



US Coast Guard Auxiliary – First District, Northern Region

Flotilla 11-9 Martha's Vineyard

MONTHLY MEETING

17 February 2021 1900 hrs

ZOOM Meeting

UOD Civilian attire

Attending members: Hefler, Salvatore, Berini, Cotnoir, Piacentini, DeBlase, Kennedy, Marlin, Lewenberg, Teel, Scott, Davis, Halsey

Guests: Teresa Kruszewski

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for Norman Somer and all Those Who Have Crossed The Bar

FC Comments:

- With 2020 forcing us to cease all programs and stop meeting in person, 2021 presents both a unique opportunity and challenge for the flotilla. My goals as Flotilla Commander for 2021 focus on returning us to fulfilling our primary mission of recreational boating safety, supporting Station Menemsha and getting underway with patrols through the following:
 - Begin teaching RBS courses, virtually until cleared to return to classrooms with classes starting in early Spring.
 - Work with local agency and town officials to coordinate RBS classes including class space, hosting online and advertising. Also work with town, county and state organizations to offer PVs, VSCs and outreach to the boating community.
 - A renewed focus on training and certification for boat crew.
 - Establish a AUXAIR committee to explore the formation of an AUXAIR component on Martha's Vineyard.
 - Work with Station Menemsha to provide renewed support and increased presence including but not limited to watchstanding and Food Service.
 - Recruitment of new members with an increased push to highlight the auxiliary to boating, sailing, environmental and community organizations and attract new members.
- V D-Train registration is open and this presents a huge training opportunity for members, especially since we do not have to travel for the classes. Everyone should take advantage of this opportunity- there are courses and classes for all areas of interest and it presents a great opportunity to meet other auxiliaries during the standdown.
- FSO-CS Berini is continuing to offer one-on-one AUXDATA2 tutoring sessions 1000 or 1500 daily by appointment. We are extremely fortunate that he is committed to getting us all up to

speed on the new system and I ask everyone please schedule a session and start using the new platform instead of 7029s by March

VFC Comments:

- We are still at a relaxed state as far as operations for the unit. I have spoken with Mrs. McClure (Aux Food Service Director) and restrictions are soon to be reduced for FS members. I also received the history on the Food Service program and it was confirmed Flotilla 11-9 was the 1st station to have a food service program. As restrictions get lifted I would like to see more members join the FS program and capitalize on the fact that we are the 1st in Food Service. That is a great honor that we should build and be strong at.
- COVID-19 Vaccine's are not being offered to CG AUX members at this time through the USCG. I tried to pull some strings to get us in early but Martha's Vineyard Hospital was getting ready to and now has started to vaccinate the public via the hospital patient health gateway. For more information go to: https://mvhospital.org/patients_and_visitor/covid-19-updates/ Brigham and Women's Hospital (MVH Affiliate ran out of vaccines) This DOES NOT INCLUDE MVH so get into your patient health gateway for more information.
- Several live online training opportunities are still in progress. If you have Monday nights free that is when most classes take place. I have completed AuxOp Seamanship, Patrol Specialist, Weather Specialist, and are currently completing Communications and Boat Crew. All these classes have occurred over the past 3 months with one night a week online (plus some study and homework time). It can be done it is not much a commitment to take on. If you are interested in taking some additional online training classes it would be fantastic to have our flotilla come back strong and further educated into the station once restrictions are fully lifted.
- "Unwrapping" of something new to the flotilla for all members

New Business

- ALAUX 002/21 Covid-19 reconstitution guide released, among the highlights, meetings will be allowed to be resumed with a risk assessment completed and approval by DIRAUX. Patrols and operations are also cleared with DIRAUX approval, for more information visit http://agroup-bx.wow.uscgaux.info/Uploads_wowII/BX-GROUP/AUX-COVID19-RECONSTITUTE-GUIDE-V2-08FEB.pdf
- Motion to purchase a Pro Zoom account for the flotilla, cost \$149.90. This will enable us to host meetings over the cut-off time of the free version and have up to 100 participants. We will also be able to use it with VFC Salvatore's pro account to allow two instructors simultaneous access, allowing one to instruct and one to answer questions.

FSO Reports

- FSO-FN:
 - Sent 7025 for 2020 to DSO-FN
 - Balance as of today: \$1273.86
 - Sent 7035 to Veronica Murry as per her request to leave the flotilla
 - Set up PayPal account to collect tuition for online boating safety classes
- FSO-MT Nothing to report.

- FSO-HR Two new brochures created for new members and recruiting.
- FSO-PA Nothing to report.
- FSO-PV Nothing to report.
- FSO-PE Working with Joe to create boating safety Zoom courses and train more instructors. Target date of early March to start classes.
- FSO-OP My report for both OPS and MS, as follows: As the snow is melting outside, we are getting closer to patrol season. It is with a very optimistic heart, that we look forward to getting back out on the water, to help serve and protect our maritime community. Now is the time for we, boat crew members, to make sure all our paperwork is in order, as I am learning first hand, all your core training requirements must be current. If you are out of date on anything, you will not be eligible to receive orders. So please make sure all of your paperwork is in order, before the season begins.
- FSO-MS “ “
- FSO-IS
 - Have held 6 one-on-one Auxdata tutorials to date. Will schedule more as needed
 - Encouraging everyone to file their activity reports on Auxdata II
- FSO-CM
 - we inspected the first operational facility radio for Joe Berini yesterday. We might be the first operational facility radio in the district! Congratulations Joe
- FSO-CS
 - I am in the process of setting up additional links on our flotilla website for a number of self-help presentations relating to a number of additional subjects – more information coming
 - Updated Facebook Page
 - Sent new logo for approval to National PA Officer
 - Updated Logo on Facebook and WOW website
 - Added Auxdata II how-to and access to the program on the flotilla website.
 - I have ordered new business cards and have the ability to share the design. If you're interested, email me.



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- Presentation for IPFC Berini

Next meeting –March 18, 1900, Zoom. Moved to Thursday for Saint Patrick's Day.