

Daniela Abbott, Pare Corporation



Daniela applies her extensive experience as a naval architect and marine engineer to oversee a variety of projects related to infrastructure, economic development, climate resilience, and environmental stewardship across Southern New England. Before joining the Waterfront and Marine Group at Pare Corporation as a Senior Project Engineer in 2019, Daniela spent 14 years as a member of some of the region's most notable naval architecture firms. Her unique technical background and insight has allowed her to help marine industry businesses of all kinds better prepare their facilities for a future of environmental uncertainty. A graduate of the University of Southampton, Daniela currently serves as a member of the Town Council in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

Russ Brown, Safe Harbor Pollution Insurance



With over 20 years of underwriting experience and a degree in Marine Transportation, Russ utilizes his vast industry knowledge to provide exemplary service to Safe Harbor Pollution Insurance clients. He holds a Master BA certificate from the University of Notre Dame-Mendoza College of Business, and most recently as Executive VP and Chief Underwriting Officer for Water Quality Insurance Syndicate helped lead the company to 5 years of historic growth. Russ also held VP positions with a claims accounting software and a COFR database company, and managed a worldwide network of spill response surveyors. Russ now employs his superior management skills to foster Safe Harbor's continued expansion in developing new product lines, maintaining premium ratings, and facilitating world-class service. He served on the Board of Directors for the American Marine Insurance Forum; retired from the US Navy Reserve as Commissioned Officer, Lieutenant; and holds a USCG Third Mates License, unlimited tonnage.

Kathleen Burns, CMTA



Kathleen serves as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Marine Trades Association (CMTA). Before accepting the position in 2014, Kathleen held the title of General Manager at Noank Shipyard, Inc. Her extensive experience at all levels of the industry have allowed her to successfully grow CMTA membership, improve the footprint of the Hartford Boat Show and provide a variety of workforce development and education resources for employers. Kathleen's role as an advocate on a number of different regulatory issues has made her a leading voice for the marine industry at both a regional and national level.

Clay Crabtree, National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA)



Clay is the Director of Government Affairs for the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA). In this role, Clay represents the recreational boating industry on federal policy issues related to conservation, workforce development and boating safety. With close ties to Congress and the Administration, he works to protect the interests of the industry and boat owners alike. Prior to joining NMMA, Clay served as policy director for the American Sportfishing Association, focusing on state and federal policies impacting freshwater issues. Clay also worked for a federal agency as a congressional liaison between members of Congress and the Department of Health and Human Services, and he served as an aide for Senator Joe Manchin, advising the senator on trade and budgetary issues. Clay is a native West Virginian and an avid angler.

Kellie Crete, Gowrie Group



Kellie manages the Safety and Loss Prevention division at Gowrie Group, a New England based independent insurance agency. For more than twenty-three years, Kellie has worked closely on issues related to environmental, health and safety in a wide variety of professional settings. She regularly conducts classes and training sessions for marine industry members around the country. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Kellie focuses on helping her clients decrease their liabilities and exposures to fines, lawsuits, negative press, and employee complaints. Kellie's experience has led her to conclude that employee education, ongoing training, written programs, and management "buy in" are the primary ingredients for environmentally friendly facilities, healthy workplaces, and safe employees.

Eric Anderson, Enviro Clean Restore



Eric purchased Enviro Clean Restore, Insurance Reconstruction Services, and Greenville Kitchens & Bath (Tech Design Build) from his father in the fall of 2016 after 15 years of working in the business. He holds an MBA from Bryant University and a BA from Tufts University. He is widely regarded as an expert on mold, and has served as an expert witness in court cases in RI, CT and MA. He is in demand as a lecturer, and teaches CE courses on mold and mold awareness as well as water damage and restoration. Eric lives on a small farm in Brooklyn, CT with his wife, four children and too many pets. He is active in his community having served recently of the board of education

Tom Davis, North Sails



Tom Davis, Commercial Director for North Sails, is a lifelong sailor who joined North Sails in 1991. During much of his career at North, he has been focused on materials technology in sails. In 2019, North Cloth began a project bringing North's expertise in high performance outdoor textiles and composite materials to non-sailmaking companies under the North Technical Fabrics division. Environmentally responsible, sustainable, products and processes are a critical element in both sailmaking and other outdoor materials development. Tom resides in Guilford Connecticut and divides his time between North Sails sites in Milford CT and Newport RI. Otherwise, as much time as possible is spent racing his Melges 32 "Fantastica" with family and friends.

Chris Edmonston, BoatU.S. Foundation



The President of the BoatU.S. Foundation, Chris oversees programming that help to promote safe, clean and responsible boating. His role over the last nineteen years at BoatU.S. reflect a career dedicated to getting boaters on the water. With more than thirty years of collective experience in the marine industry, Chris leverages a variety of partnerships that provide outreach resources directly to boating populations and relevant authorities around the country. In 2019, Chris was named as the chairman of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service "Sportfishing and Boating Partnership Council."

Adam Fortier-Brown, MRAA



As government relations manager, Adam is responsible for representing the legislative and regulatory interests of the MRAA and its members, ensuring the Association's voice is present wherever issues concerning boating and marine retailers are discussed. He is based out of the offices of the National Marine Manufacturers Association in Washington, D.C., where he works directly with the NMMA team in representing the marine industry and its significance in the overall economy. Adam leads MRAA's efforts in all areas of advocacy, including BoatPAC, the joint MRAA-NMMA Political Action Committee. He graduated from the University of Maine magna cum laude, with a Bachelor's degree in economics and political science. He has previously worked in the office of Senator Susan Collins.

Jay Frechette, Starkweather & Shepley



Jay specializes in assisting marine industry businesses transfer and manage risk. As an Account Executive and Certified Insurance Broker for Starkweather and Shepley, he works with boat builders, boat dealers, service providers, marinas, yacht clubs, marine contractors, and other Marine related organizations to assist them with their risk management and risk transfer strategies. Jay works as a key member of the Marine Risk Solutions Group and contributes to the careful design insurance programs tailored to protect and have a positive impact on each company's bottom line. He is an active member of the Rhode Island and Massachusetts Marine Trades Associations. Currently, Jay serves as a RIMTA Board Member and the Chairman of the RIMTA Future Young Professionals Group.

Bridgid Murphy, North Sails

Speaker Bio Coming Soon

Shaun O'Rourke, Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank



As director of Stormwater and Resiliency for the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, Shaun oversees efforts to accelerate investments in stormwater management and resilient infrastructure across the Ocean State. In 2017, Governor Gina Raimondo appointed him as the Chief Resiliency Officer for the state, responsible for implementing the "Resilient Rhody" strategy. Shaun's previous experience includes time as the National Green Infrastructure Director at the Trust for Public Land (TPL), a national environmental nonprofit organization that facilitates and funds the creation of parks and protected lands. He is a graduate of the University of Vermont and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



Jeff Tingley is the Vice President of Business Development for the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation. He is responsible for business attraction planning and implementation with a focus on technology and technology-centric companies. Prior to joining CommerceRI, Jeff held global sales, marketing, and business development positions with several leading technology companies such as Panasonic, Fujitsu, and Zebra Technologies. He also has been involved in three start-up technology companies. He has extensive international experience in Asia and Latin America, including a three-year assignment in Singapore. Most recently, he was vice president, business development, at ShopAdvisor, an end-to-end mobile proximity marketing company. Jeff holds a BA in government from St. Lawrence University.

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