



Operation Dry Water - June 22-24, 2012

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Operation DryWater gets underway over the weekend of June 22-24, 2012. See <http://www.operationdrywater.org/> for details. This column is to get you focused on that, and all that it implies.

Are We Tough Enough?

You've seen me say here that I just don't think we are. Drunk driving, whether that be in a car or in a boat, is one place where I actually feel the legal penalties are too lenient. If a person, uninfluenced by booze, drove a car or a boat recklessly and hurt or even killed someone, they would get a more severe sentencing in many jurisdictions than doing the same thing while drunk, "under the influence" as the legal saying goes. I for one think it should be the opposite. If you had the forethought to take a drink or two before driving, you had better be thinking of the consequences. But that is just me.

In past ages, drinking and still being able to drive, whether that be a car or boat, might have been considered a badge of honor in certain circles. Today, thank goodness, it is considered reckless lunacy. And things are worse on the water than on the land, for a given level of alcohol.

Oh That Swaying Feeling

Often times, when I come in from a boat ride with the family, some of the more lubberly members of the family say, "I can still feel the swaying!" If they happen to jump in the shower, it really gets intensified and they joke that they had to hold on to the shower wall to keep from tipping over! This is clear evidence of the dramatic impact the marine environment has the body's sensory perception system. While boating, we are confronted with conflicting information from the eyes, feet and inner ear. The horizon is constantly moving - up, down and sideways - as the boat moves beneath our feet. Our conscious brain has no problem

with intellectualizing this. But the unconscious part of our brain is getting sensory overload. This can result in reactions ranging from slight queasiness to absolutely debilitating nausea (see SSP, "Mal de Mer", 2/21/07.)

The marine environment is full of "stressors" - the Sun, glare, vibration - to name a few are all pretty common on there. Stressors intensify the effects of alcohol, drugs and some medications. They can cause fatigue, reduced coordination, weak judgment and slow reaction time. And forget about the vision of the St Bernard saving you from the cold by giving you brandy. Alcohol makes the body more susceptible to the effects of cold water, not less.

Not surprisingly, all of this adds to boating accidents. U.S. Coast Guard data shows that, in boating deaths involving driving under the influence, more than half the victims capsized their boats and/or fell overboard. Over 1 in 5 boating deaths are linked back to the use of alcohol.

The Law

Every state in the Union prohibits the operation of a boat while under the influence of alcohol. The US Coast Guard, as a federal entity, enforces a federal law that prohibits Boating Under the Influence (BUI). This law pertains to every vessel, foreign or domestic, operating in U.S. waters, as well as U.S. vessels on the high seas. Penalties may include fines, jail, and impoundment of boats and, in some states, the loss of boating and/or driving privileges.

Back in 2008, Operation Dry Water was started in partnership with the US Coast Guard, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and partner agencies. It is a national weekend of BUI detection and enforcement aimed at reducing the number of alcohol-related accidents and fatalities, and

fostering a stronger and more visible deterrent to alcohol use on the water. Zero tolerance is of course the posture, then and now.

Booze Kills.

REAL RISKS. REAL CONSEQUENCES.

Boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs could cost you:

- Someone else's life
- Your own life
- Your driver's license
- The time, expense and shame of an arrest
- A fine
- Boat repairs from an accident
- Property damage from an accident
- Medical treatment

Essential Boat Operating Skills Adversely Affected by Alcohol or Drug Use

- Peripheral vision
- Night vision
- Inhibitions
- Ability to distinguish colors
- Cognitive abilities
- Judgment
- Balance
- Coordination
- Reaction time

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux@aol.com or go direct to the D1SR Human Resources department, who are in charge of new members matters, at DSO-HR and we will help you "get in this thing..."



County Clerk Update

by SUFFOLK COUNTY CLERK

JUDY PASCALE

STARTING A BUSINESS IN SUFFOLK COUNTY

State law provides that the County Clerk's Office files certificates for persons conducting business under an assumed business name. These are usually referred to as DBAs. DBA certificates must contain specific information. A Business Certificate form for filing can be obtained from various stationery stores, or by visiting the County Clerk's website at www.SuffolkCountyNY.gov/Clerk and clicking on online forms.

There are three basic DBA filings: Original; Amendments; Discontinuances.

Original DBA

Prior to filing an original DBA, the filer should review business names already assigned to ensure that the desired name is available. A list of current DBAs is available for public review on the County Clerk website. After checking on available names, and choosing a name that is available, a completed DBA form is filed in the Clerk's Office with a fee of \$35.00. The fee of \$35.00 covers the filing, a certified copy for the filer's record and a certified copy for a business bank account.

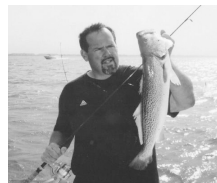
Amending a DBA

A DBA can be amended by filing a copy of the appropriate amendment form at the Clerk's Office. The form can be obtained from various stationery stores, or by visiting the County Clerk's website.

Amendments can only be filed to change the business name, the business address, or to add or remove partners. Amendments and discontinuances require a reference to the original or most recent filing. The filing fee for an amended DBA is \$35.00.

Discontinuing a DBA

A DBA can be discontinued when the individual or partners cease to conduct business. Like amendments, discontinuance requires reference to the original filing and amendments. Again, the form can be obtained from various stationery stores, or by visiting the County Clerk's website. There is no fee for filing discontinuance.



by TONY SALERNO

FISHING WITH TONY

FISHERMEN TO SUPPORT RANDY ALTSCHULER FOR CONGRESS

Republican congressional candidate and self-made businessman Randy Altschuler has officially receive the endorsements of the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA), the Montauk Boatman & Captain's Association (MBCA), and the New York Fishing Tackle Trades Association (NYFTTA) at a press conference this past Monday at the docks of the Montauk Yacht Club Marina.

Joining Altschuler at the event was RFA's Managing Director, Jim Hutchinson, Jr., Capt. Joe McBride of My Mate Charters and the MBCA, Capt. Rick Etzel of Breakaway Charters who is also the MBCA President, and John Mantione of NYFTTA, among others.

"This is a key endorsement on the East End of Suffolk County, as these folks represent scores of small businesses focused on fishing, boats, bait and tackle, and their memberships include Republicans, Democrats and Independents from across Long Island who believe that Randy is the best candidate to represent them in the United States Congress," said Altschuler's Campaign Manager, Diana Weir.

Altschuler is running for Congress in New York's First Congressional District against incumbent Rep. Tim Bishop who has held the seat since 2003. In 2010, Bishop held off a challenge by Altschuler to win a fifth term in office by a scant 593 votes, but fishermen complain that the Obama administration's fisheries policies have ignored much of the input from New York's marine coastal district.

"Our East End sport fishing community can make a pretty significant statement about hope and change this November, and perhaps help put the importance of coastal fishing access into the national spotlight," said Hutchinson.

Speaking of East End fishing, fluking has come back to life inside Moriches Bay this week with more and more keepers spreading out anywhere from buoy 11 to buoy 29 in 6 to 8 feet of water. All the action has been the bay as the ocean bite has yet to materialize. However, a few more days of calm and warmer temperatures should have the fluke really snapping out in the big pond.

Along the north shore, it's a slam fest on jumbo porgies. The open boats from Port Jeff Village have been filling tubs with the spirited critters to the tune of 3-pounds. In addition, fluke continue to bite well, especially when conditions are favorable. There is lots of action with the flatties with one out of about ten fish being a keeper. Nonetheless many anglers are having no problem limiting. Heading over to buoys 9 and 7 are where the larger flatties are staying at the moment, with buck-tails and teasers tipped with spearing or sand eel getting the job done.