

# “THE MISSOURI RIVER SKIPPER”

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2, SPRING 2021



## **SCHEDULE OF FLOTILLA MEETINGS**

085-33-01	Omaha	3rd Monday
085-33-02	Lincoln	2nd Sunday
085-33-03	NP Dodge Park	3rd Tuesday
085-33-04	Des Moines	2nd Saturday

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**Want to see more pictures?  
Please remember to check out the website at:  
[http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW\\_signin.php?unit=](http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.php?unit=)**

## Staff Roster

Division Commander ..... Barbara Westcott  
 Vice Division Commander ..... Douglas Eubanks  
 Immediate Past Commander ..... Brandon Butters  
 Flotilla Commander 01 ..... James Wolfe  
 Flotilla Commander 02 ..... Mary Poe  
 Flotilla Commander 03 ..... Randal Evans  
 Flotilla Commander 04 ..... Samuel Mitchel  
 Finance (SO-FN) ..... George McNary  
 Secretary of Records (SO-SR) ..... Barclay Stebbins

**Chief of Logistics** ..... Douglas Eubanks  
 Communication Services (SO-CS) ..... Douglas Eubanks  
 Human Resources (SO-HR) ..... Constance Walters  
 Information Services (SO-IS) ..... Doug Eubanks  
 Materials (SO-MA) ..... James Westcott  
 Public Affairs (SO-PA) ..... Randal Evans  
 Publications (SO-PB) ..... Barbara Westcott  
 Diversity (SO-DV) ..... Brandon Butters  
 Auxiliary Scout (SO-AS) ..... Brandon Butters

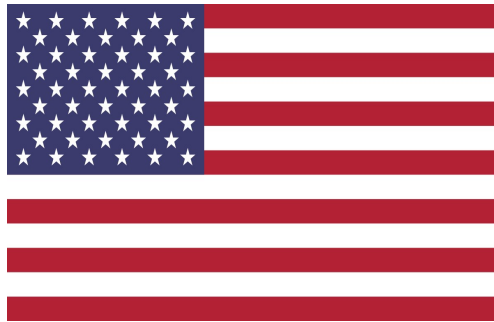
**Chief of Prevention** ..... Daniel Smith  
 Member Services (SO-MS) ..... Douglas Ives  
 Member Training (SO-MT) ..... John Hawkinson  
 Navigation Systems (SO-NS) ..... Daniel Smith  
 Public Education (SO-PE) ..... James Westcott  
 Public Visitation (SO-PV) ..... Daniel Smith  
 Vessel Examination (SO-VE) ..... Daniel Smith

**Chief of Response** ..... George McNary  
 Communications (SO-CM) ..... James Westcott  
 Operations (SO-OP) ..... George McNary

### Other Appointments

Liaison to Iowa ..... Douglas Ives  
 Liaison to Nebraska ..... Constance Walters  
 Liaison to Gasconade ..... Barclay Stebbins  
 Liaison to Bass Pro Council Bluff ..... Douglas Ives  
 Liaison to Bass Pro Des Moines ..... OPEN  
 Liaison to Cabela's ..... James Westcott

## DIVISION COMMANDER'S MESSAGE SPRING 2021



Shipmates,

Spring is almost over and Summer is around the corner. Hopefully we will be able to get out on the water and everyone will get their QE's and hours in with ease this year.

It appears that there will be some relaxed restrictions in the coming months. The CDC has stated that fully vaccinated individuals no longer need to wear their masks when outdoors. However, we still need to follow the Coast Guard's mandates when gathering.

We are encouraged to begin to have in-person meetings, public affair events, vessel exams, etc. With that being said, let us think about possible public affair booths at different venues such as local Farmer's Markets. Please remember to forward you non-operational mission requests to Commodore Geddes, with a copy to myself, at least 14 days prior to you event. Also remember that if you want to you can fill the request out for the entire month.

We had a wonderful Spring Business Meeting and Awards Dinner. Congratulations to each and every member and flotilla that received an award. Also a big thank you to both John Hawkinson, SO-MT, and Doug Eubanks, VCDR, for the training that they presented.

I was fortunate to be able to go to the District Spring Business Meeting. Here are a few of the highlights: 1) Every unit needs to create a budget. 2) Every unit needs to have an HR Officer. 3) The Auxiliary needs to have Historians, AN position. 4) Julie Cary, DCAPT-South is chair for Exceptional Awards and Bob Arisman, DCAPT-East is the chair for the District Awards. Also, please congratulate the members of Flotilla 33-02 on receiving their 60 year certificate and ribbon.



Barb Westcott, DCDR





# Diversity and Inclusion

By Brandon Butters, SO-DV

## Bridging the Generation Gap

By Brandon Butters, SO-DV

When you think of diversity, you may think of topics like race and gender. Have you thought of ageism as being a topic of diversity? Ageism is a topic of law claims in the employment world every year and the theory of ageism can carry over into your flotilla also.

### Three Benefits to Generational Diversity

Having better generational diversity can help your flotilla perform better in many ways. You may see better problem-solving skills. You get the benefit of having many people with multiple experiences looking at the same problem thus pulling on different backgrounds and experiences proving that two or more heads are better than one. You can also bring together those with technology experience with those who have “been there, done that”.

Having a generationally diverse group can help you further attract the same in your flotilla. An age-diverse flotilla will better understand the needs of across the age spectrum and better able to attract all ages groups rather than specifically targeting a specific age group.

Being a diverse age-group also can provide learning opportunities. One of the best ways to encourage personal development is to encourage mentoring relationships. These mentoring relationships consist of one member (usually more experienced) providing guidance to a junior colleague. These relationships generally foster positive relationships on both parties and increase productivity on new members and keeps experienced staff engaged. This mix of younger and older mentor relationships provides a perfect opportunity to facilitate the flow of knowledge and building relationships.

Bridging the generation gap and achieving generational diversity means more than avoiding age discrimination. You do have to look at your recruitment strategies, achieve a balance of different generations within the flotilla, and putting strategies in place to encourage effective communication and cooperation between people of different age groups.

*Adapted from Top 10 Cultural Awareness & Diversity Topics in the Workplace*





# WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW

[Boat Safety Checklist & Safety Equipment](#) | [Discover Boating](#)

## Boat Safety Checklist & Safety Equipment

Whether you're using your boat for **fishing, wakesurfing, skiing, diving, day cruising or overnighting**, remember to pack essential safety gear. If you keep it onboard, inspect it periodically and keep it in good working order. Although the **U.S. Coast Guard requires different items for different kinds and sizes of vessels**, there is some basic gear that will help keep you safe and out of trouble with the authorities.

Here are a few *must haves* as well as *should haves* to stow aboard this boating season.  
**5 Must-Have Safety Equipment for Your Boat**

### 1. Life jackets and wearable personal flotation devices (PFDs)

An accessible, **wearable PFD (Type I, II, or III)** is a life jacket that must be available for each person on board. If you're towing a skier or have a wake surfer behind the boat, he or she will need a PFD as well. Kids 12 and under must always wear their PFD on a moving vessel. Likewise, everyone riding a personal watercraft (PWC) must also wear a PFD at all times. In case of an emergency of any kind, the first thing you should do is ensure that all passengers onboard immediately put on their life jackets—or proactively, you can recommend that all those onboard just put them on right at the dock before departure. Although not required, your pet should have a lifejacket, too.

Learn more in **[How to Choose the Right Life Jacket or PFD](#)**, or **[visit the USCG](#)** for additional information and resources.

### 2. Throwable flotation devices

In addition to the life jackets you wear, you'll need at least one floating device (Type IV) that you can throw to an individual in the water in case of trouble. This can be a cushion, a ring buoy or other device and although only one is required, it's better to have several. Some of these items may come with a line attached so you can pull a person closer to the boat and then get them out of the water.



### 3. Fire extinguishers

There are different kinds and ratings for extinguishers but to keep it simple, remember that boats under 26 feet (including PWCs) need at least one B-1 type extinguisher and boats 26 to just under 40 feet need two B-1 types or one B-2 type. Discuss with your family and guests how to operate an extinguisher: pull the pin, squeeze the handle and aim at the base of the flames.

### 4. Visual signaling devices

Visual distress signals can come in a variety packages and there are different requirements by size of vessel and even by the state where you go boating. Boats under 16 feet must have flares or nighttime signals. Boats over 16 feet must carry visual signals for both day and night use. Examples of pyrotechnic devices or flares that would qualify are orange or white smoke and aerial light flares. Some flares are self-launching while others require a flare gun to send them into the sky. Other nighttime devices include a strobe light while flags may be used during the day. PWCs cannot be operated between sunset and sunrise so they don't need to carry nighttime devices.

### 5. Sound signaling devices

Sounds can attract help both day and night and are especially effective in fog. Portable or fixed horns and whistles count as sound-generating devices for all boats. Larger vessels (over 39 feet) should also carry a bell to be sounded at regular intervals in times of limited visibility like fog.

## ***12 Should-Have Safety Equipment for Your Boat***

Depending on the type of boating you do and where you do it, some of these may be required or only recommended items. Either way, you can pack most of these aboard even the smallest of boats.

1. Medical kit for cuts, scrapes, seasickness or small emergencies
2. Anchor with line to hold your boat in place while you wait for help to arrive
3. Bailing device or bucket to dewater and stay afloat
4. Oars or paddles if the engine quits
5. Cellphone to call for help
6. **VHF radio** to call for help
7. Knife to cut a line around a fouled propeller
8. Snorkel mask to inspect what's going on under the boat
9. Heavy duty flashlight
10. Skier or diver down flag
11. Working running lights if your boat is equipped with them
12. A way to get weather updates because things can change quickly even on a lake

For more on safety, be sure to read our **12 Safe Boating Tips** that outline the basics to ensure you're safe and responsible while out on the water. You may also want to check out our **Pre-Departure Checklist** that outlines everything you need to have onboard before leaving the dock.

# Sea Scouts New Direction

By Brandon Butters, SO-AS

Beginning 01-June-2021, the BSA will be transitioning away from Regions and Areas in favor of a new organizational model called National Service Territories. These Territories are different than the Areas or Regions because at the Territory level there is minimal staff and a board or committee structure. This will decrease the number of levels (removing the Areas and Regions) or flattening between the Councils and the National Service Territory. With this change, each Area and Region Commodore and Committee Member term will end. T. W. Cook, National Commodore thanked the outgoing four Regional Commodores (Ben Feril, Tom McMullen, Curt Ware, and Kathy Weydid) for their work.

Each Territory will have a Territory Sea Scout Coordinator, which out of tradition, will be called a Commodore. These Territory Commodores will report to the National Sea Scout Committee and will support Sea Scouts in their respective Territories.

Each Territory will also have a Territory Boatswain, the senior youth leader for Sea Scouts in the Territory. These Boatswains will primarily report to the National Boatswain but will also work with the Territory Commadore on Territory programs.

Division 33 is unique in that we cover a wide geographical area and have two Sea Scout Ships in two different National Service Territories. Ship 3304 is covered by National Service Territory 4. Led by Commodore George Battis and Boatswain Caleb Smith. Ship 3303 is covered by National Service Territory 5. Commodore Paul McDonald and Boatswain Kameron Heffner.

Even though Division 33 has divided Territories, our two ships will continue to work together!





COMO Jeff Geddes  
&  
DCOS Brock Stephens

Picture by Barb Westcott,  
DCDR



Dennis Peterson, DCAPT-West

Picture by Jim Westcott

Doug Eubanks, VCDR  
&  
Dennis Pearson, DCAPT-West

Picture by Jim Westcott

