

## NEWS FROM THE NORTH:

Randy Whaley  
Chairman  
Canadian Safe Boating Council



This year's Symposium held in Honey

Harbour, Ontario on September 23<sup>rd</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup> marked the end of Barbara Byers' Chairmanship of the Canadian Safe Boating Council. Many of you who are involved in the National Safe Boating Council have met Barbara at past NSBC Summits or possibly at other meetings and I am sure you were impressed by her commitment to boating safety and admire her determination to save lives on the water.

I had the opportunity as the CSBC Vice Chairman to work closely with Barbara during the past year, to watch and observe and learn from a master. Barbara fostered team spirit and engaged many of CSBC members to participate rather than watch. Her leadership resulted in many major accomplishments but, I know there are two initiatives that serve as examples of the valuable work CSBC tackled she feels most proud of.

First is the release of the "Will it float?" study in September of 2003 that has received praise as the definitive study on PFD wear. Not only has this study stimulated discussion on life jacket or PFD wear it has resulted in noticeably higher wear rates by average boaters on the water.

The second major accomplishment is the direction of the Safe Boating Awareness Campaigns in 2004 and 2005. These campaigns match individual volunteers and organizations with professionally produced education resources including PSA's, ads for print, radio and television and safe boating editorial. All of these resources are made available to the media across Canada.

Following in Barbara's foot steps will be challenging however, she has promised to work closely with the new executive team and myself to ensure the Canadian Safe Boating Council's accomplishments continue to grow. And grow we will!

Immediately after our September Symposium the Board of Directors met for the day to update our plans for 2006 and beyond. NSBC's Chairman Ed Carter (as a CSBC board member) participated in the process as the CSBC directors charted a course for the future.

CSBC has plans to build on the good work accomplished in previous years by expanding the scope of the Canadian Safe Boating Awareness Campaign. Talks are currently underway with Transport Canada and we expect a comprehensive, five year program will be in place that will be reported on in the next issue of Anchorline.

CSBC will also continue to promote discussion on the "Will it float?" study that has achieved so much attention. Ultimately, our objective is to ensure every day boaters wear their PFD every time they go boating.

As the new Chairman of the Canadian Safe Boating Council I intend to take up the relationship that Barbara cultivated with the National Safe Boating Council and its executive and its members. We share common cultures, common interests and many of the same bodies of water. It is only natural that we should share our ideas for safe boating.

I look forward to participating in National Safe Boating Council meetings in the future and meeting the NSBC delegates. 🚤

### NEWS!

The NSBC and Canada recently renewed their partnership with a revised Memorandum of Understanding, continuing to strengthen this beneficial and rewarding partnership with our neighbors from the North. 🚤



## PILLARS OF SUPPORT: A NEW AWARD RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING CAMPAIGN EFFORTS

The National Safe Boating Council in conjunction with the US Coast Guard have created an award honoring individuals or organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to National Safe Boating Week efforts and have developed strong and original local campaigns that increase awareness for safer boating. Getting its name from the award's appearance, the "Pillars of Support" campaign award will recognize two organizations or individuals each year that have been nominated based upon their ability to fulfill the award criteria. Winners will be chosen based upon:

- ✓ Developing an innovative and informative way of communicating the National Campaign message "Boat Smart. Boat Safe. Wear It!"
- ✓ Ability to reach a widespread and diverse boating audience
- ✓ Practicality of message being communicated
- ✓ Adaptability of program (can other groups adapt the program to their community)
- ✓ Commitment to continually promote quality messages of Safe Boating Awareness.

This year we are honoring the **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission** for their efforts in Lee County and the **New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**. Both organizations ran outstanding campaign efforts during National Safe Boating Week, creating innovative media campaigns and partnering with other organizations to expand and improve upon their efforts.

The Pillars of Support Award will be presented to these two organizations and the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit taking place in Palm Harbor, FL April 30-May 3, 2006. 🚤



HAVE YOU OR SOMEBODY YOU KNOW BEEN "SAVED BY THE JACKET" OR "SAVED BY THE SIGNAL"??



One of the most popular items offered through the National Safe Boating Council is a collection of short stories from boaters telling about experiences they've had with boating and how wearing a life jacket has saved their life. These stories come from individuals all around the country, using all different kinds of boats, and under many different circumstances with one common factor, a life jacket. In every story it was the life jacket that saved their lives.

We would like to continue this collection of incredible stories by creating a second *Saved by the Jacket* book. If you have had an experience where a life jacket has saved your life or someone you know, please tell us about it! We are beginning to gather stories and would like to use your experience in our book, to let others know how important it is to have a life jacket on. Please pass this along to your friends, family, colleagues, and throughout your organizations, if you've seen a clipping of a story, please send it along. Your contributions will help make this book great.

In addition to *Saved by the Jacket* stories, we are also partnering with **Orion Safety Products** to create a new *Saved by the Signal* brochure entitled "A Flare for Rescue". Safety flares can be very important to boaters in accidents and emergencies. If you have a story of how you've been "Saved by the Signal", please pass it along. Let us know how a flare has helped or saved someone on the water.

All stories or articles can be sent to the National Safe Boating Council at P.O. Box 509, Bristow, VA 20136 or emailed to [office@safeboatingcouncil.org](mailto:office@safeboatingcouncil.org). Please include contact information including your address and phone number for we may need to contact you regarding your submission. 🚤

## OUR NEWEST ON-THE-WATER TRAINING PROGRAM

The NSBC just completed conducting a Basic Close-Quarter Boat Handling Training for the Lower Colorado River Authority. The program is doing what the students hoped it would do, that is present a concise and systematic approach to teaching boat control for professional operators. This could be the answer to requests from the agencies that contact us looking for boat handling training for their officers and safety personnel. To quote Luis R. Silva one of LCRA boating enforcement officers that just completed the training "I wish I would have had this training available years ago." Another plus in the training is it follows a manual (authored by Captain James Battye) which gives the details of the needed skills. Please contact the National Safe Boating Council at (703) 361-4294 for more information on this great training program. 🚤