

Whittier Soundings



Newsletter of the Whittier Flotilla 170-02-04 District 17 Alaska

Volume XVIII
Issue 6

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June 2007

4TH ANNUAL CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA

By Linda Shogren

FRIDAY JULY 20, 2007 Noon – 4:30
GOOSE LAKE PARK

The Auxiliary has teamed with the Municipality of Anchorage, Parks & Recreation Department this year to assist with their 4th Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta. Parks & Recreation would appreciate any assistance the Auxiliary can offer.

I'm hoping we can get a handful or more of volunteers to help out a few hours and then still get to our boats in Whittier later. Saturday was not an option as there are so many swimmers using Goose Lake Park (UAA Drive & Northern Lights Blvd.) beach area so Parks & Recreation is going with the Friday Regatta date. This is a great opportunity to reach kids and their parents about safe boating and have fun too!

Volunteers will be needed for:

Registering boats

Giving Vessel Security checks for proper materials used (cardboard & duct tape)

Boots or waders are suggested for inspectors who don't want to get their feet wet

Helping demonstrate proper fit for lifejackets

Fitting kids with lifejackets

Manning a table with safe boating literature

Keeping an eye out for runaway boats or kids with no lifejackets

There is a \$5 fee which goes to buy more lifejackets. West Marine is also making a large donation.

Schedule of Events

Registration 12-3pm

(Completed registration forms must be turned in 15 minutes before race start time)

Youth Races 1-2:30pm

Family Races 2:30-3:30pm

Adult Races 3:30-4:30pm

Awards & Clean up 4:30-5pm



THE GOAL: Build a boat big enough to carry a crew of one, two, three, or four people. This is a good time race. Therefore, no matter how fast, slow, big, small, sensible or outrageous your boat is, the first rule is that the designers, builders, racers and supporters have fun.

RULES:

- No waxed or waterproofed Cardboard
- Any weight or thickness of corrugated cardboard is OK.
- Duct tape can be used only at seams and may not extend more than 3 inches beyond seams.
- Boat must be hand powered, paddles will be provided.

Auxiliary Operations

By Tom Kane

SAREX

On June 2nd we had the first of this summer's SAREX (Search and Rescue exercises). It took place outside North Granite Bay. There were seven operational facilities and the SAFEBoat. Those attending were Baleana, Beluga, Artic LunaSea, Antigony, Pair a Dice, Papa's Dream, and the Dolci. Also participating were the Hale Kai and Miss Sara. About thirty members participated. Six people got a couple of hours each of training on the SAFEBoat while all the other vessels were working with each other, honing their skills with tows.

The weather was beautiful although a little windy in the afternoon. We were also joined by a pod of Dall Porpoise which had followed the Beluga to the training site. They stayed on location for an hour going from one boat to another in sort of a circle.

After the training we returned to the Bay and rafted to the Artic LunaSea for the traditional fellowship. Once again the food was terrific, the company great and the raft held all for the duration. We broke up into smaller groups to go on anchor for the night.



Photos courtesy Bill Reiter

In the morning, some boats continued to train and others went on a safety patrol. The weather on Sunday was gorgeous. 611 took a SAR case as it was headed back to the harbor. A SAR case number was not given to the coxswain for the assist but should have been. I was later informed by the DIRAUX that whenever an Auxiliarist puts a line over the boat to take another vessel in tow a SAR case # is mandatory to protect the Auxiliarist. The one possible exception to this rule is if the towed vessel is an OPFAC.

QE Session

On the weekend of June 9th, Gary Taylor and Sig Murphy joined Tom Kane and Will Frost on 611 so that Will could be given a qualifying check ride as Coxswain on the SAFEBoat. Sig was also being evaluated as a QE- IT (Qualifying Examiner In Training). All went well until the very end when a gust of wind pushed 611 into the dock during docking. 611 sustained some damage to the skin of the sponson, the orange collar that surrounds the hull. 611 had to be pulled from the water to keep the interior of the sponson dry while the repair kit was ordered and delivered. Unfortunately, because of this accident it meant that Chris Pallister, who was next in line that day for a check ride for NSB coxswain, was unable to take his check ride. 611 is now repaired and waits to be put in the water. It only missed one weekend while waiting for the supplies to arrive.

Advanced Public Affairs School for Public Affairs Officers

Offered by USCG Station Kodiak Public Affairs
Kodiak July 31 and August 1, 2007

PADET Kodiak in conjunction with the PA Master Chief will be offering a comprehensive two day public affairs training in Kodiak Tuesday July 31-Wednesday Aug 1. This course is normally one week long and is generally only offered at the Defense Information School. It is being offered in Kodiak this one time only.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Anniversary

Unit collateral duty public affairs officers and those who will have direct contact with the media are encouraged to attend. The class will cover all aspects of public affairs to include on camera interview training.

The class is scheduled to be held at the NPRFTC classroom in building N27 on Coast Guard Base Kodiak. Students should plan on a full day of training for both days. Times and course materials will be provided to students as the class convening date approaches.

This is a fabulous opportunity for all public affairs officers statewide and interested members that wish for more hands on public affairs training.

If any of our members are interested, and have questions they can contact Linda Shogren @272-4282. It would probably be helpful to take the Auxiliary public affairs on-line classes prior to attending (it was required at C-School) as it is modeled on the Coast Guard model. There is seating for 25.

All Auxiliary attendance must go through DIRAUX. Funding is not available at this time so members attending training must pay their own expenses.

Forms Technical Assistance

With a number of recent additions and/or updates, if any member has issues, questions, comments or concerns about any [Form](#): please use [Forms On-Line Technical Assistance](#) to contact the Forms Team. This is most direct and easiest manner in which to get your Forms questions resolved. Inquiries via the National website Contact Us page will only delay the process of answering your question. Also, don't forget to look at the [Forms FAQs](#) before contacting the Forms Team.

[Posted: 14 June 2007. Source: Tony Gadomski, BA-IWD
This article is from the National USCG Auxiliary site.

Bob Harvey is a good local resource – email him for assistance with these forms.

On June 23, 2007 as we observe the 68th Anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the [Coast Guard Auxiliary Association](#) takes great pride in recognizing the outstanding service the volunteers of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary provide to the Nation, the Coast Guard and their communities. BRAVO ZULU to all members of the Auxiliary and be proud of all you do for the safety and security of others. We remain your strongest supporter and look forward to continuing our service to you.

[Posted: 21 JUN 2007. Source: Martin Phillips, Executive Director, CGAuxA]
This article is from the National USCG Auxiliary site.



<http://a1700204.uscgaux.info>

<http://a170.uscgaux.info>

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