

## Keys to a Safe Boating Season; a Safe Boating Class

Now that the snow is gone, hopefully for good this year, we boaters are now looking forward to getting in the water and enjoy another fun season on our waterways. There are a few things that we need to remember and look at before we get the boats wet. A few things to check for would be our life-saving equipment, namely life jackets, making sure they are in good condition and always kept readily accessible. Another is fire extinguishers, making sure they are current. Check backfire flame arrestors, if your boat is so equipped, so they are clean and properly installed. Pumps and exhaust blowers should also be checked for proper operation. Finally, check our navigation lights, make sure flares are not expired, and make sure we are up to date on our current boating laws. It is a lot easier to fix them now than waiting till later.

To help you do this and more, *Flotilla 16-13* of the *U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary* will be conducting an 8 hour boating course at the *Maumee Public Library*. This will be done in *four, 2 hour sessions*, being held on *March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010*. Each of these will begin at *6:00 P.M and run until 8:00 P.M.*. It will cover basic boat handling, knowledge of aids to navigation, navigation rules, and, in addition, a special presentation on Ohio Laws and Regulations for the waterways. The cost of the class will be \$35.00 per family. There are many advantages for taking these Classes. For more information about this class, please contact:

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