



**U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**  
District Eleven North Region  
DIVISION COMMANDERS REPORT



To: Wally Smith, Commodore

March, 2018

From : Lana Visser, Division Commander

Division: 113-07 Utah

**HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":**

1. Utah Boat Show
2. Division 7 COW
3. Fred Hayes, Director of Utah Division of Parks and Recreation
4. Getting ready for summer!

**DETAILS:**

1. February in Utah means one thing to Division 7 - the Utah Boat Show and Water Sports Expo! This year found twenty Division 7 Auxiliarists putting in 115 hours of volunteer time over the four days of the Boat Show held February 8-11 at the newly re-named Mt. America Credit Union Events Center in Sandy, Utah. A complete report with photos is included in the Public Affairs report. We had the opportunity to expand our booth and added activities this year, which made it more fun for both the Auxiliarists and the 21,938 members of the public who attended this year's Boat Show. Who knew that tying knots would be such an attraction, and playing with toy wooden boats would be a fun activity for kids and adults alike.



2. After being delayed for two months because of government budget issues, we finally celebrated the successes and accomplishments of Division 7 members at our Change of Watch on February 17. Our venue was once again in the incredible Hill Aerospace Museum in Roy, Utah where we not only enjoyed the ambience of being surrounded amazing aircraft, but also an excellent meal of steaks and chicken barbecued on site by Golden Corral. Our color guard was from the Utah Military Academy ROTC, and we thank them for their service.


Our thanks again to CDR Tim List, Mary Kirkwood, and COMO Rich Thomas for attending our COW this year, and for assisting with the presentation of a number of awards to Division 7 members who made significant contributions in Operations, Vessel Safety Checks, Marine Dealer Visits, Public

Education, Public Affairs, and those who gave over 100+ hours to the Auxiliary and boating safety programs in Utah. A special recognition to Mike Thompson, who chosen by the Utah State Boating Law Administrator as Division 7 Auxiliariest of the Year, and Paul Custance who was awarded the Division Commander's Award for outstanding service to Division 7. We also had a special National Commodore's Achievement Award presented to Flotilla 113-07-02 for their outstanding contributions to the US Coast Guard Auxiliary for 60 years.

As Division Commander of Division 7 Utah, I would once again like to thank our members for the time and effort they put in during 2017 in promoting the Coast Guard's RBS mission and serving the people of Utah by promoting boating safety through everything they do. You are all amazing, and I am proud to be serving alongside these dedicated, skilled, and talented Auxiliariests.





3. The State of Utah lost a tireless advocate for our state parks system with the death of Fred Hayes, Director of Utah Division of Parks and Recreation, on March 2, 2018. Mr. Hayes was appointed Director in 2012 at a time when the legislature slashed Parks and Recreation's budget by 59%. Despite that, Director Hayes fought to keep all 44 Utah State Parks open, which has been a resounding success, as State Parks has had record park attendance, are profitable, and has created new recreational opportunities statewide. His passion shows in his motto: "having more people having more fun in parks more often." We, the members of Division 7, feel we owe a debt of gratitude to Director Hayes for helping to make the lakes we patrol into the beautiful recreational destinations for Utah's citizens. His passion, excitement, and enthusiasm will be missed.
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4. Now that we have the boat show and our COW behind us, it is time to start looking ahead to our boating season activities and patrols. We have three boating education classes scheduled and are starting to get safety fairs and PA events on the calendar, along with trainings and social events. We also have several prospective members to work with and some new members to start training. It is going to be a busy, exciting year!

**PROJECTS:**

1. Division 7 Coxswain / Boat Crew Annual Training Meeting
2. Flotilla NSBW activities
3. Ranger Training at Jordanelle with Utah State Parks Rangers
4. Possibly helping State Parks with special projects at Willard Bay and Utah Lake

**CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES (3 Downs”):**

1. Recruitment
2. Inactive Member Re-activation and their mandatory training completed
3. Poor Division involvement in PA events

**AGENCY INTERACTION:**

1. none in January or February, but lots coming up!

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

1. Work with the FCs to identify members to work on re-activation. After identifying members, work out a plan tailored for each flotilla for the active flotilla members to be involved in re-activation, training, mentoring, and fellowshipping.
2. Identify the reasons Division members are not participating in PA activities. This may be done with a poll of division members to find out their hesitancy about joining PA activities (plus other activities!). After identifying reasons, we will start working on overcoming those concerns.
3. Establish a Division Facebook page.

<b>DIVISION 7</b>			
	2017	2018	
	Actual	Goals	YTD
MT (hrs)	480.90	500	14.4
OPS (underway hours)	3757.90	3800	0
PA (hrs) Division Events	225.00	250	0
PE (hrs)	43.00	50	0
PV (#)	270	300	27
VE (#)	235	250	0