

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

*America's Volunteer Lifesavers* <sup>SM</sup>

# SpeedGram

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## A NEW PRODUCT!

### POCKET QUICK REFERENCE CARDS (PQRCs)

for

- **PUBLIC EDUCATION**
- **ON WATER TRAINING**
- **VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS**
- **BOAT SHOWS**

Most of us are familiar with QUICK REFERENCE CARDS (QRCs) produced by Davis Instruments. These 8-½-by-11-inch plastic cards contain valuable information on navigation, radio, regulations, and other important boating topics. They are waterproof and act as “just-in-time” training aids for the skipper and crew while on the water. These cards have been in stock at the AuxCen for some time and will continue to be of value to boaters.

However, the size of the present cards, together with the amount of information on each card, makes them somewhat difficult to use, especially on smaller vessels with no convenient place to stow them.

So, in a joint venture between the Auxiliary Association, the United States Power Squadrons, and Davis Instruments, we have “reinvented” the product and now have Pocket Quick Reference Cards. The new PQRCs are small (3” x 4”), are still made of waterproof plastic, are in full color, and have a hole punched in one corner so that several PQRCs may be bound together with a small chain.

There are six PQRCs to a package and they address 12 different topics, one per side. The topics are:

Pre-Departure Checklist  
Fueling Procedures  
Radio Use  
Buoyage  
Rules of the Road

Nav Rules  
Types of ATONs  
Light Signals  
Emergencies  
Hypothermia/CO Poisoning

The fact that these topics correspond to several of the tasks in *On Water Training* is no coincidence. It was planned that way, as our OWT students represent an excellent market for PQRCs.

The logo, name, and the toll free phone number of both the Auxiliary and the Power Squadrons are on each PQRC. Davis will also market the product in their regular outlets, which includes all of the major marine stores. Between Davis, the Auxiliary, and USPS, we anticipate excellent product distribution.

PQRCs represent an opportunity to give the student, or a boater at a VSC or boat show, a new and innovative “just-in-time” training tool, at a great price (Manufacturers Suggested Retail Price will be around \$10 per set). In addition, they will provide another income source to support other Flotilla activities.

If the market responds as anticipated, more PQRCs will be added with additional topics.

PQRCs are available through your District Materials Officer. We believe you will find this new product to be a valuable addition to your portfolio of boating safety educational tools.

John VanOsdol, DC-E