

# Auxiliarist of the Week

David Esparza FI33

David volunteered his extensive time & his facility -- the 42-foot vessel Sand Cutter -- to support both the USCGC Eagle's arrival & the affiliated Tall Ship's Festival in the Puget Sound the week of June 30th.

David attended pre-planning & training missions in June which lead up to his on-scene support on both the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

David's stellar leadership & volunteer spirit was key as he & his crew spent nearly 20 underway hours on three shifts during two hectic days.

His flexibility was showcased as he seamlessly served as the AUX PWC "tender" communicating with & managing a force of PWCs patrolling the shore while at other times he served as the transport facility moving Coast Guard boarding teams to & from a scattered Auxiliary force of 16 afloat facilities.

Finally, David was called upon to provide safety zone patrol service in keeping an "airbox" clear of marine traffic for the highly popular Tacoma Air Show due to an unforeseen loss of another facility.

David was just one of hundreds of D13 Auxiliarists who were directly or indirectly responsible for the overwhelming success & safety of the historic Eagle visit & Tall Ships Event.

