PHASTAR 2543 kicks-off its second year of marine safety programming

PHASTAR's “Liddle Blue” has once again taken to the water for her second year of safety programming. The boat was called into action her very first day out this season at River Sweep.

Accompanied by his brother Terence E. Taylor (Lifeguard), and granddaughters A'Shauna Richardson and Kaliyah Hinton (Deck Crew), Capt. Walker was providing an escort for the Bulk Carrier, Sam Laud upriver from Lake Erie toward the Arcelor Mittal steel mill. As Sam Laud was approaching the Center Street swing bridge, the crew of the ship directed two Stand Up Paddleboarders to head to the west bulkhead wall for safe passage. The paddlers did as directed and held the wall as the Sam Laud passed. While passing the paddlers, the wind velocity and direction changed and the large ship found herself drifting toward the bulkhead where the two paddlers here on the wall. The ship activated its bow thrusters, throwing both boarders into the turbulent water. The Ship’s Captain radioed for assistance from PHASTAR 2543 who swung around and jumped into action. Captain Walker was able to get the boat into the tight area between the ship and bulk head while crewmembers Terry, A'Shauna and Kaliyah pulled the paddlers and their boards onto “Liddle Blue.” Capt Walker then reversed out of the space and moved his vessel and the paddlers to safety.

On the following weekend dock/deck crewmember (and Davis A&M student) Abdalla Robi was aboard PHASTAR 2543 orienting with Capt. Ferguson.

Liddle Blue, cont’d on pg. 5
Volunteers are still needed!

Make a difference in the lives of local youth and consider volunteering with PHASTAR. With a wide variety of programming, we know that we can find you an opportunity perfectly suited to your interests and skills.

Your individual efforts will help to carry the PHASTAR Initiative.

We are seeking tutors, chaperones, speakers, aviators and mariners to help out at Davis A&M and at our Columbus Road facility. Trades people and general labor are still needed at our 1776 Columbus Road facility, and of course we always need help with fundraising.

As a grass roots effort, we depend on your contributions. Contact Drew Ferguson at 216.860.4883 or dferguson@phastar.org to determine how you can best contribute.

Join Us at Our Next PHASTAR Task Force Meeting on July 12th at 1776 Columbus Road in Cleveland

The PHASTAR Task Force meets on a bi-monthly basis. Our next meeting will be held on July 12th at 11:30 am at our building located at 1776 Columbus Road in Cleveland.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Our September meeting will be held on September 13th at 11:30 at the PHASTAR offices located at 1776 Columbus Road in the Cleveland Flats.
Discover Aviation Day at Lorain County Regional Airport was held on May 18th, and it was another great event.

EAA Chapter 1252 hosted a Young Eagle Rally in which kids aged 8 to 17 were able to get a free airplane ride. EAA and Discover Aviation pilots gladly volunteer their airplanes and times in order to introduce area youth to aviation. This year, our volunteer pilots flew 105 Young Eagles rides.

For those who were unable to make it to Discover Aviation Day, the next opportunity for free Young Eagle airplane rides will be at the annual Flyro Gyro Fly-in and Young Eagle rally on September 21, 2019. Numerous other aviation-themed activities were available for people of all ages. There was plenty of food, DAC’s AvLab flight simulator, face painting, fun hands-on activities for the younger kids, vendors, drones and aircraft displays. On the runways, a variety of airplanes as well as the MetroHealth Life Flight helicopter were on-hand for visitors to check out and some were even available for visitors to sit inside.

The sunny and warm weather made it a perfect day to celebrate and discover aviation, and resulted in a good turn out. There were lots of smiles and fun throughout the day. Weren’t able to make it this year? Mark your calendars for May 16, 2020!
PHASTAR & Davis students launch Flats East Bank Dock Management Program

Students from Davis Aerospace & Maritime High School provided the muscle and brain power to launch a dock management program for the East Bank of the Flats. In early May, the United States Coast Guard issued a conditional waiver of the USCG Safety Zone (Restricted Area to protect Navigational Channel for Large Deep Draft Vessels). This waiver was issued based upon a plan created by Captains Carl M. Walker and Drew Ferguson assisting the Flats Bank in achieving a waiver they had long fought for. The conditional waiver allowed PHASTAR to launch the dock management program for a period of two weeks then host a review to determine if we were able to achieve the promised results.

Approximately 10 students from Davis signed up for this launch program, trained and executed perfectly. Capt. Walker was assisted by a team of Dock Masters lead by Capt. Viola Hamlett adjusted the plan and schedule to accommodate a variety of challenges encountered. Simultaneously, Capt. Walker had to launch the River Communications Office which was a requirement of the waiver. This office lived in PHASTAR’s truck for the conditional waiver period, but will eventually be moved into an office at 1776. PHASTAR 2543, “Liddle Blue” was also a part of the plan and was staffed with PHASTAR Captains and Davis A&M deck crew.

The program received rave reviews from boaters, business owners and the US Coast Guard. The only wrinkle in the plan was to identify funding. At the time of this publication, students lead by Ricky Alex have launched a GoFundMe campaign to secure adequate funding to operate the program. We hope that the boating and business community step up to the plate. Stay tuned!!!
PHASTAR to restore the Putzfrau

Capt. Bill Rabatsky has accepted the challenge of leading the charge to repair and relaunch the Putzfrau (German for “Cleaning Lady”) in time for the 50th Anniversary of the extinguishment of the Cuyahoga River Fire.

The Putzfrau was one of four boats owned by the Samsel family of Samsel Supply that took to the Cuyahoga River following the infamous 1969 river fire, slurping up thousands of pounds of pollution, sludge and debris.

The restoration of the Putzfrau will serve as a symbol of Cleveland’s commitment to cleaning our waterways and reinventing Cleveland. The project also honors the Samsel Family, specifically Frank Samsel for his commitment and ingenuity in tackling the river’s issues from the late 60’s until now.

Capt. Rabatsky’s personal connection to the Samsels and Northeast Ohio’s waters made him the perfect man for the job.

Liddle Blue, con’t from pg. 1

During the shift they also received request to provide escort to another large bulk carrier, Great Republic, from Lake Erie to Arcelor Mittal. This time a kayaker with two dogs was encountered at the Columbus Road Bridge. As the large ship lined up and began her approach, a paddler with two dogs aboard his kayak rounded the bend by Foundry. We approached him and let him know that a large boat was approaching and he should paddle over to “Passing Zone” or dock by Merwin’s Wharf. He began paddling toward the safety zone when one of his dogs was spooked by the large ship (don’t blame him) and jumped in the water capsizing the kayak. The paddler and his dogs were tied together with rope and struggled to stay afloat as the older dog panicked. Capt. Ferguson notified the Captain of the Great Republic and maneuvered “Liddle Blue” over to the floundering threesome. Abdala was able to pull both dogs and the paddler from the water onto our boat, then assist the paddler back onto his kayak and over to the dock. We docked with the kayak and allowed the Great Republic to continue her voyage up river.

These are two great examples of the service PHASTAR Marine provides and the opportunity for our kids to participate in amazing experiences. PHASTAR Marine’s programs are expensive, but have gained significant attention and praise from the US Coast Guard, industry and recreational boaters over the past few weeks. We continue to seek support and partnerships within this industry.
Sophomores design “Cornerman” boat to clean-up Rock-n-Dock

Maritime Club is an after-school boatbuilding club and when the lessons on How to Read Boat Plans weren’t hitting on all cylinders, Ed Neal of Cleveland Amateur Boating and Boatbuilders Society (CABBS), says they tried a different different approach to capture the students’ interest. How about learning to read boat plans by designing your own boat?

Quinton and Jesus, both sophomores at Davis, knew immediately what boat they wanted to design. The two teens work at the Rock-n-Dock, the Marina at the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame. They struggled with cleaning up floating mats of debris, driftwood, and

Cornerman, cont’d on pg. 7
seaweed trapped along the docks. They wanted a boat designed for the clean-up task rather than the clumsy, improvised arrangement which used one of the paddle boats in the Rock-n-Dock rental fleet.

The design process began by defining the design parameters for the size, shape, and performance of the boat. Jesus produced the first design iteration, a 3-D animated model he created using Tinkercad. As a team, they critiqued the design and worked on the second generation, this time using the old-school approach of graph paper, T-square, and pencils. These plans were used to build a rough cardboard model. Seeing the model gave them all more ideas. They modified the paper plans and produced a third generation presentation model they liked.

To validate their boat design, which was soon named Cornerman, the students presented their ideas to a review panel of five men with maritime backgrounds. Quinton and Jesus used PowerPoint to visually show the marina clean-up problems and how Cornerman would solve many of them.

The two received excellent feedback in support of their design. Even better yet, they got suggestions for ways to improve the design in ways no one had thought of. A fourth design iteration, possibly the final version is in the works.

Should they build Cornerman? To answer that question they need to determine the business case for Cornerman. A boat like Cornerman could be the foundation of a micro-business providing harbor and marina clean-up services for hard to reach places around docks and corners. Quinton and Jesus would be happy to skipper just such a venture. But is the market there? They’re going to try to find out. Stay tuned!

Cornerman, con’t from pg.

10th grade capstone projects take flight

Davis A&M provides a hands-on curriculum centered around real world applications. We are preparing our students to be problem solvers who can conduct research, imagine and test solutions, evaluate and analyze data, and draw and communicate conclusions. To develop these skills, Davis students complete a Capstone Project each year of their educational career. These projects draw on content from all their classes, and are completed over a 10 week period. Earlier this year, the 9th grade students completed a Capstone Project focused on design optimization of cargo ship hulls.

The 10th grade students are currently participating in a Capstone Project focused on developing rescue UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) to assist in water rescues and prevent drownings in the Great Lakes. Students heard multiple stakeholder perspectives through collaboration with the Great Lakes Water Safety Consortium. They are in the process of designing and testing prototypes, which are being mounted to quad copters and fixed wing aircraft to test air-worthiness. Many students at Davis have had the opportunity to fly drones and model airplanes, but designing a specialized payload system is new for nearly all of them. After crunching the data from these tests, students will present out their findings and recommend areas of further development. Please reach out to PHASTAR if you are interested in attending the 10th grade capstone exhibition on June 21st.
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Giving to PHASTAR

As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, PHASTAR relies heavily on the generosity of others to offer high-quality programs and initiatives for the area’s youth and most vulnerable residents.

Donations can be sent to:

PHASTAR
1776 Columbus Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Your contribution will make a difference in the lives of Greater Cleveland youth, and will have a direct impact on their lives.

You can also make a donation on our website at www.phastar.org. Contact us at 216.860.4883 for other arrangements, or to set up a recurring donation. Other ways to give include volunteering your time, talents and/or services, or the donation of tangible goods. We are happy to discuss your possible donation.

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IMPACT LOCAL YOUTH:

$50 = 1 hour of boat time on the water for up to 4 students at a time

$100 = 1 hour of flight time for a student interested in flying

$250 = 1 day of access to Fabrication Lab outside of school (weekends & holidays) OR 1 hour of safety vessel operation with full crew

$500 = 1 day field trip for up to 60 students

$1,000 = 1 month of utilities at PHASTAR facility providing educational opportunities

$5,000 = 1 year of support for Davis A&M’s Drone Racing Team

$10,000 = 1 private pilot license for a Davis A&M student

$25,000 = 1 CNC machine enabling high level design and manufacturing

$50,000 = 1 FAA Certified Flight Simulator allowing students to log flight time and advanced instrument training

$100,000 = 1 Mobile Mariner Ship Simulator providing qualification, certification, and credentialing to students, government, and industry partners