

Thinking about what to do with your boat at the end of the season? Consider a tax-deductible donation to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association (AuxA) for a tax write off.

Storage fees and the aggravation of hauling out your boat may be more than the boat is worth. Maybe you are considering a new boat next season and don't have time to wait around for a buyer. Whatever your reason, consider donating to a charity.

The AuxA is the charitable arm of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Your donations can be tax deductions—when the proceeds help fund many of the programs for the Auxiliary.

For more information check out the [AuxA Website](#). Stay safe!

*AUX Ted Wadsworth
Flotilla Commander*

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Four Free Courses Offered

The Upper Manhattan Flotilla is pleased to offer the following *four courses for free* to our Friends & Family. The courses will be offered virtually via WebEx.

If you are interested in taking any of the courses listed below, or if you have any questions about the courses, contact AUX John McNamara at cgauxjwm@gmail.com. Please register early as space is limited.

Suddenly in Command (2 hours):

The captain becomes incapacitated or falls overboard; you purchase a new boat for the first time. You are Suddenly in Command. This boating safety primer is designed for those not generally at the helm, and will help you to be prepared with the basics in case of an emergency.

You will learn about your vessel, nomenclature, and operating principles such as starting the engine, basic boat handling, and your on-board equipment. Included descriptions of what causes boating mishaps and how to minimize them. This course is a must for family members in case something happens to the boat operator.

Course Dates: Saturday, February 13th at 10AM
Monday, February 15th at 2PM

Personal Watercraft Course (1 hour):

Personal Watercraft Course (PWC) is a very basic introduction to the safety issues involved when operating a PWC. The purpose of the course is to teach that PWCs are true boats and that their skippers have the same legal responsibilities, and should learn the rules of the road to the same degree as any other boater.

Course Date: Saturday, February 13th at 11AM

Paddler's Guide to Safety (1 hour):

The objective for this course is for novice paddlers to be aware of the basic issues and needs for paddling safety, the basic equipment they should have, and to provide some info about paddling that will help them be a more knowledgeable and safer paddler.

Course Dates: Sunday, February 14th at 11AM
Monday, February 15th at 11AM

Waypoints (1 hour):

Waypoints is designed as a pre-teen program about basic boating safety. However, anyone interested in learning about basic boating will benefit from taking this course. Topics include parts of a boat, life jackets, keeping your balance in a boat, safety equipment, basic boating rules, and what to do if someone falls out of the boat.

Course Date: Sunday, February 14th at 2PM

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Awards and Recognition

Welcome New Members

• AUX Phillippe Lambert

New Member of the Year 2020 – AUX Eugene Fisch

The Flotilla Bridge would like to highlight the efforts of AUX Eugene Fisch. As a new member, AUX Fisch quickly completed all of his mandated training. He continued to pursue additional training opportunities and became an important source of information to his shipmates. His studies led to him achieving the AUXOP device. Now, he has taken on a leadership role with the flotilla staff. His achievements during COVID-19 are a prime example of what a motivated member can do. AUX Fisch has earned a Flotilla Challenge Coin for his efforts. Bravo Zulu!



Helpful Resources

Federal Government

- U.S. Coast Guard Coronavirus FAQs: <https://www.uscg.mil/Coronavirus/FAQ/>
- U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety: <https://www.uscgboating.org/>
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Recruiting: <http://join.cgaux.org/>
- FEMA (COVID-19): <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus>
- CDC (COVID-19): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Other COVID-19 Support

- NY State: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>
- NYC: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/index.page>