



# WAVES

## Watercraft and Vessel Safety

The Newsletter from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Department of Boating

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### From the Deputy

Jesse Harrup, DC-Bd

For CY01, there will be some changes associated with the USCGAUX Boating Department personnel you may contact and who will be assisting the CGAuxA, BoatU.S., and the USCGAUX in conducting a successful grants campaign. The new Division Chief-Boating (NASBLA/News) is **Karen L. Miller** and the new Branch Chief-Grants is **Charles "Skedda" Davis**. You'll be reading more about the Grants program for this year from both the DVC-BN and BC-BNG in future issues of [WAVES](#).

This past year (third year of USCGAUX participation) again proved to be more successful than the preceding year and in turn the year before that. **In the CY00 campaign, BoatU.S received forty-two (42) Flotilla/Division applications for funding consideration. That represented a 68% increase over CY99 (which in turn, was a 600% increase over CY98).**

See the geographic nature of the requests to understand how widespread our guidelines were disseminated/used this past year:

17% from CA	15% from VA
9% from NY	9% from FL
9% from MO	5% from AL
5% from SC	5% from MD
5% from NC	5% from MI
5% from IN	5% from AZ
2% from OH	2% from OR
2% from ID	

BoatU.S. made six (6) grant awards from these applicants, as follows:

Flotilla 10-8 (AZ)	Flotilla 12-7 (NY)
Division 20 / 09CR (MI)	Flotilla 87 (VA)
Division 5 (MO)	Flotilla 56 (OR)

These CY00 grant funding awards mean we increased by **50%** our awards over CY 99 (four awards).

Until the next issue, "keep 'er 'tween the buoys"

### State Boating Law Administrators

Ed Huntsman, DVC-BS

Hello ... anybody out there?

**Communication** .... *Webster's* defines it as the act of communicating; a message; a means or way of communicating. We talk about "it", meet about "it" and complain about "it". We even have a module in Team Coordination Training addressing "it" and our effectiveness at "it."

I've been asking the branch chiefs and those serving as state liaison officers to take "communication" one step further this year. It's time to stop talking to each other about "it" and start talking to others.....and also start listening. Find out who your state's Liaison Officer is by asking your Flotilla Commander, division staff or elected officers. Your SLO is (hopefully) attending your division's meetings so they can stay informed on the Auxiliary's activities and keep the Auxiliary advised of the state's activities. You might ask, for example if the PE course your flotilla is teaching is state and NASBLA compliant. Ask them how the meeting with your state's boating safety officials went and what is on the agenda to strengthen the Auxiliary's and your state's relationship. Ask them what's going on in the states that border yours and what's happening with regard to your state's position regarding mandatory boater safety education. Ask your state liaison what s/he is doing to make sure that the law enforcement officials on the water in your state know and understand the Auxiliary's Vessel Safety Check program.

Hopefully your State Liaison Officer (SLO) has recently coordinated a meeting between your District's commodore and the boating law administrator and is coordinating upcoming VSCs for patrol boats with the local examiners. Following that, s/he is arranging a meeting with the PE officers to coordinate the state mandated questions and answers to supplement your PE program's testing to insure the boaters you have in class are learning the most current laws and regulations in your state along with the excellent safety information you're passing along.

Find out what we've been doing in the state liaison program and hold us accountable. Communicate.

## BOATING PROFESSIONALS

Bill Griswold, BC-BLN

### The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual International Boating & Water Safety Summit

IBWSS, or the Summit is coming to Nashville April 8-11, 2001. Centered at the Opryland Hotel, the biggest hotel east of Las Vegas, the Summit hopes to attract well over 500 boating professionals from all over the States, and many other countries as well. Teaming with the National Water Safety Congress, the National Safe Boating Council is hosting this conference funded in part by a grant from the Aquatic Resources (Wallop-Breaux) Trust Fund administered by the U. S. Coast Guard.

The Summit kicks off Sunday night with an opening reception. Monday, the General Session begins with welcoming remarks from various dignitaries, including more than one Coast Guard Admiral. VADM Shkor, Atlantic Area Commander, will introduce the Coast Guard's initiative, "Boat Smart". Lunch is featured on the riverboat *General Jackson* to present awards and recognize the National Water Safety Congress' 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. That afternoon a "Town Meeting" will be held to discuss two issues of interest, mandatory wearing of PFDs and mandatory education.

Tuesday, the Summit moves to track sessions and in the afternoon journeys to a nearby lake for on water activities. Additionally, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary DC-Bd and DVC-BS, respectively will lead presentations on VSC & Partners, and Communications. The local Auxiliary plans to set up a VSC station to show the attendees what a VSC is. Wednesday morning has more breakout sessions, and in the afternoon the closing general session will feature Boating Safety Interventions for Anglers & Hunters and everything you want to know about PFDs and then some. An awards banquet closes the Summit that evening.

While the deadline for scholarships has passed, there is still time to register for the Summit. It is the premier boating safety event during the year, and attracts people from the Auxiliary, USPS, the Coast Guard, the Army Corps of Engineers, members of NASBLA, parks and recreation departments and dozens of other agencies. The level of presentations is outstanding, and Auxiliarists in the PE, PA, CS, OP, or in leadership positions would find this conference most rewarding. If you want more information, visit the web site of the National Safe Boating Council ([www.safeboatingcouncil.org](http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org)), and click on the Summit logo. If you would like a registration package, contact me. Hope to see you there.

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## RBS OUTREACH

Hal Marschall, DVC-BL

First, let me express my thanks to COMO Warren E. McAdams, DC-B, for the confidence he has shown by appointing me as Division Chief-BL. In the short time I have been aboard, it has become very clear that the following are a dedicated professional team: Clyde Hungerford, S-TA; Henry G. Pratt, BC-BLB; Donald C. Smutz, BC-BLI; James Fisher, BC-BLA; and William Griswold, BC-BLN.

Our division is responsible for the Recreational Boating Safety Outreach Program with external partners. It will be our goal in 2001 to identify, develop and partner with organizations that are interested in increasing safety on the water. We intend to explore opportunities outside the norm. A landmark boating survey found that canoes and kayaks were much riskier than powerboats. The survey revealed an inverse relationship between boating experience and boating fatality rates.

Thinking out of the box added the American Canoe Association and US Canoe Association to the more traditional contacts; SeaRay, B.A.S.S., US Sailing Association, and Bayliner Owners Association.

These Outreach Partnerships offer the Auxiliary additional conduits for the Vessel Safety Check Program and Boating Courses. It is a "win win" situation for both partners.

Check out the **WHAT'S NEW** page on the Auxiliary National Members website for exciting news from Jim Fisher, BC-BLA concerning West Marine's continued involvement in the VSC coupon program. West Marine and its subsidiary E&B Marine again support the VSC program by offering 10% discount coupons for boaters who consent to a VSC.

The other members of the team have been busy doing the job. Bill Griswold, BC-BLN is currently Vice Chair of NSBC. He will be attending the 2001 IBWSS in Nashville. See his article in this issue of *Waves*. Clyde Hungerford, S-TA and Henry G. Pratt, BC-BLB continue to work with BoatU.S. to explore additional avenues of opportunity.

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*West Marine Discount Coupons are available at the stores to be picked up by the SO-VE for distribution.*



**Contact DVC-BL or BC-BLA for information.**

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