

The
Signal
Bridge

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard
Auxiliary**



June, 2008 Volume 34 Number 6



Flotilla 45 Memorial Garden. Rain, cold and gloomy weather can't stop the "CAN DO" Flotilla from getting the job done. Photo by Rick Fischpera.

Official Publication of Flotilla 45 9 ER
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Rochester, NY
Sarah Jo. Fischpera, FC Robert R. Drost, YFC
Robert J. Verstreet Sr., FSO-PB
1826 Maiden Lane Rochester, NY 14626-1917
E-mail Wa2rx@comcast.net

The Commander

Sarah Jo Fischpera

As I write this it is rainy and very cold and to think the boats should be going in the water soon so we can start patrols is getting very depressing. But I know the warm weather will be here soon.

As you all know we have a very busy schedule in June and I am asking all members to at least help out with one event, even if it is only for a couple of hours.

On May 17 the Water Expo was held at Station Rochester, even though it was cold and rainy there was a huge turn out, they said about 300 people came through for the tour and we had a number of people sign up for Vessel Examines and possibly join the Auxiliary, the Boarder Patrol and the State Police water patrol were there also. It was a great turn out and I was impressed that there were people from 4 of the flotilla's there to help out. Not may Vessel Exams were done but that was because of the weather. The Brody's from 42 had their boat docked at the dock and Patty was having a blast showing the public the boat.

On May 18th we also held our annual Bed and Breakfast and once again Gordy did a great job and we had a nice turn out. After we were all full, a few of us went to plant flowers at Braddock Bay for the Memorial Day Ceremony. We had help from George Moore, Heather and Tracy Ladue, Bob, Eileen and Elizabeth Drost, Marsha Carpenter and Rick, myself and our 3 yr old granddaughter Alexis, who was a great help and was ready to go back later in the day to make sure the flowers were all watered again, even though it was pouring. Thank you to everyone that helped out.

Rick's daughter, who lives in Salem, Mass, just had Hannah on May 7th and we have been asked to visit Memorial Day weekend. So, with that said, I have asked Bob Drost to take my place this year with the Memorial Day Ceremony, I am sure he will do just fine with all the help he will receive from everyone that will be there. We have to go when asked because of all the relatives wanting to go down.

Our first VE Blitz will be at Sandy Creek on 5/31 from 1100 -1600. Emails have gone out and some members have responded if you can help out for 1 hour even to pass out stickers to the children or information on boating safely it would be greatly appreciated. On June 1st there is another blitz with the Rochester Power Boaters at the public ramp and this is a Division function even if you do not do VE's come on down and see all the boats and once again we will have stickers and information for the public.

As you all know we have more going on in June and we could use all member support on making sure these events are properly covered. So please pick an event and let us know the time and event you would like to help out with, even an hour or two would help relieve the members that will have to be at the function all day.

I just want to thank everyone for all that they are doing already this year. I know we are always asking for help and how more members need to get involved, which I would love to see every member in our Flotilla attend at least one event this year, but I appreciate everyone that has helped out so far and for everyone who has responded to the call of help for further events. It is very much appreciated by the FSO's that work hard to get these events together. Thank you once again. WE ARE THE CAN DO FLOTILLA.

Personnel Services

Gordon S. Aman, FSO-PS

When do you think this Roller Coaster like ride of our weather well settle down and start acting like summer? We have better things to do then set around and watch gas prices to go up.

Speaking of things going up have you checked the lake level lately? We got 247 ft. that's enough to float your boat, and take away that sandbar in Braddock Bay channel that's good news for the boats that dock there.

I would like to thank the following prospective new members we have had lately at our Flotilla meetings they are Valerie D'Ambra, Richard Drouin, Todd Goodrich, Brian Boehn, Rich Nichols, Therese Feller, and Tim Shaughnessy, some have come from our web site and others from our very busy boating classes or by word of mouth from our members. I hope they will pursue their interest and become active members.

By the time you read this issue if our Signal Bridge our Annual Breakfast n' Bed will have been another "GREAT" fellowship event. I would like to thank all 18 people who could make it! The Parkway Restaurant is the Best and I look forward to next year So we can enjoy again.



Waitin' for breakfast. Photo by Rick Fischpera.

The Vice Commander

Robert R. Drost

The weekend of May 2-4 I joined 17 other members from around the Division in Batavia for the AMLOC training program. This was a very intense but fun-filled experience. Although this course is primarily aimed at those interested in moving up the chain of leadership, there was a lot of information that could be of use at the flotilla level. We had many spirited discussions about the difference between Leadership and Management, how to influence others to achieve a goal, personal growth and development, different ways to recognize accomplishments of others, etc. Saturday evening we enjoyed a few hours of fellowship at a local Irish pub. Everyone had a good time and I suspect more than a few glasses of beer were poured by the proprietor!

Finally, spring has arrived, and our flotilla should be ready to enjoy all the activities that the nicer weather provides. We have many events planned starting with the Water Expo at the Station on May 17. Also, our annual Bed n Breakfast get-together on May 18 to kick off the start of the operations season. This event usually attracts a large crowd and is a lot of fun. Don't forget the Memorial Day Ceremony at Braddock Bay Marina at 0900 hrs sharp on May 26. Our Safe Boating classes have been full and all the attendees passed. These are all great opportunities to get out and meet the people, let them know what we do, and hopefully generate enough interest to have some decide to join us.

Speaking of interest, at our last flotilla meeting we had less than 50% of the members present. This has been the situation we've experienced at every meeting this year. One of the issues discussed at the AMLOC training was the reasons people don't attend meetings. Here is a list of the top problems:

1. No published results
2. Domination by an individual
3. Ineffective decisions
4. Starting late
5. Wasting time
6. Lack of leadership
7. Disorganized
8. No decisions made
9. Poor preparation
10. Too lengthy
11. No goals or agendas
12. Getting off the subject

As I look back at past meetings I wonder "do we suffer from any of those problems?" I'd like to suggest that each member look at this list and write down the reasons they don't attend. Put the reasons in an email and send it to myself and the Commander. When we asked for volunteers for upcoming events, not one person raised their hand. I realize we all have lives outside of the flotilla, and one of the expectations is participation based on one's time and ability. We don't expect people to support every event but I'm sure everyone can spare

hours to support at least one event. Is that really asking too much???

June Events

1 - VE Blitz

4 - Flotilla 45 meeting

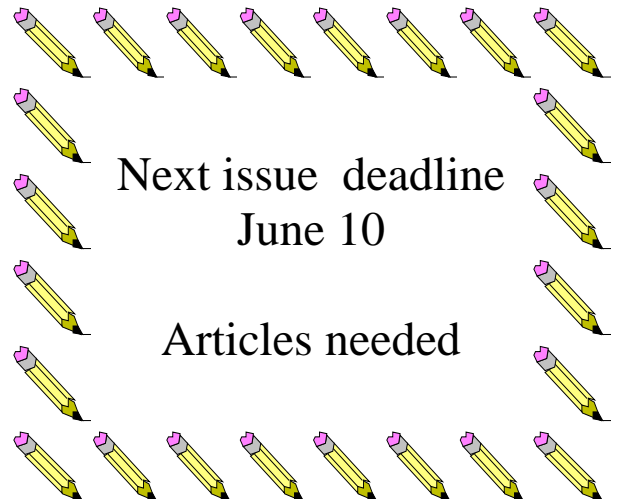
7 & 8 Fairport N.Y. Canal Days
Help Needed
Contact Heather Ladue

14 - Recruitment Day
Lake Shore Fire Dist.

14 - Flag Day

15 - Fathers Day

20 - Summer begins



Information Services

Sarah Jo Fischpera, FSO-IS

For anyone that has access to Auxdata you will need to go into AUXDATA now within 45 days or your password will be deactivated, The timeline for completion is 30 June 2008; intend to have this completed by 15 May 2008.

Nav Rules are now having REYR set on the anniversary date and not 31 Dec of each year.

Mandatory IT workshops must be completed by the ITs by 31 May 2008. IS officers have until 30 June 2008 to input to AUXDATA., but if the date of the workshop is not 31 May or earlier, a REWK flag will be assigned and then will have to be removed by their DIRAUX office when the workshop is completed'

Please see information below on how to download new Citrix Java for AUXDATA users

CITRIX:

Many AUXDATA users have been downloading a link which gives them the CITRIX Program Neighborhood and Agent (We used this several years ago, but should no longer work.) AUXDATA users only need the ICA Web Client for the Citrix connection.

There is a new link on the AUXDATA home page to connect to Citrix.

<http://www.citrix.com/English/SS/downloads/details.asp?dlID=2755&downloadID=1339765&plD-186>

You want to download: Web Client Package (msi) 3/10/2008 14.7 mb

OSC has fixed the reports screen so that members cannot save pdf and csv reports direct to OSC Citrix Servers. If members try to save to Desktop, Recent and My Documents, they will receive a message access Denied. These locations are on the OSC Citrix Servers and NOT on the user's local system.

The members MUST save as and in the drop down menu, the user will then see "C\$ on Client (V:)" (or something similar.) This should be the Auxiliarists local computer, not on the Citrix Server at OSC. The members must use this method to save the report prior to trying to print it.

JAVA:

The latest updates of JAVA are not compatible to AUXDATA.

You need to check your program files to insure you have JAVA 5 Update 15.

If JAVA 6 Update 5, is on your system, remove it. It is incompatible with AUXDATA.

Link: http://java.sun.com/javase/downloads/index_jdk5.jsp

Scroll down until you see "Java Runtime Environment

(JRE) 5.0 Update 15" and click download. Public Education

Richard J. Fischpera, FSO-PE

Shipmates! This as been an outstanding year in the Public Education Department. Every class from February to June has been filled and I can't remember when the last time that has happened. To date with out the upcoming June class Flotilla 45 has taught 179 students with 50 being under seventeen. All of the instructors have been doing an awesome job and I can't thank you all enough. Instructor in training Shawn Putnam has been working on the Waterway Watch program and he is getting the point across and building up his confidence in teaching. I am now planning on 2 additional PE classes in the fall and hoping that Shawn will teach chapter 1 or 7 to start. By the end of the year the Flotilla should have another instructor. The Gander Mtn. classes have been very entertaining especially when Chief Mosgrober puts on his presentation. Len said it best, Chief is a hard act to follow. Both Gander Mtn. and the Greece Town Hall have been great people to work with. I know that the classes at Gander can be tough being all day, but we pull together and "Can Do" this class with great success. Also paypal has been another great success it took me awhile to get used to it. I would not go back to the old way of registering students at all. When Dan and Lindsay put this together they saw a tool that would bring high rewards to Flotilla 45. By now all of the instructors should have taken or viewed the required Instructors Workshop for 2008. This needed to be done by 31 May 2008, if you have not completed please contact me right away and we will work on it. I really don't want to have any instructors in REYR.

At the time of this writing we have one more PE class to go in June. I am going to plan on 2 additional classes in the fall. One class at the Gander Mtn. store and one class at the Greece Town Hall or maybe if cards fall into play another great location.

I want to thank all those instructors and aids who have helped so far. In the July Bridge I will post those names who have



Chief Mosgrober at work. Photo by Rick Fischpera.

Air Operations

F. Robert Bialkowski, FSO-AV

During the month of April Bill Bach and I flew seven patrols for a total of 23.8 flying hours. As of this time we have not observed any amount of pleasure boating. Braddock Bay has only four vessels in the water at the marina as of the first week May.

Attached are two photos of the Detroit Car Ferry being scrapped. In the first photo one can see the remains of the two Sunliner cars on the pier. This will be of interest to our two railroad buffs Rick and Bill. In the second photo you can see the remains of one of the side wheels on the shoreline. This vessel was originally a steam powered side wheel RR car ferry.



Public Affairs

Bryan T. Williams, FSO-PA

So far this month has been pretty good in regards to promoting our flotilla's safe boating classes. I am currently still working to insure we have a spot for the Fairport Canal Days. I am almost done with the spring session of MCC and I hope to be able to attend a flotilla meeting or two.

On a Personal Note

Joyce S. Verstreet

Our June Birthdays,

09, DON HETTIG

18, BOB VERSTREET

21, ROBERT DROST

27, EILEEN DROST

28, BILL BACH

30, TRACY LADUE

Happy Birthday everyone!

Thanks to all who worked on the flowerbed, it looks great!

Memorial Day

Robert J. Verstreet Sr., FSO-PB

We could not have had a nicer ceremony. Sorry that we arrived a bit late, but everything went very smooth, weather was perfect, Bob and Gordy did a great job and we had one of our biggest spectator crowds. Thanks to all who attended and helped out. Another outstanding example of why we are the "CAN DO FLOTILLA".

Flag Day June 14

Show your colors - God Bless America