



**DECLASSIFIED**

# Mission Debrief



## MONTHLY UPDATE

As we close out an incredible season, Operation Wake Surf will finish the surf year on its way to Winter Haven, Florida, where Robby will be operating as a driver in his 7th continuous year at the Wake Surf World Championships. He and Ken will join a diverse field of riders ranging from 7 to 70 years old, a testament to the sport's universal appeal and the inclusive spirit of the event. While in Florida, OWS will also take the lead boat position in the Butler Chain Parade, riding alongside Centurion VIPs and owners to honor service members and the local community. The final surfing event of the year will be dedicated to pulling heroes—firefighters, military, and police—one last time before the season wraps.

Earlier this month, three local events in Charlotte helped deepen our community roots, and a strategic meeting with the High 5 crew in Nevada has sparked exciting possibilities for 2026. From coast to coast, this year has been a powerful reminder of our mission: healing through water, honoring through action. With over 100 heroes pulled and countless lives touched, we are proud of the waves we've made together. Thank you for riding with us—this marks the final newsletter of the year, but the impact continues. See you next season.

## MEET THE SUPPORTERS

### THIS IS BAREFOOT WAKES!

Barefoot Wakes, a 501(c)(3) founded in 2023 by Kevin and Brandy Lewis alongside Ryan and Kari Treinen, has been quietly making waves since 2020 by hosting wake surf experiences for military families across Oklahoma. Their recent partnership with Operation Wake Surf (OWS) began through a shared connection with 918BOATS in Skiatook, where Barefoot Wakes volunteered at the Salute 2 Service event—pulling veterans and first responders for three days of healing on the water. With a fully volunteer team and a mission rooted in reconnection, Barefoot Wakes provides all-inclusive lake days that include travel, meals, surf instruction, and memory-making media. Looking ahead to 2025, the team is eager to welcome OWS back to Tulsa and continue building a network of gratitude and support for those who serve.



# HERO SPOTLIGHT

## TOM NEWMAN - FIRE FIGHTER

Meet Tom: A passionate first responder with a heart for adventure and a deep connection to Operation Wake Surf (OWS). Tom first discovered OWS through a friend's flyer and decided to attend a local event in New Hampshire—an experience he says changed his life. That single invitation sparked a love for wake surfing and introduced him to a community of inspiring, like-minded individuals dedicated to making waves in more ways than one.

Away from the water, Tom finds joy in kickboxing, golf, and snowboarding. He's been married for four years and is a proud dad to a lively 1.5-year-old daughter, along with two rescue pups from Texas and Aruba. With nine years of service as a full-time Firefighter/AEMT—plus three more as a volunteer—Tom brings unwavering dedication to both his career and his time with OWS, where he's had the opportunity to participate in New Hampshire's S2S events and the transformative three-day gathering in 2025.



## 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.

[BECOME A SUPPORTER](#)

[@operation\\_wakesurf](#) | [updates@operationwake.surf](mailto:updates@operationwake.surf)

[WWW.OPERATIONWAKE.SURF](http://WWW.OPERATIONWAKE.SURF)

