

ANCHOR LINE



NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL

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MAKING A SPLASH: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2005 SUMMIT

The 9th Annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit was held in sunny Newport Beach, California from March 13th to the 16th. Hundreds of boating and water safety professionals from across the world gathered to discuss the current and future status of the boating industry, learn new techniques in Education, Outreach and Communication, Law Enforcement, and Risk Management, and receive awards and recognition for their achievements throughout the year.



The Summit began Sunday night, March 13th with the opening reception and concluded on Wednesday the 16th with the awards banquet featuring international singer and songwriter Loreena McKennit. Loreena's touching account of her personal experience with boating safety was one of the highlights of this year's Summit. In addition to Ms. McKennit's speech, there were a number of events that made the Summit memorable. Beginning with the free inflatable life jackets sponsored by Mustang Survival that were given to each registered participant of the Summit. These top of the line inflatables were used to

help Summit attendees participate in many of the on the water activities and also to possibly be a part of a world record! Over 200 attendees lined the beach




on Tuesday with their Mustang inflatables to hopefully set the Guinness Book of World Records for most lifejackets inflated at one time.

The highly anticipated audience polling was also one of the more exciting and well-attended general sessions that took place. Close to 300 people belonging to local, state, and federal organizations, the private industry, or non-profit organizations in boating or water safety gathered to offer their experience, expertise, and opinions on topics such as Carbon Monoxide, PFD wear, and the North American Safe Boating Campaign. Some of the trends that came out of the polling



included; encouraging partnering with other organizations during the campaign, increasing the amount of money spent on the campaign, encouraging the PFD manufacturing industry to promote life jackets more heavily, and increasing boater awareness of inflatable PFDs. Polling results, including regional demographic information and detailed percentages of each response chosen on every question, were handed out Wednesday at the end of the Summit to all attendees.

The Summit concluded with the Awards banquet that honored many boating and water safety advocates with awards for boating education, youth programs, and lifetime achievement awards.

We would like to thank our sponsors, Coors Brewing Company, West Marine, Boat Ed, Mustang Survival and Brunswick for helping to contribute to the success of the 9th Annual International Boating and Water Safety Summit. We hope to see everyone for our TENTH anniversary at the beautiful Westin Innisbrook Golf Resort in Palm Harbor, Florida next April 30 through May 3rd for the 2006 Summit! 

WE WANT TO PUMP YOU UP!

Wearing a comfortable, unobtrusive life jacket is what most boaters really want when it comes to personal safety aboard their boat. With the U.S. Coast Guard approved inflatable life jackets that opportunity is here. While inherently buoyant life jackets are more wearable than ever before, there is still resistance by some people to actually wear a life jacket. If you believe you really should wear a life jacket in a boat, (just like you wear a seat belt in a car) but you have yet to put that into practice, try an inflatable belt pack or a suspender style device. The comfortable and unobtrusive life jacket is at a marine supply store near you.

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