

The Daymark

Commander's Corner

We Will Come Out Stronger

By AUX Michael A. Barth, Vice Flotilla Commander



AUX Rico (FC, left), AUX Barth (VFC, right) | Photo by AUX Gary Dawson

Dear shipmates, friends, and partners,

I hope you are all healthy and faring well during these unprecedented times. Recent weeks have been stressful and challenging for many; please take care of yourselves and your families.

Flotilla members, I am proud of the resiliency and dedication each of you has shown. Many of you are continuing your training, remaining in contact with our partners, and advancing the recreational boating safety mission through electronic means. I urge you to continue your engagement, and continue following the instructions and protocols that have been forwarded. My door is always open—your leadership team is here for you. Remember—we are a component of the United States Coast Guard. Working through adversity is our business. Together, we will get through this difficult time stronger than ever. Semper Paratus.

AUX Michael Barth
Vice Flotilla Commander, 5-11

U.S.C.G. Auxiliary
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Note from the Editor

Moving Forward

By AUX William H. Linder (FSO-PB)



The world is experiencing a global pandemic which has drastically altered our way of life. Most of us have been isolating ourselves with our loved ones by practicing social distancing, wearing masks, and scrubbing our hands raw.

Now that the virus may be ebbing and some social restrictions are being lifted, many people are looking forward to spending time outdoors with family and friends. We know this will include enjoying various water activities.

Our flotilla is happy to continue publishing to keep our friends and partners informed as they use the water to decompress. It is important to stress following your federal, state, and local guidance on social distancing and keeping safe while having fun. **As state governments reduce restrictions, I expect the USCG and the Auxiliary to do so later. Our members will continue to adhere to the current USCG guidance.**

We hope to see you out there when the time comes. As always, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary stands ready to serve. Be safe!

AUX Linder during a VE | Photo by AUX Alex Rico



Boating During COVID-19 Social Distancing Infographic



Boating During COVID-19 Wear a Mask Infographic

Disclaimer

The appearance of any product or service advertisement on a site which hosts a publication of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary or on a site to which any link is directed does not constitute and shall not be construed as an endorsement of that product or service by the United States Coast Guard or Coast Guard Auxiliary.

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Highlights & Past Events

Upper Manhattan Flotilla to Receive Sea Tow Foundation Life Jackets, Partners with Sea Scout Ship 272

By AUX John McNamara (FSO-PE/VE)

Our Flotilla has been selected to receive life jackets under the Sea Tow Foundation Life Jacket Loaner Program. Under this program, we will establish and maintain a Life Jacket Loaner Station, from which members of the general public can borrow a life jacket for a day on the water. We will maintain a supply of 96 life jackets ranging in varying sizes from infant to adult XL, available on a first-come first-use basis. This borrowing service is free of charge to the community.

The location of our Life Jacket Loaner Stand will soon be announced, along with the date the station will become operational. Members of the public will be able to stop by our Life Jacket Loaner Station and select a size appropriate for themselves, family members, and friends for a fun day on the water. Information brochures will also be available at the loaner station, and members of our flotilla will be on hand to perform life jacket use demonstrations.

We are also pleased to announce that Sea Scouts from Ship 272, the official youth program of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and part of the Scouts BSA, will be constructing our Life Jacket Loaner Station. For organizations interested in partnering with us to utilize life jackets for a day, please reach out to *AUX John McNamara (FSO-PE/VE)* at (cgauxjwm@gmail.com).

Wearing a properly fitted life jacket DOES save lives! Ensure you, your family, and friends are safe if facing an emergency on the water. Be sure to read the "How to Choose the Right Life Jacket Brochure" at https://www.uscgboating.org/images/howtochoosetherightlifejacket_brochure.pdf

Below is a link from the National Safe Boating Council with tips for boating & safe distancing. Additionally, for NY, all people must wear a face mask and maintain at least 6 feet distance while in public. <https://safeboatingcampaign.com/news/tips-for-navigating-social-distancing-boating/>

Life Jacket Loaner Station provided by:



Produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

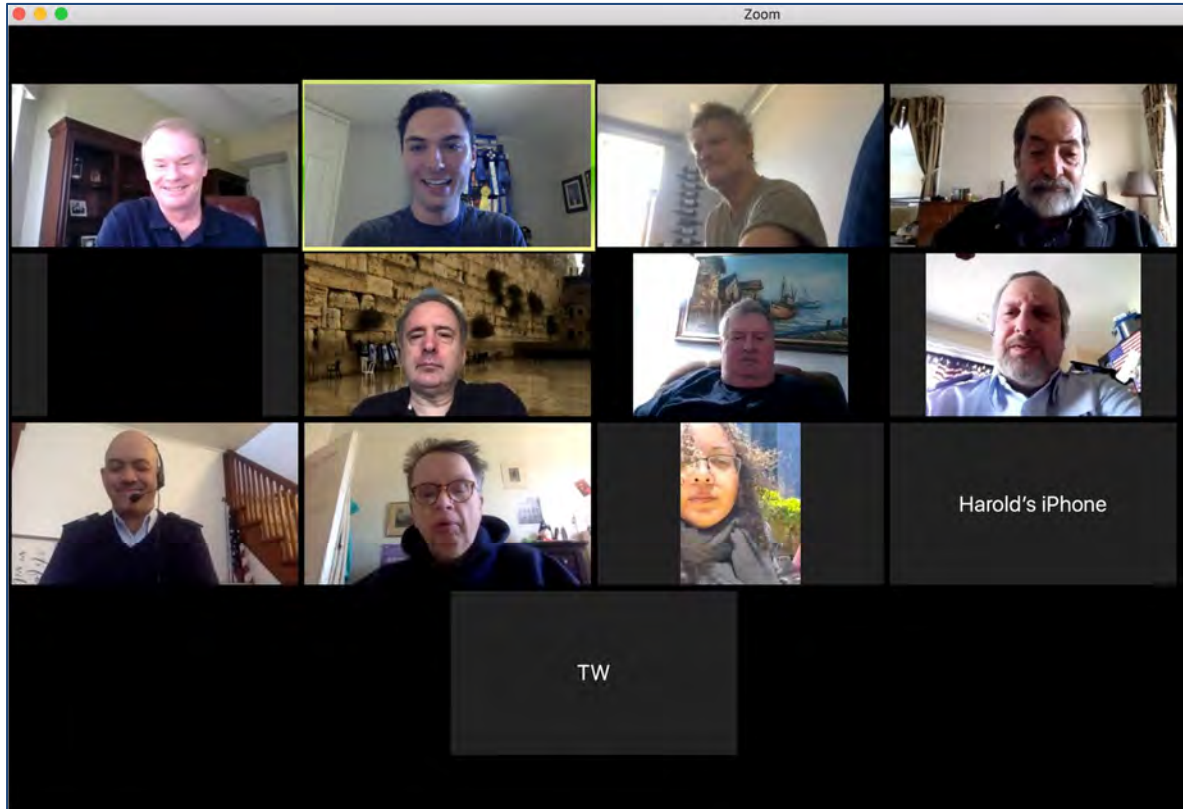


Sea Tow Foundation
for Boating Safety and Education

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Members Staying Connected

By Auxiliarists Michael Barth (VFC) and William Linder (FSO-PB)



Flotilla Members participate in a Virtual Town Hall | Photo by AUX Michael Barth (VFC)

On Sunday, April 19, Flotilla 5-11 conducted a virtual town hall to check in on our members, discuss ideas, deliver informal reports, and continue our mission in a safe and responsible manner. This meeting also provided an opportunity for the membership to participate in fellowship and decompress from current events. Along with highlighting updates from our chain of leadership, we stressed the importance of keeping up with our skills and completing our mandated trainings.

With the summer boating season nearly upon us, we are developing plans to perform our role in compliance with state and federal safety regulations. Our primary mission is to advance the recreational boating safety mission of the United States Coast Guard. How we accomplish that mission may change, but our commitment to supporting our active duty, reserve, and civilian counterparts, as well as our community partners, has not waived.

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Recognizing Black History Month

By AUX Michael Barth (VFC)

Flotilla 5-11 was proud to celebrate and recognize diversity in the Coast Guard during Black History Month at Hamilton Grange National Memorial.

Prior to presenting, Auxiliarists were able to meet and speak with Mr. Douglas Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton's fifth great-grandson, who thanked our members for their service to the Coast Guard and nation. We were honored to meet a direct descendent from our branch's founder, and are proud to bear the motto "Guardians of Hamilton's Home."

Auxiliarist Michael Barth (VFC) then began the presentation by speaking with attendees about the importance of diversity in the service and presented on famous African Americans in the Coast Guard and its precursor organizations, including Captain Michael Healy and Dr. Olivia Hooker.



Auxiliarists with Mr. Douglas Hamilton and Mr. Sergio Villavicencio | Photo by the public



SN O'Brien speaks about diversity on USCGC KATHERINE WALKER | Photo by Sergio Villavicencio

Seaman Michael O'Brien, an active duty member stationed aboard USCGC KATHERINE WALKER and close friend of our flotilla, joined us and spoke about diversity on his cutter. The multitude of backgrounds and experiences possessed by his shipmates allows for each to learn and grow, which translates into a more cohesive unit.

Auxiliarist Edward "Ted" Wadsworth (FSO-MT) spoke about his service as a Caribbean American in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and elaborated on how inclusion at all levels of the Coast Guard strengthens our capabilities. The multitude of cultures and backgrounds included in our membership mirror that of the country.

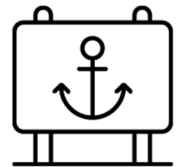
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Recreational Boating Safety Tips

By AUX John McNamara (FSO-PE/VE)

Take a Boating Safety Course

Take a boating safety course. Learn valuable tips that can help save your life in unexpected situations by taking a NASBLA (National Association of Boating Law Administrators) approved boating safety course. Many courses are online, and will save you money on your boat insurance.



Make Sure Your Boat is Prepared



There are many items that need to be checked and rechecked on any boat. Once it is safe, schedule a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) with your local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons before you hit the water. Every Vessel Safety Check is conducted 100 percent free of charge. Until social distancing is relaxed, take an online VSC here: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=virtual-safety-check>.

National Safe Boating Week (May 16-22)



For more recreational boating safety tips check Safe Boating Campaign: <https://safeboatingcampaign.com/>

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Upcoming Events

The following are events that will include Flotilla Participation. For more information, please reach out to Flotilla Public Affairs at uscgauxflotilla511@gmail.com or view our calendar at <http://bit.ly/flotillacalendar>.

 **Due to the COVID-19, public events have been postponed.** We will keep you updated on all changes to our calendar.

Awards & Commendations

The following are awards and recognition presented to our members for their service.



Auxiliarist of the Quarter – AUX John McNamara
Mr. McNamara has been instrumental in the first quarter successes of the flotilla. His dedication and leadership to Flotilla 5-11 has led to securing the Life Jacket Loan program, expanding our recreational boating outreach, and securing our surface operation future. The flotilla leadership commends his actions and looks forward to seeing his future successes. Bravo Zulu!

AUX McNamara modeling AUX Patrol Sign | Photo by AUX Rico

Welcome to our newest shipmate!

 AUX Eugene Fisch

Helpful Resources

Federal Government

- U.S. Coast Guard Coronavirus FAQs: <https://www.uscg.mil/Coronavirus/FAQ/>
- U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety: <https://www.uscgboating.org/>
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Recruiting: <http://join.cgaux.org/>
- FEMA (COVID-19): <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus>
- CDC (COVID-19): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Other COVID-19 Resources

- NY State <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>
- NYC Emergency Management: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/index.page>
- Safe Boating Campaign: <https://safeboatingcampaign.com/news/tips-for-navigating-social-distancing-boating/>