

---

National Association of State Boating Law Administrators'

# SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

Vol. 9 No. 5  
JUNE/JULY 1994



Ohio, Kansas tighten  
PWC regulations, p. 19-20

House plan to save  
state funds, p. 3

Directory update, p. 26

---

# President's Viewpoint



by Lt. Col. Charles Clark



Lt. Col. Clark

The peak of the summer season is upon us and the nation's recreational boaters have taken to the waterways in record numbers.

This, of course, means those of us in the business of boating safety are being tested once again. Different from previous years, this year poses a new challenge for the men and women dedicated to making our waterways safe. We are putting forth our best effort to prevent boating tragedies while struggling for our very existence in the same time allotment.

It's become a strange paradox in our business to be complemented for helping to provide the safest year on record for recreational boating and to be told simultaneously that our program is slated for elimination. One would believe that our

fellowship would be in line for an award. Instead, they might have us stand in line for unemployment.

It's not time to lose faith in your profession or in government. It is, however, time for the entire boating family to rally together and win this political battle together. This requires that everyone get actively involved with their Senator and Congressman, and have them get on board by signing on to the Wallop/Breaux letter on the Senate side and co-sponsoring HR 4477 on the House side. There is a sense of urgency in these words in that it will take the entire boating family to win this fight and everyone will have to participate.

Remember, the fight at hand represents the saving of human lives on our waterways. The funds in question belong to our boating public and have been designed by trust to represent their interest. For these funds to be deprived of their intended use would be a disservice to all the taxpayers of this nation. Win or lose

this fight, I would hope that all of our members and associates would like to go on record supporting fair play. Get involved!

As president of NASBLA, I would personally like to thank every man and woman, full-time, part-time, law enforcement, education specialist and administrative official, government or private industry professional who belongs to the boating safety family that shared in making 1993 the safest boating year on record. I believe we owe special gratitude to those field and office employees who endure the day-to-day grind and offer personal sacrifices to make our programs successful. Our subordinates generally don't know of the administrative complexities involved in funding and mission statements, but they provide the most important element of the program: insuring that our boating public receives our life saving services or insures safe fun on the nation's waterways.

Thanks to all of them! ⚓

## SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

A publication of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators  
c/o Box 11910, Ironworks Pike  
Lexington, KY 40578

Lt. Col. Charles Clark, president; Larry Rhinehart, vice president; Ed Carter, secretary/treasurer; and Jim French, immediate past president.

Vol. 9, No. 5

JUNE/JULY 1994

PUBLISHER  
MANAGING EDITOR  
EDITOR  
LAYOUT & DESIGN  
CIRCULATION

Bill Farden  
William R. Ladd  
Dave Workman  
Trish Fend  
Janet Thornburg

Small Craft Advisory is published bi-monthly by Outdoor Empire Publishing, Inc.  
P.O. Box 19000, Seattle, WA 98109  
Postmaster: send address changes to Small Craft Advisory, 511 Eastlake Ave. E., P.O. Box 19000, Seattle, WA 98109  
Phone: (206) 624-3845  
FAX: (206) 340-9816



Captain Chad Doherty

by Capt. Chad Doherty

It's been a delightful three years.

I'll miss working with you all. I still don't have firm plans, other than a lot of sailing, but I intend to keep my ties with all of you wonderful folks in the boating safety business.

Although I have not always agreed with some of you, I have listened. You have changed a lot of my opinions and I hope I have changed some of yours.

I'm convinced the key to safe boating is

## Coast Guard Comments

responsibility and I see safe boaters every time I go out (two races and a daysail this week alone!). The vast majority of boaters do not cause problems for themselves or others. We need to cultivate this group and make them our allies to get some sense in the minority that make the statistics. In a lot of cases, a concerned recommendation from a friend will do far more than anything we might officially say. And their pay for helping us? We can keep the *pleasure* in pleasure boating.

I wish you all fair winds and following seas and don't forget Rule Number One. ⚓



# Move underway in Congress to save boating safety funding for states; legislation now pending

by Dave Workman, Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A bi-partisan congressional coalition has introduced legislation that could provide a long-term, if not permanent, federal support for state boating safety programs.

According to Lt. Col. Charles Clark, president of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, his colleagues around the country are lobbying their own congressmen and women to support HR4477. Introduced in late May, the

bill would amend the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to provide continued funding for recreational boating safety programs.

"We need to do it (fund boating safety) in a consistent manner," said Clark, boating law administrator in Louisiana.

At stake is some \$70 million, split annually between the U.S. Coast Guard and the states. This year, however, the Clinton Administration proposed that no "discretionary" appropriation be made from funds deposited in the Boat Safety Account of the

Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, also known as Wallop-Breaux.

The recommendation set off a firestorm of debate as state boating law administrators began scrambling to save their share of the funding, which is derived from boat motor fuel taxes and excise taxes on boats under the federal Wallop-Breaux Act. It's a user-tax that does not require money from the general budget. Without federal support, many state boating safety programs would suffer, and some might cease to exist, Clark warned.

They've found some powerful friends in Congress. Rep. Bob Carr (D-MI), chairman of the House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee vowed to protect the grant program. Rep. Gerry E. Studds (D-MA), chairman of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, promised he would also fight to protect the funding.

Studds is one of the six original sponsors of HR4477. The others are Reps. W.J. Tauzin (D-LA), Jack Fields (R-TX), Howard Coble (R-NC), Herbert Bateman (R-VA) and Tillie Fowler (R-FL). All represent states with large recreational boating populations.

Under HR4477, the boating safety appropriation would be moved under the Dingell-Johnson umbrella, eliminating the necessity for annual appropriations through the Coast Guard to keep the state programs afloat. Ideally, the states would not only retain their initial \$35 million "split" from the boating safety account appropriation under this new plan, but they would also get a portion of the other \$35 million. The remainder would go to sport fish restoration. However, Clark acknowledged that the bill could face amendments on Capitol Hill, so it is too early to tell how the proposal will fare.

Clark predicted that HR4477 could wind its way through Congress by October, so that, if passed, it will not have an impact until FY 1996. In the meantime, Reps. Carr and Studds are leading the fight to maintain at least the state's share of this year's Wallop-Breaux apportionment, so the state programs don't suffer. ⚓

## Finer points of HR4477 explained

by George Stewart

It is with pleasure that I report to our readers of *Small Craft Advisory* that HR4477 was introduced on May 24.

This is a bill to amend the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to provide funding for recreational boating safety programs, and for other purposes.

We have been waiting for a target to shoot for, and HR 4477 is that target. We are hopeful that a large number of representatives will sign on as co-sponsors of this bill. Our membership is advising their U.S. representatives to contact Rep. Gerry Studds or Lee Crockett at (202) 226-3500, or by FAX at (202) 226-0059.

Our association's goal is Safe and Enjoyable Boating for all who enjoy our waterways. Seeing HR4477 passed and signed into law, in our opinion, will go far in making our goal a reality.

Here are the facts about HR 4477:

- It insures stable funding for the state boating safety program.
- It solves the Coast Guard's "scoring problem."
- It expands upon the existing transfer of funds from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Transportation established by the Clean Vessel Act.
- The Federal Aid in the Sport Fish Restoration account is amended to direct the Secretary of the Interior to set aside \$42.5 million (1996); \$49 million (1997), \$64 million (1998 and 1999). Noteworthy is the

fact that the states are committed to the appropriation process for fiscal 1995, the same as in previous years.

- The amount transferred to the State Boating Safety Grant Program will be reduced by \$35 million or the amount appropriated from the Boat Safety Account, whichever is less.
- The proposal eliminates the authorization of appropriations from the Boat Safety Account for the Coast Guard's operating expenses related to boating safety.
- Beginning in fiscal 1996, the \$35 million that was authorized to be appropriated to the Coast Guard is, in general, evenly split between the State Boating Safety Grant Program and the State Sport Fish Restoration Grant Program.
- Federal funds directed to the State Boating Safety Trust Fund are derived solely from the federal tax boaters pay on their gasoline used in motor boats. Not one penny comes from the general fund.
- This is a prime example of the user fee concept (i.e. user pays, user benefits).

What effect has the federal grant program had? Since the infusion of federal funds in the 1970s, the boating fatality rate in the U.S. has dropped from 20.2 per 100,000 boats to an all time low of 3.9 in 1993. This is a five fold decrease in boating related deaths. Further, this program has shifted the primary role for boating safety from the Coast Guard to the states, in line with the 1982 Coast Guard rules and mission study. ⚓

# Alabama governor signs landmark boating reform act

## Garner hails legislation, announces education effort

by Dave Workman, Editor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — The state of Alabama has passed landmark legislation that requires education and mandatory operator certification, adds vessels to the vehicular homicide statute, and sets severe penalties for violators.

Alabama Boating Law Administrator William B. Garner told *Small Craft Advisory* that this could be the first step toward passage of similar laws in other states. Thirteen other states have reportedly asked for copies of the law.

"This is definitely a landmark piece of legislation," he said.

There was not a dry eye in the room when Gov. Jim Folsom, Jr. signed the legislation into law April 28, because this law has deep emotional roots.

The catalyst for this legislation was death. Three young children were killed by careless boaters in two separate accidents last year. They were among 27 boating accident fatalities, but their tragic deaths ignited public sentiment. Two of the victims were sisters, Katelyn and Ashleigh Roberson. The other youngster was Sarah Lauren Archer (pictured in the April-May issue of *SCA*). Parents of the children were at Folsom's side as he signed the bill, which began life as the Alabama Boating Safety Reform Act of 1994, but will henceforth be known as the Roberson-Archer Act, in honor of the victims and their families.

The new law took effect immediately upon signature by the governor. The only tenet that phases in, over a five-year period, is the certification section. Sections dealing with vessel homicide and boating while intoxicated are now being enforced.

Under the new law, licenses can be suspended or revoked for violations. In the case of a vessel homicide conviction, the fine can be up to \$2,000 and a jail sentence can range from one to five years. The law also sets the legal blood alcohol intoxication minimum at .10. There are penalties for refusal of a breathalyzer test. Further, it requires life jackets for youngsters under



Historic event in Alabama was the signing of the Boating Safety Act of 1994. Present, from left: Randy and Susan Archer, Gov. Jim Folsom, Conservation and Natural Resources Commissioner Charley Grimsley, April and Robbie Roberson and state Boating Law Administrator William B. Garner.

age 8 while on any vessel, and mandates PFD wear by anyone riding a personal watercraft.

Most gratifying to Garner was the vote. The bill passed 30-2 in the Senate and 94-5 in the House. It had, from the outset, huge public support and the personal endorsement of Charley Grimsley, commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Grimsley was so moved by the tragedies that he personally financed a video entitled *Dead In The Water* and mailed copies to each member of the Legislature during the holidays. It got their attention. The video not only included interviews with the parents of the dead youngsters, but also closing credits that named all 27 victims of fatal boating accidents in 1993, many featuring their photographs. Adding to the vivid film were letters from some 40,000 Alabama residents to state lawmakers, all supporting the package. When the Legislative session opened, 22 of the state's 35 senators signed on as sponsors of the Act. The proverbial handwriting was on the wall.

Garner recalled, though, that many people advised against pushing the legislation this year. "This is an election year," said Garner, "and everybody told us we were crazy when we started. But it turned

out to be probably the only piece of major legislation that got through."

While it may not have been that tough a battle to pass the legislation, the hard part may be just beginning. Garner said the next couple of months could be hectic for the Marine Police Division, which he directs.

In an effort to step up enforcement, Garner reported, his division is adding a dozen more officers. He also is increasing the boating patrols to educate Alabama boaters about the new law.

"We will be concentrating on educating boaters about what is involved with this new law," said Garner. "We will do some television and radio spots, do radio talk shows and a lot of news releases." ↓

## Updated NASBLA Directory in this issue

There have been some significant changes since the 1994 National Association of State Boating Law Administrators directory was first published in January.

Some involved addresses and others involved personnel. So, this issue of *Small Craft Advisory* has been expanded to 32 pages, making room for an updated directory with all the latest available information, including new telephone numbers and addresses where necessary.

The Directory begins on page 26. ↓

*There was not a dry eye in the room when Gov. Jim Folsom, Jr. signed the legislation into law...*



## Arkansas voters will consider sales tax increase to support wildlife, boat safety

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Arkansas voters will this fall decide whether to add a one-eighth of one percent sales tax on all goods and services to help provide additional funding to the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission.

If approved, some of the anticipated \$14 million annually raised by the added sales tax will help finance boating safety programs, confirmed Mike Wilson, the state's boating law administrator. He told *Small Craft Advisory* that the measure, which appears on the November ballot, is patterned after a sales tax approved by voters in Missouri a few years ago.

The ballot measure seeks to amend the Arkansas constitution to allow for the sales tax hike, and dedicate it permanently for use by the Game & Fish Commission.

The Commission is faced with the same problem other state natural resource agencies have: funding. Wilson noted that the Game & Fish Commission is presently funded entirely with dedicated funds, including the revenue from fishing and hunting license sales, boat registration fees and a portion of the marine fuel tax.

The sales tax approach, he explained, will spread the cost of resource management to all the citizens.

"The general population benefits from hunting, fishing and boating activities, and the related recreational industries through employment," he noted.

For example, while sportsmen pay for boat ramps and accesses, Wilson explained, all such facilities are available for use by the general public. ↓

## Arizona mounts OUI checkpoints

Enforcement officers from the Arizona Department of Game & Fish, along with colleagues from other agencies, are again conducting checkpoints to find drunk boaters, confirmed Kim Keith with the ADGF law enforcement branch.

It's the second year for the OUI patrol, said Keith. The effort will again target Lake Havasu, but there will also be other checkpoints on smaller "inland" waters, he said.

This summer, after July 17, officers will have a tougher OUI law to employ against intoxicated boaters. Under the new law, conviction of a first violation could draw a \$250 fine and a jail term of not less than five consecutive days, said Keith. Conviction of a second offense within 60 months of the first conviction could bring a stiffer fine and a 90-day jail term, of which at least 30 days must be consecutive. A third conviction within that 60-month period could land the offender in jail for 120 days.

There's also a new personal water craft law taking effect July 17, he reported. Under the new statute, personal water craft operators must not operate their craft within 60 feet of another vessel, unless the two are exiting a flat wake/controlled speed area. There are requirements for PFD wear and the use of a lanyard kill switch if provided on the PWC model by the manufacturer. ↓

## Kentucky Dept. of Fish, Wildlife Resources absorbs state's Water Patrol division

FRANKFORT, Ky. — The Kentucky Water Patrol has become part of that state's Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources under executive order by Gov. Brereton C. Jones, and confirmed by the State General Assembly.

The change occurred April 16, and according to the Water Patrol's Reed Sanders, "This is going to benefit us. We're with an agency that has some clout in the Legislature."

Under the shift, uniforms will remain the same, but shoulder patches have changed, said Sanders. Of greater significance, water patrol and state conservation officers will now share duties, not only for boating law enforcement, but for fish and wildlife enforcement. Sanders said this will work out very well because all officers will now be able to take action on all manner of violations.

According to KDFWR Commissioner Tom Bennett, "Cross training between the law enforcement divisions means water patrol officers will be more alert to game law violations, while conservation officers will be more alert to boating violations."

Bennett also noted that there will no longer be a duplication of efforts by officers from two divisions who previously shared the same turf. The result will be that the public is better served, he said. ↓

## NESBAC names new officers

The Northeast States Boating Administrators Conference will install new officers for 1994-95 shortly.

They will officially be announced at the Puerto Rico conference of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, but *Small Craft Advisory* has learned some details. The new NESBAC president will be Col. Richard Murray, BLA from Massachusetts. Vice President will be Sgt. Alan Buck, BLA in Vermont. A secretary/treasurer has not been announced. Past President Tom McCabe, BLA in New Hampshire, said the site of next year's NESBAC conference will be in Massachusetts, possibly in Boston, Gloucester or Cape Cod. ↓

## NASBLA still seeking 1997 conference host

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators is still accepting offers from members to host the 1997 annual conference.

According to Ted Woolley, boating law administrator in Utah, BLAs willing to host that gathering should contact him at the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks & Recreation, 1636 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 or call (801) 538-7341. ↓

# NESBAC

Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

## NESBAC Officers

President: Tom McCabe, New Hampshire, (603) 293-2037  
Vice President: Richard Murray, Massachusetts, (617) 727-3905  
Secretary/Treasurer: Alan F. Buck, Vermont, (802) 244-8778  
Past President: Rod Harmic, Delaware, (302) 739-3440  
1994 NESBAC Conference: Cape May, New Jersey

## CONNECTICUT

There are 60 officers, including supervisors, who are involved in boating law enforcement efforts in Connecticut, according to Boating Law Administrator Joe Healy.

Last year, Connecticut officers logged 5,000 boardings and public contacts, he reported.

To combat drunk boating, this year's effort includes BUI stops on the Connecticut River. BUI teams will be organized and those stops will be advertised in advance. In 1993, Healy said, there were no BUI arrests reported.

The maximum penalty for violation of the drunk boating law is a fine of \$250 to \$500 and up to six months in jail for a second degree offense. A first degree offense carries a fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and up to one year in jail, he noted.

About 15 percent of the Connecticut boating safety enforcement effort is funded with federal money from the Wallop/Breaux account.

## DELAWARE

The Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife has 27 officers with responsibilities that include boating safety law enforcement, according to Capt. Rick Burrit.

He told *Small Craft Advisory* that 1993 saw officers conduct 40,000 boardings and 14,639 public contacts.

The division will establish check points to discover drunken boaters, and officers will also mount patrols during special events.

Last year, there were five BUI arrests, Burrit reported. A person convicted of boating under the influence is subject to a fine ranging from \$200 to \$1,000 and/or a stay in jail ranging from 60 days to six months. For a second offense within five years, the fines jump to between \$500 and \$2,000 and 60 days to 18 months in jail. Time in jail on the second conviction is not an option. Burrit said drunk boaters do go to jail.

The division depends on federal support funds for 50 percent of its enforcement effort.

## D.C.

The nation's capital police has 20 officers including two sergeants, involved in boating law enforcement, according to District Boating Law Administrator Lt. Stan Hawkins.

Last year, those officers performed 271 boardings and public contacts, Hawkins reported.

To combat drunken boating along the

Potomac River, Hawkins said the department's marine patrol mounts late evening and weekend patrols. This summer's emphasis is on BUI arrests, particularly in the Georgetown area.

Last year, four BUI arrests were reported.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is \$500, said Hawkins.

He told *Small Craft Advisory* that the entire marine patrol program, except for the cost of personnel, is financed through federal support funds. Equipment and materials are purchased entirely with grant funds.

## MAINE

The state of Maine has two sets of officers who enforce the boating laws, according to Parker Tripp, deputy chief warden for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

"We're broken up into game wardens and marine patrol officers," he explained. "We have 125 uniformed game wardens and 40 marine patrol officers for a total of 165 officers."

Last year, they contacted 19,835 people, and logged 21 arrests for intoxicated boating. To curb drunk boating, Tripp said the agency mounts special details on weekends, holidays and during community events along the coast. Also, the wardens are trained and certified in the use of the intoxilizer, he noted.

The penalties for OUI conviction start at \$300 and 48 hours in jail, none of which can be suspended. A second offense within six years, or refusal to take a blood alcohol test draws a \$500 fine and seven days in jail. A third offense within the six year period can bring a \$750 fine and 30-day jail stay.

Tripp added that 2.2 percent of the enforcement budget – that which covers the cost of marine patrol work – depends on federal Wallop/Breaux money.

## MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement fields 108 officers who enforce boating safety laws among their duties.

According to Col. Richard Murray, state boating law administrator, last year those officers logged 19,860 boardings and public contacts.

Murray told *Small Craft Advisory* that his agency's effort to stop drunken boating includes educational handouts at marinas and public access ramps, and high officer visibility on the weekends. Last year, Massachusetts logged four non-criminal BUI arrests and three criminal

arrests.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a \$100 fine and loss of registration.

Murray said 25 percent of his enforcement budget is dependent upon federal funding from the Wallop/Breaux account.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

There are 60 officers whose duties include boating law enforcement in New Hampshire, according to Tom McCabe, boating law administrator.

He told *Small Craft Advisory* that last year, officers reported 10,208 public contacts, which included issuance of warnings and summonses, and responding to calls for assistance. There were also courtesy boat inspections.

Officers go through annual BUI detection training. Last year, there were 23 BUI arrests reported, said McCabe.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a fine of up to \$500 and completion of a mandatory boating education class, with a \$200 administrative fee that is refundable at the end of the course.

Approximately 42 percent of New Hampshire's boating law enforcement effort is financed by federal Wallop/Breaux funding.

## NEW JERSEY

In the Garden State, the Marine Law Enforcement Bureau of the State Police has 161 officers who deal with boating law enforcement.

According to Capt. William Gronikowski, bureau chief and state boating law administrator, those officers performed 14,182 boardings and public contacts in 1993.

Their efforts to fight drunk boating include overtime enforcement programs, lectures to civic organizations, a marina outreach program and distribution of boating safety pamphlets.

Their enforcement efforts led to 263 BUI arrests in 1993. A third BUI conviction garners the state's maximum penalty: \$1,000 fine and 180 days in jail, with revocation of boating privileges for 10 years and revocation of a driver's license for two years.

Gronikowski reported that 9.75 percent of his division's boating enforcement budget



Tom McCabe



comes from federal support funds.

## NEW YORK

According to Boating Law Administrator Nelson Potter, there are 50 state boating law enforcement officers and about 350 local police officers involved in boating law enforcement.

Last year, they performed 50,022 public contacts and boardings, Potter reported. To combat drunk boaters, enforcement officers mount a special impaired boater recognition effort at Long Island, plus a public awareness campaign. Also, officers conduct night patrols.

In 1993, 118 citations for BUI were issued. The maximum penalties for a BUI conviction range from \$500 and/or 90 days in jail to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a Class E felony (three convictions in ten years), and operator privileges are suspended.

This range includes fines of \$350 and/or 15 days in jail to \$1,500 and/or 30 days for up to two offenses within five years, said Potter.

New York uses about ten percent of its federal boating safety monies for enforcement, but 14 units depend entirely on these funds, and seven more units use all their federal funding for maintenance, repair and training.

## PENNSYLVANIA

In Pennsylvania last year, boating law enforcement officers performed 49,959 boardings and public contacts, according to Boating Law Administrator John Simmons.

He said there are 82 officers in the

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission who handle boating law enforcement.

Simmons reported that his agency's efforts to combat drunk boating include boat checks at locks and dams on the Allegheny, Ohio and Monongahela rivers, with special concentration patrols in areas of known alcohol abuse. The agency also mounts weekend "blitz" patrols on waters with extensive boating use, bringing in officers from surrounding districts.

Last year, Pennsylvania boating safety enforcement patrols arrested 23 drunk boaters.

Simmons said the maximum penalty for BUI conviction is a fine ranging from \$250 to \$5,000 and a jail term not to exceed 90 days.

About 20 percent of the funding for Pennsylvania's boating safety enforcement effort comes from the federal Wallop/Breaux allocation.

## RHODE ISLAND

The tiny state of Rhode Island has five officers whose time is dedicated to boating law enforcement, said Mike Scanlon with the Department of Environmental Management.

They are supported by 31 conservation officers who may also enforce the boating laws. Last year, they conducted 1,250 boardings and contacted many more boaters. They also turned out 2,800 boating safety students.

Scanlon said officers combat drunken boating with prevention programs, including training that enables them to spot an intoxicated boater. There is also a dedicated driver program supported by the Rhode Island Harbormaster

Association & State Marine Trade Association, which the DEM supports, he noted.

Last year, there were only three BUI arrests. Intoxicated boating is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and jail time of up to a year, with a one-year loss of operator's privileges. Scanlon noted that if there is an injury involved, the jail stretch could be up to five years, and a fatality brings that to ten years.

Approximately a third of the state's boating safety program relies on federal funding.

## VERMONT

Vermont Boating Law Administrator Sgt. Alan Buck said 78 officers are presently on the rolls for boating law enforcement in his state.

He also noted that the Vermont State Police marine officers reported 5,200 boardings and public contacts last year.

Their anti-BUI effort includes training in identifying drunk boaters; They are also sensor-certified. In 1993, Vermont logged 19 arrests for drunk boating.

The penalties for a BUI conviction include suspension of privileges for a period of one year, plus fines that range from \$200 to \$750 for a first offense, and \$250 to \$1,000 for second and subsequent convictions. If a death results, the offender may be imprisoned for up to five years and/or fined up to \$2,000. That person may also face separate prosecution for manslaughter.

Buck said 50 percent of Vermont's boating safety enforcement effort is financed by federal support funds.

# SSBLAA

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia

## SSBLAA Officers

President: Mike Wilson, Arkansas, (501) 223-6400

Vice President: Bill Garner, Alabama, (205) 242-3673

Secretary/Treasurer: Bill Garner, Alabama (205) 242-3673

Member-at-Large: Alvin Taylor, South Carolina (803) 762-5034

Member-at-Large: Bob Sanders, Oklahoma (405) 425-2143

Past President: Ed Jenkins, North Carolina, (919) 733-7191

1994 SSBLAA Conference: May 14-19, Savannah, Georgia

## ALABAMA

Alabama, which recently passed landmark boating safety reform legislation, has 42 officers in the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources who enforce boating laws.

According to Bill Garner, the state's boating law administrator and key proponent of the new law, last year saw officers make 18,296 boardings and public contacts.

His agency has a strategy that bears a very pointed acronym: ADIOS (for Alcohol and



Bill Garner

Drug Impaired Operators Search). This is an officer awareness program designed to get drunks and substance abusers off the water.

Last year, 48 arrests for BUI were made, and with the new law taking effect, authorities will keep track on whether it results in increased arrests, or increased public awareness.

Garner told *Small Craft Advisory* that his agency depends upon federal support from the Boating Safety Act/Wallop-Breaux funds to pay 20 percent of Alabama's boating safety enforcement costs.

## ARKANSAS

According to Butch Potts, enforcement specialist with the Game & Fish Commission's

boating safety section, there are 124 officers on duty to enforce Arkansas boating laws.

He said there were three BUI arrests last year.

Potts did not have a solid figure on the number of boater contacts and boardings performed by enforcement officers in 1993.

Conviction of drunk boating can draw a \$500 fine and/or a six-month jail term, he said.

Half of the Arkansas boating safety enforcement effort is paid for through federal support funds.

## FLORIDA

According to Capt. Bob Poole with the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission,

there are 346 officers involved in freshwater boating law enforcement in the Sunshine State.

On the saltwater, 393 officers are with the Department of Environmental Protection's Marine Patrol, under Col. Curtis Earp.

Last year, saltwater officers conducted 162,833 vessel checks and reported 378,596 public contacts.

Florida's effort to combat BUI violations include advanced training in BUI detection, utilization of hand-held breathalizers, training in the use of Intoxilizer 5000 units, plus specialized enforcement details that target drunk boaters. The agency also issues news releases concerning BUI enforcement efforts.

Last year, Florida saltwater officers made 92 BUI arrests, Earp reported. Another 131 were arrested on fresh water.

Violators face some tough penalties. For the first offense, a fine of \$250 to \$500 is levied and they can be jailed for up to six months, and for a second conviction, the fine ranges from \$500 to \$1,000 and up to nine months in jail. Also, a third or subsequent conviction can earn the violator a fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 and up to a year in jail. For a third conviction within five years, at least 30 days imprisonment is required.

The court also requires attendance at a substance abuse course, and perform public service work.

Florida's saltwater effort depends on federal boating safety funding for 35 percent of its boating law enforcement activities. In fresh water, 55 to 65 percent of the funding comes from the Wallop/Breaux account apportionment.

## GEORGIA

According to Col. Joel Brown, Georgia boating law administrator, there are 239 enforcement positions in the Department of Natural Resources' enforcement division.

However, some of those officers are in training, so there are actually 210-215 in the field, Brown estimated.

He said last year they conducted 93,842 boardings and public contacts.

In an effort to combat BUI violations, Brown said the agency lets it be known that drunk boaters will be locked up.

"We do a lot of public relations," said Brown, "and public awareness efforts. We let them know we are going to lock them up."

Last year, DNR officers arrested 422 drunk boating suspects. The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a \$1,000 fine and up to one year in jail.

The majority of the DNR's enforcement effort is paid for with federal Wallop/Breaux



Col. Joel Brown

funds, said Brown.

## KENTUCKY

There are 46 officers in the Kentucky Water Patrol who enforce the state's boating laws, according to boating law administrator Col. Donovan Smith and education specialist Reed Sanders.

Last year, Kentucky's officers reported 11,000-plus boardings and public contacts.

Their special efforts to fight intoxicated boating include working overtime (courtesy a grant from the Kentucky Justice Cabinet) to enforce BUI laws. Last year, the effort paid off with 97 arrests for drunk boating.

The maximum penalty for conviction of a BUI offense is a \$100 fine.

Kentucky's water patrol depends on federal funding support to pay for 18 percent of its operation.

## LOUISIANA

State Boating Law Administrator Col. Charlie Clark told *Small Craft Advisory* that he has 218 officers in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife who enforce the boating laws.

Last year, they contacted 68,200 boaters.

Clark said Louisiana's effort to combat BUI includes fielding three five-man special task forces, and training all 218 officers in detection and apprehension of drunk drivers.

The department has two remote breath testing units in special vans that also have holding cells for suspects, said Clark.

"They travel around the state in support of strike forces and general patrols in targeted areas," he explained.

Conviction on a first offense for BUI can draw a \$500 fine and/or six-month jail term. Suspects who refuse a breathalyzer test lose their driver's license for six months. Conviction on subsequent offenses earns the offender mandatory jail time and a fine up to \$2,500. There were 248 BUI arrests logged by his officers last year.

Clark said 25 percent of his agency's enforcement effort is financed with federal Wallop/Breaux funding.

## MARYLAND

The Maryland Natural Resources Police is comprised of 238 uniformed officers, and they performed over 125,000 inspections of recreational vessels last year.

According to Boating Law Administrator James Peck, assistant secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, the agency has an aggressive approach to combating intoxicated boaters. There's the S.W.A.M.P. (Safer Waterways through Alcohol Monitoring Patrols) program, which conducts operations in several strategic areas.

There's also the Designated Skipper Program

which involves food and beverage establishments that become voluntary partners in the effort. Peck said a Designated Skipper is supplied with non-alcohol beverages in return for their pledge to remain sober and assume the responsibilities of the vessel's operator.

The agency also conducts saturation patrols that concentrate personnel and equipment in targeted areas, where a disproportional number of accidents and incidents have or may occur.

Last year, Maryland DNR reported 146 arrests for operating while intoxicated.

A person charged with OWI must appear in court. Conviction for a first offense carries a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or a year in jail. A second conviction can carry a fine of up to \$2,000 and/or two years in jail. A third offense earns a drunken boater a fine of up to \$3,000 and/or three years incarceration.

A second range of charges involves operation of a motor vessel while under the influence, which is also a "must appear" offense in court. A first conviction can draw a fine of up to \$500 and/or two months in jail, plus the completion of a boating safety course. A second conviction carries a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or a year behind bars.

Peck estimated that between 20 and 25 percent of the boating law enforcement effort in Maryland depends upon federal support funds.

## MISSISSIPPI

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks fields 340 sworn enforcement officers, who handle boating law enforcement among their duties.

According to state Boating Law Administrator Liz Raymond, these officers logged

17,646 boardings and public contacts last year.

To combat drunk boating, DWFP officers conduct additional water patrols in areas of high traffic. These also are utilized in metro area waterways, she reported.

The maximum penalties for a BUI conviction in Mississippi include fines not to exceed \$250, or imprisonment in the county jail for up to 30 days, or both.

She also reported that about one-third of the boating safety enforcement budget is financed by federal funds under Wallop-Breaux.



Liz Raymond

## NORTH CAROLINA

In North Carolina, the Wildlife Resources Commission has 214 officers whose jobs include boating law enforcement.

According to Lt. Randy Thomas, education specialist for the Enforcement Division, last year those officers reported 36,083 boardings



and public contacts.

In their effort to deter drunken boating, the agency produces public service announcements and concentrates enforcement patrols on waters where there may be a BUI problem, especially during and around holiday weekends in spring, summer and fall. Thomas also noted that there were 83 reported BUI arrests in the state last year.

The penalties for a BUI conviction include a \$500 fine and/or imprisonment of up to six months.

He said 28 percent of the agency's boating law enforcement effort depends on funding from the federal boating safety account.

## OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma has a compliment of 44 officers for boating law enforcement duties, according to Lt. Bob Sanders, commander of the Department of Public Safety's Lake Patrol.

Sanders, the state's boating law administrator, said 13,063 boardings and public contacts were logged last year by his officers. To combat boating under the influence problems, Oklahoma officers simply conduct routine patrols and routine safety inspection boardings.

Last year, the effort accounted for 13 BUI arrests. A BUI conviction can draw a maximum fine of not less than \$200 and no more than \$1,000 and a jail term of up to six months.

Oklahoma funds 100 percent of its boating enforcement effort with federal Wallop/Breaux support money, with the exception of salaries and benefits, said Sanders.



Lt. Bob Sanders

## PUERTO RICO

The island territory has 19 "direct cost" officers and 34 "indirect cost" officers who enforce the boating laws, according to the Department of Natural Resources.

They carry on an anti-BUI effort through public orientation boating courses. They have literature at marinas, harbors and yacht clubs. There were no BUI arrests in Puerto Rico in 1993.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction ranges from \$100 to \$500, depending upon the discretion of the judge.

Funds for the 19 "direct cost" officers come from federal boating safety apportionments.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

The South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department fields 220 officers whose duties include boating law enforcement.

According to Sgt. Donnie Pritcher, last year those officers reported 86,237 boardings and public contacts.

The agency mounts saturation patrols to combat boating under the influence violations, and with summer in full swing, those patrols are now in operation. Last year, there were two arrests for BUI under the specific drunk boating statute, but Pritcher said others were made under the negligent operation statute.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction ranges from \$50 to \$200 or 30 days in jail. In case of an injury-related conviction, the fine can jump from between \$5,000 and \$10,000, with jail time ranging from 30 days to ten years. If a fatality is involved, the fine can rise to a maximum of \$25,000 and the jail sentence can range from one to ten years, Pritcher reported.

He said 40 percent of the state's boating law enforcement effort is financed through federal Wallop-Breaux funding.

## TENNESSEE

State Boating Law Administrator Ed Carter reported that the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has 176 officers who enforce state boating laws.

Last year, Carter said, they performed 52,500 boardings and public contacts.

Special enforcement details target BUI trouble spots, and the agency also uses paid advertising on television and radio to combat BUI problems.

Carter said the maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is \$1,000 for the first offense, \$2,500 for the second and \$5,000 for the third. There's a mandatory one-year probation on all offenses, and loss of privileges for one to three years.

Carter said 50 percent of his state's boating law enforcement effort is financed through the federal funds.

## TEXAS

The Lone Star State has 461 officers involved in boating law enforcement, according to Boating Law Administrator Carlos Vaca.

These officers reported an astounding 156,250 boardings and public contacts last year.

Texas' efforts to combat drunk boaters include BUI Task Force operations in problem areas. Last year, that resulted in 108 citations being issued for drunk boating.

The maximum penalties for a first offense are \$1,000 and/or 180 days in jail. For the second offense, up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. A third conviction will earn the offender a \$2,000 fine and/or up to five years in prison, said Vaca.

He also reported that 17.6 percent of his enforcement budget depends on federal boating safety funds.

## VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources has 15 officers to enforce the boating laws, according to Shawn-Michael Malone, coordinator of boating safety education.

Last year, he reported, they logged 1,077 boardings and/or public contacts.

To fight drunken boating in the territory, the agency mounts a public information campaign. There were no arrests recorded for boating while intoxicated last year, Malone said.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a \$1,000 fine and/or imprisonment for up to one year and a \$2,000 fine and/or up to two years in jail for subsequent violations.

Fifty percent of the Virgin Islands enforcement effort depends upon federal support funds, Malone noted.

## VIRGINIA

One hundred forty officers are involved in boating law enforcement activities this year in Virginia, according to Boating Law Administrator Nancy Jamerson.

Last year, they conducted 32,163 boardings or public contacts, she reported. In an effort to curb boating under the influence, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries sets check points for stopping boats suspected of being operated by drunk boaters, noted Major Lewis Brandt of the Law Enforcement Division. He said last year, there were 34 BUI arrests.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction in Virginia is a \$2,500 fine and 12 months in jail.

The agency reports that approximately 4.8 percent of the budget is from federal funds for boating enforcement.

"We depend on it greatly," he observed. "If it wasn't for that money, we wouldn't be sailing a single vessel. Those funds are absolutely vital to us."

## WEST VIRGINIA

The West Virginia Department of Natural Resources has 93 officers whose duties include enforcement of the state boating laws.

The Law Enforcement Division, under BLA Col. Richard M. Hall, uses video and audio public service announcements and special BUI patrols to combat intoxicated boaters. They also have an emergency response exercise, to which the public is invited, and a half-hour boating show on television that takes calls from the audience.

Last year, there were seven BUI arrests reported by the division. The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a \$300 fine and/or ten to 100 days in jail.

At least 90 percent of the division's boating law enforcement effort depends on federal funds from the Wallop/Breaux account.

# NCIABLA

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

## NCIABLA Officers

President: Tom Wakolbinger, Illinois, (217) 782-6431  
Vice President: Jeff Gayer, Kansas, (313) 672-5911  
Secretary/Treasurer: Bill Engfer, Wisconsin, (608) 266-2141  
Member-at-Large: Bill Shattuck, South Dakota, (605) 773-3630  
Past President: Leroy Orvis, Nebraska, (402) 471-5579  
1994 NCIABLA Conference: Chicago, Illinois

## ILLINOIS

The Illinois Department of Conservation's Division of Law Enforcement has 144 officers in the field, enforcing boating laws, according to Deputy Chief Tom Wakolbinger, the state's boating law administrator.

His agency does not keep count of boardings and public contacts, but they do log the number of citations issued for BUI. Last year, 57 drunk boaters were arrested, Wakolbinger reported.

To curb intoxicated boaters, the agency does annual training efforts, and also mounts special details in problem areas. Maximum penalties for BUI convictions are \$1,000 in fines and/or six months in jail, plus revocation of operator privileges.

Wakolbinger said his agency depends considerably on federal funds, with 50 percent of the enforcement effort paid for with these monies.

## INDIANA

Indiana fields 197 officers who enforce the state boating laws, according to Boating Law Administrator Maj. Larry G. Rhinehart.

He reported 4,658 boardings and public contacts last year.

"We usually have a BWI program utilizing officers working on their days off to deter or apprehend BWI offenders," said Rhinehart. "This program runs on holidays and weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day."

It seems to work, as the officers reported 81 drunken boating arrests in 1993. The maximum penalty for a BWI conviction in Indiana is structured on a three-tier schedule: A simple BWI arrest is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine. A BWI conviction with a previous conviction, or that comes as the result of serious bodily injury is a Class D felony with a two-year jail sentence and \$10,000 fine. A BWI that results in a death is a Class C felony carrying a five-year jail term and \$10,000 fine, said Rhinehart.

A third of his state's enforcement effort is financed with the use of federal Wallop/Breaux support funds.



Maj. Larry Rhinehart

## IOWA

Seventy-eight officers are on duty in Iowa to enforce boating safety laws, according to Rick McGeough, state boating law administrator.

While Iowa doesn't maintain a running account of boardings and public contacts, it is pretty tough on intoxicated boaters. The maximum fine for drunk boating is a \$1,000 fine and/or imprisonment for up to three years. Last year, two people were arrested by Iowa DNR officers for BUI.

McGeough reported that 20 percent of his boating law enforcement budget is derived from the federal funding to the state via Wallop/Breaux.

## KANSAS

In Kansas, there are 68 officers involved in boating law enforcement, according to Boating Law Administrator Jeff Gayer.

He told *Small Craft Advisory* that there were 12,124 boardings and public contacts in 1993. To combat boating while intoxicated violations, Gayer said officers with the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department use selective enforcement.

Last year, there were three BWI arrests reported.

The maximum penalties for a BWI conviction in Kansas are a \$500 fine and one year imprisonment, plus required completion of a boating education course.

Approximately 63 percent of Gayer's enforcement budget is derived from the federal Wallop/Breaux account.



Jeff Gayer

## MICHIGAN

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources fields 188 officers whose duties include boating law enforcement, according to Sgt. Lyle Belknap, education specialist.

He reported that their effort to combat drunk boating includes BUI training in arrest and testing, use of portable breath testers and assigning a PBT to an officer for use on boat

patrol. There are also cooperative patrols with local sheriff departments and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Belknap reported 57 BUI arrests last year.

The penalty for a BUI conviction can be punished by one or more of the following: Community service for up to 45 days; imprisonment for up to 90 days and a fine of between \$100 and \$500.

If a violation occurs within seven years of a prior conviction, the offender can be fined for \$200 to \$1,000, plus community service ranging from 10 to 90 days, and a jail term of up to one year. The offender may also be jailed for 48 hours and up to a year.

If there's a conviction within ten years of two or more priors, it's a felony that can draw a sentence of up to five years and a fine of \$500 to \$5,000. A jail term shall not be suspended.

Belknap said 50 percent of his agency's boating law enforcement effort is paid for with federal funds.

## MINNESOTA

According to State Boating Law Administrator Kim Elverum, Minnesota currently has 136 conservation officers in field positions, and 11 vacancies due to budget shortfalls.

All conservation officers can enforce the state's boating laws. In addition, about 75 out of 87 counties have a water patrol program.

There were approximately 40,000 stops made during 1993 by DNR officers and sheriffs' deputies. This is down from a normal year because of the high water and wet summer we experienced, he said.

For the past eight years, the Minnesota DNR and county sheriffs have been enforcing the BWI law, passed in 1986. They have used federal funds to supplement enforcement during times and at locations where BWI is a problem. There were 97 arrests statewide by conservation officers and sheriff's deputies for BWI. This is down from a normal year, again due to last year's high water.

If a person is found guilty or pleads guilty to BWI (first offense) the maximum sentence



Kim Elverum



is a \$700 fine, up to 90 days in jail and the loss of motorboat operating privileges for 90 days. A refusal to take the test would automatically invoke a civil penalty of \$500 and a suspension of operating privileges for one year, Elverum reported.

Last year, 10.3 percent of the expenditures for enforcement were from federal funds, he said.

## MISSOURI

The Show-Me State has 67 officers whose duties include boating law enforcement, according to state Boating Law Administrator Col. Larry Whitten.

He reported 21,057 boardings and public contacts in 1993. Whitten noted that the effort to fight intoxicated boating includes public education, a bumper sticker program, BUI detection training and sobriety checkpoints on Missouri waters.

Last year, Missouri officers reported 131 BUI arrests. The maximum penalty for a first BUI conviction is up to six months in jail and a \$500 fine. For the second conviction within a year, the fine climbs to \$1,000 and for a third conviction, the offender can be slapped with a fine of up to \$5,000.

Whitten reported that slightly over 25 percent of his law enforcement division's budget is derived from the federal Wallop/Breaux apportionment.

## NEBRASKA

State Boating Law Administrator Leroy Orvis reported that 58 Nebraska Game & Parks officers are presently available for boating law enforcement in the Cornhusker State.

Last year, they performed 16,072 boardings and public contacts, according to Orvis. He also said there are no special programs to target drunken boaters, and last year (the year of the floods) there were no BUI arrests.

The maximum punishment for a BUI conviction is a \$1,000 fine and six months in jail, with operator privileges suspended for six months. There is also a requirement to attend an alcoholism treatment program.

Noted Orvis, "Fifty percent of our boating enforcement and enforcement equipment is paid for from federal funds."



Leroy Orvis

## NORTH DAKOTA

State Boating Law Administrator Wilmer Pich told *Small Craft Advisory* that there are 24 wardens and four supervisors with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department whose duties include boating law enforcement.

In 1993, these officers performed 416 patrols during which they contacted 8,861 boaters.

Pich reported that North Dakota's effort to curb boating while intoxicated includes routine patrols, saturation patrols and responding to complaints. There were two BUI arrests logged last year, he said.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a fine of up to \$500 and 30 days in jail.

Pich said 50 percent of his agency's boating law enforcement effort is funded through Wallop/Breaux apportionment money.



Wilmer Pich

## OHIO

The Buckeye State's Department of Natural Resources has 48 field officers and nine more in the central office who enforce the state's boating laws.

According to Boating Law Administrator Paul Gregory, Ohio officers last year performed 22,765 boardings and public contacts.

Ohio's DNR officers use two portable camcorders in their efforts to take drunk boaters off the state's waters. These were purchased last year and can be utilized virtually anywhere, said Gregory. Officers are also trained and certified by the state's Department of Health in the use of Alco-Sensor R.B.T. III portable breathalyzers. They have also completed training in the D.A.P. course.

In addition, special patrols have been set up at various inland lakes, and several have been multi-agency efforts. A sobriety check point was conducted at Port Clinton on the Portage River, too. This attracted media attention, including a visit from ABC's "20/20" news crew.

The maximum penalties for an OUI conviction are a \$1,000 fine and/or up to one year in jail.

He said 18 percent of his state's boating law enforcement effort is funded through federal Wallop/Breaux monies.



Paul Gregory

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Boating Law Administrator Bill Shattuck reported that 70 officers with the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department handle boating law enforcement among their duties.

Last year, even when there was high water and poor weather, they performed an estimated 6,000 boardings and public contacts.

The state has a new BUI law that did not get much enforcement attention last year due to the natural disasters. This year, said Shattuck, enforcement will pick up.

"We hope to target high volume, high risk areas," he said.

In 1993, there were three BUI arrests. The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or one year in jail.

Shattuck said about half of his state's boating law enforcement budget comes from the Wallop/Breaux account allocation.

## WISCONSIN

There are 19 dedicated enforcement positions in Wisconsin whose time is spread between 186 officers statewide for the purpose of boating law enforcement, according to Boating Law Administrator William G. Engfer.



William G. Engfer

He said approximately 80,000 boardings and public contacts were performed last year by enforcement officers. The effort to curtail drunken boating includes specialized checks, specialized training for all officers and the use of specialized equipment, he reported. BUI enforcement is a priority with Wisconsin officers.

Last year, 148 arrests were reported for BUI, which is down from the norm of 200-plus, due to the high water problems.

The maximum penalties for a BUI conviction on the first offense is \$419 plus mandatory class and alcohol assessment. If an injury is involved, the fine climbs to \$2,000 and one year in jail with mandatory alcohol treatment and education class.

A second offense brings a \$1,000 fine plus six months in jail and treatment, and a third conviction draws a \$2,000 fine and one year in jail, again with required education and treatment.

Engfer said 50 percent of his agency's enforcement funding is derived from federal support monies under Wallop/Breaux.

# WSBAA

American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

## WSBAA Officers

President: Tim Wade, Arizona, (602) 942-3000

Vice President: Rick Storm, Colorado, (303) 791-1954

Secretary/Treasurer: John Bañuelos, California, (916) 445-6281

Past President: Fred Messman, Nevada, (702) 688-1549

1994 WSBAA Conference: July 18-21, Colorado Springs, Colorado

## ARIZONA

The Grand Canyon State currently has 146 officers involved in boating law enforcement, according to Kim Keith, new state boating law administrator.

These officers last year conducted some 15,000 boardings and public contacts, said Keith.

To promote boating safety, the Arizona Game and Fish Department produces public safety announcements, conducts BUI checkpoints and operates special enforcement efforts at high-traffic areas during peak use periods.

Of the approximately 300 BUI arrests statewide last year, the AGFD accounted for 62, Keith reported. For three or more violations, a person could spend up to eight months in jail with a Class 4 felony conviction, and be fined a minimum of \$250.

Arizona depends on federal boating safety funds to pay nearly a third of its enforcement costs, primarily for equipment.

## CALIFORNIA

According to Dolores Farrell, senior boating administrator for the Golden State, over 100 law enforcement agencies are involved in the enforcement of California boating laws.

In the effort to curtail drunken boating, the California Department of Boating and Waterways two years ago purchased 30 Alco-Sensor IV units and this year is obtaining 50 more units. The agency trains officers on the use and calibration of the Alco-Sensors.

The penalties for a BUI conviction include court-ordered attendance at a boating safety course. Anyone convicted of a BUI within seven years of a previous conviction shall be ordered by the court to pass that course, and can also be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 and a stretch of one year in the county jail.

Farrell also reported that operating a vessel under the influence is reported to the Department of Motor Vehicles, which could turn up prior convictions. Two BUI violations will result in the suspension of a driver's license because a BUI and DWI conviction are interchangeable.

Federal funds are used for statewide enforcement training and for the purchase of vessels and equipment by local marine patrols.

About \$650,000 is used for this purpose, Farrell said.

## COLORADO

The Colorado Department of Natural Resources has 95 full-time and 140 seasonal employees involved in boating law enforcement, according to Boating Law Administrator Rick Storm.

He said last year they reported 7,493 public contacts and 11,084 vessel inspections on Colorado waters. There were also 861 water assists and 14,921 information contacts.

There is no "special" effort to combat drunken boating, but the DNR does train officers in BUI recognition and stresses that BUI cases are a high priority.

"We purchase field equipment including portable breath testers, for use in suspected BUI cases," he reported.

Last year, there were 14 BUI arrests logged. The maximum penalty for conviction on a first offense includes a mandatory minimum of five days in jail to a maximum 180 days. There's also a possible \$1,000 fine, 96 hours of useful public service, two years probation and a court order to not operate a motorboat or sailboat for three months.

Fifty percent of the law enforcement effort depends on federal support funds, Storm said.

## GUAM

Guam presently has eight officers assigned to boating law enforcement, according to Boating Law Administrator Bradley A. Hokanson with the Guam Police Department.

These officers performed 876 boardings and public contacts last year, said Hokanson. He also noted that Guam is not experiencing a BUI problem, and there were no arrests for BUI in 1993.

Hokanson added that the Guam Police Department funds 100 percent of its boating safety effort with federal support funds.



Rick Storm

## HAWAII

Hawaii will see its boating under the influence statute take effect Jan. 1, 1995, according to Lt. Roger Dainard with the state's marine patrol division.

He said there are 43 officers whose duties include boating law enforcement, and they all are commissioned as sheriff's deputies.

They performed 74 boardings and hundreds of public contacts last year, he added. There were also 47 search and rescue operations.

The boating law enforcement effort depends heavily upon federal grant funds, said Dainard. He estimated over 80 percent of the program is funded by federal money.

"If it wasn't for the federal boating grant system," he observed, "we'd be in major trouble. If that funding stopped, we would come to a screeching halt."

## IDAHO

According to Pat Beale with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, the agency has three full-time year around, 30 full-time seasonal and 40 part time staffers who enforce the boating laws.

He also noted that Idaho sheriff's departments handle much of the boating law enforcement in the Gem State.

Officers get two hours of alcohol law enforcement training in the basic marine deputy school, and another eight in the advanced school, Beale said. There's also a three-day OUI instructor's class, and each department may provide additional in-house training.

Beale said there were about 27 BUI arrests by state officers last year.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is a \$300 fine and/or 30 days in jail. In the case of an injury, it's a felony that carries up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine with a mandatory 30 days in jail.

Sixty percent of the Idaho boating law enforcement effort is financed by federal boating safety funds, said Beale.

## MONTANA

Out west in the Big Sky Country, there are 85 wardens with the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks who count boating law



enforcement as part of the job.

That's the word from boating education specialist Elizabeth Lodman, who noted that there are three temporary summer water safety officers, as well.

Last year, they reported 17,415 boat checks and public contacts. Lodman said the state combats drunken boating via public education with public service announcements.

The maximum fine for a BUI conviction is \$100 to \$500 and 24 hours in jail for the first offense. There were no BUI arrests reported in 1993.

Half of the state's boating enforcement effort is paid for by federal Wallop/Breaux support funding.

## NEVADA

Boating Law Administrator Fred Messmann told *Small Craft Advisory* that Nevada has 30 officers who work in boating law enforcement.

Last year, they reported 8,116 boardings and 28,529 boater contacts.

Messmann's anti-BUI strategy includes a public awareness campaign and special patrols. All boating officers are trained in HGN (Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus) so they can detect intoxication.

Last year, there were 28 arrests for BUI and three DUI violations, Messmann reported.

The maximum fine for a BUI conviction is \$1,000 and the violator can also draw a six-month jail sentence.

Twenty-five percent of Nevada's boating law enforcement effort is funded through the federal Wallop/Breaux allocation, he said.

## NEW MEXICO

New Mexico fields 16 full-time dedicated boating law enforcement officers, said Boating Law Administrator Dave Skasik.

"We have an additional 48 officers who can supplement and augment the marine program," added Skasik, the field operations director of Boating Safety and Law Enforcement in the state's Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department.

Last year, there were 11,855 boardings and public contacts reported. Special efforts to combat BUI violations include public notifications, random boat stops and operational observations.

There was one BUI arrest reported last



Dave Skasik

year, he noted. Penalties for BUI conviction range from \$50 to \$500 and/or up to 30 days in jail.

New Mexico depends on federal Wallop/Breaux funds to pay for 25 percent of the boating law enforcement program, he said.

## OREGON

Out in the Beaver State, according to Boating Law Administrator Paul Donheffner, there's the equivalent of 50 full-time officers enforcing boating laws.

Three times that many officers work in a reserve, part time capacity, Donheffner reported.

During 1993, those officers tallied 55,279 public contacts and boardings.

Oregon has some special efforts aimed at drunk boating. The Oregon State Marine Board offers BUI training to the Coast Guard, state police and county sheriffs' departments, plus all other law enforcement officers in the marine law enforcement environments. The department also displays safe boating messages on billboards, and funding a lab technician's position at the OSP state forensics lab for the purpose of getting the portable intoxilizer 1400.

Last year, Oregon issued 41 BUI citations, and a conviction results in revocation of all boat registrations for up to three years. Convicted offenders are prohibited from operating a boat for one year and are required to complete a NASBLA approved safe boating course. The fine is not to exceed \$5,000 and/or jail may not exceed one year.

Approximately one-third of Oregon's enforcement money comes from the federal boating safety matching funds.



Paul Donheffner

## UTAH

The Beehive State's Department of Natural Resources fields 120 officers whose duties include enforcement of the boating laws.

Boating Law Administrator Ted Woolley, the boating coordinator with the Division of Parks and Recreation, said the agency has purchased preliminary breath test instruments for rangers, and provided them with additional BUI training.



Ted Woolley

Woolley reported 16 arrests last year for drunken boating.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000, said Woolley.

## WASHINGTON

Boating Law Administrator Jim French reported that local enforcement agencies provide the manpower for boating law enforcement.

The State Parks Commission has approximately 25 full time and 50 part-time personnel who handle boating enforcement.

Last year, 5,098 public contacts and boardings were reported. To combat drunken boating, there is biennial training, and proposed legislation for 1995 aimed at BUI. French also utilizes public service announcements and educational materials to spread the word about boating safety.

There were 35 BUI arrests reported last year.

The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. French said the court may also order the defendant to pay restitution for any damage or injuries his/her actions cause.

Federal funding pays for 100 percent of the state boating safety coordination effort, and 15 percent of field activities.

## WYOMING

According to Wyoming Boating Law Administrator Russ Pollard, there are presently 80 commissioned officers (six temporary special enforcement officers) devoted to boating enforcement.

Commissioned officers don't document boardings or contacts, but the special officers last year did contact 2,180 boats, Pollard reported.

This spring, Wyoming officers received BUI enforcement training, which they will use in the field while on regular patrol, to spot drunk boaters. Pollard said the officers have also done a lot of work to educate boaters.

Last year, four BUI arrests were logged, he said. The maximum penalty for a BUI conviction is \$750, and this is not a bondable offense. The suspect must appear in court.

Pollard said 50 percent of Wyoming's boating safety enforcement efforts are financed by federal support funds.



Russ Pollard

# A Job Well Done

## Delaware officers risk heavy seas to save fisherman

**A** pair of Delaware conservation officers battled high winds and heavy seas to save the life of a commercial gillnet fisherman April 7, according to Major Rod Harmic, state boating law administrator.

Unfortunately, the incident resulted in the loss of another fisherman (the survivor's father) and ended a two-year period during which the state reported no boating fatalities.

The fishermen were off-shore about 1.5 miles in Delaware Bay, said Harmic, when their boat's motor conked out. They had no radio, either, said Harmic, and it wasn't long after the winds began kicking up the waves that their fishing boat began taking on water. To make matters worse, they had gillnets out, and the nets became tangled around the props.

"They were afraid if they stayed with the boat," Harmic explained, "they might be thrown out of the boat and get hung up in that mass of net. So, they put on PFDs and decided to swim for it. They hadn't gone too far before they concluded that swimming was not a very good idea."

About that time, the marina where the fishermen moored their vessel notified authorities that they were overdue, Harmic recalled. At that time, Capt. Bayard Holleger and Cpl. Jeff Howell responded in their 22-foot Boston Whaler patrol boat.

According to Harmic, the officers located the drifting fishing boat pretty fast, but not so the drifting fishermen.

"They started a search pattern and finally found a hat floating," said Harmic. "After further searching, they located the fishermen. The son was holding onto his

father (who had drowned by then). The officers called Cape May and the Coast Guard dispatched a helicopter and the came out, picked up the fishermen and flew them to the hospital, where the father was pronounced dead."

During the course of the rescue, Capt. Holleger slipped on the wet deck of the patrol boat as he was bringing the fishermen on board and suffered a sprained ankle, which required treatment at the hospital.

"Our officers deserve a good bit of credit in making that rescue in a 22-foot Whaler on heavy seas," said Harmic. "It was very rough and windy."

Despite the loss of one life, Harmic is philosophical about the incident.

"The important thing is that a life was also saved," he said. ↓

## Rabeneck is Minnesota water patrol deputy of the year



*Rice County Sheriff's Deputy Rick Rabeneck (center) receives his Boat and Water Safety Deputy of the Year award from Kim Elverum (left) and Sheriff Dave Schweisthal.*

RICE COUNTY, Minn.—Sheriff's Deputy Rick Rabeneck of Faribault was honored recently with the Department of

Natural Resources "Water Patrol Deputy of the Year" award, according to Minnesota Boating Law Administrator Kim

Elverum.

Rabeneck received the award for outstanding accomplishments in boat and water safety during the past year.

The deputy sheriff has been employed by Rice County since 1978, and became deputy in 1985. He was recognized for efforts on enforcement and education, the boating while intoxicated law, his work with the county's dive team on search and recovery, his commitment to training personnel and his many excellent cooperative efforts with the DNR. In his position, Rabeneck supervises 19 volunteer water patrol deputies and another 19 dive team members.

In addition to his water patrol work, Rabeneck heads up the county's emergency services and emergency medical services programs, is the 911 director and has been a DNR firearms safety instructor for the past 21 years. ↓



## Missouri officer awarded for sacking major boat thief



Sgt. James E. Marlin (center) and Special Investigator Marcia Lange each receive awards for Investigator of the Year. Looking on is Larry Ross, president of the National Association of Marine Investigators.

BOSTON, Mass.—A Missouri Water Patrol officer and an insurance company investigator earned awards as Investiga-

tors of the Year from the National Association of Marine Investigators for their work in breaking up a major theft ring.

## Kentucky Water Patrol cracks second theft ring in two years

**F**ive grand theft suspects were waiting to appear before a Hart County, Kentucky grand jury as the presses began rolling on this issue of *Small Craft Advisory*.

They ran afoul of a Kentucky Water Patrol captain and five officers who joined forces to crack a major boat theft ring; the second such score for the Water Patrol in two years.

Capt. K.R. Henderson and officers Larry Skaggs, Mike Wood, Larry Moran, Larry Wells and Tim Moutardier recovered over \$25,000 in stolen property as the result of their investigation. The booty included boats, trailers, outboard motors and electronics that had been stolen from Nolin, Barren and Green River reservoirs, according to Water Patrol Director Col. Donovan Smith.

It took six months for the investigation, which involved not only the Water

Patrol team, but other enforcement agencies. In addition to the theft charges, the five suspects also face drug charges.

While not in the realm of the earlier investigation — that one recovered over \$150,000 in stolen boats and other property in 1992 — this latest case reunited the stolen property with its rightful owners.

Smith, taking note of the Water Patrol's recent transfer to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, said the shift will result in more cross-training of conservation officers, enabling them to help in routine patrol for boating safety infractions. That will allow Water Patrol officers to devote more time to marine theft investigations.

"Ultimately," said Smith, "we would like to increase our efforts in marine theft investigations. The boating public in Kentucky would be well served by more of these efforts." ♪

Sergeant James E. Marlin and Special Investigator Marcia Lange of the First Marine Insurance Company were honored earlier this year. Their case culminated in at least one arrest and prison term for the ringleader, after a three-year investigation. It led to the recovery of nearly 40 boats and almost a million dollars in recovered property.

The investigation stretched into several states, and capped an effort that began in 1988 when Marlin began investigating a suspect using a large number of aliases in connection with stolen boats.

During the investigation, Marlin and Lange worked together to obtain information on the suspect boats so they could be tracked. The effort eventually involved agencies in other state and local jurisdictions, and federal authorities.

The case centered around Lake of the Ozarks, according to Missouri Boating Law Administrator Col. Larry Whitten. From 1988 through 1991, several boats, motors and trailers were stolen from around the lake. Marlin began tracking the suspect through aliases he used on boat registrations and by matching dates of birth through revenue files with other states. A match developed through Missouri and Alabama.

A break came when the suspect, Walter Frey of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., was arrested at Lake of the Ozarks. The 62-year old Frey was staying at a motel where he had a boat stolen from Oklahoma stashed. He also had blank bills of sale, blank registration certificates from different states, stolen titles, actual boat registrations and other material.

Marlin and Lange discovered that Frey and an accomplice used nearly 55 aliases on boat transactions. With the help of Missouri Water Patrol Officer Brett Forsythe, they began checking on boats stolen in Missouri and Texas, and eventually spread the web of the investigation through Alabama, Illinois, Tennessee, Florida, Kentucky and Oklahoma as well.

Several charges are still reportedly pending against the accomplice, but Frey is now in a Missouri prison on state charges and is awaiting federal charges. ♪

## Louisiana wildlife agents perform daring rescue

NEW ORLEANS, La. — What started out as a routine patrol for two Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries enforcement agents turned into a life-or-death struggle off shore from here—Death lost.

It all happened this past March 26, when Senior Agents Ray Champagne and John Lopez were on patrol east of the Lake Ponchartrain Causeway. A New Orleans resident, David West, was off shore approximately five miles from West End Park, in rough seas with his sailboat, when he decided to take a swim. Once in the water, West's boat, with his passenger, began drifting away rapidly due to the high seas and gusting winds. The passenger was unable to steer the sailboat back to within reach of West.

It wasn't long before the passenger placed a distress call on the V.H.F. radio and the Coast Guard and Agents Champagne and Lopez, aboard the *Delta Tide*, responded. The Coast Guard plotted the location of the distress call, while both agents began searching for the 33-year-old West's vessel.

Eventually, the agents located the boat on radar, and they moved to within a quarter-mile of the boat, beginning a sector search of the area to find West. Finally, Lopez spotted West, and threw a life ring to him. Unfortunately, West had become too exhausted to hold onto the ring. Lopez dove into the water, moved to West's side and helped him swim back to the *Delta Tide*.

Also participating in the search for West were a Coast Guard helicopter and two other patrol vessels. ↓

## West Virginia boating officers receive awards of merit

Two West Virginia boating enforcement officers received certificates of merit from the U.S. Coast Guard in recognition for their contributions to the field of boating safety.

Lt. David Murphy, the state's boating safety coordinator, and Sgt. Tim Coleman, district boating safety coordinator, were honored. Both are members of the Tri-State Water Safety Committee, consisting of personnel from West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky natural resources agencies, and the Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary, American Red Cross and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The awards were presented by Rear Adm. Paul M. Blayney, commander of the Second Coast Guard District.

The citation accompanying the award reads, in part: "By pooling the collective talents of the Coast Guard and other concerned agencies in West Virginia, southern Ohio and eastern Kentucky, the committee has worked together to make area waters safer for everyone through public education. In its first year, the committee developed several remarkable and innovative ways to provide a strong, area-wide boating safety message to the

public. The committee was responsible for writing and distributing informational safety pamphlets for spectator vessels at the Huntington Summerfest and Charleston Sternwheel regattas. The committee scripted, funded and produced a half-hour television program on boating safety that aired throughout the Tri-State area. Additionally, it organized a National Safe Boating Week kickoff ceremony that attracted significant local media attention. And, finally, the committee filmed a multi-agency public service announcement on drinking and boating that helped fix attention on the inherent dangers of recreational boating and the need to have a sober skipper aboard... The unselfish contribution, many hours of coordination and tireless dedication of the committee members reflect great credit upon themselves, their professions and their employers. Their contribution is highly commended and in keeping with the highest tradition of public humanitarian service."

The National Water Safety Congress also presented each of the officers an Appreciation Award for their outstanding contributions to local water safety programs. ↓

## Richardson earns PWIA scholarship

Lieutenant Clyde "Sonny" Richardson from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has received the Personal Watercraft Industry Association River Rescue scholarship from the Southern States Boating Law Administrators' Association.

Lt. Richardson is a 21-year veteran of the TWRA, according to state Boating Law Administrator Ed Carter. He is a navy veteran and currently a chief in the Coast Guard Reserve. He recently placed sixth highest in the nation on his senior chief exam for the USCG.

One of the first two officers in Tennessee to begin patrolling the state's waterways on a personal watercraft, thanks to a

loaner program, Richardson has held training sessions for his USCG unit on personal watercraft operation.

Tennessee is forming a special operations water emergency team and Richardson will be a member of that team, according to Carter. He is already a certified diver and does at least one dive per month in either a training exercise or as part of his enforcement duties. The PWIA scholarship will pay his way to the Indiana River Rescue School.

Richardson has also received a PFD from Mustang, noted Dale P. Morey with Marketing Resources Group International, Inc. ↓



## Arkansas institutes 'Harbor Hero' safe boating program



Mike Wilson

Taking a lesson from the "Designated Driver" strategy being employed by groups dedicated to battling drunk driving accidents, the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission's boating safety section has developed

a similar program for boaters.

According to Boating Law Administrator Mike Wilson, the "Harbor Hero" program has been developed with the assistance of Carol Barber from the state's designated driver program. One of that agency's staff members had apparently been in Europe, where she attended a party on an island. The party host, according to Wilson's account, had provided "designated boat drivers" to bring the guests to and from the island.

"We liked that idea," Wilson recalled, "so we had our staff write, produce and film three public service announcements which will get air time on television stations throughout the state."

The effort goes beyond the video, of course. Wilson's staffers have also produced a four-color poster that will be placed at marinas and boating docks, sporting goods stores and boat dealerships that explains the Harbor Hero program. There will also be "counter-top tents" which are actually smaller versions of the poster, on a triangular cardboard format, which are simply placed on retail counters where consumers will see them.

Bumper stickers will be handed out too.

The campaign kicked off with National Safe Boating Week and will continue through the summer, Wilson said. ↓

## Tennessee films PSAs, hires 22 part-time officers

NASHVILLE — New equipment, more part-time patrol personnel and a string of public service announcements on water safety; the Wildlife Resources Agency's Boating Division has been busy.

According to Tennessee Boating Law Administrator Ed Carter, chief of the boating division, "We're replacing boats and equipment, and we're hiring 22 new part-time positions who will help on the water. They will come on July 1 and that will help. We've got some plans to do special enforcement details where BUI is concerned."

This comes on the heels of a decision by the Tennessee Legislature to mount two studies on boating, said Carter. One of those projects will focus on children and boating, and the other is a comprehensive look at all the boating issues facing the state.

Both studies are due for completion this year, with reports from the committees to be delivered to the Legislature when it convenes in January 1995.

The bipartisan committees have equal representation from both the House and Senate, he added. Among the things they will be exploring are operator licensing and mandatory boater education, plus the use of personal watercraft. He acknowledged that much impetus for these studies is the result of the major legislative reform effort being mounted in Alabama (see related story on page 4).

Meanwhile, Carter reported that his division recently filmed eight public service announcements. The lineup includes four spots relating specifically to the use of personal watercraft, while the other four deal with general boating safety issues.

In addition, May saw the division film several five-minute segments on boating safety for *The Tennessee Outdoorsman*, an outdoors program that airs here in Nashville and is one of the longest-running such programs in existence. Five segments in all were filmed. ↓

## Mass. officers recognized for cold-weather rescue of welder

BOSTON, Mass. — A pair of Massachusetts Environmental Police officers have been recognized for their efforts in saving the victim of a cold-water overboard fall last winter.

According to Col. Richard Murray, the state's boating law administrator and head of enforcement for the agency's Division of Enforcement, the life of a local welder was saved by the quick action of Sgt. Dave Makin and Officer Pat Moran.

The two had just returned to port aboard the patrol boat *Evelyn* and were in the process of securing her to the dock when they were alerted by screams for help echoing in the small harbor. Racing toward the call for help, they found a welder

from a nearby shipyard who had fallen overboard and was desperately clinging to a chunk of ice. With temperatures below freezing, the welder could easily have succumbed quickly to hypothermia.

Makin and Moran ignored the conditions and went after the fallen welder. They struggled against the cold for

several minutes before finally getting the man out of the water, Murray reported.

The welder was treated by local EMTs and taken to the hospital, where he was treated.

As a result of their action, Sgt. Makin and Officer Moran will be receiving a citation from the Massachusetts governor, said Murray. ↓

*...they were alerted  
by screams for  
help echoing in the  
small harbor.*

## South Dakota mounts major effort against intoxicated boaters

PIERRE, S.D. — South Dakota boating law enforcement officers are implementing a tough BUI law that has been on the books for over a year, and Boating Law Administrator Bill Shattuck expects to make a big impression on drunk boaters.

Why did it take this long for the BUI effort to hit its stride? Quite simply, last year's weather — which was marked by historic flooding throughout the Midwest — kept boating activities way down, Shattuck recalled. As a result, there just weren't that many people on the water during the height of what would have been the state's boating season.

Officers with the state's Department of Game, Fish and Parks were prepared to go after drunk boaters last year, no doubt

about it. Blame Mother Nature for determining last year's priorities.

This year, with improved conditions, Shattuck expects the state's 72 enforcement officers, who are all wildlife conservation officers as well, to be busy. After all, recreational boaters have some catching up to do as far as water activities, he reasoned, so there's every expectation that water traffic will be on the rise.

The enforcement fleet, said Shattuck, consists of 14- to 22-foot boats of either fiberglass or aluminum construction. Each officer has a boat.

This summer, Shattuck said, the agency is utilizing public service announcements and there's a new information and education specialist, Al Bahe, who will be coordinating that effort. ↓

## North Dakota adds volunteer instructors

Earlier this year, North Dakota's Game & Fish Department made an effort to train more volunteer boating safety instructors.

This summer, according to Boating Law Administrator Wilmer Pich, that effort could pay off as more adults and youngsters take advantage of safety classes. A popular feature in North Dakota, he noted, is a two-hour session in which students are told about boating laws, safety equipment and rules of the road.

Then they get to use little electric boats and demonstrate what they have just learned, said Pich.

During the winter, those sessions are conducted at indoor pools, but in the summer months, they're held outside on various lakes, Pich explained.

"We have lots of adults taking the course because it helps earn an insurance premium discount," he said. ↓

## Wisconsin joins with fast food chain to offer ice cream for water safety education

One of the largest fast food chains in the nation has joined with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in an effort to promote boating safety with ice cream.

No, this is not a spoof. As explained by Wisconsin Boating Law Administrator Bill Engfer, this program could make considerable strides in the promotion of water safety, while appealing to taste buds.

The DNR has joined with Hardee's Restaurants in the effort. Engfer told *Small Craft Advisory* that the fast food chain was eager to get involved, and even wanted to do more than the initial program calls for.

"Hardee's will be giving away free ice cream cones, through our enforcement officers, to kids under 16 years of age, who wear a PFD while boating," Engfer elaborated. "We kicked this off with National Safe Boating Week, and the plan is to run it through the year."

According to Engfer, when an enforcement officer checks a boat with juveniles on board and they are wearing a life jacket, the officer issues them a certificate for an ice cream cone, good for redemption at a Hardee's.

Engfer said this program is actually an expansion of a smaller effort last year in the Green Bay area. That was a cooperative venture with the Hansen Dairy, which received an award for its support of boating safety. This year, the program went statewide with Hardee's entry into the project.

The ice cream program isn't the only good news Engfer has for boaters this year. He's also announced that the agency will be able to speed up the processing of drunk boating suspects, thanks to the acquisition of portable intoxilizers.

"It used to take an hour and 58 minutes to test a subject," Engfer explained. "Now it takes an average of 32 minutes. We

don't have to take an officer off the water to get this done and that's a substantial savings in manpower."

There are six intoxilizer units spread statewide this year, he reported, and about 25 percent of the enforcement officers are certified to run them. Essentially, that translates to there being an officer on duty at all times, in every area where a unit is in service, to administer the blood alcohol test.

Engfer said Wisconsin has an extremely good conviction record, too.

"We run about 99.6 percent convictions," he estimated. "That's roughly one out of every 200 cases that we lose."

Wisconsin recently put together an enforcement manual dealing with Boating Under the Influence arrests. A training video has been produced to go along with the manual, and the package is not only available to Wisconsin personnel, but enforcement agencies nationwide, he said. ↓



## SSBLAA elects Garner president, throws support to licensing, hull ID changes

One of the men who spearheaded Alabama's campaign for major boating safety reform has been elected to head the Southern States Boating Law Administrator's Association.

Also, SSBLAA members approved resolutions that support operator licensing, changes in administration of hull identification numbers and the establishment of a marine theft committee.

William B. Garner, boating law administrator in Alabama, will head the organization into 1995. Elected vice president is Alvin Taylor, the BLA in

South Carolina, and the new secretary/treasurer is Bob Sanders from Oklahoma. Members-at-large are Bob Poole of Florida and Frank Wood from Maryland.

The conference, held in Savannah, Ga. was different than previous sessions, confirmed Butch Potts with the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission. President Mike Wilson's format change didn't simply streamline the event, but gave each state the opportunity to focus the spotlight on specific innovations and programs they successfully mounted in the area of boating safety.

Each state did just that, from Alabama's presentation on its new boating law to Arkansas' report on its recently-inaugurated Harbor Hero program (see related story this issue).

"It was an opportunity," said Potts, "for each state to share ideas that other states might be interested in adopting."

Potts, who did a presentation on training wildlife officers, noted that a couple of states reported on their funding efforts, offering some interesting approaches to program funding.

A highlight of the conference, however, was the vote to support operator licensing at the state level. There is reportedly much support for requiring education and licensing of boat operators, as an

effort to cut accidents due to careless operation.

The resolution notes that "Proof of...proficiency is desirable and necessary for successful implementation of a required education program." Creation of a model act that can be used as the basis for operator licensing laws nationwide, the SSBLAA resolution contends, will assure uniformity and reciprocity.

Another subject of key interest to SSBLAA members is boat theft. It's a major headache, and it costs the boating public millions of dollars annually. SSBLAA has recognized the

need for a national standard in the area of boating theft detection, investigator training, and the identification of stolen boats and equipment, which led to its support for creating a theft committee.

It's up to the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators to create such a committee, and they will be meeting in Puerto Rico in September.

Meanwhile, SSBLAA also wants to see a change in the administration of hull identification numbers. The HIN is how vessels are identified, and some numbers are not affixed permanently to the hull and can be changed by manufacturers with Coast Guard consent.

SSBLAA wants the HIN permanently stamped or molded into the vessel hull, to prevent alteration or removal of the numbers. The organization also wants the Coast Guard to abolish the practice of allowing manufacturers to alter the HIN on vessels assigned, consigned or sold as the practice may constitute fraud in some states.

Also, SSBLAA passed a resolution honoring Charley Grimsley, commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, for his leadership on the Alabama Boating Safety Reform Act of 1994, also known as the Roberson-Archer Act. ♪

*There is reportedly much support for requiring education and licensing of boat operators, as an effort to cut accidents due to careless operation.*

## Ohio takes steps toward better PWC regulation

Boating law enforcement authorities in the Buckeye State are working to improve regulation of personal watercraft, in an effort to get "a better handle on theft problems," says Boating Law Administrator Paul Gregory.

"It's easy," Gregory said of PWC theft. "They are relatively small, and a lot of them look alike. It compares with stealing motorcycles 20 years ago. They are easily transportable and easily fenced."

Gregory said the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Watercraft makes every effort to coordinate with other states to solve PWC thefts. Same goes with the local and county police agencies in Ohio, he added. With personal watercraft, though, the job is far more difficult because it is easy to quickly repaint or change the appearance of a unit. PWC owners don't make the effort any easier, because many don't take precautions with them. A PWC may be simply parked behind a home or cabin, in a carport or an unlocked garage.

"These units cost anywhere from \$3,800 to \$7,000," Gregory estimated, "and we're trying to get a handle on that, through basic identification and education. Last year, we recovered about \$750,000 in all boating property, and part of that was personal watercraft."

According to Randy Smith, law enforcement administrator with the division, there are approximately 10,500 personal watercraft registered in Ohio this year, and the number is climbing. Two years ago, there were only 8,400.

There are roughly 380,000 registered vessels of all types in the state, Smith noted. The state is in the process of changing its registration forms which will give the agency a better handle on the number of personal watercraft, as registrations will be broken down by type of vessel when the new forms are put into use. ♪

## Kansas mounts education campaign for personal watercraft users

### State eyes boat replacements, BUI emphasis patrols

**T**he Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks' Division of Law Enforcement has mounted an educational campaign to advise personal watercraft users of new regulations this summer.

At the same time, the agency is in the process of replacing about ten of its older patrol boats, announced Jeff Gayer, state boating law administrator.

The education effort began this spring with the distribution of a summary of Kansas PWC regulations. Those requirements include:

- Personal watercraft shall be subject to all applicable laws, rules and regulations that govern the operation, equipment, registration and numbering relating to vessels of the same class.
- Every person on board shall wear a Type I, II, III or V Coast Guard-approved PFD.

- PWC operators must use their lanyard-type kill switches.

- Operators must use their PWC in a reasonable and prudent manner. Maneuvers that unnecessarily endanger life, limb or property, including weaving through congested boat traffic, or jumping wakes at an unsafe proximity to another boat, is prohibited.

- A PWC shall not be operated in excess of 5 mph when within 100 feet of any dock, boat ramp, swimmer, bridge, moored or anchored boats, sewage pump-out facility or non-motorized watercraft.

- Operators must face forward. No PWC

may be used to tow water skiers, kneeboards, inflatable crafts or any other device unless the PWC is equipped to accommodate more than one person.

Beginning next Jan. 1, persons under age 16 shall be prohibited from operating a PWC unless accompanied by someone

age 17 or older. Anyone between the ages of 12 and 16 may operate a PWC provided he or she has successfully completed an approved boating safety course and

has received a valid boating safety certificate.

Also beginning Jan. 1, boat livery shall not lease, hire or rent a PWC to anyone 12 to 16 years of age unless that person has a valid boating safety certificate.

Meanwhile, Gayer said there are new patrol craft on duty with marine enforcement officers this year.

"We've got a new Boston Whaler LE that will be on Hillsdale Reservoir," he confirmed. "We've been buying 19-foot center-console Magnum Trackers with 150 horsepower Evinrudes, too. Our older boats were fiberglass and the new ones are aluminum."

The new Trackers come ready to hit the water, and all that the enforcement division needs to add is the enforcement equipment: radios, lights and sirens, Gayer explained.

As in other states hammered by last year's flooding, Kansas expects to see a renewed recreational boating effort this summer as people return to the water. Gayer expects more recreationists using sailboards and personal watercraft.

This summer, he said BUI inspection lanes may be set up similar to an operation mounted last year in Arizona. The division is considering such efforts on three different reservoirs: El Dorado, Clinton and either Hillsdale near Kansas City, or Perry Reservoir. ⚓

---

*As in other states  
hammered by last year's  
flooding, Kansas expects to see  
a renewed recreational boating  
effort this summer as people  
return to the water.*

---

## Early bird NASBLA registrations vie for free deep sea fishing

FAJARDO, Puerto Rico—The "early bird" used to catch a worm, but this year, the catch may be a trophy blue water big game fish, courtesy the Marine Industry Association of Puerto Rico.

It's the prize in a special promotion for this year's National Association of State Boating Law Administrators' conference.

According to NASBLA's John Johnson, early registrants for this year's conference, scheduled Sept. 7-10 here, vie for a free deep sea fishing trip for two through the Club Nautico Boat Rentals. The boat, gear and bait for two anglers will be provided, and just in case the winner is not an angler, Club Nautico will substitute a half-day water skiing, scuba and snorkeling

adventure.

If the winner wants to fish, however, he/she will be chasing blue marlin and other species.

Johnson said all that's necessary for eligibility is to complete and submit the conference registration form to the NASBLA office no later than Aug. 1. The drawing will be held Aug. 5 and the lucky winners will be notified immediately so they can begin making plans for the pre-conference excursion.

For more information, contact the NASBLA staff at (606) 231-1923 and, after July 1, call (606) 244-8229.

Committee meetings for the 35th annual NASBLA conference begin Sept. 6. The gathering will be held at the El Conquistador Resort. ⚓



## Iowa boat giveaway will promote safety

DAVENPORT, Iowa — An Iowa conservation officer, inspired by a story in *Small Craft Advisory*, has put together a boat giveaway here that promotes boating safety on the Mississippi River.

The project, acknowledged officer Vicky Howland, is patterned after a successful program in North Carolina that received extensive coverage in these pages earlier this year.

"That's where I got the idea, from *Small Craft Advisory*," Howland said. "I contacted North Carolina and asked for specifics about how they ran the promotion."

After that, she said, a lot of work was involved before her project got off the ground. Unlike the North Carolina effort, and one that recently wrapped up in Florida, Howland's safety/giveaway involves not only three Iowa counties, but a couple of counties in neighboring Illinois.

"This is a dual-state thing, since we're on the Mississippi River," she explained. "I felt it would be difficult to do inspections on just Iowa boats."

Boating Law Administrator Rick McGeough said boaters whose vessels meet all the safety requirements during an inspection will be able to submit an entry on a 3x5-inch card. He is very enthusiastic about the project, predicting that it will

have a positive impact on recreational boaters along the Mississippi.

Howland approached authorities in Illinois, and also got the cooperation of the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to make this river-wide program work.

Up for grabs is a model 1676 SP, 16-foot Super Pro Deluxe Grumman boat valued at \$8,200. Howland said the boat comes equipped with a 50 horsepower electric start Johnson outboard and a 12-volt trolling motor. It also has a Lowrance X-28 depth finder, and a trailer. The boat is being provided by Davenport Boat and Marine, and manager Don Sissel is extremely supportive of the plan, she indicated.

To enroll in the giveaway program, which concludes Labor Day weekend, boaters must go through a safety check. If they don't get such a check on the water, they can contact the Coast Guard Auxiliary for an on-site inspection. This year, Howland added, the giveaway is limited to Pools 14, 15 and 16 on the Mississippi. She indicated, however, that if the program is a success, it may be tried next year on a statewide basis.

The deadline for receiving entries is Sept. 19 and the boat will be awarded Sept. 24, said Officer Howland. ↓

## Florida awards boat package in safety campaign

The sun in the Sunshine State shined very brightly recently when William M. Robinson of West Palm Beach was named the winner of the Florida Marine Patrol's boat giveaway.

According to Maj. Kent Thompson, the prize was a 13-foot Boston Whaler with a 30 horsepower OMC outboard and a Boat Master aluminum trailer. The National Marine Manufacturer's Association sponsored the giveaway for the Marine Patrol, he said.

"We had about 6,000 people in the drawing," Thompson reported. "We gave out about 80,000 (Boating Safety) books, so we got information to a lot of people. We're real pleased with the response. The companies involved in the giveaway said they want to do it again next year, and if we can, we're going to do it."

Col. Curtis Earp, Florida boating law administrator, drew the winning ticket. The boat was awarded by Maj. Jerry Rogers, district commander in West Palm Beach.

One aspect of the boating safety effort here, said Lt. Maurice Radford, is that the Marine Patrol issues an ID card to people who take the boating safety course. The card has a hologram bearing the likeness of Bobber, the Marine Patrol's "mascot" that reminds boaters (especially youngsters): "Sinkers are stinkers, Be a Bobber." It's a message aimed at promoting PFD use.

Overall, Florida certified about 14,000 students last year, said Thompson. That includes all the students who took Coast Guard Auxiliary and U.S. Power Squadron courses, as well as the state's course, which is a correspondence course. The minimum class time is eight hours, said Thompson. There are also some courses taught in schools, he noted. Thompson said the education program is going to continue next year, getting into specific areas to reduce accidents. ↓

## Volunteer deputies help patrol Pennsylvania's waterways

Were it not for the efforts of some 350 volunteer deputy waterways conservation officers, it might be a very tough job for the state's 81 full-time officers to get the boating safety job done.

John Simmons, boating law administrator and director of the Bureau of Boating in the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, gives these volunteers loads of credit for the service they perform.

"They get personal fulfillment out of helping out," Simmons observed. "They do a real good job for us."

The volunteer deputies are fully-trained, with a minimum of 80 hours of law enforcement instruction before they get out on the waterways. While they do not have arrest powers, they do perform lots of other duties, beyond just boating safety activities.

Many are also involved in fish law enforcement efforts, Simmons noted.

In Pennsylvania, the volunteer deputies receive a stipend of \$50 a day for each patrol shift. Funding comes from the boating safety grant monies out of Wallop-Breaux. Simmons estimated volunteers account for about two thirds of all the boat patrols.

It's a great help to the full-time enforcement staff, he noted. However, those full-time officers have been doing a monumental job in their own right. According to Simmons, the addition last summer of seasonal conservation officers helped cut the state's boating fatality rate from 16 in 1992 to nine in 1993.

"I think that was a direct result of added law enforcement presence," he stated. ↓

## Utah in third year of noise enforcement; field breath test units also in service

**B**oaters who make too much noise, or who drink too much, will have problems this summer in the Beehive State, assured Boating Law Administrator Ted Woolley, boating coordinator in the Department of Natural Resources' division of Parks and Recreation.

This is the third year for noise enforcement, and Woolley said his agency has about 35 sound level meters in service around the state.

"We pretty much follow the NASBLA model act," he said. "We use the J2005 for the stationary test, and the J1970 for the shoreline test."

The noise limit on the stationary test is 90 decibels, and for the shoreline test, it is 75 decibels, Woolley added.

"The loudest noise can be is 194 decibels," he noted. "The threshold of pain is

140 decibels. Normal talking is about 65 to 70 decibels and the average person begins to hear at zero decibels."

Utah has a schedule of fines and penalties for noise violations, but Woolley said the enforcement effort is not to raise funds but to "quiet people down."

At the same time, intoxicated boaters are increasingly likely to encounter an officer with a portable breath unit. Woolley said Utah has about 35 preliminary breath test units, which are hand-held, and officers use them as the final step in a typical field sobriety test.

"There seems to be an increase in BUI arrests," he reported.

Officers are certified to use both the sound meters and the PBTs at the same class sessions, said Woolley. He recently conducted courses in Washington State and Utah for his own officers. ↓

## Mississippi boating safety officers hit bass tourney trail

Officers with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks' boating safety division are back on the bass tournament trail again this year.

No, they're not goofing off with fishing rods. Quite the opposite. According to Boating Law Administrator Elizabeth Raymond, without these officers, those bass tournaments might not go off nearly as well as they do, perhaps not at all.

---

*"Those bass fishermen are some of the safest boaters there are."*

---

Credit goes to the professional bass fishermen, themselves, and tournament organizers, for not simply inviting the attention of enforcement officers, but just about insisting on it. The wildlife agency is only too happy to assist.

This cooperation is the foundation for a bass tournament safety record in Mississippi that literally speaks for itself.

"Those bass fishermen are some of the safest boaters there are," said Raymond, who is director of the boating safety division.

Each year, she estimated, Mississippi hosts at least a dozen major bass tournaments, including BASSMasters contests and the Red Man tournament. Plus, she said, there are many smaller tournaments.

Not only do the bass fishermen show up on the tournament waters, but so also do fishing contest followers, somewhat like golf fans follow a tournament. Except in this case, they're on the water, and it's the job of boating enforcement officers to keep all that boat traffic from becoming snarled, thus resulting in an accident.

Raymond also said that it is typical for tournament organizers to invite a couple of DWFP officers to a contestant's meeting the day before fishing starts, to go over all the boating regulations.

Tournament anglers wear PFDs, they operate boats with kill switches and their boats carry all the required safety gear, Raymond assured. ↓

## Michigan enforcement effort pays off

A boating law enforcement strategy that targeted certain counties and waters with high accident rates has paid off with a reduction in fatal mishaps, according to Bruce Gustafson with the Department of Natural Resources' Law Enforcement Division.

"About six years ago," Gustafson recalled, "our accident and fatality rate was running above the U.S. Coast Guard standards. We began looking at problems in Michigan and classified our counties into four categories."

That was the foundation for the DNR's enforcement program which identified specific areas where accidents were occurring frequently, and then determined the hours of the day, and which days, those statistics were the worst. The agency looked at accident figures over a five-year period to see if there was a pattern. Sure enough, there was.

"We determined," said Gustafson, "that accidents were happening from 3 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and on holiday Mondays. So, what we did was schedule our patrols in the high accident counties during the high accident hours."

"Low and behold, our fatal accidents came right down," he confirmed. "We made the same number of arrests and the same types of contacts, but our fatal accident rate began dropping."

Sgt. Lyle Belknap, education officer for the Law Enforcement Division, reported that there were 46 fatalities in 1985, 47 in 1986 and 36 in 1987. In 1988, however, the number plummeted to 19 and it has only crept back up to 25 over the past couple of years, Belknap reported. At that, for the number of boats in the state, he said, the accident figures are about half of what is generally expected for a state with the boating population Michigan has.

The statistics leave little doubt that the program works. High visibility on "problem" waters, accompanied by media attention, contributes to public awareness, Gustafson indicated.

"I think what we did was save people's lives by slowing them down and calming them down," Gustafson observed. "At the same time, over the past several years, we've also done things like alcohol detection. The bottom line is that it worked." ↓



# Nevada enforcement effort targets proper PFD use

**LAKE MEAD** — Boaters on this, the largest body of water in Nevada, are getting an education this summer on the use of proper personal flotation devices, and for darned good reason.

Earlier this year, three people drowned in a single boating accident on this lake, one of them a 15-month old child whose body was found wrapped in an adult-size PFD.

State Boating Law Administrator Fred Messmann with the Department of Wildlife, is determined that this not happen again.



*First step in getting drunk boater off water is confronting the suspect and doing a field sobriety test.*

"We're going to concentrate our efforts on assuring that life jackets of appropriate size are on board," said the boating staff game warden. "We did write a number of citations for that violation last year, and we are going to increase our efforts this year."

Further, Messmann said the triple-drowning may provide "an impetus to get Nevada to pass a law requiring kids to wear PFDs."

The triple tragedy brought the number of this year's drownings to four. Another man died when he became intoxicated and fell off the stern of his boat as he attempted to step onto a dock, Messmann reported. In the triple drowning, the victims were Whyllie Coy Kennin, his mother, and a friend of his parents. The father, Larry Kennin, survived.

Last year, the state posted only three drownings, and that leaves Messman worried. The bulk of the boating season still lies ahead, with the July 4 and Labor Day holiday weekends yet to come. Messman said enforcement efforts will definitely be beefed up.

Mead hosts the majority of Nevada boating activity, and throughout the summer, it's a busy place. One factor that may have contributed to the Kennin mishap, according to Messman, is that the 19-foot ski boat apparently did not have positive flotation. It began taking on water after the motor died and a wind came up.

During the recent National Water Safety Congress meeting in Las Vegas, a BUI arrest demonstration was performed at Lake Mead. According to Messmann, a volunteer female enforcement officer consumed enough alcohol to become legally intoxicated for the demonstration.

"This was a twist, using a female subject," Messmann noted, "and she knew the problems people give officers when they are stopped."

Another officer simulated pulling the "suspect" over for a check of her safety

equipment and to look for beer cans and check her speech and balance. All the participants wore microphones so their every word could be heard by the audience.

Messmann said the demonstration went through the field sobriety test through the actual preliminary breath test, then the arrest.

Afterwards, the officer was given a ride home to recover from the alcohol. But, said Messmann, despite the offer to let her take the following day off, she was back on the job and actually testified in a court case.

"The value of such demonstrations," Messman explained, "is that a lot of people wonder how a marine officer can determine someone has been drinking on the water. We showed people that we do have the expertise, capability and knowledge to

take drunk people off the water, most of the time using methods developed for highway traffic enforcement."

Throughout the demonstration, Messman said, the volunteer "suspect's" blood alcohol content was at .13, well above the legal minimum of intoxication.

"There was not one person on the dock who would not have convicted her of being...drunk on the water," Messmann commented.

One key element of the sobriety testing is the horizontal gaze nystagmus, which is the involuntary twitching of the eye.

"Regardless of your alcohol tolerance," said Messman, "this is uncontrollable. This (observation test) has been around a number of years, and it's been used on the water by us for about three years."

The Nevada effort has been working, Messmann stressed. Last year, the BUI levels ranged from a low of .07 to a high of .23, and the average was .14.

"It's a testament to our officers' being able to do a good job of detecting drunk boaters, by being able to see that lower level of intoxication," he said.

In 1992, the blood alcohol level for a drunk boater was .16 and last year, it was .14, so officers are getting better at detecting the violators.



*Once intoxication is established, suspect is then arrested and taken in for breathalyzer test.*

"An area of concern we have," Messmann observed, "is for passenger safety. Falls overboard account for a lot of fatalities. If we have a sober skipper and passengers are under the influence, and they have a problem with balance, that might contribute to falls overboard. We have in the past promoted a designated driver, but we are reconsidering that." ▽

# Despite tight budget, Illinois maintains manpower, equipment and adds officers, says administrator

Facing a tight budget, and the potential loss of federal Wallop-Breaux funds for the next fiscal year, the Illinois Department of Conservation's Law Enforcement division is "doing our best" to maintain its patrol level this summer, insisted Tom Wakolbinger, state boating law administrator.

Wakolbinger, deputy chief of the Enforcement division, said the agency will add 16 new officers later this year. They go to the academy this month for ten weeks of basic officer training, and then go into 12 more weeks of conservation training, he said.

The boating season is underway now, and Wakolbinger noted that the state and his division, are still recovering from the devastating floods of 1993. Adding to it was spring flooding in April in southern Illinois. While not as major a disaster as last year's floods, it was a big headache.

"We got hit pretty hard," said Wakolbinger. "We had local lakes and rivers overflow, we closed some highways and interstates, and did some sandbagging. A major levee broke in the same

place it broke last year."

He said Illinois has allocated some funding for equipment replacement. Primarily, he's looking at replacing outboard motors, which were worked hard during the '93 floods.

Fortunately, there have been no budget cutbacks this fiscal year for patrol staff, Wakolbinger explained.

The additional officers will not be in service until after this year's boating season is wrapped up, but they will be trained and ready to hit the water when boaters do in 1995.

Because boaters were kept off the water last year, he expects the 1994 boating season to be very busy. A strong indication was the Memorial Day holiday.

"Since the Mississippi was shut down for boating last year," he acknowledged, "we look for a big push this year of people to get back out. The bass fishing has become excellent on the Mississippi because the water is fairly clean. Central Illinois and the Mississippi these days are drawing some big bass tournaments."

As in the state of Mississippi (see re-

lated story), where marine patrol officers work well with bass tournament sponsors and participants, Illinois authorities also have a good working relationship.

"They pretty well police themselves," Wakolbinger noted. "We don't have problems with the tournament people, although we do have some trouble with traffic jams at the weigh-ins." ↓

## Texas BUI task force targets urban lakes

AUSTIN — There's a heavy enforcement effort to curb boating under the influence on certain Texas urban and suburban waters that get loads of traffic, confirmed Boating Law Administrator Carlos Vaca.

Waters in the Lone Star State that are under the proverbial microscope include those around Dallas/Ft. Worth, Austin, San Antonio and Houston, Vaca said.

"We have really gotten hot and heavy into BUI enforcement," he explained. "All of our regions are going to be doing BUI task forces on problem lakes, and some of them have already started."

Encouragement is coming from local law enforcement agencies, Vaca indicated. The effort includes increased patrols; trying to get the most complete coverage available under manpower limitations.

Another problem Texas faces, Vaca explained, is the lack of a mobile breathalyzer unit. Currently, Texas water patrol officers must take suspects to the local county sheriff's office to administer an intoxilizer test. That takes anywhere from two to four hours, and in the meantime, actual coverage on the water is diminished.

"We've got about 112 people trained on the Intoxilizer 5000," said Vaca, "and all of our wardens are trained on field sobriety."

A BUI task force typically has a staff of ten officers, he added. This helps maintain a police presence on the water should one or two officers be involved in suspect transport and/or blood alcohol testing. ↓

## PA commission adopts new youth restriction for boat operations

**A** regulation that places an age minimum on the operation of a motor boat has been adopted by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

Under the new rule, adopted in May, no juvenile under age 11 may operate a boat propelled by a motor greater than 10 hp unless at least one person 16 years or older is on the watercraft. The new regulation also requires that any boat operator between the ages of 12 and 15 piloting a craft with a motor greater than 10 hp must possess a Boating Safety Certificate. That requirement would be waived if the 16-year-old is on the boat.

So far, the Commission acknowledged,

there have been no significant accidents involving juvenile operators, but the growing popularity of personal watercraft could increase the potential.

The commission also adopted a rule that eliminates throwable Personal Flotation Devices as the primary lifesaving device on boats less than 16 feet in length.

That regulation takes effect next May 1 for recreational boaters, and May 1, 1996 for livery boats. This change will mean that all boats will now be required to carry a wearable PFD for each person on board, regardless of boat length. Also, boats 16 feet or longer will still be required to have at least one throwable PFD on board. ↓



## Rhode Island begins program aimed at hunter, angler safety

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Boating safety officers here are getting into the hunter education business. Sort of.

According to Boating Law Administrator Steve Hall, the Department of Environmental Management's division of enforcement is mounting an effort to educate hunters, and anglers, about basic boating safety.

Hunters and sport fishermen, Hall explained, "are one of the high-risk groups" where boating accidents are involved. Hunters, especially, need to realize that when they are in a boat, wearing heavy clothing that may be even further weighted with shotgun shells and other gear, a fall overboard into cold water could be fatal. Aside from the obvious potential they will literally sink like a stone, colder water temperatures will contribute to a quick onset of hypothermia even if they remain afloat.

"I think," Hall observed, "that sometimes they think because they are relatively close to shore and not on the high seas, it's not a problem."

However, history tells a different story. Files of state wildlife agencies are filled with accident reports of drownings or near-drownings of hunters, and waterfowl hunters particularly. Whether they are hunting on open coastal bays, lake bays or ponds, the common denominator is that they are on the water, in occasionally unstable craft (depending upon water conditions) and the temperature of both the water and air are cold. Add it all up and you've got the ingredients of a disaster.

Hall said his division will work with the Federated Sportsmen's Clubs of Rhode Island, and provide programs to individual member clubs to get the message out. It's an approach that has worked well for boating safety agencies in other states, and he gave credit to NASBLA for being the vehicle that brought states together to share such strategies.

"That's one of the advantages of NASBLA," he said. "You don't have to recreate the wheel. You can see what other states are doing and piggyback their approaches." ↓

## Nat'l Water Safety Congress honors states, individuals at annual meeting

The National Water Safety Congress recently honored three state organizations and several individuals for their efforts on



*Pam Dillon, chairman of the National Safe Boating Council, receives the NWSC National Award from Bill Ladd.*

behalf of boating safety when the NWSC met in Las Vegas, Nev.

Pam Dillon, education specialist with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, received the NWSC's National Award, an honor she shared with country singer John Anderson. Dillon was awarded in recognition for outstanding efforts and accomplishments in prevention of water-related accidents and drownings throughout the nation. An education specialist with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Watercraft, Dillon has devoted her career to promoting water safety. She has received several other awards for her water safety activities over the years.

Regional awards went to the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's Bureau of Boating, where John Simmons is director; the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, where state BLA Jeff Gayer works in the Division of Law Enforcement; and to Mark T. Quigley with the Arizona Game & Fish Department's law enforcement branch.

Regional certificates of recognition went to many groups and individuals, including the Connecticut Office of Boating, Department of Environmental Protection; Maj. Kent Thompson, with the Florida Marine Patrol; Tim Smalley, an education specialist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Doug Strong with the



*Jerry Shelby (right) receives the NWSC President's Award from Bill Ladd.*

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission; Don Slocum with the Arizona Game & Fish Department, and Marcia Carlock with the California Department of Boating and Waterways. ↓



*The Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks received a regional award, one of several given by the National Water Safety Congress. Pictured are Col. Richard Goring, district engineer for the Corps of Engineers; Jeff Gayer, Kansas BLA; Cheri Swayne, KDWTP boating education coordinator and Marty Burke, KDWTP public affairs officer.*

# 1994 NASBLA Officers



*President*  
*Lt. Col. Charles Clark*  
*Louisiana*



*Vice President*  
*Maj. Larry Rhinehart*  
*Indiana*



*Secretary/Treasurer*  
*Ed Carter*  
*Tennessee*



*Member-at-large*  
*Maj. Rodney Harmic*  
*Delaware*



*Member-at-large*  
*Paul Donheffner*  
*Oregon*

## State/Regional Index

Alabama ..... SSBLAA  
 Arizona ..... WSBA  
 Arkansas ..... SSBLAA  
 California ..... WSBA  
 Colorado ..... WSBA  
 Connecticut ..... NESBAC  
 Delaware ..... NESBAC, SSBLAA  
 District of Columbia ..... NESBAC  
 Florida ..... SSBLAA  
 Guam ..... WSBA  
 Georgia ..... SSBLAA  
 Hawaii ..... WSBA  
 Idaho ..... WSBA  
 Illinois ..... NCIABLA  
 Indiana ..... NCIABLA  
 Iowa ..... NCIABLA  
 Kansas ..... NCIABLA  
 Kentucky ..... NCIABLA, SSBLAA  
 Louisiana ..... SSBLAA  
 Maine ..... NESBAC  
 Maryland ..... NESBAC, SSBLAA  
 Massachusetts ..... NESBAC  
 Michigan ..... NCIABLA  
 Minnesota ..... NCIABLA  
 Mississippi ..... SSBLAA  
 Missouri ..... SSBLAA, NCIABLA  
 Montana ..... WSBA

Nebraska ..... NCIABLA  
 Nevada ..... WSBA  
 New Hampshire ..... NESBAC  
 New Jersey ..... NESBAC  
 New Mexico ..... SSBLAA, WSBA  
 New York ..... NESBAC  
 North Carolina ..... SSBLAA  
 North Dakota ..... NCIABLA  
 Ohio ..... NCIABLA  
 Oklahoma ..... SSBLAA  
 Oregon ..... WSBA  
 Pennsylvania ..... NESBAC  
 Puerto Rico ..... SSBLAA  
 Rhode Island ..... NESBAC  
 South Carolina ..... SSBLAA  
 South Dakota ..... NCIABLA  
 Tennessee ..... SSBLAA  
 Texas ..... SSBLAA  
 Utah ..... WSBA  
 Vermont ..... NESBAC  
 Virgin Islands ..... SSBLAA  
 Virginia ..... SSBLAA  
 Washington ..... WSBA  
 West Virginia ..... SSBLAA  
 Wisconsin ..... NCIABLA  
 Wyoming ..... WSBA



# NESBAC

Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

## NESBAC Officers

President: Tom McCabe, New Hampshire, (603) 293-2037  
Vice President: Richard Murray, Massachusetts, (617) 727-3905  
Secretary/Treasurer: Alan F. Buck, Vermont, (802) 244-8778  
Past President: Rod Harmic, Delaware, (302) 739-3440  
1994 NESBAC Conference: Cape May, New Jersey

## Connecticut

### Dept. of Environmental Protection

Commissioner: Timothy R.E. Keeney  
Deputy Commissioner: George P. Avitabile  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Joseph Healy

Bureau of Operations Management  
Office of Boating Safety  
Marine District Headquarters  
333 Ferry Road  
P.O. Box 280  
Old Lyme, CT 06371  
(203) 434-8638; FAX (203) 434-3501  
Boating Safety Enforcement: Joseph Healy  
(203) 434-8638; FAX (203) 434-3501  
Education: Frank L. Disbrow  
(203) 434-8638; FAX (203) 434-3501  
Facility Design/Engineering: Eric Ott, Dean Kraska  
(203) 344-2513; FAX (203) 344-2560  
Registration: Margaret Heyl  
(203) 566-3781; FAX (203) 566-8575

## Delaware

### Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control

Secretary: Christoph A.G. Tulou  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Major Rodney Harmic

Enforcement Administrator  
Division of Fish & Wildlife  
89 Kings Highway  
P.O. Box 1401  
Dover, DE 19903  
(302) 739-3440; FAX (302) 789-6157  
Enforcement: Major Rodney Harmic  
Education: Cpl. Joyce Hennessy  
Facilities: Charles Lesser, Fisheries Administration  
Registration and Titling: Vicky Rhodes,  
(302) 739-3498



## D.C.

### Metropolitan Police Department

Chief: Fred Thomas  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Lt. Stan Hawkins

Commanding Officer  
Harbor Branch Special Operations Division  
550 Water St. S.W.  
Washington, DC 20024  
(202) 727-4582; FAX (202) 727-3663  
Enforcement: Sgt. Earl L. Drecher  
Education: Sgt. Jerry D. Swanson  
Facilities: U.S. Park Service  
Registration and Titling: Kenneth D. Validejuli

## Maine (freshwater)

### Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Commissioner: Ray Owen  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Col. Herbert Vernon

Chief Warden Service  
284 State Street, Station 41  
Augusta, ME 04333  
Enforcement: Col. Herbert Vernon  
Education: Gareth Anderson  
Facilities: Richard Skinner, Dept. of Conservation

(207) 289-3821

Registration and Titling: Vesta Billing

## Maine (saltwater)

### Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Marine Patrol

Chief:

#### Col. Joseph Fessenden

State House station #21  
Augusta, ME 04333-0021  
(207) 624-6550; FAX (207) 624-6024  
Enforcement: Col. Joseph Fessenden  
Education: Lt. Richard H. Lahaye, Jr.

## Massachusetts

### Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement

Commissioner: John C. Phillips  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Col. Richard Murray

Division of Law Enforcement  
100 Nashua Street, Room 910  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 737-3190; FAX (617) 727-0244  
Enforcement: Richard Murray  
Education: Major Alfred Nataloni,  
Lt. Lawrence Chenier, Acting Chief  
Registration and Titling:

Vesta Billing



## New Hampshire

### Department of Safety

Commissioner: Richard M. Flynn  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Thomas McCabe

Chief, Marine Patrol  
31 Dock Road  
Gilford, NH 03246  
(603) 293-2037;  
FAX (603) 293-0096  
Enforcement: Mark K. Gallagher  
Education: Mark K. Gallagher  
Registration and Titling:  
Dept. of Safety, DMV



## New Jersey

### New Jersey State Police

Superintendent:  
Col. Carl Williams  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Capt. William Gronikowski

Chief, Marine Law  
Enforcement Bureau  
River Road, P.O. Box 7068  
West Trenton, NJ 08628-0068  
(609) 882-2000, ext 2761; FAX (609) 883-3862  
Enforcement: Capt. William Gronikowski  
Education: Lt. Albert Dempster  
Facilities: Division of Tourism  
Registration and Titling:  
Division of Motor Vehicles



## New York

### Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Boating Law Administrator:

#### Nelson Potter

Director, Marine & Recreation Vehicles  
Empire State Plaza  
Agency Building #1  
Albany, NY 12238  
(518) 474-0445; FAX (518) 486-7378  
Enforcement: Nelson Potter  
Education: Nelson Potter  
Facilities: Robert Reinhardt  
Registration and Titling:

(518) 473-5595



## Pennsylvania

### Pennsylvania Fish Commission

Executive Director: Larry Hoffman (acting)  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### John Simmons

Director, Bureau of Boating  
3532 Walnut Street  
P.O. Box 67000  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000  
(717) 657-4538; FAX (717) 657-4549  
Enforcement: Edward Manhart  
Education: Virgil Chambers  
Facilities: James Young  
Registration and Titling: Andy Mutch



## Rhode Island

### Department of Environmental Management

Director: Michael Annarummo  
Boating Law Administrator:

#### Steve Hall

Chief, Division of Enforcement  
83 Park Street  
Providence, RI 02908  
(401) 277-3071; FAX (401) 277-6823  
Enforcement: Steve Hall  
Education: Mike Scanlon  
Registration and Titling: Margaret Duffey

## Vermont

### Vermont State Police, Marine Division

Boating Law Administrator:

#### Sergeant Alan F. Buck

Director, Marine Division  
565 St. George Road  
Williston, VT 05495  
(802) 244-8778;  
FAX (802) 878-2742  
Enforcement: Sergeant Alan F. Buck  
Education: William L. Johnson  
Registration and Titling:  
(802) 828-2000



# SSBLAA

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia

## SSBLAA Officers

President: Mike Wilson, Arkansas, (501) 223-6400  
Vice President: Bill Garner, Alabama, (205) 242-3673  
Secretary/Treasurer: Bill Garner, Alabama (205) 242-3673  
Member-at-Large: Alvin Taylor, South Carolina (803) 762-5034  
Member-at-Large: Bob Sanders, Oklahoma (405) 425-2143  
Past President: Ed Jenkins, North Carolina, (919) 733-7191  
1994 SSBLAA Conference: May 14-19, Savannah, Georgia

## Alabama

### Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources

Commissioner:  
Charley Grimsley  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**William B. Garner**  
Director, Marine Police Division  
Flossom Administration Building  
64 N. Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(205) 242-3673; FAX (205) 242-0336  
Enforcement: Capt. Larry Kelly  
Education: Lt. Bob Huffaker  
Facilities: Game & Fish Division  
Registration and Titling: Robin Thornell



## Florida (saltwater)

### Department of Environmental Protection

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Col. Curtis D. Earp, Jr.**  
Director, Division of Law Enforcement  
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 600  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(904) 488-5600, ext. 33; FAX (904) 488-2642  
Enforcement: Lt. Col. L.W. Shaffer  
Education: Major J. Kent Thompson  
Facilities: Major J. Kent Thompson  
Registration and Titling:  
Elayne Huebner, (904) 488-1195



Facilities: Chief Bennie Fontenot  
Registration and Titling: Mitzi Hart

## Maryland

### Dept. of Natural Resources

Boating Law Administrator:  
**James W. Peck**  
Assistant Secretary  
Tawes State Office Building  
580 Taylor Avenue, C-4  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(410) 974-3548; FAX (410) 974-5206  
Enforcement: John W. Rhoads, Sr.  
Education: Lt. David Street  
Facilities: Bess Crandall  
Registration and Titling:  
Samina Cole, (410) 974-2939

## Arkansas

### Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Mike Wilson**  
Boating Safety Section  
2 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
(501) 223-6400; FAX (501) 223-6425  
Enforcement: Butch Potts  
Education: Marcus Kilburn  
Facilities: Allen Carter  
Registration and Titling:  
Charles Beaver, (501) 862-4701



## Georgia

### Dept. of Natural Resources

Commissioner: Joe D. Tanner  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Lt. Col. Joel M. Brown**  
Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement  
Game & Fish Division  
205 Butler Street S.E., Suite 1366  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
(404) 918-6409; FAX (404) 918-6410  
Enforcement: Col. V.J. Garrison  
Education: Lt. Col. Joel M. Brown  
Facilities: Tim Hess, D.J. Coordinator  
Registration and Titling:  
Diana Russell, (404) 493-5774



## Mississippi

### Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Elizabeth Raymond**  
Office of Law Enforcement  
P.O. Box 451  
Jackson, MS 39205  
(601) 364-2185; FAX (601) 364-2125  
Enforcement: Randall Miller  
Education: Elizabeth Raymond  
Facilities: Tom McCrary  
Registration and Titling:  
Shirley Jordan, (601) 364-2032



## Delaware

### Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control

Secretary: Christoph A.G. Tulou  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Major Rodney Harmic**  
Enforcement Administrator  
Division of Fish & Wildlife  
89 Kings Highway  
P.O. Box 1401  
Dover, DE 19903  
(302) 739-3440; FAX (302) 789-6157  
Enforcement: Major Rodney Harmic  
Education: Cpl. Joyce Hennessy  
Facilities: Charles Lesser, Fisheries Administration  
Registration and Titling: Vicky Rhodes, (302) 739-3498



## Kentucky

### Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources

Cabinet Secretary:  
Phillip Shepherd  
Commissioner: Tom Bennett  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Col. Donovan Smith**  
Director, Kentucky Water Patrol  
107 Mero street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 564-3074, 1-800-828-2628  
FAX (502) 564-6193  
Enforcement: Col. Donovan Smith  
Education: Col. Donovan Smith  
Facilities: Allen Carter  
Registration and Titling:  
Dept. of Transportation, Vehicle Registration



## North Carolina

### Wildlife Resources Commission

Executive Director:  
Charles R. Fullwood  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Charles R. Fullwood**  
Archdale Building  
512 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604-1188  
(919) 733-3391; FAX (919) 733-7083  
Enforcement: Col. R.M. Tatum  
Education: Lt. Randy Thomas  
Facilities: Don Tobaben  
Registration and Titling:  
Connie Spivey, Chief, Division of Administration

## Florida (freshwater)

### Florida Game & Freshwater Fish Commission

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Captain Bob C. Poole**  
Division of Law Enforcement  
620 S. Meridian street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600  
(904) 488-6257; FAX (904) 922-9090  
Enforcement: Col. Robert L. Edwards  
Education: Lt. Mikel Suelter  
Facilities: Dennis E. Holcomb

## Louisiana

### Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries

Secretary: Joe Herring  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Lt. Col. Charles Clark**  
Asst. Chief, Law Enforcement  
2000 Quail Drive  
P.O. Box 98000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000  
(504) 765-2983; FAX (504) 765-2832  
Enforcement: Col. Winton Vidrine  
Education: Sgt. Robbie Duthu



## Oklahoma

### Department of Public Safety

Commissioner: David McBride  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Lt. Bob Sanders**  
Commander, Lake Patrol  
P.O. Box 11415  
3600 N. Martin Luther King  
Oklahoma City, OK 73136-0415  
(405) 425-2143; FAX (405) 425-2894  
Enforcement: Lt. Bob Sanders  
Education: James West  
Facilities: Lt. Bob Sanders  
Registration and Titling:  
Ruby Daley, Oklahoma Tax Commission,  
Motor Vehicle Division, 2501 N. Lincoln Blvd.,  
Oklahoma City, OK 73194; (405) 521-2439





## Puerto Rico

### Dept. of Natural Resources

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Edwin Perez**  
Commandante de Vigilantes  
P.O. Box 5887  
Puerta de Tierra, PR 00906  
(809) 724-2340;  
FAX (809) 724-7335  
Enforcement: Edwin Perez  
Education: Edgardo Rodriguez  
Facilities: Edwin Perez  
Registration and Titling:  
Harold Busigo Borrás, (809) 724-2340

## South Carolina

### Wildlife & Marine Resources Department

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Major Alvin A. Taylor**  
Division of Law Enforcement  
and Boating  
P.O. Box 12559  
Charleston, SC 29422-2559  
(803) 762-5034; FAX (803) 762-5091  
Enforcement: Col. William K. Chastain  
Education: Capt. Van McCarty  
Facilities: James Duke  
Registration and Titling:  
Sandra Hartley, (803) 734-3997



## Tennessee

### Wildlife Resource Agency

Executive Director: Gary Meyers  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Ed Carter**  
Chief of Boating Division  
Ellington Agricultural Center  
(Off Edmundson Pike)  
P.O. Box 40747  
Nashville, TN 37204  
(615) 781-6682;  
FAX (615) 741-4606



Enforcement: Ed Carter  
Education: Ed Carter  
Facilities: Les Haun, Engineering Division  
Registration and Titling:  
Leona Rowe

## Texas

### Parks & Wildlife Dept.

Executive Director:  
Andrew Sansom  
Commission Chairman:  
Ygnacio D. Garza  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Carlos Vaca**  
Law Enforcement Division  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, TX 78744  
(512) 389-4624, 1-800-792-1112  
FAX (512) 389-04740  
Enforcement: Carlos Vaca  
Education: Steve Hall  
Facilities: Tim Hogsett, Fisheries Division  
Registration and Titling: Howard Kidwell



## Virgin Islands

### Department of Planning & Natural Resources

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Joseph Sutton**  
Nisky Center, Suite 231  
St. Thomas VI 00802  
(809) 774-3320;  
FAX (809) 775-5706  
Enforcement: Joseph Sutton  
Education: Shawn Michael Malone  
Facilities: Ann Sellar, (807) 775-6762  
Registration and Titling: Joseph Sutton



## Virginia

### Department of Game & Inland Fisheries

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Nancy H. Jamerson**  
Administrative Services Division  
P.O. Box 11104  
Richmond, VA 23230-1104  
(804) 367-1189;  
FAX (804) 367-2966  
Enforcement: Col. Jeff Uerz  
Education: Jack A. Cox  
Facilities: Jack W. Raybourne  
Registration and Titling:  
Nancy H. Jamerson, (804) 367-1189



## West Virginia

### Division of Natural Resources

Director: Charles B. Felton, Jr.  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Col. Richard M. Hall**  
Chief, Law Enforcement Section  
Capitol Complex  
Building 3  
Charleston, WV 25305  
(304) 558-2783; FAX (304) 558-1170  
Enforcement: Major William B. Daniel  
Boating Safety and Education Coordinator:  
Lt. David Murphy  
Facilities: Wildlife Division  
Registration and Titling:  
Division of Motor Vehicles



# NCIABLA

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

### NCIABLA Officers

President: Tom Wakolbinger, Illinois, (217) 782-6431  
Vice President: Jeff Gayer, Kansas, (313) 672-5911  
Secretary/Treasurer: Bill Engfer, Wisconsin, (608) 266-2141  
Member-at-Large: Bill Shattuck, South Dakota, (605) 773-3630  
Past President: Leroy Orvis, Nebraska, (402) 471-5579  
1994 NCIABLA Conference: Chicago, Illinois

## Illinois

### Department of Conservation

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Thomas Wakolbinger**  
Deputy Chief, Division of Law  
Enforcement  
524 S. Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701-1787  
(217) 782-6431; FAX (217) 785-8405  
Enforcement: Thomas Wakolbinger  
Facilities: Mark Yergler  
Registration and Titling:  
Jim Boyle, (217) 782-2138



## Indiana

### Dept. of Natural Resources

Director: Patrick R. Ralston  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Major Larry G. Rhinehart**  
Commander of Headquarters &  
Services  
Law Enforcement Division  
IGCS W255D  
402 West Washington  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 232-4010; FAX (317) 232-8035  
Enforcement: Col. John Stivers  
Education: Capt. Sam Purvis  
Facilities: Division of Fish & Wildlife  
Registration and Titling:  
Bureau of Motor Vehicles



## Iowa

### Dept. of Natural Resources

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Rick McGeough**  
Chief, Bureau of Law  
Enforcement  
Fish and Wildlife Division  
Wallace State Office Building  
E. Ninth and Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034  
(515) 281-8895; FAX (515) 281-8895  
Enforcement: Rick McGeough  
Education: J. Sunny Satre  
Facilities: Jim Zohrer  
Registration and Titling:  
Judy Pawell, (515) 281-4508



## Kansas

**Dept. of Natural Resources**  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Jeff Gayer**

Division of Law Enforcement  
512 SE 25th Avenue  
Pratt, KS 67124  
(316) 672-5911, ext. 208;  
FAX (316) 672-6020  
Education: Cheryl Swayne  
Facilities: Peggy Sneeegas  
Registration and Titling:  
Barb Hudson, (913) 672-5911, ext. 127



## Michigan

**Dept. of Natural Resources**  
Director: Roland Harms, Jr.  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Herbert Burns**

Chief Law Enforcement Division  
350 W. Allegan, Sixth Floor  
Mason Building 48933  
P.O. Box 30028  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 335-3427; FAX (517) 373-6816  
Enforcement: Herbert Burns  
Education: Sgt. Lyle Belknap (517) 335-3414  
Facilities: Bruce Walker, (517) 335-4820  
Registration and Titling:  
Secretary of State, Bureau of Driver & Vehicle  
Records, (517) 322-1460



## Minnesota

**Dept. of Natural Resources**  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Kim Elverum**

Boat and Water Safety  
Coordinator  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4046  
(612) 296-0905; FAX (612) 296-0902  
Enforcement: Leo Haseman  
Education: Tim Smalley  
Facilities: Mike Markell  
Registration and Titling:  
Margaret Winkel, (612) 296-6413



## Missouri

**Dept. of Public Safety**

Director: Terry Knowles  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Col. Larry Whitten**  
Commissioner, Missouri State  
Water Patrol  
2728 B Plaza Drive 65109  
P.O. Box 1368  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1368  
(314) 751-3333; FAX (314) 636-8428  
Enforcement: Major James L. Glover  
Education: Sgt. Steven A. Payne  
Facilities: Cpl. Tommy Roam  
Registration and Titling: Zoe W. Lyle



## Nebraska

**Game & Parks Commission**

Director: Rex Amack  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Leroy Orvis**  
Law Enforcement Division  
Nebraska Game & Parks  
2200 N. 33rd Street  
P.O. Box 30370  
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370  
(402) 471-5579; FAX (402) 471-5528  
Enforcement: Dick Turpin, Chief  
Law Enforcement Education: Leroy Orvis  
Facilities: Leroy Orvis  
Registration: Alyce Wallman



## North Dakota

**Game & Fish Dept.**

Director: K.L. Cool  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Wilmer Pich**  
Boat & Water Safety  
Coordinator  
Information & Education  
Division  
100 N. Bismark Expressway  
Bismark, ND 58501-5095  
(701) 221-6343, 221-6327  
FAX (701) 221-6352  
Enforcement: Raymond Goetz  
Chief Game Warden  
Education: Ted Upgrew, Wilmer Pich  
Facilities: Paul Schadewald  
Registration and Titling:  
Lucille Gohring, License Section Supervisor



## Ohio

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Paul Gregory**  
Chief, Division of Watercraft  
4435 Fountain Square Drive  
Fountain Square, Building A  
Columbus, OH 43224-1300  
(614) 265-6534  
Enforcement: Randy Smith  
Education: Pam Dillon  
Facilities: Eric Metzler  
Registration and Titling:  
Patricia Bazler, (614) 265-6477



## South Dakota

**Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks**

Secretary: Richard Beringson  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Bill Shattuck**  
Hunting/Boating Safety  
Coordinator  
Division of Wildlife  
523 East Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501-5182  
(605) 773-3630; FAX (605) 773-6245  
Enforcement: Emmett Keyser  
Education: Bill Shattuck  
Facilities: Bill Shattuck  
Registration and Titling:  
Sue Tope, Director, DMV



## Wisconsin

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

Boating Law Administrator:  
**William G. Engfer**  
Division of Law Enforcement  
P.O. Box 7921  
101 S. Webster Street  
Madison, WI 53707  
(608) 266-2141;  
FAX (608) 266-3696  
Enforcement: William G. Engfer  
Education: William G. Engfer  
Facilities: Stan Druckenmiller  
Marine Theft: Elgin Hunter, (608) 266-2141  
Registration and Titling:  
Marilyn Davis, (608) 267-7799



## Small Craft Advisory

A publication of the National  
Association of State Boating  
Law Administrators

Managing Editor William R. Ladd  
Editor Dave Workman

Small Craft Advisory is published six time a year  
by Outdoor Empire Publishing, Inc., Seattle, Washington

Send articles, photos to Small Craft Advisory  
511 Eastlake Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19000  
Seattle, WA 98109  
Phone: (206) 624-3845  
FAX: (206) 340-9816





# WSBAA

American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

## WSBAA Officers

President: Tim Wade, Arizona, (602) 789-3307  
Vice President: Rick Storm, Colorado, (303) 791-1954  
Secretary/Treasurer: John Bañuelos, California, (916) 445-6281  
Past President: Fred Messman, Nevada, (702) 688-1549  
1994 WSBAA Conference: July 18-21, Colorado Springs, Colorado

## Arizona

### Arizona Game and Fish Dept.

Director: Duane Shroufe  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Kim Keith**  
Chief, Law Enforcement  
2221 W. Greenway Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
(602) 789-3383; FAX (602) 789-3920  
Enforcement: Tim Wade, (602) 789-3307  
Education: Kim Keith, (602) 789-3383  
Facilities: Jim Glass  
Registration and Titling:  
Madelynn Fenski, (602) 789-3403

## California

### Dept. of Boating & Waterways

Director: John R. Bañuelos  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**John Bañuelos**  
1629 S. Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 445-6281;  
FAX (916) 327-7250  
Enforcement: Dolores Farrell  
Education: Dolores Farrell  
Facilities: Don Waltz  
Registration and Titling: Dept. of Motor Vehicles

## Colorado

### Dept. of Natural Resources

Executive Director:  
James Lochhead  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Rick Storm**  
Chief Enforcement Officer  
Division of Parks & Outdoor Rec.  
13787 S. Highway 85  
Littleton, CO 80125  
(303) 791-1954; FAX (303) 470-0782  
Enforcement: Rick Storm  
Education: Dennis George  
Facilities: Ted Washington  
Registration and Titling: Lisa Terry

## Guam

### Guam Police Department

Chief of Police: Col. A.P. Sgambelluri  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Bradley A. Hokanson**  
Guam Police Department,  
Special Programs Section  
287 West O'Brien Drive  
Agaña, Guam 97910  
(671) 475-8447; FAX (671) 472-9704  
Enforcement: Officer in Charge  
Registration and Titling:  
Bradley A. Hokanson, (671) 475-8447

## Hawaii

### Dept. of Land & Resources

Chairman: Keith W. Ahue  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**David Parsons**  
Division Administrator

Division of Boating & Ocean Rec.  
333 Queen Street, Suite 300  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(808) 587-1975;  
FAX (808) 587-1977  
Enforcement: Manathis Rich  
Education: Paul Dolan  
Facilities: David Parsons  
Registration and Titling:  
David Parsons

## Idaho

### Dept. of Parks & Recreation

Director Yvonne Ferrell  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Mark Brandt**  
Boating Program Supervisor  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0065  
(208) 334-4180, ext 224; FAX (208) 334-3741  
Enforcement: Pat Beale  
Education: Ann Van Buren  
Registration and Titling: Dave Hiatt

## Montana

### Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Director: Patrick J. Graham  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Tom Blvins**  
Program Manager, Law Enforcement Division  
1420 E. Sixth Avenue  
Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 444-2452, 1-800-TIP-MONY,  
or 1-800-327-3212; FAX (406) 444-4952  
Enforcement: Erwin J. Kent  
Education: Elizabeth Lodman  
Facilities: Arnie Olsen  
Registration and Titling: Darryll "Bud" Schoen

## Nevada

### Division of Wildlife

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Fred Messmann**  
Boating Staff Game Warden  
P.O. Box 10678  
Reno, NV 89520  
(702) 688-1542;  
FAX (702) 688-1595  
Enforcement: Thomas A. Atkinson  
Education: Chris Healy  
Facilities: Marvin Burgoyne  
Registration and Titling:  
Patty Wagner, (702) 688-1506

## New Mexico

### Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Dept.

Secretary: Anita Lockwood  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Dave Skasik**  
Field Operations Director  
Boating Safety &  
Law Enforcement, Parks and Recreation Division  
408 Galisteo; P.O. Box 1147  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1147  
(505) 827-7465; FAX (505) 827-4001  
Enforcement: Dave Skasik

Education: Heidi Soergel (505) 344-0419  
Facilities: Charles Mullings  
Registration and Titling: Dept. of Motor Vehicles

## Oregon

### State Marine Board

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Paul Donheffner**  
Director, State Marine Board  
435 Commercial Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97310  
(503) 373-1405, ext. 244;  
FAX (503) 378-4597  
Assistant Director: Wayne Shuyler  
Enforcement: Bill Rydbloom  
Education: Marty Law  
Facilities: David Oborn  
Registration and Titling:  
Mary Gaines, (503) 373-1405, ext. 252

## Utah

### Division of Parks and Rec.

Director: Courtland Nelson  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**Ted Woolley**  
Boating Coordinator  
1636 W. N. Temple, Ste 116  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116  
(801) 538-7220;  
FAX: (801) 538-7055  
Enforcement: Ted Woolley  
Education: Ted Woolley  
Facilities: Ted Woolley  
Registration and Titling:  
Rick L. Leimbach, (801) 297-3500

## Washington

### Parks & Recreation Comm.

Director: Cleve Pinnix  
Boating Law Administrator:  
**James French**  
Boating Programs Manager  
State Parks & Recreation Com.  
7150 Cleanwater Lane, KY-11  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(206) 586-2166; FAX (206) 753-1594  
Enforcement: Mark Kenny  
Education: Doug Strong  
Facilities: Interagency Committee for Outdoor Rec.  
(206) 753-7140; FAX (206) 586-2495  
Registration and Titling: Bob Bartusch,  
(206) 753-6996

## Wyoming

### Wyoming Game & Fish Dept.

Boating Law Administrator:  
**Russ Pollard**  
Wildlife Law Enforcement,  
Coordinator  
5400 Bishop Boulevard  
Cheyenne, WY 82006  
(307) 777-4579; FAX (307) 777-4650  
Enforcement: Russ Pollard  
Education: Russ Pollard  
Facilities: Steve Facciani  
Registration and Titling: Larry Gabriele

# SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

P.O. Box 19000  
Seattle, WA 98109

## *National Association of State Boating Law Administrators*

### South Carolina enforcement effort takes to the AIR

From recovery of drowning victims to clearing out boating channels; it all falls under the broad umbrella of responsibility for the South Carolina AIR team.

The AIR (for Aquatics Investigations and Recovery) unit is an 11-member team of divers attached to the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department's Division of Law Enforcement and Boating. According to Major Alvin Taylor, supervisor of the team and the state's boating law administrator, all members are wildlife conservation officers, and they carry on normal duties when not donning diving gear for special tasks.

In the years since the AIR team was born – the unit was inaugurated in 1977 – divers have recovered more than 500 drowning victims, and were also responsible for clearing stumps and other submerged obstructions from two boating channels across popular Lake Marion (named for Revolutionary War hero Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox") in 1989 and 1993. The



earlier effort cleared a channel 100 feet wide, 12 feet deep and 3.5 miles long. Last year's project cleared a channel five miles long, also 100 feet wide, across the lake.

These projects involved the use of special underwater chainsaws. Had it not been for these special saws, the boat channel efforts might not have been possible.

When it comes to training, the AIR unit doesn't kid around. It was that way from the outset, when the first group of volunteers went to just about every top-notch dive training school in the nation. They put all that training to good use, and brought back skills that are passed on today as new team members join up.

Only three of the original divers are still with the unit, and over the years, some 40 officers have rotated through the unit. So, they train in a variety of environments in order to meet any challenge, from hitting the murky depths of the Santee Cooper impoundments to diving into the chilly waters of Lake Jocassee. They also spend plenty of time in pools and the classroom. The Lake Marion projects were right up their proverbial alley.

Today, the AIR unit's drowning victim recovery rate is better than 90 percent, and it's a far cry from the grim, and much less successful, method of dragging grappling hooks. ↓