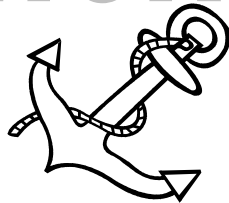


ANCHOR LINE



Flotilla 87

Englewood, Fla.

7th Coast Guard District
www.CoastGuardEnglewood.com

Volume XLIX March, 2011 Number 3



Lee Waters, FSO-PE and Officer Snook (Rod Dimon, FC) at the Heron Hoopla

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**2011 FLOTILLA 87 OFFICERS
DIVISION 8 DISTRICT 7**



Flotilla Commander
Flotilla Vice Cmdr.
Member Training
Public Education
Vessel Examination
Operations
Personnel Services
Public Affairs
Publications
Secretary/Records
Finance
Communications
Materials
Information Svc
Navigation System
RBS Visitation
Marine Safety
Communication Svc
Monofilament Recovery
Imm. Past Fl. Cmdr.
Lay Leader
Proctor
Flotilla Webmaster

FC
VFC
FSO-MT
FSO-PE
FSO-VE
FSO-OP
FSO-HR
FSO-PA
FSO-PB
FSO-SR
FSO-FN
FSO-CM
FSO-MA
FSO-IS
FSO-NS
FSO-PV
FSO-MS
FSO-CS
IPFC

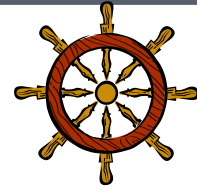
Rodney D. Dimon
N. Lee Waters
Anton (Tony) Durner
N. Lee Waters
Gerald L. Meckenberg
Wilbur R. Gray
Sandy Bilsky
David C. Nielsen
Judith A. Abbott
Judith A. Abbott
Judith A. Abbott
Gerald L. Meckenberg
Joseph Scott Mayer
Graham Leadbetter, Ph. D
David P. Senkpiel
Gregory J. Masonick
Robert M. Waters
Jack W. Rienks
Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
Judith A. Abbott
Ruth A. White
Jack W. Rienks

MARCH EVENTS

- 1.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm
- 8.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**FROM THE HELM:
Rodney D. Dimon, Commander**



Ahoy Shipmates!

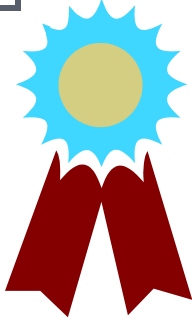
The Flotilla packed this short, twenty eight day month with energetic activity that has made a positive contribution to boating safety, and fellowship activities.

In addition to two VE blitzes, and the six members who attended the Flotilla leadership course, a sixteen member BS&S course was graduated this month. Our safety booth at Vineland Elementary School in celebration of their Heron Hoopla community event was manned by eight members, and Officer Snook! All who participated enjoyed the duty and each other's company.

March brings another month of member recognition – two of our members have earned their twenty year award, and one member will be given his 25 year award (that has been floating in the system until now). Come to the meeting and congratulate these members.

While doing "house call" vessel exams, one member was able to give two names to our FSO-HR as potential membership leads. Finally, we continue to seek opportunities for a new Flotilla 'home'. You will be kept informed as this progresses. - Rod





AWARDS & CERTIFICATES



**Auxiliary Sustained Service, 4th Award
Commodore's Certificate of Excellence-RBS**
David Nielsen

**Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Award
Operations**
John Cahow
Gregory Masonick
David Senkpiel
Arthur "Skip" Wilson

3 year Coxswain Re-qualification
John Cahow

**Certificate of Completion
Search and Rescue Specialty Course**
N. Lee Waters
Robert Waters

**Certificate of Completion
Seamanship Specialty Course**
Sandy Bilsky



John Cahow center, receives his awards from Rod Dimon,
FC and Lee Waters, VFC

All photos in this issue by J. Abbott, FSO-PB

AWARDS PHOTO GALLERY

WOW!
FABULOUS!



FC Dimon G. Masonick VFC Waters



FC Dimon D. Nielsen VFC Waters



FC Dimon S. Bilsky R. Waters VFC Waters



D. Senkpiel FC Dimon A. Wilson VFC Waters

W. R. "Gabby" Gray, FSO-OP



All patrols for the month of January were completed except some canceled for weather.

All Coxswain and Crew members; if you are due to have your 3 year requals and currency maintenance this year (2011), please contact MT / OPs so we can make arrangements and get it done EARLY this year.

Coxswains please do your 5132s and 7030s as soon as possible after your patrols and continue filling them out correctly, thanks. (don't forget to fill out a 4612 SAR report if you get an assist)

Coxswains don't forget to invite a new trainee along on your patrols and get them familiar with your towing equipment and where it is kept.

All members, still use caution while transiting Stump Pass as there are no markers yet as the dredging is still on going.

Keep up the good work this year and thank you for the excellent cooperation and help.
"Gabby"



N. Lee Waters, FSO-PE



I'm pleased to announce that we have 17 graduates in our new BS&S class. Our next class isn't until April 9th & 16th where we will run an ABS program. We could use a few more blue shirts to answer questions, so if you are free on either date drop by and help us out. During the running of this class is an excellent time for our membership to meet the students and show them just how nice a group we are and the advantages of joining the Auxiliary.

I'm excited about the upcoming year of classes especially our new class called "Practical Matters." I'm changing up how we teach the BS&S class in the Oct./Nov. slot. Instead of teaching the usual 12 chapters we will only teach the core lessons of chapter 1-8, allowing the class to only run the month of Oct. We are going to use the Nov. allotted days for our new course, which consists of 2 days using Ruth's piloting lessons, lessons on communication, weather and finally a whole evening of marlinspike. I will offer this class to anyone who has taken the BS&S class and/or ABS with us. My hope is that by adjusting our class schedule we will better meet the needs of our community.

Don't forget to remind your friends and neighbors to wear their life jackets when they are boating because they only work if you wear them.

BOATING SKILLS & SEAMANSHIP



Lee Waters, FSO-PE addresses the class



The students prepare for their lesson



Instructor Gabby Gray assembles his materials and speaks to a couple of students about the art of Marlinspike

KNOTS, KNOTS AND MORE KNOTS



Students try their hand at a bowline



Instructor Ruth White demonstrates belaying a cleat



A student is learning from Ruth to tie a clove hitch



Two students working on their knots



Instructors Gabby Gray and Ruth White demonstrate a timber hitch

FLOTILLA 87'S GRADUATES



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



Heron Hoopla Event

At
Vineland Elementary School



**PFDs
On display**



**A visitor to
the booth**



**Above:
Tots trying to find
items that do not
belong in the sea.**



**Above:
Playing the
Trash game;
what will bio-
degrade first?**



A mom observes her child playing the fish tank game

Dave Nielsen, FSO-PA



Rules of the Road

Cold water boating; being prepared for the worst.

The winter season brings cold water to our area whether we like it or not. I am thankful we do not have the blizzards being experienced by the folks to our north. Yes, the rest of my family is there and they are frequently keeping me informed of the record snow fall. Honestly, I am not sure if I should send them a few photos of the palm trees in my yard or my winter overcoats which I no longer need.

Enjoying our tropical weather does not come without a price. The water here is still cold. Regardless of the 68 degree Fahrenheit (° F) Gulf temperature, the boating season continues and boaters need to be especially vigilant in wearing their life jackets. It could save your life.

First of all it is important to understand what happens to your body in cold water. Water removes heat from a body 25 times faster than cold air and most of the heat loss is through the head. Swimming or other activity in the water increases the heat loss though your limbs and extremities. If you become a person in the water (PIW) your survival time is sharply reduced. Two factors are of concern when you are immersed in cold water, shock and hypothermia.

Cold shock is the body's reaction to the cold water. During cold weather boating all persons on board should wear life jackets. Cold shock from falling into cold water can trigger an involuntary gasping reflex that will cause you to inhale water through your mouth. Without a life jacket a person can drown without ever coming back to the surface. Wearing your life jacket will increase the likelihood of survival if you should accidentally fall into the cold water.

When the head and chest are exposed to cold water, cardiac arrest may also occur as well as a very sudden increase in heart rate and blood pressure. Cold water immersion may also cause an immediate loss of consciousness but, depending on the type of life jacket worn, an unconscious victim can survive without drowning.

Hypothermia is the physical condition of decreased body temperature. This condition develops more slowly and you may not be immediately aware of the symptoms. The symptoms of hypothermia include shivering as the body loses heat and body temperature drops. Uncontrolled rapid breathing follows the initial gasping response and may cause a loss of consciousness, muscle rigidity and loss of voluntary motor function which results in physical helplessness.

A hypothermia victim starts to shiver as core body temperature falls from 97°F down to about 90°F. A person at risk of hypothermia must also try to control breathing rate

Continued

.....Cold Water Cont'd.

to avoid hyperventilation leading to unconsciousness following the immediate involuntary gasping response to the initial immersion into cold water. Uncontrolled or rapid response to the initial immersion into cold water. Uncontrolled or rapid breathing will speed up the chilling process. When the body's core temperature falls to 93°F, physical ability is severely diminished and mental capacity begins to deteriorate too. A victim usually falls into an unconscious state when body temperature falls to 86°F. If the victim doesn't drown first, hypothermia will finish him off when the body temperature falls to or near 80°F.

Survival figures show that an adult dressed in average clothing may remain conscious for one hour in water at 40°F, and perhaps as long as 2 - 3 hours in 50°F water. Remember, any movement in water accelerates body heat loss. Unnecessary movement can reduce survival time to minutes.

Avoid moving as much as possible. A life jacket helps in two ways; it helps insulate against heat loss and helps keep you afloat. When you wear a life jacket, draw knees up into a H.E.L.P. (Heat Escape Lessoning Position). If several persons are in the water, huddle together so you can conserve heat.

Treatment involves getting the victim out of the cold environment as quickly as possible. Remove all wet clothing and get the person into a warm sleeping bag. Try to keep the person awake. Do not give alcohol or massage vigorously. Giving the person warm drinks or food is not a good idea either. They don't help re-warm the person and they can pose a choking hazard. Transport the victim to a hospital as soon as possible.

Cold weather boating has its rewards for the prudent mariner. Following a few simple rules will help keep you safe, or at least increase your chances of returning home. Wear warm clothing. Wear a life jacket at all times.

Every year we read and hear about the 'experienced boaters' that die in cold weather boating accidents. Many of those deceased mariners were not wearing a life jacket. File a float plan. Never go out alone. Check the weather before leaving home. While on the boat keep an eye on the weather and know when to head for home.

Be safe out there and I'll see you on the water.

Dave Nielsen is a safe boating instructor and vessel examiner for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Englewood Flotilla www.coastguardenglewood.com and the Peace River Sail & Power Squadron, Punta Gorda www.puntagorda-boating.org You may contact him at dc.nielsen@hotmail.com.
dc.nielsen@hotmail.com.

Editor's Note:

Dave is a regular contributor to the SUN newspaper's WaterLine boating and fishing magazine promoting the USCG and CG AUXILIARY'S safe boating message.

