

ALAU 13-14 - 2013 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

31JUL2014

1. Mr. Wallace Smith, Jr. of District 11 (Northern Region) Flotilla 6-10 has been recognized as the 2013 Auxiliarist of the Year. The following ALCOAST recently announced Mr. Smith's selection. Honorable mention was earned by Mr. Jerry Shaw, Jr. of District 8 (Coastal Region) Flotilla 8-12, and Ms. Jessica Zenquis-Davidson of District 5 (Northern Region) Flotilla 2-76. Congratulations to Mr. Smith and all nominees!

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SUBJ: 2013 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

1. I am pleased to announce the selection of Mr. Wallace A. Smith Jr. of Flotilla 6-10 in the 11th District, Northern Auxiliary Region, as the 2013 Auxiliarist of the Year.

2. Mr. Smith is the lead instructor for the Boating Skills and Seamanship public education courses at Santa Cruz Harbor, and has increased membership in the Auxiliary through his interactions with the boating public at these courses. Mr. Smith selflessly devoted over 2,600 hours of Auxiliary service in 2013. Mr. Smith earned the Auxiliary Achievement Award, Coast Guard Unit Commendation, Auxiliary Instructor Program Ribbon, and Special Operations Service Ribbon.

3. Mr. Smith has used his outstanding organizational skills and abundant energy to increase training opportunities for members, support Coast Guard missions, and increase operational effectiveness in 2013. Mr. Smith created an annual new member academy for his Auxiliary division which provided new members with an opportunity to learn the basics of uniform wear, record keeping, and leadership structure from experienced Auxiliarists. This raised the standard of professionalism within his division and helped new members get up to speed more quickly within the Auxiliary.

4. Mr. Smith is a highly-proficient coxswain and is often sought out for his experience and local knowledge. Additionally, he facilitated a monthly dry-land training series for boat crew members to maintain their proficiency and skills through the off season. Mr. Smith was instrumental in coordinating Auxiliary support of the Santa Cruz harbor lighted boat parade. As a qualified telecommunications operator, Mr. Smith supported Coast Guard readiness by standing radio watch with his mobile radio facility during planned and unplanned outages of a Rescue 21 radio site. In concert with other Auxiliarists, Mr. Smith drove more than 80 miles each way to a designated site during these communication outages to monitor radio traffic and relay any calls for assistance. Mr. Smith organized a meeting between members of the Auxiliary with vast local knowledge and the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Station Monterey to provide support of law enforcement operations on the Central Coast.

5. I applaud Mr. Smith's exemplary performance and spirit of service. He will be formally recognized as the 2013 Auxiliarist of the Year at the Auxiliary National Conference in Orlando, FL on 23 Aug 2014.

6. The following Auxiliarists were finalists for selection and are congratulated for their outstanding performance and achievement:

- a. Mr. Jerry L. Shaw Jr., Flotilla 8-12 in the Eighth District (Coastal Auxiliary Region).
- b. Ms. Jessica L. Zenquis-Davidson, Flotilla 2-76 in the Fifth District (Northern Auxiliary Region).

7. RDML Paul F. Thomas, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy, sends.

8. Internet release authorized.