



Flotilla 19 NEWS

October, 2011



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

Fall has arrived and our water-related activities are slowing down. It's a natural time to turn our attention to public education. Kathryn Wellington and crew are turning their attention to "Suddenly in Command" to be presented on October 15th at the Blaine Marina conference room. This is a great program for women presented by women.

In other news Darcie Haskell has agreed to accept the position of FSO-PE (Public Education) starting in January 2012. Thank you Darcie for filling this most important position.

Last month we were invited to participate in the annual Point Roberts Seafood Festival. Thanks to Darcie Haskell and Art Cummings for helping out at the festival and to Andrew Breiteneder for orga-

Important Pre-Election Meeting:

**The next Flotilla 19 Meeting:
Wednesday October 5th, 7 pm,
Blaine Marina Conference Room, 235
Marine Dr., Blaine, WA. Note that
a one-hour TCT session will be
held prior to the meeting, start-
ing at 6 pm.**

nizing our group. It was a great event. We shared a safety booth with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary from Point Roberts. I understand that we may receive a cash donation for our help at the event. Thank you Andrew for securing this opportunity.

2012 is almost here; it's time to start thinking about what activities we would like to participate in next year: safety booths, parades, public education and specific types of training. Please be prepared to share your ideas at our staff meetings.

It is also time for elections for the elected positions of Vice Flotilla Commander and Flotilla Commander. In our October meeting the nominating committee (Hoyt Hatfield) will present one candidate for each office. Then, in the November meeting, the flotilla members will vote for the nominated positions or accept nominations from the floor of qualified candidates. The ballots will be tallied and the officers for 2012 will be presented. The Change of Watch ceremony will be in January. At present Michael DeAnnuntis has agreed to serve a second term as Vice Flotilla Commander and I have agreed to serve a second year as Flotilla Commander, if so elected by the membership.

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!

[Ed note: The last page of this newsletter is a printable poster for this class. Spread the word.]

December Holiday Social

By Michael DeAnnuntis, VFC



Gary and I would like to plan a holiday social for December. We are seeking ideas and thoughts on how you would like to celebrate. This would be a great opportunity to have some fun and enjoyment with your Coast Guard Auxiliary family. Please contact Gary or me via email or phone with your thoughts and ideas!!!!

Previous editions of this newsletter can be found at: www.tinyurl.com/f19news

Hacker Tracks

By Chris Doutre, FSO-CS

Last month, I wrote about how a hacker can take control of your email account and spam all your contacts with a phony plea for money help. Since then, I have seen a different kind of threat: I have received three strange messages from two different earthlink.net webmail users. In two cases, the message contained a single hyperlink, nothing else, no text, no signature, nothing, only hyperlinks with cz (Czech) and pl (Poland) domain names. In another case, the message was a sales pitch for male enhancement drugs, sent from a very professional industry manager, who is also a sailor and a very proper Mom. In all three cases, it was an instant red flag: I did not click on any links, and I contacted the sending party to let them know that their email had been hacked. As I warned last month, the hackers of the world are hard at work and you will probably be seeing more and more of these dangerous emails in the future. To protect yourself, you must resist the urge to open the hyperlinks in these messages. If you open such a link, it will almost certainly install malware on your PC; maybe a virus, maybe a key logger that sends your passwords to the bad guys, or maybe a full-fledged remote control program that

lets the bad guys take over your PC from afar. All of these are very bad news. In that brief instant that you drop your guard, the damage is done and you will probably have plenty of trouble recovering the use of your online identity. So don't do it. And if you have not read my article from last month, please do so at your earliest convenience. Let's all educate ourselves and help each other. If you have questions about email security, please talk to me.

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



Help Wanted: As Darcie moves on to the FSO-PE office next year, she will be vacating the FSO-FN (treasurer) office. If you are interested in this office, or any other, please contact Gary or Michael at your earliest convenience. Your flotilla needs you.

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

**America's
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Since 1939

SUDDENLY IN COMMAND

A BOATING COURSE FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN

WHO: Presented by women of Flotilla 19 and Flotilla 11
of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
FOR: Women interested in building their confidence in boating
WHEN: Saturday, October 15, 2011
12:00 – 4:00 pm
WHERE: Blaine Marina Conference Room (gate 2)
COST: Auxiliary members: free
Non-members: \$35
REGISTER: Call or email Kathryn Wellington
k.wellington28 (at) gmail.com
360-220-3872

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Sponsored by:



And U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 19, Blaine, and Flotilla 11, Bellingham, WA

