

THE



**FLORIDA
BEACH PATROL
CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

AND THE



**UNITED STATES
LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION
SOUTHEAST REGION**

PRESENT THE

**2015 LIFESAVING AWARDS BANQUET
FRIDAY APRIL 1, 2016 @ 6:30PM**

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**OCEAN CENTER
101 N. ATLANTIC AVENUE
DAYTONA BEACH, FL. 32118**

HONORING THE

"LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR"

**CRYSTAL HAIRE
FT. LAUDERDALE**

"BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR"

**VOLUSIA COUNTY
BEACH SAFETY / OCEAN RESCUE**

THE FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION AND THE UNITED STATES LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION, SOUTHEAST REGION CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE TWENTYSECOND ANNUAL LIFESAVING AWARDS AND DINNER BANQUET. COME CELEBRATE OUR 2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH FOOD, FUN, MUSIC AND CAMARADERIE.

PROGRAM

6:45 PM - 7:45 PM COCKTAIL HOUR / RECEPTION

7:45 PM WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

8:00 PM - 8:30 PM AWARDS PRESENTATION

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM BUFFET / BANQUET DINNER

9:30 PM - 10:00 PM AWARDS PRESENTATION

10:00 PM CLOSING THOUGHTS

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM SOCIAL HOUR / CONVERSATION & DANCING

FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS 2015 - 2016 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT - ERIC HELLSTROM
V. PRESIDENT (N) - ANDY RITCHIE
V. PRESIDENT (C) - PHIL WOTTON
V. PRESIDENT (S) - JOE TAYLOR
V. PRESIDENT (W) - JOE WESTERMAN
V. PRESIDENT (P) - RICH HUFFNAGLE
TREASURER - PHIL WOTTON
SECRETARY - BRECK BALLOU
ADVISOR - BRECK BALLOU

U.S.L.A. SOUTHEAST REGION 2016 - 2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT - GERRY FALCONER
VICE PRESIDENT - JIM McCRADY
TREASURER - JO WAGENHALS
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2ND EXEC DELEGATE - EISEN WITCHER
3RD EXEC DELEGATE - MARK SWANSON
4TH EXEC DELEGATE - CHRIS NOWVISKIE
COMPETITION - JIM McCRADY
JUNIOR LG'S - CHRIS HOCH / CHRIS NOWVISKIE
MEMBERSHIP - KARISSA ICKES / SASHA MEDINA-STATON
PUBLIC ED. CHAIR - JO WAGENHALS / BRYON WHITE

FLORIDA OCEAN LIFESAVING AWARDS – 2015

- **2015 F.B.P.C.A. & U.S.L.A. S.E.R. PRESIDENTS AWARD**
RECIPIENT: Chris Brewster
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 2014 - 2015 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS - RECOGNITION**
- **F.B.P.C.A. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
RECIPIENTS: Bob West - *Santa Rosa Island Authority* & Kathy Clearly - *Pinellas County*
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 25+ YEAR LIFESAVING SERVICE AWARDS**
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 40+ YEAR LIFESAVING SERVICE AWARDS**
- **2015 - IN MEMORY OF:**
- **F.B.P.C.A. MERITORIOUS ACT AWARD**
RECIPIENT: Joao Ribeiro - *Miami-Dade County*
RECIPIENT: Patrick Taaffe & Russell Burney - *St. Johns County*
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD**
RECIPIENT: Volusia County - *USLA National Lifesaving Championships*
- **F.B.P.C.A. LIFE MEMBER AWARD**
RECIPIENT: Dave Lill - *Palm Beach County*
- **NATIONAL COMPETITORS - RECOGNITION**
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. REGIONAL - TEAM / MALE & FEMALE HIGH POINT WINNERS**
- **F.B.P.C.A. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD**
RECIPIENT: Alan Holt - *Volusia County*
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS**
RECIPIENT: Flagler County - *USLA, SER Regional Lifesaving Championships*
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 2014-15 WINTER SERIES COMPETITION AWARD WINNERS**
- **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. LIFE MEMBER AWARD**
RECIPIENT: Joe McManus - *Indian River County*
- **FLORIDAS "LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR" PAST / PRESENT – RECOGNITION**
- **FLORIDAS "BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR" PAST / PRESENT – RECOGNITION**

F.B.P.C.A. // U.S.L.A. S.E.R. – AWARDS

PRESIDENTS AWARD for OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO OCEAN LIFESAVING

RECIPIENT: B. Chris Brewster started his ocean lifesaving career for the San Diego Lifeguard Service in 1979 as recurrent seasonal lifeguard, and wintering as an EMT Ski Patrol in Vail, Colorado. After six summers, he became a full-time, year-round Sergeant with the beach patrol. By 1988, he had risen to the rank of Lifeguard Chief and Harbormaster, and would remain in that capacity until his retirement from his agency over two decades later in 2001.

Involved with the United States Lifesaving Association most of his career, his national involvement began in the early 1990s with his work as the original chair of the Certification Committee, and as editor of *Open Water Lifesaving: The United States Lifesaving Manual* in 1994. He then became USLA President in 2003, a position he would hold until 2015, becoming the USLA's longest tenured leader. He has also been involved in the International Lifesaving Federation (I.L.S.) since 1995, and is currently their international Vice President, President of the Americas Region, and Liaison Officer to the USLA. He is a co-founder and moderator of Water Safety USA and works tirelessly as a member of the United States Lifeguard Standards Coalition. He has represented the USA at several World Congress on Drowning events. He has been a past President and Advisor of the California Lifesaving Association.

Chris is also currently the Editor of *American Lifeguard Magazine*, spearheading a committee to update the USLA manual, which he will also be the Editor of. He is "Life Member" of the California Surf Lifesaving Association, United States Lifesaving Association (national), and the USLA Southeast Region, as well as the Commissioner of Lifesaving and a "Grand Knight" of the (I.L.S.).

President Brewster has been a friend to the USLA Southeast Region like no other president. He has been instrumental in multiple regional projects and outreach programs, including, but not limited to: being a member of the initial taskforce sent to the Florida Panhandle that improved or created six different lifeguard agencies; being a member of the initial taskforce sent to the island territory of Puerto Rico, and traveling down there with regional representatives on two subsequent trips to improve safety in targeted areas; authoring or co-authoring Beach Safety Reports on Santa Rosa Island, Brevard County, Panama City Beach, Destin, Okaloosa, and South Walton counties, Baldwin County, Alabama and Puerto Rico.

Chris has written dozens of aquatic and water safety related books, articles, papers, manuals and periodicals. He has spoken, lectured and presented throughout the world at all types of seminars, events and venues, championing the profession of surf lifesaving. He has presided over and made hundreds of media appearances in his career. Chris gladly attends and speaks at regional events with very little notice and expecting nothing in return. He has provided expert services to agencies considering lifesaving operations and changes to existing programs. He has been a plaintiff and a defendant in legal cases involving drowning, beach and water injury, sand collapse, boating injury and a variety of other circumstances related to his areas of expertise. These cases have included local, state and federal court.

Chris Brewster's impact on ocean lifesaving has been immense and immeasurable and because of the limited space within this brochure, impossible to catalog.

It is for these reasons, and many more, that B. Chris Brewster is being awarded the Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association // United States Lifesaving Association, Southeast Region "Presidents Award for Outstanding Contributions to Ocean Lifesaving."

Thank you for everything you do for ocean lifesaving!

F.B.P.C.A. // U.S.L.A. S.E.R. – AWARDS

F.B.P.C.A. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

RECIPIENT: Bob West - (*Santa Rosa Island Authority*)

Bob was born the son of a Naval Officer and has always lived close to the water. His public safety career began after high school when he became a Pensacola Beach Lifeguard (PBLG) in June 1974. Bob was awarded an "Outstanding Performance of Duty" plaque in 1975 for rescuing a girl who had been blown several miles off shore on a float. He was promoted to #1 Lifeguard in 1976. Bob completed his Bachelor's Degree and EMT school while serving as a PBLG and moved over to Escambia County EMS in January 1979. At EMS, he served for 2 years as an EMT, 3 years as a Paramedic, 7 years as a Shift Supervisor and 13 years as QA / Training Coordinator. He also worked at LifeFlight as a Flight Paramedic.

During Bob's tenure, Gulf accidental drowning's have maintained a reduction of greater than 80%. He increased staff from a total of 21 in 2003 to near 80 in 2013. Bob participated in the USLA assessment of Orange Beach, Alabama and the Emerald Coast Chapter. He developed standardized open water and medical Power Point lecture / training programs and scenario driven training. He established roving patrols during dangerous surf conditions. He took the main lifeguard facility from a non-running "bread truck" to a \$ 1.7 million dollar state of the art building. He wrote three FL EMS Matching Grant Requests (for AV, training and medical equipment enhancements) and received funding. Bob was a Founding Member of Escambia County's Drowning Prevention coalition. He established a vehicle loaner" program for use as the primary patrol vehicles and updated six towers from wooden stands to Surveyor Apex enclosed towers. On October 1, 2003, he returned to Pensacola Beach as the SRIA's Director of Public Safety and he served through September 30, 2015 (41 years total, 37 years of FRS creditable service).

RECIPIENT: Katherine Clearly // Aquatics Supervisor - (*Pinellas County*)

Her passion and commitment to public safety started in 1984 beach guarding for four summers at Fort Desoto Park. She was awarded the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit, signed by President Reagan for saving the life of an elderly woman. Kathy continued in the aquatics field before accepting the Chief Lifeguard position in 1991 over a staff of 14 seasonal lifeguards at Fort Desoto Park. The Lifeguard program expanded in 1999 and in 2006 to include three County beach parks (including the # 1 ranked beach in the United States and internationally ranked Fort Desoto Park), Sand Key, Fred Howard Park and a seasonal staff of 26 full time guards over a distance of 40 miles.

During her tenure public safety and education became a primary focus. Teaching both park department CPR and First Aid classes, American Red Cross Lifeguarding classes and teaching children to swim, eventually leading to the establishment of Pinellas County Jr. Lifeguard program in 1999 and funded with an EMS grant in 2000 successfully continued for the next 15 years. Many juniors became Lifeguards and entered into the area of Public Safety. In 2000 she received recognition for saving the life of a drowning five year old girl. Multi-agency drills with the fire department, park patrol, sheriff and the Coast Guard were implemented leading were to better communication and protocols. Soon the bird stand towers became house towers offering protection from the elements for staff and greater visibility. Radios and trucks were assigned to each tower. Training and excellent response has come through dedicated seasonal lifeguards who have spent years working on the beach as well as E.M.S personnel and firefighters. They continue to make an impact in our local beach communities and push for change. Katherine has been married and has had the support of her husband Mark for over 30 years along with her four children Jonathan, Kyle, Matthew, Katie and one grand-daughter.



FLORIDA BEACH PATR **UNITED STATES LIFESAVING ASS**

LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR - 2015

Recipient: CRYSTAL HAIRE / Ft. Lauderdale

Nominees:

William David Taylor – Palm Beach County
Bryce Clough – Delray Beach

Crystal Haire has been a City of Fort Lauderdale ocean lifeguard acting in both a part-time and full-time capacity for six years. Crystal graduated from Western High School in 2001 and earned a full-scholarship to the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale, where she graduated at the top of her class with full honors. Crystal is a Paramedic and holds certifications in E.M.T. / Paramedic, E.M.T. Basic (both Florida and National registry).

Crystal runs and is the lead instructor with Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue's Junior Lifeguard Program and coaches the Junior Lifeguard competitors. She has taken a leadership role in the United States Lifesaving Association Southeast Region and Fort Lauderdale Chapter.

Lifeguard Haire has many lifeguard competition awards; locally, regionally and nationally. Crystal, along with her partner Jen Noonan, are the current 2015 USLA National Surfboat Champions for the 30-34 age division.

Additionally, this past year, Crystal was also recognized by Lee Feldman, Fort Lauderdale's City Manager, for an outstanding rescue and resuscitation of a young boy on the beach. Mr. Feldman states that a two-year-old toddler is alive today thanks to the heroic efforts of Ocean Rescue Lifeguard Crystal Haire. The child was playing in the waves just off Las Olas Boulevard last Wednesday when something went terribly wrong. Haire immediately rushed to the water, pulled the unconscious boy out and began performing CPR. The toddler was rushed to the hospital, where his condition improved. I commend Crystal for her bravery and quick action. Had she not been there, this story might have had a very different ending. Courageous acts like these are instinctive for so many of the valiant community builders on our team, and they can often mean the difference between life and death. This heroic act is yet another reminder of the vital services our first responders provide to our neighbors every day.

Lifeguard Haire is the consummate professional in every aspect of her job performance making her an ambassador for not just Fort Lauderdale, but the noble profession of ocean lifesaving. In a time where the other public safety occupations get most of the public's attention, Crystal wears a banner for ocean lifeguards everywhere. She is never afraid to speak her mind when standing up for her profession or issues she feels are important. Crystal lives the motto "Lifeguard for Life."

FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION **ASSOCIATION – SOUTHEAST REGION**



BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR - 2015

Recipient: VOLUSIA COUNTY Ocean Rescue

Nominees:

**Palm Beach County
Delray Beach**

Volusia County Beach Safety Ocean Rescue has been named the 2015 Beach Patrol of the Year, the highest honor given by the Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association. The award will be presented during the association's annual awards banquet in Daytona Beach in March.

Volusia County's world famous beaches attract millions of visitors each year. The county's Lifeguard Corps play an important role in keeping these beachgoers safe.

County lifeguards make numerous ocean rescues each year. Lifeguard responsibilities include water rescue of swimmers and surfers, boater rescue up to three miles offshore, missing persons and related emergencies. Volusia County Lifeguards also handle enforcement of beach laws and regulations related to beach and water use. The county's Lifeguard Corps uses a wide range of rescue equipment to handle these duties.

Beach Safety Ocean Rescue – which has 71 full-time employees and 228 part-time, seasonal employees – includes lifeguards, beach safety specialists, senior lifeguards, supervisors and administrative staff.

The agency was selected based on goals and objectives, employment requirements, physical and skill testing, training requirements, public safety education, special events, and contributions to ocean lifesaving. Volusia County Beach Safety Ocean Rescue patrols 47 miles of the county's beaches, making ocean rescues and enforcing beach laws and regulations. Lifeguards rescued 1,893 persons in 2015. In August the division hosted the Nautica USLA National Lifeguard Championships, which attracted more than 1,200 competitors from across the nation. Volusia County placed third in the national competition.

Staff also took part in 57 community outreach events and co-hosted the Daytona Beach Half Marathon, the Surfers for Autism event, and the Living Legends Parade. Nearly 400 children ages 9 to 15 took part in the division's Junior Lifeguard Program this summer, learning about lifesaving techniques, water safety and beach ecology.

"I am extremely proud of the men and women who make up our division," said Beach Safety Director Mark Swanson. "This is a prestigious award that is presented only to beach agencies that demonstrate and deliver superior services at many different levels on the beach.

F.B.P.C.A. // U.S.L.A. S.E.R. – AWARDS

U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 25+ YEAR LIFESAVING SERVICE AWARDS

RECIPIENTS: Salvatore Polistina, Carl Purkarcik - (*Hollywood Beach*) + Julia Leo, Brian Bowen, Andy Bermingham, Nate Nevid, Rick Welch, Rob Rogerson, Bill DeMarino, Tom Lutz, Brad Cripps, Chris Buchanan, Allan J. MacQueen, Dennis Ward, Kevin Tillman - (*Palm Beach County*) + Mitch McCrady - (*Ft. Lauderdale*)

U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 40+ YEAR LIFESAVING SERVICE AWARDS

RECIPIENTS: Vince Canosa, Bert Soden - (*Miami Beach*) + Don May - (*Palm Beach County*) + Gregory Wolfe - (*Ft. Lauderdale*)

2015 - IN MEMORY OF:

Chuck Price - (*Palm Beach County*) + **Nadine Couslon** - (*Ft. Lauderdale*) + **Bruce 'Sarge' Ryan** - (*Hollywood Beach*) + **Edwin Wright** - (*Deerfield Beach*)

F.B.P.C.A. MERITORIOUS ACT AWARDS

RECIPIENT: Joao Ribeiro - (*Miami-Dade County*)

On July 22nd, 2015, it was shortly after 4 PM at Haulover Park and the beach was closing due to severe thunderstorms and lightning activity. Moments later a second lightning strike occurred, hitting the ocean between lifeguard towers dissipating electricity throughout the water affecting one individual standing on the shoreline and two patrons exiting the water. The two individuals inside the water collapsed. Without further hesitation, Ribeiro ran to the aid of the victims while radioing for 'back up'. He reached the unconscious victims who were face down in the water. He dragged one victim to shore and went back to assist the second victim and dragged that victim to shore as well, with the help of a Good Samaritan. Lifeguard Ribeiro was joined by fellow Lifeguards who initializing CPR. Lifeguard Ribeiro started patient care on the second and third victims. These victims were transported to the hospital where they received emergency care and survived. While many were in fear for their own lives, Lifeguard Ribeiro risked his own safety, during an active thunderstorm with multiple lightning strikes and in pouring rain, to affect water rescues. Congratulations to Lifeguard Joey Ribeiro for a job well done during this unusual and dangerous rescue.

RECIPIENTS: Patrick Taaffe & Russell Burney - (*St. Johns County*)

On May 2nd, 2015 at approximately 3AM St. Johns County Fire Rescue personnel responded to a motor vehicle accident with a submerged vehicle near the Interstate 95 southbound exit ramp to International Golf Parkway. Initial reports were of a vehicle with headlights on submerged in a pond. Two marine rescue trained personnel determined a course of action. Both personnel donned appropriate PPE and made entry into zero visibility water. They began arm sweep searches of the vehicle maintaining contact with one another and the surface throughout the operation. While searching, FF Taaffe felt an arm in the vehicle. Upon reaching back for the arm, the victim grabbed FF Taaffe which allowed both rescuers to begin removal of the driver from the vehicle. The victim was located approximately 8ft below the surface of the water and 30-40 feet from the shoreline. Once on the surface, personnel transported the victim to shore where he was treated by SJCFR for injuries consisting of oxygen deprivation and hypothermia. It is estimated that the patient was trapped in the vehicle under water for approximately 20 minutes. Fire Rescue transported the patient to the hospital where he made a full recovery and was released the following day. Congratulations to FF Patrick Taaffe & Russell Burney for a job well done during this dangerous and unusual rescue.

F.B.P.C.A. // U.S.L.A. S.E.R. – AWARDS

U.S.L.A. S.E.R. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

RECIPIENT: Volusia County - *(USLA National Lifeguard Championships)*

The 2015, the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA) National Lifeguard Championships was hosted by the Volusia Surf Lifesaving Association (VSLA) in conjunction with Volusia County Beach Safety Ocean Rescue (BSOR). A 'championships committee' was formed by volunteers from both organizations. Volusia County Manager James Dinneen named Mark Swanson, Director of BSOR, as the committee chair and Charlie Lydecker of Brown & Brown Insurance Inc. as the co-chair. Throughout the year preceding the championships, numerous hours of committee meetings, phone calls, event site visits and groundwork were necessary to make this event one that competitors and officials alike touted as the best championships to date. It included an air conditioned competitor tent, live streaming competition video on five TV's and the first ever nighttime Beach Flag showdown held adjacent to the Daytona Beach Boardwalk with live internet feed.

More than 2,000 lifeguards and 500 junior lifeguards from across the Country competed for individual and team honors. Lifeguards displayed expert skills - skills that save lives every single day. Lifeguards train year round, not merely for competition but to be better equipped to perform their daily job of protecting beachgoers. Professional lifeguards ranging in age from 16 to 80 and junior lifeguards from ages 9 to 15 competed in water and beach course events that challenged their lifesaving skills in a myriad of events from surf swims to beach runs; paddleboards to surf boats.

Outstanding sponsors such as Brown & Brown Ins, City of Daytona Beach, Volusia County Ocean Center, Nautica, Daytona Speedway, Ocean Deck, among many others, not only provided monetary support but also volunteers, in kind services, food, etc. Not having hosted a National Championship since 2004, committee volunteers underestimated the amount of time, energy and manpower required for such a large scale professional event. Without great inter-agency relationships, outstanding volunteers and dedicated chairs and committee members hard at work, none of it would have been possible. We cannot thank enough, all of the individuals who helped out with promotions, logistics, announcing, scoring, officiating and any other job that needed to be done.

Director Swanson stated, "This event was such a great success. We are already planning and looking forward to hosting the USLA National Lifeguard Championships again in 2017."

F.B.P.C.A. LIFE MEMBER AWARD

RECIPIENT: Dave Lill - *(Palm Beach County)* Dave's career started in 1971 as a lifeguard for Ocean City NJ Beach Patrol (OCBP), founded in 1898. He worked 8 seasons, two as a Lieutenant. Dave rowed in six South Jersey Beach Patrol Championships, 3 of which were won by Ocean City. Dave was inducted into the OCBP Hall of Fame in 1993. In 1978, Dave became a Lieutenant for Palm Beach County and in 1982 he became an OR District Supervisor. When Dave became the Aquatic Supervisor in 1986, he assumed responsibility for PBC's swimming pools and world class water ski facilities. As a Charter Member of the Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association, Dave served as Secretary, Vice President and President of FBPCA. In 1993, Dave accepted the National Excellence in Aquatics Award in Austin, Texas on behalf of the PBC Parks and Recreation. A 990' fishing pier, two waterparks, a third 50 meter and two 25 yard pool facilities, a competitive water ski school and lake and five new beach parks came on line under Dave's supervision. In 2006, the Aquatics Section was made a Division with Dave as the Director. After the loss of the Chief's position, Dave returned to the FBPCA as an active member in 2010, contributing to the revision of the By-Laws and initiating video conferencing of meetings. Dave retired from lifesaving in April of 2015.

F.B.P.C.A. // U.S.L.A. S.E.R. – AWARDS

F.B.P.C.A. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

RECIPIENT: Alan Holt - *Volusia County*

U.S.L.A. S.E.R. SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

RECIPIENT: Flagler County - *USLA, SER Regional Lifesaving Championships*

On July 16th and 17th, for the first time in over two decades, the City of Flagler Beach proudly played host to the 2015 United States Lifesaving Association, Southeast Region, James P. "Mac" McCarthy Memorial Surf Lifesaving Championships. After several months of planning, Matt Dunn and his staff at the Palm Coast and Flagler Beaches Tourism Department put together an outstanding event that was enjoyed by both competitors and spectators alike. For many of the competitors it was the first time they experienced Flagler Beach's unique coquina sand which certainly added an additional challenge to the beach flags and running events. Still, Mother Nature was kind as we enjoyed nice weather through most of the event. It turned out to be a great two days of competition as Volusia County took home top team honors.

As with any successful event, it took a real team effort from all of the volunteers from within our region. We cannot thank enough, all of the individuals who helped out with promotions, logistics, announcing, scoring, officiating and any other job that needed to be done. The SER is awesome! We also would like to thank Mark Swanson and Scott Petersohn from Volusia County (who were preparing to host the USLA National Championships just a few weeks later) who were still willing to lend us their equipment and support. Scott volunteered many hours to set up the competition course which worked flawlessly.

After two fantastic days of professional competition the junior lifeguards hit the beach for their events on Saturday, July 18th. Thanks to Chris Nowvskie and an incredible group of Pompano Beach parents. Over 100 Junior Lifeguards competed in the one-day competition. Aside from a late afternoon thunderstorm, the event ran without a hitch. It was a great opportunity for many of our future lifeguards to compete, share ideas, make new friends and showcase their lifesaving skills. It certainly appears that the Southeast Region has a bright future. Again, thank you to everyone who participated !!

U.S.L.A. S.E.R. LIFE MEMBER AWARD

RECIPIENT: Joe McManus – *(Indian River County)*

Joe began his lifeguard career in 1974 on Rockaway Beach, NY. He guarded for the National Parks Service for 25 years. In 1996, he became Chief Lifeguard for Riis Park, a large urban beachfront facility. He is the founder and past President of the York Chapter of the USLA. While residing in New York, Joe coached swimming and water polo at St. Francis College in Brooklyn for ten years.

Joe moved to Florida in 1997 and has lifeguarded in Pompano Beach, Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County and is currently a lifeguard in Indian River County. Joe is a state certified EMT and has worked closely with the Florida EMS Advisory Council. His efforts have led to the initial inclusion of lifeguards in the Florida EMS Strategic plan.

Joe is a long-time volunteer for the USLA, having served as both President of the Southeast Region and as a national Vice President. In 2008, he helped secure a year-round lifeguard service in Brevard County. Joe is a four time national champion in USLA competition. He is a staunch advocate for the lifeguard profession and continues to serve the aquatic interests of residents and visitors in Florida and around the country. Joe is married to Debby McManus and they have three sons - Jim, Joe and Brendan.

**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
SOUTHEAST REGION**

USLA IS AMERICA'S NON-PROFIT PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BEACH LIFEGUARDS AND OPEN WATER RESCUERS. USLA WORKS TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF DEATH AND INJURY IN THE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION, NATIONAL LIFEGUARD STANDARDS, TRAINING PROGRAMS, PROMOTION OF HIGH LEVELS OF LIFEGUARD READINESS AND OTHER MEANS.

THERE ARE OVER 100 CHAPTERS OF USLA NATIONALLY. EACH IS AFFILIATED WITH A LIFESAVING SERVICE LOCATED WITHIN A GEOGRAPHICAL REGION. EACH USLA REGION HAS A PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY USLA HAS BEEN AN ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARDS DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE LIFESAVING PROFESSION AND PROTECTING THE BEACH-GOING PUBLIC.



LIFEGUARDS FOR LIFE



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 – FORT LAUDERDALE

2001
MIKE BROWN – DEERFIELD BEACH

2002
LUIZ MORIZOT- LEITE – MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

2003
PATRICK McGLAMERY – BOCA RATON

2004
JO WAGENHALS – DELRAY BEACH

2005
JIM McCRADY – FORT LAUDERDALE

2006
DENNIS WARD – PALM BEACH COUNTY

2007
GIOVANNI SERRANO – FORT LAUDERDALE

2008
MATTHEW PARNASS – FORT LAUDERDALE

2009
JEFFREY WEBB NOELL – DEERFIELD BEACH

2010
JOE McMANUS – INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

2011
CYNTHIA AGUILAR – CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

2012
MITCH McCRADY – FORT LAUDERDALE

2013
JOHNATHAN BILLINGS – INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

2014
JESSICA EARL – ST. JOHNS COUNTY

2015
CRYSTAL HAIRE – FORT 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
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

2006
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

2007
TOWN OF PALM BEACH

2008
CITY OF DELRAY BEACH

2009
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

2010
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

2011
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

2012
ST. JOHNS COUNTY

2013
BREVARD COUNTY

2014
OKALOOSA COUNTY

2015
VOLUSIA COUNTY

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF THE INDIVIDUALS AND OCEAN RESCUE AGENCIES WHO HELPED US OFFICIATE OUR SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE 2015 LIFEGUARD COMPETITION SEASON.

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