



Mission Debrief

OPERATION WAKE SURF

MONTHLY UPDATE



This past month has been nothing but sunshine for the OWS Team while in the great state of Arizona. The crew took the Xinsurance boat out on **Lake Havasu** and worked as the shuttle boat for this year's **Desert Storm Shootout** event. Xinsurance, a sponsor of the annual event, competed in this year's race along with a number of other participants. 100% of the proceeds raised from this year's event went towards the Havasu Community Health Foundation.



While in Havasu, OWS hosted a 1-day Salute 2 Service event pulling a number of former Coast Guard Heroes. Members of this group included Eric and Brandy Blecker, owners of Let's Tie Up. Let's Tie Up is an organization that has been a huge supporter of OWS for the past three years. They specialize in making inflatable fenders and bungees. Their product line was developed through their years of experience in the Coast Guard.

Life on the road is never easy. The OWS equipment had some light casualties this month resulting in a few flat tires and a damaged prop. We are happy to report that no one was injured, and repairs came quickly at the hands of Sun Country Marine Group and Discount Tire out of Havasu, AZ. Both organizations worked together to get the OWS crew back on the road, and on their way continuing to serve those who serve us!

MEET THE CREW

THIS IS BRIAN, OUR ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER!

Meet Brian Tremain! Brian currently volunteers as an editor for this Newsletter and was a prior Hero that attended the OWS 4-night retreat on Lake Norman. Brian and his wife Holly own a Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic in Rochester MN. Brian has worked as a Flight Medic with the USAF Reserves, and works as a Fire Fighter/Paramedic in his civilian career.





SALUTE 2 SERVICE

HOW YOU CAN HELP

This year we lost one of our recurring revenue streams when Amazon did away with "Smiles" their non-profit donation program. Recurring donations help us budget our season of events. You can set up your recurring donation [HERE](#). Another way to help is to sponsor the purchase of food or donate food from your business to feed the heroes at our events. Want to know more? Contact rachel@operationwake.surf

[SEE EVENT PICTURES](#)



UP NEXT

EVENTS

June 4 - June 8: 4-Night Retreat (NC)
June 21: S2S Johnson City (TN)
June 27: S2S Concert Series (TN)

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



ONLINE STORE

MERCHANDISE

CHECK IT OUT! The Chevron shirt is one of our brand new designs. We love Serving Those Who Serve Us! Available in sizes S-
XXL

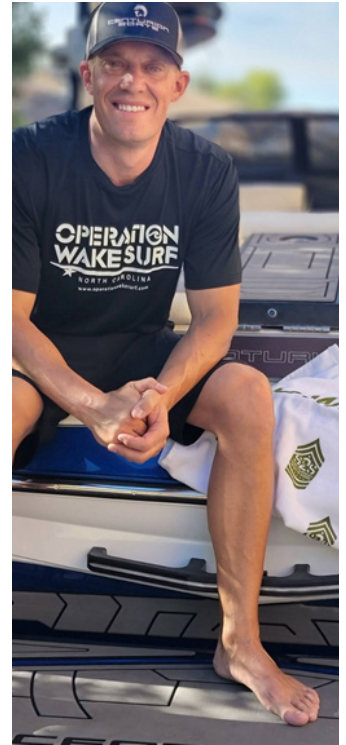
[SHOP NOW](#)

HERO SPOTLIGHT

BRAD SHAFER - AIR FORCE

I was first introduced to Operation Wake Surf when my, then, 10 year old daughter signed up to participate in a wake surf competition at Lake Pleasant just a few minutes up the road from our house. I got to know the team, what their mission was all about, and I was hooked. Everything about what they do spoke to me deeply since I am a 3rd generation Veteran and 3rd generation first responder. I love my country and the men and women who wear the cloth of our nation and have a deep respect for our first responders. Since then I've stayed in touch with the team and love giving Robby a call just to shoot the breeze and hear about the great work they are doing.

I was active duty Air Force from 2000-2004, serving most of time as a Medic at Luke Air Force Base here in Arizona. When 9/11 happened, I was pulled from the base hospital and put on Augmentee duty with our security forces to help fortify and protect the base. At one point, just before Operation Shock and Awe, I was called up to deploy to Turkey. I went through all the combat and chemical warfare training and when the day came for deployment, our plane was grounded because of some failed negotiations with Turkey. I never left US soil during my service but I served domestically as a combat medic and security forces for the remainder of my time in the AirForce during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. When I got out of the AirForce, I loved Arizona so much, we decided to make our home here and I haven't left since.



I have been married to my wife, Amanda, for 22 years, we have 3 kids, Bobby, 15, Bentley 12, and Beau, 10, and our dog Louie. We love to be outdoors and keep pretty busy with soccer, baseball, and other activities. We are very active in our community and have a family philosophy that if you want to make the world a better place, you better roll up your sleeves and get to work. I enjoy anything outdoors. Life is an adventure and it's meant to be LIVED! I probably should have joined the Navy because of my love for the water. I love to surf in the ocean, wake surf, water ski, wakeboard, mountain bike, play baseball, tennis, basketball and football. I like to stay active and usually start my day swimming laps and hitting the gym.

I am the Regional Director for contracting for United Healthcare. I have my Masters in Business Administration and am a Lean Six Sigma certified Black Belt. I spend my work days bringing competing stakeholders together and negotiating hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts. I also currently serve as Councilmember for the City of Peoria in Arizona. My district makes up 145 of the 180 square miles in our city and encompasses beautiful Lake Pleasant.

Facebook: [@BradforPeoria](#) and Instagram: [@BradShaferforPeoria](#)

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

OPERATION WAKE SURF IS A 501.C.3 NONPROFIT COMPANY

Whether you donate time, talent, or financial support, it allows us to host free and unique events to honor the heroes of this great country.

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