

# ON COURSE

Volume XXXXXIX Issue 6

JUNE 2025

NEWSLETTER OF FLOTILLA 12-5 - U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FIFTH DISTRICT (SR) - OCEAN CITY, MD

## FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

ROBERT SHEEHAN FC



We had a great turn out for the 02JUN monthly meeting with many new members attending in uniform. Thanks to our FSO-FN Frank DeLaurentis for supplying the group with great tasting pizza and sodas. Mark Wrightstone has been appointed our new FSO-VE officer. Congratulations Mark! Jeff DeHart has been appointed our new FSO-RS officer. This is a newly created position that has goals that follow: ensure that members are assigned the appropriate standard issue personal protective equipment (SIPPE) and cold weather gear (if applicable); that members are assigned the appropriate optional issue PPE, as deemed necessary per U.S. Coast Guard or District policy, that PPE meets the requirements for the mission; that PPE is up-to-date and inspected; that PPE is maintained in serviceable condition and all PPE issuance, assignment and inspection records are recorded in AUXDATA II.

Semper Peratus!



### MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING U.S.C.G. STATION OCEAN CITY 2 JUNE 2025

The monthly meeting of flotilla 12-05 was called to order by Bob Sheehan FC via an  in -person and a virtual Zoom call promptly at 1900. The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve Haffner. Prior to the meeting we celebrated the fourth cornerstone with a flotilla 12-05 pizza party. Delicious!

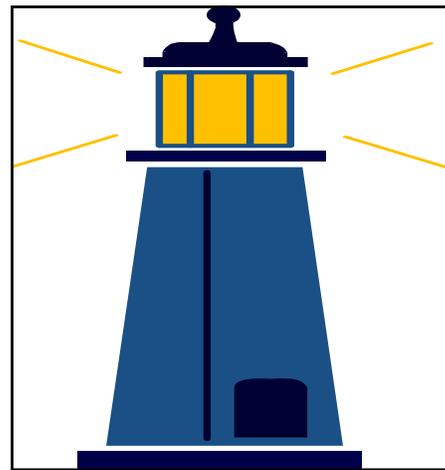
#### OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

**PRESENT:** Bob Sheehan FC, Glenn Duffy VFC, Stephen Battistone FSO-CS, Cathy Battistone FSO-PB/SR, Steve Haffner, Frank de Laurentis FSO-FN, Mark Fangmeyer, Art Flora, Barry Cohen FSO-IS/PE/PV, Linda Busick, Joan Morgan, Roger Morgan, Tim Mullen, Tonya Dagstani, Kathy Vail, Mark Wrightstone lead, Chincoteague Detachment, FSO-VE, Maureen Hoffman FSO-PA, Al Burns, Jeff De Hart FSO-RS, Jim McCarty, Bill LaRoche, Luann Roche, Tonya Dagstani FSO-MT, Al Parra and Dan Collins.

**VISITORS:** Prospective member Ron Neely joined our meeting tonight.

**QUORUM:** Glenn Duffy VFC determined there was a quorum.

A motion was made to accept the March 2025 minutes by Barry



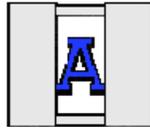
- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| FC            | ROBERT SHEEHAN     |
| VFC           | GLENN DUFFY        |
| IPFC          | BOB SHEVCHUCK      |
| FSO-CM        | VACANT             |
| FSO-CS        | STEPHEN BATTISTONE |
| FSO-FN        | FRANK DE LAURENTIS |
| FSO-HR        | GLENN DUFFY        |
| FSO-IS        | BARRY COHEN        |
| FSO-MA        | LYNN KILLIAN       |
| FSO-MS        | TIM MULLEN         |
| FSO-MT        | TONYA DAGSTANI     |
| FSO-NS        | VACANT             |
| FSO-OP        | ROBERT SHEEHAN     |
| FSO-PA        | MAUREEN HOFFMAN    |
| FSO-PB        | CATHY BATTISTONE   |
| FSO-PE        | BARRY COHEN        |
| FSO-PV        | BARRY COHEN        |
| FSO-RS        | JEFF DEHART        |
| FSO-SR        | CATHY BATTISTONE   |
| FSO-VE        | MARK WRIGHTSTONE   |
| HISTORIAN     | VACANT             |
| READINESS     | EUGENE CLEARY      |
| COORDINATOR   |                    |
| PHOTOGRAPHERS | STEPHEN BATTISTONE |
|               | CATHY BATTISTONE   |

FLOTILLA 12-5 MEETS ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1900 HOURS AT THE OCEAN CITY COAST GUARD STATION. VISITORS WELCOME!!



Cohen and seconded by Kathy Vail. The motion carried.

## FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



**JIM MCCARTY COMMENTS:** The last Boat Crew Academy was cancelled by the weather.

Everyone should sign in to Aux Data to see what qualifications are needed.

There is a new system call HUSK that will eventually replace the Tracker

The Fifth District Website has been updated

BM1 Strong will be leaving on 20 JUNE 25 to go on a cutter in Portsmouth, Virginia.

On 01 MAY 25 nine Vessel Examiners inspected over 20 boats in Captain's Cove, Virginia. Now a marina south of that location would like all of their vessels inspected for the VSC decal.

## U. S. COAST GUARD MEETING CHINCOTEAGUE DETACHMENT

A meeting of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Chincoteague Detachment, was held at the U.S. Coast Guard Station, Chincoteague, VA on May 21, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am and pledge of allegiance recited.

**ATTENDEES:** BM1 Ben Meyer, Mark Wrightstone, Bo Husler, Bill Roche, Luann Roche, Warren Peake and George Dimond.

**BOAT CREW ACADEMY:** A brief update of the ongoing Boat Crew Academy was given. Warren Peake has had his boat examined and approved as a facility vessel.

"On the water" training scheduled for Memorial Day weekend.

**VESSEL SAFETY CHECK EXAMINATIONS:** Vessel Safety Examinations are scheduled for May 24, 2025, at Captains Cove Marina. Mark has planned to have six Vessel Examiners available to prevent the backlog that was experienced last year. We will have a "check in" area to facilitate those coming by vehicle and another for those coming by water.

**PONY PENNING:** BM1 Ben Meyer informed us that because of the terrorist threat to the pony swim, the annual "Open House" at the Chincoteague Station has been officially cancelled. It will be rescheduled later. Warren Peake has agreed to be the lead liaison between the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary for the Pony Penning planning. He will attend all planning meetings and report the planned activities to Auxiliary Command. He has also agreed to offer his vessel for security purposes during the swim. The Coast Guard has requested that we provide two vessels to support CG operations on the day of the pony swim.

**TRAINING:** George Dimond has completed all of his CORE training apart from "Sexual Harassment". Bill Roche has achieved his BQ status. He has begun training for the Boating Safety Instructor program. He and Luann will attend the Boating Safety Class at Wallops Island to assist the Painter Flotilla. Luann has begun training for the Recreational Boating Safety Visitors Program. She has also completed the Intro to Risk Management and the Risk Management program offered. Mark has completed most of the Boat Crew training and will complete the "on the water

training on Memorial Day Weekend. Mark has also been training to take part in the Auxiliary GDA/FEMA Team.

**OUTREACH:** Chincoteague Museum Night: Planning continues for the Chincoteague Museum program scheduled for June 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm. Tonya Dagstani is working on a Power Point presentation for that evening. Warren Peake has provided a presentation used in the past for recruitment. We decided that each member would wear a different uniform to provide examples for the public attendees

**CAPTAINS COVE FARMERS MARKET:** We will have a table at the Farmers Market held every Thursday from 3-6:00 pm at the Marina Club parking lot in Captains Cove. We will have a different theme for each week. Some of which are PFD's, knot tying, children's boating safety, dock safety, paddle craft etc.

It was discussed putting information in the local free magazines and newspapers. Luann will investigate this. We also discussed creating a Facebook page for the Detachment. Luann will touch base with Steve Battison regarding this.

**UNIFORMS:** The uniform of the month was the Tropical Dress Uniform. BM1 Meyer provided an example uniform and members were provided instruction on the proper wearing of the uniform.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

The next meeting will be June 18, 2025, at 10:00 am.



**FLOTILLA  
STAFF  
REPORTS**



**STEPHEN BATTISTONE FSO-CS**

Provided ongoing support for the Flotilla 12-05 Website and the Flotilla12-05 Facebook Page.

Recent updates include the following:

Posted Photos of the Flotilla Meeting Awards in May. Photos provided by Maureen Hoffman FSO-PA.

Posted Photos of the Bay Day event held on 18 May 2025 at White Horse Park. Photos provided by Stephen Battistone FSO-CS.

The May 2025 edition of the On Course Newsletter was posted on the Flotilla 12-05 website.

Posted the Maryland Basic Boating Class for 3-5 June at the Ocean Pines Library on the Flotilla 12-05 Facebook page.



**FRANK DE LAURENTIS-FSO-FN**

The balance as of 01 May 2025 is \$10,850.80

**RECEIPTS**

<b>01 MAY Bank Deposit SBC</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>
<b>07 MAY PayPal Transfer/SBC</b>	<b>\$38.80</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$118.80</b>



**DISBURSEMENTS  
TOTAL  
DISBURSEMENTS            \$00.00**

Ending balance as of 31 May 2025 is \$10,969.60

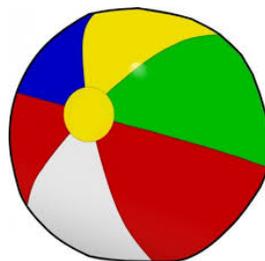
**GLENN DUFFY FSO-HR**

As of May 31 2025 Flotilla 054-12-05 had a total membership of 46, plus one from last month.

New Members 1 Steve Wehlan  
Disenrollments 0  
Deaths: 0  
Resigned: 0  
Transferred: 0

After confirming with our FC there are no additional changes to report.

Three members are in AP and four members are in IQ status.



**BARRY COHEN FSO-IS**

Currently, big changes in PPE issues. New Officer position for PPE issues. I am Not sure how this will play out. The new PPE officer will have more to say.

On the issue of PPE more specifically, PLB. There have been two instants last month of accidentally sending a distress signal instead of a test signal.

In the first signal was quickly determined to be an accident and no further USCG action need. In the second incident, the signal cause Ocean City N.J. to start a SAR case. Ocean City, MD was able to determine it was not a

SAR case and closed the issue promptly. If you should accidentally send a distress signal, Immediately call the station so that they will not cause a SAR case to be opened.



**TIM MULLEN FSO-MS**

Our first beach cleanup for 2025 was held on Monday, May 12. We experienced some logistical hurdles but were able to collect 35 lbs. of trash. Special thanks goes out to Mark Wrightstone, Bo Busler, Frank DeLaurentis and Jeff Dehart for volunteering their time and effort.

Our second beach cleanup of the year will take place on **Monday, June 23**. We will meet at the OC Inlet parking lot at 0900. ODU is the dress of the day. All necessary supplies will be provided. The beach cleanup usually takes about an hour.



Be sure to contact Cathy Battistone no later than June 16 and provide her with your vehicle tag number, along with the make, model and color of your vehicle so she can get you on the "free parking" list that morning.

Please let Tim know if you plan on helping so he can reach you in the event of inclement weather.



## TONYA DAGSTANI FSO-MT

### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND NOTIFICATIONS:

**Planned monthly** training meetings at the library are replaced by monthly meetings 90 minutes prior to monthly Flotilla meetings.

Through the summer, meetings will continue to focus on familiarization with AUXDATA II, Moodle Classroom, and Certifications.

**GOAL:** JUNE will start our subject specific meetings: SUSPICIOUS VESSELS presented by Mark Wrightstone

If you have a training idea you would like to see presented, please let me know.

**Weekly Drop-In meetings** are going well at the Pines Café in Ocean Pines. This provides us with a more social atmosphere and it supports the local high school Culinary Arts program.

Members continue to bring their questions and issues so that we can work on solving problems on a weekly basis.

Dan Collins has provided us with much-needed knot tying practice for Boat Crew Academy students

Several of us worked on the FEMA-GDA final exam

Several had help with accessing AUXDATA II and figuring out REYR status

**Online Training Format** is now available via Google Classroom and subject-specific, step-by-step slide shows. The Google classroom is easy to access, via a link and passcode, a larger amount of information as opposed to me emailing individual Power Point Presentations. (They take up a lot of space.)  
<https://classroom.google.com/c/NzYzNzc1NTc4NzE3?cjc=bv6j35j7>

### UNIQUE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Due to weather difficulties, Boat Crew Academy has been sidelined. We are grateful for the guidance, instruction and precautions of the leadership involved. The final components that await us are the completion of our sign-offs and our QE rides. It has been a great experience for those participating, other than the weather glitch.

### ADDITIONAL UNIQUE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES THAT MEMBERS HAVE REGISTERED FOR OR ARE PARTICIPATING IN:

**AUXPAD Training**-Yorktown, VA from 19-22 June. Lynn Killian

### FEMA Geospatial Damage Assessment Training-

Final Exams Complete! Kathy Vail, Jeff DeHart, Mark Wrightstone, and Tonya Dagstani comprise a team that will be virtually deployed to help FEMA assess areas damaged by natural disasters. There was a press to get Flotilla members qualified, from across the country, due to the impending start of hurricane season.

**SECTOR VIRGINIA POLLUTION RESPONDER QUALIFICATION**, Baltimore, MD. Jeff DeHart and Robert Smeltzer

**ONLINE IMSEP:** Awaiting the schedule for the next six-month agenda.



## MAUREEN HOFFMAN FSO-PA

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS EVENTS:

**BAY DAY** was held on May 18, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM at White Horse Park.

The Auxiliary distributed brochures, provided information about recruitment, and safe boating classes

A table was set up to teach knot tying and Coastie was a hit with the children.

Eleven (11) members from the auxiliary participated

Four hundred and nineteen (419) attendees (this is double from last year)

Seventy-one (71) children

### UPCOMING PA EVENTS

**HARBOR DAY** Saturday Oct. 11, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM \$50.00 fee

The application has been submitted.

**KNOT TYING** on the Boardwalk will begin on 7/9/25-8/27/25, every Wednesday 10:00-10:30 with Dan Collins and Allen Burns

**KNOTS & KNOTS.**

Dan Collins' June article for, The Courier is titled, "Tips for Running Aground"

Notices were placed in local publications for the June Safe Boating Class.

**DOCK SAFETY COLORING BOOK-**  
No updates

**CATHY BATTISTONE- FSO-PB**

The approved minutes from May 2025 on form 7000 was forwarded to DIRAUX.

The May 2025 edition of the On Course Newsletter was created and submitted for posting to the Flotilla website.



**BARRY COHEN FSO-PE**

On the May class we had 20 people signed up for the class. 18 People did the exam. All of whom passed.

We currently have 5 people signed up for the June class.

**BARRY COHEN-FSO-PV**

FSO-PV, the number of PVs done in May, 2025 is 30.



**MARK WRIGHTSTONE FSO-VE**

Mark Wrightstone has assumed the duties of FSO-VE for the Flotilla.

The Flotilla supply of the 2025 VSC decals have been provided to the new FSO-VE.

During the month of May, a VSC day took place at Captain's Cove Marina, 9 members took part. Reminder to all Vessel Examiners, please turn in your VSC counts before each monthly Flotilla meeting to the FSO-VE. These numbers will be included in future monthly reports. Please forward to: jwrightstone1924@comcast.net.

**ART FLORA comments**

Kudos to all that are associated with the Boat Crew Academy. Excellent work!



**AWARDS:**

Cathy Battistone received the Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service Award for over 7500 cumulative hours of outstanding service and support to the U.S. Coast Guard.



A motion to adjourn the meeting at 2003 was made by Steve Haffner and seconded by Tim Mullen. The motion carried.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
JULY	ACTIVITY
4	
7	General Meeting at 1900 U.S. Coast Guard Station Ocean City, MD
AUG	ACTIVITY
4	 © Can Stock Photo
4	General Meeting at 1900 U.S. Coast Guard Station Ocean City, MD
21	Division Meeting at 1900 Sector Field Office Eastern Shore Chincoteague, VA

The *ON COURSE* is a monthly publication of Flotilla 12-05, 5th District Coast Guard District (5SR), U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in an effort to keep its members informed on Boating Safety Topics. Published at no expense to the U.S. Government.

**EDITOR**



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