



US Coast Guard Auxiliary – First District, Northern Region  
**Flotilla 11-9 Martha's Vineyard**  
**MONTHLY MEETING – 19 February 2020**  
West Tisbury Fire Station Two 1800 Fellowship/Meeting 1830

● **Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence**

- **Members present:** Brien Hefler, Tim Carroll, Way Iacaono, Michael Salvatore, David Halsey, Glenn Deblase, Jake Davis and Lou Piacentini. Coast Guard Auxiliary Liaison Joel Behr.
- **Guests:** Eamon Solway, Dean Rosenthal and Karin Kugel: telephone 646-733-6966 and 914-772-2645.
  
- **VFC Comments:**
  - FC is away this month but still available via email.
  
- **FC Comments & Events (Carried from January meeting)**
  - Goals for 2020:
    - ABS classes: We're adding two new instructors: Salvatore & Carroll. We should have a minimum of 3 ABS classes in 2020 – maybe more.
    - Crew: We need three new crew members and one more coxswain so we can staff our facilities. Crew Members needed for Aux patrols- Halsey's boat will be available on weekends. Steve Wagner may be available to crew boats this summer, esp. Halsey's boat which needs two crew and one CX.
    - Participate in more community events – ideas are welcome.
      - Health Fair,
      - West Marine Table,
      - OB Harborfest, Meet the Fleet,
      - Ag Fair table,
      - Station Menemsha open house,
      - Wreathes Across America (American Legion sponsor),
      - Renewing flags on veteran graves for Memorial Day,
        - Tim and Brien discussed working with Wind's Up or other paddlecraft businesses and vendors to "kit out" a kayak with various pfds and safety equipment as an interactive demo.
  
- ACE MV is interested in offering seamanship, captain's license courses, and navigation classes to Vineyard teens and adults and would be interested in partnering with us to provide courses we offer. I met with Holly to discuss further.
- The LAMS class will be held at Mass Maritime, 23-25 April, and 15-17 May. The classes are Fri (1700-2100) Sat 0800-1700, Sun 0800-1500. Food will be at MMA. Submit an STTR, if you live more than 50 miles away, to DSO-MT Don Ladd. All attendees need either reimbursable or non-reimbursable orders to attend.
- March 6, 7, & 8th are dates for D-train. It will be held at Gurney's Resort and Marina, on Goat Island, in Newport RI. The list of training sessions includes TCT and the 5 Core classes. In addition, on the schedule are classes in Basic Navigation and Plotting, AUXFS Basic Class,

AUXAIR, New Member Classes, C Schools Information and Application, Introduction to ATONs, Writing for Publication, and many, many more. There are 35 classes in all...something for everyone! If interested, let me know. Discussed D-Train classes and encouraged all members to attend, especially those that have never been and also those that need IDs issued.

- Recruiting: Remember we have a vital need to add more members to support our RBS missions. Always have your "Recruiting Radar" turned on, you may see potential members that you may have not noticed in the past. Auxiliary events and activities can be great. Many people are looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity; the Auxiliary could be perfect for them. Joel Behr is contacting Providence recruiting office to get gear for future recruiting push.
  
- **New Business:**
  - VFC won online contest for 250 NSBC Boating Safety Sidekick children's books for PVs and events. To be stored at Station Menemsha.
  - More Instructors needed- anyone interested please complete online training and speak with FSO-MT. Hefler is going to complete online classes before practical sessions begin in March.
  - State of the Coast Guard address being held February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1300. Streaming online.
  - VSC ideas
    - Advertise to bring boats to Station Menemsha dock for Aux Vessel Exams
    - Expand paddlecraft VE
  
- **FSO Reports**
  - FSO-MT (Carroll): Train is March 7 & 8 in Newport. A number of us have registered; including three for AUXAIR! I hope you are joining us. Trops. Boat crew academy starts up again this winter on March 14 with the Operations Workshop and a QE perspective on new emphases. Boatcrew trainees continue with training March 14, 21, and 28. TCT is May 2 at ASCC. ODUs. In late March FC Berini will be organizing the pqs signoffs for three new instructors. Anyone needing assistance with training or who wants to request specific training, please contact me via text.
    - Tim detailed the importance of 7029's as discussed with him by Captain Schultz at the LDA class at USCG Academy- our hours logged determine his operating budget for the year- more hours means more financing and the increased support is vital to the CG. Joel Behr thanked us for our continued presence at Station Menemsha, saying that Auxiliary Watchstanders allow crew to work on training, mission readiness and ops.
  - FSO-FN: Finance: All members paid up for 2020, Current balance is: \$1,075.54.
  
- **Certifications and Awards**
  - To be distributed next meeting.
  
- **Workshops**
  - 7029 forms and Uniform Presentation when FC is available.
  - AUXCHEF Presentation, Michael Salvatore: Michael explained the training and certification process for Aux FS and that stations throughout the country and especially Sector New England rely heavily on Auxiliarists as the service is facing a critical shortage of FS personal, even offering large signing bonuses to increase numbers. Michael has already cooked at Station Nantucket and will be working on cutters in Woods Hole with the ultimate goal of deploying with USCGC Polar Star. He also explained that due to the critical shortage Auxiliary FS can be issued actual military orders subject to all courtesy and protocols including being allowed by employers to take time off, some of who may pay for time deployed. Auxiliary FS also don't have to do the dishes.

Next Meeting: TBD Station Menemsha or West Tisbury Fire Station Two.

Jake Davis and Lou Piacentini met with Tim after the meeting and were assigned ID numbers and briefed on completing BQ.