

## **Press release draft**

Dana Point Flotilla 06-08 of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary offers seminars to help boaters review skills or learn new ones. Taught by qualified instructors, these seminars pack lots of information into two hours of your time—and for a reasonable price. The seminars meet at the Dana West Yacht Club. Each seminar costs \$25, or take both for only \$40. Materials are included. To register contact Art Ambrose, flotilla staff officer for public education: [fso-pe@uscgaux-danapoint.org](mailto:fso-pe@uscgaux-danapoint.org)

### **SUDDENLY IN COMMAND Tuesday, April 26, 7-9 p.m.**

The captain becomes incapacitated or falls overboard. You are *Suddenly in Command*. This boating safety primer is designed for those not generally at the helm, and will help you to be prepared with the basics in case of an emergency.

Literature contains many horror stories about a passenger who does not know how to start the engine or operate the radio, watching in horror as a strong wind blows the boat away faster than a captain who has fallen overboard can swim. Misfortune occurs in seconds, and you have the rest of your life to be grateful that you knew what to do because you were prepared.

You will learn about your vessel, and we'll discuss causes of boating mishaps, steps to minimize your risks, anticipating and handling emergencies (weather, fires, medical, man overboard, and dehydration, among others), how to get help, and essential equipment to carry on board. Knowledge you will gain could potentially make the difference between life and death.

### **BASICS OF MARINE RADIO Tuesday, May 3, 7-9 p.m.**

What are those strange *pan pan* and *securité* messages I hear from the Coast Guard sometimes? What channel should I use to talk to another boater? How do I do a radio check? What if I have a real-life emergency? What kind of radio should I buy, and what is this DSC I hear about?

This practical seminar focuses on radio communications in boating, both among boaters and between boaters and the Coast Guard. We'll discuss the fundamental principles underlying communications systems in use today. Finally, we'll learn and practice two important procedures, hailing and mayday, with your own boat-specific information.