



# BILGEWATER

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

Vol. L – No. 2 – February 2018

WEDNESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2018 - 18:30 (6:30 pm CST)

Des Plaines Park District

Prairie Lakes Community Center

515 East Thacker, Des Plaines, Illinois

**AGENDA:  
ICS REFRESHER**



2017 AWARDS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**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.

**24-25 February and 3-4 March. Public affairs, Bass Pro Shop** Barry has scheduled us to do PA on four weekend days. These are fun events, although a bit challenging, since most of the folks coming through are not boaters.

**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.

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Quick—what does ICS stand for? We have all taken those on-line tutorials, but do you remember what they said? Your Flotilla commander will give a very fast and mostly painless overview of ICS, so that if it comes up we can be on-line with it.

ICS = Incident Command System.

## Boat, RV and Strictly Sail Show.



Alas, Coastie did not make an appearance (apparently he was in the shop, and will be back in service this summer) Everything else went really well. 39-02 members Tim and Bridget, Chas and Bob were on hand at one time or another to meet show visitors, show them around one of the new 29 foot rescue craft, and talk up boating safety. Ron Dzigawa from 39-08 ran his “trash” game almost continuously. Another item was a new Marlinspike board, much sturdier (though not as collapsible) than the older one.

## THE CHANGE OF WATCH THAT WASN'T

By Tim Darrey



The big event of the month was to be the annual Change of Watch. In the planning stages, everything came together well and our hopes were high --- until the government shutdown dashed our plans. We didn't want to cancel, and so the committee decided to change the name to “Fellowship” and to carry on within the guidelines available to us. And this change worked well until four active duty officers and chiefs in uniform walked in -- with awards for some of our members, no less. Turned out the shutdown did not affect Essential Personnel, which the Regulars certainly are. It was too late to alert the commodore, chief of staff, and D-CAPT's, so we modified our plans once more. With attendees from all five flotillas, we had a wonderful time and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who took time out of your day to attend.

## 2017 AWARDS

Our Flotilla – that is to say, all of you - did very well in 2017.

B. Darrey	Auxiliary Sustained Service Award
(3rd award)	
T. Darrey	Auxiliary Sustained Service Award
(4th award)	
C. Hague	Meritorious Team Commendation

## FLOTILLA AWARDS: (SEE COVER PICTURE)

Most Active Flotilla 2017 3rd Place  
Program Visitor 2017 3rd Place  
Member Training Hours 2017 **1st Place**  
Public Education 2017 2nd Place  
Public Affairs 2017 **1st Place**  
Vessel Exams 2017 2nd Place  
Operations Total Hours 2017 **1st Place**

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Instructor Member Training 1st Place    Tim Darrey  
Boat Crew 3rd Place                            Tim Darrey  
Public Education 2nd Place                Barry Jacobson  
Recruiting Assistance 1st Place         John Johnson  
Recruiting Assistance 2nd Place         Carol Johnson  
Public Affairs 2nd Place                     Robert Reczek  
Vessel Examiner 3rd Place                Barry Jacobson  
Instructor 1st Place                         Tim Darrey

**NOTE:** If your name is on the list above, and you have not gotten your award already, come to the meeting so we can give it to you! (Your FC is liable to lose it, otherwise)



## OUR MYSTERY GUESTS

One of the major reasons that Flotilla 39-02 is as successful as we are is these two. John and Carol Johnson, members of the Auxiliary forever, do an outstanding job recruiting high schoolers for the Coast Guard Academy. One of their tools is the program where kids spend a week at the Academy, seeing what the Coast Guard is all about. Because of their business and recruiting commitments, it is rare (but always a pleasure) for us to see them at all.

## PADDLE YOUR OWN CANOE

Tom Remec and Tim Darrey got together and made up a presentation paddle, signed by all the Division Staff, and gave it to our favorite IT person (and past Division Commander) Bob Reczek at the not-a-Change of Watch.