

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

AHOY THERE... AHOY THERE!!!

It's time for our May meeting already which will be the Sunday after Mother's Day May 21st at 1400 in the big room at the Fisherman's Grotto in sunny Charleston. Bring a friend or two as this will be our last official general meeting before the summer boating/fishing season. We will be going over plans for our scheduled activities for May and setting a time and place for our annual summer picnic later in the summer. This squadron meeting will be a combined general and executive committee meeting for May.

Coming up on the Saturday before the meeting, May 20th, is "Safety Saturday" sponsored by Englund Marine Supply.

Our SEO has scheduled another "ABC Safe Boating Class" starting on Monday evening at 1830 on May 22nd and will run through national safe boating week and finish up June 5th. The class will run about two and a half weeks on Monday and Thursday evenings from 1830 to 2030 at the Alder Acres RV park meeting room. In conjunction with the ABC course, our squadron will be sponsoring a "flare shoot" from 1000 to 1200 at the Empire Boat Ramp. Looking forward to seeing every one at the next general meeting.

Remember we're a team... that's

Together Everyone Accomplishes More!!!>


Chris M. Brown, CEO



Marine Board Informed on Programs, Discuss Improvements

The Oregon State Marine Board met on Wednesday, April 26, at the agency's office in Salem. Several presentations were made on agency programs as well as a study conducted by an OSU Graduate Student on recreational paddling and aquatic invasive species. The Board approved the January meeting minutes, heard public testimony, and engaged with agency managers and Director Warren on contents in the Board Book. The Board was also given an update on the 2023 legislative session.

SPRING MEETINGS & EVENTS

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK May 20-26
Squadron/Board meeting 21 May 1400 Fisherman's Grotto

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A guest presentation was given by OSU Student, Alyssa Garcia, on recreational paddling and aquatic invasive species.

She conducted a study of paddlers in 2022 on their understanding of the waterway access permit program, their knowledge of aquatic invasive species and whether paddling participants understood how the revenue for the waterway access permit is used to help protect Oregon's waterways. The study exposed areas where the agency can improve education and outreach, as well as consider using the funding to expand boat cleaning stations. She was able to identify a key demographic to aid with outreach.

In the process of conducting her study, Garcia, who is also an artist, combined her creative talents to develop a digital Paddling flip book. The flip book will be available from the agency's website and shared on social media soon to help educate paddlers about the need to clean, drain and dry their watercraft and to understand why, in Garcia's words, "Taking care of the water helps us all take care of each other."

The Board heard presentations with program updates on the Waterway Access Program pertaining to education, outreach, and sales (via the Marine Board's Boat Oregon store and ODFW's eLicensing system). Revenue has gone directly toward developing access and on-water experiences via waterway access grants to eligible applicants. Numerous examples were given of how beneficial the program is and areas to improve. Additionally, the Board was informed about the Title and Registration Section's progress with turn-around time for transactions, business process improvements, and future improvements coming to boaters.

The board meeting materials are available online and the meeting video is viewable from our YouTube channel. The Marine Board will meet next in Newport on June 28 and distribute the agenda before the meeting date.

National Safe Boating Week is May 20-26, 2023

National Safe Boating Council [SHARE THIS PAGE](#)

National Safe Boating Week will be held from May 20-26, 2023, reminding all boaters to brush up on boating safety skills and prepare for the boating season. This observance week is the annual kick-off of the Safe Boating Campaign, a global awareness effort that encourages boaters to make the most of their boating adventure by being responsible.

"The best boating experience is safe boating," said Yvonne Pentz, communications director of the National Safe Boating Council, a nonprofit dedicated to helping create a safe boating experience for all boaters and the lead organization of the Safe Boating Campaign. "Have fun on the water, make memories with your family and friends – all while boating responsibly."

U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in four out of every five recreational boating fatalities in 2021, and that 83 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets. There are many options for boaters when it comes to choosing a life jacket. When selecting a life jacket, a boater should check that it is U.S. Coast Guard approved, appropriate for the water activity, and fits properly. "Remember, the best life jacket is the one you will wear," said Pentz. "Whether you're going fishing or just enjoying a ride on the boat, boat like a pro and make sure you're prepared for the adventure."

The National Safe Boating Council recommends these tips for boaters:

Take a boating safety course. Gain valuable knowledge and on-water experience in a boating safety course with many options for novice to experienced boaters.

Check equipment. Schedule a free vessel safety check with local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons to make sure all essential equipment is present, working and in good condition.

Make a float plan. Always let someone on shore know the trip itinerary, including operator and passenger information, boat type and registration, and communication equipment on board.

Wear a life jacket. Make sure everyone wears a life jacket – every time. A stowed life jacket is no use in an emergency.

Use an engine cut-off device – it's the law. An engine cut-off device, or engine cut-off switch, is a proven safety device to stop the boat's engine should the operator unexpectedly fall overboard.

Watch the weather. Always check the forecast before departing on the water and frequently during the excursion.

Know what's going on around you at all times. Nearly a quarter of all reported boating accidents in 2021 were caused by operator inattention or improper lookout.

Know where you're going and travel at safe speeds. Be familiar with the area, local boating speed zones and always travel at a safe speed.

Never boat under the influence. A BUI is involved in one-third of all recreational boating fatalities. Always designate a sober skipper.

Keep in touch. Have more than one communication device that works when wet. VHF radios, emergency locator beacons, satellite phones, and cell phones can all be important devices in an emergency.

The Safe Boating Campaign is produced under a grant from the Sports Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund and administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The campaign offers a variety of free and paid resources to support local boating safety education efforts. Learn more at www.safeboatingcampaign.com.

About the National Safe Boating Council

Established in 1938, the National Safe Boating Council is the foremost coalition for the advancement and promotion of safer boating through education, outreach, and training. For more information about NSBC programs and professional development opportunities, visit www.safeboatingcouncil.org.

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK MAY 20-26, 2023

BOATERS, it is a time to refresh your nautical knowledge and increase your boating skills,

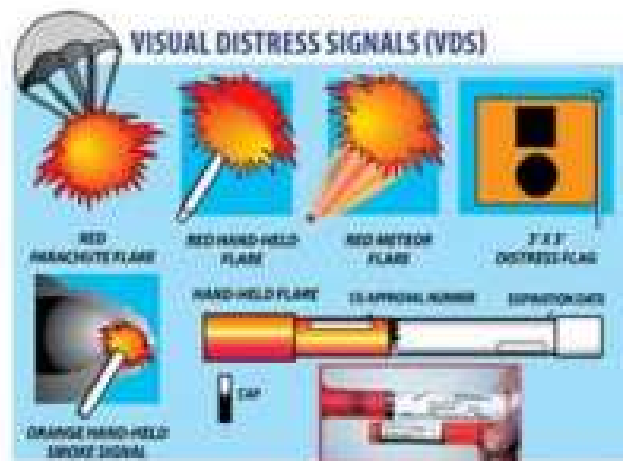
COOS BAY POWER SQUADRON can help. May 22 an AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE® will start at 6:30PM at Alder Acres Club house 1800 28th Ct. Coos Bay, off Ocean Blvd. This eight hour (four 2 hour class sessions) plus exam course will qualify you for the Oregon Boaters Education card.

If you already have the Oregon card, or a card from a different state, come for a refresher. There have been some laws and rules updates that you should know.

Cost of the course is \$45.00.

For those with the Safety card the refresher cost is \$20.00.

For more information and preregister call SEO AI at (541)888-6178 or Art at (541)756-4408.



A special "Hands on event" will be held Saturday May 27 10:00AM at the Empire Boat Ramp. Bring your expired flares to dispose of them while learning how to safely handle and fire the flares.



Nonmotorized Waterway Access Permit

Paddlecraft (SUPs, rafts, drift boats, kayaks, canoes, etc.) 10 feet long and longer will need to purchase and be able to digitally display (or have a print copy), one permit per boat, when in use.



Permits are transferable to other nonmotorized craft.

(1) Boaters required to carry permits must present their permit for inspection upon request by a law enforcement officer.

(2) The following vessels or classifications are exempt from the requirement to carry a Waterway Access Permit:

(a) Elected/county-owned boats which a supervising adult can confirm through documentation are engaged in an organization-related activity.

(b) A ship's lifeboat used solely for lifesaving purposes.

(c) Surfboards, sailboards and kite boards.

(d) Boats owned and operated by liveries and those used for group-guided activities by Outfitters and Guides which have purchased discounted permits and have received a certificate of compliance from the Board.

(e) Boats that launch directly into waters that form a common interstate boundary, or launch in Oregon tributaries within one mile of these waters, that have a current boat registration, Coast Guard documentation, or an aquatic invasive species prevention permit issued by the States of Idaho or Washington.

(3) Clubs or organizations that possess or own boats for communal use by members, participants, racing teams, or for public educational purposes except as exempted under this rule, may purchase Waterway Access Permits under the name of the organization or the club's presiding officer or secretary.

(4) For non-motorized boats engaged in competitive events, Waterway Access Permits numbering not less than the maximum number of boats in use on the water at any given time may be held by the event organizer, coach or other designated person at the event site as long as the permits are readily available for inspection by a law enforcement officer.

(5) A person is considered in violation of the provisions contained in this rule and subject to the penalties prescribed by law when they:

(a) Alter a Waterway Access Permit; or

(b) Produce or possess an unauthorized replica of a Waterway Access Permit; or (c) Exhibit an altered Waterway Access Permit to a peace officer.

(6) The Waterway Access Permit expires on December 31 of the year indicated on the permit.

Nonmotorized Purchasing options are:

1) One-week permit. This permit is good for 7 days in a row and costs \$7. Only available through the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

2) One calendar year permit for \$17 (expires on December 31 of the year purchased).

3) Two calendar year permit for \$30 (expires on December 31 of the year after the sale).

Visit: Boat.Oregon.gov/store for one- or two-year permits. ODFW sells all three permit options.

There is a \$1.50 rental provider fee using the Boat Oregon Store for each transaction. If you're purchasing more than one Waterway Access Permit, make sure to add all to your cart before checkout to avoid extra charges. You will go to a secure checkout page:

<https://securecheckout-sta1.edc.ricusa.com/>

Failure to show the permit is a Class D violation with a \$115 fine.

Fees help fund the aquatic invasive species prevention program and waterway access grants for non-motorized boating facility grant projects.

Permits are transferable to other nonmotorized craft.

Local Notice to Mariners

OREGON – WASHINGTON – US Coast Guard Command Center consolidation (Revised from LNM 14/23)

The Coast Guard has consolidated operational command centers in Astoria and North Bend, Oregon into a new command center in Portland. The new Sector Columbia River command center in Portland will support all Coast Guard operations in Oregon and southern Washington, including the Columbia River. Legacy telephone numbers previously used to reach the Coast Guard in Astoria and North Bend will remain in effect for three months. After this three-month period, new telephone numbers will be used to reach command center personnel, as well as other agency departments. The new telephone number for emergency response is 833-769-8724 or 833-PNW-USCG.

LNM: 15/23



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MEETINGS
 Squadron / Executive Board Meetings THIRD
 SUNDAY each month. Board Meetings may be
 called by Cdr or Board. Meetings are at 1400
 (2:00 PM) at FISHERMAN'S GROTTTO.
 Covid-19 restrictions followed if required

Editor
 Art Schuldt, SN
 2175 Everett
 North Bend OR 97459
 Phone: 541-756-4408
Email:
a.schuldt@charter.net
www.usps.org/coos

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