

# ON COURSE

Volume XXXXVIII Issue 3

MARCH 2024

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

## FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

ROBERT SHEEHAN FC



The Ocean City Seaside Boat Show was a big hit with the largest number of people visiting our booth to date! The Auxiliary members turned out in full force to participate. Special thanks to Steve Haffner for coordinating the event and doing the paperwork for all members who attended.

There were some issues with the budget as three items were purchased without a vote from membership. Votes were held and passed to have the budget balanced.

The Maryland tax form came out without meeting attendance for members. This may have caused some members to not qualify for the tax credit of \$7,000 as 50 points are needed. Cathy Battistone FSO-SR was instrumental in solving the problem with a meeting attendance spreadsheet that she creates annually for the flotilla and division....thanks Cathy!

Semper Paratus!



## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING



## U.S.C.G. STATION OCEAN CITY 4 MARCH 2024

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.

### OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

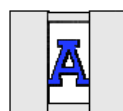
**PRESENT:** Bob Sheehan FC, Glenn Duffy VFC, Bob Shevchuck IPFC, Stephen Battistone FSO-CS, Cathy Battistone FSO-PB/SR, Barry Cohen FSO-IS/PE, Steve Haffner, Dan Collins, Frank de Laurentis FSO-FN, Lynn Killian FSO-MA, Martin Killian FSO-PV, Joseph Britvch, Art Flora, Kathy Vail, Becky Vail, Maureen Hoffman FSO-PA, Jim McCarty, Al Parra and Gene Cleary and Allen Burns.

**VISITORS:** Bill and Luann Roach

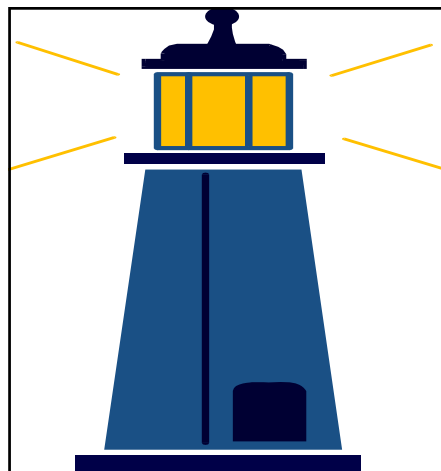
**QUORUM:** Glenn Duffy VFC determined there was a quorum.

A motion was made to accept the January 2024 minutes and financial report by Steve Haffner and seconded by Barry Cohen. The motion carried.

## FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Dan Collins put an ad in the Courier for the Seaside Boat Show thinking that this ad was in the



FC	ROBERT SHEEHAN
VFC	GLENN DUFFY
IPFC	BOB SHEVCHUCK
FSO-CM	VACANT
FSO-CS	STEPHEN BATTISTONE
FSO-DV	KATHY VAIL
FSO-FN	FRANK DE LAURENTIS
FSO-HR	GLENN DUFFY
FSO-IS	BARRY COHEN
FSO-MA	LYNN KILLIAN
FSO-MS	TIM MULLEN
FSO-MT	TODD MONIS
FSO-NS	ROBERT SHEVCHUCK
FSO-OP	ROBERT SHEEHAN
FSO-PA	MAUREEN HOFFMAN
FSO-PB	CATHY BATTISTONE
FSO-PE	BARRY COHEN
FSO-PV	MARTIN G. KILLIAN
FSO-SR	CATHY BATTISTONE
FSO-VE	AL PARRA
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!!



budget but it was not. Apparently, we have put the ad he was thinking about for another event. There was a motion to approve the ad for the Seaside Boat Show by Steve Haffner and seconded by Barry Cohen. The motion carried. We will probably be putting in another ad for the National Safe Boating Week. (NSBW).

A second motion was needed to approve the expense for bags for the Boat Show that was approved initially by Bob Sheehan FC since it was after the meeting but before the Boat Show.

A motion was made by Dan Colling to pay for the bags used for the handouts at the Boat Show and seconded by Maureen Hoffman. The motion carried.



The Zoom meeting account is included in the Flotilla Commander budget.

The next topic was meeting attendance. Some of the Maryland members recently received their Maryland deduction of \$7,000 for being a member for three years and having 50 points. There were no meeting points on the forms that several members received but those meeting points make a big difference, especially if you attended all of the flotilla meetings plus the four division meetings. That is 16 points. For one member those 16 points could make the

difference of whether they receive the Maryland deduction. Cathy Battistone FSO-SR, creates two spreadsheets annually for attendance, one for the flotilla and one for the division. In the past the FSO-SR is contacted to send the attendance spreadsheets to the LOSAP coordinator. This year there was a recent change and the person that normally asks for meeting attendance left the position. Andy Kelley was contacted, who is the new LOSAP and we heard at the meeting that he did receive the two spreadsheets for flotilla 12-05 and will make a second pass over the eligible membership to allow the Maryland deduction for those that now meet the 50 points with the meeting attendance points.

#### FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS



#### STEPHEN BATTISTONE FSO-CS

Provided ongoing support for the Flotilla 12-05 Website and the Flotilla 12-05 Facebook Page. Recent updates include the following:

Posted photos from the Seaside Boat Show on 16-18 February 2024 at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center. Photos provided by Stephen Battistone FSO-CS, Cathy Battistone FSO-PB/SR, Becky Vail and Dan Collins.

The February 2024 edition of the On Course Newsletter was posted on the Flotilla 12-05 website.

Posted the Maryland Basic Boating Class for March 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> 2024 on the Flotilla 12-05 Facebook page.

Posted updated versions of the Flotilla 12-05 Roster on the Flotilla 12-05 website.

#### KATHY VAIL FSO-DV

##### USCG Auxiliary Diversity Moment

Shipmates, please take some time with this topic to start a discussion with your unit at your next meeting. Utilizing these "Moments" fulfills Goal Category 1.3 in the NACO 3-Star Diversity application.

February 2024

##### Prepare For Your Breakthrough

*"Eliminating barriers is just good for the workforce. It makes it easier for everyone to serve honorably and support their families. We recruit an individual, we retain families."*

~ADM Linda Fagan

Admiral Fagan became the Coast Guard's 27th commandant on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, an achievement hard-earned for anyone. Joining the CG Academy only five years after the first group of women had been granted admission, she graduated in 1985. Her success is attributed not only to building upon the accomplishments of those who preceded her, but also to her personal determination to strive for excellence. She has proven to be unbeatable.

In our nation today, most barriers are as thin as tissue paper, where desire acts as the iron, and opportunity as the magnet, separated only by this thin barrier. Changing attitudes and laws have fostered more opportunity for individuals who genuinely and sincerely aspire to succeed. The United States has led this effort, especially through the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Eliminating barriers not only promotes fairness but also brings tangible benefits to individuals and

organizations. Doing so sets a positive cycle in motion where a supportive environment leads to increased productivity, success, and satisfaction for everyone involved. The result? People want to stay and continue to contribute.

Eliminating barriers has been a crucial approach that not only promotes fairness but also brings numerous tangible benefits to both individuals and organizations. It creates a positive cycle where a supportive environment leads to increased productivity, success, and satisfaction for everyone involved. The result? People want to stay and continue to contribute. We need to always be willing to help our shipmates prepare for success to give them reasons to stay. Part of this equation is preparing ourselves and each other through training.

When people feel that their organization values and supports them, they are more likely to stay with their institution for the long term, in other words--retention. Makes sense: Diversity in a team, such as our Auxiliary, will result in a richer pool of ideas, talents, and skills, contributing to leading progress for ourselves and within our organization. People like success. Others notice that success, especially families. Families in turn, support us in carrying out our mission. All this is to prepare us for a chance at something worthwhile to be proud of. If we show each other that we genuinely care, encourage and celebrate excellence, then we are unbeatable.



**FRANK DE LAURENTIS  
FSO-FN**

The balance as of 1 February, 2024 is \$14,174.66

**RECEIPTS**  
**TOTAL RECEIPTS \$0.00**

**DISBURSEMENTS**  
**05 February SBC**  
**Flash Drives \$24.38**  
**Barry Cohen CK #2265**  
**19 February Courier**  
**Boat Show Ad \$202.00**  
**TOTAL**  
**DISBURSEMENTS \$1,204.39**

Ending balance as of 29 February 2024 \$13,947.28

**GLENN DUFFY FSO-HR**

As of 29 Feb 2024 Flotilla 054-12-05 had a total membership of 40. Minus one from last month.

Disenrollments 0  
Deaths: 0  
Resigned: 0  
Transferred: 1 Transfer out  
Wayne Bass

After confirming with FC Robert Shevchuck there are no additional changes to report. Six members in AP and one member in IQ status.

**BARRY COHEN FSO-IS**

1. Uniform Inspection  
The Flotilla needs to set up a Uniform Inspection date. Without



completing this, we all could be put in REYR



**REPORTS TO ASSIST IN  
UPDATING UNIFORM  
INSPECTION FIELDS ON THE  
MEMBER RECORD**

Three new reports have been created in the QUICK STOP folder that allow the elected officers and IS Officers to more efficiently update the Uniform Inspection fields in the member records for their units.

Below is a quick description of how to use these reports.

From the HOME Page Navigation bar at the top:

- Click MORE
  - Select REPORTS
  - In the left-hand column of the REPORTS page select ALL FOLDERS
  - Click the top folder on the list (QUICK STOP)
  - Scroll down to the QUICK EDITS folder and click on it.
- The three reports available are: Uniform Edits- Member ID Filter
- This one is good for updating a single member.
- Click the filter icon and change the Member ID filter to the member number of the person you want.
  - In the report that appears, click the Members LAST NAME – this is a link to Detail Page in that Member’s Record.
  - Scroll down to the Uniform Inspection Fields and click the pencil icon next to the field you want to edit (exempt or Inspection Date).
  - Make the edit and click SAVE at the bottom.
  - Use the back button to go

back to the report.  
 Uniform Edits- Unit Filter  
 This report lists everyone in the Unit and will show who has already been inspected, who is yet to be inspected and who is exempt. You can run this for a Flotilla, Division or District. This report can also be exported Excel into Excel and printed. This report saves you the effort of navigating to each member record via name or member number search.

**LYNN KILLIAN FSO-MA**

We distributed numerous materials at the Boat Show including MD and Federal regs, Aids to Navigation, Tide Charts, Kayaking Safety Brochures, Paddle Reflectors and If Lost Stickers, Information about life jackets, Joining the Auxiliary, VSC and other safety material. We also distributed over 1000 coloring books. The supply room is already restocked.

VE's... If you took the online workshop with updates; we are now asked to suggest vessel owners to register SAR Beacon and EPIRB when doing a VSC. We are to give them a card with the QR code for them to register.



**MAUREEN HOFFMAN FSO-PA**

**PE CLASSES**

Press Release and Calendar item sent to all local publications for March Safe Boating Course.

Notice was placed on The Maryland Chamber of Commerce website.

Notice placed on the Coast Guard Station Marquee and The Ocean Pines marquee.

PE class signs for the Boardwalk, West Ocean City boat ramp, and Whitehorse Park Boat Ramp have been placed on the Boardwalk, The West Ocean City Boat Ramp, and The Whitehorse Park Boat Ramp.



**OCEAN CITY'S SEASIDE BOAT SHOW- FEB16, 17, & 18 2024**

The Auxiliary members turned out in force for the annual Ocean City Seaside Boat Show:

On Friday 16FEB: **(308)** 218 people at the booth table, 32 people at the knots table and 58 people following Coastie.

On Saturday 17 FEB: **(674)** 551 people at the booth table, 56 at the knots table and 67 people following Coastie.

On Sunday 18 FEB: **(322)** 272 people at the booth table and 50 people at the knots table.



**GRAND TOTAL (1,304) of which there were about 247 children and 1,057 adults**

Coastie developed some mechanical issues and was not able to entertain the children as much.

**DOCK SAFETY COLORING BOOK**

Dan Collins has identified a nuance with the coloring book. We are really educating the parents as to the dangers to children on the dock, this became apparent at the Boat show when talking to parents. Dan is recommending we add: "The 'Dock Safety' coloring book has been designed to provide caring parents or guardians an easy and fun-filled way to explain the hazards that lurk on and around docks. Please take the time to enjoy the coloring experience with your child and discuss the safety messages that appear on each page."

**KNOTS & KNOTS**

Dan Collins' March article is on the topic of "Batteries". The article goes into detail explaining different types of batteries and voltage.

An email was sent to WRDE Coast Life requesting an interview.



Bay Day Sunday May 19, Harbor Day at the Docks-Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Possible New Event-Ocean Pines Kickoff and Expo April 20, rain date 27 3:00-7:00 PM.

**MARTIN KILLIAN FSO-PV**

FEB PV totals 23  
 Dealers added 0  
 Changes 0  
 Staff added/subtracted 0  
 Current YTD 29

There were 25 Program Visits in FEB 2024.

**CATHY BATTISTONE FSO-PB**

The February minutes were created and forwarded to Bob Sheehan FC. he approved minutes from February on form 7017 was forwarded to DIRAUX.

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

The Flotilla roster and Division Directory have been updated and posted to their respective websites.

Created the 2024 Membership, VE and Safe Boating class sign-up sheets for Ocean City's Seaside Boat Show.

**BARRY COHEN FSO-PE**

The next boat class is scheduled begin March 19, 2024. As of today, there are 6 students registered for this class. There are about 10 registration forms outstanding.



**AL PARRA FSO-VE**

There are several VSC outings this Spring and Summer. The

first one is first marina is Massey's Park on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The second marina is Whitehorse Park on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The third marina is Massey's Park on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year there is a card that is to being handed out regarding updates on beacons and epirbs.



**NEW BUSINESS**

TCT yearly workshop. Jim McCarty will be able to conduct this class, approximately two hours. Jim McCarty will find a date and let the membership know that needs this workshop.



There was a motion from the flotilla to reimburse Steve Haffner for the coffee and donuts that he graciously provided for the flotilla members that worked the Boat Show. Steve Haffner said that he would not accept a check or if one was sent he would not cash it. Thank you Steve Haffner our Boat Show leader.

Kathy Vail suggested a sign-up sheet for members to take turn bringing in goodies for the 6:30-7:00 PM fellowship. Diversity needs four social for one of the criteria for the Diversity Award.

A motion to adjourn at 2019 was made by Steve Haffner and

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

APR	ACTIVITY
1	General Meeting at 1900 U.S. Coast Guard Station Ocean City Ocean City, MD
MAY	ACTIVITY
6	General Meeting at 1900 U.S. Coast Guard Station Ocean City Ocean City, MD
18-24	
27	

seconded by Barry Cohen. The motion carried.



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.



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