

DOCKWALKERS WANTED

In a letter from Vivian Matuk to the Auxiliary:

My name is Vivian Matuk. I am the Environmental Boating Program Coordinator for both the California Department of Boating & Waterways and the California Coastal Commission. I manage the statewide program called the Boating Clean and Green Program. One component of this program is the Dockwalker program. Your organization has been our main partner throughout the State since the year 2000. At the bottom of this email you will find more specific information about our program as well as some of the upcoming northern California Dockwalker trainings. We would love to continue to partner with your organization and have your members come to our trainings. Supporting our common missions is very important to keep boating in California clean, safe and fun!

The California Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean & Green Program in partnership with the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation will conduct more Dockwalker trainings this year.

Dockwalkers will be trained to engage members of the public and the boating community in adopting clean boating practices. Once training is complete, these volunteers don their official "Dockwalker" hats. Dockwalkers educate boaters about clean boating practices and distribute educational materials (boater kits) while visiting marinas, launch ramps, marine supply stores, boat shows and special events (regattas, opening days, among others); and while conducting vessel examinations. As you realize, "Dockwalker" is only a generic term because you do not necessarily have to "walk the docks" in order to talk to boaters about safety and clean boating practices. You can educate boaters about clean and safe boating practices while conducting your vessel examinations or as part of your safety classes. Remember safety and the environment go hand in hand.

Training is FREE and Dockwalking is a fantastic way to interact with boaters to help keep California's marinas, waterways, and ocean clean and healthy. The training provides an overview of environmentally-sound boating practices, information about how to conduct Dockwalking, and educational materials that Dockwalkers will distribute including the 2010 boater kits (http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/images/Boaterkit_08.jpg). These boater kits include: Reusable Canvas Tote-bag; A Boater's Guide to Keeping Pollutants Out of the Water; 2010 Tidebooks; Oil Absorbent Pillow to capture oil leaks and drips in the boat bilge; a variety of informative Clean and Safe Boating Resources including the new publication produced by the Boating Clean and Green program, the "Environmental Boating Laws Every Recreational Boater Should Know," the ABC's of Boating Law and the new edition of the Southern California Boater's Guide, among others.

In the last five years, more than 500 Dockwalkers have distributed over 90,000 boater kits statewide. Hours spent training or educating the public qualify as community service.

The benefits the Dockwalker program will provide to you, your colleagues and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary include:

- Supporting your current efforts, enhancing and broadening your boating safety mission efforts
- Sharing resources such as the boater kit (important in these tough economic times), a valuable education and outreach tool to attract boaters' attention and conduct face-to-face boater education.
- Providing you with more resources for vessel examinations, Marine Dealer Visitors program, boat shows and regattas and other public events and presentations
- Offering an additional method to protect our waterways

The participation in the Dockwalker program also counts towards the annual Marine Safety service requirement for the TRIDENT program.

The Southern CA Trainings include

(<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/dockwalkers.html#Trainings>)

March 20, 2010 – Dana Point

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dana West Yacht Club 24601 Dana Drive , Dana Point , CA. 92629

Partners: the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, the City of Newport Beach , Project-GreenWorks , US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Dana West Yacht Club

Flyer: http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/DWYC_2010_Flyer.pdf

March 27, 2010 – Long Beach

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Shoreline Yacht Club

386 Shoreline Drive South, Long Beach , CA 90802

Partners: the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation , US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the US Power Squadron, the Shoreline and the Navy Yacht Clubs, Long Beach .

Flyer: http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/LB_2010_Flyer.pdf

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April 5, 2010 – San Diego

6:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m

Bay Club Hotel and Marina (Harbor Room)

2131 Shelter Island Drive San Diego , CA 92106

Partners: the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation , US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Bay Club Hotel and Marina .

Flyer: http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/SD_2010_Flyer.pdf

May 1, 2010 – Los Angeles

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

(More Details will be provided later on)

I hope you can join us at a training and become a volunteer Dockwalker!

Please help us to spread the word about the upcoming trainings.

Please feel free to contact me at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov if you have any questions or to register.