

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



**America's
Volunteer
Guardians**

Promoting Boating Safety, Security and Stewardship since 1939

**ITHACA
FLOTILLA 22**

Established 1942



News and Views

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***Due to COVID-19
face-to-face gatherings
still require prior approval
until further notice***

EDUCATION + TRAINING = SKILL

SKILL + ACTION = SAVED LIVES



Photo courtesy of Tommy Lacey and Mark Lewis

Ithaca Flotilla

FLOTILLA OFFICERS

COMMANDER

Ben Gardiner II FC
VICE COMMANDER
John Frieman VFC
IMMEDIATE PAST
COMMANDER
Kevin Walsh IPFC

FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICERS

ACADEMY ADMISSIONS

Dale Campbell

PADDLECRAFT SAFETY

Tom Every FSO-PAD

COMMUNICATIONS

Tom Every FSO-CM

COMMUNICATIONS

SERVICES

Kim Walsh FSO-CS

DIVERSITY

Jennifer Watson FSO-DV

FINANCE

Aaron Abb FSO-FN

HUMAN RESOURCES

Dale Campbell FSO-HR

INFORMATION SERVICES

Diana Robinson FSO-IS

MATERIALS

Bodge Hyatt FSO-MA

MARINE SAFETY

John Frieman FSO-MS

MEMBER TRAINING

Kim Walsh FSO-MT

OPERATIONS

Ben Gardiner (acting)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jennifer Watson FSO-PA

PUBLICATIONS

Diana Robinson FSO-PB

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Kim Walsh FSO-PE

PARTNER VISITATION

VACANT

SECRETARY

Kevin Walsh FSO-SR

VESSEL EXAMINATION

Joseph Kurtz FSO-VE

Located at the southern end
of Cayuga Lake

508 Taughanock Blvd. Ithaca,
NY 14850
607-273-7175

Monthly Meetings:
2nd Wednesday
1900 Hrs. 7:00 pm

Acting Editor: Diana Robinson
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News and Views is the official newsletter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Ithaca Flotilla and is intended to keep the membership apprised of the activities of the Auxiliary. All articles and photographs submitted must be consistent with the policies of the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary and may not be returned.

Ninth Eastern District

District Commodore

Clark J. Godshall

District Chief of Staff

Richard Evans

Human Resources

George R. Taylor

District Captain Logistics

Dr. Brian Wells

District Captain Response

Steven Botsford

District Captain Prevention

Robert Brody

Immediate Past District

Commodore

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Operations

Robert Laurer

Division Two

Commander

Robert Shanahan, Sr.

Vice Commander

Richard Kunz

Immediate Past Commander

Kim Walsh

Operations

Richard Kunz

From the Helm



FC Ben Gardiner

Greetings, Shipmates! Despite a recent serious April snowstorm last week, we believe spring has finally sprung and the operational tempo for our Flotilla will rapidly increase.

In this issue of the Newsletter, Tom Every reports on our very successful participation in the First Annual Finger Lakes Boat Show. Suffice to say the boating public was glad to see us and is very hungry for the knowledge and information we seek to share with them. Please read Tom's article for more information.

On 30 April 2022 we will do a general water safety and cold-water presentation to Cub Scout Pack 48 from Lansing at Camp Barton. Kim Walsh is working with the Ithaca Yacht Club who are interested in having some in-person training from the Flotilla. On 18 June 2022 we have the Treman Marina Safety Day and in July the Ithaca Club is looking for a virtual briefing on Flotilla operations.

In the meantime, Kim and the Instructor Team continue with virtual Boat America Boating Safety Training with next session on 30 April – 01 May 2022. Additional Instructors are needed so please contact Kim if you are interested in this program.

John Frieman has begun our Vessel Safety Checks and is coordinating VSC's on four (4) new pontoon boats. Joe Kurtz, FSO-VE, will lead our Vessel Safety Check Program along with John Frieman and Tom Every. Needless to say, we need additional Vessel Examiners and urge members who are interested in becoming Examiners to contact Joe Kurtz for more information.

Clearly, we are off to good start and I urge all members to participate in this cornerstone mission of Recreational Boating Safety. A commitment as an instructor or VE is not required, just come out to programs such as the Boat Show, Camp Barton, or Treman Marina Day and help us spread the word!

An update from Operations: Our trainees have completed the virtual boat crew training presented by Division 2. Our hats off to former Flotilla 22 Member Pamela Wik-Grimm for the outstanding job she has done in putting this program together and overseeing its delivery. In future years this is likely to become the District standard.

Congratulation to our Trainees for completing the training. We must now put a push on to get sign-off's done so there will be no delays to get underway. Latest word from the Corporation is the scheduled docks-in date is 05 June 2022. Something to look forward to.

Thank you, Shipmates, for your support and dedication. We are off to a fine start.

SEMPER PARATUS!

ITHACA FLOTILLA

Flotilla Meeting Minutes for 13 April 2022 (Virtual) @ 1900 Hours

Flotilla Commander: Ben Gardiner

Flotilla Vice Commander: John Frieman

Flotilla Immediate Past Commander: Kevin Walsh

Uniform: Casual

1901 Called to order

Pledge of Allegiance by John Frieman

Introduction of guests Emmy Moyck and VCDR Rick Kunz

Personnel Update – Bodge still recovering from surgery

Attendees: Ben & Laura Gardiner, Tom Every, John Frieman, Walter & Diana Robinson, Kim & Kevin Walsh, Scaglione, Dale Campbell, Dave Cornelius, Emmy Moyck, Brian Schuerch, Bruce Ressler

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve by Dave Cornelius; Second by John Frieman; Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Aaron excused; No fiscal transactions during the month; balance \$750.46; Motion to approve by Kim; Second by Tom Every; Motion carried.

Proposed budget: Beginning Balance (01 Jan 22) \$750.46 + Income \$2235 (\$2985.46) - Expenditures \$2368 = End Balance \$617.46.

Division update:

Rick Kunz: Station Oswego Operational procedures – Ops Workshop distributed at Station Workshop

- Station Sr Chief wants to visit Ithaca at first in person meeting
- Station monitoring PPE
- 3 Open houses at Station
- Ben asks about exposure coveralls, Rick Kunz you will get what you need first
- Ben asks who PPE requests go from and to, Rick Kunz says Yeckley approves but he needs a copy. Yeckley coming to do review with RSS people.

FC Update

Finger Lakes boat show very successful, great contacts, not a huge crowd but very steady attendance. Lots of literature put out. Ben surprised how many people didn't know about Briannas law. Special Thanks to Tom Every for putting together our attendance. Please contact Ben with any follow ups to boat show.

Operations Update: Continue virtual boat crew training. Concludes on 23 April. We need to jumpstart our signoff process to start underway training.

Upcoming RBS events:

- 30 April water safety briefing at BSA Camp Barton anticipates up 75 scouts, 3 station events, need another instructor to help.
- Lansing Harbor requested VSC for 4 pontoon boats.

Member Training: Kim discussing VSC. John Frieman discussing VSC.

Old Business N/A

New Business N/A

Next meeting 11 May 2022

Motion to adjourn: Dave Cornelius/Second Diana Robinson

Flotilla Calendar

Date	Event	POC / OIC	Notes
2-3 April 2022 Sat-Sun, 0900-1300	2022 Boat America Safety Class	Kim Walsh	Virtual
13 April 2022 1900	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual
30 April 2022 / 0900 Saturday	Cold Water Safety Briefing to Cub Scouts at Camp Barton	Tom Every/ Ben Gardiner	NEW EVENT
30 April – 1 May Sat-Sun, 0900-1300	2022 Boat American Safety Class	Kim Walsh	Virtual
11 May 2022 1900	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual
20-21 May 2022 Tentative	Possible boater education event Oswego – details TBA	Jen Watson?	TBA
21-27 May 2022	National Boating Safety Week https://safeboatingcampaign.com		
4-5 June 2022 Sat-Sun, 0900-1300	2022 Boat America Safety Class	Kim Walsh	Virtual
4 June 2022	Docks In	Corporation	Tentative
8 June 2022 1900	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual
18 June 2022	Treman Marina Day	Jen Watson?	TBA
9-10 July 2022 Sat-Sun, 0900-1300	2022 Boat America Safety Class	Kim Walsh	Virtual
July 2022 (12, 19, or 26, 1300-1400. Tues.	Club of Ithaca – 45 minutes VIRTUAL PRESENTATION	TBD	NEW EVENT
13 July 2022 1900	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual
6-7 August 2022 Sat-Sun, 0900-1300	2022 Boat America Safety Class	Kim Walsh	Virtual
10 August 2022 1900	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual

KEY:

Flotilla Meetings	Div 2 Events	Member Training	Public Education	Special Events
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Finger Lakes Boat Show

Tom Every, FSO-PAD, FSO-CM



The First Annual Finger Lakes Boat Show finally took place on 3/31-4/3 and 4/7 – 4/10. The show's organizer, Explore Ithaca, set us up with a good display area and Ben did a nice job making the posters. Although attendance was light, I believe participating in it was a big success for us because of the interaction we had with various organizations and individuals in the boating community and the safety information they learned from us.

There was a nice combination of paddlecraft, power boats, PWCs, small sailboats, and other equipment on display. Marinas and boat dealers from the Finger Lakes area were represented. Some of the folks that we had good conversations with, developed relationships, and are having follow up interaction with are:

- The Ithaca Yacht Club is talking with us about doing do a boater safety course or some other specialized safety/navigation training at their place
- Chris Allinger from the Cayuga Radio Group will be putting PSAs on all ten of their stations publicizing our boating classes
- Lansing Harbor Marine will be renting out five new Veranda pontoon boats this year. John Frieman is talking with them about doing VEs on them.
- We chatted with the M/V Teal folks about their tours. We also talked with a woman who does sailboat tours.
- Explore Ithaca /Waterworks will be doing tours of the lake with their new Duffy 18' and 25' electric boats. They will be operating with a six-pack license.
- I chatted with the Executive Director of the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway about their promotion of tourism and the Blueway Trail



Photo courtesy Tom Every



Photos by Diana Robinson



We fielded questions and educated people on many subjects including: Aux volunteer missions, Inlet dredging, ABS class schedule and replacement of lost ABS certificates, Brianna's law, radios vs. phones for emergencies, fire extinguishers and cut-off switches, vessel inspections, who has law enforcement authority on Cayuga, and navigation rules (right of way between vessels).

The show organizer said it will take place in future years at different locations in the Finger Lakes including possibly at Lansing Harbor Marine. **Thanks to all our volunteers who helped setup and support it. Great job and I think the show benefitted from and greatly appreciated our participation.**

Member Training Minute – Vessel Safety Checks

Kim Walsh, FSO-MT/FSO-PE with Joe Kurtz, FSO-VE and John Frieman, VFC, FSO-MS

This month article focuses on how to become a Vessel Examiner and importance of Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs) in executing our Recreational Boating Safety mission. VSCs are one of the best ways to get direct interaction with boaters and provide information specific to their type of boat and where they most often use it.

The initial certification requirements are quite simple and can be completed rather quickly:

- Complete the open book test (no proctor required) with a score of 90% or greater
- Participate in 5 VSCs with a certified Vessel Examiner.

The Vessel Examiner test is pretty straight forward. However, the variety of watercraft and nuances of federal and state requirements means you'll want to have references available and might want to seek out additional opportunities to work with an experienced Examiner when first inspecting a paddlecraft, PWC, sailboat, etc.

You'll encounter an immense range of boaters when visiting marinas and launch ramps, such as:

- Boaters who know the requirements and seek a VSC every year.
 - If they have discrepancies, they are usually simple ones, such as their flares have expired
 - The best topics of conversation are new requirements, such as the phase in of Brianna's Law and the change to fire extinguisher regulations
- First time VSCs – new vessel owners have a huge range of boating knowledge and compliance with regulations
 - May have bought the boat used with safety equipment included...but is it in date and do they know how to use it?
 - What is their boating knowledge and experience?
- Paddlecraft and small sailboat owners
 - Paddlecraft VSCs are quite simple from the equipment point of view and focus on the opportunity to educate the boater, if needed
 - They aren't required to complete a Boating Safety course and may have a skewed view of "Rules of the Road" -- believing they have absolute "right of way" and not understanding about requirements not to block channels and to maintain their course and speed to allow motorboats to safely give way
 - You should carry whistles (if available), "If Found" decals and Paddle craft safety literature

Vessel Examiner is an extremely rewarding certification for extroverts! It's a little more challenging for introverts, but definitely worthwhile. Please contact Kim or one of our current Vessel Examiners to learn more. It's one of the easiest qualifications to earn, but you'll continue to learn while performing VSCs, due to the many questions you'll be asked. VSCs are a critical component of our Recreational Boating Safety mission and can be extremely rewarding. They're also a great opportunity to promote Boating Safety classes and recruit new members.

PPE Now in AuxData

Diana Robinson, FSO-IS, FSO-PB

Imagine if you will a corporation with over 26,000 workers in locations in each of the United States. Many of those workers have been issued equipment, but the company doesn't know exactly who had been given what. They don't know what hardware is still in good repair, its value, or how to project replacement costs.

That's similar to the situation the CG Auxiliary has been in. The new system improves both financial accountability and safety. Before, there was no centralized inventory or inspection management system. Now, DIRAUX and your own coxswain can tell whether you have gear required for a patrol – and there will be a green box if its inspection status is good. A flotilla's Rescue and Survival Systems

officers can plan ahead to make sure no one's PPE is out of inspection, and AuxData will send members automatic email reminders when their gear is due for inspection. The new PPE module in AuxData really only affects crew, equipment managers, and flotilla staff officers. All major wearable gear items (except PLBs) are already in the system.

Once PLBs are in...

- Boat crew & trainees who already comfortable with AuxData will only need a brief intro to the PPE module.
- If you are a crew/crew trainee member who doesn't/won't/can't use AuxData, please contact me to schedule individual training by phone to get you up to speed.
- Anyone issued a PLB should be able to record their own PLB monthly tests. There is work underway for monthly AuxData-generated email reminders which would automatically update PLB inspection status if the member replies that it passed, but that's still in the planning stages. Until then, it will mean opening your AuxData account monthly, going to the PPE tab, clicking a box and maybe entering a date. That's it!

One of the required fields in the PPE module is an initial, one-time "Acceptance" by the member to verify they've received the described item. The system tracks 7 possible items, so for each crew member that means up to 7 records which need to have the acceptance box checked. Although I can check off acceptance on behalf of a member I'd like you to at least know how to look at the records and which discrepancies to ignore.

Let's say you open your AD-II record now. One of the tabs is PPE. If you were issued gear it should all show up there. If you want you can "Accept" my entries now by clicking on the box for that. Keep in mind:

- PLBs are not in yet, probably coming in the next few weeks.
- They are not tracking minor items such as mirrors or whistles. They are only tracking:
 - Anti-exposure coveralls
 - Type III PFDs
 - Boat crew survival vests
 - PLBs
 - Rain gear
 - Gear bags (empty)
 - Float coats
- We've been told to input a uniform issue date of 1/1/22 for all gear, regardless of when actually issued.
- Last inspection date will be April 2022. Inspection intervals range from annual to monthly (PLBs).
- Make/model #s also are limited and may not be reflect what you have. If you contact me with corrections I can add a note.
- We've been asked to enter privately owned PPE -- with a note -- so that inspections can be tracked. Please contact me or Walt if you purchased any of those 7 items instead of using issued gear.
- Members can view and "accept" but not edit the other fields. Kindly let me know if corrections are needed.

- “Acceptance” will mean checking a box for each gear item. You can review/accept all but PLBs now. You will receive an email acknowledgement when you accept gear – whether you do it yourself or I accept for you.

I’d like to thank Ben, and RSS Officers Tom and Walt for the excellent work they’ve done keeping these records straight. During our training class that some of the other flotilla data managers lacked complete records of issued gear. COMO Laurer shared Ben’s PPE inventory spreadsheet as a model of how to organize the information collected by RSS officers, or what inspection & maintenance is required for different types of gear. Thanks, gentlemen!

Other AuxData Tips & Reminders

Diana Robinson, FSO-IS, FSO-PB

- **All Crew members should be able to use AuxData by the beginning of the boating season. *See above. Individual training sessions are available – just ask!***
- **Per ALAUX 012/22, you should log into AuxData monthly to make sure you aren’t locked out due to inactivity. If that happens, please request your account be reset by sending an email to: Auxdata@acumensolutions.com**
- **When reporting Boat Crew training attendance (virtual or “shore-side”) please use 99D. Only the instructor uses 06A for his/her teaching time and does NOT report your attendance.**
- **Attendance at instructor-led workshops such as TCT, Operations and many of the D-Trains will be reported by the instructor. If you’re not sure whether it was, check your record...or ask!**
- **For online workshops with no instructor (such as VE, IT, etc.) you’ll need to send me an attestation form if no certificate is supplied on completion. Ditto for non-Aux certificates such as CPR and Youth Protection Training.**

Want initial AuxData or refresher training? Just ask! We can set up an individual session by phone.





SEA SCOUT SHIP 25 *April 2022*

By Ship 25 Yeoman, Allyson Marion

Photos © by Jim Graney

Activities:

It's been a busy month for Ship 25. After last month's newsletter was published, a bridge of Honor was held for awards to be given at Ithaca Coast Guard Aux Base. But one was also held virtually by the Sea Scout National program where **Ship 25 was recognized as being in the 2021 National Sea Scout Volunteer Service Fleet and National Keelboat Fleet.** Soon after, we jumped right back into a fun-filled schedule. On April 1st through 3rd scouts attended the Sea Scout ball and fellowship. **We celebrated our Boatswain, Angelina Masotti, being awarded as Sea Scout of the year.** Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, from dressing up to taking over the dance floor. Not long after, our chicken BBQ was held on April 10th. We did great, so thank you to everyone who came down to see us!

Meanwhile, the Baden-Powell Council's Taughannock District awards dinner recognized adult volunteers Dawn Thornton and Ruth Keagle with the Sea Scout Adult Training Award. Youth members Jonathyn Thornton and Allyson Marion were made members of the District's 76'ers Patrol, while Angelina received the District's Gorget award.

Lastly, to end off our events for April, Ship members participated in two roadside clean ups. One was held on April 19th at Dryden's Lake Trail and the other along route 38 South of Dryden Village.



Meetings:

Recently, Friday meetings have been information meetings for big trips that are being planned. Such trips include going to Kandersteg Switzerland, the Blair Athol Jamborette in Scotland, and Florida Sea Base. Smaller trips have also recently been a topic of discussion for the ship, such as hiking trips to New Hampshire and the trip to SUNY Maritime in May.

Upcoming:

Ship 25 will soon be heading to NY Harbor for SUNY Maritime! Many from ship 25 are looking forward to getting out on the water and (cross your fingers) warm weather. Check our calendar to stay on top of events at <http://www.ithacaseascouts.org>

Fundraising:

The bottle and can drive is still going; people can bring bags down to K&H Redemption Center at 900 West State Street in Ithaca and say they are for Sea Scout Ship 25. If you order from Amazon, please use the Amazon Smile link at [ithacaseascouts.org](http://www.ithacaseascouts.org) and we will get a portion of your sale as a donation.

Contact:

Sea Scouts is a co-ed program for young men and women ages 13-20. Sea Scout Ship 25 meets at 6:30pm most Friday nights at the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Ithaca, NY and also offers a zoom link for those who can't attend in person. For more details contact Committee Chairman Jim Graney at 607-327-1226 (work/cell) or email jgraney@twcny.rr.com. Additional information and a copy of Ship 25's meeting and activity calendar are available at www.ithacaseascouts.org.