



For the Boaters You Love, on Father's Day

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With Fathers' Day coming up, it is time for all those who stand a watch and wait for the return of those that went to sea to think about being the "safety officer" before they go! And, mom, how about the love you have for those that go to sea with dad - kids, grandkids and grandpas - not to forget mom, sis and grandma either??

From the Heart to the Head

There is no doubt that even the most grizzled seafarer can benefit from a boating safety class. Regulations do change over time and techniques get refined and advanced. The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Division-18 covers all of "Out East", from William Floyd out to the ends of both forks. Want to find out what, where and when the latest boating safety classes are - email me below and I'll look it up for you or go right to the web and find out - <http://www.div18cg.us/#CLASSES>.



From Stem to Stern

There is no greater "for free" service available than the free vessel safety check (see SSP, "No Fuss, No Muss - and Your Favorite Price (Free!) - Vessel Exams", 4/02/2008.) And, this is not a regulatory event like getting your car inspected. If the boat doesn't meet all the Federal standards, nothing bad happens (like not being able to drive your car since the inspection sticker was scraped off.) Most likely, the USCGAux examiner will give you their cell phone number and ask you to call them when you've addressed the deficiency - most likely an expired flare package. And both exams are free! Want to schedule

one? Email me below and I'll look it up for you or go right to the web and find out <http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/vsc.htm>.

Nothing Lighter - or More Valuable

The statistics on life jackets are sobering for those that don't use them. For every 16 boaters that go into the water that don't have life jackets on, only 1 comes out (see SSP, "Do I Really Need to Wear a Life-Jacket", 9/24/2008.) Conversely, if they had a life jacket on, 15 come out. What population do you want your boater to be in? And, if they are the inflatable time, they hardly know that they have them on! And don't forget that the USCGAux is sponsoring a "Kids Don't Float" program. We leave life jackets at various cooperating marinas and you can borrow them for the day - on the honor system solely - for your favorite price - Free!



The Silent Killer - Carbon Monoxide

If your boat has any enclosed spaces, they need a Carbon Monoxide Detector (see SSP, "Silent and Odorless - Carbon Monoxide - A Killer!" 4/25/2007) For \$29 at any major retailer like Home Depot, etc., you have the wake-up call that otherwise wouldn't come.



The Wireless "Kill Switch"

Every boat comes with a lanyard that is tied to the helmsman's belt or life jacket and also back to the ignition switch. If the helmsman falls overboard, the lanyard goes with him and the engine stops, along with the boat. This gives the boater the chance to climb back aboard. But no one uses the lanyard because the helmsman is lashed to the helm. They can't even walk a couple of feet across the deck to fetch a landing net for one of his fellow boaters. But now there are "wireless lanyards" on the market! The helmsman can walk all over the boat - just don't leave it! Now, that is a major safety uptick! Check on the internet or with any major chandlery.



Other great gift ideas to help keep boaters safe include:

- Emergency signaling kits -- flares, signal mirror, whistle, etc.
- Up-to-date navigational charts and/or a hand-held GPS unit
- Navigation tools and calculators
- Hand-held VHF marine radio with extra batteries

Show your love - for the crew and the skipper. BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux2010@aol.com or go direct to John Blevins, who is in charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."



by TONY SALERNO

FISHING WITH TONY

NOW IS THE TIME TO MIX IT UP

Beautiful weather and beautiful fishing, that's the way to sum up the current bite on both the north and south shores this week. Fluke, stripers, blues, sea bass and porgies are all there for the asking. You can hit them solo or mix it up. Either way, they're all abundant and it's never been a better time to hit the water than now.

Along the north shore, Candy Carafitis of Carafitis Fishing Station on Main Street in Port Jefferson reports a true mix bag delight. During the week, Sassy Sharon, Rich Dunbar, Lucky Linda and Tony C. managed to pull in 6 keepers with the largest taken by Linda weighing in at 7.8 pounds. Rich had the second largest with a 6.8 pounder. On Friday, the Reilly family got their limit of striped bass, while Frank Conroy and Jack C., drilled their limit with bass weighing up to 14 pounds. Porgy and blue fishing has been terrific as well with just about everyone coming home with limits this week. Most of the action has been taking place from Cranes Neck to buoy 9 off Miller Place. Candy says it just doesn't get much better than this, come on out.



Richard Dovner with a 5.4 pound sea bass caught aboard the Rosie

Along the south shore, the fluke action has exploded inside Shinnecock Bay as both open boats, the Shinnecock Star and Hampton Lady are seeing nearly all their fares culling their limits of fluke on a daily basis. Loads of shorts keep the action steady as well. Both boats will also spice the day up with shots at sea bass, stripers and bluefish depending on the tides and conditions.

Closer to the west, Captain James Russo of the Center Moriches based open boat the Rosie has been having a blast on the current fluke and sea bass population in the Moriches area. During the week many fares are seeing their limit of fluke along with a healthy pail of big fat sea bass. On the weekend, Captain James found the mother load of fluke in the bay with everyone having a blast with shorts and plenty of keepers to round coolers of limits and tasty filets.

Aside from fluke and sea bass, stripers are clogging the inlet on both tides with fresh clams by far working the best during the day and live eels at night. The night bite has had an edge in the size department with fish up to 30 pounds slamming the sea snakes.

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