



US Coast Guard Auxiliary – First District, Northern Region  
**Flotilla 11-9 Martha's Vineyard**  
**MONTHLY MEETING – 16 April, 2022 0930 hrs**  
Station Menemsha  
UOD ODU

**Members participating: Berini, Halsey, Cotnoir, DeBlase, Pothier, Iacono, Carroll, Davis**

**FC Comments:**

We received commendation and admiration for the huge response we had for our first RBS class and our second one is set for April 23<sup>rd</sup>! Now that we are back to full operational status, this is a great time to recruit- Everyone is a Recruiter. Lastly, as we are getting ready for the season, please make sure your uniforms are squared away- if you have any questions on uniforms, please talk to Brien and Joe or visit the website for uniform presentation.

**VFC Comments**

- It's exciting to be able to resume our meetings in person at the station. During the past two years, the flotilla has been hardly active – registering just 1005 hours of activity in 2021. Hopefully we can increase those numbers this year.
- **Events**
  - **Oak Bluffs Harborfest** – Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>. We will to work with Menemsha and Woods Hole to provide vessels for tours and sign up for a booth. Brien should explore getting a freebie if we arrange for the CG boats.
  - **Beach Road Weekend** (Aug 26-28): We were invited by the producer to have a presence at the event. He offered to extend 10 comps per day for us. We will be happy to work with his people and set up our tent. Berini will look into cost to buy some sort of swag to give away at this and other events.
  - **Other:**
    - Ag Hall booth, Meet the Fleet (Aug 4), Station Menemsha open house, March in Memorial Day parade, or March to the Sea with Edgartown school kids.
- **Vessel Exams**
  - We are losing active Vessel Examiners. This is a very important part of our visibility. We need to add more VEs. A suggestion was made to ask everyone to take the test. Then we can work out plans to have them to qualify. They must be BQ Status and perform 5 exams with a qualified instructor. Then must do 5 exams per year. If they are not current for under 5 years, they must do two exams as a trainee. If over 5 years, they start over.
  - We need to schedule Vessel exam dates in Oak Bluffs, Vineyard Haven, and Edgartown. Tim will coordinate with Derrick Teel.
  - A suggestion was made to coordinate a “Customer Appreciation Day” at Safe Harbor Marina and do VEs. Dave Halsey will coordinate with marina manager.
  - Winds Up to do paddlecraft exams.
- Same goes for Program Visitors (PV).
- Recruiting – We need to get out in the community and shake the bushes to see if we can get some interest in joining us. Safe boating classes help as do Vessel exams.



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## New Business

- Public Education Classes
  - The next Boat America class will be held on April 23. We are looking for some help on Friday April 22 for setting up the room. We will start at 1600 at the WT Fire Station.
  - A discussion initiated by Dave Halsey took place about the possibility of doing combination of Zoom/live classes. Berini mentioned the problems of proctored tests to get a Mass Safety Boating certificate – but those are only required by 12-16 year olds. We will discuss at Zoom meeting at 5PM Sunday, April 17.
  - We currently have over 40 people on the list that couldn't make the previous sessions. We will need at least one more class – perhaps May 28<sup>th</sup>?
  - A motion was made, seconded and approved to purchase \$200 worth of PFDs. Berini will coordinate with Halsey. We need to do an inventory before we purchase anything. Mike Salvatore has the bins of equipment. Berini will email Mike.
  - Another motion was made to procure another 20 BA books and material. Seconded and passed.
- Other education opportunities:
  - provide boating safety and life jacket demonstration/info sessions to school kids before school ends June 27. It was suggested to include a couple of gold side members.
- Training: S-Train April 30<sup>th</sup> at Mass Maritime Academy. Not many good classes. But they have workshops.
- BMCM Longval will retire on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will attend the COW. Wayne will get more information. We should look into buying something for him – Blanchard picture???
- Discussion took place about doing presentations at our flotilla meetings to keep Instructor currencies and to provide opportunities for members to keep up to date. Suggestions were to do the required workshops (VE, PV, IT), Uniforms, Recruiting,
- D Halsey suggested we all get together for a picnic on the beach with spouses and kids. All liked the idea of having an event. More information will be forthcoming.

## FSO Reports

- FSO-FN:
  - Balance \$1792.29. We made \$556.00 from the March BA class
  - Motion to reimburse Berini for 33.99 for Mustang Re-arm kit for inflatable PFD used in Boat America class. Seconded and passed.
  - We have an additional \$840 for the next class awaiting deposit.
- FSO-IS: Auxdata II for everyone
- FSO-CM: Took delivery of 3 repeaters. We are also working with Tony Gould of the Sherriff's dept. to set up a 100W repeater at Peaked Hill. We will do some tests later this month. Two of



the repeaters will go to the District for use as replacements. We will retain one for another possible site on the Water Tower in VH. Chuck Cotnoir will get some information. A suggestion was made to provide communication services for yachting events around the island.

- FSO-PA Press Release out for April 23<sup>rd</sup> RBS Class, future classes to follow along with a reminder for If Found stickers on paddlecraft.
- FSO-PV: Inventorying materials to reload marinas.
- FSO-CS: Updated our Facebook page with pics of the Boat America class.
- FSO-HR: Nothing to report
- FSO-MA:
- FSO-MT: Nothing to report
- FSO-VE: Nothing to report

Next meeting: May 21st, 0930, Station Menemsha.

