



# BILGEWATER

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

**Our URL:** <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=095-39-02>

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OUR NEXT MEETING: 15 JANUARY, 19:30 (7:30 PM)

BACK AT DES PLAINES PARKS LEISURE CENTER

2222 Birch St., Des Plaines, Illinois (North of Touhy)

## AGENDA:

20 20 HIND *FORE* SIGHT



Bill Luska and Bridget Darrey escort Coastie to Navy Pier

## HEADS UP!

Be advised: We will be back at the Leisure Center, 2222 Birch for our January–March meetings.

## NEXT MEETING

Our new Bridge will be planning the upcoming year. Suggestions are welcome! See Bridget’s note below.

## DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Our special end-of-year get-together was held 18 December at Prairie Lakes. Turnout was a bit disappointing, as only 7 members and one guest were in attendance. A nearly record-setting meeting was held (Bridget: “Does anyone need to add to their Staff report? No? Back to the Commander”) Barry and Ruben brought scads of chicken, plus salads. New member Josh Garate brought home made (!) potato salad. More salads and desserts rounded out the feast.

## AND AWARDS!

Auxiliarists who were members this past year have been given a Unit Award for the Auxiliary’s 80th anniversary. If you did not get your ribbon or star at the December meeting, stop by this month.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**18 January 2020: Change of Watch.** Club Casa Café, River and Golf Roads, Des Plaines. Social starts at 1730, cash bar. Dinner with speeches, awards, and videos. This yearly event is a lot of fun. Quite a few of our members are already coming.

**2/7–2/9/20: Rockford Boat Show.** A remarkably well-attended show on the east side of Rockford. Barry Jacobson is handling this.

**29 Feb–01 Mar. Our World Underwater.** Smaller show slanted towards SCUBA enthusiasts.

## OUR NEW BRIDGE

As you should know, we elected a new bridge at the November meeting. We are lucky to have Bridget Darrey as our new Flotilla Commander. She will do a lot better job than that old tired fogey who last held the position. (thatsa JOKE!)



Vice Commander is long-time member Michael Valente. Mike has been FC already, and will do a most excellent job.



Bridget has already picked out the Flotilla staff,  
Comm: Jeff Silberg      Training: Mike Valente  
Computer: Andy Weiler      Operations: Tim Darrey  
Diversity: Ryan Joslyn      Public Affairs: Barry J.  
Finance: Ron Tragasz      Publication: Chas. Hague  
Human : Ruben Howard      Public Edu: Chas. Hague  
Info Syst: Bob Reczek      Program Visits: Gary Cahill  
Materials : Jim Davy      Secretary: Bridget Darrey  
Vessel Exams: Barry Jacobson

## FROM THE NEW COMMANDER



I wish to take this opportunity to thank you, my fellow members, for showing your faith in me to guide this flotilla for the next 12 months. As your Flotilla Commander, I envision 2020 to be a busy and successful year.

Here are some of the goals I will be tasking our flotilla to achieve while I am in office. I plan on reimplementing the mentorship program for new members, assigning each a mentor to help guide them through the confusing and sometime elusive information needed to become a successful, active Auxiliarist. Next, I am expecting to see good member participation in at least two (in addition to the Des Plaines River Canoe Race) 39-02 established VE Blitzes. Lastly, Chas has a good list of Public Education Classes and Seminars already scheduled. We need to make sure he has the instructors and support necessary to educate all boaters, new and experienced, proper watercraft handling.

If you have and questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to working with each of our members.