



THE WINDBAG Hillsboro, OR



July 2009

D13 FLOTILLA 7-12 MONTHLY NEWS VOL VIII ED. 07

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Matt Epstein

Vessel Examiner

Jerry Darnell IPFC

Commanders Corner

July Windbag 09

The year is half over now and time to start looking forward to next year. At our June meeting we voted to increase membership dues by ten dollars for a total of \$50.00 for the 2010 year. This was a necessary increase and Diane Epstein FSN-FN should be sending out dues notices to all members in about a month.

A reminder to remember 11 July, we are planning a fellowship at Gary Davis home. You are welcome to call me or Gary for details. But all had a great time last year. Our regular meeting on August 12 once again will be at the Hahn farm. If you don't make any other meeting this year, these are two you don't want to miss.

Mark Murphy has signed up a new member, Tony Phipps. He is also working to get Nate Wisher re-enrolled. He has also been out doing VSC's at local boat ramps. Keep up the good work Mark.

The last two weekends my wife and myself have been out in our boat for a little R&R and it surprised me how many people I saw doing stupid things. As Auxiliarist, it seem like a never ending job to remind people about safety.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Tooley, FC, 7-12

Visit the Flotilla Website at <http://www.uscgauxhillsboro.org>

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VFC-Gary Davis

Summer is upon us, Rose Fest is becoming a memory – hopefully not a nightmare; now it is time to think about doing some patrols on the rivers or one of the many events that are looking for facilities. Check the inside cover of your Division roster to get an idea of what is available. Facility owners and Coxswains are encouraged to set up patrols. Log onto POMS and request a patrol. Remember we need to have a minimum of 12 hours underway to retain our qualifications.

Potluck at Hahn's Place

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Social starts at 6:00 and potluck starts about 6:30 pm

Come to the flotilla 7/12 summer potluck at Hahn's place. Bring your most favorable dish and something to drink. Enjoy the pond, do some rowing, tell stories and off course have something to eat.

The weather should be good, as always.

How to get there:

Follow Sunset Hwy 26 west and follow signs to Seaside.

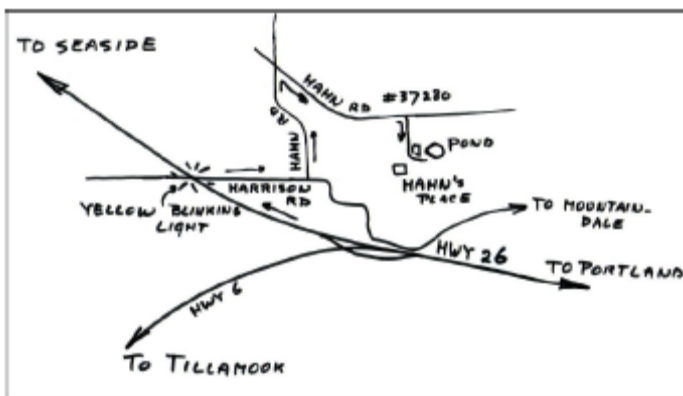
After the hwy 6 (Wilson Wilson Highway) split off, slow down and turn Right into Harrison Rd at the blinking Yellow Light

Turn Left into Hahn Rd. Follow Hahn Rd about a mile and make a sharp Right turn and continue on Hahn Rd.

At #37280 (Harrison Rd, Banks) you see a pond on your right down the hill.

Turn into the driveway and go to the pond.

And of course enjoy yourself!



FSO-IS Gary Davis

I am still waiting on paperwork from folks involved in VSCs for Opening Day and Rose Fest patrols. Coxswains, your crew do not get credit for their hours until you complete the paperwork. Remember THE JOB IS NOT DONE UNTIL THE PAPERWORK IS DONE

FSO-PE Dale Vaught

We finished the SS&S class with two people taking and passing the test and the two that missed the test will make arrangements to make the test up.

We have no other classes currently scheduled until the BS&S class tentatively starting September 21, 2009. More information regarding this and other classes will be forthcoming later in the summer.

FSO-CS Hans Geerling

An ABC class is scheduled for at 9:00 AM July 11 in the Athletic Center of THP&R District. I had several requests for this class during the last 2 months.

We finished the Sailing class with four students on May 21st with 2 students taking the final exam on June 26th due to student scheduled absents and my vacation. All students were handed the certificates.

FSO-CM Nothing new to report

FSO-MT Nothing new to report

FSO-AN Nothing new to report

FSO- MA Nothing new to report

FSO-PS Nothing new to report

FSO-PV Nothing new to report

FSO-SR Nothing new to report

FSO-VE Matt Epstein

VSC last Sat. of June, July, and Aug Hagg Lake see meeting schedule page 7

FSO-OP Nothing new to report

FSO-PA Brad Rumbaugh

Flotilla 7-12 members participated in the Hillsboro 4th of July Parade. Members Gary Davis, Karl Quade, Matt Epstein, Diane Epstein, Mark Murphy and Brad Rumbaugh represented the Flotilla in the parade. Gary Davis provided his OpFac for the event. As is the tradition, hard candy was tossed to spectators along the parade route. Gary's grandson, Riley and Brad's daughter, Katrina, assisted in tossing candy and modeling safe boating behavior by wearing type 3 life jackets.

A Station Portland SAFE boat was sent with two Gold Side crewmen. This was reportedly the first time a station boat has made an appearance in the Hillsboro Parade. There were media reports that there were in excess of 25,000 energized spectators along the parade route.

The Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary contingent drew thunderous applause and yells ranging from "Thank You Coast Guard" to "Yea, Coasties"! As we approached the reviewing stand on Main Street the announcer introduced us as "The United States Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Hillsboro Flotilla". A USN Commander seated at the reviewing stand crisply returned our salute with an appreciative smile. All in all, it was a very satisfying event and, I believe, a great public affairs opportunity. I encourage all Flotilla members to consider participating in next year's Hillsboro 4th of July Parade..

Many thanks to Gary Davis for making this happen. Thanks also to Mark Murphy and Station Portland for arranging for the station boat's appearance.



Making ready for the 4th of July Parade



Cameron Cullen & Andrew Kennedy Station Portland

Photos by Gary Davis & Diana Epstein

Man Overboard!!!
What do you do?

By Aux. Wayne Spivak

Authorities search Lake Houston for missing man

*By LINDSAY WISE
Copyright 2008 Houston Chronicle*

Rescue personnel searching for a man last seen Thursday evening in a fishing boat on Lake Houston do not expect to find him alive, authorities said.

"Four fishermen were out on the lake in a boat," [HFD Assistant Chief Omero] Longoria said. "Apparently, they were cruising along when they noticed one of their buddies was missing and called us at about 6 p.m."

People fall overboard more than the boating public wishes to think about. Of all the accidents that can happen, this is one of the most publically embarrassing ones. Can you imagine that you just fell off the boat? Weren't you paying attention?

Well, there are lots of reasons people fall off of boats, and many of them not there fault. In fact more often than not, it is the skippers fault for not notifying the crew of dangerous conditions (wakes) that the boat is about to take.

But this isn't a piece about placing blame or begging the reader to boat with due regard to conditions. This is what you do after the unthinkable happens – some goes overboard.

First things first

I know people will read what I'm about to say with an incredulous smirk on the face. But think about it, and ask your self do you practice this safe boating technique?

Always keep a constant running head count of crew and guests. The news story clearly showed that the fisherman weren't aware that their buddy fell off the boat. While the story didn't say why they did not know, the reason could run the gamut from an exhausted crew not able to pay attention to too much

alcohol or drugs to just plain neglect. What ever the reason, someone fell off, and it took a while for the rest of the people on this boat to notice.

So, again, always keep a running count on who's here and who's not.

Sound and the Water

Many people think if someone falls off a boat, and they are injured by hitting the boat or the props, that the faller will just call out and say "help me, I've fallen but can't get back in the boat!".

Have you ever tried to hear something while your boat is on plane, the engines are roaring, the wind is blowing, the sea is crashing. All you can hear is the engines roaring, the wind blowing and the sea crashing; you'll never hear a person's cry for help!

Second lesson – don't assume your hear someone, which is why the first lesson is so important.

Maintain a DR

Let's say you don't see the person going off the boat (we'll get to what you should do if you actually see it shortly). How are you going to find the person? Do you maintain a DR course line on your chart?

Don't know what a DR course line is? It's a dead reckoning assumed position based on speed and direction from a known or estimate position. Sound confusing? May I suggest navigation boat course – because most people today don't keep a DR course and if you just out boating with no real destination then it's a good chance you have no idea where you just were.

If you know where you've been you can turn around and start back along that course line – but not knowing makes it very difficult to figure out where that course line is.

PIW

The Coast Guard nomenclature for a person in the water is PIW. A person in the water is one of the tiniest objects you could search for during a Search and Rescue case. Imagine this very small roundish object bobbing up and down between waves and you trying to pick it out. It is very hard.

It is also very difficult to keep your eye on this object even if you seen it, as you travel through the water on a course to where you believe you saw it.

What to do if someone goes over

So someone goes overboard and you're lucky enough to have witnessed the event. Here are the procedures to use. Please note these procedures assume that the PIW is not injured and you have at least two crewmen on board. There are also many acceptable variations on these procedures,

depending on the equipment you maintain in your vessel. It also assumes the PIW will be able to get back into the boat. In other words, there are many assumptions included in this procedure.

1. The person who calls Man Overboard has one job and only one job for the entire event – keeping their eyes peeled for the person and always pointing to the direction of the person. Let's call them the Pointer.
2. As the boat and the person moves, because the current and wind will push that person along in the water, our pointer is to be given clear berth to follow the PIW. In other words, stay out of the way of the Pointer. Immediately start throwing floatable objects off the stern. This will give you an idea of which direction the PIW will be pushed and gives you a pointer as to what your direction was prior to attempting to turn the boat around.
3. The person at the helm should push (assuming you have a GPS or Loran and it has this function) the man overboard button. This will place a marker on your screen so you know an approximate position of where you were when the discovery was made.
4. Slowly (and I mean slowly) turn the boat in the direction of the Pointers hand and proceed to the PIW.
5. All other hands should be doing the following (depending on how many others you have): make ready the life preserver or a life jacket with a line attached to throw to the PIW, and assisting the Pointer in keep more sets of eyes on the PIW, because it is very easy to loose site that person.

If you loose site of the person, immediately call a PAN-PAN on VHF CH 16. This will notify all those other boats in the area that there is an emergency as well as the Coast Guard.

6. When you finally and hopefully, approach the PIW, make sure your vessel is downwind to the PIW. In this way the current and wind pushes the PIW into or towards your boat, as opposed to the boat running over the PIW.
7. Kill your engines so the PIW does not get injured by the props.
8. Retrieve your PIW from the lowest point of the vessel (the swim platform or lowest part of the gunwale).

Practice and Education

Man Overboard procedures like everything else involved in boating; docking, navigation, use of fire extinguishers, putting on life jackets; involve practice and learning.

Boating education is just a start. Many of the suggestions on equipment that may be used during a Man Overboard event are not federally mandated equipment.

What equipment you keep and whether or not you practice procedures to mitigate and respond to emergencies is up to every skipper. The United States Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary is more than happy to provide educational resources to show you the way. It's up to the boating public to take the next step.

For more information about boating safety courses and Vessel Safety Checks, go to <http://www.cgaux.org>

Photos by Dan Kearn



MISTY Boats guarding the fleet



Jerry Darnell at the Helm of Dan Kearn's Facility

7-12 Meeting Schedule

11 July	7-12 Flotilla BBQ Gary Davis's Home see flyer for details
11 July	New member training Sector Portland 0830
25 July	VSC Hagg Lake contact Matt Epstein for details
08 August	Reserved for Tri-annual on-water currency review & initial QE day Sector Portland
12 Aug	Potluck at Hahn's Place see flyer for details
29 Aug	VSC Hagg Lake contact Matt Epstein for details
09 September	7-12 Monthly Meeting
12 September	TCT Full day session 0800-1700
10 October	Leadership Training
14 November	Hazwopper/Blood Bourne Pathogens Training
December	No Training Annual Elections/Flotilla & COW

Unless otherwise noted:

- **All training to be held at Sector Portland Training Deck**
- **Training will begin at 0830**
- **Uniform will be ODU/Working Blue**

July 2009

WINDBAG

members of Flotilla 7-12 via mail, and electronically and on Flotilla website at (<http://www.uscgauxhillsboro.org>). The *Windbag* 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 U.S. Coast Guard. Material is informational only and not authority for action. Internet release is authorized.

Send reports, articles, and items of interest to FSO-PB ddkearn32@verizon.net

Our next meeting is September 9, 2009 1930 hours

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

Official Business

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

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The Windbag

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