

SLO NEWSGRAM

January 2012

Greetings, State Liaison Officer!

Welcome to the 2012 State Liaison Team! Whether you are a new or returning SLO, the States Program is hitting the ground full throttle! With the addition of the District State Liaison Staff Officer position listed in the new *Auxiliary Manual*, RBS work should increase greatly. As SLO, your responsibility is to develop and expand the Auxiliary's partnership with your state, as well as with other partners in your State. This is a very important part of the Auxiliary's RBS efforts. It is very important that State Liaison Officers continually work with other RBS District Staff Officers, as well as the Coast Guard RBS Specialist in your local district. Please remember: If your state is in more than one Auxiliary district, you will need to include all districts' RBS Staff Officers in your efforts. What does this mean? If there is a public affairs event held by the local DNR/marina, the SLO should be working with the DSO PA and PE to see how the Auxiliary can assist or enhance the event. The SLO does not work alone, but networks with many other Auxiliarists and external partners. What response do you get when you ask the Boating Law Administrator or the Coordinator of the Fish and Game Department, what can the Auxiliary do to help their program succeed? Most of all keep others in the loop. If you work with the state Education Coordinator or the Army Corps of Engineers, you need to report it to your DSO-SL, and DCO(s) in your monthly or quarterly reports. Remember that communication is key to program success. Your quarterly status reports assist your District(s) with state and local assets as real force multipliers.

NEW BRANCH CHIEF APPOINTED

Peter Bohler has just been appointed the Branch Chief- Atlantic North. Peter is replacing Don Metz who needed to step down from the position so he could spend more time on his own business. Don did an outstanding job as Branch Chief and we wish him the best. Don will continue to serve as SLO for West Virginia. Peter has most recently served as DSO-SL for D5S. Congratulations Peter!

DSO-SL TRAINING

On January 27-29, DSO-SL training will be held at N-Train (Friday evening, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning). This training will be filled with great informational sessions and break-outs discussions. There will be presenters from the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), the National Boating Safety Council (NSBC), as well as numerous national staff from the various departments. This training will provide the tools to expand RBS partnerships, as well as developing program skills and strategic plans/goals for the States Liaison Program. This training will be provided by Branch Chiefs and DSOs in your area to all SLOs early in 2012 by using WebEx and conference calls. Be prepared to work harder as your state's SLO in 2012

STATE RESOURCES INFORMATION JUST A CLICK AWAY

Whether you are a returning SLO or the new kid on the block you should be familiar with the RBS Outreach website (bdept.cgaux.org) and what the States Division provides for you. Also on the RBS Outreach website is a lot of resources provided by our Liaison Division, Kelly Townsend, Division Chief. The Liaison Division develops and supports RBS partnerships with outside organizations. These partners are an essential part of our day-to-day mission that you should use when promoting the RBS

message in your state. Did you know the Auxiliary has National Branch Chiefs for BoatUS, Army Corp of Engineers, Boy Scouts of America, and American Canoe Association, just to name a few? They are part of the RBS Outreach Department that includes the States Program. If your state needs help setting up a paddlesport safety program, you are just a click away from getting help. Check the RBS Outreach website regularly.

OUTSTANDING SLO ACTIVITIES TAKING THE HELM

- Ohio SLO reports the DNR approved funds to support community boating safety education program in 2012.
- Delaware's SLO reports that the Auxiliary and Power Squadrons contributed to 2,000 volunteer hours during 2011.
- South Carolina SLO Burchfield reports that the USCG National Safety Boating Class Finder has been added to the SC DNR boating education website. People wanting boater education just click the 'U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary for Boating Classes' hyperlink and get a listing.
- Colorado Boating Law Administrator has asked SLO Carl Koonsman for Auxiliary assistance with the Western States Boating Law Administrator Conference in June 2012.
- Idaho's SLO participated in the annual Marine Advisory Committee meeting hosted by the IDPR where they review recreational boating activities for the year and coordinate 2012 IDPR activities. SLO also attended IDPR 4th Annual Education meeting held by the BLA and staff to promote communications, cooperation, and information sharing.
- Oregon SLO Dadil states that the Oregon State Marine Board has implemented their five-year strategic plan with the Auxiliary to focus on all safety aspects of non-motorized crafts due to the increase of accidents and deaths.
- Joyce Bell, Utah SLO, reports that two Auxiliaries have been appointed to serve on the Utah State Boating Law Advisory Board. They will study and recommend changes to Utah's boating regulations, policy, and procedures.

AUXBWiki

Don't forget to use "AuxBWiki" at <http://auxbdeptwiki.cgaux.org>.

USCG - AUXILIARY - STATES - PARTNERING FOR RBS! MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Bruce & Pauline



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