

Anchorage

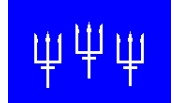
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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by *Cdr Ronald Chitwood, AP*



Well here it is this is the start of the boating season. A time for lots of fun with friends and family. Even with the high gas prices, I hope that everyone has a lot of fun this summer. But also we need to watch out for the rest of the boating public. Our goal is to help them out when they are in trouble, do VSC when needed, or better yet simply talk to them about what the Power Squadron is about and maybe gain a new member.



Don't forget about the Governing Board meeting in Sept. They are still looking for volunteers to help out. There are a lot of areas that anyone could help out in. From greeter's, tour guides, or a lot of different areas. If you want to find out more check out the District web-site for more information.

We have had a very good start to the year with our public boating class, and our members that are taking Marine Electronics class. Now is the time to relax and have some fun at the week-end rendezvous'. So check the schedule and I hope to see a lot of you there.

Also remember this is the last copy of the Anchorage for the summer. But also starting in September the Anchorage will be sent to you via the Internet. If you still want to receive a paper copy please contact Mike Rachuk. Also our associate member's will still receive a paper copy.

From my boating family to yours

Have a safe and fun summer

Cdr RONALD CHITWOOD, CINDY and DAKOTA

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Note: Articles for publication must be received by the 15th of each month so they can be published and circulated by the 25th.

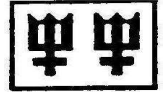
Coming this Fall

Anchorage to be distributed via E-mail

If you would like to continue receiving a paper copy
Please contact me by 1 Aug 2008.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

by Lt/C Danny Woody, AP



Hello, again as I said in my last article I hope my boats ready for the water, it's not, just to munch going on right now, with the move, finishing class, family and everything else going on.

I'm could not get reservations for St Clair Marina for June 27th. It seems that everyone is staying close to home this year. I think Rom and Cindy are hosting the Festival of Lights, and Eunice Will Host the Frost Bite, both at Metro Beach, check schedule for date's, so please let us know if you would like to go, or even a maybe, so we can get reservations in ASAP.



We have finished the Marine Electronics class, I think we all passed, but Cindy did get a higher score on at least one test then the rest of us, so ladies don't be afraid to take a class that you may think is a male coarse, this class like all our classes will make more safe on and off the water, you known what they say (two heads are better then one).

Some members go way out of there way to teach us these classes, for that I would like to THANK them for that, I am a safer boater because of them. This time it way Mike Rachuk, he gave us his home and great dill of his time when he is trying to get his boat in the water. THANK YOU MIKE!!!!

Have a safe and fun BOATING SEASON

Woody



EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

by Lt/C Mike Rachuk, SN



The books are closed. The studying is over and the last of the Marine Electronics exams have been taken. I want to congratulate the members of the class for advancing their education. I look forward to telling Ron & Cindy Chitwood, Danny Woody, and Fred Drexler that they have successfully completed the class.

The educational opportunities for the public will continue in the month of June. On Friday the 13th and Saturday the 14 we will hold an 8 hour boating class at the Idle Hour Yacht Club. Friday's session will start at 7:00 PM and Saturday's will start at 9:00 AM. Help us fill this class.

The winner of the Guy Adelini Award this year has proctored nearly every public boating class since I have been SEO. The person has advanced their education every year. Dedication to educational advancement is the key to the award. I am proud to announce Fred Drexler as this years award winner. Congratulations Fred. Keep up the good work.

I have had one person express an interest in an Advanced Piloting course. Is their anyone else that would like to take this course? Please let me know.

Help advance the goals of our organization. Promote public education whenever you can. Demonstrate the principles of good boating by practicing what you have learned through the Power Squadron. The Vessel Safety Check program is also another avenue to promote safe boating and education. Everyone can help promote safe boating some way. Please help by doing what you can.

This is your squadron. Let us make it the best that it can be.

Mike Rachuk

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

by Lt/C Thomas Browne



We are sorry to announce that our June 27 weekend in St. Clair is canceled due to insufficient dockage to meet our needs. We are trying to make arrangements for another location for around the same date. We will advise as soon as this is setup.

Safety checks are being conducted by our qualified members. Call one of the following for an appointment:

Ron Chitwood	810.765.5162
Andy Kasinec	586.285.9002
James VanScott	810.794.2316
Danny Woody	810.434.2787



We are looking forward to an exciting boating season and are trying to schedule programs that will be of interest to the majority of Anchor Bay Squadron members. As members, we will get as much out of the squadron as we all put into it. So, we look forward to your participation in upcoming activities.

We are still waiting to hear from you on what you would like to see us schedule for your enjoyment. We will be passing out a survey at our next meeting and look for some direction from our members in this area. We need your input.

Remember our organization is only as strong as our membership's support.

Please share your thoughts and suggestions with us.

tpbrowne@aol.com

Let's set record numbers in attendance at our summer outings. Additional activities coming soon. See you there! That old adage, "the more the merrier" still holds true.

Best regards!

Tom

“Hankerin’ for an Anchoring ”

(Article extracted from Capt Bob’s files)

At least for now, there is no Federal requirement for carrying an anchor aboard your recreational vessel. And from what I can tell, there aren't any state regs that do, either. There is some discussion going on, however, as to whether an anchor should be required & if it comes up for a vote, I'll vote aye.

Some would argue that having an anchor on board has little to do with boating safety, since many boaters feel that an anchor is merely a device for tossing overboard when you want to stop for lunch or slip into a quiet cove for an overnight. If you're caught in a storm and fighting desperately to keep your disabled boat from being swept onto a rocky shore, however, you'll be glad to have something with pointy things on it dragging across the bottom and eventually digging in or holding on.

Anchoring goes back to prehistoric days. Large stones have been found in ancient seabeds with telltale grooves or holes drilled in them. Through thousands of years, anchors have evolved from grooved stones, to stones put in baskets or cages, then wood and stones, then wood and iron, and finally to the more modern navy and CQR (secure) anchors and today's popular Danforth style. But I doubt that the improvements came about because of a pressing need to keep the boat in place while lunch was being served. Anchors have had many uses over the ages. Resourceful pirates and corsairs used them for gaining ground on their prey. With no wind to fill the sails, the ships would just sit out of range of each other, watching and waiting. So one particularly bright captain ordered his men to lower the ship's anchor into a longboat, row out to the length of the chain, and drop the anchor overboard. As the anchor dropped, the chain pulled the mother ship forward. Under cover of darkness, the scoundrels closed the gap to within easy range of their prey. I can imagine that word of this tactic spread rapidly, however, and it probably wasn't long before the sea was filled with longboats toting anchors for dear life when the air became still.

With today's advanced materials and low cost, there really is no reason that a modern recreational vessel shouldn't be equipped with at least one anchor and adequate rode (anchor line). The anchor should be the right size for the boat, and the rode should be appropriate to the depth of water in which the vessel usually operates. In general terms, the rode should be at least seven times as long as the water is deep, measured from the deck of the boat to the bottom. In heavy weather, extend the rode to at least 10 times the depth of the water. So, if you expect to hold your boat securely in thirty feet of water, you should expect to pay out at least 210 feet of anchor line. A length of chain between the anchor and the line can give you added holding power. The chain will keep the flukes low where the anchor can set more easily, and, unlike fiber lines, won't be victim to abrasion on a rocky or sandy bottom.

You always should lower the anchor slowly over the bow. Never throw the anchor. Make sure one end of the anchor line is connected to the anchor, and the other end secured to something other than your wrist or foot. Remember the prehistoric stones they uncovered in those dry seabeds? They probably got there because some Neanderthal lowered the stone overboard, line and all. (Maybe that's why Cro-Magnon types had such slanty foreheads. Right after they'd lower the anchor and watch it and the line slip to the bottom, they'd plop down on the deck and slap their foreheads.)

It's best to anchor from the bow. This will almost guarantee that the bow of the boat will stay headed into the wind. Once, I watched from shore through a pair of binoculars as a small fishing boat slowly took waves over the stern until it sank. My attention was first drawn to the boat by a taut line leading into the water from a stern cleat. Then I saw the waves slopping over the transom, and then I focused on the fisherman. He'd cast, then glance down to check on how much his boat had filled with water. Then he'd quickly cast again. This sequence repeated itself until the outboard engine was under water, and he couldn't stand upright in the boat to make another cast. He was rescued. Don't anchor by the stern.

If you're anchoring overnight, or leaving the vessel temporarily without a watch stander, be sure and check your boat's "swing" radius before settling in. If the wind changes, you don't want your boat swinging into someone else's mooring area or shore. Also, to check whether your anchor is set, visually establish a relative sighting between something on your boat, like a cleat, and some landmark on shore, if possible. Then check every five or ten minutes to see if the landmark has moved relative to your onboard marker. By checking it frequently for the first half-hour or so, you'll soon know whether any movement is because of normal boat swing, or because you're adrift.

In many parts of the country, this is the season for getting the boat out of the barn and ready for the water. As you're going over your checklist this year, pay particular attention to your ground tackle - - anchor, line, chain, shackles. It's what your stone-age ancestors would have done.

Submitted by: P/Lt/C Henrietta Kasinec, AP Safety Officer

Hello fellow members,

I would first like to take this space to introduce myself as the new ABPS Squadron Vessel Check chairperson and thank you all for having me.

We are in our 5th. year of providing inspectors from the Anchor Bay Power Squadron to meet the demand to do public Vessel safety inspections (with documentation and yearly stickers). In my opinion we have done a fantastic job since the conception of our important responsibilities to the public.

At one point we have had 16 members in one year that were certified to do the Vessel inspections (that were formally known as Courtesy Checks by the Coast Guard auxiliary). That number has declined in the past few years and it is my goal this summer to retain, re-certify and recruit more members into becoming ABPS vessel inspectors.

So, if you would like to help in this department, than please contact me for dates and times for training, testing and group inspections to accomplish our goal for the betterment of safe boating. It's a great way to meet boaters that have the same interest as yourself.

Sincerely,

P/C Andy Kasinec, AP

Vessel Safety Check chairperson

akasinec@wowway.com



Calendar of Events

June 2008

3

1900 E-Board meeting, Christine Wludyka's home

Have fun by Participating in your Squadron.

RENDEVOUS SCHEDULE FOR SUMMER OF 2008

AUGUST 1ST—3RD FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, METRO BEACH

THIS IS A VERY POPULAR EVENT, SLIPS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. I RECOMMEND GETTING THERE EARLY IF YOU WANT A SPOT.

HOST AND HOSTESS NEEDED FOR TIS EVENT.

SEPTEMBER 12TH—14TH WINDSOR

GARY AND I WILL BE HOSTING THIS EVENT.

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT OUT LATER.

FROST BITE—METRO BEACH PENDING

IF YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION ON THESE DATES OR WOULD LIKE BE A HOST OR HOSTESS PLEASE CONTACT NANCY JO KOWALCZYK AT 810-794-4970 OR E-MAIL HER AT nancykowalczyk@comcast.net

