



**For Immediate Release: August 15, 2024**

**Media contact:**

Jill Kurtz, Communication Chair, Smith Mountain Lake Association  
703-283-5813  
communication@smlassociation.org

**SMLA Leader Randy Stow Named NASBLA 2024 Pamela S. Dillon Educator of the Year for Virginia**

**Stow is a longstanding volunteer for the SMLA Water Safety Council and Chair of the TLAC Navigation Committee**

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA – Randy Stow is the winner of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) 2024 Pamela S. Dillon Boating Educator of the Year award for Virginia. The award was recently presented by Stacey Brown, Boating Division Director for the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

Stow serves on the Smith Mountain Lake Association (SMLA) Water Safety Council and is the chair of the Navigation Committee of the Tri-County Lakes Administrative Commission (TLAC).

He is also a member of the U.S. Power Squadron and has served as the Squadron Commander and Educational Officer. He is a boat captain for on-water assistance, towing and salvage for Sea Tow. Stow is also a certified boating instructor for the Virginia Department of Wildlife.

“Going above and beyond to engage, educate and reach boaters in a relevant, thorough and exciting way is the perfect description of Randy Stow,” said Brown. “Randy’s dedication and tireless efforts to boating and boating education have been a consistent theme throughout his personal and professional life. His vast experience on the water and his countless hours as a boating educator have had a tremendous impact on boating safety across Virginia and beyond.”

From 1971 to 1976 Stow served in the U.S. Navy as an Unrestricted Line Officer. Following his service, he devoted much of his time to competitive crew racing throughout the midwestern United States, Sweden, and Australia, and earned his certification as a U.S. Sailing small boat sailing instructor.

Since 2009, Stow has resided at Smith Mountain Lake in Wirtz, Virginia. His leadership and commitment to boating safety and boating education at Smith Mountain Lake are evident through the many roles in which he serves.

Virginia’s waters and those who boat on Smith Mountain Lake are safer because of Stow’s unwavering commitment to boating education, his consistent leadership, and his dedication to serving others and his community.

**About SMLA**

The Smith Mountain Lake Association (SMLA) mission is to keep Smith Mountain Lake clean and  
400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121



safe. SMLA is the longest serving advocate for the SML community. Activities help to retain the pristine beauty of Smith Mountain Lake and the vibrant local economy. SMLA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3). It is an all-volunteer organization that relies on memberships, donations and grants to support programs that keep SML clean and safe.



Stacey Brown, Boating Division Director for the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources presents SMLA's Randy Stow with the 2024 Pamela S. Dillon Boating Educator of the Year award for Virginia.



400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121

☎ 540-719-0690

✉ [theoffice@smlassociation.org](mailto:theoffice@smlassociation.org)

🖱 [www.smlassociation.org](http://www.smlassociation.org)