

JPE

DECEMBER 2014

JOURNAL OF PADDLESPORTS EDUCATION

FOLLOW US TO THE PUT-IN

MIKE LOOMAN

KOKATAT INSTRUCTOR OF THE MONTH

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**Happy
Holidays**

From **Your ACA Office Staff**

Wade Blackwood

Chris Stec

Amy Ellis

Candy Patten

Catharine Lloyd

Kelsey Bracewell

Zane Havens

Cireena Katto

Hillary Chesson

T.J. Turner

Joe Moore

Dave Burden



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Looking for a special
holiday gift for the paddler
on your list?

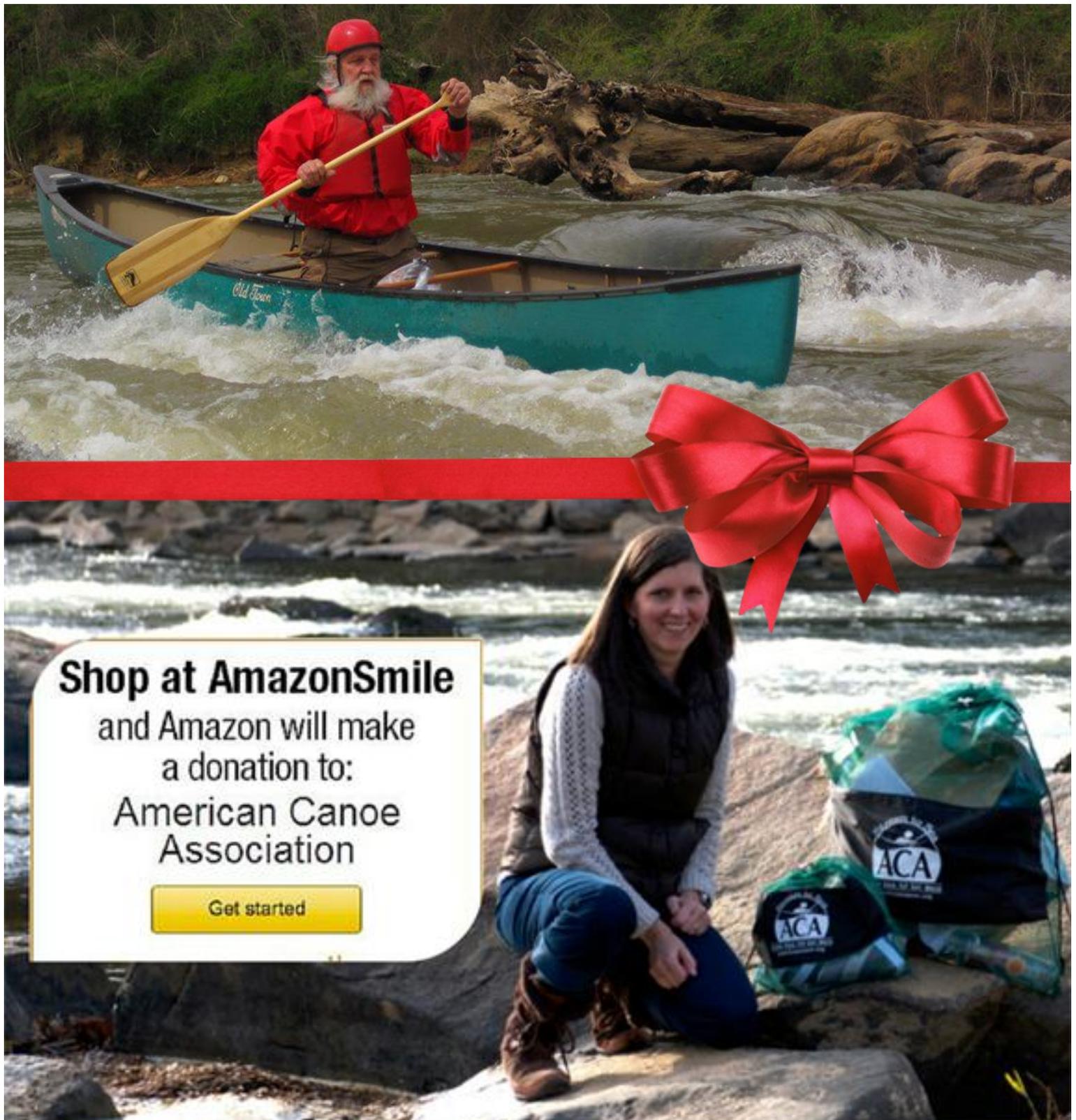
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Mike Looman

December 2014 Kokatat Instructor of the Month



Mike first entered the paddlesports world by working at Wenonah Canoe Inc., in 2003.

Shortly thereafter, he took a trip to the Apostle Islands on Lake Superior, and was hooked on paddling for life. He has since expanded his knowledge and experience with a variety of paddlesport disciplines: Mike is an ACA Coastal Kayaking and SUP instructor. A deeper understanding of kayaking and SUP instructional tools has made Mike's passion for paddling even stronger, and he has said, "Watching people improve their comfort level and enhance their skills, that is my greatest reward."

Kōkatat[®]

made in arcata, ca

Mike has started his own Paddlesport instructional company called Midwest Paddlesport, and with the influence and guidance from some of the industry's best, is motivated to continue passing on paddling



skills and knowledge for generations to come. In 2014 alone, Mike had the opportunity to teach and paddle on Lake Superior and Lake Michigan, the waters beneath the Golden Gate Bridge, the Florida Keys, and the waters of South Carolina. You can usually find Mike paddling or teaching on the Mississippi River near his hometown in Minnesota.

Mike plans to continue to share his passion for paddlesports by organizing instructional events and working with local universities and organizations.

The ACA would like to extend a big THANKS to [Kokatat](#) for sponsoring our Instructor of the Month Program!

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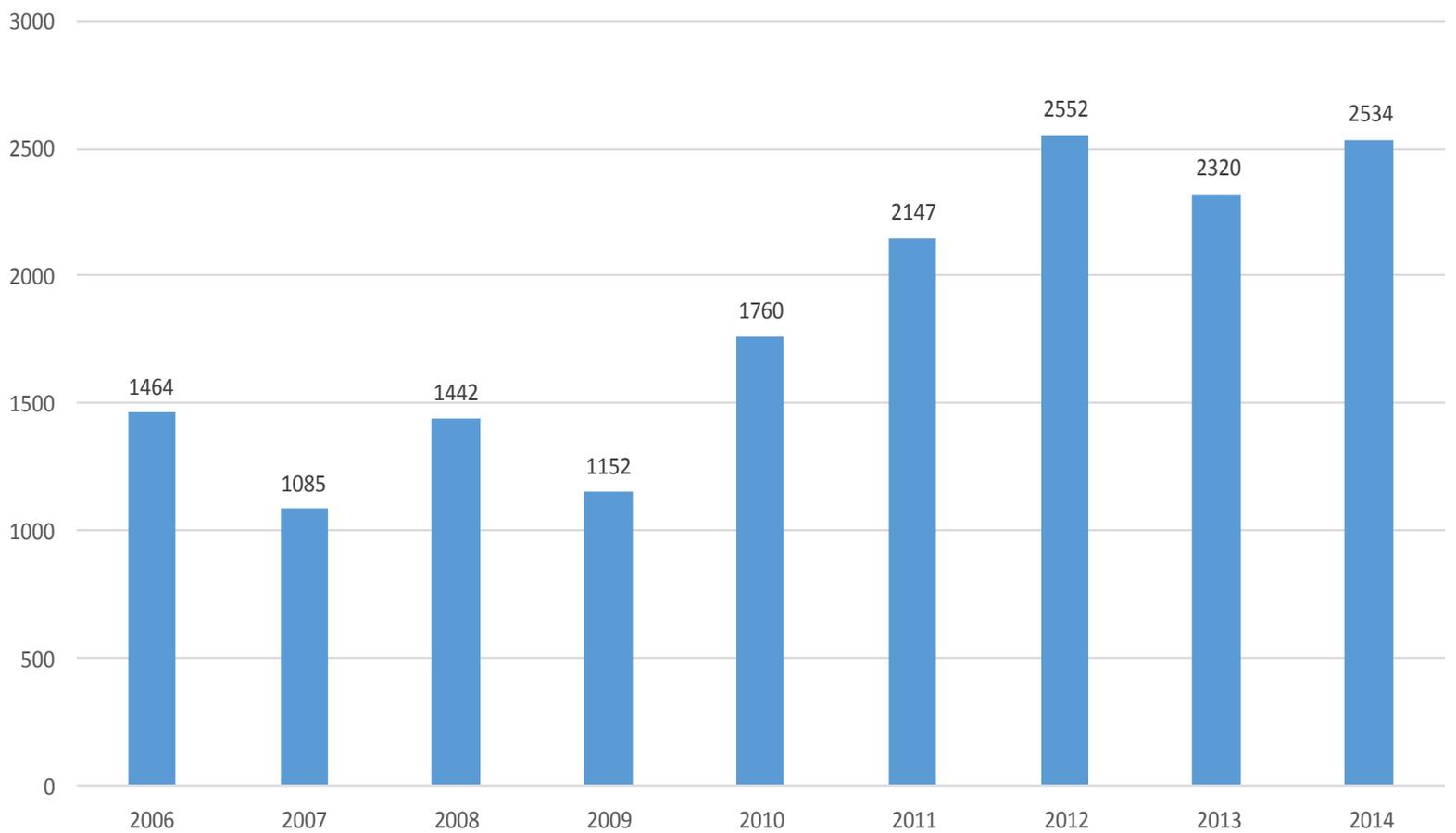


December 2014

2014



New ACA Instructor Certifications (By Year)



Top 10 Most Active States

(Calculated from submitted course reports)

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. South Carolina | 6. Georgia |
| 2. Wisconsin | 7. California |
| 3. Ohio | 8. Virginia |
| 4. North Carolina | 9. Pennsylvania |
| 5. Florida | 10. Nebraska |

Top 10 Most Active Countries

(Calculated from submitted course reports)

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Germany | 6. Austria |
| 2. Switzerland | 7. Norway |
| 3. Puerto Rico | 8. Brazil |
| 4. Denmark | 9. Argentina |
| 5. Sweden | 10. Belgium |

Top 5 most popular certification disciplines:

(calculated by number of new certifications issued in 2014)

1. River Kayaking
2. Coastal Kayaking
3. Flatwater Kayaking
4. SUP
5. Flatwater Canoeing

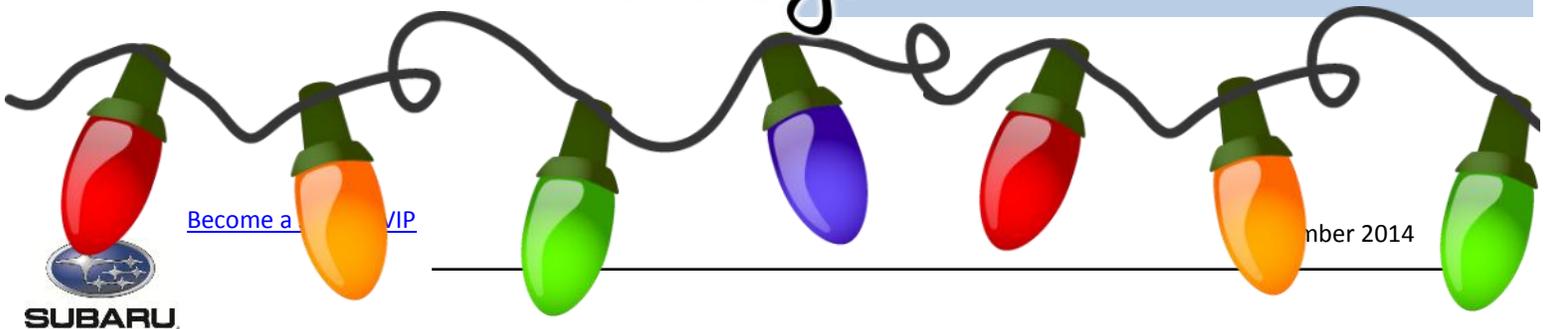
2014 has been an exciting year in the SEI Department. With 2,534 new certifications issued this year, our instructor corps is bigger than ever. ACA instructors have reported over 50,000 students in skills and assessment courses alone, and there are already courses planned for 2015! To all ACA instructors out there making the world a better place to paddle,

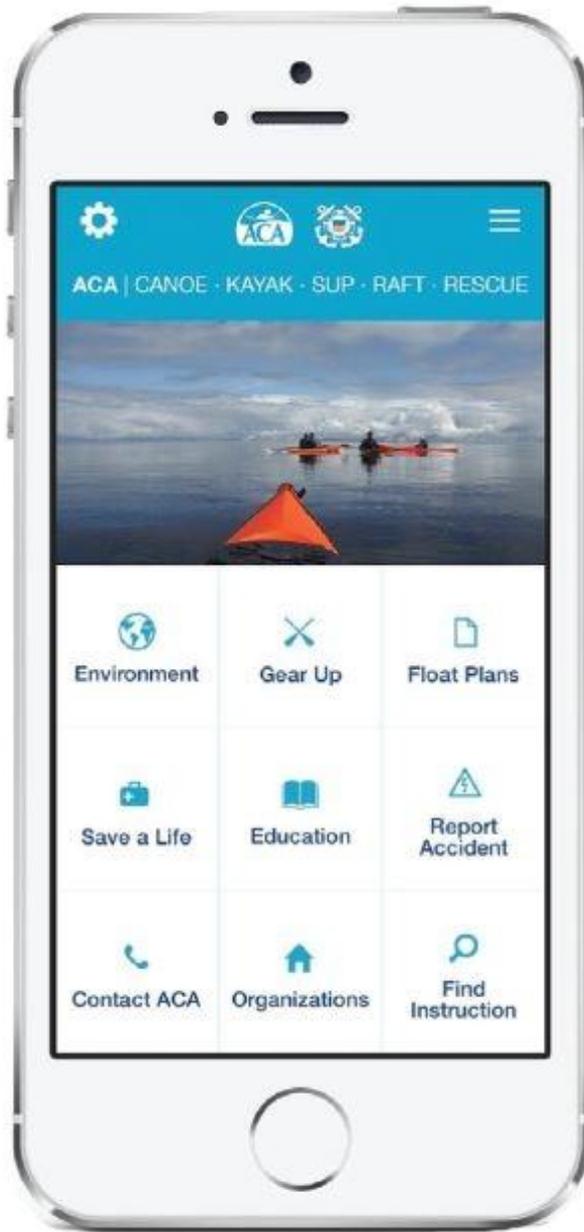
Congratulations

To all newly certified
ACA instructors and
trainers!

We look forward to
helping you make
2015 your best
paddling year yet!

Thank You





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- Find an ACA Instructor or Course near you.
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SUP: Leashes & Lifejackets



The ACA's new PSA, SUP: Leashes & Lifejackets, makes it clear to standup paddleboarders what types of leashes and lifejackets are appropriate for different water venues. The video is intended to educate all those new to stand-up paddleboarding (SUP), as well as those who have experience with the sport but are unaware of leash and lifejacket best practices. Some of the rules and recommendations regarding these pieces of equipment may surprise you.

Please visit the ACA's [YouTube channel](#) to watch the video.

**NO LIFEJACKET
NO LEASH
= NO GOOD**



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SUP YOGA



Throughout 2013 and 2014, the ACA SUP Yoga Advisory Workgroup, a volunteer sub-committee of the ACA's SUP Discipline Committee, worked on developing a SUP Yoga program that would be nationally recognized. The curriculum was finalized at a two day workshop in Maitland, FL, then vetted by the ACA's Safety Education & Instruction Council, the SUP Discipline Committee, and ultimately was approved by the Board of Directors.

The SUP Yoga Skills Course is designed to introduce/expose the participant to sufficient skills and knowledge so they can enjoy yoga while on a Stand Up Paddleboard.

For more information, go to www.americancanoe.org/SupYoga



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2014 Instructor Audit

Does your ACA Instructor Certification expire on 12/31/2014? (Hint: Check your certification card or membership profile).

If so, remember the [recertification requirements](#).

Need an extension, please click [here](#).

Questions? Email sei@americancanoe.org



PAC Renewals

Are you a member of a Paddle America Club?
Make sure your club is ready for a brand new
year of paddling adventures!

Club administrators, [click here](#) for renewal
details.

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Something Brand New in the Paddling Safety World!

What's one thing that all paddling instructors need? Safety information, presented to viewers in an entertaining way! Paddling safety is our #1 priority, so we've created two **animated videos** in an effort to deliver fun and engaging safety messages that stick.

[Click here](#) to check out the new animated videos or visit www.americancanoe.org/animatedvideos

We believe the simple messages contained in these humorous videos have the power to save lives. But we need your help. **Please show the videos to your students, email them to family and friends, share them on your social media accounts, and post them to your website or blog.**

[Return to Subaru](#)

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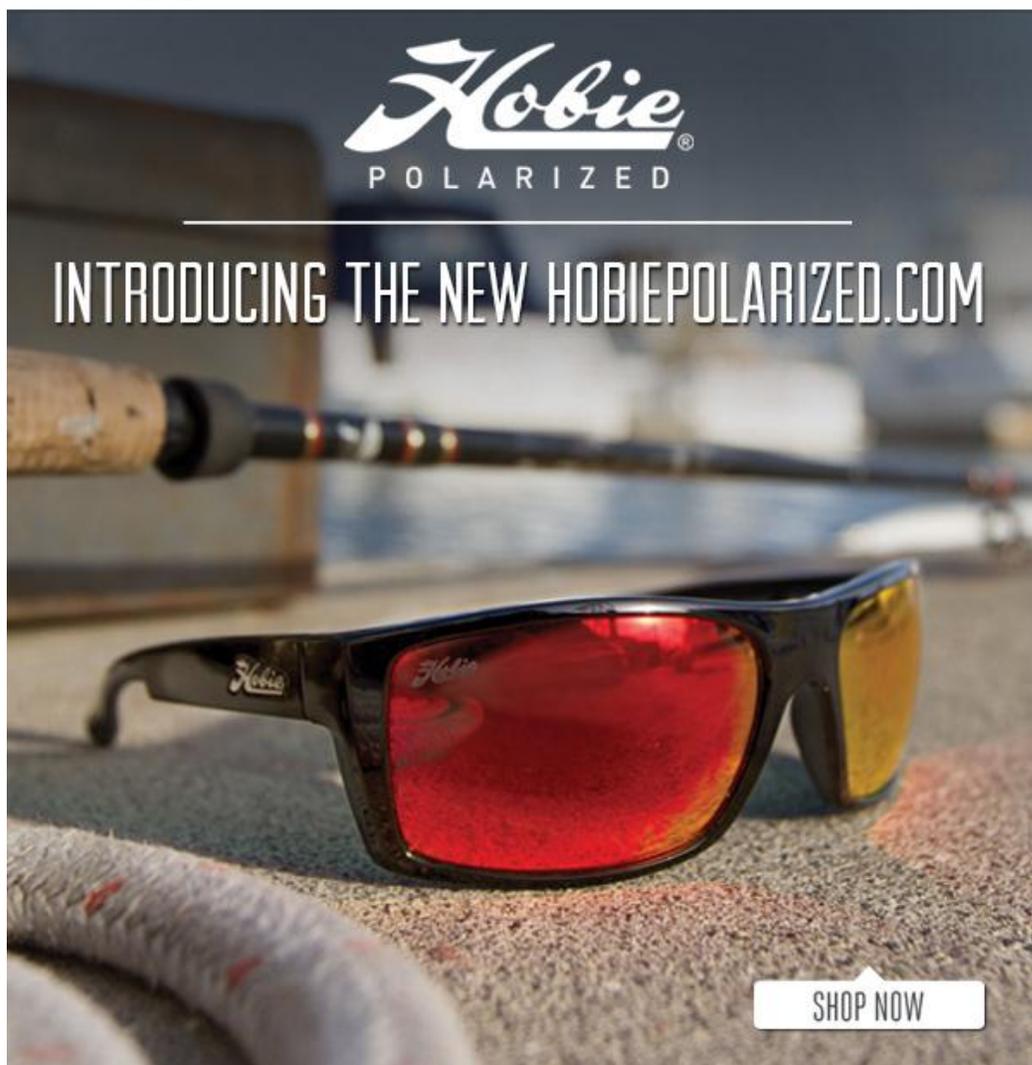
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