

NBSAC Meeting

April 1 & 2, 2011

Arlington, VA

Report to NBF by Thomas M. Dogan

Jim Muldoon, Chairperson, opened the meeting, then Rear Admiral Cook USCG spoke, and then Capt. Rizzo, USCG. They both mentioned the importance of the strategic plan, signed in March, and Adm. Cook stated that he was inspired by the recent media report that deaths on the highways are down considerably, despite miles traveled being up, and that “no switch gets flipped” on the life jacket issue, “tomorrow not everyone will have to have life jackets on.”

Captain Rizzo spoke then and mentioned that the NBSAC appointments are running some 2-3 years behind, and they are especially worried about losing “corporate knowledge”, (that is carried over from one group to the next) should many appointments be made at one time. He also stated that there are over \$30 million dollars in grant requests, before it was just \$15 million, and said that there are less requests, but for more money each.

He told of the new standard that is about to be passed by the CG, which allows for the lowering of age for wearing of inflatable life jackets to below age 16, whereas before that was not allowed. But, the UL must restructure their standard, so this will take time. Overall wear rate of LJ's, declined 22.3% in '09 to 21.1% in '10, but, the number of motorboats increased.