



## Bringing It Home Safely - National Safe Boating Week 2011

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### Bringing It Home - Safely

National Safe Boating Week runs from May 21st to May 27th this year. US Coast Guard Forces nation-wide and especially here "Out East" have a lot of plans to take and make safety a daily, year-long event. This column is about that.

### National Safe Boating Week - Why?

By 1958, boating "by the millions" rather than "by millionaires" was in full swing. What Coast Guard statistics showed was that the democratization of boating was coming at a cost - and it wasn't the 29-cents per gallon for the gasoline. It was accidents and fatalities. The US Congress passed the Federal Boating Act and the National Safe Boating Week was born upon President Eisenhower's signature. It was initially run as a committee - US Coast Guard as chairman, with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Power Squadron and the Red Cross as its informal members. It still took some time for the focused attention of the Coast Guard on boater safety to work its way through long habits and aged traditions. It wasn't until 1973, when 1,754 people died in boating accidents, that the trend started to reverse. Why? Why else - money, people and untiring focus!

### Safety First - The Big Picture

Safety isn't something you put on like an overcoat. Safety, to be truly effective, needs to be part of your daily habit and part of that is education - day-in, day-out. US Coast Guard Auxiliary Division-18 is all about that. Division 18 is comprised of 4 flotillas and it is at the flotilla level where the work gets done. Division-18 supports three Coast Guard sta-

tions "Out East" - SFO Moriches, Station Shinnecock and Station Montauk.

"Boat Smart Boat Safe. Wear it."

The most recent Coast Guard recreational boating statistics (2009), point up that there is still a critical need for boater education. The figures show that 2,656 recreational vessels were involved in boating accidents nationwide, resulting in 1,655 injuries and 326 deaths. The vessel operators involved in these accidents had never taken a boating safety class.

In 2011, the Wear It! campaign will continue, reminding boaters from coast to coast to put on their life jacket when on the water. The campaign is sponsored by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the National Safe Boating Council and many other boating organizations. Looking ahead to the 2011 campaign, note that the National Safe Boating Council will offer its free materials starting March 1 on its [www.safeboatingcampaign.com](http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com) website. There is nothing stopping marina owners, dive shop proprietors, camp counselors and concerned parents from getting and using those materials!

The simple use of life jackets when engaging in any boating or paddle boat activity saves lives. Obeying and knowing the Navigation Rules or the nautical "Rules of the Road" through safe boating classes and not drinking alcohol or taking drugs while operating a boat, will save the lives of the boaters and those sharing the water with you. Wearing a life jacket can reduce the number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year by approximately 80%! It is a simple task that has the potential to reduce terrible loss in lives. The goal of National Safe Boating Week is to emphasize

the year-round effort to promote safe boating. All who enjoy the waters of our beautiful state are urged to practice safe boating habits. Remember: "Boat Smart. Boat Safe. Wear it."

### Kayak Races and TrawlerFests

At \$5/gallon for fuel, we can expect the explosion in the use of paddle sports to continue and the Coast Guard's Operation Paddle Smart is key to curtailing the injuries and even deaths that these pastimes are piling up statistically.

### Life Jacket Statistics

World War II brought us the inflatable life jacket, as worn by sailors, pilots and Submariners. The fabric, which looked like rubber, dried out easily. Talcum powder was used to keep the fabric pliable. Later on, military technology was applied to making consumer life jackets. These have developed through the years to the various styles we see today. But any life jacket, inflatable or otherwise, must be worn to work. Here are the stats: 16 people go in the water with life-jackets on and 15 come out. 16 people go in the water without life jackets on - and one comes out... (see SSP, "Life Jackets Save Lives - Maybe Yours!", 2/11/09 and SSP, "Do I Really Need to Wear a Life Jacket?", 1/3/07)

Don't be a statistic.

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at [JoinUSCGAux@aol.com](mailto: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..."

## Dr. David Angelillo presents at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons annual meeting

Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center is proud to announce that Dr. David Angelillo, expert in orthopaedic surgery and sports medicine, presented research at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons annual meeting in San Diego, California on Thursday, February 17, 2011.

The project entitled Office-Based Ultrasonography of the Shoulder: A How-to-Guide for the Orthopaedic Surgeon, was selected for presentation by a review committee that received hundreds of applications. "The presentation was based on research I did while I was in fellowship at New York University - Hospital for Joint Diseases, and focuses on how to diagnose rotator cuff tears with a portable ultrasound unit that can be used in the office," stated Dr. Angelillo. "It was a tremendous honor to be recognized, and to be selected to present this work to my peers."

Dr. Angelillo, an orthopaedic surgeon at Long Island Orthopaedic and Spine Specialists (LIOSS), treats a wide array of musculoskeletal injuries and conditions in patients of all ages. His particular area of expertise is sports medicine and arthroscopic surgery. He specializes in the treatment of athletic injuries and throughout his career has cared for athletes and sports teams at the high school, collegiate (NCAA) and professional levels.

LIOSS is a practice that features an expert team of respected orthopaedic specialists who focus on the hip, knee, spine, sports medicine and traumatic injury. Long Island Orthopaedic and Spine Specialists are located at 100 Hospital Road, Suite 115, Patchogue, NY 11772. For information call 631-687-4200.

Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center (BMHMC) is a full-service 306 bed acute care, voluntary not-for-profit community hospital located in Patchogue, New York. BMHMC delivers accessible, high-quality health services in a focused caring and teaching environment while providing health advocacy for the community and people we serve. For more information about Brookhaven Hospital, please call (631) 654-7100 or visit our website at [www.BrookhavenHospital.org](http://www.BrookhavenHospital.org).



Dr. David Angelillo



## County Clerk Update

by SUFFOLK COUNTY CLERK

JUDY PASCALE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RECENTLY DISCHARGED VETERANS

As we recognize those who have proudly served our Country in the United States Armed Forces, Suffolk County Clerk Judith A. Pascale would like to remind all veterans, especially those returning from abroad, to file a copy of their DD-214 (military discharge papers) with the Suffolk County Clerk.

"Very often veterans are required to submit DD-214 papers when they apply for certain benefits. By filing their papers with the County Clerk, veterans are assured that a permanent record exists in the event their original DD-214 is misplaced, destroyed or needed by their family," commented Suffolk County Clerk Pascale.

At the time of filing, a copy of the original must be presented along with a current mailing address. The County Clerk's office will return the original; issue a convenient identification card and two certified copies free of charge to the veteran. Additionally, all filed discharge papers are sealed from public view, but available to the veteran and his/her next of kin. A DD-214 can be filed at any time after separation from the armed forces.

In Suffolk County, veterans may be eligible for numerous service related programs. Most notably is a reduction in their county, and sometimes town property taxes based on the type of service they rendered to their country in wartime.

Additionally, a DD-214 is required and must be submitted for other programs including Social Security benefits, Veterans Administration services, Civil Service testing, and replacement medals. For a better understanding of all the services available to veterans within Suffolk County, individuals should contact the Suffolk County Veterans Services Agency at (631) 853-VETS (8387).