



Annual Conference
June 25-27, 2018

Marriott Harbor Beach Resort
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

www.lifejacketassociation.org

Life Jacket Association Annual Conference

2018 Sponsors

Your Support Makes It Possible – Thank you!

Water Sports Industry Association.....Tuesday’s Breakfast
ITW Nexus Global.....Tuesday’s AM Coffee Break
Kent Sporting Goods Co., Inc. & Pregis, LLC.....Tuesday’s Lunch
Leland Limited, Inc......Tuesday’s PM Coffee Break
iSi Components North America.....Tuesday’s Cocktail Hour
Halkey-Roberts Corp......Tuesday’s Dinner
Underwriters Laboratories StandardsWednesday’s Breakfast
UL, LLC & Takashina USA.....Wednesday’s AM Coffee Break

YOUR LOYAL SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!

LJA Annual Conference
June 25 - 27, 2018
– Schedule of Events –

MONDAY, June 25th

Noon – 5:00 pm Life Jacket Association Executive Board Meeting
St. Petersburg Board Room

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Registration Open
Dunes Coconut Terrace

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Opening Reception
Dunes Coconut Terrace Hosted by the Life Jacket Association Board of Directors

TUESDAY, June 26th

All sessions will take place in Caribbean Ballroom, Salon V.

7:30 am – 8:00 am Breakfast

8:00 am – 8:30 am **Welcome & Opening Remarks**
Wayne Walters, Life Jacket Association President

8:30 am – 9:30 am **Keynote Speaker**
*Verne Gifford, Division Chief, U.S. Coast Guard
Boating Safety Division*

9:30 am – 10:00 am Coffee break
Foyer

10:00 am – 10:30 am **State of the Industry**
*Sara Anghel, President, National Marine Manufacturers
Association Canada*

10:30 am – 11:00 am **2017 USCG Accident Statistics (Newly Released)**
*Verne Gifford, Division Chief, U.S. Coast Guard Boating
Safety Division*

- 11:00 am – 11:30 am **New Life Jacket Labels & Standards**
Jacqueline Yurkovich, Life Saving & Fire Safety Division, U.S. Coast Guard
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **Networking lunch**
3030 Ocean Waterfront Restaurant
- 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm **Business Meeting**
- 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Coffee break
Foyer
- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Life Jacket Association Boat Report on Stakeholders Meeting**
Jason Legatte, Vice Chair, Life Jacket Association
- 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm **Partner Update – National Association of State Boating Law Administrators**
John Fetterman, Deputy Executive Director, NASBLA
- 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm **Laboratory Updates**
IMANNA Lab
Underwriters Laboratories
- 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm **Cocktail Hour & Dinner**
Dunes Coconut Terrace

WEDNESDAY, June 27th

All sessions will take place in Caribbean Ballroom, Salon V.

- 7:30 am – 8:00 am Breakfast
- 8:00 am – 8:30 am **Life Jacket Association Areas of Interest**
Life Jacket Association Board of Directors
- 8:30 am – 9:30 am **Life Jacket Wear in the Presence of Risky Conditions & Case Study on Life Jacket Loaner Stations**
Tom Mangione, JSI Training & Research Institute, Inc.

- 9:30 am – 10:00 am Coffee Break
Foyer
- 10:00 am – 10:30 am **Life Jacket Safety Initiatives & Resources**
*Ed Huntsman, Recreational Boating Safety Program
Manager, District 8*
- 10:30 am – 11:00 am **Rebranded National Safe Boating Campaign –**
*Peg Phillips, Executive Director, National Safe Boating
Council*
*Yvonne Pentz, Communications Director, National Safe
Boating Council*
- 11:00 am – 11:30 am **Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission**
*Brian Rehwinkel, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation
Commission*
*Capt. Tom Shipp, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation
Commission*
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch (*on own*)
- 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm **Life Jacket Wear in Towed Sports**
*Larry Meddock, Executive Director, Water Sport Industry
Association*
*Kevin Michael, Asst. Executive Director, Water Sport Industry
Association*
- 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm **USACE Mandatory Wear Case Study**
*Verne Gifford, Division Chief, U.S. Coast Guard Boating
Safety Division*
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Closing Ceremonies**

LJA Annual Business Meeting
Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort
June 26, 2018

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| 1:30PM – 1:45PM | Welcome and opening remarks
Wayne Walters, LJA President |
| 1:45PM – 2:00PM | Bylaws - What does it mean to be a 501(c)3?
John Fetterman, Staff Director |
| 2:00PM – 2:05PM | Presentation of 2018-2019 Slate of Officers
Election by Membership |
| 2:05PM – 2:15PM | Financial Report
Tom Hayward, NASBLA CFO |
| 2:15PM – 2:20PM | Website Development
Troy Faletra, LJA Board of Directors, Member-at-large |
| 2:20PM – 2:30PM | Committee Reports

Conference - Rob Rippy, Member-at-large
Membership - Troy Faletra, Member-at-large
Government Affairs - Jason Leggatt, Vice Chair |

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Sara Anghel has been President of the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) Canada since 2008. Anghel has 23 years of experience in the realm of government relations. She served in a number of political positions with the Ontario government including communications, policy and chief of staff to the Minister of Northern Development & Mines and Environment, Energy, Natural Resources and Health.

Since taking the helm, Anghel has raised the profile of the NMMA and of the recreational boating industry in Canada. Notable accomplishments at NMMA include the first ever annual Canadian Recreational Boating Statistical Abstract, securing more than \$1 million in government funding to support the industry and establishment of NMMA Canada's first Recreational Boating Day on the Hill in Ottawa where industry leaders meet with government officials to address key issues impacting the boating industry.

Under Anghel's leadership, NMMA Canada actively engages with the government on a number of important issues such as water access, trade and regulatory issues. The reinstatement of the hours of operation on two of Canada's historic waterways were a direct result of her leadership in unifying the industry's advocacy efforts.



Dennis Campbell is Director of Quality Assurance and Factory Follow-Up at IMANNA Laboratory, Inc. His primary duties are the testing of PFDs and associated components, SOLAS Life Rafts and USCG Approved Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus (IBAs). Dennis serves on the UL STP for UL1123, The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for ISO TC188/SC1.

Prior to joining IMANNA Laboratory, Dennis was the Quality Assurance Manager for Kent Water Sports. He has been involved with the PFD Industry since 1995 on both the manufacturing side of the industry and now on the testing / certification side.



Major John Fetterman serves as the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators' (NASBLA) Deputy Executive Director. Fetterman was hired by NASBLA in January 2010 as the association's first Law Enforcement Director. In this capacity, Fetterman launched NASBLA's Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program and worked to integrate and coordinate law enforcement programs within NASBLA, improving the nonprofit organization's law enforcement program value to its members. Fetterman was promoted to Deputy Executive Director in 2014. Before joining the NASBLA staff, Fetterman worked for the Bureau of Marine Patrol for 32 years. He began his career with the Maine agency in 1977 as a field officer. Much of his

career with the Marine Patrol was spent as chief pilot, flying some 12,000 hours in multiple aircraft. In non-flight duties, Major Fetterman also supervised the Bureau's Special Services where he focused on safety programs within both the recreational and commercial boating communities. In 2001 he was promoted to deputy chief and he served as coastal boating law administrator for the state of Maine until December 2009. Major Fetterman was an active member in the Maine Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Response Team and the Sector Northern New England Coast Guard Executive Steering Committee. He served as project leader for Maine in drafting the "first in the nation" memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard on enforcement of Safety and Security Zones.



Verne Gifford is the Chief, Boating Safety Division at Coast Guard (CG) Headquarters since September 2017. He is responsible for the administration and coordination of all functions of the National Recreational Boating Safety (NRBS) program, whose mission is to minimize the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and environmental impact from recreational vessel use, while optimizing safety and waterways enjoyment by the American public. These program functions include managing a \$110 million grant program; developing the NRBS strategic plan; serving as Designated Federal Official (DFO) to the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC); administering the casualty reporting system for recreational vessels; developing standards for recreational boat and equipment manufacture; administering the boat manufacturer compliance program; publishing Boating Safety Circulars; maintaining the notification (recall) process concerning defects; and administering the NRBS education, state law enforcement, and undocumented vessel numbering programs.

Mr. Gifford retired from Active Duty in the U.S. Coast Guard in 2017. He served as Director of Inspections and Compliance (CG-5PC), overseeing national policy, enforcement, and casualty investigation for commercial and recreational vessels, waterfront facilities, and the Auxiliary; Chief of Staff, First CG District, Boston, MA, overseeing all CG missions executed by 11,000 personnel in the eight Northeast states; and Commander, Sector Southeastern New England, fulfilling the statutory roles of Captain of the Port (COTP) and Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI) for Rhode Island, southeast Massachusetts, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.



Ed Huntsman was appointed to the Eighth Coast Guard District's prevention division staff in March 2012 after retiring from the Arizona Game and Fish Department's education branch where he was employed as the conservation education program manager. In that capacity, he was responsible for the hunter education and gun safety, sports fishing, boating safety and off highway vehicle safety education programs. He also served as the department's only non-commissioned POST certified specialty instructor for boating related law enforcement training on the water during his tenure with the department.

In his current position, in addition to providing recreational boating safety expertise to the District's leadership, he is responsible for coordinating the Eighth Coast Guard District's recreational boating safety program with district stakeholders. He serves as the primary liaison to local, state, tribal, regional, national, Canadian and Mexican recreational boating safety and enforcement officials, public boating safety and related organizations and recreational boating-related media. A founding member of NASBLA's Education Standards Panel and a participant on numerous on-water education standards and training efforts, he continues to deliver classroom, on-water courses and presentations to industry professionals, volunteers and the general public.



Christopher P. James is the Principal Engineer at Underwriters Laboratory for the categories of Personal Flotation Devices, Immersion Suits, Personal Flotation Device Components, Protective Clothing and Equipment for Surface Water Operations, Internal Combustion Forklifts, Battery Powered Forklifts, Internal Combustion Powered Industrial Floor Cleaners, Battery Powered Industrial Floor Cleaners, Battery Operated Carts for Commercial Use, Marine Navigation Lights, Low Voltage Marine Lighting, Fire Apparatus (Fire Trucks), Rescue Tools, Panic Hardware, Scaffolding Equipment, Hoists, Emergency Eyewash Stations, SCBA and SCUBA Air Refill Stations. Through leadership, communication and technical competency, a few of his responsibilities are to drive global consistency, integrity and engineering quality in the development, maintenance and application of UL's certification requirements and delivery of UL conformity assessment services. He currently serves on various UL Standard Technical Panels (STPs), NFPA Technical Committees, and ISO Subcommittees. He is the current US Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Vice Chair for ISO TC188/SC1, Small Craft.



Jason Leggatt has over 18 years of business experience in the marine and aviation safety & protection equipment industry. The head of the Mustang Survival business in current role with a broad range of expertise having held multiple positions within the business prior, spanning several different functions within Mustang Survival including VP R&D & Quality, technical product development, Government R&D programs, business development & marketing, and as a member of the senior management team. A natural leader and experience strategic planner who enjoys turning visions and plans into actions and results by developing and motivating high-performing internal teams and cultivating external partnerships. When not imagining new possibilities in the Mustang Survival business, Jason leads just as complicated a life at home with his beautiful wife of 16 years, Jai, their 3 girls, 2 dogs and cats. And when exploring his more macho side, Jason is a multisport enthusiast most recently competing in triathlon but also continuing to enjoy recreational watersports, ice hockey, snow skiing and snowboarding.



Dr. Thomas W. Mangione, Senior Research Scientist at JSI Research & Training Institute in Boston, Massachusetts has been the project director for the Coast Guard's National Life Jacket Observation Study since the beginning of the project in 1998. In addition to conducting the yearly national study, he has also conducted targeted evaluations of (a) an intensive life jacket education/promotion effort in the Delta region of California; (b) a mandatory life jacket experiment conducted by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers in four lakes in Northern Mississippi; and (c) a targeted life jacket study in Washington State to assess the impact of loaner boards on wear rates.



Larry Meddock has been in the Water Sports Industry for over 40 years. He began his career in San Diego as the product manager for Cut'N Jump Water Skies in 1971. Cut'N Jump was one of two manufacturers that produced vinyl dipped Ensolite water ski jackets. These three buckle Life Jackets were the state of the art of its day. Larry left Cut'N Jump for a brief stay in the motion picture industry and became the technical director for the Walt Disney movie, *Freaky Friday*. From there Larry was recruited to become the Director of Marketing for Correct Craft Boats in Florida. Larry became VP of Marketing and Special Events and had a successful career at Correct Craft for 26 years.

After Larry's retirement in 2004, he became the Executive Director of the Water Sports Industry Association. During his leadership in the WSIA he became a member of The National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC). The WSIA formed the Water Sports Foundation in 2004, the 501(c)3 Educational Arm of the WSIA. The WSF has received USCG Grant funding to produce and promote a National Outreach program on recreational boating safety. Larry is also a member of UL's STP committee on Life Jackets. Larry enjoys building and flying RC airplanes and helicopters, playing tennis and riding his Harley in his off hours.



Kevin Michael is fueled by a lifelong passion for towed water sports and has spent nearly his entire life on top of the water and has been heavily involved in the industry for over 30 years. Starting as a professional water skier, Kevin later developed a passion for wake sports and combined his degree in Mass Communications to become the editor of Wakeboarding Magazine for 13 years. He has now worked with the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) for six years, and has served as executive director for the last two years. Kevin's favorite part of the job continues to be anything related to the water, which includes field work such as managing the #PassTheHandle initiative and other projects to promote and protect all of the towed water sports.



Yvonne Pentz brings to National Safe Boating Council members and partners expertise in strategic communications and marketing. Her areas of specialization include public relations, grassroots campaigns, social media, digital strategies, content marketing, event planning and influencer campaigns. With more than a decade of agency and marketing experience informing her strategic thinking and implementation, she leans into her diverse set of skills to make a tangible difference in how programs are developed, conveyed and received. Her work has received recognition as an award-winning practitioner from the likes of the Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts' Communicator Awards, Hermes Awards, PR Daily Nonprofit Awards, and PRSA's Bronze Anvil. Prior to joining the National Safe Boating Council, Yvonne served as a marketing communications consultant with Paul Werth Associates for 11 years.



Peg Phillips is the Executive Director of the National Safe Boating Council; with over two decades of executive level management experience. She is an American Canoe Association certified Kayak Instructor and recipient of their 2016 State Director of the Year award. She serves on the Florida Boating Advisory Council Non-motorized Boat Working Group; advancing boating safety programs and regulations that save lives and reduce injuries. Peg created a paddling program in partnership with Florida State Parks that was awarded Best Kayaking Tours in Southwest Florida. As Race Director of Caloosa Palooza, Peg partnered with regional and national organizations to use competition as a venue for boating safety education. With her passion for engaging youth in safe boating, she has provided complimentary kayaking instruction to over 300 teens annually since 2013. A native of St. Simons Island, Georgia, Peg grew up boating and saltwater fishing. She is a proud alumni of Georgia Southern University. She resides in Manassas, Virginia near NSBC headquarters.



Brian Rehwinkel is with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Division of Law Enforcement's Boating & Waterways Section. Brian has been with FWC since February 2005 working as the outreach and education coordinator with the boating safety program. He has been a member of NASBLA's Outreach and Education Committee and is also a member of the National Safe Boating Council's Wear It Tiger Team. As a native Floridian, he is proud of all his work make the waters of Florida safer for all boaters.



Captain Tom Shipp is in the Boating and Waterways Section of the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission and has been responsible for the Boating Safety Unit for eight years. In that role he works with general boating safety issues, boating accident reporting, boating safety education/outreach issues, the Boating Advisory Council, and the Recreational Boating Safety grant. Tom began his boating safety career by teaching canoeing/kayaking/sailing at summer camps before college and as a lifeguard/water safety instructor during college. Prior to his FWC career he was an environmental biologist. He has been an FWC law enforcement officer for 16 years. As an Officer he spent three years on the coast working primarily in the marine environment and then three years working inland counties focusing more on the wildlife and freshwater environments. He was a Lieutenant in FWC's Policy and Planning Section for two years before promoting to Captain.



Kristen Trawinski is the Personal Protective Equipment Engineering & Business Manager for Underwriters Laboratories. Kristen joined the PPE team in 2016 and relocated from the UL Headquarters in Northbrook, Illinois to the Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. She has worked at UL for 15 years in several roles with numerous responsibilities including industrial engineer, process improvement, training, quality, safety, logistics, Follow Up Services administration, laboratory, engineering and program management. Kristen has an Industrial Engineering Technology degree from Purdue University, is a certified Lean Sigma Green Belt and a candidate for Lean Sigma Black Belt.



Wayne Walters has been working in the personal flotation device industry for over 30 years and has been with Kent Sporting Goods for the past 15 years as Vice President of Research and Development. During his career he has been involved in the design, development, and production of hundreds of lifejacket designs for approval and use throughout the world. He has served on the UL Standards Technical panel since its beginning, working on development and implementation of several of the standards that we use today. Most recently, the North American Harmonized Standard. He served as Chairman of the Board for the Personal Flotation Device Manufacturers Association twice and continues as the Chair of the Board for the Life Jacket Association.



Bob White is founder and Director of IMANNA Laboratory, Inc. White is pursuing a vision to establish a “One-Stop Marine Test Lab”, he has spent numerous hours developing the infrastructure to accomplish the task. He has brought IMANNA to a position of being a USCG Recognized Lab for the testing of life jackets and life jacket components. He is active in all facets of Marine safety and actively participates in many different marine associations and standards committees. Bob’s 10-year experience in the Aerospace Industry established an experience and appreciation for Quality Assurance that he has introduced to the Marine Industry to give manufacturers top quality testing at economical pricing. He has positioned IMANNA Lab as a Premier Marine Certification Testing lab, recognized around the world for its capability and experience in certifying marine equipment for all international markets.

Jacqi Yurkovich is a staff engineer in the Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division in the Office of Design and Engineering Standards at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters. She has been working in her current position for 9 years. Jacqi has expertise in the areas of PFDs and the approval of novel lifesaving equipment. Her current projects include development of national and international standards and driving the transition to UL 12402.

2018 Annual Conference Marriott Harbor Beach Resort Floor Plan – First Floor

