



# Sailing with Seven

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

ISSUE NO 6  
Jan 2020



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### 01: Division Meeting New Year Kickoff

#### Division Meeting New Year Kickoff by Jason Kardos

Division 7 staff and board member kickoff meeting was held on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The Division Commander's biggest push for this year is to get more operational. With more than 50 mission sets, there are plenty of niches that members can fill, expanding the role Division 7 plays as a support to the Coast Guard and our communities.

Another focus is fixing our administrative processes. Simply knowing how to properly use the chain-of-leadership and to maintain email discipline by not hitting "reply all". Recognition for members using the award program is also of the utmost importance. Award writing guidance is now available on the District 7 website. On a legal note, please be cognizant of copyright laws when using downloaded images and content; use only authorized material.

leaders to each other and build a positive volunteer force with reinforced recognition and support. We cannot grow without being a team.



Division Staff Officers performing the Oath of Office

Flotilla reports will be due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. The new format templates are available on the District 8CR website under Member Information-Forms. Staff Officer Report Formats are also available there; [Unit Leader and Staff Officer Report Form](#).



Seen Left to right: Scot Magnuson (SO-HR & CS), Jeff Hughes (SO-FN), Geoff Souris (DCDR), Berhilo Galvan (VDCDR)



Jim Vass, Jack Ward, Denis Paterson, George Simpson, and Doug McClendon prepare for the meeting and training

DCAPT West Jeff Stromer reminded everyone to ensure flotilla websites and social media pages are updated regularly. Also, MARTRAIN will be in Houston, March 19<sup>th</sup> thru the 22<sup>nd</sup>. For retention and to make us stronger, we must mentor existing members as well as new members. We must be





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In summation, Division 7 is at a very critical point. Operational facilities are at an all time low and more will be decommissioned soon. Qualified coxswains, crew, pilots, and aircrew are in the same situation; membership is down, and retention is abysmal. It is time to put ego, pride, attitudes, and politics in the trash. We are all volunteers and we will not succeed without building each other up. If you are tearing down someone, talking behind their back, blocking a qualification or curtailing a person's drive to serve, then you are wrong! If you are violating integrity by not operating in accordance with the Auxiliary Manual or other instructions signed by the Commandant of the Coast Guard, then you are wrong!

Remember why you are volunteering. More importantly, understand other people's reasons for volunteering; they are not often the same as your reasons.

We need to promote each other and act with honor, decency, and respect. Are we as individuals remembering the four cornerstones and the core values? Are we pursuing excellence with a focus on the cornerstones of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary?

### Four Cornerstones:

- Member Services
- Recreational Boating Safety
- Operations and Marine Safety
- Fellowship

### Core Values

- Honor
- Respect
- Devotion to Duty

### US Coast Guard Mission

The mission of the United States Coast Guard is to ensure our Nation's maritime safety, security and stewardship.

### US Coast Guard Auxiliary Mission

Contribute to the safety and security of our citizens, ports, waterways and coastal regions.

### Coast Guard Motto

Semper Paratus is a Latin phrase, meaning "Always Ready."

These are not just words; it is who we are! If you believe your service as a volunteer is important, then live by these words. If you have a personal agenda

that does not coincide with what the US Coast Guard Auxiliary is, then you are part of the problem and it would be right to excuse yourself from this uniformed service.

Division 7 needs problem solvers not problem creators. What are you?

Get more volunteers by showing what we are! Serve with dignity and know how important it is that you represent the Coast Guard Auxiliary in and out of uniform.

## Operations Outlook

By Jason Kardos

Warrior's Weekend XIV will be May 15-17, 2020

Training events needed! Send me your schedules ASAP!

Please contact [d8crdivision7@gmail.com](mailto:d8crdivision7@gmail.com) to add to the operations calendar or visit the webform at <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), [jasonkardos.uscgaux@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonkardos.uscgaux@yahoo.com)

