

## **April Flotilla 08 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting began with a welcome to all, establishment of a quorum, and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present: Tom Keene, Gretel Keene, Bob Muldoon, Bob Heinz, Jan Heinz, Scott Gamble, Burt Bigelow, Timm Hammond, Jeff Carlson, Shane Duffy, Dave Kingsbury, Don Garvey, Gary Jones and Caryl Jones. Vern Bauer was our distinguished guest.

Both the April Agenda and the March Minutes were approved.

### **Announcements**

Barry Berg (Flotilla 2) wanted all Flotilla's to know that there has been a poor response to the First Aid class and if more members did not sign up it would have to be cancelled. Vern Bauer suggested that because of the time of year (summer) people have other commitments and we should let Barry know that scheduling it for fall or winter would probably produce a better turn out.

Tom Keene et al congratulated Jeff Carlson and the other instructors (Gretel Keene, Timm Hammond and Gary Jones) on the GPS for Mariners class that was recently held. Phil Kercher from West Marine also participated and was an informative instructor. Jeff indicated that Phil is willing to give the GPS instruction to other groups, as well.

Last year the Friends of the Mississippi had a clean-up day and Don Garvey felt that this would be a good program for our Flotilla to participate in next year.

Don also noted that they are still looking for volunteers for the Boy Scout Camp May 22 and 23rd.

Bob Heinz announced that there will be an Awards banquet at Jimmy's Conference Center on May 14th and urged attendance.

### **Staff Officer Reports for Month Ending April, 2010**

FSO MT--**Gary Jones**

Mission Activity:

Reorganized training for May & June.

Emailed July Picnic Committee for tentative mid-May planning meeting.

Invited Flotilla 2 FC or another member to join our July picnic planning meeting.

FSO NS--**Timm Hammond**

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

During the June Flotilla meeting I will conduct the second training session on basic ATON/Bridge training  
FSO FN--**Jan Heinz**

Two checks have been written--one for the flag and one to reimburse Jeff for supplies for the GPS class. Invoices should be coming in for the class books for the classes and other supplies.  
Checks from the Community Centers usually are sent out a month or two after the event.

I spent a day at the Zoo with the Coast Guard Sea Partners.

I will be taking part in a safety presentation for the Red Wing marinas.

FSO PA/PV--**Gretel Keene**  
Assistance to the Active Duty:

Wrote a National Safe Boating Week article and sent it to Betty Zoellner for approval. Ms. Zoellner asked me to add a contact name, and let her know where it was going. She also just emailed me and asked me to call the article a "Press Release" which I will do before sending it out.

The article is going to the Minneapolis Tribune, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Watergate's "Scuttlebut" magazine and seven more newspapers. The Safe Boating Article also went to Watergate Marina, American Family Insurance and to David Kingsbury, Flotilla 11-08 web designer.

Mission Activity:

Program Visit to Watergate Marina, March 20 to add bulletins and materials about Safe Boating.

Attended "Western rivers Spring Symposium" in Plymouth, MN March 18 and 19; and registered Coast Guard Auxiliary members.

Program Visit April 19 to American Family Insurance, Roseville, MN.

Other noteworthy items:

Contacted Don Forby about helping teach ABS. He responded "anytime".

Taught ABS class (part 1) April 24 at Shoreview Community Center.

Rewrote the National Safe Boating Week article and put it in our flotilla's news:

[www.flotilla11-08.org](http://www.flotilla11-08.org). It was sent to Betty Zoellner, who approved it.

Sent three articles to the Five District FSO-PA's for distribution: "National Safe Boating Week is May 22-28" and "CO2 Cartridges". The latter article was from Betty Zoellner.

Sent Flotilla 11-08's web site address to all the FSO-PA's.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Traveled to Emmitsburg, MD January 18-21, 2010 for “Debris Technical Specialist” training and April 6-9 for “Debris Task Force Leader” training.

At our last Flotilla 11-08 meeting, Jeffrey Carlson FSO-PE said he would email me a list of newspapers that he had used for Press Releases. When I get that list, I will continue sending out the National Safe Boating information.

#### FSO MS--**Don Garvey**

##### Mission Activity:

17 April - participated in Friends of the Mississippi River Gorge Annual Clean-up Day pulling out trash from the river and shoreline. Done to fulfill a requirement for Prevention Outreach Specialist PQS. Also briefed Flotilla 8 on the Clean-up Day as a possible Flotilla activity for 2011.

18 April - participated in MN Zoo Earth Day Auxiliary ANS Booth.

22 April - UPV mandatory refresher training with Active Duty.

26 April - Completed Prevention Outreach Specialist PQS with Chief Dentry. Paperwork submitted to DSO-MS.

30 April - Visited Sterns Scout Camp to pre-plan Auxiliary activity area (ANS, AWW, SAR, PPE displays) for Scouting Jamboree.

##### Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Scout Star Camp in May – Displays on ANS, AWW, PPE, SAR

Get U/W on the boat – Marine Observation Missions

#### FSO CS--**Dave Kingsbury**

##### Mission Activity:

Continued refining the alpha website prototype’s design.

Worked with the FC and FSO’s for PE, VE, PV/PA, and PB/SR to develop text content for the website.

Updated website header graphics.

Continued developing website home page content.

Added press release to website.

Continued developing website links page content.

Updated flotilla website calendar.

Consulted with the FC concerning website maintenance.

Consulted with the FC concerning use of the website as an internal and external communication enhancement tool.

Developed website Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program page content.

Developed website membership info page content.

Developed website photo gallery content.

Developed website about the Auxiliary page content.

Developed website members homepage content.  
Posted flotilla newsletters and records to the members area of the website.  
Received final approval of website design and content from FC.  
Submitted new website content for pre-release approval.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Submit website for DSO-CS and national approval.  
Continue refining website design.  
Continue refining website content.  
Conduct flotilla training session on website features and usage.  
Work with FC to develop website and email policies as needed.

FSO HR and OP--**Bob Heinz**

Assistance to the Active Duty:

Worked the MN ZOO in the Sea Partners booth

Other noteworthy items:

Working with Flotilla 2 for presentation on boating safety to Red Wing city marinas May 8th.

FSO CM--**Scott Gamble**

Other noteworthy items:

Mentor Shane Duffy in Boat Crew Academy studies.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Continued assistance to Shane Duffy  
Attend the BCA On-The-Water training exercises.

Office FSO SR--**Caryl Jones**

Mission Activity:

Took several pixs of Shane Duffy and selected the best one to use for his ID card. Sent the picture to Como Heinz to include with the paperwork he is sending to DIRAUX.

Compiled the Staff Officers Reports and wrote the Minutes for the April business meeting.

Office FSO PB--**Caryl Jones**

Mission Activity:

Attended the GPS course given by Gretel Keene, Gary Jones, Timm Hammond and Phil Kircher. Besides being a good learning experience, the photos and notes I took may make an interesting story for the newsletter and web-site.

Rolling 3 Month Plans:

Traveled to Baltimore and had my eye out for some potential pixs and stories concerning the Coast Guard and or the Auxiliary.

FSO-PE--**Jeff Carlson**

Mission Activity:

Set up GPS for Mariners course and participated in that course at the Shoreview Community Center. Course was well received by the two students who attended and was a good learning session for the first GPS class.

Additionally, there will be 9 students at the Shoreview Community Center on April 24th for another ABS class. He has enough books for the 24th, but may need more for the May 1st class.

There will be a Boating ABS class at Brooklyn Center Community Center on May 1 and 6 students have signed up for that session.

FSO-IS--**Don Garvey**

Mission Activity:

Please continue to send in mission and administrative hours, so that they can be entered into AUXDATA.

FSO-VE--**Burt Bigelow**

Mission Activity:

Have set up arbitrary dates for one Marina and after confirming that date (and any others) suggest we put VE schedule on the web-site.

## **Awards**

No awards were given out at tonight's meeting.

## **Old Business**

Tom reported that he had ordered a flag for LCM. It is 4X8', has been flown over the Capitol and will come with a certificate of that event. The flag costs \$27.00 and will arrive in about a month.

Gary Jones asked Tom to set up a committee to plan the summer picnic discussed in the March meeting. Tom called for a committee and the following members volunteered:

Gary, Gretel, Caryl and Timm.

## **New Business**

Jeff Carlson requested that we do something for Phil Kercher as a token of appreciation for his help on the GPS class. Bob Heinz suggested a certificate that is authorized by the CG Auxiliary which could be appropriately framed and presented to Phil. A motion was made and passed to spend \$40 on that certificate/frame.

Shane Duffy reported that he has arranged for the May and June meetings to be held at the new Plymouth Library. Tom indicated that all members should be seeking potential sites for July and beyond (Tom is checking on the Shoreview Community Center as one possibility).

Tom Keene reported that we will have to plan for our election of Officers to be held in October rather than November, since the Division needs the approved list of elected officers for 2011 by the 3rd week of October  
Also, the PE schedule for 2011 needs to be finalized by the end of August in order to be included in the Divisional brochure.

The meeting was then adjourned and fellowship commenced.

Vern Bauer gave an interesting and informative training session on Program Visitations.