Nothing fishy here: Boyk key return program saves day

For the rest of his life, Rebel Coombs will be able to top most anglers’ fish stories about the one that got away.

Last month, Rebel lost more than the large drum fish he was trying to land when a wave crashed into him off the coast of North Carolina. Though he didn’t know it at the time, the wave also swept away his keys — and the newlywed’s wedding band that was attached for safekeeping.

Though he’ll never get that drum fish back, Rebel did recover his keys and wedding band thanks to the Charles E. Boyk Law Offices Key Return Program. Clair, of the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club in North Carolina, found Rebel’s keys four days later about 10 miles from where he had been fishing. She noticed the key return tag, contacted our office, and we soon had the keys and wedding band back in Rebel’s hands.

“I cannot express the relief,” Rebel said. “Not only was it my keys, but my wedding band was on one of the rings so it wouldn’t slip off [my finger]. And I lose it. Go figure, huh? The wedding band is one of a kind that my wife and I found in a very small boutique in St. Augustine, Florida.”

Lisa Hampton, Rebel’s wife and a client of ours, actually predicted her husband’s keys would be found, even if she didn’t

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Lay off the booze before you cruise

The holidays are a time for friends and family to gather and celebrate the season. But the holiday season is also one of the deadliest times of year due to alcohol-related car accidents.

Increased consumption of alcohol during special events and parties held around the holidays causes drinking and driving to be more prevalent.

According to Mothers Against Drunk Driving an estimated 1,000 people died during the period from Thanksgiving to New Year’s Eve in drinking-related crashes.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that most deaths involving alcohol-related car accidents occur on December 23rd and January 1st.

“Fatal car accidents are devastating no matter what the surrounding circumstances are,” Attorney Chuck Boyk said. “But when a drunk driver gets behind the wheel of a car and causes a preventable injury or death to someone else, the situation is even more tragic.”

Some see the holidays as a time when drinking is

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Mike Bruno appointed presidente of Italian-American Sports Club

"Va bene!"
Translation: “It’s ok!”

This is the exclamation from Attorney Mike Bruno when asked how he felt about his recent appointment to President of the Italian-American Sports Club.

Mike was elected to the position of 1st Vice President in April of 2008, but when former President Sam Nugent recently took a job out of town, the Italian-American Sports Club appointed Mike to take his seat.

The Toledo chapter of the sports club was formed in 1983 to provide talented young people with financial assistance so they can pursue higher education. The organization holds an annual dinner to raise money for the scholarships awarded to the student athletes.

This year, Danica Patrick will be the club’s featured speaker. Ms. Patrick is an Indy racecar driver who was named the Rookie of the Year for both the 2005 Indianapolis 500 and the 2005 Indy Car Series season. In 2008, Ms. Patrick became the first woman to win an Indy car race.

“It’s exciting because this is the first time since the dinners were established in 1986 that we have a female featured speaker,” Mike said.

The scholarship dinner will be held at the SeaGate Convention Centre in downtown Toledo on Wednesday, January 14, 2009, at 6:30pm. Tickets are available for $100 each by calling Sam Viviano at 419.265.6565 or by visiting the club’s website, www.italiansportsclub.com.

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More socially acceptable due to the good mood of the season, and increased time spent with family and friends.

It is those people, however, that are at risk for falling for the myths of alcohol consumption that can lead to a car accident.

It’s a good idea, though, to educate yourself about the effects of alcohol consumption. Below are some myths about alcohol compiled by Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

**MYTH:** As long as a person only consumer beer or wine instead of hard liquor, the intoxicating affects are minimized.

**FACT:** One 12 ounce can of beer, 5 ounce glass of wine or 12 ounce wine cooler contain the same amount alcohol as 1 1/2 ounces of hard liquor.

**MYTH:** It is easy to spot someone who has had too much to drink since they will show visible signs of intoxication.

**FACT:** Physical appearance can be misleading. Just one drink can impair one’s ability to drive safely, because judgment and motor skills are the first things affected by alcohol consumption.

Even at a blood alcohol level of 0.03, which is below the legal limit of 0.08, a person’s body can have trouble reacting to an emergency, standing with steadiness, steering a car or properly moving their eyes.

**MYTH:** Drinking coffee or eating a meal after drinking sobers up someone who has too much to drink.

**FACT:** Time is the only remedy for intoxication. It takes approximately one hour to rid the body of the effects of each drink consumed.

**MYTH:** I drive slower and more cautiously when I know that I have been drinking.

**FACT:** Drinking impairs your motor skills. Period. Overcompensating your driving, such as moving slowly or spending extra time on turns can still cause a car accident and injure another person. If you drink, don’t drive, no matter how little you think you’ve had.

Designate a driver before you arrive at an event or party, and if you are hosting a party, make sure to set rules on drinking and driving. Offer to provide a ride home or a place to sleep for guests who drink. Avoid driving during the early and late evening hours on holidays like Christmas and New Year’s, and always wear your seatbelt.

We owe it to each other to keep everyone as safe as possible this holiday season.

If you or someone you love has been injured in a car accident, order your FREE copy of The Ohio Accident Book today by calling 800.479.8203, code 8223, and learn how to protect your rights.
Ready, Set...Win!

By guest columnist Attorney Ben Glass

Here’s a great column by our good friend and fellow injury attorney Ben Glass of Fairfax, Virginia. We liked the message below and thought it was worth sharing.

Sometimes it seems that no one wants to take personal responsibility for outcomes in life. Yes, where you are today is a direct result of the decisions you have made to date, good or bad. It’s not about what life throws at you as much as it is about how successful you respond to life. Sure, bad things happen, but I can show you lots of highly successful people living lives of significance who have overcome HORRIBLE things that life threw at them. The great news, and the promise of America, is that where you are today tells you nothing about where you’ll end up - it only marks the starting point. There is abundant and unlimited opportunity for everyone.

I’ve been talking to a lot of small business owners who have been complaining about the “recession.” I have to tell you that I am one who believes the foundations of the economy are sound. I’ve also observed that since I’m not running for office, no one will be putting me on a commercial trying to make fun of me for saying that.

I’m kind of tired of hearing people moan about the situation they find themselves in if they aren’t going to do anything to fix it. (An example might be GM - lost $38.7 billion in 2007, the same year that Toyota made $16 billion - same economy, right?) If we are gonna bail out GM, are we gonna bonus Toyota? If not, why not?

I’m tired of the media trying, night after night, to get into everyone’s heads that the sky is falling. Do you really feel sorry for all those people who bought houses they obviously couldn’t afford just because “my real estate agent told me I could afford it?” and some bank lent them the money? Should we really suspend foreclosures and let folks live in a house they can’t afford - for free? Is the guy who’s whining because he lost $125 to fill up his gas-guzzling SUV worthy of your sympathy? I doubt it.

Life isn’t perfect, by any stretch, but here’s my tips to stay out of Eeyore’s storms:

1. Never, ever stop learning. I’ve got a stack of eight books (business, financial, motivational and biographical) sitting on my desk right now. I make a choice to read them instead of watching “America’s Greatest Models” or some other silly TV show. Last I looked, the library was still free. In fact, I frequent a couple of libraries, one near my office, and one near my house...they are usually filled with people. Smart people.

2. If you are running a business and it’s not running so well, what are you doing to study your way out of the situation your choices got you into? I promise that someone (and likely, many more than one) in your industry is kicking butt and taking names. Your job is to find out what they are doing that makes them successful.

3. I get up no later than 5:30 every morning to make sure that I have quiet time to plan my day and think about what I want to get accomplished. I don’t like to be in reaction mode all the time. Don’t have enough time in your life? Try getting out of bed earlier. Not that hard.

4. Associate with winners and dump the losers. I deliberately seek out smart folks to hang out with and seek advice from. I’ve interviewed high school cross county runners and multi-millionaires to figure out what makes them tick. You’d be surprised at how much access you can get to really successful people if you are asking them how they think rather than begging them for money. If the people around you are bringing you down, exercise your choice to get new friends.

5. I know where my priorities are - do you? Really? If I looked over your shoulder and followed you around a week, would I be able to observe and identify your highest priorities in life? Actions speak louder than words.

6. I guard my time fiercely. It’s an irreplaceable asset. You and I have exactly the same amount of it. Some folks let others steal it from them. Do you?

Attorney Ben Glass practices personal injury law in Virginia and Washington, DC. He is also a leader in providing ethical and outside the box marketing for lawyers. Visit his website www.vamedmal.com.

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New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know! Call Anneke at 419.720.4452 or email her at akurt@charlesboyk-law.com

Cases of Interest our office is handling

27-year-old woman is launched 60 feet away from her motorcycle after an accident, causing severe head injuries and fractures.

A chair fell off a table at Taco Bell onto a 51-year-old woman’s head, causing loss of consciousness and a closed head injury.

54-year-old woman spends six days in the hospital after a car accident causes injuries to her ribs, neck, and head.

28-year-old woman needs knee surgery and physical therapy after she is T-boned by another driver.

Driver runs a red light and hits mother and son, causing a broken wrist to mom and ER visit for the 2-year-old boy.