



Whittier Soundings



IPFC

Robert P. Harvey, FC

Marshall Poe, VFC

Mike Folkerts,

Vol. XII, No. 2, February 2002 Flotilla Newsletter by Sheila Hillegeist, PB

Membership News (A Note from Bob Harvey, FC) – Membership in our Flotilla has increased by 80% over the past 3 years. We ended last year with seventy-nine members. That is extraordinary growth, and you might wonder why? Start with the leadership provided by our past Flotilla Commanders and Vice Commanders, Dave and Tommie Brubaker, and Mike and Noreen Folkerts. They emphasized, supported and made many personal efforts to attract and retain members. Add in the publicity about Whittier and Prince William Sound (PWS) boating opportunities surrounding the opening of the Tunnel. And include, the Coast Guard's establishment (and our staffing) of Auxiliary Station Whittier (aka the "Caboose") and the Safeboat. And how about the many members who came to our Public Education classes to mix with the students at breaks, answer their questions about the Auxiliary and help with some of the Navigation exercises. It's true that success breeds success. More members mean more people being made aware of the Whittier Flotilla. Overlay it all with an ATTITUDE: A genuine interest in and a welcome mat out for anyone willing to contribute to and get involved in the Auxiliary.

We're just good people doing good things for a good cause and having some fun in the process. So, the secret is out. We are a great community service organization, the Sound is a premier place to go boating and there is plenty of room left in the Whittier Flotilla for people who want to combine the two. Tell your friends! BH

Guest Speaker – At our January meeting, we had a guest speaker. Nancy Lethcoe, who coauthored with her husband, Jim Lethcoe, the most valuable, Cruising Guide to Prince William Sound. Nancy put out an invitation to all members of the boating community to send her

a notice whenever we discover new information about PWS. Nancy said she and

her husband have sold their charter business and are now retired. They enjoy living on their sail boat and cruising the sound as their hearts desire. She discussed the Land Plan for Chugach National Forest and invited everyone to make their concerns known. Once the plan is finalized, change will be difficult. So make your voice heard now.

“From the Poop Deck” – *Well, you have seen the sign-up sheet, and it is starting to fill up. If you are wondering if this is something for you, think of it this way. It should be called “snooping and ease-dropping.” Bring a pair of binoculars, and you can see all that is happening. The West launch ramp is right in front of you, and it is better than a comic show. Turn on the radios and listen in on who’s coming and going. Try and answer (with a straight face) some of the questions the tourists ask. Most of all, tell them a sea story or two. Encourage boating safety. You will be surprised at the number of people that put on their life jacket AFTER they see you on the deck. It won’t be long now. Mark April 27th on your calendar. We are planning a “GRAND SPRING OPENING” party!! It might be hot or snowing, but I’m sure it will be fun. See you then. Mark Poe*

All Members are encouraged to drop by the BS&S and the ACN classes next week to talk to the students during breaks and support the instructors.

COMING EVENTS:

FEB 5th – 6 to 9 pm Advanced Coastal Navigation

Class. Call Russ Lyday at 522-5052

FEB 7th – 7:15 to 10 pm, Boating Skills and

Seamanship Class. Call UAA 786-6721

FEB 13th – 5:30, Flotilla Meeting, BP Building

Mar 19, 21, 26 and 28th – 6 to 9, Weather Specialty

Course. E-mail Mark Parmelee, potterview@gci.net

U S COAST GUARD AUXILIARY - WHITTIER FLOTILLA

AGENDA

**BP BUILDING
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

GUEST SPEAKER: SKIP WIDTFELDT - CIVIL AIR PATROL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 1/9 MEETING

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

DISTRICT/NATIONAL NEWS:

FINANCIAL REPORT

STAFF OFFICER REPORTS

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN