



Whittier Soundings



Whittier Flotilla 02-04, District 17, Alaska

October 2006 Sig Murphy FC, Russ Lyday VFC, Cathey Sterling FSO-PB Volume XVI Issue 10

Whittier Flotilla Election Results

The annual elections were held during our October Flotilla Meeting.

Russ Lyday won the election for Flotilla Commander and Bill Morris won the election for Vice Flotilla Commander.

Congratulations to both!

District 17 Fall Training & Fellowship

November 18 and 19 is our annual FC & VFC Academy. Flotilla Commanders and Vice Commanders are funded and will receive their annual office training at this time.

Saturday 18th 6 PM our annual District Fall Fellowship will be held at the Royal Fork Buffet, 800 Northway Drive. Contact Roy Stoddard for further details. This is an all you can eat food, beverage and desert buffet. We will hold a raffle and have a \$15 gift exchange.

For members who haven't attended the fall district training and fellowship this is a great time to receive some needed training, Member training this year includes IS 700, IS 800 and TCT. Come and meet members from other flotillas.

District Web Site

Stewart Sterling, your district web master, put a photo gallery on the web site. This gallery includes photos from all events that members submit to the web master.

Stewart has set it up for you to upload photos directly. Your photos go to the web master for approval. He reviews to make sure the content meets web policy.

To view the photo gallery, go to the district web site <http://a170.uscgaux.info/>, open the member's page and click on the D17 Photo Gallery is now online click here to visit link. When the photo gallery opens there are three buttons on the top: Home, Register, Log in. Use the register button to create your registration to upload photos. You must register to upload. After you register the web master will send your approval then you can log in and upload photos.

This is a great opportunity for you to share your photos with the district and all visitors to the web site.

Contact Stewart if you have any questions or problems with the program.





Cyber Security Month

October has been designated as National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

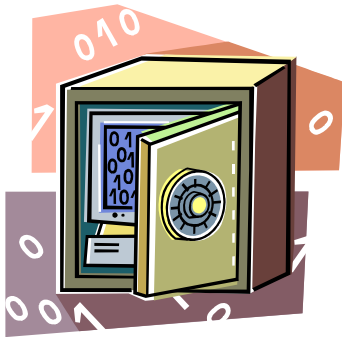
In our ever increasing awareness of the needs for preparedness we may have overlooked cyber security. In our email communications and our search for information on the web we need to take safeguards to protect our personal information and the information we share regarding our activities, training, and other sensitive communication.

The Department of Homeland Security has prepared a wide variety of information on ways to protect our computers while accessing the internet. You can reach this valuable information by going to this site:

http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/gc_1158611596104.shtm

From this site you will be able to access the US Computer Emergency Readiness Team, the Multi-State Information and Sharing Analysis, and the National Cyber Security Alliance sites which have tips for protecting your computer, good cyber security habits and other information to help you maintain the security of your information.

In order to maintain the integrity of our personal, professional, and auxiliary information it is important we all do our part.



Time Change

Daylight Savings Time has traditionally started the first Sunday of April and ended the last Sunday of October. When we fall back to Standard Time this last Sunday in October will be the final time at least through the year 2015.

The new schedule for Daylight Savings Time will start the second Sunday in March and end the first Sunday of November starting March 11, 2007.

How will this time change affect us? Here in Alaska the impact will be low since most of us do not begin our boating season until mid April. In other areas where recreational boating is year round we need to make sure our boating classes, particularly navigation classes remind boaters of

the extended length of the time change.

Fortunately Greenwich Mean Time (or Greenwich Meridian Time aka Zulu Time) remains constant.

Below is the schedule from 2007 to 2015.

Year	DST Begins 2 a.m. (Second Sunday in March)	DST Ends 2 a.m. (First Sunday in November)
2007	March 11	November 4
2008	March 9	November 2
2009	March 8	November 1
2010	March 14	November 7
2011	March 13	November 6
2012	March 11	November 4
2013	March 10	November 3
2014	March 9	November 2
2015	March 8	November 1

Time change is also a good time to remember to change batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard



Press Release

Date: Oct. 25, 2006

Contact: A. McArdle
202-372-4633

COAST GUARD ASKS CELL PHONE SERVICE PROVIDERS TO DISCONTINUE *CG SERVICE

WASHINGTON -- The Coast Guard has asked all cell phone service providers in states other than Alaska to remove the specialized keying sequence *CG as a method of requesting maritime emergency assistance.

As an interim measure, the Coast Guard has requested that cell phone service providers reroute all *CG calls to the nearest 911 operator.

Boaters should use VHF-FM radio as their primary means of making distress calls on the water. Cell phone calls to 911 should be used only as a secondary option.

VHF-FM radio provides superior alerting capabilities in an emergency. When a distress call is sent out via VHF-FM radio any nearby boaters can hear the distress call and offer immediate assistance. VHF-FM radios will further enhance boaters' safety as the Coast Guard expands its Rescue 21 system, which uses technology that tracks the precise location of distress calls. This allows the Coast Guard and other rescuers to narrow the focus of search and rescue efforts.

The Coast Guard is alerting mariners to stop using *CG immediately and begin using 911 on their cell phones to notify authorities of a maritime emergency if a cell phone is their only means of communication.

The *CG feature was introduced by some cell phone service providers in the early 1990s but never developed into a nationwide service. As providers moved to digital systems, some did not migrate *CG, creating a confusing patchwork of service that can add significant delays in the Coast Guard response.

The sole exception to the change is in Alaska, where the *CG feature will remain active. Cell phone service providers operating there all have the *CG feature available and routed to a single Coast Guard emergency line. Calls are not missed and cannot be misdirected.

For more information on the Coast Guard's search and rescue program, visit <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-o/g-opr/sar.htm>.

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*The U.S. Coast Guard is a military, maritime, multi-mission service within the
Department of Homeland Security dedicated to protecting the safety and security of America.*



U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

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17th District

<http://a1700204.uscgaux.info>

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