



# Tioga Anchor

*The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Fifth Northern Region, Flotilla 15-06 Newsletter*

VOLUME 2008 ISSUE 4                      April 2008                      PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
FLOTILLA 15-6                      Flotilla Established in December 1996                      Wellsboro, PA  
Editor – Astrida Miller, 532 West Hill Rd., Covington, PA 16917 570-659-5493 hamiller@ptd.net

Flotilla Commander – Ric Vespe		Vice Flotilla Commander – Hugh Seely	
IPFC	Cecelia VanZile	FSO-AN	Ric Vespe
FSO-CM	Gerald Miller	FSO-CS	Joan Seeley
FSO-FN	Marion Vespe	FSO-IS	Astrida V. Miller
FSO-MA	Ceil VanZile	FSO-MS	Hugh Seely
FSO-MT	Ron VanZile	FSO-OP	Harold Miller
FSO-PA	Ceil VanZile	FSO-PB	Astrida V. Miller
FSO-PE	Ric Vespe	FSO-PS	Ric Vespe
FSO-PV	Leroy Graff	FSO-SR	Astrida V. Miller
FSO-VE	Ron VanZile		

## Calendar of Events:

**17 April 2008**  
**Flotilla Meeting**

**13 May 2008**  
**Division Meeting**

**15 May 2008**  
**Flotilla Meeting**

**25 & 26 May 2008**  
**Patrol-completing U/W hours for 2007.**

## **Tentative Patrol Dates**

**8 June**  
**12 July**  
**26 July**  
**9 Aug**  
**30 Aug**  
**1 Sep**

**Who, What, Where, When?**  
**Find out that the 17 April Flotilla meeting.**



Looking Back—March Newsletter  
**Boat Crew Training at Ric Vespe’s**  
**March 1998**

## **ALCOHOL USE No. 1 CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN BOATING FATALITIES**

According to the most recent U.S. Coast Guard statistics alcohol use is ranked number one as a contributing factor in fatal boating accidents in the United States. There were 133 alcohol use related boating fatalities in 2006 (latest statistics available) this is more than doubles the second highest ranking contributing factor; hazardous waters which contributed to 63 boating fatalities. Operator inattention ranked third with 51 fatalities.

What is alarming is that statistics show that responsible boaters can take a few simple steps to prevent most serious problems while on the water. The first action is to always wear a lifejacket since even though the factors listed above contribute to boating fatalities, ultimately drowning is the cause of death by far. Wearing a lifejacket alone will substantially reduce the likelihood a boating accident will result in a fatality. Taking a boating safety class and of course avoiding alcohol or drugs while boating, are also preventative measures that statistics confirm reduces the likelihood of a boating accident

Spring Conference 2008  
28-30 March 2008  
York, PA

### ***Awards***

"Andy Kratzer" ATON/CU Program  
Award- Ted Piotrowski 15-01

Flotilla ATON/CU Award  
Flotilla 15-09

Plaque for 49 or More  
Vessel Safety Checks  
Ron VanZile  
Ric Vespe  
KC Murphy 15-08  
Don Bowes 15-05  
Henry Murphy, III 15-09

Plaque for 74 or more hrs. Instruction-  
KC Murphy 15-08

Plaque for 75 or more hrs. Operations  
Houston Williams 15-05  
Linda Williams 15-05  
KC Murphy 15-08  
Ed Hilsher 15-09



Harold, Astrida, Ceil and Ron



Division Captain KC Murphy, Harold and Ron



Immediate Past Commodore Leon Kehr, his wife Thelma and KC Murphy



Ceil and Immediate Past RCO-W Dianne Bossler