

BOATING SAFETY ADVOCATE *Newsletter*



FLOTILLA 3-10

5
S R

CALLAO, VA



May • 2017 • Erik Amato FSO-PB

BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 20 **What should I do before going boating?**

Take a safe boating course Get a vessel safety check

CERTIFICATE
Safe Boating Course

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

www.safeboatingcampaign.com

BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 21 **What do I need?**
Essentials

- Life jackets
- Visual distress signals
- Sound producing devices
- Locator device (EPIRB or PLB)
- Fire extinguishers
- Navigation lights
- Water to stay hydrated
- Correct permits & decals
- Free vessel safety check
- File a float plan

www.safeboatingcampaign.com

BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 22 **Which life jacket is right for me and my family?**

Select the right style life jacket for your boating activity.

- Read the label for U.S. Coast Guard approval
- Insure snug fit and fasten
- Select it for wearability

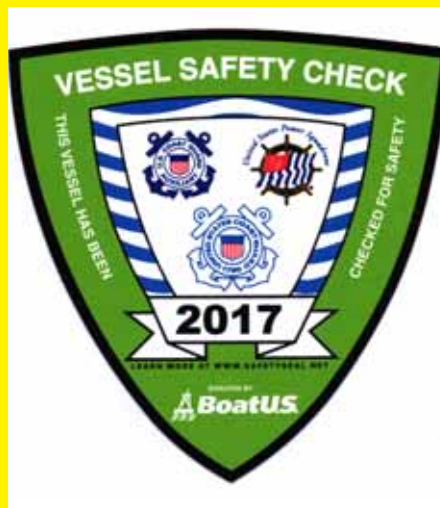
www.safeboatingcampaign.com

BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 23 **What's the danger of BUI?**

Federal law prohibits boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs (BUI) on ALL boats. BUI is involved in 1/3 of all recreational boating fatalities.

- Impact of cognitive ability
- Judgment Impaired
- Difficulty with balance
- Lack of coordination
- Slow reaction time
- Decreased vision

www.safeboatingcampaign.com



BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 24 **How will weather impact my boating plans?**

Weather forecasts are essential for making safe boating decisions. Check the National Weather Service for the latest forecast before leaving shore and carefully observe changing weather. Learn more at www.weather.gov.

- Heavy winds
- Extreme heat or UV Rays (remember your sunscreen!)
- Thunder and lightning
- Storm surges
- Cold water boating

www.safeboatingcampaign.com

BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 25 **How does the environment affect boaters?**

Environmental stressors may weaken your body and mind enough to make the risk of an accident much greater.

- Overexposure to the sun causes fatigue
- Noise of the water, wind, and vessel
- Motion of the vessel
- Dehydration
- Alcohol and drug consumption are more hazardous in water

www.safeboatingcampaign.com

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK
MAY 20-26, 2017

BOATING SAFETY TIP FOR
MAY 26 **What are important reminders for recreational boaters?**

- Maintain awareness of your surroundings at all times (what you see and hear)
- Travel at a safe speed for environment conditions

As a boater, you have a responsibility to all boaters - and all others who enjoy the water - to be safe, courteous and respectful.

Learn more at www.boatcourse.com.

www.safeboatingcampaign.com

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY
U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY JOB # 1



Ed Gray Flotilla Commander 3-10

We have National Safe Boating Week in May for good reason. It is about the time the water gets warmer and people are beginning to use their boats for the first time of the year. Memorial Day Weekend is close at hand, the unofficial start of the

summer season. It is a good time to remind boaters they need to be safe while on the water and in their boats. That water is fun to play on but it can be cruel if you don't respect it.

I am very pleased that Essex, King William, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland Counties acknowledged National Safe Boating Week this year and offered a Proclamation to their citizens to be safe while boating. Combined there are 13,489 boats registered in these counties and many more visitors coming to enjoy our rivers. We need everyone to be safe at all times.

It is with pride that the Auxiliary teaches the now required Safe Boating Courses throughout the summer at various locations. We offer Vessel Safety Checks to ensure boat owners have the proper equipment and their boats are ready to operate in a safe manner. We teach water safety to elementary

school students, Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops and we reach out to civic organizations throughout our area of responsibility and community. We patrol on the rivers and offer assistance as needed to boaters. We drill and practice for that time we may have to search for a lost boater, tow a disabled vessel, save someone who has fallen overboard or, heaven forbid, search for a missing and feared drown boater. We work closely with the US Coast Guard whenever requested and train together as possible. We also talk with boaters, neighbors, friends and family about being safe while boating and we always advise to "WEAR A LIFE JACKET."

If you reread the above paragraph you will see that it may be Safe Boating Week but Safe Boating must be a daily practice. One lapse in attention while boating may be tragic. We love to play on the waters and we love to share that time with family and friends but we must be safe. I would ask that all work at being safe on the waters but as no one wants to 'work' while boating I will ask all to 'play' safe. Let's all make the elements of Safe Boating Week a daily occurrence.

Ed



FLOTILLA JUNE CALENDAR

All Month Complete all reports due, plan 2017 VSC, RBS and NSBW Events

June

- 1 - Start of Hurricane Season**
- 6 - Kids N Water Class; Aylett Country Day School**
- 7 - Kids N Water Class; Richmond County**
- 19 - Flotilla meeting**
- 24 - ABS Class (Boating Safety), Tappahannock, VA, 0900-1600**
- 30 - FSO Reports and Calendar additions due**

All Month Give thanks to all spouses and friends for their support

FLOTILLA 3-10 COMMANDER ED GRAY OBTAINS NSBW PROCLAMATIONS FROM FIVE LOCAL COUNTY BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

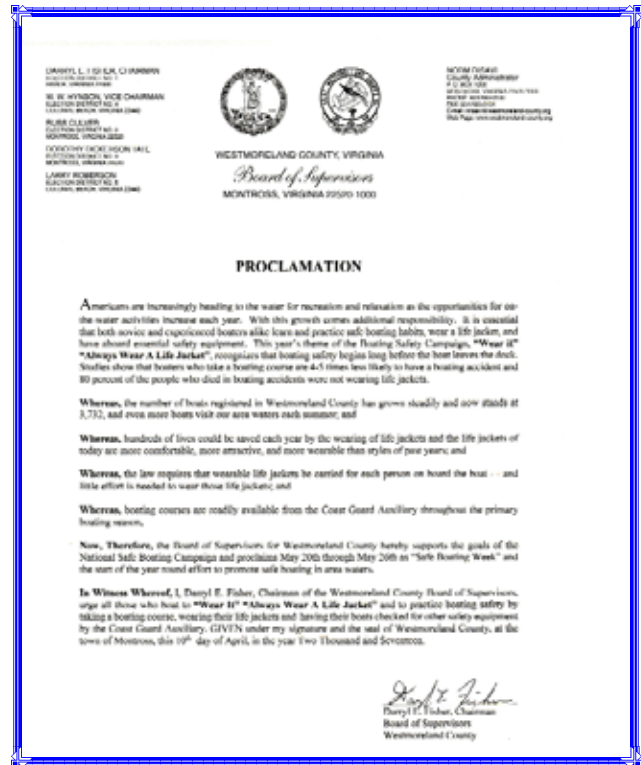
Flotilla 3-10 Commander Ed Gray has continuously been working in the background, laying the groundwork and foundation with five local County Boards of Supervisors for official proclamations observing National Safe Boating Week (NSBW), thus officially bringing the message of boating safety to our local communities.

Flotilla Commander Gray contacted each County Board Chairman, got placed onto their agenda, attended their public meeting, presented comments and received the official proclamations from all Supervisors representing Essex, King William, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties.

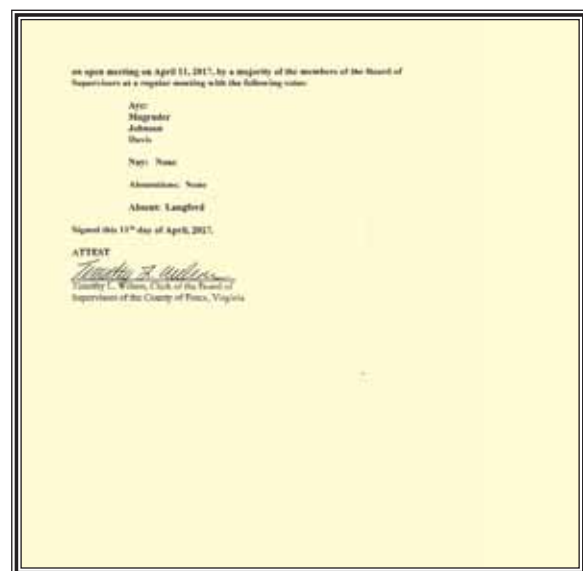
WESTMORELAND COUNTY PROCLAMATION



On Monday, April 10, 2017 Darryl E. Fisher, Chairman of the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors, presented Flotilla Commander Ed Gray, of Flotilla 3-10 USCG Auxiliary with A Proclamation recognizing National Safe Boating Week and emphasizing the importance of boating safety, boating education and "Wear It" "Always Wear A Life Jacket" while boating in and around Westmoreland County



ESSEX COUNTY PROCLAMATION



FLOTILLA 3-10 COMMANDER ED GRAY OBTAINS NSBW PROCLAMATIONS FROM FIVE LOCAL COUNTY BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS (cont)

KING WILLIAM COUNTY PROCLAMATION



On April 24, 2017 Flotilla Commander Ed Gray received the official NSBW Proclamation from King William County. Pictured (l to r) Travis Moskalski, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and Ed Gray FC 3-10



RICHMOND COUNTY PROCLAMATION



On Thursday, April 13, 2017 F. Lee Sanders, (l) Chairman of the Richmond County Board of Supervisors, presented Flotilla Commander Ed Gray, (r) of Flotilla 3-10, with a Proclamation recognizing National Safe Boating Week and emphasizing the importance of boating safety, boating education and "Wear It" "Always Wear a Life Jacket" while boating in and around Richmond county. Also present are Council Members (l to r) J. David Parr, Richard E. Thomas, William C. Herbert, II and Robert B. Pemberton



FLOTILLA 3-10 COMMANDER ED GRAY OBTAINS NSBW PROCLAMATIONS FROM FIVE LOCAL COUNTY BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS (cont)

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY PROCLAMATION



On Thursday, May 11, 2017 Ronald L. Jett, (l) Chairman for the Northumberland County Board of Supervisors presented an official Proclamation recognizing National Safe Boating Week to Flotilla Commander Ed Gray, (r) Flotilla 3-10



PROCLAMATION

Americans are increasingly heading to the water for recreation and relaxation as the opportunities for on-the-water activities increase each year. With this growth comes additional responsibility. It is essential that both novice and experienced boaters alike learn and practice safe boating habits, wear a life jacket, and have aboard essential safety equipment. This year's theme of the Boating Safety Campaign, "Wear It". Always Wear A Life Jacket", recognizes that boating safety begins long before the boat leaves the dock. Studies show that boaters who take a boating course are 4-5 times less likely to have a boating accident and 80 percent of the people who died in boating accidents were not wearing life jackets.

Whereas, the number of boats registered in Northumberland County is 5,537, and even more boats visit our area waters each summer,

Whereas, hundreds of lives could be saved each year by the wearing of life jackets and the life jackets of today are more comfortable, more attractive, and wearable than styles of past years,

Whereas, the law requires that wearable life jackets be carried for each person on board the boat - and little effort is needed to wear those life jackets,

Whereas, boating courses are readily available from the Coast Guard Auxiliary throughout the primary boating season,

Now, Therefore it be resolved, that, the Northumberland County Board of Supervisors, do hereby support the goals of the National Safe Boating Campaign and proclaim May 20th through May 26th as "Safe Boating Week" and the start of the year round effort to promote safe boating in area waters.

In Witness Whereof, I urge all those who boat to "Wear It" "Always Wear A Life Jacket" and to practice boating safety by taking a boating course, wearing their life jackets and having their boats checked for other safety equipment by the Coast Guard Auxiliary. GIVEN under my signature and the seal of Northumberland County, in Heathsville, Virginia this 11th day of May, in the year of the Lord Two Thousand Seventeen.

Adopted this 11th day of May, 2017.


 Ronald L. Jett, Chairman for the Northumberland
 County Board of Supervisors

SAL PUGLISI RECEIVES SUSTAINED SERVICE AWARD



At the April Flotilla meeting Sal Puglisi received his Sustained Service Award for 1500 hours of service to the Coast Guard Auxiliary

A QUICK THANKS TO MY SHIPMATES



I wanted to take up a little space in this issue to thank all my shipmates who sent notes, cards, emails, well wishes and prayers to me during my recent spine surgery event.

Although extensive, all went well with 6 hours in the OR and 7 days in the hospital. I expect in a couple months I'll be running around trying to catch up on all that I'm behind on.

The "new me" with 6 screws, 2 bolts and a bunch of titanium rods.



Erik Amato FSO-PB 3-10

MORE 2016 DELAYED AWARDS



Flotilla Commander Ed Gray (l) presents Phil Landry his multiple awards at the April Flotilla meeting

After wintering in warm and sunny Florida, Phil Landry Flotilla 3-10 FSO-PV officer, had multiple 2016 Awards awaiting him at the April Flotilla meeting.

- Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Award - 60 VEs
- Certificate of Member Activity - 347 hours in 2016
- Outstanding Member Achievement Award - OPS and Program Visits
- Member Mission Award - 30 hours as PE Instructor Aide
- Member Mission Award - 65 hours as Crew member Underway



Flotilla Commander Ed Gray (l in both photos) presents 2016 Member Outstanding Achievement Award for more than 40 hours in operations to Don Chamberlain at the May flotilla meeting



Flotilla Commander Ed Gray (l) presents the 2016 District Member Award to Brian Burr at the May flotilla meeting



Practice and Preach . . . *Maritime Domain Awareness* and *America's Waterway Watch*

SUNSCREEN WARNING - PROTECT YOURSELF

Some families have members who are expert plumbers or craftsmen in other specialties. When a need arises, they're a fantastic resource. In our family, Karen's twin brother is a well-respected skin cancer researcher, so we're often warned against the dangers that we face as boaters concerning exposure to the sun.

A couple of interesting statistics...

As we grow older, men are 3 times more likely to get skin cancer than women.

In the past three decades, more people have had skin cancer than all other cancers combined.

Since the activity of boating puts us in outdoor situations for large blocks of time, we're all more susceptible to this type of cancer. There is really only one way to protect yourself - stay covered. Covering involves three things - clothes and hats that block UV, sunglasses that block UV, and sunscreen.

Let's focus on sunscreen.

There are two basic types of sunscreen - **physical** and **chemical**.

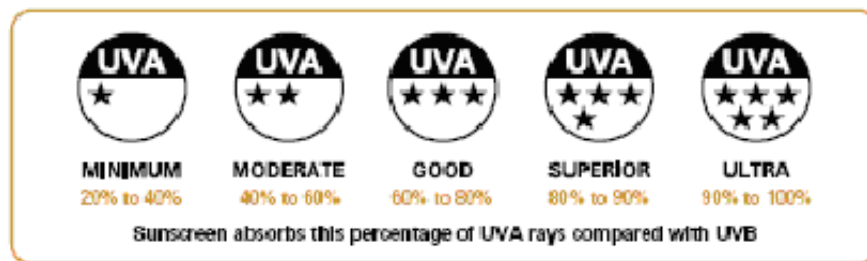
Physical sunscreens generally contain titanium dioxide or zinc oxide. They sit on top of your skin to deflect UV rays from penetrating and doing damage. They are often thicker, greasy, and less comfortable. They need total coverage in order to form a shield from the sun. But they last a long time and continue to protect as long as they sit on top of your skin.

Chemical sunscreens contain organic compounds (oxybenzone, octinoxate, octisalate, and avobenzone) that are able to convert UV rays into heat.

The heat is released from your skin and you become protected. They are usually thinner and more comfortable. Less is required since a physical barrier

is not needed. But they typically need 20 minutes on your skin before they work. They can cause some skin irritation. And because they are consumed through the UV conversion, you have to apply more if you're in the sun more. It's this last point that most of us fail to do - **re-apply** more sunscreen following the directions.

It's also important to recognize that over-exposure to chemicals absorbed by your skin might also create a risk. So it's imperative that you look into the sunscreen you're selecting and make sure that the chemical makeup isn't putting you in contact with substances that are even more dangerous than



the sun.

Most of us use the chemical sunscreens, yet this last point is one that is often overlooked. Selecting a sunscreen by the lowest price at the nearby Dollar store might not be the healthiest way to proceed. Instead, check out the **Environmental Working Group** who test nearly all sunscreens every year and produces a report about their findings:

<http://www.ewg.org/sunscreen/>

Skin cancer is serious. Read the EWG guide to pick and use the right products for you.

Reprinted with permission from Active Captain



REPEATING A STRONG RBS MESSAGE



give me



*TRY THIS CONCEPT
AND
WATCH THE VSC NUMBERS
GROW*



**EVERY VESSEL EXAMINER
GIVE US 5 FULL DAYS DOING VSC's
THEN SPEND THE OTHER 360 DAYS ON OTHER
AUXILIARY MISSIONS**

HAVING FUN . . .



SERVING THE U.S. COAST GUARD and

THE RECREATIONAL BOATING PUBLIC



CXN Charlie Thomas and crew patrolling in the Potomac River

REMINDER: The Flotilla Web Site is alive and well! All Newsletters, Press Releases and PE Class Flyers will be posted when available – Check it out!

www.Flotella3-10.org

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES AND PHOTOS OF AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS OF INTEREST TO:

**ERIK AMATO FSO-PB 3-10 5SR
trawler@wildblue.net**

(Editors Reminder - all that you do is significant and important! Share it with others in this publication.)

**Fifth Southern Flotilla 3-10
Elected and Appointed Officers 2017**

Flotilla Commander	G. Edward Gray, Jr.
Flotilla Vice Commander	Andris Baltins
Communications	Donald Chamberlain
Communications Services	Erik H. Amato
Finance	Oliver M. Knight
Human Resources	Gary I. Palsgrove
Information Services	John F. O'Neil
Materials	Glen R. Thomason
Member Training	Gary I. Palsgrove
Navigation Systems	Charles B. Thomas
Operations	Joseph C. Riley
Public Affairs	G. Edward Gray, Jr
Publications	Erik H. Amato
Public Education	Fred Woodard
RBS Program Visitor	Philip K. Landry
Secretary/Records	Andris Baltins
Vessel Examinations	David J. Brack
FSO At Large	Julian Everly
Camaraderie Captain	Pim Montgomery