



BILGEWATER

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 39-02, Des Plaines, IL 9TH WR
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Our URL: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=095-39-02>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FLOTILLA MEETING: Wednesday, 20 April 2022. This will be another combination Live / Zoom meeting. The live version will be held at Prairie Lakes Community Center, 515 East Dempster / Thacker, in Des Plaines, starting at 1830 for member training with the regular meeting starting at 1930. The advantage of attending the live meeting is that we have snacks.

DIVISION MEETING: Wednesday, 4 May. The General Membership is cordially invited to sit in on the monthly Division meeting. Currently, these are held at Tim Darrey's business office, 1830 Busse Highway, just southeast of downtown Des Plaines. You can also sit in via Zoom.

14 May VE Blitz at the Prospect Heights METRA Station, located on Wolf Road north of Euclid, 1000 to 1600. Rain date will be June 4.

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

It looks like we may be able to do NSBW this year. An Open House at Station Wilmette is planned for 21 May, the canoe marathon might be held, and VSC Blitzes are anticipated. Barry is contacting Bass Pro Shop and Cabela's about PA tables at the stores, but he will need help because he will be at sea that week. The Planning Committee has been organized. If you have ideas, or want to help, [contact](#)

CLASSES

Classes in the last month have been ... frustrating. We were all set to teach "GPS for Mariners" on April 2, when one student fell and broke her arm, and the other had to work. Then the Boat America class planned for April 13–15 had to be cancelled when no one registered.

Rest assured we will hold GPS and BA in the next few weeks. Pass the word to your boating friends and VSC contacts that these classes are available.

ANY TIME IS A GOOD TIME FOR BOATING SAFETY

I visited the West Marine store the other day. As I passed the safety gear, I overheard a discussion on the new LED beacons. After showing my Auxiliary card, I was able to answer the boaters questions. I also gave them copies of the Fedregs, the Orion brochure, and the VSC pamphlet, and encouraged them to take the Boat America course. Fun!

UNIFORM INFORMATION

I presented the Workshop on Vessel Safety Checks during E-Train. Part of the workshop covered uniforms, including the new Alternate Working Uniform (AWU) that will be coming out in 2024. Tom Mullally made several corrections to my presentation, and subsequently sent me a link to the "Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Pilot Program Standard Operating Procedures" (Thanks, Tom!) I have clipped out the part in this large document that describes the AWU and the Aux Ops Polo Shirt. For more information, go to the original.

AuxMan Section 10.E.2.d. Auxiliary Work Uniform:

The Auxiliary Work Uniform (AWU) is the alternative work uniform to the ODU and CG-U. It shall be worn by Auxiliarists who need a work uniform and are either unable to obtain the ODU or CG-U due to lack of size availability or who may be unable or unwilling to adhere to these uniform and appearance policies.

The AWU's main components are a grey polo shirt top and dark blue khaki trouser with the black web belt. The shirt shall have three black collar buttons

with no pockets. It may be 100 percent cotton or be made of a cotton-polyester blend to facilitate moisture wicking. The LAST NAME of the Auxiliarist shall be embroidered on the right front side in white 5/8-inch tall block letters. The Auxiliary emblem shall be embroidered in white on the left front side. ...The lettering shall be centered between the button line and the arm seam on the wearer's right front side. The emblem shall be centered between the button line and the arm seam on the wearer's left side.

Men must wear the men's AWU shirt tucked in. Women may wear the women's AWU shirt either tucked or untucked. The trouser shall be the 5.11 Tactical pant and shall always be worn unbloused. Ancillary AWU items include: the dark blue ODU crew neck T-shirt (optional); the Auxiliary ball cap is the only authorized AWU headgear; socks shall be black and undecorated; black work boots authorized for ODU wear are the principal footwear; the black shoe authorized for wear with the Tropical Blue uniform, the boat shoe authorized for wear with the ODU, and a black postal-approved plain-toe Oxford-style shoe are authorized AWU footwear options. The black shoe option shall not be worn for operational activities (e.g., not worn for surface and aviation missions), and boat shoes shall not be worn for more formal public or Coast Guard engagement activities (e.g., not for Coast Guard station watchstanding or for teaching public education classes).

AuxMan Section 10.E.4. Auxiliary Operations Polo Shirt:

The Auxiliary Operations Polo Shirt may be worn as an alternative top for the ODU, CG-U, and the HWU versions for patrol activities. No logos, patches, insignia, name tapes, nor name tags of any type may be worn on this shirt. The Auxiliary Operations Polo shirt shall be dark blue in color, and have three black collar buttons with no pockets. It may be 100 percent cotton or be made of a cotton-polyester blend to facilitate moisture wicking. Lettering will be embroidered with white 5/8-inch tall letters as follows: "USCG AUXILIARY" on the left front side, and the LAST NAME of the Auxiliarist on the right front side.

The lettering must be the same font on both sides of the shirt and parallel to the bottom hem of the shirt. The bottom of the lettering shall be placed six inches down from the center of the shoulder seam. The

LAST NAME and "USCG AUXILIARY" shall appear to be straight across from each other on the same plane. The LAST NAME shall be centered between the button line and the arm seam on the wearer's right front side. "USCG AUXILIARY" shall be centered between the button line and the arm seam on the wearer's left side.

The AWU's principal components are:

- a. Dark blue polo shirt with:
 - (1) Embroidered Auxiliary emblem on the left breast.
 - (2) Embroidered Auxiliarist's last name on the right breast.
- b. Dark blue 5.11 Tactical Pants.
- c. Work boots (boat shoes are authorized as allowed for CG-U wear).
- d. Auxiliary ball cap.

The Auxiliary version of the CG-U's principal components are:

- a. Dark blue CG-U blouse with:
 - (1) Grey name tapes with blue lettering.
 - (2) Auxiliary patch on the left shoulder.
 - (3) Full-color U.S. flag patch on the right shoulder.
- b. Dark blue CG-U trousers.
- c. Work boots (boat shoes are authorized as allowed for ODU wear).
- d. Auxiliary ball cap.

