AGENDA

National Safe Boating Week will be May 22-29 this year. We will be announcing this event on **Friday May 21 at 11 AM** on the Waterfront in Washington NC, the gazebo, near pier G. Our day will start with reading the Safe Boating Proclamations from Washington, Greenville, Bath, Chocowinity and the State of North Carolina. United States Coast Guard, NC Wildlife Commission, Pamlico Power Squadron, Mayors and Council Members will be in attendance to stress the importance of Safe Boating.

Safe Boating begins with preparation. The Coast Guard estimates that human error accounts for 70 percent of all boating accidents and that Life Jacket could prevent nearly 85 percent of boating fatalities. In addition, 79 percent of boating deaths are due to drowning, 86 percent of drowning victims were not wearing a Life Jacket, 2/3 of drowning victims were good swimmers.

Our message is simple; through basic boating safe procedures – carrying lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing life jackets, attending a safe boating courses, participating in free boat safety checks, and staying sober when navigating – we can help ensure boaters on our coastal, inland and offshore waters stay safe throughout the year.

This year on May 21, we have a Coast Guard Vessel and the Station Hobucken CG personnel on the waterfront, as well as members of federal, state and local safe boating partners encouraging all boaters to explore and enjoy our beautiful waters responsibly.

Tom Marchisello, Division Public Affairs Officer SO-PA 054-20 United States Coast Guard Aux 919-219-2580 Team Blue