



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



To: Curtis Han, Commodore, District Board and Staff

Date: May 15, 2023

From: Bill Ross, Division Commander

Division: 113-07 Utah

HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Division Training and Planning
2. PA Event with 4th grade children
3. National Safe Boating Week
4. Division Newsletter

DETAILS:

1. A two-hour training and planning meeting was held April 27 with 28 leaders attending. We focused on the current issues of attrition and the decline in available facilities in the division. We also explored the reduced number of available crewmembers for the current boating season. In addition, recruiting was a major topic because we need to recruit more people who can train as coxswains and crewmembers for next year.

Attention was given to the need to use the division leadership, SO's over critical areas such as operations and training to improve member retention and socialization. We also discussed the need to support our PA events and make them recruiting opportunities. We had a PowerPoint presentation with a workbook which was distributed to all attendees.

Our planning in the next session will utilize the Basics of Achievements:

Vision
Goal
Objective
Plans
Strategy

Part 2 of the planning presentation will be held at a date to be determined.

2. The Utah Lake 4th grade field trip was conducted on four different days April 25 and 27 and May 2, and 4. This is an annual event where 14 teaching booth were set up to teach

everything from ecology and preservation to water safety. Flotillas 7-3 and 7-8 participated in the training events which included over 440 students from the local schools.

Since Utah has received over twice the normal snowfall this winter, the melting snow is causing rivers to run very fast and cold. The emphasis for training was water safety around swimming pools, rivers and lakes. In addition to the presentations, students were involved in on-hands activities with learning how to properly put on a life jacket, tossing a floatable device to our dummy Bob and playing the Q & A Coastie Safety Rules game.

3. National Safe Boating Week

Flotilla 7-3 is hosting PA events at Utah Lake May 20th and 22nd. We will be providing Paddleboard exams at the event from Lincoln Beach to American Fork Harbor. We will have a PA information tent at American Fork Harbor on Saturday May 20. Members of flotillas 7-3, 7-6 and 7-8 will be participating. We also plan to have VE done during the weekend depending on members availability.

4. Division 7 Newsletter

We are very pleased to have as our SO-PB Michael Bowser is very talented in communications, graphics and design to be preparing our Division Newsletter. His work looks more like a national magazine than a simple newsletter. We are striving to reach every division member through this digital document to stimulate interest and motivate our less active members to participate in a variety of areas of service.

PROJECTS:

1. National Safe Boating Week
2. Utah Lake Paddleboard Event
3. National Safe Boating Week
4. Division 7 Newsletter

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES:

1. Lack of facilities
2. Lack of coxswains and crewmembers
3. Still working to qualify a FC for flotilla 7-6

AGENCY INTERACTION:

Mike Williams is currently meeting with Ty Hunter who is over the Utah DNR boat operations. The severe winter weather has placed exceptionally high demand on their shop crews to make more than normal repairs to state equipment. It is not known how soon they will be able to repair and service the two State boats assigned to the Auxiliary. We are hoping the facilities will be available by Memorial Day.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Goals will be developed by each flotilla based on the training principles of Basics of Achievement.

PHOTOS

