



# Whittier Soundings

September 2003 Mark Poe FC, Tony Hillegeist VFC, Cathey Sterling FSO-PB Volume XIII Issue 6

## Lake Lucille Wasilla, Alaska

Friday August 8 through Sunday August 10 the Auxiliary PWC were on patrol during Challenge Alaska's Summer Splash program. Challenge Alaska provides adaptive water sports opportunities for people with disabilities. Part of the program utilizes PWC as chase boats for the adaptive skiers. A chase boat team consists of a PWC operator and a lifeguard. The PWC operator follows the ski boat and skier. If the skier falls, the PWC operator brings the lifeguard within a few feet of the down skier, and the lifeguard jumps into the water to assist the skier into the ski. After the skier gets going, the PWC operator picks up the lifeguard and continues following the skier. Typically each skier requires two chase boats and the ski boat driver and spotter. The adaptive water sports program also provides PWC rides. Several PWC from local dealers and private individuals were offered for use to give rides. The Auxiliary PWC provided chase boat coverage and did safety patrols while the event was underway.

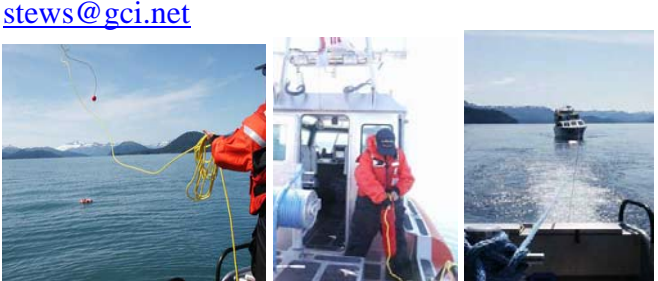


## Operational Patrols

We have maintained operational patrols in Whittier and Western Prince William sound through out the summer. The Safe Boat and several members' operational facilities have been on the water every weekend.



Fortunately not many people have needed our assistance. Perhaps this indicates the Boating Skills and Seamanship and other public education classes are working. Many members have gone out on the patrols for operational training. This is a good way to work on Auxiliary Crew and Coxswain training. We plan to have the Safe Boat on patrol through the end of September. Any one interested in going on the Safe Boat may contact Stewart Sterling.





**Awards &  
Certifications**

The Whittier Flotilla Commander Mark Poe recently recognized the following auxiliaries as recipients of the following USCG Auxiliary awards and certifications:

**AUX Seamanship Specialist:**

Brad & Linda Wells, Mary Hallinan, John Whitney, Cathey & Stewart Sterling, Bolivar Bomani, Ross Blaker, Ken Waggoner, Rae De Ley, Sheila Hillegeist, Lisa & Craig Woolard, Paul Cates, TL Stanbro, Tim Ewing, Andy Buhler, Mark Poe.

**Sustained Service:**

Bob Harvey, Dave Brubaker, Mark Parmalee, Mark Poe.

**Certificate of Achievement:**

Connie Jacobs.

**Award for Growth (Members):**

Kathy & Russ Lyday, Whittier Flotilla (2002 Bob Harvey).

**Meritorious Team Commendation, Northern Edge:**

Kindred Spirit and Noreen Kay.

**Performance Award for Operations:**

Tony & Sheila Hillegeist, Bob Harvey, Dave & Tommie Brubaker, Mark Poe.

**Performance Award for Public Education:**

Bob Harvey, Russ Lyday.

**Performance Award for Recruitment:**

Kathy & Russ Lyday.

**AUX Achievement Awards:**

Roy Stoddard - Material Store, John Hallinan - Aviation, Mark Parmelee - Member Training.

**Pat Kennedy Award for Exemplary Performance as FC:**

Bob Harvey.

**AUX Service:**

Glen Smith - 5 years, Barbara Sands - 15 years.

**Buster Borhauer Memorial Award - Most SAR:**  
Whittier Flotilla.

**AUX Patrol and Administration:**

Brad & Linda Wells.

**AUX Communication:**

Linda Wells.

**AUX Seamanship:**

Bolivar Bomani, Ross Blaker, Ken Waggoner, TL Stanbro, Tim Ewing, Andy Buhler.

**Coxswain:**

Cathey & Stewart Sterling, Roy Stoddard

**Communications Specialist:**

John Whitney, Ross Blaker

**VE Certificate:**

Ross Blaker, Kathy & Russ Lyday

**Special Note:**

Mark Poe also received his UTM Coxswain this season.

Good work and congratulations to all!



## Member Training

### Auxiliary Weather Specialty Course

Dave Goldstein, recently retired from the National Weather Service Forecast Office, has volunteered to give the Auxiliary Weather Course to auxiliaries this fall. Classes will feature a recent PowerPoint presentation, a tour of the forecast office, and will conclude with a discussion of Alaskan weather issues.

Classes will be conducted at the National Weather Service Forecast Office at 6930 Sand Lake Road. They will run on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. till about 9 p.m. The first meeting will be September 18<sup>th</sup> and the last class will be October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2003.

Auxiliaries interested in this class need to contact Mark Parmelee at [potterview@gci.net](mailto:potterview@gci.net). Mark will coordinate ordering the textbooks and obtain the examinations to be offered at the end of the course. Please be advised that only 20 individuals can be accommodated for this session. As most of the spaces were spoken for at the last flotilla meeting, another session will be offered if this one fills before you get a chance to respond. (Hint – attending those flotilla meetings is important.)

## COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



## 17th District

### Whittier Flotilla Web Site

<http://www.uscgaux.org/~1700204>

