



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

America's  
Volunteer  
Guardians  
Since 1939

# Flotilla 19 NEWS

September, 2011



## **Flotilla Commander's Report** *By Gary Cordrey, FC*

The 2011 Northwest Washington Fair is now a memory. I'd like to express a special "Thank You" to all the members who helped make this event a success. Two members put in about 8 shifts each: Andrew Breiteneder and Michael DeAnnuntis. We had 29 persons sign up with indications of interest in classes. One person was from as far away as Port Orchard which confirms that our county fair does attract a wide following.

The Drayton Harbor Days event was also a great success. This year a number of vendors were invited to display in front of the marina office, and this attracted additional families to our event. Both S/V Lady Washington and the Hawaiian Chieftain were moored off of gate three and offered both tours and short cruises. I took our son and grandkids on the

**Next Flotilla 19 Meeting: Wednesday September 7th, 7 pm, Blaine Marina Conference Room, 235 Marine Dr., Blaine, WA. Note that there will be a special "WOW" training session at 6:00 PM. See you there!**

evening cruise. What an experience being on a real sailing ship of old, and watching the young crew of volunteers who ran up all the sails for our sunset voyage. What a hoot! The following day provided the sailing race for the 8' Clancy dinghies. Hoyt Hatfield assisted me in monitoring the race from my dinghy and in moving the course buoys as needed. The safety booth was well staffed by Randall Kall, Kathryn Wellington, Andre Breiteneder, Andrew King, Lou Herrick (when he wasn't chasing fuel spills) and Michael DeAnnuntis.

Randall Kall, our world traveler has weighed his anchor and is heading out and South, with a destination of the Sea of Cortez, but not before he and Joni attended a fare well party at the Pizza Factory that we sponsored, with lots of good pizza, fellowship and beer for all. Randall arrived in Port Angeles Tuesday August 30, after crossing the channel with 8 to 10 foot waves (Davey Jones now has the use of Randall's cell phone). Randall's next stop is Neah Bay, then out to sea about 100 miles, then heading south. We wish Randall a safe and swift voyage. Randall, we already miss your fellowship.

Our Flotilla has been invited to be part of the Seafood Festival at Point Roberts on September 17th from noon 'til dark. We will have our safety booth, help serve at the beer garden and possibly help serve food if needed. For our efforts Point Roberts Marina will make a cash donation to our flotilla.

Diane and I will be returning from our vacation in the Gulf Islands and will arrive in Point Roberts on the 16th so I can help with the festivities. If you are not involved in an Aux class or deployed with FEMA on the 17th please join us. The chairperson for Flotilla 19 is Andrew Breiteneder. Please contact Andrew if you can help.

## **Paddle To Swinomish 2011**

*By Connie Farinha*



**A valiant crew paddles hard in the Strait of Georgia off of Ferndale. The Alcoa alumina silos are in the background. Photo by Bill and Sherri McIntosh.**

Several of our Flotilla 19 members stepped up to the “paddle”. The “Paddle to Swinomish 2011” canoes entered our AOR (Northern Puget Sound) on July 21st, 2011. On July 22nd our day started out at 0800 at Sandy Point Marina. Our patrol orders for this event were to patrol the waters between Birch Bay to Lummi Island, which includes the Southern Strait of Georgia from the Canadian border south, watching out for the tribal canoes and keeping regular traffic away from them.

The day started out very slowly due to poor weather conditions, with no sight of any canoes until 1420. At that time we spotted two canoes from the Campbell River tribe. Each canoe had their own escort boat to watch over them for emergencies. At 1450, two more canoes were spotted and we were hailed on the VHF for assistance with the “Omalko” canoe. It was taking on some water from the moderate seas and did not have an escort boat. We maintained vigilance until they reached the shore to bail their bilges and take a respite.

During this procedure we were hailed for assistance by the “Country Pride” and later by the “Lady Evelyn”, two escort boats, for guidance regarding local knowledge.

Watching the escort boats and paddlers we observed that they were all very safety-conscious; the canoes that we escorted were all properly equipped with life jackets and handheld VHF radios.

Upon the end of our mission we were hailed once again, graciously thanking us for our help.

Previous editions of this newsletter can be found at: [www.tinyurl.com/f19news](http://www.tinyurl.com/f19news)

## **Point Roberts Seafood Festival**

*By Andrew Breiteneder, FSO-PA*

We have some people who are able to attend the Point Roberts Seafood Festival in Point Roberts, September 17<sup>th</sup>, and thank you so much to them! I am also aware that some people have been called to help with FEMA and some people are attending an ICS course. We'll miss you.

As discussed in a recent email, the Seafood Festival is very event important for our flotilla for a number of reasons. Not only are we receiving a donation to our flotilla, but we are able to have extensive flotilla visibility in the boating community, and it will help to strengthen our relationship with the Point Roberts Marina (over 700 tenant boats). We also show our support to the other donation recipient groups, including the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, and we will have hundreds of boaters in attendance who might be interested in attending our classes. Remember, our public education classes allow us to fulfill one of our most important duties, and also to generate income for the flotilla, and also very important, to have fun while doing all of this.

I am more than happy to help make the 30 minute drive to Point Roberts from Blaine as easy as possible. NEXUS people will have an easy transition. Non-NEXUS people should take the Blaine truck crossing (short lines) and I will pick you up at the Point Roberts border as a "walk through" if you like. On average, the line up into Point Roberts is 15 minutes and the truck crossing is generally short northbound during the early to late morning. Here is a link to an article about this festival:

<http://tinyurl.com/3gvgb33>

In my six months with the flotilla, I have been very impressed with the professionalism and dedication that members have shown. We all have busy lives

and do what we can. For those who have been unable to put as much time as you hoped into flotilla activities due to various reasons, maybe this event is one where you can re-establish your personal commitment to the flotilla and have lots of fun at the Seafood festival. Please email me or call 360-945-1801 if you have any questions. Hope to see lots of us there!

### **Dock Patrols, and Flotilla Calendar Updates**

*By Chris Doutre, FSO-PB*

In exchange for our free use of the Blaine Marina

conference room for our meetings, we have committed to conducting 52 dock patrols per year. This is a great opportunity for our members to see the inside of an excellent municipal marina operation. Plus it's a great excuse to get together with some Auxiliary buddies for a little fellowship. If you would like to find out about what's involved in doing a dock patrol, please contact Gary or Michael.

We have received a few updates to our flotilla events calendar, below. If you are interested in participating in any of these events, please get in touch with the contact named in the chart below.

---

<b>Event Calendar For 2011</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Semiahmoo International Regatta	September 10	Hoyt Hatfield
Point Roberts Seafood Festival	September 17	Andrew Breiteneder
Suddenly In Command	October 15	Kathryn Wellington

---

### **Boating Course For Women By Women**

*By Kathryn Wellington, FSO-MS, FSO-PV, SO-PV*



**Suddenly In Command: Women's safe boating class in January 2011. K. Wellington Photo.**

Flotilla 19 is offering a special boating course for women presented by women of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary on Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 12 noon to 4 pm at Blaine Marina conference room. This course is for women who are interested in boating, who may be married to a boater but feel they are just there to provide the lunch, women who go out as passengers on other people's boats, or who

may be anxious about boating altogether and would rather leave boating up to the men!

The course will be led by women from Flotilla 19 who have enthusiasm and experience with boating and want to help others who "ride" on boats to know what to do if the boat captain should fall overboard or fall ill and they will need to be "suddenly in command"! We want to give women a chance to voice their concerns and help them build confidence to learn some basics of boating such as using the radio to call for help, stopping the boat, and turning it around if there is a "man overboard"!

I hope to see many of you at the course! Women, please invite your friends! The cost is \$35 for non-members and is free for Auxiliary members. Please contact me via email at k.wellington28 (at) gmail (dot) com or phone at 360-220-3872 to register for the course. We will provide coffee and snacks throughout the afternoon. I look forward to hearing from you all!

### **Division 1 Assists At Columbia Cup**

*By Kathryn Wellington, FSO-MS, FSO-PV, SO-PV*

The annual Columbia Cup hydroplane races roared across the Columbia River in Kennewick, Washington from July 28 – July 31, and 12 members from

Division 1 travelled across the mountains with boats and PWCs to serve as coxswains and crew for the Auxiliary Safety Patrol at the races. The weather was moderate (low 90s), the sunshine was ever present, and the hospitality of the Division 8 flotillas and the U.S. Coast Guard Station Kennewick was warm and friendly as we all met to get a briefing on July 28 followed by a barbecue. Friday morning, July 29, dawned early as one shift met for a briefing at 6 am and then headed out to the East and West ends of the race course (did you know that the Columbia River is flowing east at this point?) They were relieved by a second shift around noon.



Boaters waiting on the river for the Columbia Cup hydroplane races to start. K. Wellington Photo.

Our job was to keep boaters outside of the racing zone, which became a safety box for the air show as well. The crowd was entertained by the speed, noise and rooster tails of the hydroplanes as well as helicopters, stunt planes, vintage WW II aircraft, and the roar of the F-18 jet as it zoomed overhead. We handed out Dairy Queen coupons to kids wearing lifejackets and reminded people to have drag lines behind their boats with a float. That was so if swimmers got tired and started to get pushed downstream, they could grab the line and get back to the boat. This is a new lesson for us in the West who don't usually deal with river currents!

Why not consider joining the caravan to the Columbia Cup next year for an important safety mission and lots of fellowship?

## **Wellingtons Meet At Drayton Harbor Days**

*By Kathryn Wellington, FSO-MS, FSO-PV, SO-PV*

The sun was shining and large crowds were gathered at Blaine Marina for Drayton Harbor Days in Blaine on August 6th and 7th, 2011. Flotilla 19 members (Andrew Breiteneder, Randall Kall, Lou Herrick, Andy King and Kathryn Wellington) were there in force to deliver literature on marine safety and boating safety as well as answer questions and do Vessel Safety Checks. The steam boats were tied up at the guest dock, the raft races were run down the main fairway with Gary Cordrey as safety patrol, and there was food and fellowship with many boaters and those interested in boats.



**Kathryn Wellington, left, meets Wellington, front and center at the Blaine Marina. Daryl Lin, right, holds Wellington. Lou Herrick Photo.**

This event is a great place for the Auxiliary to promote its boating safety and environmental protection message to an interested audience as well to give people a chance to find out more about what we do in the Auxiliary. We are always interested in recruiting new members! But who would have thought this was my chance to meet an unknown "relative"? A couple came up to the information table carrying a small grey dog whose name happened to be Wellington! What a great "reunion"! Wellington's family, Daryl and Sharon Lin, are interested in finding a boat and are also interested in joining the Auxiliary, so it was a serendipitous meeting indeed! Wellington and his family explored our boat and liked it immediately!

So why not join us at another Flotilla 19 event and spread the word about boating safety and enjoy the fellowship? That's what the Auxiliary is all about! And you never know who you will meet!

### **Don't Know Much About Social Media**

*By Chris Doutre, FSO-PB*

I have a Facebook account, but I don't really know how to use it. And I don't even know what a Twitter account is. But I know a lot about email and I find it highly alarming that there are lots of bad guys out there just waiting to take advantage of anyone who drops their guard. For example, have you ever received an email from a close friend with the subject, "Emergency Please", and a message that goes something like this: "I'm writing this with tears in my eyes, I came down here to Madrid for a short vacation, unfortunately I got mugged at the park of the hotel where I lodged, all cash, wallet, credit card, passport and cell were stolen from me. Please help me!" When you phone your friend, you find out that she was not in Madrid, and she did not send that message. But all 165 of her email correspondents received the same message. What happened? And how bad is it? And how does this affect you?

What happened is that her email account was "hacked". Someone got her email address and password and logged on as her, probably changing her password in the process. So, from now on, any email you exchange with your friend is going, not to her, but to the hacker. See where I'm going? That hacker can actually see all of her email messages; emails from her friends, including you, business associates, and her financial institutions. How did it happen? Your friend received an email from the hacker, but it looked like an official email from her ISP, say yahoo.com, or att.net. The email said something like, "Your mailbox is too full. Unless you take action immediately, and fill in this form, you will not be able to send or receive any more email." Horrors! So you fill in the form: name, address, email address, password, phone number, and hit send. Wait!! Password? Your friend has just been "phished" and her online life is over. Oh, and the hacker now has her email address book so he can go phishing for another 165 victims.

Of course, many people do not answer "phishing" emails and still get hacked. How? Total speculation:

I suspect that some of these web-based email systems, especially hotmail, have poor corporate security, and get hacked regularly on a massive basis, possibly by disgruntled ex-employees.

So, what should you do to prevent this disaster, for yourself, and for the people around you?

1. This is "Rule 1": Do not EVER, repeat: do not EVER share your email password with anyone. No legitimate company will ever ask you for your password.
2. If you have a web-based email account, like yahoo or hotmail, and you have a simple one-word password, change your password now. Try using two words joined with a special character. Include some upper case and some numeric characters. Like H0r5e&Heav3n.
3. Go through your address book and delete any addresses that you don't use often. Be aware that every time you reply to an email, that address is captured in your address book, even if it's not an address you use regularly. If you sometimes use "reply all" to large group emails, your address book can build up very quickly.
4. Be careful when you send a group email, especially to a large group. Do not put 25 addresses in the "To:" field. Put one address (or no addresses at all) in the "To:" field and put all the rest in the "Bcc:" field. That way, those 25 recipients are not given the opportunity to accidentally capture all those email addresses. Every time you put 25 addresses in the "To:" field, you increase your risk of being hacked. And frankly, it exposes those 25 people to an increased risk of being hacked. Not nice.
5. Beyond the scope of this article, but something you might consider, is the more secure option of not using web-based email at all. Instead, use an offline email client like Outlook or Thunderbird. That way, your address book, and all your private email messages, are not kept on a web server waiting to be hacked into. They are all secure on your own PC locked away at home.

That's the end of my tirade for this month. But this is a serious topic and I think we need to be talking to each other about this and helping each other to

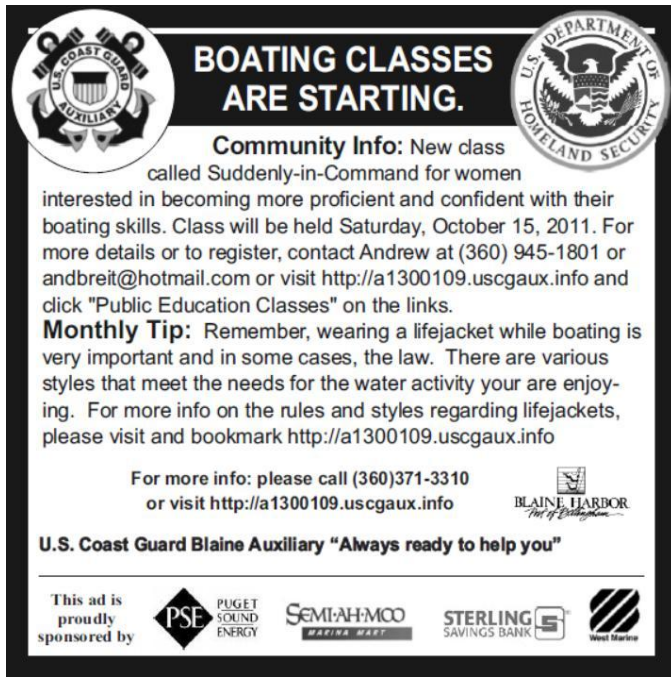
make our way in the online jungle. The one thing I know about Facebook is that, at one time, and perhaps even now, Facebook asked new members for their email address and **password**(!). Why? So they could search your address book and help you find more “friends” (and help you spam them). It may seem that they’re just being helpful, but it’s still phishing, and it’s a giant red flag. Not nice. Please don’t do it. Always remember “Rule 1”.

**Monthly Ad in “The Northern Light”**  
By Andrew Breiteneder, FSO-PA

Here is our latest ad; it appeared in the August 24th edition. Thanks to the PA team for working hard to make this happen.



We thank Blaine West Marine and Blaine Marina for their support of our local Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Education programs.



**BOATING CLASSES ARE STARTING.**

**Community Info:** New class called Suddenly-in-Command for women interested in becoming more proficient and confident with their boating skills. Class will be held Saturday, October 15, 2011. For more details or to register, contact Andrew at (360) 945-1801 or andbreit@hotmail.com or visit <http://a1300109.uscgaux.info> and click "Public Education Classes" on the links.

**Monthly Tip:** Remember, wearing a lifejacket while boating is very important and in some cases, the law. There are various styles that meet the needs for the water activity you are enjoying. For more info on the rules and styles regarding lifejackets, please visit and bookmark <http://a1300109.uscgaux.info>

For more info: please call (360)371-3310 or visit <http://a1300109.uscgaux.info>

U.S. Coast Guard Blaine Auxiliary "Always ready to help you"

This ad is proudly sponsored by:

- PSE PUGET SOUND ENERGY
- SEMI-AH-MCO MARINE WEST
- STERLING SAVINGS BANK
- West Marine

*Flotilla 19 News* — A Coast Guard Auxiliary District 13, Division 1, Flotilla 19 Publication authorized IAW COMDTINST 1800.5D & COMDTINST M5728.2C. Published periodically during the year and circulated to Auxiliary members of Flotilla 19 electronically. *Flotilla 19 News* contains news of general interest, suggestions, and information for Coast Guard Auxiliary members. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security or the United States Coast Guard. Material is informational only and not authority for action. Internet release is authorized.

Editor: Christopher Dautre  
Department of Homeland Security  
Coast Guard Auxiliary FSO-PB-19 D13  
8204 Sehome Rd  
Blaine, Washington 98230

Flotilla 19 Website:  
[www.a1300109.uscgaux.info](http://www.a1300109.uscgaux.info)



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

**America's  
Volunteer  
Guardians**  
Since 1939