



FLOTILLA 092-06-04
MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2023
<http://uscgauxlorain.us/>



CALL TO ORDER BY FLOTILLA COMMANDER

MEETING FORMAT: In-Person and Virtual

ACTUAL START TIME: 19:32hrs

Pledge led by: Russ Cromwell

Invocation By: Al Rosich

Total Attending: In-Person: 12 On-Line: 5 Retired Member: 1

SECRETARY REPORT - Kevin Settle

Prior Meeting Minutes Report - Kevin Settle FSO-SR

No additions or corrections

Motion to Accept by: Dave McCollum

Second Motion by: Jack Benton

Vote: Aye

FINANCE OFFICER REPORT - Peter Baillie

- There is no change to flotilla private funds which remains at \$1198.83
- Motion to accept - Don Schoonover, 2nd Chris Raszka - All vote Aye

FLOTILLA COMMANDER REPORT - Bill Ferry

April began with a change away from Winter Dress Blues, and thank you to those members who are more and more appearing in meetings, in-person, and online, in some form of Coast Guard Auxiliary Uniform. The Coast Guard is presently asking us to step up, to assume more responsibility, to be more fully a part of Team Coast Guard (Active Duty, Reserve, Auxiliary, and Civilian Staff). An important part of gaining the trust and respect of the Coast Guard is to look

and act in ways that show we are uniformly trained, uniformly attired, and most of all uniformly focussed on the mission.

A lot of the activity in April has been our regular Station Checks at Station Lorain and Work Parties at the Station, on the Facility Boat and in our offices. I promise that May will not be less active.

One less happy activity of April was performing Honor Guard duties at the visitation for deceased Member Ron Tvorik of 092-06-01. Ron was my SO-PE for some time, and thought I'd only met him a couple times, he was an easy man to get to like. Bravo Zulu to Russ Cromwell for putting together our Flotilla's Honor Guard (last year) and endeavoring to keep us in good order, able to serve in this humbling and important function. Thank you to Jeff Rutter and Dave McCollum (and three members of 092-06-01) for their service in honoring Ron, too. I hope each Member will consider serving on the Honor Guard or Color Guard - these ceremonial duties are vitally important. The comfort that is brought to the families is not easy to understand until you see it in the eyes of the surviving family. And once you see it, you will be eager to serve on the Honor Guard again and again.

In May, we celebrate National Safe Boating Week, from 20 May through 26 May. In conjunction with this celebration, we have a Vessel Safety Check Outreach at the Bay Boat Club in Bay Village on Saturday 20 May; an AUXPAD Afloat Presentation at the Bay Senior Center on Tuesday 23 May; another VSC Outreach at the Lorain Harbor Boat Club on Saturday 27 May; and the Memorial Day Parade in Cuyahoga Falls on Monday 29 May.

I NEED TO KNOW NOW, if you are going to participate in the Memorial Day Parade. We start early, travel to Cuyahoga Falls, march the parade, grab lunch at a local eatery, and return home. A long day. But like the Honor Guard/Color Guard service - you will find it enjoyable. To show off our unit, our Facility Boat, our Utility Trailer, and our Members is a lot of fun. The parade goers are great - adults shouting "thank you for your service" and little kids standing up and saluting. We already have "marchers" for the day, but could use more "riders", in the tow vehicles, or up on the boat. Uniform of the day is Trops or ODUs.

Finally, the Calendar is an important part of planning and participation. We have recently reconfigured calendars so that there is now a Division and Flotilla calendar, online, at our usual website location in the left hand menu. Please look them over. If you are Google calendar savvy, I believe it is possible for you to "subscribe" to the calendars and they will appear on your home calendar - let's ask Tom Cole, FSO-Communication Services whether that is a possibility.

Thank you all for your Service, and let's make May fun and productive.

REPORT FROM DIVISION COMMANDER - Dave McCollum

- The bus trip to Erie Marine museum is still in the planning stages. The bus will be more expensive than anticipated, we may carpool. More details to come.
- Russ Cromwell & Dave McCollum attended Akron and Huron Flotilla meetings.

VICE FLOTILLA COMMANDER REPORT - Jeff Rutter

- Of the 6 US services, with the exception of the Space Force, the Coast Guard does not have a national museum. The good news is on August 19, 2022 a Keel Laying Ceremony was held in New London, CT for the National Coast Guard Museum. So far State and Federal appropriations of \$100,000,000 and an additional \$31,000,00 in private donations have been pledged. Several million dollars are still needed to complete the project. To make a pledge, visit coastguardmuseum.org.
- Please visit our uniform bank at the station if you need any uniforms or accessories before you buy them.
- VFC contacted staff members to remind them that their May report was due.

FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICER REPORTS

FSO-AS Jeff Rutter (Aux Scout) rutterj@gmail.com

- Activities in the AUXSCOUT area include continued planning for the Safety at Sea to be held Saturday 22 July 2023 at Station Lorain Ohio. As a reminder, Safety at Sea is a joint venture of Divisions 092-06 and 092-07. Our use of the Station for the Event is Authorized by OIC-Cleveland. Sea Scouts have had the date for some time, and a Boarding Manual has been distributed. Registration for the event will begin soon. By a month prior to the event, we will know whether our Registration numbers are sufficient to proceed. Those Auxiliarists who will join in presenting the event should start now by making sure the date is available, and review your plans for your responsibility on the event date. Questions to Bill Ferry clevelandbill@mac.com or Jeff Rutter FSO-AS 092-06-04 at rutterj@gmail.com.

- Several Members throughout the Division have updated their Youth Protection Training. Every Auxiliarist who has contact with youth (such as at an event like Safety at Sea) is required by the Auxiliary to take this training. Furthermore, you must take it again every two years. The course is online, viewable in the comfort of your own home, in your own chair, on your own device at: <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>
- I can strongly advise that many of you ought to take some of the other Scout training courses such as Safe Swim Defense. These courses are not only useful for work with Scouts, but have many takeaways for Auxiliary operations, too.
- Finally, our Division, and, frankly, our District, has been slow to jump on the Sea Scouts ship. The evidence is starting to come in how the combined efforts of USCG Auxiliary and Sea Scouts can be productive and useful to both organizations. As a reminder, Sea Scouts may join the USCG Auxiliary, may train in almost every area in which we train, and may qualify in many. Sea Scouts who are Auxiliarists bring a lot of energy, new ideas, and different perspectives. As every good adult knows, sometimes the kid teaches us - and sometimes we need to hear it.
- Sea Scouts who become Auxiliarists is an answer to a HUGE orca in the room - RECRUITING. The Auxiliary, generally, is easy to join for persons of a certain age - who by whatever circumstance, have the time, talent, and treasure to join a volunteer organization such as ours. We end up with a largely older Membership, and few younger people who are joining, learning, and growing into positions of leadership. Sea Scouts is one answer to this problem - the problem of keeping the pipeline filled with good people.
- To succeed at integrating Sea Scouts and these new Auxiliarists into our Auxiliary, we will all have to practice our skills of keeping our minds open, of trying new things, and working with a much younger crowd. I admit that it will be hard work for me. My own kids are just now out of the house - and now I have to find the patience to deal with someone else's kids?? Well, yes. For the good of the Auxiliary, yes.
- Recognizing the importance of these new Members to our Auxiliary, the Annual Dues for these new Sea Scout - Auxiliarists have been halved, so that dues are not an impediment to their joining. Reach out to your local Sea Scout Ship and see how the Auxiliary can help the Ship, and the Sea Scouts can help the Auxiliary. I am becoming convinced that these new Members are going to help us move forward.

FSO-CM Peter Baillie (Communications Officer) anguskbaillie@yahoo.com

- No activity

FSO-CS Tom Cole Communication Services) tomcole430@gmail.com

- Made updates to Flotilla webpage and calendar.

FSO-DV Dave McCollum (Diversity) daveaux0604@gmail.com

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FSO-HR Dave McCollum (HumanResources)daveaux0604@gmail.com

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SO-IS Michele Rosich (Information Services) merosich@windstream.net

- Entered activity hours for flotilla members.
- Members who took the Vessel Examiner Workshop – I entered into AUXDATA II.
- Worked with District on situations with AUXDATA II in regards to competency issues.

FSO-MA Robert Koenig (Materials) capt.bobonlake.erie@gmail.com

- Put an order in for Bill Ferry and myself Robert J. Koenig for my safety brochures for vessel checks and visitation partners. From AUXILIARY NATIONAL SUPPLY CENTER.

FSO-MS Bruce Kole (Marine Safety) brukole@gmail.com

- Best Practices: There are over 4 Million registered recreational boats in our Ninth Coast Guard District, plus large numbers of personal watercraft. Those numbers should alert us to the challenges we face in teaching boaters about the importance of best practices for their safety and for protecting the environment. The March FSO-MS Report addressed Boat cleaning, painting and shrink rap. This month looks at...
- **Fuel and Engine Maintenance:**
Use propylene glycol products for winterizing, not ethylene glycol or RV antifreeze. Flush prior to launch each season. Dispose properly. Remove oil from bilge water using an oil absorbent bilge cushion. Make sure your engine doesn't leak oil or gasoline. One quart of oil can create a two acre oil slick. It is illegal to use dish soap to disperse an oil spill. It forces oil down into the water column. Don't drain engine fluids into the water. Don't top off your fuel tank. Use a Fuel Nozzle

bib or oil and gas absorbent sheets around the nozzle. Report all spills to the National Response Center: 1-800-424-8802. It's the Law!

- **Build your own Boater Pollution Prevention Kit:**

A waterproof bag stocked with: 1 lb. recycled white rags, 3 pairs nitrile gloves,

5 fuel nozzle bibs, 1 roll oil-absorbent sheets, 1 fuel vent collection system, 1 bilge sock, 4 heavy-duty garbage bags.

- **Recruiting, PA, Environmental Protection Opportunity:**

Saturday, June 3, 2023 Rocky River Clean-up, 9 am - 12 pm

Scenic Park Picnic Area at Emerald Necklace Marina

Bags and trash pickers provided. BBQ at noon

Sponsor: Rocky River Watershed Council www.myrockyriver.org

FSO-MT Jeff Rutter (Member Training) rutterj@gmail.com

- At the April meeting there was a knot tying class led by George Robinson, a retired Navy Seal.
- Robert Laurer facilitated an ops class on April 4. The subject was weather, and the instructor was Kim Walsh.
- A two part Risk Management/TCT Refresher offerings for Crew Quals was presented on April 12 & 13.
- Robert Laurer presented another OPS Workshop on April 20.
- A Night Operations Presentation with John Nowicki was held on April 25.
- The pandemic has distracted some members from staying current with the Core Training requirements. You will need to complete the required training in order to participate with many Auxiliary programs this year. You can simply watch some core training videos and complete an "attestation" form and send it to your Michelle for entry into AUX DATA II. If you need the link or additional info, let me know.
- Fall D-Train will be held September 22-24. Please mark your calendars and make your plans early.
- Boat Crew training is ongoing.

FSO-NS Thomas D Raszka (Navigation Systems) flybuoy2@yahoo.com

- No report for ATON activities.

FSO-OP Jack Benton (Operations) trilogy1850@gmail.com

- The flotilla's Operational Support for Station Lorain did 9 inspections for April.
- Work was done at the station on our Facility on APR 8, 15, 21, and 28th along with restoring our shed, and boxing up our supply of PFDs.

FSO-PA Kevin Settle (Public Affairs) kevmac447@yahoo.com

- Memorial Day Parade Cuyohoga Falls May 29.
- Vermilion Safety Town June 17 - Bill F & Jeff R will attend.
- Boating Safety Week, May 21 - May 27.

FSO-PB Russ Cromwell (Publications) auxruss@twc.com

- 092-06-04 some items submitted for review for possible publication

FSO-PE Bill Ferry (Public Education) clevelandbill@mac.com

- Reported Elsewhere

SO-PV Russ Cromwell (Program Visitor) auxruss@twc.com

- 8 RBS visits completed by Kevin Settle in flotilla 092-06-04.
- Our flotilla is now in the lead for the number of RBS visits completed as of this month in 2023. Thank you Kevin!

FSO-VE Russ Cromwell (Vessel Examination) auxruss@twc.com

- Bill Ferry FC posted a link to "I Want A Vessel Safety Check" to Facebook, on the Great Lakes Boaters group, which has 35,000 members. The link works but unfortunately, the link does not post with a picture. Will request assistance from V-Directorate to fix.
- Bill Ferry FC sent out an email offering any VE to participate with 04 coming outreach events.

SPECIAL REPORTS OR COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUXPAD Jeff Burdick (or Bill Ferry)

- Reported elsewhere

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE Jolyn Jones

BUSINESS MEETING

OLD BUSINESS

- Don Schoonover would like to remove and replace some of the lettering on the AUX trailer.
- Dave McCollum & Russ Cromwell attended and took part in the District Change of watch.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bob Koenig has some discarded flares and would like to have flare & extinguisher training for the Flotilla.
- Bill Ferry would like Bruce Kole to do a presentation on Marine Safety every meeting if possible.

AWARDS:

GENERAL AUXILIARY DISCUSSION

CLOSING REMARKS

- Division Commander - Dave McCollum
- IPDCDR – Open
- Flotilla Commander - Bill Ferry
- VFC - Jeff Rutter
- IPFC -Russ Cromwell
- Senior Active Member -
- Retired members –
- Guests/ Other members (None)

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Motion to Adjourn by: Jack Benton
- Second Motion by: George Harizal
- Vote: Aye
- Actual Adjourn Time: 20:47Hrs

IMPORTANT DATES		
20-26 May	National Safe Boating Week	Everywhere
20 May; 0900-1300	VSC Outreach Event	Bay Boat Club
27 May; 1100-1630	VSC Outreach Event	LHBC
29 May; 0700-1500	Memorial Day Parade	Cuyahoga Falls
07 Jun; 1900-2030	Division Meeting	Online Only
07 Jun; 1100-??	Vermilion PD Safety Town	Vermilion Elem Sch
07 Jun; 0700-1930	Flotilla Meeting	Online and Live
06-09 Jul	Cleveland Tall Ships (MAYBE)	Cleveland
22 July	SAFETY AT SEA	Station Lorain
04 Jul	USCG Anniversary Celebration	Everywhere
02-04 Sep	Cleveland Air Show	Cleveland
22-24 Sep	Fall D-Train	Dunkirk, NY
09 Dec	Flotilla Holiday Party	To Be Announced

TEN MOST SENIOR MEMBERS	
ENROLLED	NAME
06 Apr 1970	Marie R Shimandle
04 May 1978	George A Harizal
27 Jul 1979	Karen Kamm
11 Jun 1991	Christine A Raszka
11 Jun 1991	Thomas D Raszka
19 May 1992	Jack E Benton
31 May 1994	Alan M Rosich
07 Jul 1997	Kenneth C. Sarnecki
01 Jul 2003	Russell W Cromwell
12 Nov 2004	Michele E Rosich

MEETING TREAT VOLUNTEERS			
January	Ferry	July	
February	Jones	August	
March		September	
April		October	
May	Rutter	November	
June		December	