



SCAA

SPILL CONTROL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

SPILL BRIEFS

News from the Spill Control Association of America



BI-ANNUAL ASSOCIATION REPORT

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Dear SCAA Members and Industry Partners,

Welcome to the latest edition of Spill Briefs.

As I reflect on the past several months, I am incredibly proud of what our Association continues to accomplish.

Throughout this publication, you will see examples of the dedication, expertise, and professionalism that define the members of SCAA.

From our Annual Meeting and regional gatherings to our advocacy efforts and educational initiatives, one thing remains clear: our industry is strongest when we come together to share knowledge, support one another, and work toward common goals.

The response community continues to face new challenges, evolving regulations, emerging technologies, and increasing expectations from the public and our stakeholders. Yet I remain optimistic because I see firsthand the talent and commitment that exists throughout our membership. Every day, SCAA members are protecting communities, safeguarding the environment, and serving as trusted experts in times of need. That work matters, and it is an honor for our Association to represent such a dedicated group of professionals.

Our recent Annual Meeting reinforced the value of bringing the industry together. The conversations that took place, the lessons shared, and the strengthened relationships during those few days are exactly what make SCAA special. Equally important has been the continued engagement throughout the year, whether through committee work, advocacy efforts, regional meetings, or the development of future industry leaders. Each contribution helps ensure that our Association remains relevant, impactful, and prepared for the future.

One of the things that gives me the greatest confidence in SCAA's future is the level of member involvement. We continue to welcome new organizations into our Association while investing in scholarships, mentorship, and leadership development opportunities that will help shape the next generation of spill response professionals. The future of our industry depends on those efforts, and I am encouraged by the passion and engagement I see across our membership.

As we move forward, our focus will remain on serving our members, strengthening our voice on important industry issues, and providing opportunities for education and collaboration. The challenges ahead will require strong partnerships and thoughtful leadership, but I am confident that SCAA is well positioned to continue making a meaningful impact.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Association and for the work you do every day. I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming regional meeting and events as we continue building on the momentum highlighted in these pages.

Sincerely,



Stephen Perna

2025-2027 President

2025-2027 Officers



2025-2027 President

Steve Perna is Senior Vice President of Lewis Environmental, a Mid-Atlantic-based full-service environmental contractor. He holds a Master of Science Degree from St. Joseph's University in Public Safety Management and is a Certified Safety Professional. In addition to Lewis, Steve is very active as a first responder in Southeastern Pennsylvania. He recently completed his term as the Fire Chief of the West Chester Fire Department. Additionally, he is a Hazardous Materials Specialist with the Chester County HAZMAT Team, a Fire Instructor through the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, and Co-Chair of the Chester County Traffic Incident Management Task Force.

Steve has served SCAA for over 10 years on the Future Environmental Leaders, Planning, and Health & Safety Committees. He has also been a member of the Board of Directors during this time. Serving as Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President.



2025-2027 Vice President

Timothy House is the Vice President of Operations at Moran Environmental Recovery (MER), a role he assumed in September 2022. Prior to this position, he served as the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager for six years, overseeing a range of environmental response and Industrial operations. Mr. House began his career with MER in the mid-2000s while still in high school, officially joining the company as a field technician in 2007 upon graduation. Timothy holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Management from the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. House has been an active member of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA) since 2012, where he serves on the Board of Directors and currently holds the position of Vice President.

Timothy strives to create a more efficient and sustainable future and uphold the values of both his own organization as well as SCAA's.



2025-2027 Treasurer

Josh Clifford is an experienced and proven environmental professional with 15 years of experience in emergency response, environmental compliance, and sustainable remediation. As Vice President of QT Environmental, Inc., he has led complex, high-stakes projects worldwide.

Known for his ability to rapidly mobilize teams and resources, Josh excels at integrating innovative technologies and international best practices to improve environmental outcomes. His expertise outside of emergency response spans contingency planning, regulatory compliance, sustainability, and project management.

A strong advocate for professional development and team collaboration, Josh fosters a culture of continuous learning and operational excellence. He is also actively engaged in environmental advocacy and outreach, advancing awareness and conservation efforts within his community and worldwide. His leadership and forward-thinking approach have earned him recognition as a trusted and influential figure within the industry. He currently is on the Board of Directors for SCAA as well.



2025-2027 Secretary

Mr. Malizzi has over 30 years of experience in disaster response, insurance loss control, litigation support, spill planning, drills, and response, Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), endangered species, and habitat restoration. Recently, he was the EUL for a train derailment in CA and was involved in several confidential NRDAs. He served as the Program Manager for the Natural Resource Advisor Program, among other tasks, in support of the MC252 Deepwater Horizon Response (BP Spill) in the Gulf of Mexico.

Mr. Malizzi is on the Board of Directors for the Spill Control Association of America and was and is on the Planning Committees for the International Oil Spill Conference 2024 and 2027. He has spoken extensively on spill planning, NRDA, response, and other environmental topics in both the U.S., Canada, the Middle East, and the EU.

Board of Directors

Joe Bowles - MSRC

Joe Bowles, Vice President of the Offshore Operations Division, is a veteran responder who started working for the oil industry in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, in 1985, starting his spill response career in Valdez, Alaska, in 1989. Joe joined MSRC in 1993 as a Responder and was quickly promoted through various operations leadership positions in the Pacific Region. During Joe's tenure in MSRC's Pacific Region, he has developed strong cooperative relationships with state regulatory agencies in the most ecologically conscious regions of the U.S.

Tyler Fetgatter - Phoenix Pollution Control

Tyler R. Fetgatter is the Director of Sales and Marketing at Phoenix Pollution Control & Environmental Services, Inc., a premier environmental solutions provider based in Houston, Texas. Holding a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Marketing/Health Care Administration/Management from the University of Texas at Tyler. Tyler combines strategic business expertise with a passion for advancing sustainable practices. From key roles at Phoenix Pollution Control, he drives innovative environmental initiatives and business growth in the Greater Houston area.

Tyler is deeply committed to industry leadership, actively contributing to environmental and safety advancements. As a dedicated member of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA) Board of Directors, he plays a pivotal role in advancing the organization's mission, championing sustainable practices and fostering leadership in environmental and safety advancements.



*The Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Immediate Past President, Angie Martin.
From left to right: Tyler Fetgatter, Paul Rutherford, Rick Mowrer, Stephen Perna, Angie Martin, Josh Clifford, Tim House, Joe Bowles, Bob May, Larry Malizzi*

Board of Directors

Robert May - HEPACO/Clean Harbors

Robert May is the Vice President of HEPACO, LLC, where he has served since 2005. With over 30 years of experience in environmental services and emergency response, he brings a deep understanding of operational leadership, client relations, and field expertise to the industry.

Prior to joining HEPACO, he spent more than 13 years at IMS Environmental Services. During his time there, he served as Branch Manager following his early career as a Project Geologist in Chesapeake.

Robert holds a Bachelor of Science in Geology from Old Dominion University. His long-standing commitment to environmental protection and project management has made him a trusted leader in the field.

Rick Mowrer - Texas Boom Company

Rick Mowrer has a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management from Covenant College. Had an early professional career that included advancing through multiple levels of management over 21 years with ADESA. Has been the President of Texas Boom Company since 2014, and is a Katy, Texas resident with four children, including three adults and one daughter about to start high school.

Paul Rutherford - Miller Environmental Group

Paul Rutherford is the Vice President of Operations at Miller Environmental Group, Inc., bringing over 25 years of experience in environmental response, operations, and emergency preparedness. Before joining Miller in 2023, he served as Director of National Response Readiness and Marine Operations at ACV Enviro, overseeing nationwide emergency response and marine services.

He previously held leadership roles at HEPACO, Amtrak, Moran Environmental, and National Response Corporation, with strong focus on project management, compliance, and training. Paul also served 12 years in the U.S. Coast Guard, specializing in communications and tactical operations.

SCAA's Committees and Current Chairs

Health and Safety Committee - Peter "Doug" Everlof

The Health and Safety Committee is responsible for developing and promoting a healthy and safe work environment for all association members. The committee encourages the sharing of best management practices for member benefit.

Government Affairs Committee - Robert Chambers

The Government Affairs Committee is responsible for working collaboratively with the SCAA Board, Executive leadership and the membership to drive awareness, education and implementation of regulatory issues that are both meaningful and impactful to the Association's interests.

Communications/Marketing Committee - Logan Armstrong

The Communications/Marketing Committee is responsible for ensuring market awareness of the association within the response industry, promotion of member companies endeavors in the response industry, and establishing consistent brand recognition of SCAA to support other association goals.

Technical Advancement Committee - Rick Mowrer

The Technical Advancement Committee researches, identifies and recommends needed technical improvements that will benefit our members and the spill response industry.

Emerging Environmental Leaders (EEL) Committee - Christopher Tracy

The Emerging Environmental Leaders Committee is responsible for developing and engaging young response professionals for networking and sustainability of the association.

Planning Committee- John Silva

The Planning Committee is a standing body that works with SCAA staff to monitor, plan, and schedule participation in industry and government events, including conferences, exhibits, meetings, and workshops. It also oversees planning for SCAA's Annual Meeting & Conference.

Membership Committee - Margo Moss

The Membership Committee is a standing committee of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA), focused on member recruitment, retention, and engagement. Current initiatives include expanding regional meetings, improving Meet & Greets, enhancing the mentorship program, and growing the Lunch & Learn series. Past successes include launching online bill pay, streamlining new member onboarding, and conducting satisfaction surveys.

Past Presidents/Nominating Committee - Angie Martin

The Past Presidents/Nominating Committee is a permanent committee of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA), tasked with ensuring leadership continuity and advising the President, Executive Committee, and Board. It develops a slate of candidates for elections and promotes Board participation.

***Want to be involved with a Committee?
All Committee Chair contact information
can be found at scaa-spill.org!***

Announcements

IOSC Conference 2027

International Oil Spill Conference



API•BSEE•IMO•IPIECA•ITOPF•NOAA•PHMSA•USCG•USEPA

IOSC 2027

May 17-20 | Savannah, GA

The International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) brings together leaders from industry, government, academia, and the response community to share lessons learned, emerging technologies, and innovative solutions for spill preparedness and response.

SCAA will be in attendance and encourages its members to participate in this premier industry event. IOSC offers valuable opportunities to connect with industry leaders, gain insight into the latest developments and best practices, and contribute to conversations that help shape the future of spill response through collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Little Black Book Collaboration



Cleanupoil.com is proud to collaborate with the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA). Work on the 10th Edition of the Little Black Book will begin in fall 2026 following Clean Americas in Dallas, Texas. With 2,000 phone numbers and locations to verify, we rely on the support of spill associations to make it happen, please contact us to ensure your listing is current.

To contact SCAA: info@scaa-spill.org

To contact Cleanupoil.com:
stewart@cleanupoil.com

New Member Spotlight



E3 Environmental provides emergency response, environmental remediation, industrial cleaning, waste transportation, and oil spill response services. The company supports industrial and energy clients with 24/7 response capabilities across the United States.



Environmental Works, Inc. (EWI) is an environmental consulting and contracting firm specializing in remediation, industrial services, drilling, tank services, and emergency response. The company delivers turnkey solutions for environmental compliance and cleanup projects.



E-Tank manufactures portable liquid storage and containment systems for environmental, industrial, military, and emergency response applications. Its product line includes flexible storage tanks, berms, and rapid-deployment containment solutions.



Interstate Products supplies spill containment, environmental protection, and workplace safety products. The company offers a wide range of containment berms, absorbents, storage systems, and stormwater management solutions.



Progressive Pipeline Management (PPM) specializes in trenchless pipeline inspection and rehabilitation, and is the sole U.S. licensee for Starline® Cured-In-Place Liner (CIPL) technology. Since 2002, PPM has helped utilities and industrial clients restore aging and leaking pipelines without the cost and disruption of traditional excavation.



SpillBully develops spill response products focused on fast, effective cleanup of oil, fuel, and chemical spills. Its absorbent materials and spill kits are designed to simplify spill response while reducing cleanup costs.

New Member Spotlight



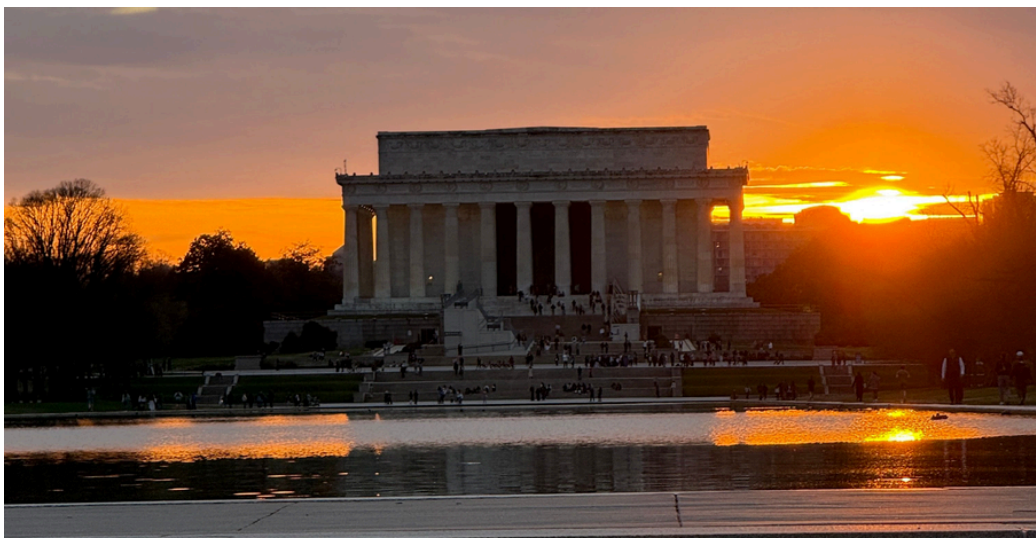
Spill Center provides 24/7 spill response coordination, regulatory reporting, and environmental compliance services. The company helps organizations manage environmental incidents through contractor coordination and reporting support.



Sabine Sorbents provides contractor-grade oil absorbent products trusted by spill response professionals across the energy, manufacturing, and environmental industries. Their product line includes sorbent boom, pads, rolls, spill kits, and snare boom solutions designed to deliver reliable spill control and environmental protection when it matters most.

Capitol Hill Visit

Before its Annual Meeting, SCAA leadership visited Congress to advocate on two priorities. First, they raised concerns about marijuana reclassification and its potential to undermine workplace safety standards in spill response operations, urging DOT to issue clear, coordinated guidance. Second, they called for stronger federal funding for emergency response programs and improved leak detection standards under DOT/PHMSA. In both cases, SCAA emphasized its role as a technical resource for legislators and pressed for a seat at the table in future rulemaking.



2026 Annual Meeting Recap (Day 1)

State of the Association Address

Speaker: Stephen Pelna (Lewis Environmental) 2025 - 2027 President

SCAA represents spill response professionals across three core pillars: Advocacy, Education, and Engagement. The biggest 2025 –2026 development was a bylaws update creating three membership tiers (Full Members, Industry Partners, and Honorary Members), with ten past presidents recognized as inaugural Honorary Members.

Advocacy efforts included engagement with API, PHMSA, and monitoring of key regulatory issues, while education initiatives offered mentorships, quarterly orientations, and three \$1,000 scholarships.

Three regional meetings were held in 2025 with three more planned for 2026, and newly elected board members Joe Bowles, Josh Clifford, and Larry Malizzi will serve 2026–2028 under President Stephen Pelna.

Looking ahead, priorities include expanding meetings, modernizing bylaws, and growing social media presence, with the next Annual Meeting scheduled for March 9–10, 2027 in Charlotte, NC.



2026 Annual Meeting Recap (Day 1)

Foundations of Post-Thermal Event Battery Cleanup: Preparation, Packaging, & Compliance

Speakers: Mark Steadman & Eric Frederickson (The Battery Network), Dalan Zartman (Energy Security Agency)

This session explored the increasing frequency of lithium-ion battery incidents and the importance of preparedness within the spill control industry. Two of North America's leading battery thermal event specialists discussed the fundamentals of post-thermal event cleanup, including pre-incident planning, site assessment, and the key regulatory requirements for safe and compliant response. Attendees learned the essentials of 49 CFR 173.704 Function-Specific Training, as well as the DOT/PHMSA packaging requirements for handling, packaging, and transporting damaged or thermally compromised lithium-ion batteries. The session provided participants with practical knowledge and actionable strategies to better prepare their teams, protect their organizations, and respond confidently and safely to battery thermal events.



Mark Steadman (The Battery Network)



Eric Frederickson (The Battery Network)



Dalan Zartman (Energy Security Agency)

Emergency Response Waste: Now What Do We Do?

Speaker: Angie Martin (Arcwood Environmental)

This session covered how 1970s environmental disasters drove the creation of RCRA and CERCLA/Superfund, the two laws that govern hazardous waste management and long-term liability today. The presentation walked through how to classify emergency response waste as either Listed or Characteristic, and reminded responders that strict timelines, multi-agency regulatory requirements, and detailed waste profiling all must be managed quickly, particularly the 10-day transfer facility window. The session closed with a regulatory update noting EPA's proposed shift to a fully electronic e-manifest system, eliminating paper manifests within two years.



2026 Annual Meeting Recap

(Day 1)

Federal Legislative & Regulatory Update: Overarching Environmental Industry Trends & Regulatory Climate

Speaker: James A. Williams (Environmental Technology Council - ETC)

This session covered key federal legislative and regulatory developments affecting the environmental industry. Major topics included the FY 2026/2027 National Defense Authorization Act, Department of War guidance on PFAS destruction, and EPA's push toward a fully electronic manifest system by 2028, with ETC actively engaged through its Header Record Proposal and the EPA e-Manifest Advisory Board. Additional issues addressed were EPA Region 5 Waste Analysis Plans, CERCLA liability for passive receivers (being pursued both legislatively and through regulatory channels), and EPA's 2026 proposed Risk Management Plan rule covering third-party audits and community notification. Williams also noted ETC's March 2026 CEO Meeting, which included Hill visits and meetings with EPA senior staff, and closed by highlighting ETC membership benefits including Congressional engagement, regulatory intelligence, and access to key industry documents.



Luncheon Awards

Speaker: Chris Tracy, Heritage Environmental Services

Three \$1,000 scholarships went to Hailey Benfield (Purdue), Hannah Burton, and Logan Smith (both Massachusetts Maritime Academy) for their studies in environmental and emergency response fields.

David Usher Distinguished Service Award, Honoring long-term contributors to the spill response community, the 2025 recipients were Scott Lundgren (NOAA), Rick Raksnis (U.S. DOT), and Captain Trey Wirth, Ret. (U.S. Coast Guard).



2026 Annual Meeting Recap

(Day 1)

Simple Steps to Make Your Account More Attractive to Carriers Before Renewal

Speakers: Chris Gallagher (Alliant) & Matt Tomlinson (Berkley Environmental)

This session argued that environmental contractors can meaningfully reduce their insurance costs, through active engagement rather than passiveness. Key pricing factors include loss history, auto performance, exposure mix, and visible leadership involvement in safety. Since the environmental insurance market is specialized with few carriers, strong underwriter relationships and clear, well-organized submissions are critical. The central takeaway is simple: companies that engage leadership, invest in safety culture, manage their fleet rigorously, and communicate proactively with underwriters consistently achieve better pricing than those that don't.



Bridging Gaps in OPA 90 Response Execution: A QI's Perspective on Awards

Speaker: Tom Wiker (Gallagher Marine Services)

This session presented a QI's perspective on OPA 90 response gaps. Founded in 1992, GMS has grown into a leading maritime compliance firm serving over 1,100 clients and 10,500 vessels globally. The presentation addresses two core challenges: the loss of experienced QI personnel through retirement with few qualified replacements, and recurring OSRO staffing and equipment shortfalls, both of which GMS urges contractors to communicate early and openly. A growing experience gap within the USCG is also flagged as a concern, contributing to response inefficiencies that GMS is working to address through joint training and regulatory outreach. The deck closes with practical auditing tips, emphasizing early finance coordination, subcontractor transparency, and proper documentation during incident response.



2026 Annual Meeting Recap (Day 1)

Charting Risk: Navigating Insurance and Vessel-Owner Liability in the Shift to Alternative Marine Fuels - Ammonia, Hydrogen, LNG and Biofuels at the IMO and US Regulatory Helm

Speakers: Camille Zuber (Nicoll Black Altenbrun & Feig), Larry Malizzi (CTEH)

This presentation by maritime attorney Camille Zuber and environmental consultant Lawrence Malizzi examines the legal, regulatory, and practical challenges of transitioning shipping to alternative fuels, ammonia, hydrogen, LNG, methanol, and biofuels. While the IMO approved mandatory GHG emissions pricing in April 2025 targeting net-zero shipping by 2050, the framework stalled after strong U.S. opposition characterized it as an unfair global carbon tax. Existing U.S. law leaves significant gaps, as ammonia, LNG, and hydrogen fall outside OPA's definition of "oil," while only ammonia is covered under CERCLA. Each alternative fuel also presents distinct engineering and safety challenges, requiring substantially more storage space than diesel, and carrying serious risks ranging from toxic exposure and explosion hazards to asphyxiation. To manage these risks, vessel owners and insurers are advised to invest in fuel testing, crew training, impact assessments, and dual-fuel engine capabilities.



Day 1 Reception

A special thank you to Berkley Environmental for hosting and sponsoring the reception at the conference center during the Annual Meeting. The evening provided a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere where attendees could step away from the day's sessions to reconnect with colleagues, strengthen existing partnerships, and build new relationships across the environmental response industry. It was a great time of fellowship, meaningful conversations, and networking, reinforcing the collaboration that makes our industry so strong. We greatly appreciate Berkley Environmental's generosity and hospitality in bringing everyone together for such an enjoyable and memorable evening.



2026 Annual Meeting Recap (Day 2)

The UK & Ireland Perspective: Collaboration, Accreditation, and Recent Case Studies (including plastics)

Speakers: Richard Baker (Executive Director of International Spill Accreditation Scheme), Featuring Gerard McDaid (Chairman of UK & Ireland Spill Association)



This session focused on the importance of industry accreditation in spill response and overviewed the association's accreditation program. It featured case studies from the UK, including the MV Solong and MV Stena Immaculate collision, a battery fire at an airport parking facility, a plastic bead release affecting local beaches, and a shipping container loss at sea. These examples provided insights into incident management, response challenges, and lessons learned.

SUPSALV Response Capability: A Constant in the Changing Response Landscape

Speaker: Eric D. Brege (Director of Salvage Operations, PE, Commander, UN - Ret)

SUPSALV (NAVSEA 00C) is the U.S. Navy's primary authority for marine salvage, oil spill response, diving certification, and underwater ship husbandry. Operating with just 50 personnel backed by worldwide commercial contracts and pre-positioned equipment, it serves as the Navy's Tier III Oil Spill Response Organization and a National Response Team member, deployable globally to support Navy, Coast Guard, and other federal agencies. Its infrastructure spans eight worldwide equipment staging sites stocked with containment boom, skimmers, and portable storage, supported by regional salvage contracts across three geographic zones. SUPSALV has responded to major emergencies including Deepwater Horizon, the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse, and Hurricane Katrina, and holds interagency agreements with USCG, USACE, NASA, NOAA, and NTSB, reflecting the broad federal reliance on its one-of-a-kind capabilities.



2026 Annual Meeting Recap (Day 2)

SCAA Membership Update

Speaker: Margo Moss (Founder & Owner, L&M Environmental Response, SCAA Membership Committee Chair)

The SCAA Membership Committee's March 2026 update covers retention, recruitment, and growth efforts for the Spill Control Association of America, whose members span cleanup and remediation (35%), spill response OSROs (22%), equipment and services (17%), consulting (12%), wildlife and research (8%), and legal and insurance (6%). The membership is evenly split between long-tenured members (43% joined before 2015) and newer ones (43% since 2020), with 14% joining between 2015 and 2019. Key 2025 initiatives included a redesigned mentorship program, new member orientation, an updated regional meeting toolbox, and an annual satisfaction survey, which found that 94% of respondents would recommend SCAA to a peer, with in-person events (42%), committee engagement (40%), and digital communication (18%) ranked as the most valued benefits. Members identified opportunities for involvement (25%) as the top area for improvement.



Looking ahead, the committee plans to launch an online regional meeting application, expand outreach to underrepresented areas, update the member directory, and develop an SCAA-approved certification and training program.

2026 Annual Meeting Recap

(Day 2)

From Classroom to Coastline: Building the Spill Response Workforce Through Co-Ops: An Industry-Academy Partnership Model at Massachusetts Maritime Academy

***Speaker: Kevin Glover (Massachusetts Maritime Academy),
Featuring students Lily Novak (Junior) & Sean Hickey (Sophomore)***

Massachusetts Maritime Academy's cooperative education program bridges the gap between classroom training and the spill response workforce by placing students in 8–10 week industry placements with organizations like FEMA, Clean Harbors, and General Dynamics. Presented at the March 2026 SCAA Annual Meeting, the program addresses critical industry challenges, an aging workforce, regulatory complexity, and a shrinking emergency response pipeline, by sending cadets already versed in MARPOL, oil spill management, and hazardous materials into the field, backed by a regimented foundation in leadership and discipline.



Luncheon Featuring Industry and Regulatory Updates

***Speakers: Kimberly Jackson (PHMSA); Eric Miller (BSEE); John Tarpley (NOAA);
and Christie Torres Rosa (EPA)***



This luncheon session provided updates from federal agencies on recent policy developments and changes in oil spill preparedness and response. Panelists discussed regulatory initiatives, significant spill events, staffing priorities, and advancements at Ohmsett, including its archival project on 50 years of oil spill research. The session also addressed EPA organizational updates, leadership changes for SPCC and FRP programs, and the implementation of the Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plan Rule, offering attendees an overview of current priorities across regulatory agencies.

2026 Annual Meeting Recap (Day 2)

Mental Health Impacts of Oil Spill Response: Insights from a Global Survey of Emergency

Speaker: Victoria Broje (Shell Emergency Management)

Presented at IOSC 2024, this first-of-its-kind global survey examined the mental health impacts of oil spill response work, drawing on 272 responses from over 10,000 members of the response community across industry, government, academia, and wildlife organizations. The findings reveal that roughly 18% of respondents reported PTSD symptoms ranging from mild to severe, with the top stressors being casualty involvement, extended shifts without time off, and interactions with an angry public. Respondents expressed strong demand for peer support, post-deployment check-ins, and leadership and resilience training, pointing to a clear opportunity to improve responder wellbeing at relatively low cost.



Annual Meeting Sponsors

The Spill Control Association of America would like to thank not only our Annual Sponsors (noted in the picture), but our Event Sponsors, Platinum Sponsors, Gold Sponsors, and Friends of SCAA as well!

These include:

Berkley Environmental, Alaska Response Corporation, AEIS, Environmental Remediation Contractor, AER-FLO Environmental, Onterris (formally known as CTEH), The Battery Network, and T&T Group

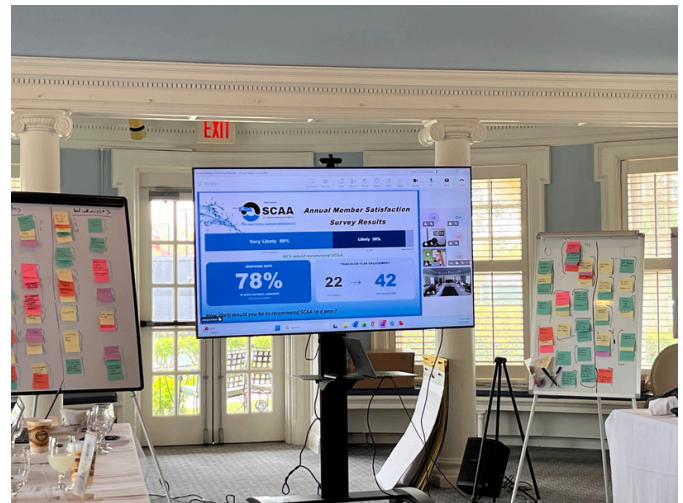


2026 Strategic Planning Meeting

In April, SCAA held its Strategic Planning Meeting in conjunction with the Regional Meeting in Philadelphia. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for SCAA leadership and members to assess the Association's progress, evaluate the effectiveness of its mission, and identify strategic priorities for the future. A key component of the meeting was a comprehensive SWOT analysis, which encouraged thoughtful discussion on SCAA's strengths, opportunities, and areas for continued growth.

The meeting also included SCAA's annual Member Satisfaction Survey. Among the 78% of active members who responded, an impressive 96% indicated they would recommend SCAA to other organizations within the industry, a strong reflection of the value the Association continues to provide its members.

Overall, the Strategic Planning Meeting was highly successful, reaffirming that SCAA's initiatives are making a meaningful impact while helping position the Association for continued growth and success.



2026 Regional Meeting Recap

In April, SCAA's 2026 Philadelphia Regional Meeting, brought together important agencies, industry leaders, and stakeholders from the spill response community. This meeting was a chance for people to connect and share ideas to improve spill prevention and response.

This collection of presentations brought together experts from government agencies, industry, emergency management, safety, and human resources to explore the challenges organizations face before, during, and after emergency incidents. Attendees gained valuable insights into environmental response, workplace safety, crisis management, regulatory considerations, employee support, and business continuity planning.

The distinguished panel included Brian Moore, Director of Environmental Emergency Response with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection; Erick Saia, Director of Safety & Loss Control at Greenwich Terminals; Joe Gawarzewski and Kevin Heym of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 3; Kimberly Nash, SHRM-SCP, SPHR, HR Manager with Cherry Bekaert Advisory, LLC; Scott Smith, Director of Client Services with Herbein Human Capital – HR Consulting; and Gretchen Shanfeld, Health and Medical Program Planning Manager with the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management.

This informative session was hosted by The Lewis Group and made possible through the support of Alliant, Clean Harbors, ERC, KR Industrial, Supreme Safety, and Spill USA.



Environmental Excellence Award

Awarded by The Emerging Environmental Leaders Committee

The Spill Control Association of America (SCAA) Environmental Excellence Award recognizes outstanding students pursuing studies in Oil Spill Response, Disaster Response & Recovery, and Emerging Contaminants. Established in 2025, the program awards three \$1,000 scholarships annually to support the next generation of environmental and emergency response professionals.

This year's Environmental Excellence Award recipients are Hailey Benfield of Purdue University, presented by Chris Tracy, and Hannah Burton and Logan Smith of Massachusetts Maritime Academy, both presented by John Silva. Their dedication, academic achievement, and commitment to environmental stewardship make them deserving recipients of this distinguished recognition.



2026 David Usher Award

Awarded by Angie Martin (Past SCAA President) & Stephen Pelná (President of SCAA)

Established in 2025, this presentation marks the inaugural awarding of the SCAA David Usher Distinguished Service Award and the recognition of its first recipients.

Named in honor of SCAA founder and Past President David Usher of Marine Pollution Control Corporation, this prestigious award recognizes distinguished industry and government professionals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication, and service in support of the Association's mission and the advancement of the spill response community. This merit-based honor is reserved for individuals whose long-standing contributions have made a significant and lasting impact on both SCAA and the industry as a whole.

The inaugural recipients of the SCAA David Usher Distinguished Service Award are:

Scott Lundgren

Former Director, NOAA Office of Response & Restoration (OR&R)

Rick Raksnis

Former Supervisor, Oil Spill Response Plans & Emergency Support
Office of Field Services Support (PHH 40) Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation

Captain Trey Wirth (Ret.)

Chief, Office of Marine Environmental Response Policy (CG MER)
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters

Through their dedication, expertise, and commitment to environmental preparedness and response, these individuals have helped strengthen partnerships, improve industry practices, and advance the mission of SCAA for the benefit of the entire response community.

Scott Lundgren



Rick Raksnis

Rick was unable to be present at the awards ceremony, and was given his award after the conference

Trey Wirth



Government Affairs Committee Updates

The Governmental Affairs Committee remains actively engaged in monitoring regulatory developments, providing industry feedback, and advocating on behalf of the spill response and environmental services community.

On the EPA front, the Committee submitted comments on the proposed Manifest Sunset Rule and drafted two letters addressing proposed changes to the Subpart J Product Listing. Ongoing work includes evaluating the member impacts of EPA's Hazardous Materials Worst Case Discharge requirements for Facility Response Plans. The Committee is also monitoring Subchapter M towing regulations, battery-related requirements, and alternative fuels developments.

On the transportation side, an existing FMCSA Hours of Service waiver applicable to pipeline emergencies was identified, with advocacy continuing to expand that relief to all environmental emergencies. Responder Immunity remains dormant but is being watched, alongside the E-Manifest Program, Removal Cost Recovery, RCRA hazardous waste storage requirements, and MSIB_0-25_MMC_NO1.

During the reporting period, Committee members participated in over a dozen meetings spanning Governmental Affairs, PAT, API advisory groups, Congressional subcommittees on the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and NPFC, and Ports and Waterways forums. The Committee also reviewed and commented on three Federal Register notices related to PHMSA rulemaking and multi-service vessels.

Through these efforts, the Committee continues to represent member interests and advocate for policies that support effective emergency response and environmental protection.

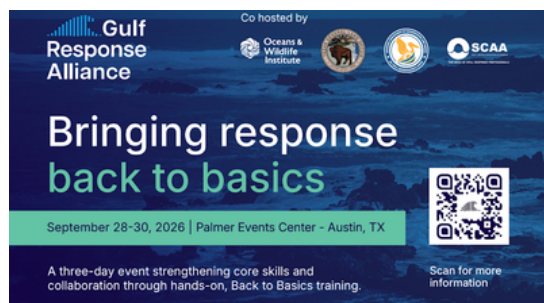


The Rest of 2026

Upcoming Regional & Annual Meetings

Gulf Response Alliance 2026/SCAA Regional Meeting

Join us September 28–30, 2026, at the Palmer Events Center in Austin, Texas, for the inaugural Gulf Response Alliance event that SCAA will be co-hosting. Centered on the theme "Back to Basics," this unique gathering offers valuable opportunities to connect with industry leaders, regulators, and response professionals while participating in training, networking, and knowledge-sharing sessions designed to strengthen response capabilities and foster collaboration throughout the spill response community.



SCAA Tampa Bay, FL Regional Meeting 2026 Q4

SCAA will be hosting its 2027 Regional Meeting in Tampa Bay, FL. More details to come. Stay tuned for updates!!

SCAA Annual Meeting 2027

SCAA will be hosting its 2027 Annual Meeting at the Le Méridien Charlotte in Charlotte, NC March 9-10, 2027. More details to come. Stay tuned for updates!!

New Member Orientation

Stay tuned, our upcoming New Member Orientations are the perfect opportunity to jumpstart your involvement! These sessions are designed to help you get fully informed about our mission, resources, and opportunities, while connecting you with fellow members and leaders in the organization. It's a great time to ask questions, build relationships, and discover how you can make the most of your membership from the very beginning. Don't miss this chance to get engaged, stay informed, and start strong!

Member Events

Join Elastec October 6–8, 2026, in Carmi, Illinois, and New Harmony, Indiana, for the Fall Oil Spill Workshop. This hands-on training event combines classroom instruction with on-water booming and skimmer deployment exercises, while also qualifying as an 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher for spill response professionals.



Member Companies

The Spill Control Association of America (SCAA) thanks our member companies for their continued commitment and support. Your leadership drives our mission to educate, advocate, and lead in spill response and environmental protection. With your expertise, we strengthen standards, training, and emergency readiness, building a safer, more resilient future together.

Annual Sponsors

The Spill Control Association of America (SCAA) sincerely thanks our annual sponsors for their vital support. Their contributions enable our programs, events, and initiatives that advance spill response and environmental protection.

By investing in innovation, education, and collaboration, our sponsors help safeguard communities and natural resources. We appreciate their commitment and leadership in strengthening the industry and supporting SCAA's mission. Thank you for being key partners in this effort.





***Celebrating
Over
50 years!***

THE VOICE OF SPILL RESPONSE PROFESSIONALS



Who We Are

Since 1973, SCAA has represented a broad coalition of emergency responders, manufacturers, and environmental firms who collectively work to strengthen and sustain the nation's overall response community.

**Advocate
Educate
Engage**



SCAA-Spill.org