

STANding Above the Rest

Story by PA3 Robert Simpson, PADET St. Petersburg, Fla.

FORT MYERS BEACH, Fla. - The crewmembers of Coast Guard Station Fort Myers Beach, received the prestigious Sumner I. Kimball Readiness Award May 14, at Station Fort Myers Beach.

Presented by Capt. Joseph Servidio, commander of Coast Guard Sector St. Petersburg, Fla., Station Fort Myers Beach earned the award for their outstanding performance during a biennial evaluation by the Coast Guard Standardization Team.



FT. MYERS BEACH, Fla. -- Crewmembers from Coast Guard Station Fort Myers Beach received the prestigious Sumner I. Kimball Award May 14. The crewmembers were presented the award for their outstanding performance during a biennial evaluation by the Coast Guard Standardization Team. The award is presented to Coast Guard stations scoring in the top 10 percentile of all Coast Guard stations during the STANTEAM visit. Coast Guard photograph.

During the evaluation, crewmembers were tested in their ability to use small boat rescue equipment properly during emergency situations when dealing with search and rescue, towing and engineering casualties.

The crewmembers were also tested with a comprehensive written exam, covering a broad spectrum of Coast Guard mission knowledge, including rescue and survival, boat equipment, boat missions, environmental limitations, navigational rules, engineering systems and first aid.

“Search and rescue is our primary mission at this station,” said Chief Warrant Officer Peter Louzao, commanding officer of Station Fort Myers Beach. “This award shows how seriously our crewmembers take their training, initiative and their ability to set the standard for how search and rescue cases are handled.”

The Sumner I. Kimball Readiness Award is presented to Coast Guard stations scoring in the top 10 percentile of all Coast Guard stations during the STANTEAM visits.

The station received a plaque for display inside and a pennant for display on their flag pole. The pennant will remain in place until the station is tested during the next scheduled STANTEAM evaluation.

This is the first time Station Fort Myers Beach has earned the Sumner I. Kimball Readiness Award since the award’s inception in 2001.

The award is the namesake Sumner I. Kimball, who served as the superintendent for the U.S. Life-Saving Service from 1878 to 1915, and retired when the USLSS merged with the Revenue Cutter Service, forming the U.S. Coast Guard. During his time as superintendent, Kimball wrote regulations to set new standards for personnel performance, physical performance and station routines. He also directed the construction of several new stations, and outfitted them with the best life-saving supplies available at the time.

USCG