



BILGEWATER

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 39-02, Des Plaines, IL 9TH WR
FC Chas. Hague VFC Bridget Darrey FSO-PB Chas. Hague

Vol. L – No. 1 – January 2018

WEDNESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2018 - 19:00 (7:00 pm CST)

Des Plaines Park District

Prairie Lakes Community Center

515 East Thacker, Des Plaines, Illinois

AGENDA:

HAPPY NEW YEAR! (NOW WHAT?)



Find the Auxiliarist in this picture

UPCOMING EVENTS

10–14 January 2018: Progressive Boat, RV and Strictly Sail Show. McCormick Place, Chicago. The Big Boating Event! Volunteer to meet the boating public, and sneak off to see exhibits and seminars.

21 January 2018: Change of Watch. Club Casa Café, River Road and Golf Road, Des Plaines. Our Home Town! Only \$35 for the great food and fellowship.

February 17 & 18, 2018: Our World Underwater Chicago Marriott O'Hare, Chicago, Illinois 1000-1800. Show for dive enthusiasts.

17–19 February 2018: Rockford Boat Show. Smaller, but another fun opportunity to meet the public and get Boat Safety information out.

**Since these two shows are the same weekend, we will need help manning both.

19–25 May 2018: National Safe Boating Week. Lots of activities, including meeting our local politicians, the Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon, and Public Affairs tables.

OUR COVER PHOTO



Assuming that Coastie will be at the Boat Show, the operator (Tim Darrey in this case) will be cleverly concealed behind this poster. Tim had this made after a little brat Boat Show guest spotted him in 2016.

FROM THE NEW (OLD) BRIDGE

Flotilla elections (at least in our Flotilla) run to silly, because it is usually a case of finding someone willing to do the job rather than two or more power-hungry types fighting over the office.

That being the case, I am happy to step up as your Flotilla Commander for 2018. Also a little daunted:

Tim did an incredibly good job as FC, and it will be a hard act to follow. Also, there are more demands being made from Division and up the chain since the last time I held the FC position.

At the January Division meeting, Tom Remec asked each FC to come up with “five metrics” for each Flotilla. Leaving out that we in the US are not on the metric system, this is my list:

- 1) Get more of our members involved in staff positions and qualified for tasks.
- 2) Get our Facility out on the water and train more crew.
- 3) Increase the attendance at Flotilla meetings. Have interesting programs, do member training for our members and other Auxiliarists.
- 4) Have Fun!

For most of this we will need to work together. I'm looking forward to getting the help of all of the members of 39-02.

DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP



The December potluck meeting was a huge success. 12 members plus 4 guests conducted a business meeting (“The food’s getting cold!”) followed by fried chicken, salads, mac and cheese, and delicious desserts. Several treats were collected for the Regulars at Station Wilmette, not including the turkey Barry had ready. Good fellowship was had by all, and there weren’t many leftovers!

MIKE SCHLACHTER

Long time 39-02 member, former flotilla Commander and friend Mike Schlachter has been unable to participate in flotilla activities much in the past few years, due to the usual: demands from family and work. He submitted his resignation from the Auxiliary last year. Sharp-eyed FC Tim Darrey, however, spotted that he was eligible to retire and set him up for that. So Mike is still part of the Auxiliary, without the pressures. Glad you’re still onboard, Mike!