



Lake George Association

People Protecting the Lake Since 1885

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MARINE TRADES GROUP AND LGA WORK TOGETHER TO TRAIN BETTER BOATERS

Lake George, NY - The Lake George Association (LGA) and the Eastern NY Marine Trades Association (ENYMTA) have teamed up to offer a series of unique Boater Safety courses with a special added experience. Most of the New York State sanctioned Boater Safety courses take place entirely indoors in a classroom setting. However, participants in this new series of classes will also have the option of going out on Lake George for some practical, on-water experience on the LGA's Floating Classroom.

“New York State’s Office of Parks has asked us to arrange more Boating Safety courses in the area north of Albany,” according to Roger Phinney, Executive Director of the Eastern NY Marine Trades Association and host of the Great Upstate Boat Show. The ENYMTA launched a year long program of monthly Boater Safety courses beginning in February 2010. “We asked the LGA to join us in developing a program to make our series of courses much more interesting than the standard 8-hour classroom sessions through utilizing their Floating Classroom boat for some on-the-water experience. Having the additional option of getting out on the lake and seeing first hand how boats should be handled gives the participants some real, practical knowledge. Maybe it will also help foster better boating all around,” Phinney continued.

“Students who take one of the sit-down courses this winter and spring will be able to come back this summer for an on-lake program. Out on the Floating Classroom boat, a 40ft catamaran, students will experience navigating through marked channels, identifying navigational markers, witnessing examples of good boating etiquette as well as some potential boating mistakes,” according to LGA Executive Director Walt Lender. The boat is also fully equipped with state of the art marine navigation systems, GPS, and radar. “We’ll show participants how this equipment works and even give them a chance to use the marine radio, Lender added.”

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“While the NYS courses provide great information on rules of safe boating, we hope we can instill a sense of good boater etiquette as well as safe boating practices through these courses. Getting students out on the water gives us that additional opportunity,” said Mike Dier, LGA Water Recreation Committee Chair.

“We can also point out safety equipment, fire suppression, life-saving devices, and the proper use of personal floatation devices (PFDs). We can answer questions that the students may have about Lake George itself such as how it was formed, its ecosystem, and how we can protect its water quality,” according to Emily DeBolt, LGA Director of Education. “Participants who complete their in-class course will be given a certificate to participate in the on-lake program, which will be offered throughout the summer on various dates.”

The courses will be offered from 9 am – 5 pm at the following locations:

February 27 - Castaway Marina, Lake George

March 27 – Great Upstate Boat Show, Queensbury

April 24 – Dunhams Bay Sea Ray, Latham

May 16 – Snug Harbor Marina, Ticonderoga

June TBA - Schroon Lake Marina, Schroon Lake

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