

District 7 Member Communication



Martin S. Goodwin, Ph.D.
District Commodore
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Seventh District

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DISTRICT 7 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

District 7 Members,

It is with great pride and sincere appreciation that we announce that Christopher Juall of Flotilla 84 has been selected as the District 7 Auxiliarist of the Year for 2024! This recognition comes as a testament to his unwavering dedication, exceptional leadership, and enduring commitment to District 7 and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Chris exemplifies the very best of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and his contributions have had an extraordinary impact across all levels of the organization. Since joining the Auxiliary in 1999, Chris has continuously set the standard for excellence. Over his 25+ years of service, his initiatives have greatly advanced our mission. Highlights of his contributions include:

National Impact:

- Spearheading the update of the 2025 Surface Operations Workshop and creating a fast-track certification program for licensed captains.
- Leading an initiative to assess real-world expenses for Auxiliary OPFAC owners, ensuring accurate SAMA tracking.

District-Level Leadership:

- Implementing a PPE management initiative that now serves as a model nationwide.
- Developing a personalized email reminder system to improve member retention by reducing REYR status.
- Producing the “How to Make Your Surface Program Thrive” instructional video, significantly enhancing operational readiness.

Sector Support and Emergency Response:

- Directing operations during Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton to ensure timely deployment of Auxiliary assets.

- Serving as the Surface Operations and Communications Branch Chief during critical events like the Gasparilla Pirate Festival.

Flotilla & Division Leadership:

- Revitalizing his unit as Flotilla Commander with modern training, facility enhancements, and innovative recruitment strategies, including securing a \$30,000 grant for future programs.
- Mentoring new boat crew members and boosting operational capabilities by certifying new Coxswains and crew.

In 2024 alone, Chris logged over 1,086 volunteer hours and 260 underway hours, served in multiple leadership roles including DSO-OP, Flotilla Commander, and ASC Sector St. Petersburg, and helped certify 20 new Coxswains and crew. His initiatives have raised the bar for operational excellence and member support across District 7 and beyond.

We also extend our heartfelt congratulations and sincere thanks to our other outstanding nominees, whose contributions are equally commendable and whose service has greatly enriched our flotillas and divisions:

Henry Seiden, Flotilla 14-7
Gary Gray, Flotilla 14-1
Tracy Antorcha, Flotilla 17-9

Each of these members have demonstrated remarkable commitment to the Auxiliary's mission and we thank them for their outstanding contributions to our community, our members, and our district.

To all our nominees, thank you for your service, leadership, and passion. And to Chris, congratulations on this well-earned honor. You represent the very best of who we are.

Semper Paratus,
Martin

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Enthusiasm - Engagement - Excellence

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