#### NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL

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#### SAFEBOATINGCOUNCIL.ORG

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

# **CHAIR COMMENTS**

While this last year has seen many challenges with COVID-19, boating continues to be about community. A community of bringing people together in shared experience on the water. Millions of people turned to the waterways to rejuvenate and relax with family and social distance with friends.

It is during challenging times that we discover our true strength as a community. It was a privilege to work with the staff, board, partner organizations, and volunteers of the NSBC to advance recreational boating safety through education, outreach, and training. Let's continue to work together to help create safe experiences on the water for all boaters.

A few NSBC highlights from 2020:

- Began to implement the NSBC 2020-2024 Strategic Plan
- Met and exceeded financial goals
- Launched a new NSBC website and membership platform
- Provided more boating safety digital resources during the nationwide lockdown
- Distributed thousands of launch point safety signs and other resources
- Continued to provide valuable services through Waves of Hope

You must adapt to succeed - this is a hallmark strength of the NSBC and recreational boating safety community. Thank you to the volunteer board of directors and our partner organizations for their tireless efforts to join the NSBC in our shared mission to save lives on the water. My heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated NSBC staff for all they did throughout this challenging year, and continue to do, to provide boating safety educational programs and resources.

Boat safe and boat often, Stu Gilfillen Chair, National Safe Boating Council

#### TRAINING

Our on-water training is gearing back up after a COVID hiatus. With on-water training, we are creating a safer environment on our waterways. The NSBC has two on-water courses that have successfully completed the third-party conformity assessment to verify the courses meet the American National Standards for power.

#### NSBC On-Water Powerboat Courses

- NSBC Instructor Certification Course: Instructor candidates must be pre-approved by the NSBC. Upon completion of the 3-day onwater training, instructor certificates are issued. All current NSBC instructors are entered into the national database and may teach the Boat Control On-Water Training curriculum.
- Boat Control On-Water Training: This curriculum can be taught to recreational boaters, marine patrol, or marine first responders by a NSBC instructor. The course has 4 modules; each module is 3 hours of on-water instruction. A Certificate of Completion can be awarded for each module, but this is not an instructor certification course.

Learn more about NSBC on-water training at www.safeboatingcouncil.org/training.





# **NSBC PROGRAM UPDATES**

#### SAFE BOATING CAMPAIGN

During 2020, the Safe Boating Campaign quickly shifted from in-person outreach events to an integrated marketing approach to reach boaters during the COVID-19 pandemic. The NSBC created a robust toolkit with animated videos, infographics, photography, digital downloads, fact sheets, radio PSAs, and more.

Partners creatively participated in Wear Your Life Jacket at Work Day and National Safe Boating Week by flooding social media with these resources and more. In addition, the NSBC brought the safety message directly to boaters with launch point signs and radio ads. Learn more at www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com.



#### FBSA OF 1971

On August 10th, 1971, President Nixon signed the Federal Boat Safety Act, mandating a cooperative Federal-State effort to improve the safety of recreational boating in the United States. 2021 will mark the 50th anniversary of the FBSA of 1971. The NSBC is creating a commemorative campaign that will launch during the 2021 International Boating and Water Safety Summit. Learn more at www.FederalBoatSafetyAct.com.

# FREE RESOURCES

Total boxes shipped: 700 Individual resources: 142,000



#### WAVES OF HOPE

Waves of Hope is a boating safety coalition dedicated to working together toward a common goal of saving lives on the water. It provides a platform for survivors, families, and partners to collectively take action, share their stories, and educate others on the importance of responsible boating in hopes to prevent future tragedies. Over this past year, the coalition continued to support each other through monthly networking opportunities and adapted to share about boating safety in their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The NSBC provided free resources, such as launch point signs, story cards, educational flyers, and more to coalition members. Learn more about Waves of Hope at www.WavesOfHopeBoating.org.

### **BOAT ON COURSE**

Put your boating safety knowledge to the test with new educational boating safety videos and quizzes from the National Safe Boating Council in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard. Boat On Course teaches the basic navigation rules of boating. New topics include America's Waterway Watch, Boating Offshore, Marine Safety Information, Uniform Waterway Marking Systems, and Understanding Aids to Navigation. Watch at your own pace, and test your knowledge at the end of each video at **www.BoatOnCourse.com**.

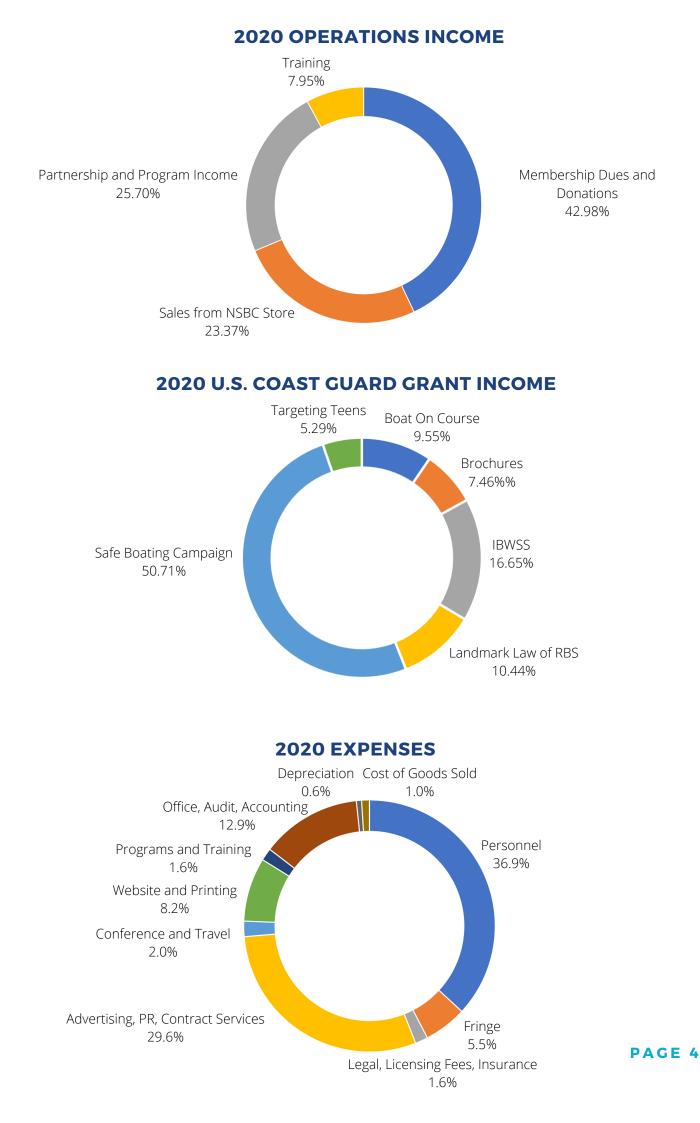
#### INTERNATIONAL BOATING AND WATER SAFETY SUMMIT

The 2020 International Boating and Water Safety Summit was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and nationwide lockdowns in March 2020. Save the date for the 2021 International Boating and Water Safety Summit - March 21-24, 2021. We are working closely with the U.S. Coast Guard to provide a safe and quality experience for our attendees. Learn more at **www.IBWSS.org**.

#### **MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT**

Admiral Club: 15 Mariner Club: 11 Crew Club: 70 Instructors: 254 Ambassador Club: 65





#### ADMIRAL CLUB MEMBERS







# BRUNSWICK







National Marine Manufacturers Association











#### **West Marine**®



#### MARINER CLUB MEMBERS

- Absolute Outdoor
- Brunswick Boat
  Group
- Coleman Company
- Kawasaki
- Mercury Marine
- MTI Life Jackets
- Mustang Survival

- Orion
- Scott Swanby
- Tennessee
  Wildlife
  Resources
  Agency
- Twiggy the Water Skiing Squirrel

BOATING COUNCIL

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#### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice Chair, Alan Dennison BoatUS Foundation

Past Chair, Chris Stec ACA Instructor Trainer and Educator

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