



Sailing with Seven

DIVISION 7 (CENTRAL AND SOUTH TEXAS) DISTRICT 8 COASTAL
WRITTEN BY JASON KARDOS (SO-PB), PHOTOS BY BESSIE SOURIS (DSO-MA))

ISSUE NO 5
Dec 2019



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Division Elections

By Jason Kardos & Bessie Souris

The Division Fall meeting and elections were held for the 2020 Officers. Geoff Souris was elected as DCDR for 2020 and Berhilo Galvan was elected as the VCDR for 2020.

Guests included, DCO Charles Maricle, OTO Travis Lasiter from DIRAUX, and D-CAPT (West) Jeff Stromer. A presentation and Q&A session held with the members and leaders of San Antonio's Sea Scout Ship 70,4 which will be chartered by Flotilla 07-04 starting in November.

DVDR elect Geoff Souris presented 8 goals with a detailed synopsis on how to accomplish them. The goals are:

1. Get back to basics
2. Include board and staff in the decision-making process
3. Get back to training
4. Get back to the Member
5. Recruiting
6. Support the Coast Guard
7. Eye on the target – remember why we are here
8. Make it fun and enjoyable

The test of time will be on the new commander and staff. This is a critical time for Division 7; membership is dropping, flotillas are collapsing, and there is a serious lack of self-accountability for the decay of our membership and operational capabilities. DCDR elect Geoff Commander has identified the issues, the root causes, and the seriousness of the state-of-the-division. He has admittedly stepped up to the challenge to rebuild Division 7.



DCDR Elect Geoff Souris, VCDR Elect Berhilo Galvan, and DCO Chuck Maricle

Division Boat Training

By Jason Kardos & Bessie Souris

In October, Coxswain and Boat-crew members of Flotilla 7-10 performed their 3-year qualification renewal for boat crew, along with the 7-10's newest crewman member undergoing the initial qualification. Qualification Examiner Roy Pell and Coxswain Jeff Stromer joined their facilities, along with Coxswain Jim Vass, as a training squadron to perform the five examinations.

Three Aux Facilities in Port O'Connor waters was quite a sight for the residents who enjoyed the show. Coxswain Jim Vass, boat crew Geoff Souris, Sherry Housley and Bessie Souris were re-qualified with Dr. Peter Nguyen performing his SAR suit swim and QE to become qualified as boat crew.





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Coxswain Roy Pell and Crewman Geoff Souris

Around the District

By Jason Kardos

The SEP-TRAIN event resulted in the re-election of DCAPT-West Jeff Stromer. Other enlightening discussions eluded to a solution to administrative issues, award processing, and streamlining communication up and down the chain of leadership.



DCAPT West Jeff Stromer swears in for his second year

Operationally, the USCG will see an expanded role in the Gulf of Mexico as the Space-X program begins to launch. The USCG Auxiliary will see itself included in this new role.

The joint venture of Sea Scouts (a division of Boy Scouts of America) and the USCG Auxiliary have many in the leadership optimistic on the recruiting potential. Time will tell, but there was no data or study conducted to ascertain the validity of this ideal. The Auxiliary will be just one of many paths that the Sea Scouts can take to continue volunteer service beyond the age of 20. The venture program is official as of November 2019.

A side venue of *Rising Stars* was led by Immediate Past District Commodore Dave McCandless was very enlightening and a huge success. Representing Division 7 was Jason Kardos, the Corpus Christi Flotilla Commander.



Rising Star FC Jason Kardos and DCDR-elect Geoff Souris at September D-Train

Operations Outlook

By Jason Kardos

Please contact d8crdivision7@gmail.com to add to the operations calendar or visit the webform at





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<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=081-07&category=CALENDAR>.

All operations, boat, VE, flight, public affairs, etc., shall be on the operations calendar. The foundation of the Auxiliary is the Flotilla, but we can all support each other as a division.

The better informed we are, the better we perform our public service as a team. Any flotilla event can easily be a division event, and that is how we can shine above the rest.

One team, one fight! All call for articles

Please send articles and photos that are of interest to the division to Jason Kardos (SO-PB),
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