

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

VOLUME 82

February 2022

ISSUE #2

In this issue

From the Helm	3
Flotilla Minutes & Calendar.....	4-6
Member Training Minute -- Instructor	7
Changes in Auxiliary Virtual Classroom	7-9
Member Spotlight	9
Myers Point Marina Area Activity	9
Sea Scout Ship 25 News	10

***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

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
Flotilla2.2.Ithaca@gmail.com

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
Dr. Joseph A. Sopko
Operations
Robert Laurer

Division Two

Commander
Robert Shanahan, Sr.
Vice Commander
Richard Kunz
Immediate Past Commander
Kim Walsh
Operations
Richard Kunz

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
PADDLERAFT 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
James Cornell
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

From the Helm



Bennett Gardiner II, Flotilla Commander

Here we are in the midst of “Hard Water Season” and the Ground Hog assured us that we had at least 6 more weeks of winter! I hope he is wrong but those balmy summer breezes of our beloved Cayuga Lake seem a long way off.

Anyway, many of our Members are busying themselves learning new skills to support the mission of the Auxiliary. Division 2 has sponsored virtual boat crew training delivered by Flotilla 2-14. A number of our Members are currently engaged in this training and will soon be completing sign-offs with their Flotilla 22 Mentors.

This time of year, is a great time to take a course, learn a new skill, and work on a new qualification. The Flotilla is in need of additional Instructors, Vessel Examiners, and Dealer Program Visitors. If you are interested, please contact the appropriate Flotilla Staff Officer or the Elected Leadership. More Instructors, VE’s, and Program Visitors allows us to more effectively reach the Boating Public and achieve one of our Cornerstone Missions: Promoting Recreational Boating Safety.

01 March 2022 marks the beginning of District 9ER’s virtual spring D-Train. Much good subject matter is presented during these 1-hour evening classes and I urge everyone to sign up for these classes. Aside from the good training this is an opportunity to meet and develop continuing relationships with Auxiliarists and Coast Guard personnel from across District 9.

Flotilla 22 has received an invitation to participate in the Treman Marina Safety Day on 18 June 2022. This event is an outstanding opportunity for us to interact with the Boating Public and offers all Members of the Flotilla to participate in furthering this Cornerstone Mission. 2022 is off to a fine start for Flotilla 22. Yes, there are challenges but nothing that our Flotilla Team can’t overcome!

Before I close, I would like to thank Walt and Diana Robinson for completing an accurate and timely inventory of our Operations Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and transporting surplus equipment and PLB’s with expired batteries to the Division RSS Officer (Rescue and Survival Systems) at Station Oswego. Division 2 directed the Flotillas to complete this inventory on a very tight schedule.

Stay Safe, Shipmates!

SEMPER PARATUS.

Flotilla News & Calendar:



ITHACA FLOTILLA

Flotilla Meeting Minutes for 09 February 2022 (Virtual) @ 1900 Hours

Flotilla Commander: Ben Gardiner

Flotilla Vice Commander: John Frieman

Flotilla Immediate Past Commander: Kevin Walsh

Uniform: Casual

MEETING AGENDA:

- 1900 Call to Order (Ben Gardiner)
- 1905 Pledge of Allegiance (John Frieman)
- 1907 Moment of Silence (Ben Gardiner)
- Guest Introductions: NONE
- 1910 Personnel Update (Ben Gardiner)
- Meeting Attendees
 - Kevin and Kim Walsh
 - Joe Kurtz
 - Ben and Laura Gardiner
 - Jamie Cornell
 - Dave Cornelius
 - Aaron Abb
 - Diana Robinson Walt Robinson
 - Jen Watson
 - John Sims
 - Tom Every
 - Bruce Ressler
- 1912 Secretary's Report: FSO-SR (Kevin Walsh) January Minutes sent via Newsletter.
 - Motion Kim Seconded Dave Cornelius Motion carried
- 1913 Treasurer's Report: FSO-FN (Aaron Abb)
 - Holding Report until February 2022
- Division 2 Update: Meeting of 06 February 2022
- PPE – Rick Kunz:
 - Excess PPE being collected and will be stored at Station Oswego under supervision of Jim Middleton.
 - Rick will advise of arrangements to drop off excess equipment. Would like to meet halfway or otherwise reduce the traffic.
 - Advise Rick of PPE (and PLB) needs for Active OPS personnel and Trainees.
 - Steve Botsford advises that (Commodore) Bob Laurer has been assigned oversight of PPE at district level.
- OPS – Rick Kunz:
 - Bob Laurer (District OPS) is working with Pam Wik Grimm on the Boat Crew training which may become a District wide program. Commodore Laurer “wants to get as many people on the water this year as possible.”
 - Rick wants to hold a Division Wide OPS meeting with Station Oswego at Station Oswego in April 2022. This will be open to all OPS personnel.
 - Chain of Leadership and Management:

- Rick said it must be respected (in both directions – up and down). Flotilla issues must be taken to Division and not bypassing Division and going directly to District. Division will respect the chain going down to Flotilla level.
- Covid. There seems to be some confusion on this. Steve Botsford indicated that Auxiliarists are NOT required to get vaccinated but non-vaccinated members cannot participate as part of in person missions. Rick said underway hours were NOT waived for Operational Personnel by the 05 January 2022 Auxiliary COVID-19 Reconstitution Guidance, Version 3. Unless we hear differently, I think we should adhere to the 05 January 2022 guidance.
- **Flotilla Commanders Update:** D-Train (Schedule distributed via email). OPS personnel recommended to sign up for the Required Surface Operations Course on 09 March 2022:

09-Mar-22*	1900-2100	robert.laurer@cgauxnet.us	Required Surface Operations Class
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To sign up email the instructor robert.laurer@cgauxnet.us

**For more opportunities, see note on page 7 at end of Flotilla calendar – Ed.*

- Assignment to Duty.
 - Division advises that Non-operational missions can be approved at the Flotilla Level.
 - Personnel wishing to perform non-operational missions are asked to request assignment to duty via email to Flotilla Commander (copy to Vice Flotilla Commander) as you have done in the past.
 - Flotilla Commander will respond to you promptly (VFC in FC absence) with Go or No Go on the mission. Missions in this category might include (but not limited to) Vessel Safety Checks, Dealer Visits, and other Missions not requiring Coast Guard Orders.
- **Operations Update.** Virtual Boat Crew Training begins (officially) on 12 February 2022. An additional first class (officially starting on 12 Feb 22) was held on 05 February 2022 for those who were unable to attend on the 12th.

NEXT FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICER REPORT DUE TO FC ON 05 MAR 2022

[See FSO list on page 2 – Ed.]

- Old Business / Follow-ups:
- New Business/News:
- **Next Meeting: Friday, 11 March 2022, virtually at 1900 hours. Date change to avoid conflict with DTrain Classes.**
- Adjournment of Flotilla meeting
 - Motion: Dave Cornelius Second Diana Robinson

Flotilla Calendar

Date	Event	POC / OIC	Notes
9 Mar 2022 1900* <i>[See note below]</i>	Spring D-Train OPS Workshop robert.laurer@cgauxnet.us	Robert Laurer	Virtual
11 March 2022 1900 Friday DATE CHANGE	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual
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 – 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 Tentative	Docks In	Corporation	TBA
8 June 2022 1900	Monthly Flotilla meeting	Ben Gardiner	Virtual
18 June 2022 1900 Tentative	Treman Marina Day	Jen Watson?	TBA
9-10 July 2022 Sat-Sun, 0900-1300	2022 Boat America Safety Class	Kim Walsh	Virtual
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

**See D-Train schedule for other training and registration info. Even if you think a class is already full – or you want the class but couldn't make that particular date – PLEASE send an inquiry to the POC anyway. Additional dates and instructors have been added for some of these – Ed.]*

Member Training Minute - Instructor

Kim Walsh, FSO-MT

We hope you enjoy this new monthly column and possibly decide to earn a new qualification. I'm starting this series by focusing on the three pillars of Recreational Boating Safety:

- Public Education
- Vessel Examinations
- Marine Dealer Visits

Formal Public Education classes must be led by qualified Instructors. The Coast Guard Auxiliary Instructor training and certification program was re-written in 2020 to include new materials and techniques, including effective use of multimedia.

The certification requirements are:

- Complete the open book test (no proctor required) with a score of 90% or greater
- Complete PQS requirements with mentor
- Plan and present two Lessons

The Instructor candidate's mentor can use the materials provided to assist candidates from novices to skilled educators.

We need a team of skilled Instructors to lead our Public Education program. They're also required from many member training activities such as the annual Operations Workshop. The Instructor can be the subject matter expert or work jointly with a subject matter expert to effectively present material.

Please contact me or one of our current Instructors to learn more. It's a rewarding qualification and an extremely important component of our Recreational Boating Safety mission.

Changes in Virtual Auxiliary Classroom

USCG Aux National Training Directorate (distributed Jan 25 2022)

On 19 January 2022 the Auxiliary Online Classroom (<https://classroom2.cgaux.org/moodle/>) was rebuilt as New AUX Classroom.

Everyone is now a first time learner to this specific site and will need to create a new account using your Member ID, associated email address and a new password. Once a new account is created, you will be given access to the New AUX Classroom.

The New AUX Classroom requires all users to create a STRONG password with 10-characters, UPPER & lower case letters, numbers, and special characters. To better visualize, here is an example of a STRONG password: ABCdef12#\$

Follow this link to access a Job Aide: How to Create a New Account in the New AUX Classroom.”
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eo494DVX_8IUkVHJiwWf64fie8kvejz5/view?usp=sharing

There is also a Video Tutorial at this link:
<https://vimeo.com/660519472/4bbe7a5aff>

These links are also available on the system Log-in page

Another significant change is the way in which you register for a self-paced course. This is a part of our security upgrade. The new protocols require that every course have an extra layer of security at the course level. This is accomplished using *enrollment keys* for self-paced courses. An enrollment key is simply a 4-6 character code unique to each course that unlocks the course for individual learners.

Within the new AUX Classroom, there are now 2 types of enrollments.

1. **Manual Enrollment:** This is used for courses that have specialized enrollment criteria such as C-Schools or courses with limited enrollment. Learners will be enrolled directly by the course instructor.
2. **Self-Enrollment/Self Paced:** Any course open for self-enrollment such as Core Training, BQC2 or other courses that do not require an instructor. ***For security purposes, these courses now require an enrollment key.***

Each Directorate is responsible for securely maintaining a list of enrollment keys associated with their self-paced courses. Each Directorate also has a special page on their WOW site called "*Enrollment Keys*", You can access enrollment keys using your Member Zone (MZ) password. A video showing the process is available to view after login to the New AUX Classroom.

Your access or password for the Member Zone (MZ) and for the National Testing Center (<http://ntc2.cgaux.org/NTC/>) have not changed.

A few other points of consideration:

- Due to the change over and enhanced security, prior enrollments and past learning history from the OLD AUX Classroom could not be rolled into the new system. Nothing transferred to the New AUX Classroom. Users will have to re-register for any self-paced courses they were engaged in prior to the transition.
- Any training completed in the old system and ***verified through the National Testing Center*** is safely recorded in AUXDATA. This includes Core Training and the Basic Qualification Course as well the AUXOP courses.
- Some old/outdated training content from multiple directorates were not transitioned to the new system because they were unable to run in the new secured system.
- Certain other valid training courses transitioned to the new system but are hidden for now while they are being updated. Once complete, they will be available again.
- Users enrolled in self-paced training can re-enroll in the same course within the new system. Unlike the old system the new system can track user progress and even generate certificates of completion.

Like any transition, this one is not without a few challenges. But once we make it out of the inlet, it will be fair winds and following seas as we take the Auxiliary into the future.

Regards,

Jonathan M. Ahlbrand

Division Chief, Advance Distance Learning and Program Management

National Training Directorate

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

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517-449-1222, mobile

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v/r

Stephen Bogiages, Esq.

BC-TLO

FLT 013-11-02

Woods Hole, MA

Member Spotlight

Congratulations to:

Bruce Ressner for completing the AuxWeather class online

Jacob Foil-Charles for completing all his BQ requirements

Well done!

Myers Point Marina Area Activity

Thomas Every, FSO-CM, FSO-PAD

Myers Point Marina Inlet Take 2: Heavy equipment is back at it again installing a new retaining wall in the Myers Marina Inlet. After abandoning their efforts last Winter and getting rid of the composite (plastic?) wall materials they are moving full scale ahead with a new wall. It appears that the new wall sheets ribbing may be closer together and the material a thicker version of last years. See photo at left taken 2/20. New wall should be ready for Spring.

Kiteboarding Anyone? There was a lone kiteboarder off Myers Point that afternoon. Temperature was 36 and the winds were 17 - 22 from the South. The geese were smarter and hiding from the winds on the North side of the point.





SEA SCOUT SHIP 25 *February 2022*

*By Ship 25 Yeoman, Allyson
Marion*

Photos © by Jim Graney

Activities:

For those who participated, Okpik was a big success. Members built shelters using carried in supplies or snow and branches. Okpik is meant to teach cold weather survival. This event allowed them to experience how they should prepare and respond for trips or sudden weather changes. More recently, a Valentine's Day cake auction was held to fundraise for ship events. Thank you to everyone who participated in this, in both the baked goods auction and in donations. Lastly, last weekend Ship 25 went ice climbing at Camp Barton. A smaller six-foot waterfall and a larger 70-foot waterfall was climbed at Camp Barton.



Meetings:

Meetings are in person at the US Coast Guard-Auxiliary base and via zoom. We recently changed our meeting day to become a training session; and will continue to work on learning skills and advancement.

Upcoming:

Ship 25 is looking forward to ice fishing at Casterline Pond in Cortland County and going skiing at Greek Peak. SEAL applications are also due at the beginning of March.

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 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.

