



BILGEWATER

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

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

Vol. LI – No. 7– August 2019

OUR NEXT MEETING:

WEDNESDAY, 21 AUGUST 2019 – 18:30 (6:30 pm CST)

This Month: Des Plaines Park District Prairie Lakes

515 East Wolf Road, Des Plaines, Illinois

AGENDA:

CORE TRAINING — SECURITY



FLAGS OVER OSHKOSH

COVER PHOTO

When we were setting up Oshkosh Radio at the Pioneer Marina, the flag was tattered. One of the locals brought in a new American flag, and an Auxiliary blue ensign. They flew proudly over Oshkosh Base.

(That pile of rubble in the background is all that remains of the Pioneer Resort that used to be across the channel.)

OUR NEXT MEETING

I know of a boat that sank because of one small leak around the centerboard pivot. Small leaks are important. One of the Core Training courses is Security Training. Bridget Darrey will present this training at our next meeting.

NOW HEAR THIS!

So far this summer, 37 people have died on the Lakes, sharply up from previous years. Every member, in every interaction with the public— Spread The Word! Wear PFDs, boat with care (jettys are hidden by high water), and be aware of rip currents.

HEADS UP!

Be advised: Our September, October, and November meetings will be held at the Des Plaines Parks Leisure Center, 2222 Birch Street.

UPCOMING EVENTS

15–18 AUGUST CHICAGO AIR AND WATER

SHOW Lakefront at North Avenue. Once again we will have a canopy in with the other recruiting outfits to push Boat Safety and the Coast Guard. Kudos to Ron Dziagwa for organizing.

There will also be Auxiliary patrols on the water, along with SAR demonstrations. We are informed that the only unit to appear at every A-&-W is the Coast Guard!

AIRFAC PICNIC (NOT)

Bad news: There will not be any Auxiliary / Navy League picnics at Air Station Waukegan Airport this year. This is due in part to a change in command — Detroit now controls Waukegan, not Traverse City. Ever optimistic Barry is planning a jaunt to Detroit in February 2020 to present the case for more picnics. He was instructed to bring food — so they would know what they're missing.

OSHKOSH A TRIP!

Of the thirty or so Auxiliarists that went up to Oshkosh for the EAA Airventure meet this year, no



less than five — Tim and Bridget, Bob Reczek, Andrew, and Chas — were from our Flotilla! The Darreys went up Saturday, and immediately had bad luck—the campgrounds were too wet for vehicles, and they spent the first night on the entrance roadside. Chas went up Sunday. He helped set up, then slept on board his sailboat. Monday was a long day for Chas. He went on a patrol in the morning, then stood radio watch all afternoon — then stayed on as Facility 010 towed in a disabled boat.

Luckily, nothing else especially exciting happened during the week. Bob went on two patrols, as did Andrew. The Darreys were Coxswain/crew on 6 patrols. Chas stood a total of 4 radio watches.

MENTORING

By the Flotilla Commander

Back in May, I wrote that we in 39-02 didn't do mentoring — or rather that we were all mentors. Then Sonny Thatcher asked one of our new people who his mentor was, and was stunned when he heard he didn't have one assigned.

So: Mentors, Front and Center!

We are going to pull together a mentoring program. I need 39-02 Auxiliarists who are not overloaded already, who have not been in the Auxiliary too long (us old codgers have forgotten a lot, or what we do know is out of date), and who are willing to help our crop of new members. We will talk about this at the meeting.

