



# WATER SAFETY JOURNAL

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Newsletter of the National Water Safety Congress

## Real Life Rescue

We met Andrenika "Nika" Slade in Long Beach as she received a National Life Saving Award at the 24th annual C-Port conference. This is her story.

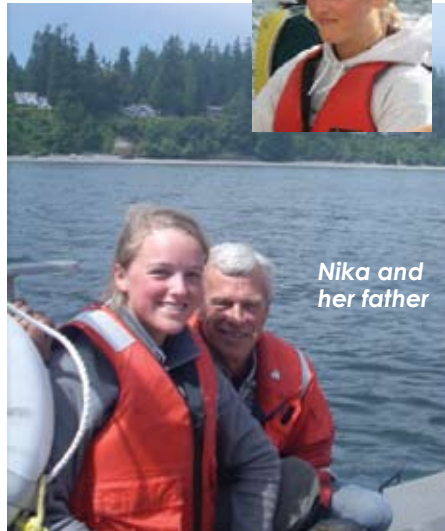
by Nika Slade

It was June 23rd that my father and I had pulled the family of four from their 15 ft. open boat drenched in 55 degree water. Admiralty Inlet in the Puget Sound of Washington state is notorious for its volatile conditions. And on this day the winds were blowing fierce from NE at 25 to 30 knots, gusting up to 45 knots.

Vessel Assist and the 26 Munson Negotiator were prepared to endure a journey to the small vessel in distress. My father, Captain Roger Slade, and I pushed through rough conditions; the waves crashing down onto the bow at 10 to 15 ft. seas. With each plow into a threatening wave, I thought the chances of locating this boat were slim. But my father and I were determined to find the missing family.

We had been on the water for only a half an hour before we spotted the boat lost between the massive swell. The local fire department volunteers had found the vessel minutes before us, approaching them at a dangerous angle. None of the crew had enough experience to rescue a boat in the conditions we were facing. We asked them to hold off and let us take over, little did they know that if they had proceeded to pull the boat towards them, both vessels would have been submerged. And so we took action.

I moved out of the heated wheelhouse and onto the deck flooded with freezing cold water, my boots quickly filled up over my ankles. The water was bone chilling. We approached the little red boat. I screamed to my dad in shock "There is no one in the boat!" But as soon as I said it, four heads popped up out of



Nika and her father



Vessel Assist making its way through stormy seas to the boat in distress.

the boat. They were smart to stay low, but my biggest concern was what none of them were wearing. A life jacket. I couldn't believe it! Even the children. The kids wore nothing but bathing suits and the two adults had t-shirts on.

We came crashing next to their destroyed boat and one at a time I pulled the kids into Negotiator with their ice cold arms around my neck. We managed to get all of them safely aboard. As we abandoned their vessel I quickly gave each person a life jacket. The young girl was incessantly shaking, the mother had

*continued on page 6*

Join Us!

The 15th Annual  
**International Boating & Water Safety Summit in**

**Savannah,  
Georgia**

**MARCH 6-9, 2011**



The International Boating and Water Safety Summit is the premier event for training, awareness, meeting and networking for anyone involved in boating and water safety. General sessions cover a broad spectrum of national as well as international concerns. The theme for this year's session will focus on the USCG National Strategic Plan and implementation opportunities. Breakout and hands-on sessions allow the individual to attend classes geared toward their profession. **Registration forms and more information is available on the website: [www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org)**  
*See page 4 for a tentative schedule.*



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# THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Gary Owen

## “Winter Solstice”

December 21 of each year marks the beginning of the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere, the shortest day of the year and the longest night of the year. Solstice is derived from the Latin phrase for “sun stands still.” When we experience the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere, our counterpart in the southern hemisphere is experiencing the warmth of summer. The reason for the different seasons in the two hemispheres is while the earth rotates around the sun, it also spins on its axis which is tilted 23.5 degrees. Because of this tilt, the northern hemisphere receives less direct sunlight, and the southern hemisphere receives more (and vice versa) depending on the season.

The winter solstice means the cooling of our waters, “vertical circulation,” and the dangers from “cold water immersion.” Being warm blooded terrestrial mammals we are happiest when our body core temperature is 98.6 degrees F, and standing on dry, firm ground. We have adapted so we can survive the cold days of winter by putting on needed insulation, more coats. We have also adapted to enjoy being in, and on, our oceans, lakes and rivers. We have constructed boats and learned to swim.

We have learned through experience that if you are in the cold water long enough you will eventually experience what is called “Cold Incapacitation.” You will lose your ability to swim due to the cooling of your arms and legs and eventually lose your ability to stay afloat. Even the best of swimmers will experience “swim failure” in cold water over a period of time. So, we need to make one more adaptation. We need to always wear our “life jacket,” our personal flotation device, when we are in, on, or around water. I would like to invite you to [www.coldwaterbootcampusa.org](http://www.coldwaterbootcampusa.org) and learn more about the dangers of “Cold Water Immersion” and what you need to do to protect yourself from “cold water immersion” and to stay alive.

The National Water Safety Congress is dedicated to promoting water and boating safety throughout the United States of America. The Congress is committed to taking leadership in advancing education for safe recreational water activities. I want to challenge you to lock arms with the Congress and become a member of the NWSC. You may join with us at many different levels of membership, as a student, individual, organization, government agency, corporate and patron level. The more the Congress can lock arm and arm with, the more effective we will be as an organization to promote water and boating safety throughout the nation. Go to [www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org) and pull up our new membership brochure and join with us.

How can it be we are already at the door step of the 15th Annual 2011 International Boating and Water Safety Summit? Beautiful and historic Savannah, Georgia, will be our host, and they have opened their arms to receive us. The site for the 15th Summit is the gorgeous Savannah Marriott Riverfront, and we are truly on the river front. You will enjoy the Savannah River right at your feet from the Marriott deck and please observe the sign “Do Not Feed the Alligators.” The dates for the Summit are March 6 through 9, 2011, with pre-Summit training programs March 3 and the 4. I am sure this Summit will top them all; the Summit committee has outdone themselves once again to bring you a rewarding and exciting Summit. The National Water Safety Congress will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary at the Summit and we invite you to please join us, special plans are being made. Get your registration in now as this will be an exciting time to learn, share, rekindle old friendships and make new ones. See you in Savannah!

As our days continue to get longer, and as the sun continues to move higher into the sky, we can look forward to spring and to the summer season once again. I try and use the Summit as my spring board into the water recreation season. The Summit always refreshes me with new ideas and reinforces the need for the old ones. The Summit will get you excited and fired up to go out, and to do all we can to keep all our water users safe and free of any incident. Please check us out at [www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org), or see us on Face Book for your convenience.

Please stay safe, wear your life jacket.

## Mark Your Calendars!

March 6-9, 2011

**15th International Boating and Water Safety Summit (IBWSS)**

Savannah Marriott Riverfront

Savannah, Georgia

See our website for more information.

April 14-16, 2011

**National Drowning Prevention Symposium**

Colorado Springs, CO

May 10-13

**World Conference on Drowning Prevention**

Danang, Vietnam

May 21 - 27, 2011

**National Safe Boating Week**

May 21, 2011

**Ready, Set, Inflate!**

May 27-29 2011

**Canadian Lifesaving Society Annual General Meeting**

Vancouver, CA

June 24-26, 2011

**Operation Dry Water 2011**

July 16-23, 2011

**Canadian National Drowning Prevention Week**

August 20-28, 2011

**USCGAUX National Conference**

Charlotte, NC

*Notify us at [journal@watersafetycongress.com](mailto:journal@watersafetycongress.com) if you would like your national event listed in the Calendar.*

## WATER SAFETY JOURNAL

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# Learn to Swim Well Campaign

by Brian Westfall  
NWSA Board of Directors

The ability to swim is an essential survival skill. Alarming statistics reveal that many of America's children and adults are poor swimmers or even non-swimmers. Realistically, many swimmers grossly overestimate their swimming ability and have difficulty swimming the mere length of an average sized swimming pool. In open water settings Aquatics International reports that two thirds of adults can't swim. The National Drowning Prevention Alliance advocates combining learn to swim programs with water safety education programming. To reduce and maintain low drowning rates, all organizations that are in the business of saving lives on the water must adopt and incorporate a "Learn to Swim Well" campaign in their water safety program.

Safe Kids statistics proclaim that as many as 56% of Hispanic children cannot swim. Up to 58% of African American and Native American children along with up to 30 or more percent of Caucasian children cannot swim. These statistics are especially frightening as many state and federal agencies and organizations enter into partnerships to entice children to experience the outdoors (No Child Left Inside, Children and Nature, etc). We may in fact be luring children who

probably exhibit poor swimming skills to our nation's lakes and rivers; they may not be equipped with the skills and abilities to swim safely. The educated guess is that drownings and near drowning accidents will increase as more children enjoy our public lands and waters.

Furthermore, statistics support the notion that families cannot swim. Safe Kids USA statistics report that children from non-swimming households are eight times more likely to be at-risk of drowning. Minority children have especially low rates of swimming ability and high rates of drowning. Aquatic International reports that as many as 50% of adults can't swim in deep-water pools.

In an effort to further reduce drowning rates that have reached plateau levels in the past few years, we must join in partnership with learn to swim advocates. Potential partners that have proven track records with swimming instruction include the American Red Cross, Safe Kids, YMCA, Aquatics International, Safe Swim, and USA Swimming Foundation.

Historically, the National Water Safety Congress and many other organizations have a proven track record by reducing drownings, primarily by advocating the importance of wearing life jackets. A national "Learn to Swim Well" campaign will complement our existing life jacket advocacy, and will save lives.

# US Sailing National Sailing Programs Symposium Clearwater Beach, Florida

Cecilia Duer and Jerry Craddock were privileged to have been requested to make six presentations at the annual US Sailing National Sailing Programs Symposium, including the Cold Water Immersion Survival Rescue, Recover, Re-Warm course, Spirit of America, and Beyond Cold Water Boot Camp USA and the new DVD. Cecilia also presented a program on professional grant writing. US Sailing is dedicated to servicing and growing the sport of sailing.

Congratulations US Sailing on a GREAT conference. The over 270 attendees are all dedicated to the conference and to gathering all education materials to utilize in their own communities. Rooms were full and attendees were great participants in the conference.

US Sailing is doing a great job of continuing to promote hands-on on-water education and is one of the most safety conscious organizations on water and in all course activities. They are leading the way in hands-on education and promotion of safety on the water for instructors, students, and in the communities where they have a presence. Thank you US Sailing for a great experience. We are already looking forward to next year!

# Vicksburg District's Mandatory Life Jacket Wear Study Wraps Up

This is the final year for the PFD mandatory wear study on the Vicksburg District's Mississippi Project Lakes. Ranger staff at the four lakes have aggressively sought to educate the visiting public about the mandatory PFD wear rule using all forms of print media and face to face contact with the public. During the study period, several drownings have been prevented at the Mississippi Project Lakes due to the enactment of the mandatory wear policy.

# USCG Auxiliary to Provide Shore Side and Underway Training for Sea Cadets, Sea Scouts

by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – Coast Guard Auxiliary members are now authorized to provide shore side and underway training to Sea Cadets & Sea Scouts, under a program that is an outgrowth of the Auxiliary Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC), and its Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

The type of training to be provided includes standard Auxiliary boat crew and coxswain skill training that is already a part of Sea Cadet and Sea Scout training programs. This includes activities such as preparing the vessel to get underway, docking, operating the vessel, anchoring, and safety drills.

The training will be provided by Auxiliary boat crew, selected for their ability to mentor boat crew and coxswain trainees, many having prior experience working with youth or younger trainees through the Coast Guard Auxiliary or other youth-serving organizations. Sea Scouts and Sea Cadets will be provided with the same personal protective equipment as Auxiliarists, including appropriate life jackets.

Each local Coast Guard district will determine how this program is implemented within its area of responsibility. For more information, contact your local Coast Guard Auxiliary representatives at [www.cgaux.org/units.php](http://www.cgaux.org/units.php).

# Tentative IBWSS Schedule

## March 2 - March 6 Trainings/Certification\* & Meetings

### NSBC/NASBLA Instructor Training Course -

Thurs. & Fri., March 3-4 - 8:00 a.m.  
- 5:00 p.m.

### NWSC/Cold Water Immersion Survival, Rescue, Recover, Rewarm -

Fri., March 4 - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### NWSC/First Aid/CPR/AED -

Fri., March 4 - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*\*Additional fees required for pre-Summit training courses above. Please be sure to send registration and separate payment to the presenting entity. For more information please go to our website [www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org).*

### ACA/Safety Education & Instruction Council (SEIC) -

Fri., March 4 - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### ACA/Board of Directors Meeting -

Sat., March 5 - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sun., March 6 - 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### NWSC/Board Meeting -

Sat., March 5 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### NASBLA - Education and Outreach Committee:

Marketing & Outreach Sub-Committee  
Education Policy & Best Practices  
Sub-Committee

Sat. & Sun., March 5-6 - 8:00 a.m.

- 5:00 p.m.

### NSBC/Board Meeting -

Sat., March 5 - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### NASBLA/New State Education Coordinator Meeting -

Sat., March 5 - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### BEAP -

Sat., March 5 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### USACE/National Water Safety Training

Sun., March 6 - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Pre-registration required with National WS Program*

### USACE/Best Management Practices -

Sun., March 6 - 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### USCG/RBS Meeting -

Sun., March 6 - 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### NWSC/General Membership Meeting -

Sun., March 6 - 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### NSBC/General Membership Meeting -

Sun., March 6 - 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

## Sunday, March 6

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### OPENING RECEPTION CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNUAL IBWSS

Exhibits Open

## Monday, March 7

### OPENING

Color Guard/Presentation of Colors  
Invocation  
Greeting and Welcome  
Recognition of Invited Honored Guests

### GENERAL SESSIONS

8:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Update from USCG Office of Auxiliary &  
Boating Safety;  
Strategic Plan Initiatives: National On The  
Water Programs, Operation Dry Water,  
Boating Video "The Stressors," "Wear It!"  
Campaign

### GENERAL SESSIONS continue

1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Includes: Beyond Cold Water Boot  
Camp: The Three "R's" Rescue, Recover  
and Rewarm  
Mandatory Life Jacket Panel

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Paddlesport Safety Meeting  
USACE

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### NWSC RECEPTION 60th Anniversary Celebration

## Tuesday, March 8

### CONCURRENT BREAKOUT TRACKS

You may select from these six tracks:  
1. Education/Outreach & Communication  
2. Education/Outreach & Communication  
3. Risk Management  
4. Hydro/Public Safety  
5. Law Enforcement  
6. Audience Polling

**Breakout classes are scheduled to be  
50 minutes in length with short breaks:**

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.  
9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.  
10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Among the featured breakout classes will  
be Drivers Ed for Boaters, Implementa-  
tion of Close-Quarters Boat Control,  
Connecting with the Paddling Commu-  
nity, Trends in Boating Accidents, Life  
Boat & Community Prevention in Chile,  
Hydro Public Safety, NASBLA Boat Crew  
Member Course.

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
HIPSIG Meeting

## 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. NWSC AWARDS LUNCHEON

**Award recipients/guests only.** (For infor-  
mation on award nominations, please visit  
[www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org))

### Breakout classes continue:

1:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.  
2:30 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.

Among the featured breakout classes will  
be Ethnicity Influence on Aquatic Partici-  
pation & Drowning, Boating Outside the  
Box, Preventative Action of Open Water  
Life Guards, Advancing Youth Boating  
Education and Boating Safety On-Line  
Resource Center.

## Wednesday, March 9

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### SKILL-BASED DEVELOPMENT CLASSES - HANDS-ON AND IN or ON THE WATER

**Classes will be held at the pool and  
lake locations. You will be able to par-  
ticipate in the activities to your level of  
comfort. Please dress appropriately, or  
come to watch and learn.**

**Participating organizations include: Na-  
tional Water Safety Congress; National  
Safe Boating Council; U.S. Sailing;  
American Canoe Association; BoatU.S.  
Foundation; & Slippery Rock University.**

**Some activities/topics are: "Creat-  
ing the Most Wearable Life Jacket"  
Contest, Special Olympics in Boat-  
ing, The Great Race, Spirit of America  
Hands On, PWC Rescue Drivers Ed for  
Boaters.**

### SKILL-BASED CLASSES at the POOL:

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

**11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Luncheon at  
the Pool with Rapid Entry Scuba SAR  
Demonstration**

### SKILL-BASED CLASSES at the LAKE:

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Reception/Networking

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### AWARDS BANQUET - PSA Contest Winners, Prizes

## Thursday, March 10

United Safe Boating Institute Meeting  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

USACE - National Water Safety Team  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Schedule is subject to change.**

# Reaching “the Now Generation” Boater Where They Are – Online

by John M. Malatak  
Chief, Program Operations  
U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety  
Division

The Coast Guard’s National Boating Safety campaign, “Boat Responsibly,” is preparing to launch its “Don’t Wreck Your Summer” initiative, and this year our focus will be on extending our online and social media efforts to reach our most accident-prone recreational boaters. In addition to showing our video Public Service Announcements in movie theaters, posting them to our website, Facebook page, and YouTube Channel, and distributing them by download and DVD to all of the Coast Guard District RBS Specialists, State Boating Law Administrators, and our many boating safety partner organizations, we will be running 650,000 PSA spots online ahead of Web series (like TV series) known to be popular with the under-30 age group.

Our boating safety initiative has always been aimed at putting safety messaging before the highest possible concentration of relevant eyeballs. Two years ago, our Recreational Boating Statistics report indicated that male recreational boat owners 40-49 were the single largest demographic for boating fatalities, we launched an ongoing series of boating safety articles in national magazines – such as Boating World, Great Lakes Boating, Waterline in South Florida and others – specifically to reach this group.

But for younger boaters research supports an online approach. A Pew Research Center survey released January 5, 2011, for example, found that 65 percent of those under the age of 30 now cite the Internet as their primary source of news and information, with TV a close second at 52 percent. Also, original programming for the Web is becoming very popular, with some marketing firms forecasting that by the end of this year more than 85 percent of the U.S. Internet population will consume Internet video, up from roughly 63 percent in 2006. The last time we saw this kind of growth in a new medium was just after World War II with a new technology called – Television.



Web series, such as the comedy *Murder Squad*, shown here, have a large and loyal following among those under age 30. Recent research shows that 54 percent of those who follow Web series find them to be as much or more entertaining than television programming shown over broadcast networks or cable.



This is a generation of viewers and, more and more, reaching them means going to where they are – online. So beginning in April and running through July, the Coast Guard will have as many as eight rotating spots on a dozen or more web series, appearing alongside ads for automobiles, telephones, cable companies, and other commercial products.

It’s a strategy we hope will achieve a greater return on investment for the PSAs already being produced for this year’s initiative and – compared to television – there are distinct advantages. Running video PSAs on the Web gives them national exposure and 24/7 accessibility at low cost. Also, because the series episodes are short – generally 5-10 minutes in length – and don’t begin until

the viewer presses “play,” the viewer isn’t going to wander off during our brief “commercial.” Viewers will have to watch the PSA before they can watch the episode and each time they replay it, they’ll have to watch the PSA again. At the end of the summer we should have tracking numbers, both from the online network and from independent measures, to enable us to gauge how well we reached this demographic with our boating safety messaging.

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*The U.S. Coast Guard reminds all boaters to “Boat Responsibly!” Remember, it’s not the boat but the boat operator that causes boating accidents. For more tips on boating safety, visit [www.uscgoing.org](http://www.uscgoing.org).*

## “Creating the Most Wearable Life Jacket” Contest

**\$5,000 award ~ sponsored by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.**

This contest is coordinated by BoatU.S. Foundation and Personal Floatation Device Manufacturers Association. In an extension of the life jacket innovation contest several years ago, the primary difference is this contest will be judging actual functioning production samples and not just conceptual designs. Please visit [www.boatus.com/foundation](http://www.boatus.com/foundation) and [www.watersafetycongress.org/ibwss.shtml](http://www.watersafetycongress.org/ibwss.shtml) for details.

*The contest entered life jackets will be demonstrated during a pool side general session at the Summit!*

# CAMPAGANZA!

by Bob Ogoreuc  
Slippery Rock University

**Campaganza** was a scouting event held at Moraine State Park, PA, last fall. Over 10,000 Scouts attended this unique event to celebrate scouting's 100th anniversary. There were a number of venues from climbing walls, shooting events, sports, arts, crafts, etc. One of the venues involved water sports. The Scouts had an opportunity to participate in sailing, canoeing, kayaking, and swimming. SRU Aquatics was directly responsible for the operation of the swimming waterfront. At the waterfront members of SRU Aquatic Leadership staff handed out water safety and boating materials to the scouts and their leaders.



## Beyond Cold Water Boot Camp USA, Rescue, Recover, Re-warm presented for the C-Port, Long Beach, CA

(Conference of Professional Operators for Response Towing)

In January, **Cecilia Duer** and **Jerry Craddock** were invited to join in the 24th Annual C-Port conference to make a presentation about Cold Water Boot Camp USA and Beyond Cold Water Boot Camp USA, Rescue Recover, Re-warm to its attendees.

The mission of C-Port, which was founded in 1985, is to meet the needs of the nascent Marine Assistance Industry. C-Port is committed to representing this industry with all federal, state, and local organizations while encouraging its growth and development through education. C-Port is dedicated to creating standards for professionalism and good business practices throughout its membership, including promulgating a code of ethics and a set of minimum standards for marine assistance vessels and equipment.

Members are dedicated to providing

prompt, professional and timely assistance to all boaters and to actively partner and cooperate with local law enforcement and the U. S. Coast Guard.

During the two and a half hour presentation Jerry and Cecilia were able to describe and promote the new science and protocols behind both Cold Water Boot Camp USA and Beyond Boot Camp USA. We are grateful for the experience and the privilege to share the information with these professionals who most times will find themselves as the "accidental" rescuer, arriving first on scene in many cases.

We were also very privileged to be a part of the annual awards presentations (see *Nika's story on page 1*). Thank you for your time and your dedication to boating and water safety on so many waterways in all parts of our country.

## Real Life

continued from page 1

to exit the cabin to vomit frequently, the young boy was silently blue and the other woman was sitting below, frightened. The young girl was my biggest concern so I gave her my warm layers and had the mother wrap her arms around her to increase her body temperature. The girl was having a panic attack and was hypothermic. Her brother too was hypothermic and going into insulin shock. We got them medical attention as soon as possible.

After three hours of being out at sea, these people were able to survive. They had only meant to be in the boat for 10 minutes to quickly move it to the other side of the dock. But a gust came through and they lost control of the boat, they were taken out to sea. With little anticipation for an emergency, they did not put on a life jacket. This is how a small maneuver, a simple task, can turn into a life or death situation. Please, wear a life jacket.

# Merger of Missouri Highway Patrol and Water Patrol Agencies

by Sgt. Jerry Callahan  
Missouri Highway Patrol

January 1, 2011, marked the official merger of Missouri's Water Patrol and Highway Patrol agencies. Both agencies, which had previously operated separately under the state's Department of Public Safety, have been working together since August 2010 to create a new division within the Highway Patrol known as the Water Patrol Division. The new division is commanded by **Major Thomas E. Roam**, a 30-year veteran of the Missouri State Water Patrol. The Water Patrol Division was placed within the Field Operations Bureau under the direction of **Major J. Bret Johnson**. The merger of these two agencies is expected to combine administrative efficiencies and enhance the service and protection to the citizens and visitors of Missouri both on the roads and waterways of the state.

Members of the Water Patrol Division will attend four weeks of training at the Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy followed by 10 days of in-car training to familiarize the troopers with highway enforcement policy and procedures. Similar training is in the works for Highway Patrol troopers, which will include boat operations, survival swimming, watercraft law, and defensive tactics both in the water and confined areas such as one would find during a boat stop. The newly created Water Patrol Division will continue to operate the Underwater Dive and Recovery Unit. This unit may be utilized by other state, local, and federal agencies as a state resource for any dives/underwater searches for missing persons or evidence in a criminal investigation. Officers from the Water Patrol Division are being utilized within other special units of the Highway Patrol, such as K-9 officers and SWAT officers with training and experience in the water environment. The merger will enhance safety on our roads and on our waterways by the consolidation of assets making the

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Missouri's merger of State Law Enforcement Agencies will bring consistency in response to emergencies on both the water and the road.

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agency even stronger.

Water Patrol and Highway Patrol officers have found themselves working side by side for years responding to state emergencies and during natural disas-

ters. Future responses will entail more consistent planning and implementation as a result of this merger. Members of the public may notice an increased presence of marked Highway Patrol vehicles on their journey to the lakes and rivers of Missouri as a result of the merger. There may even be some double takes when they see the familiar state trooper insignia on boats for the first time. "Service" and "Protection" are two of the words that appear on both the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the former Missouri State Water Patrol patches. Service and protection remains the mission of the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Water Patrol Division.



**Water Patrol Cpl. Terry Richardson operating the boat with unknown Highway Patrol Trooper on the bow working the boat pole.**



**Pictured from left, Trooper Dustin Metzner, Trooper Jason Worthley, Trooper Eric Mueller, Trooper David Echtenacht, Corporal Scott Lance, Capt. Matt Walz, and Judge Kenneth M. Hayden of the 26th Circuit. The ceremony took place at the Morgan County courthouse on January 1, 2011.**

## Congratulations to Zach Petric, Fairwinds and Following Seas!

by Cecilia Duer

We first met Zach when he became a Lake County Spirit of America student and then Graduate. Zach just never left the “beach.” He stayed all summer between his 7th and 8th grade years. We soon came to realize that he actually never left us at all! He became a volunteer for Spirit of America and then Lake Metroparks, eventually becoming an employee for both as well as the Congress. Zach’s claim to fame was to be the youngest Ohio Boating Education instructor, youngest NWSC Personal Watercraft and Cold Water Immersion Survival Instructor. We have no idea now, after over nine years, how we would get by without his dedication and passion and the laughter and fun he brings to every thing we do. Unfortunately for us, but very fortunately for him, we are all about to find out. Zach had applied for the United States Secret Service Uniform Division about a year ago. After going through the extensive interviews and testing, Zach was recently offered a position.

The Uniform Division was established in 1922 as the White House Police Force, this organization was fully integrated into the Secret Service in 1930. The Uniformed Division is responsible for security at the White House Complex; the vice president’s residence; the Department of the Treasury; and foreign diplomatic missions in the Washington, D.C., area. Uniformed Division officers carry out their protective responsibilities through a network of fixed security posts, foot, bicycle, vehicular and motorcycle patrols. Zach will be sent to Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy (FLETC) and then to the James J. Rowley Training Center to finish his training and education. Once Zach’s work at both academies is complete he will start duty as a Uniform Division Officer.

On a personal note, I have been privileged to be one of the many “extra moms” for Zach and I can tell you that we cannot begin to express our pride in Zach and our happiness for him. Our lives and the lives of thousands of others, which he has touched through the parks, Spirit of America and NWSC, will forever be better for having experienced life with Zach! Please keep in mind that it is true...the time spent with a child can never be underestimated. Stay well and safe and always remember where “home” is. We love you Zach!

## Who's Who in Water Safety: Awards and Recognition



### NWSC Past President Recognized by USACE

by Brenda A. Warren  
National Water Safety  
Congress, Executive Secretary

On January 20, 2011, **Arlyn Hendricks**, Immediate Past President of the NWSC, was presented a Department of the Army, Certificate of Appreciation, by USACE Southwest Division Commander; **Colonel Thomas W. Kula**.

The award recognized Arlyn’s outstanding leadership and support of boating and water safety over the course of his career of more than 35 years. His accomplishments in creating a safer outdoor recreation experience

for boaters and other water enthusiasts are varied and many. Several highlights of that leadership include his service as Past President and member of the Board of Directors of the National Water Safety Congress, his service as Chairman of the Tulsa District Water Safety Committee, and his work as a park ranger and lake manager. In the citation, it was noted that through the course of his career, Arlyn has experienced both the best and worst results of our combined water safety effort; he has lead national, regional, and local organizations promoting boating and water safety, to performing that most difficult duty of recovering the body of a drowning victim and having to be that person to advise family members of a tragedy.



*Congratulations Arlyn on this recognition; Well done and greatly deserved!*

### NWSC Board Member to Receive Award

Board member **Bob Ogoreuc** recently received a letter from Bruce Wigo, CEO of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, announcing he is the Recipient of the 2011 G. Harold Martin Award for water safety and instruction.

The Award will be presented at the 47th Annual International Swimming Hall of Fame Honoree Induction Ceremony in May in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Bob will be honored with other award recipients including the annual Paragon Awards, the Buck Dawson Authors Award, and the Al Schoenfeld Media Award.

G. Harold Martin was one of the founding members of the International Swimming Hall of Fame and continually promoted his slogan, “Every Child a Swimmer.”

*Congratulations Bob!*

### Great Information... Just a Click Away!

The National Water Safety Congress. Spirit of America. Cold Water Boot Camp USA.

Haven’t browsed lately? Take a moment to check out the websites as an aid to keeping up with what your organization is doing... and what an easy way to share information with others! Bookmark them and visit often:

[www.watersafetycongress.org](http://www.watersafetycongress.org)

[www.coldwaterbootcampusa.org](http://www.coldwaterbootcampusa.org)

[www.spiritofamerica95.org](http://www.spiritofamerica95.org)



Become “friends” of NWSC, Cold Water Boot Camp USA and Spirit of America on Facebook!

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