

# ANCHOR LINE



NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL

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## THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUMMIT A SUCCESS!

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Boating and Water Safety Summit was held in Palm Harbor, Florida at the Westin Innisbrook Golf Resort on April 30 – May 3, 2006. The Summit is renowned as the premier boating and water safety conference of the year. A location bordering on paradise, captivating and education information sessions and great giveaways made this year no exception.

our attention to the organizations and individuals that constantly work toward bettering the boating and water safety world.

We thank our sponsors—Coors Brewing Company, Boat Ed, and Brunswick Corporation for their continued support of the Summit. In addition to our sponsors, we thank Stearns, Inc. for helping to sponsor the life jacket giveaway and the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Convention Visitors' Bureau for their support with marketing and transportation. Nestle furnished bottled water throughout the Summit and Panama Jack donated sunscreen to protect our skin.

We are looking forward to the eleventh annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit being held at the Crowne Plaza on the River Walk in beautiful San Antonio, Texas on March 4 – 7, 2007. 🚤



Among the presentation highlights of this year's Summit was an emotional recounting of the relief efforts of several state agencies to the areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina. There were also insightful comments from the experts in the best practices of recreational boating and canoeing and kayaking. Of interest to us all were ideas for doing a lot with very little. A presentation on the efforts of the state of Florida to reduce their fatality rate and another on how to manage stress were big hits. We were also taught the art of sharing creative ideas with others. The presentations were put in perspective by the United States Coast Guard's discussion of how we all can fit into their strategic plan.

A special event that amazed everyone was the display of the "You're In Command" racing boat with driver Gino Marrone. It was a terrific addition to the Summit. Also, the Awards Banquet on Wednesday evening drew



### THE NSBC HAS "SOLE"

Proper footwear has always been an important factor when moving about on and off boats. New patron level member Sperry Top-Sider has offered to supply NSBC instructors with Sperry boat shoes to add to their safety when moving about the classroom, waterfront and on small crafts while presenting programs. This sort of support to our volunteer boating safety instructors is a mark of a true champion sponsor of safer boating. We appreciate this type of sponsoring especially from a new member organization that was looking to do something to enhance the safety of the recreational boating experience through education and outreach (the mission of the NSBC). In staying with the manner in which this article was started (the title) "boating safety instruction is a foot".



Thank you Sperry Top-Sider! 🚤

### NUMBER ONE PROBLEM WITH SMALL BOATS...CAPSIZING AND FALLS OVERBOARD

The formula and skills needed to keep the boat upright are quite simple: Keep your shoulders inside the gunwales of the boat while keeping your weight as low as possible. Disrupt either of these two factors and the odds of capsizing your boat or falling overboard are increased. Remember it is the action of people that cause capsizing and falls overboard on small open boats like utility boats, john boats, canoes and kayaks. Learning balance and movement skills under controlled conditions can make outings more fun and reduce the risk of mishap. Wearing your life jacket will give the extra margin of safety for when accidents caused by others or outside forces, such as the wakes of other boats happen. Small open boats can easily be safely operated and will provide hours of enjoyment on the water. It is up to you to stay in the boat, upright and dry. 🚤

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