

\$\$\$ FOR YOUR PROGRAMS

GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE

It is that time of year again! The Local Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program is now accepting grant applications through January 25, 2005.

The purpose of the Grant Program is to further the North American Safe Boating Campaign efforts, so projects that expand on the national campaign are given preference. However, local projects of national significance are also considered for funding. Projects may include such things as sponsorship of a hands-on boating program for a youth group, raising safe boating awareness, or sponsoring training for instructors in adaptive boating.

The Grant Program offers grants up to \$1,000 for each project. The grant amount awarded must represent at least 50% of the project budget but the recipient is not required to match grant funds. The Grant Committee has discretion to award an amount less than that which was requested. No project may exceed one year in length. Grant funds cannot be used for salaries, transportation, meals or lodging or the purchase of items such as laptop computers, projectors and other non-expendable equipment.

Grant applications are accepted no sooner than October 25 and **must be postmarked no later than January 25**. Grants are awarded by March 15 to enable projects to be underway in time for National Safe Boating Week (May 21 - 27, 2005).

Each project has its own success story. One of the current successful projects was conducted by SAFEKIDS in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Proud to be a 2004 grant recipient, SAFEKIDS used their grant to support *Kids in Boats* water safety classes for 322 children and 73 adults. The program consisted of several sessions and included information about hypothermia, rescue techniques, the effects of alcohol, life jackets and safe boating practices.



Participants in the *Kids in Boats* water safety class learn safe boating techniques.

Find out more about past grant recipients, get complete program guidelines and obtain application forms at our website: www.safeboatingcouncil.org. Click on the link to the Local RBS Grant Program on the home page.

Submit an idea of your own or encourage a local organization that could use some funding assistance to apply for a grant this year.

Remember, the applications must be completed and postmarked no later than January 25.

2005 CAMPAIGN PLANS

The National Safe Boating Council has been preparing for the 2005 North American Safe Boating Campaign. This year the campaign has undergone some changes as a result of the constructive feedback we received from our members and campaign participants. We have tried to incorporate many of the ideas to create a more productive and successful 2005 campaign.

The Campaign Kits will now feature single sheets of information including the 2003 US Coast Guard statistics, a new resource guide and the 2005 Campaign Order Form. These sheets have been produced to make it easier to copy and distribute the relative information to your boating communities. In addition, we are changing the manner in which we distribute the kits in an effort to be more cost effective.

The campaign site, www.safeboatingcampaign.com, will now feature a new "user friendly" layout for all to use. The new layout will allow for easier browsing for the average person or boater. Members will still have access to features on our site such as the media guide, event posting, press releases, articles and campaign logos as well as all the information that is present in the campaign kits. You will also be able to order your safety materials online. We encourage you to promote this site to your boating communities as a valuable point of reference to learn more about important boating safety tips, events and activities.

We hope that with these improvements the 2005 North American Safe Boating Campaign will be able to reach out to a larger number of boaters and continue to spread our message of boating safety. We thank you for your continued support and assistance in helping us to achieve our campaign goals. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the National Safe Boating Council at (703) 361-4294 or via email at campaign@safeboatingcouncil.org. With *your* participation, the 2005 Safe Boating Awareness Campaign "Boat Smart. Boat Safe. Wear It!" is sure to be a success!

AND . . . WE HAVE A WINNER!

The National Safe Boating Council would like to congratulate our winners of the 2004 National Safe Boating Campaign evaluation contest! The following individuals were chosen at random as winners for completing and returning their campaign evaluation forms prior to the August 1 deadline.

- William B Greene of US Power Squadron of Sebastian, FL
 - A Watermark Suspenders Inflatable PFD
 - Jane Ellis of US Power Squadron of Harrison Twp., MI
 - Stearns Inflata-Belt Lite
 - Diane Revak of US Power Squadron of Phoenix, MD
 - Stearns Inflata-Belt Lite
 - Rachel Pate of McLeod Health - Orion First Aid Kit
 - Mary Jane Schnoor of US Power Squadron, Cocoa Beach, FL
 - Orion First Aid Kit
- Congratulations to the winners!

We would like to thank Watermark Sports, Stearns and Orion for donating the drawing prizes as well as everyone who participated in the 2004 campaign.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!