



COMING SOON TO A BEACH NEAR YOU! 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOATING AND WATER SAFETY SUMMIT



The 10th anniversary of the International Boating and Water Safety Summit is shaping up to be one of the most outstanding educational opportunities for boating and water safety professionals and volunteers. Program highlights include: Understanding Best Practices in Boating Education; USCG Goal Setting Standards; Share, Share, Share – Educational Tools for All Ages; Paddlesport Standards and Best Practices; Stress Management for Public Safety Personnel and many other valuable presentations. Returning to the Summit program list will be audience polling with questions that will follow up on the information gained from the 2005 Summit. The On-the-Water activities will be located at one of the excellent beaches in the Palm Harbor area.

The Summit is proud to announce the sponsorship of Stearns, Inc., for the inflatable belt pack give away to the first 400 registrants. Registration brochures will be mailed mid-January. The registration brochure can also be found on line at www.safeboatingcouncil.org/summit the later part of December.

The Westin Innsbrook Golf Resort, located in beautiful Palm Harbor, Florida, will host the attendees and the events. A complimentary hotel shuttle service will take you to Honeymoon Island. The St. Petersburg/Clearwater Convention Visitors Bureau will provide shuttle service to Tarpon Springs, a historic sponge diving community, and Dunedin, a quaint beach community with an Irish flavor on Monday and Tuesday evening.

One of the most important events of the Summit will be the Awards Banquet on Wednesday evening when we recognize some of the outstanding individuals and organizations whose contributions to boating safety have enriched the boating community.

You will want to attend the conference that just keeps getting better and better. Mark your calendar for April 30 – May 3, 2006, to attend the Summit. 🍏

LOCAL RBS GRANT PROGRAM STARTING IT'S 6TH YEAR

Since the inception of the Local RBS Grant Program in 2000, a total of \$84,735 has been distributed for 89 projects in 32 states and the District of Columbia. In April and May 2005, grants totaling \$16,607 were awarded to 17 organizations.

Each project has its own success story. Here is a summary of one of the successful projects completed last year. The 3rd annual *Boat Safety Festival* in Madisonville, Louisiana, was held to celebrate National Safe Boating Week. The Festival, held at the Maritime Museum and Research Center on the Tchefuncta River, was first time the Baton Rouge Power Squadron had partnered Power Squadrons from New Orleans and Lake Pontchartrain to sponsor the event.

A multi-media campaign publicized the festival and Power Squadron members circulated special invitations to attract 1st through 9th grade students and their families. Each Power Squadron provided leadership and volunteers to operate the booths and games and to assist with the demonstrations. T-shirts printed with the North American Safe Boating Campaign logo were given as prizes.

This fun and educational *Boat Safety Festival* heightened local awareness about the importance of safe boating for boaters from both the north and south shores of Lake Pontchartrain and surrounding rivers.

NSBC grant funds were used to purchase additional training materials for the interactive skills stations and to purchase personal floatation devices for door prizes and awards to children who scored 100% on the post-test.

Applications for the 2006 funding cycle are currently being accepted and must be received by January 25, 2006. Grants will be awarded by March 15, 2006. The timing of the grant distribution is designed to allow implementation of projects in conjunction with National Safe Boating Week (May 20-26, 2006).

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.

Find out more about past grant recipients, get complete program guidelines and obtain application forms at our website. Visit www.safeboatingcouncil.org and 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! 🍏

CONGRATUALIONS TO THE CAMPAIGN EVALUATION WINNERS!

MICHAEL MANN

KATHARINE LAW, SAN DIEGO SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

LAWRENCE HYNES

RICK WHITE, MOSQUITO LAKE POWER SQUADRON

SUZAN RECTOR

The winners will be receiving a prize in the mail from the NSBC for filling out and sending in their campaign evaluation form before August 1, 2005. Thank you to everyone who filled out a campaign evaluation form, your feedback is greatly appreciated. Congratulations to our winners! 🍏

INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION COURSE DELIVERED TO STATE AGENCIES

The National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) and BoaterExam.com, an NSBC Patron Member and NASBLA accredited online boating safety course provider, are excited to announce the launch of a joint effort and scholarship fund to bring the Boating Safety Instructor Certification Course directly to state agencies for a nominal fee.

“The purpose of this training is to educate instructors in both understanding the NASBLA Standards and teaching them how to successfully present them to a boating safety class” says Virgil Chambers, Executive director, NSBC. “We expect this joint effort with BoaterExam.com will allow more state agencies to take advantage of the Instructor Certification Course,” adds Chambers.

The NSBC Boating Safety Instructor Certification Course is designed to recognize the instructor's prior training and experience plus completion of basic boating safety course work. The course focus is to clarify and identify the knowledge and skills needed to present an effective NASBLA approved boating safety education curricula to entry-level students. The 2 day course involves lecture, group discussion and a review of standards, textbooks, manuals and lesson plans. The NSBC Instructor will travel directly to the state agency office and deliver the course in-house. Costs for the course instructor and travel are covered by the NSBC and BoaterExam.com scholarship fund. The state agency will be charged a nominal fee for each student.

“The NSBC has developed a great course. However, limited travel budgets for some state agencies restrict enrollment. This scholarship fund should encourage enrollment in the program and increase the pool of national level course instructors,” says Larry McNamee, President, BoaterExam.com.

For more information about this exciting new program, please contact the NSBC at 703-361-4294 or Kerry Moher at BoaterExam.com 613-248-7333. 🍏

REMINDER!

Applications are still being accepted for the Boating Safety Youth Award. If you or someone you know has a creative or innovative youth program please submit an application to the NSBC. Applications and information are available on our website at www.safeboatingcouncil.org. 🍏