

Columbia Pacific Maritime LLC

The Captain's License School in Portland, Oregon providing USCG approved license training courses for USCG Merchant Marine Licenses and Documents with a focus on Uninspected Vessels and Inspected Vessels of 200 tons and less.

April 2008 Newsletter

Dedicated to the memory of April Marie Beckwith

Born April 7, 1979; Died October 3, 2006

While I was an instructor at Clatsop Community College in Astoria, Oregon I had the privilege of having April Beckwith as a student for two years. During those two years I was operating the college's training vessel, the "Forerunner." Three days a week each term April was on the boat learning and applying skills and knowledge in small boat handling, seamanship, and navigation. April was a good shipmate, excelling in every area of training and never backing away from a challenge. Once, during a knot and splice demonstration I jokingly suggested that she complete the knots and splices required for the able seaman exam behind her back just to make it a challenge. Without hesitation she picked up the line and completed the demonstration behind her back, scoring a perfect score and never once breaking her trademark smile. Needless to say she earned an "A" in the class. This month's newsletter is dedicated to the memory of this outstanding young woman, who over the course of her short life, touched the lives of so many and will never be forgotten.

Buffalo Computer Graphics Radar Simulator Update

On March 17 I received a shipment from BCG containing one new radar simulator and the associated instructor's station. The equipment has been setup, tested, and is now operational. All I waiting for is Portland REC to conduct a site visit to approve the new "Radar Classroom". This classroom is adjacent to the main classroom; meaning that I will be able to offer Radar Renewal Courses concurrent with my other classes seven days a week. The cost of this class is \$300. Pending USCG site approval this course should be available on or before May 1, 2008.

The Vision that is "Columbia Pacific Maritime LLC"

In June 2006 I moved to Portland, Oregon with the vision of providing high quality, intense, short duration maritime training courses for an often overlooked segment of the maritime industry; non-STCW compliant licenses. Meaning un-inspected vessel licenses and inspected vessel licenses of 200 tons and less. These licenses do not require full compliance with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) STCW (Standards in Training and Certification for Watchstanders) 1995 regulations and includes:

- Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels
- Master and Mate of Uninspected Fishing Vessels
- Master and Mate of Uninspected Towing Vessels
- Master and Mater of Inspected Vessels 25 thru 200 tons

I currently have fourteen USCG approvals in place that support all of the above licenses except uninspected towing vessels. The following steps have been taken to complete this vision before the end of this year.

On March 1, 2008 I sent off a Mate of Towing Vessel course to the National Maritime Center for approval.

On March 17, 2008 I received one new Buffalo Computer Graphics Radar Simulator. Once I receive site approval for the new "radar room" I can begin offering the radar renewal class with my existing approval. My plans are to add a second radar simulator sometime this fall and begin offering the Original Unlimited Radar Observer Course at that time.

When the Mate of Towing and Original Radar Observer courses are in place the vision of "Columbia Pacific Maritime LLC" will complete; Columbia Pacific Maritime (CPM) will be a USCG approved full-service training school for non-STCW compliant licenses. An example of "full service" is the ability to provide a license for Apprentice Steersman (Mate of Towing) from start to finish in 21 consecutive days, including Unlimited Radar Observer. No other school in the nation offers this service in such an aggressive schedule, but this is what Columbia Pacific Maritime is all about; providing high quality, intense, short duration maritime training programs. To date I have a student success rate of 100% with 95% of the students finishing within the scheduled time frame; the other 5% took a day or two longer.

Training Schedule Update

All classes for the month of April are full; but there is space available in all May classes; Call early before they fill. Maximum class size is six students and there is no minimum enrollment required; meaning any class will be held for a single student.

The Radar Observer Renewal course should be available by May 1, pending USCG site approval of the new radar classroom. This course will be scheduled as needed; one student at a time. In most situations I should be able to schedule a renewal class within 72 hours of a request, but more advanced warning will provide more scheduling options.

Call (503) 841-6066 for scheduling information or visit [Columbia Pacific Maritime Online Schedule page](#) for printed copy of the complete 2008 schedule.

Course Registration

Two simple methods are available to register for a class:

1. Phone Registration: Call (503) 841-6066 and speak to a live person.
2. Online Registration: Visit the [Columbia Pacific Maritime Online Forms page](#) and select the course registration form. You will need to provide your name and contact information along with the name and dates of the course you are enrolling in; you will receive a phone confirmation within a day or two.

All course reservations are on the honor system; meaning that no deposit is required. Payment is due in full the first day of class. If you register for a class and are not able to attend please contact us ASAP so that the vacancy can be filled from our waiting list.

USCG Application

A good place to begin when applying for an original license or a renewal of an existing license is the USCG application package. A complete application package can be downloaded free from the [download page on the Columbia Pacific Maritime website](#). Once you download the application package look it over and give me a call if you have any questions.

To un-subscribe from this newsletter simply respond to this email with your request and your email address will be removed from my mailing list, no questions asked.

Thank you for your support.

Dennis A. Degner

Columbia Pacific Maritime LLC
13211 NE Thompson CT
Portland, OR 97230

(503) 841-6066
(503) 440-9005 cell
(503) 841-5086 fax

<http://ColumbiaPacificOnline.com>

dennis@columbiapacificonline.com