



**THE  
FLORIDA  
BEACH PATROL  
CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**



**AND THE  
  
UNITED STATES  
LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION  
SOUTHEAST REGION**

*PRESENT THE*  
**2017 LIFESAVING AWARDS BANQUET**

**FRIDAY MARCH 2, 2018 @ 6:00PM**

*AT THE*  
**POWEL CROSLEY ESTATE**

**8374 N Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34243**

*HONORING THE*

"Lifeguard of the Year"

**Alexandre O'Conner**

**Fort Lauderdale**

**Ocean Rescue**

"Beach Patrol of the Year"

**Manatee County**

**Marine Rescue**

**Manatee County Marine Rescue**

Welcomes you to the  
FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION  
and the  
UNITED STATES LIFESAVING ASSOCIATION  
SOUTHEAST REGION

Annual awards banquet here at the Powel Crosley Estate. We appreciate member agency's commitment to travel to this event and share in our celebration.

The Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association and the United States Lifesaving Association, Southeast Region cordially invite you to the twenty-fourth Annual Lifesaving Awards and Banquet dinner. Come celebrate our 2017 accomplishments with food, fun music and camaraderie.

### **Tonight's Itinerary**

<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>CHECK IN</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>COCKTAIL TIME / RECEPTION</b>
<b>6:45 PM - 7:00 PM</b>	<b>WELCOME</b>
<b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b>	<b>BANQUET DINNER</b>
<b>8:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b>	<b>AWARDS PRESENTATION</b>
<b>10:00 PM</b>	<b>CLOSING THOUGHTS</b>

#### **Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs 2017 - 2018 Executive Board**

##### **PRESIDENT**

*Eric Hellstrom - St Johns County*

##### **VICE PRESIDENT (North Region)**

*Andy Ritchie - St Lucie County*

##### **VICE PRESIDENT (Central Region)**

*Joe Peloquin - Palm Beach County*

##### **VICE PRESIDENT (South Region)**

*Mike Huck - Dania Beach*

##### **VICE PRESIDENT (West Region)**

*Joe Westerman - Manatee County*

##### **VICE PRESIDENT (Panhandle Region)**

*Rich Huffnagle - Fort Walton Beach*

##### **TREASURER**

*Phil Wotton - Delray Beach*

##### **SECRETARY**

*Breck Ballou - Fort Lauderdale*

##### **ADVISOR**

*Breck Ballou - Fort Lauderdale*

#### **U.S.L.A. Southeast Region 2016 - 2017 Executive Board**

**PRESIDENT – Gerry Falconer**

**VICE PRESIDENT – Jim McCrady**

**TREASURER – Jo Wagenhals**

**SECRETARY – Jeremy Watkins**

**ADVISOR – Breck Ballou**

**1<sup>ST</sup> EXEC DELEGATE – Alan Holt**

**2<sup>ND</sup> EXEC DELEGATE – Eisen Witcher**

**3<sup>RD</sup> EXEC DELEGATE – Chris Nowviskie**

**4<sup>TH</sup> EXEC DELEGATE – Scott Hansson**

**Competition – Jim McCrady**

**Juniors – Chris Nowviskie**

**Membership – Karissa Ickes**

**Public Education – Bryon White  
Jo Wagenhals**

## **2017 FLORIDA OCEAN LIFESAVING AWARDS**

- ♦ **U.S.L.A. S.E.R 2016 - 2017 Executive Officers**
- ♦ **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 25+, 40+, 50+ Year Lifesaving Service Awards**
- ♦ **2017 - In Memory of ...**
- ♦ **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. Joan Falconer Memorial Award**
- ♦ **National Competitors - Recognition**
- ♦ **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. International Surf Lifesaving Challenge Team Members**
- ♦ **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. Regional - Team Male/Female High point winners**
- ♦ **F.B.P.C.A. Special Recognition Award**
- ♦ **F.B.P.C.A. Life Member Award**
- ♦ **Florida's "Lifeguard of The Year" Past and Present – Recognition**
- ♦ **Florida's "Beach Patrol of The Year" Past and Present – Recognition**

## **U.S.L.A. S.E.R 2016 - 2017 Executive Officers- Recognition**

### **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 25+ Year Lifesaving Service Awards**

Steve Bean - (*Fort Lauderdale*)

Daniel Power - (*St. Johns County*)

Len Rodriguez - (*Palm Beach County*)

Rich Moore - (*Palm Beach County*)

Bill Francoeur - (*St Lucie / Martin County*)

Wade Rickerson - (*Fort Lauderdale*)

Gerry Falconer - (*Miami Beach*)

Luiz Morizot-Leite - (*Miami-Dade County*)

Luis Andrade - (*Miami-Dade County*)

### **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 40+ Year Lifesaving Service Awards**

Pete Fournier - (*Dania Beach*)

### **U.S.L.A. S.E.R. 50+ Year Lifesaving Service Awards**

#### **Don May**

A career in surf lifesaving spanning 50 years with 40 years full time.

1969-1978	Seasonal Lifeguard	Avalon, NJ
1978	Seasonal Lifeguard	Hollywood, FL
1978-1988	Marine Safety Officer	Hollywood, FL
1987	Seasonal Lifeguard	Cape May, NJ
1988-1998	Captain	Palm Beach Co., FL
1998-2008	Chief	Palm Beach Co., FL
2008-2018	Lieutenant	Palm Beach Co., FL



#### **Bert Soden**

A career in surf lifesaving spanning over 50 years, 40 years full time.

1966-1970	Seasonal Lifeguard	Sea Isle City, NJ
1971-1977	Seasonal Lifeguard	Wildwood, NJ
1978-1980	Lifeguard	Hollywood, FL
1981	Lifeguard	Dade County, FL
1982	Lifeguard	Hollywood, FL
1983-2008	Lifeguard	Miami Beach, FL



## 2017 In memory of:



William McNeely Jr.  
(St. Lucie County)  
1952 - 2017



Scott Holland  
(Fort Lauderdale)  
1959 - 2017



Walter Baum  
(Delray Beach)  
1961 - 2017

## U.S.L A. S.E.R. Joan Falconer Memorial Associate Member Award

**Candi LaCasse (Palm Beach County)** Candy has been the unofficial official photographer for Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue since 2008 and has been photographing local, regional, and national tournaments over the past decade. She shares her photography with the masses via Facebook where we all enjoy seeing ourselves through her eyes.



## U.S.L.A. National Team Members

### Professional

Shannon Snell - (Miami Beach)  
Chase Robertson - (Palm Beach County)  
Hallie Petersohn - (Volusia)

### *Coach:*

Tom McGibney - (Volusia)

### Junior

Isabella Taylor - (Pompano)  
Alejandro Quinones - (Pompano)  
Diana Freshour - (Ft Lauderdale)

### *Coach:*

Alan Holt - (Volusia)

# National Competitors

## Recognition

### U.S.L.A. S.E.R. REGIONAL - Team / Male & Female

#### High Point Winners Team

1	MIAB	419.75
2	VOLC	359.75
3	PBCO	325.75
4	DLRY	234.25
5	FTLL	222.75
6	HLWD	146.0
7	PBTN	144.0
8	BOCA	140.75
9	BREV	120.75
10	SJCO	101.75

#### Individual Men

1	Miller, A.J.	33	VOLC	81.5
2	Rickerson, Wade	47	FTLL	66.03
3	Corsovic, Boki	33	HLWD	61.5
4	Myhre, Mark	63	PBTN	39.75
5	Hogan, Tom	82	PBTN	37.5
6	Wotton, Phil	51	DLRY	36.0
7	Ames, Jose	42	MIAB	33.0
8	Parsons. Levi	18	VOLC	32.5
9	Vasta, Michael	38	DANB	30.0
9	Chanying, Jesse	33	MIAB	30.0
10	Repass, Danny	37	BOCA	29.0

#### Individual Women

1	Snell, Shannon	19	MIAB	68.75
2	O'Gorman, April	18	VOLC	64.5
3	Stoyonova, Desi	40	MIAB	57.75
4	Ventura, Jessica	37	PBCO	57.25
5	Henley, Alice	29	DANB	50.75
6	Austin, Brittany	30	MIAB	49.0
7	Shahan, Lesley	27	POMP	48.75
8	Griffith, Sherry	46	BOCA	48.0
9	Noonan, Jen	42	DLRY	45.25
10	Posta, Heather	48	DLRY	45.0

## **F.B.P.C.A. Special Recognition Award**

### **Mark Myhre (Town of Palm Beach)**

Mark Myhre was a lifelong resident of Sea Isle City and a lifelong Lifeguard. His father Frank and Uncle John were Lifeguards and his brother Mike was also a longtime Lifeguard.

Previously, the patrol had medics to take care of the cuts, bruises, and other minor medical emergencies. Medic Mark Myhre, as an EMT and a member of the Sea Isle City Ambulance Corps., revamped the procedures used in handling medical emergencies. The most up-to-date equipment was on hand and trained individuals prepared for land and water emergencies were always on duty.



After moving to South Florida, Mark started working at the Lake Worth Beach Patrol, he worked himself up over the years and was appointed Captain in 1983. He served 20 plus years on the Lake Worth Beach Patrol, and retired as Chief.

After a short retirement, he returned to surf lifesaving working full time for the Town of Palm Beach and part time for Lantana. He had a resurgence in his participation in competition and has been a formidable competitor in local, regional, and national tournaments. He is the captain of the competition team for the Town of Palm Beach where he aids in equipment maintenance as well as training sessions.

His USLA Regional competition medals are too many to list.

Here is a list of his USLA National Titles:

1982, 1000 M Paddle 3rd

1999, Beach Flags 1st

2011 American Ironman 1st, Beach Flags 2nd, Surf, Swim & Board race 3rd

2013 Beach Flags 1st

2014 Board race 1st, American Ironman & Surf Boat Race 2nd, Beach Flags 3rd



Please Support  
Your Local Drowning Prevention Program



**THANK YOU**

# Always Ready, Proud to Serve



**INDIAN RIVER  
COUNTY**





# Lifeguards for Life!



We encourage everyone to support the  
**The Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association**



&

**United States Lifesaving Association Southeast Region**

Through your donations we are able to advance water safety education.



## **F.B.P.C.A. Life Member Award**

### **DON MAY PALM BEACH COUNTY**

Don May's love of the beach came at a very young age. Here you see him stretching for one of his first beach workouts. He began seasonal lifeguarding in Avalon, NJ in 1969 where he worked the busy summers of the Jersey shore. From there he decided to go to the true home of endless summers, south Florida. He began working Hollywood Beach part-time and was quickly picked up as a full time lifeguard. He worked as a Marine Safety Officer for 10 years before heading to Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue where he was hired as a captain. He served as a captain for 10 years and then was promoted to Chief. In his tenure as chief he was instrumental in getting the lifeguard headquarter building at Juno Pier signed off by the County. The headquarter building gave County lifeguards not only needed offices and locker rooms but also a place to do training. The north county training officer and captain's offices moved to this location. He also was pivotal in getting an ATV for response at each beach. This enabled lifeguards to respond quickly to calls and return to their posts.



Don May worked with his staff to upgrade the County radios to 800 mHz which enhanced communication over the 47 mile stretch of Palm Beach County's coastline.

Don May was a true component of the Palm Beach County competition team and his knowledge of events, commanding presence, sound decision making, and ability to clearly explain events (sometime repeatedly) made him the perfect candidate for head official for the U.S.L.A. Southeast Regional Lifesaving Tournament for decades.

Don's contributions to surf lifesaving over the past 50 years have made New Jersey and Florida beaches that much safer.

Past Vice President, President, Advisor- Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association.

#### **2017 Lifeguard of the Year Nominees**

Bryce Clough (Delray Beach)  
Kelly McConchie (Palm Beach County)  
Lesley Shahan (Pompano Beach)  
Timothy James Copra (Vero Beach)  
Desi Stoyonova (Miami Beach)  
Alton Brieski (Martin County)

#### **2017 Beach Patrol of the Year Nominees**

Delray Beach Ocean Rescue  
Hallandale Beach Ocean Rescue  
Miami Beach Ocean Rescue

# 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

**2014**

JESSICA EARL – ST. JOHNS COUNTY

**2015**

CRYSTAL HAIRE – FORT LAUDERDALE

**2016**

LAWRENCE RUSSELL – PALM BEACH COUNTY

**2017**

ALEXANDRE O'CONNER - FORT LAUDERALE



## FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION 2017 LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR

### **Alexandre L. O'Connor Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue**

As an Ocean Rescue EMT, Alex is responsible for the supervision of swimming and related recreational activities at Fort Lauderdale beach and the prompt performance of emergency lifesaving and basic life support, as occasions require. Lifeguard O'Connor has worked in this capacity for 9 years total, with 4 years seasonal part-time as a Summer lifeguard in Long Branch, New Jersey, and 5 years permanent full-time with Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue.

Her professionalism includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the safety of beach patrons in and out of water through prevention and intervention; providing minor medical treatment and/or lifesaving basic life support when needed; educating the public on life-threatening hazards and how to avoid them; representing the City of Fort Lauderdale Beach in local, regional and national lifeguard competitions; participating as a coach and trainer in Fort Lauderdale's Junior Lifeguard Program; interacting with the public on a daily basis to provide information of all sorts, responding to complaints, worries and questions; responding to many stressful situations in an uncontrolled environment while maintaining a professional demeanor.

Lifeguard O'Connor holds certifications as an Emergency Medical Technician (Spring 2014) from Barry University, American Heart Association Basic Life Support, CPR and AED administration, and American Red Cross Lifeguard Training. She is also a United States Lifesaving Association Southeast Regional Certified Lifeguard Training Officer. Her educational background includes a B.S. in Business Administration (May 2011) from the University of San Diego, San Diego, CA; post-baccalaureate science course work (Fall 2011-Spring 2013) from Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ; and post-baccalaureate science course work (Fall 2012) from Ocean County Community College, Toms River, NJ.

In addition to her primary full-time responsibilities in Fort Lauderdale, Alex also works as a part-time lifeguard in Hallandale Beach and Miami Beach, and provides the same high-level of service at those neighboring municipalities.

Alexandre O'Connor is the current defending United States Lifesaving Association's National Women's Surfboat Champion. She was also the silver medalist in American Ironwoman at this year's USLA National Lifeguard Championships. She was named 2017 Most Valuable Lifeguard by the USLA Fort Lauderdale Chapter Competition Team.

She 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, Alexandre 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. Alexandre O'Connor lives the motto "Lifeguard for Life".







# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## 2017 BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR

### **Recipient: Manatee County Marine Rescue**

The division's main objective is to observe, protect, and respond to the needs of residents and the nearly 3 million visitors that enjoy their county's lifeguarded beaches and surrounding areas each year. Lifeguards effectively manage medical emergencies, traumatic injuries, environmental emergencies, near drowning's, marine accidents, lost children, social disturbances, and enforce the County's Park Ordinances on their beaches and adjacent waterways.

The Marine Rescue Division developed from its humble beginnings around 1960. In 1991 the division evolved from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Department of Public Safety. Their training standards were elevated to incorporate Emergency Medical Technicians, code enforcement officers, licensed United States Coast Guard Captains, Advance SCUBA divers, and Rescue Divers. The staff is composed of 2 Paramedics, 9 EMT's, and 5 Emergency Medical Responder's. The Marine Rescue Division's elevated standard of training led to the advanced response capabilities that they now provide today. The Emergency Communications Center (911) dispatches the Division to land and water borne emergencies along the 27 plus miles of coastline that surround Manatee County. The major importance of this advancement was that they became a part of the 911 system and not just a user of it. Lifeguards play a critical role in the event of a natural disaster in Manatee County. The Division collaborates with law enforcement and Emergency Management officials when the barrier islands are threatened or evacuated due to pending natural disasters such as tropical storms and hurricanes. They respond and assist in search and rescue, medical triage, patient care/transport, and even traffic control. Lifeguards are some of the last basic life-support (BLS) emergency personnel to evacuate the island as a life-threatening storm approaches. Post-storm, the Division is involved in such activities as search and recovery operations, medical care and transportation support.

In 2016, a quick response non-transport ALS (Advanced Life Support) unit was created. Squad 4 is stationed solely on the island responding to 911 calls between the hours of 9:00am and 9:00pm. The personnel working on the unit are trained by Marine Rescue to perform water rescue and lifeguard functions that complement their ability to act as a first on scene ALS unit. This Collaboration between EMS and Marine Rescue has provided a unique service to the island community by expanding lifeguard coverage and rapid ALS response to those with an emergency. The Squad 4 paramedic/lifeguard unit has improved response times to emergency calls and promoted faster on scene times in life threatening emergencies.

The division stays true to their motto "When you are at your worst we are at our best".

Manatee County is honored to be this year's recipient of BEACH PATROL OF THE YEAR and wish to thank all member agencies for their support





## FLORIDA'S 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  
**2016**  
 PALM BEACH COUNTY  
**2017**  
 MANATEE COUNTY

## **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 the standards of training and certification. The Lifeguard of The Year and The 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**

The 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



**The Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association  
and  
The United States Lifesaving Association  
Southeast Region  
would like to say “THANK YOU” for the many years of support!**



**A special “THANKS” to all of the individuals and Ocean Rescue agencies who helped us officiate our special events throughout the 2017 Lifeguard competition season. As well as , all of those individuals (past and present) that have continued to work tirelessly for the inclusion of “Special Risk Retirement” for all of Florida’s Ocean Lifeguards.**

