



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>

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OUR NEXT MEETING: ISN'T ONE!
SATURDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER, 1300 (1:00 PM)
Bob Reczek's Manse
3131 N. Carriageway, Arlington Heights, IL

AGENDA:
SUMMER'S END GET-TOGETHER



GETTING TOGETHER 2011
(with absent friends)

COVER PHOTO

I went looking for a photo of one of our previous get-togethers at Bob's place, and found this one. Sadly, George and Rolf Larson were on hand that day.

OUR NEXT MEETING

Bob and Jeanette Reczek have once again invited all the members of our Flotilla, and our pending members, to their backyard for fun and fellowship. There will be a quick meeting (just to say we had one) then an enjoyable afternoon. If you haven't RSVP'd, do so!

NOW HEAR THIS!

So far this summer, over 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 (jetties are hidden by high water), and be aware of rip currents.

HEADS UP!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

21 September: About Boating Safely class. We have managed to schedule a late-season session of this class., to be held at Oakton Arms on that Saturday. If someone you know needs it, either a civilian boater or a new Auxiliary member, contact Chas at 847-297-2541.

SEMINAR SERIES: This is something new. The Auxiliary has a group of short (two hours) classes on aspects of boating, taken from the Boating Safety and Seamanship long class. We are offering four of these:

- 23 September: Inland Boating
- 30 September: Boating Safety
- 7 October: Boating and Weather
- 14 October: Your Boat's Radio

We are charging \$15 per session, with all 4 for \$50. Classes will be held at Oakton Arms community room. Tell your boating friends about this easy, painless way to learn more boating skills!

CHICAGO AIR AND WATER SHOW

Our Flotilla had an interesting time during the Air and Water show. New member Ruben Howard came out and helped at the shore side tent, talking up the Auxiliary and water safety. At every opportunity, we mentioned the loss of life on the Great Lakes this year and encouraged rip tide awareness and the importance of wearing lifejackets. Nearby were the

Red Arrow tent, for the Royal Air Force precision flying team. They flew their aerobatic planes over from England, and Chicago was their first stop. Weather socked down the Saturday show early after just a couple of passes by the Blue Angels, and the show was delayed Sunday until after noon. On the water, patrols were run out of station Calumet and Station Wilmette to control the crowds of boaters (especially those who didn't know how to anchor)

"WHAT DOES OUR FLOTILLA NEED?"

Ruben Howard asked our Flotilla Commander this highly-perceptive question at the Air and Water Show.

Some answers brought up at the meeting are;

*New member mentors. We have not been giving our new members the help they need.

*more leadership training. There are a multitude of training classes. We need more members ready to step in to positions as Staff and to the Bridge in coming years.

*More members need to earn qualifications and more staff offices filled.

If you think of something to be added to this list, or more pointedly, if you are willing to assist in achieving these goals, please contact FC Hague or VFC Darrey

DUES DUE

Even volunteer organizations need money. Ron Tragasz sent out the Flotilla dues notices last week. Please send your dues in as soon as possible (\$70 – Cheap!). There is a whole procedure laid out by National that ends with disenrolling non-paying members, which is something I do not want to do!



Ran out of things to say, so here is a picture by Bob Reczek from Oshkosh Seaplane Base.