



*THE*  
**FLORIDA  
BEACH PATROL  
CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

*AND THE*



**UNITED STATES  
LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION  
SOUTHEAST REGION**

*PRESENT THE*

**2007 LIFESAVING AWARDS BANQUET  
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22ND, 2008 – 6:30PM TO 10:30PM**

//

**THE BEACH CLUB  
755 NORTH COUNTY ROAD  
PALM BEACH, FL**

*HONORING THE*

**“LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR”**

**“BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR”**

**GIO SERRANO  
FT. LAUDERDALE OCEAN RESCUE**

**TOWN OF PALM BEACH  
OCEAN RESCUE**

THE FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION AND THE UNITED STATES LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION, SOUTHEAST REGION GRACIOUSLY REQUEST YOUR ATTENDANCE AND WELCOME YOU TO THE 2007 LIFESAVING FIFTEENTH ANNUAL AWARDS AND DINNER BANQUET. WE HOPE YOU HAVE AN EXCITING TIME AT THIS MEMORABLE EVENT.

## **PROGRAM**

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM      COCKTAIL HOUR / RECEPTION

7:30 PM                      WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

7:30 PM - 8:00 PM      AWARDS PRESENTATION

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM      BUFFET / BANQUET DINNER

9:00 PM - 9:30 PM      AWARDS PRESENTATION

9:30 PM                      CLOSING THOUGHTS

9:30 PM - 10:30 PM      SOCIAL HOUR / CONVERSATION & DANCING

**FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS**  
**2007 & 2008 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

PRESIDENT - DON MAY  
V. PRESIDENT (N) - WYATT WERNETH  
V. PRESIDENT (C) - BOB TAYLOR  
V. PRESIDENT (S) - WADE RICKERSON  
V. PRESIDENT (W) - JOE LAIN  
V. PRESIDENT (P) - JOE D'AGOSTINO  
TREASURER - JOHN FRAZIER  
SECRETARY - ANDREW RITCHIE  
ADVISOR - BOB MALER

**U.S.L.A. SOUTHEAST REGION**  
**2008 & 2009 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

PRESIDENT - JOE McMANUS  
VICE PRESIDENT - GERRY FALCONER  
TREASURER - GARY WISE  
SECRETARY - JO WAGENHALS  
COMPETITION DIRECTOR - JIM McCRADY  
PUBLIC ED. - GIO SERRANO  
ADVISOR - BOB MALER  
JR. LIFEGUARD DIRECTOR - CHRIS HOCH  
EXECUTIVE DELEGATE - JOE D'AGOSTINO  
PUBLIC INFORMATION - GERRY FALCONER

## **FLORIDA OCEAN LIFESAVING AWARDS - 2007**

- **2007 F.B.P.C.A. PRESIDENTS AWARD**  
**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO OCEAN LIFESAVING:**  
RECIPIENT: *U.S.L.A. S.E.R. SURF LIFESAVING TRAINING ACADEMY*
- **U.S.L.A., S.E.R. 2006 - 2007 OFFICERS AWARDS**
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 25+ YEAR LIFESAVING SERVICE AWARDS**  
RECIPIENTS: *BOB WOYSHNER & JOSE "JOE JR" RODRIGUEZ - INDIAN RIVER COUNTY // DONALD WEINTRAUB - FT. LAUDERDALE // WILLIAM "DAWSON" MAC DONALD - MIAMI BEACH*
- **F.B.P.C.A. LIFEMEMBER AWARD**  
RECIPIENT: *MARCUS BREECE - MIAMI-DADE COUNTY*
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - "CLINCON" BLS TEAM RECOGNITION**  
RECIPIENT: *BOCA RATON - TIM FRY / FRANK GANLEY / JACK LUKA / KEVIN HUGHES*
- **F.B.P.C.A. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
RECIPIENT: *JIM SHOEMAKER - HOLLYWOOD*
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. REGIONAL TEAM & MALE / FEMALE HIGH POINT WINNERS**
- **NATIONAL COMPETITORS - RECOGNITION**
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 2007 SPRINT SERIES TEAM AWARD WINNERS**  
*1. BOCA RATON 2. FT. LAUDERDALE 3. HOLLYWOOD 4. POMPAÑO 5. PALM BEACH COUNTY*
- **F.B.P.C.A. / U.S.L.A. S.E.R. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD -**  
RECIPIENTS: *"EMERALD COAST" OCEAN RESCUE AGENCIES*
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 2007 WINTER SERIES COMPETITION AWARD WINNERS**
- **F.B.P.C.A. MERITORIOUS ACT AWARD -** RECIPIENTS: *BRYAN THEISS & JOHN GEPP - PALM BEACH COUNTY*
- **FLORIDAS "LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR" PAST / PRESENT - RECOGNITION**
- **FLORIDAS "BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR" PAST / PRESENT - RECOGNITION**



# **FLORIDA BEACH PATR** **UNITED STATES LIFESAVING ASS**

## **LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR - 2007**

### **RECIPIENT: GIOVANNI SERRANO-SANCHEZ (GIO) - FT. LAUDERDALE OCEAN RESCUE**

Gio was born in Puerto Rico on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1977. He moved to the United States in 1996 at the age of 18. He was accepted into the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale and graduated in 1998. During his time at the Art Institute Gio worked as a part time lifeguard at the local YMCA. He soon realized that he loved the job of lifeguarding and wanting to explore the opportunities of open water lifeguarding. In the spring of 1999 Gio applied for a part time job on the Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue. He was so eager to begin his new job that he volunteered to work the Air & Sea Show since Human Resources had not finalized his start date. Gio worked part time in Fort Lauderdale before accepting a full time position at Dania Beach Ocean Rescue. After one year Gio returned to Fort Lauderdale beach and worked part time until 2005. In 2005 Gio accepted a full time job offer on the Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue Division. Gio was only full time for two years before applying for a Lieutenants position. This past year has been very productive for Gio and is the main reason he is being awarded the Lifeguard of the Year honor and was selected to be a Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue Lieutenant.

In 2007 Gio worked with the public information office to get a Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue web page up and running. He was solely responsible for teaming up with Broward County Swim Central to go into all of the elementary schools to talk about water safety. This was not an easy task and involved many meetings with many divisions that culminated with the blessing of the City Commission. Gio has been the captain of the BLS competition team; he is a First Responder Instructor, CPR Instructor and certified EMT.

These are just the highlights of what Gio has accomplished this year. Gio takes a lot of pride in his job and has excelled in getting the word out there about the dangers of rip currents: I'm sure most of you have seen his rip current warnings in print or in his many interviews on the news, Gio is not camera shy.

His dedication to his job and his profession has proven him to be the quintessential Ocean Rescue professional.

# BOAT CHIEFS ASSOCIATION ASSOCIATION – SOUTHEAST REGION



## BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR - 2007

### RECIPIENT: TOWN OF PALM BEACH OCEAN RESCUE

From the "Cowboys of the Sea" in 1905 to the present day, the lifeguards of the Town of Palm Beach have a proud history of ocean lifesaving. Hired in 1932, Sam Burroughs was the first paid professional lifeguard for the Town. By 1938, the volunteer group, "Cowboys of the Sea" had approximately 400 members including a German Sheppard credited for saving a young boy's life. In 1966, Norm Owens became the first "Chief" of the beach patrol and developed the modern rescue techniques that are still used today. Owens also established the credo "Ocean Tough" which today's lifeguards still believe in, and adhere too. The Town of Palm Beach was also one of the first USLA agencies in Florida.

Today's Ocean Rescue Unit is part of the Police Department's Special Services Division. The Town employs 10 full time, year round lifeguards who provide public safety and emergency medical service on the Town's two public beaches. Each beach has an ATV that is equipped with an AED and emergency oxygen, a rescue dory and boards, and the latest *state of the art* enclosed fiberglass lifeguard towers. An Emergency Medical Technician is assigned to each beach.

In addition to providing service on the two public beaches, the Unit also has an "Outcall Team" that will respond to any aquatic emergency with-in the Town of Palm Beach. Lifeguards are also assigned to the police department's dive team. The staff currently consists of one paramedic and five EMTs. The Unit is accredited by the United States Lifesaving Association and is recognized as a State of Florida Certified First Responder Agency. As an American Red Cross authorized training site, we are capable of maintaining certifications for CPR/AED and First Responder. USLA training requirements are met through the use of our USLA, SER Training Officer Academy graduate instructor.

Ocean lifeguarding is an under appreciated vocation as few realize that it requires mastery of swimming and rescue skills, the ability to provide basic medical life support and substantial knowledge of marine biology and wave dynamics. Town of Palm Beach lifeguards are ambassadors as they are often the only representative of government that a tourist may see face-to-face. The Mid-Town Public Beach has experienced a dramatic increase in the number of beachgoers in recent years and crowded conditions make their responsibilities both more important and more difficult.

## **F.B.P.C.A. // U.S.L.A., S.E.R. - AWARDS**

### **F.B.P.C.A. / U.S.L.A. PRESIDENTS AWARD for OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO OCEAN LIFESAVING - RECIPIENT: U.S.L.A., S.E.R. SURF LIFESAVING TRAINING ACADEMY**

JAMES P. "MAC" MCCARTHY, PATRICK "SQUID" MCGLAMERY, JAMES HAMILTON MCCRADY V, MITCHELL PHILLIPS MCCRADY, WILLIAM JAMES EVANS, JOSEPH D'AGOSTINO, KENNETH SULLIVAN, TERRY ROGACZEWSKI, GIOVANNI SERRANO, GARY WISE AND RICHARDSON RIVERA.

### **F.B.P.C.A. LIFEMEMBER AWARD - RECIPIENT: MARCUS BREECE**

MARCUS WAS HIRED BY THE METRO-DADE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AS AN OCEAN LIFEGUARD IN MAY OF 1973 AND WAS ASSIGNED TO WORK AT CRANDON PARK BEACH. HE WORKED THERE UNTIL BEING HIRED BY METRO-DADE FIRE RESCUE IN 1978 AND WORKED AS A FIREFIGHTER UNTIL 1980 BUT RETURNED TO THE LIFEGUARDING PROFESSION AT HAULOVER PARK BEACH WITHIN SEVERAL WEEKS OF LEAVING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. HE WORKED HIS WAY THROUGH THE RANKS FROM FULL TIME LIFEGUARD TO FINISH AND RETIRE HIS THIRTY YEAR CAREER AS BEACH SAFETY MANAGER WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IN MAY OF 2003. MARCUS JOINED THE F.B.P.C.A. IN 1986 AND CONTINUED TO BE A MEMBER UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT IN 2003. HE SERVED ON THE CHIEFS EXECUTIVE BOARD AS TREASURER FOR 7 YEARS FROM EARLY 1990 TO LATE 1996. MARCUS WAS ALSO ACTIVE IN THE USLA AS A COMPETITOR IN HIS EARLY YEARS AS A LIFEGUARD AND ATTENDED MEETINGS THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER. MARCUS RECENTLY STATED THAT, "EVERY DAY WAS AN ADVENTURE."

### **F.B.P.C.A. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - RECIPIENT: JIM SHOEMAKER**

FOR OVER 29 YEARS, JAMES SHOEMAKER HAS PATROLLED THE 4.5 MILES OF HOLLYWOOD BEACH AND HAS BEEN THE CHIEF OF BEACH SAFETY FOR THE PAST 13 YEARS. JIM STARTED LIFEGUARDING IN THE SUMMERS AT THE AGE OF 16 IN AVALON ON THE SOUTH JERSEY SHORE. HE ATTENDED PENN STATE UNIVERSITY UNDER A SCHOLARSHIP FOR SWIMMING AND WATER POLO AND WAS VOTED CAPTAIN OF PENN STATE'S SWIM TEAM. IN 1975, JIM CAME TO FT. LAUDERDALE AND FELL IN LOVE WITH SOUTH FLORIDA AND BEGAN HIS CAREER IN HOLLYWOOD WHERE HIS MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDED:

- FOUNDED MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
- ASSISTED WITH FORMULATING THE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR THE FLAG WARNING SYSTEM
- FIRST AGENCY IN THE STATE TO MEET THE CRITERIA FOR USLA ADVANCE CERTIFICATION
- LONGEST CONSECUTIVE LIFESAVING COMPETITION
- BROWARD COUNTY "COACH OF THE YEAR" IN 2005 AND 2007 FOR WATER POLO
- FIRST LIFEGUARD TO ROW A SURFBOAT FROM BIMINI TO FT LAUDERDALE WITH ERIC JERSTED.

JIM'S DEDICATION TO HIS JOB AND SERVICES RENDERED TO HIS PROFESSION HAVE PROVEN HIM TO BE A TRUE OCEAN RESCUE PROFESSIONAL.

### **F.B.P.C.A. / U.S.L.A. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD - RECIPIENTS:**

#### **"EMERALD COAST CHAPTER" BEACH SAFETY AGENCIES**

DESTIN FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT - BEACH SAFETY DIVISION, OKALOOSA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - BEACH SAFETY DIVISION, SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT - BEACH SAFETY DIVISION, SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT - BEACH SAFETY DIVISION, GULF SHORES (ALABAMA) BEACH PATROL, ORANGE BEACH (ALABAMA) PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT - AQUATICS DIVISION - PENDING, PANAMA CITY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - PENDING.

### **F.B.P.C.A. MERITORIOUS ACT AWARD - RECIPIENTS: BRYAN THEISS & JOHN GEPP**

**FLORIDA BEACH PATROL  
CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

THE BEACH "CHIEFS" FORMED IN 1983 TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONALISM WITHIN FLORIDA'S OCEAN LIFESAVING AGENCIES. THE FOUNDING MEMBERS RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR INCREASED COOPERATION AND COMMUNICATION AMONG FLORIDA'S PROFESSIONAL OCEAN LIFEGUARDS. WORTHWHILE PROJECTS BEGAN TO EMERGE FROM THE "CHIEFS" INCLUDING PUBLIC EDUCATION, PROMOTING LEGISLATION RELATED TO OCEAN LIFESAVING AND RAISING STANDARDS OF TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION. THE LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR AND BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR AWARDS WERE CREATED TO HONOR THE BEST LIFEGUARDS AND LIFEGUARD AGENCIES IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.



**UNITED STATES LIFESAVING  
ASSOCIATION**

THE PRIMARY GOAL OF U.S.L.A. IS TO, "ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL SURF AND OPEN WATER LIFESAVING FOR THE MAXIMIZING OF PUBLIC SAFETY." AS SUCH, U.S.L.A. LEADERS HAVE LONG WORKED TO STANDARDIZE TRAINING AND LIFESAVING PRACTICES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES THROUGH VARIOUS MEANS.

THERE ARE NOW OVER 100 CHAPTERS OF THE U.S.L.A. EACH IS AFFILIATED WITH A LOCAL LIFESAVING SERVICE OR SERVICES AND COMPOSED OF EMPLOYEES OF THOSE AGENCIES. THE CHAPTERS FORM REGIONS, OF WHICH THERE ARE EIGHT. EACH U.S.L.A. REGION HAS A PRESIDENT AND ITS OWN BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE U.S.L.A., ELECTED EVERY TWO YEARS, IS MADE UP OF DELEGATES SENT BY EACH REGION TO BI-ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS. WITHIN CERTAIN GUIDELINES, REGIONAL REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS PROPORTIONAL TO REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS.

THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY THE U.S.L.A. HAS BEEN AN ORGANIZATION OF LIFEGUARDS FOR LIFEGUARDS, IMPROVING THEIR PROFESSION AND THE SAFETY OF THE BEACH-GOING PUBLIC. DEDICATED MEMBERS VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND ACCOMPLISH THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION. THAT WORK CONTINUES TODAY.



**FLORIDA'S LIFEGUARDS OF THE YEAR**

1986  
ROB CALDWELL – LANTANA  
1987  
CHUCK PRICE – PALM BEACH COUNTY  
1988  
ERIK JERSTED – TOWN OF PALM BEACH  
1989  
KEN GUNTHER – PALM BEACH COUNTY  
1990  
BRIAN RICHARDSON – MARTIN COUNTY  
1991  
GERRY FALCONER – POMPANO BEACH  
1992  
JERRY HUTTON – PALM BEACH COUNTY  
1993  
NAJIM MUSTO – DEERFIELD BEACH  
1994  
PHIL MIRKIN – MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
1995  
VINCE WIERNICKI – ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
1996  
PHIL WOTTON – BOCA RATON  
1997  
JULIA LEO – PALM BEACH COUNTY  
1998  
ERICK BARBOSA – MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
1999  
STEVE ZICKL – DELRAY BEACH  
2000  
CHRISTINE McCRADY – FT. LAUDERDALE  
2001  
MIKE BROWN – DEERFIELD BEACH  
2002  
LUIZ MORIZOT- LEITE – MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY  
2003  
PATRICK MC GLAMERY – BOCA RATON  
2004  
JO WAGENHALS – DELRAY BEACH  
2005  
JIM McCRADY – FT. LAUDERDALE  
2006  
DENNIS WARD – PALM BEACH COUNTY  
2007  
GIO SERRANO – FT. LAUDERDALE

**BEACH PATROLS OF THE YEAR**

1993  
TOWN OF LANTANA  
1994  
CITY OF HOLLYWOOD  
1995  
CITY OF DELRAY BEACH  
1996  
PALM BEACH COUNTY  
1997  
CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH  
1998  
CITY OF BOCA RATON  
1999  
CITY OF DELRAY BEACH  
2000  
CITY OF HOLLYWOOD  
2001  
CITY OF DELRAY BEACH  
2002  
CITY OF POMPANO BEACH  
2003  
CLEARWATER BEACH  
2004  
SARASOTA COUNTY  
2005  
FT. LAUDERDALE BEACH  
2006  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
2007  
TOWN OF PALM BEACH

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF THE  
INDIVIDUALS AND OCEAN RESCUE AGENCIES  
WHO HELPED US OFFICIATE OUR SPECIAL  
EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE 2007 LIFEGUARD  
COMPETITION SEASON.

+++++

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS –  
(PAST AND PRESENT) THAT HAVE WORKED SO  
TIRELESSLY ON THE “SPECIAL RISK” STATUS  
INITIATIVE FOR FLORIDA’S OCEAN  
LIFESAVERS INCLUDING --- DENNIS WARD,  
KEN GUNTHER, BENNETT RICHARDSON &  
PAUL DRUCKER.