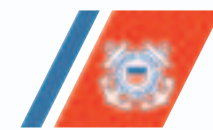


Coast Guard



February
2003

Military • Multimission • Maritime

GETTING READY

Coast Guard patrol boats and their crews prepare for the Service's largest front line deployment overseas since the Vietnam War.



Jay Leno & CG Band



New LE tool



On Track

Heroes

The world's best Coast Guard

LT. WILLIAM SASSER



Lt. William Sasser received the Royal Air Force's Air Force Cross from the Queen of England during a ceremony at Buckingham Palace Dec. 10, 2002, for a rescue he performed Dec. 14, 2001.

Lt. Sasser, a Coast Guard exchange pilot, was the captain of Rescue Helicopter 131 with the Royal Air Force when he and his crew were diverted to assist the freighter *Rosebank*, which was on fire.

There were five people aboard the freighter — two of them injured while fighting the fire. Flames had cut off the freighter's crew from their lifeboats and survival gear, and the sea temperatures were only a few degrees above freezing.

Undaunted by the flames erupting from the freighter and the risk of disastrous disorientation from the surrounding smoke, Sasser selflessly directed his inexperienced crew to fly into the billowing smoke to attempt a rescue.

With the potentially explosive cargo only feet away, and the flames growing closer and closer to the helicopter, Sasser hovered the helicopter closer to the ship.

Undeterred by the extreme difficulty of the operation or the knowledge that the slightest error in judgement could result in serious injury or death, Sasser maneuvered the helicopter in perilous condition until he and his crew were able to successfully rescue all five crewmembers.

Sasser's fearless leadership set a towering example of courage and devotion to his crew that inspired them to continue in conditions of grave and mounting danger to save the lives of five people.

Sasser's gallantry is in the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force and of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Photo provided by Lt. William Sasser





Coast Guard

February 2003

U.S. Department of Transportation

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Eight 110-foot patrol boats and personnel from various Coast Guard units prepare to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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By PA1 Tom Sperduto, PADET New York
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www.uscg.mil/magazine

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PA3 KYLE NEWB, D8

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Workers prepare the CGC Adak to be lifted onto a commercial freighter at a port in Portsmouth, Va.
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USCG PHOTO



PA1 TOM SPERDUTO, PADET NEW YORK



ON THE COVER

The CGC Adak is lifted into the air before being loaded onto a commercial freighter in Portsmouth, Va., as part of a deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.
PHOTO BY PA1 TOM SPERDUTO, PADET NEW YORK



UP FRONT

RAINBOW BRIGHT

The CGC Assateague is underway under a rainbow off the coast of Hawaii.

PHOTO BY STEVE PRICE

UP FRONT





UP FRONT

AT THE DOCK OF THE BAY

Coast Guard assets, including the CGC Tern, stand ready at a dock on the San Francisco Bay Oct. 12.

PHOTO BY DAVID RICHARDSON,
RICHARDSON PHOTOGRAPHY







UP FRONT

MAKE WAY

The CGC Bollard, a 65-foot harbor tug homeported in New Haven, Conn., breaks ice in the Connecticut River to ensure the safe flow of commerce Jan. 24.

PHOTO BY PA2 BILL BARRY, PADET ATLANTIC CITY

Coast Guard Commandant takes the helm

Adm. Collins visits CGC Tahoma

GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba, Jan. 3 — Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thomas H. Collins visited the CGC Tahoma off the coast of Haiti today as the cutter patrolled for go-fast boats and migrants headed to the United States.

He spent almost 24 hours on the Tahoma as it conducted flight operations, right-of-approach questioning on a Panamanian coastal freighter, and underway training. In addition, he spent time with the crew to discuss Coast Guard issues and listen to their concerns.

“I always look forward to getting out to the field to see our young men and women in action,” said Collins. “With issues like Deepwater, Rescue 21 and transitioning to the new department constantly at the forefront, we can’t forget what has been the mainstay of our organization for over 200 years — men and women setting to sea to carry out our multiple missions. With all the changes taking place in our organization, we must ensure that operational excellence remains our top priority.”

The Commandant also spent some time behind the helm while aboard the cutter.

“Helmsman, rudder amidships,” said Ensign Jason Haag, the officer-of-the-deck. “Rudder amidships, aye sir,” responded the Commandant. The admiral then set the ship’s rudder at amidships and informed the officer-of-the-deck when the rudder angle indicator reached zero degrees. And so, for a few minutes, the Coast Guard’s most senior officer stood watch under the

guidance of the helmsman, Seaman Justin Rowe, and one of the ship’s most junior officers.

As Collins’ visit to the Tahoma came to a close, Commanding Officer Capt. Gary Smialek awarded the Commandant a letter designating him a master helmsman.

“It is only appropriate that the person steering our organization through this dynamic period is designated a master helmsman,” said Smialek.

“Whenever I visit any operational command, I leave with my head a little higher,” said Collins. “The dedication and effort put forth by our people on a daily basis is the reason why we are the world’s best Coast Guard. That drive and desire defines us, and no where is that more evident than at our field units.”

Cmdr. John Fitzgerald, G-C



LEFT: Commandant of the Coast Guard, Adm. Thomas H. Collins presents a Cutterman Pin to FS3 Jon DiCarlo.
 TOP: Collins has dinner on the messdeck with Coast Guard Tahoma crewmembers BM1 Eric Baruzzi, TC3 Mike Holt and SK3 Penny Benson. He spent more than two hours discussing Coast Guard issues with the crew.
 RIGHT: Collins is given a tour of the Tahoma's engine room by EM1Byron Belmas.



Coast Guard
America's Lifesaver and
Guardian of the Seas

Adm. Thomas H. Collins
 Commandant

Vice Adm Thomas J. Barrett
 Vice Commandant

Rear Adm. Kevin J. Eldridge
 Assistant Comdt. for
 Governmental & Public Affairs

Capt. Jeff Karonis
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Patricia Miller
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PA1 Elizabeth Brannan
 Editor

PA1 Jacquelyn Zettles

PA2 Joe Patton
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Letters to the editor: Please limit remarks to 150 words or less. No names will be withheld. Provide rank, first and last name, phone number and unit. Letters may be condensed because of space. Not all letters will be published.

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The Tonight Show
 with
JAY LENO
 features the
**COAST GUARD
 BAND**

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 28 — MU1 Joshua Thomas, MUC Andy Sherwood, MU1 Greg Case, and MUC Rick Wyman join Jay Leno of NBC's Tonight Show for its second annual Armed Forces Thanksgiving Day Salute. The four members of the Coast Guard Band flew from their unit at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn., to California to perform Rimskij-Korakov's "Flight of the Bumble Bee" in a military talent show. Photos by PA2 Dan Tremper, PADET Long Beach, Calif.



WEBHOT!



<http://www.uscg.mil/d11/sandiego/index.html>

This month's selection for Webhot! is the Activities San Diego Web site.

The professional appearance of the site lends itself to easy navigation. Viewers can quickly see the top news stories and events of the area. The site is constantly updated with information from the latest search and rescue

cases and port security initiatives.

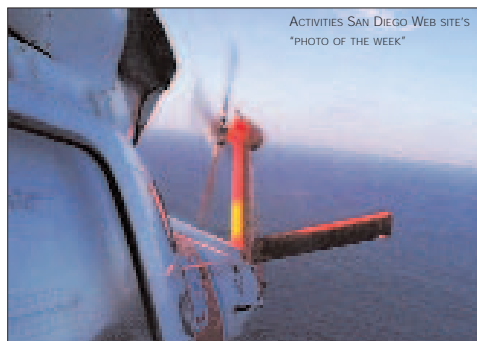
In addition, the site contains links for all the Activities San Diego units and commands. Just a click on the aids-to-navigation link will lead viewers to a virtual tour of the Point Loma Lighthouse.

New reporting members to Activities San Diego can look up hotels and find directions to all the area's attractions.

The Web site even features a "picture of the week" where members can submit pictures for prizes like tickets to Magic Mountain.

Check it out!

Think your Web site is unique?
 E-mail the URL to
jzettles@comdt.uscg.mil



ACTIVITIES SAN DIEGO WEB SITE'S
 "PHOTO OF THE WEEK"

AMT1 STIVE PIRE, ACTIVITIES SAN DIEGO



BREAKING THE ICE

KINGSTON, New York, Jan. 24 — The CGC Penobscot Bay clears a path through the icy waters of the Hudson River here today. The Coast Guard has been breaking ice in the New York Harbor this week. The cutter is clearing a channel in the Hudson River as far north as Albany, New York.
PA3 Mike Hvozda, PADET New York

Around the world, around the clock

The 2002 Adm. Russell R. Waesche Award was given to the 8th Dist. and Integrated Support Command New Orleans at the Coast Guard Congressional Reception in Washington, D.C., Jan. 20. The award recognizes units that best utilize the skills of reserve members to assist active-duty forces.

Compiled February 4
On Patrol

Coast Guard crews from the CGC Cobia and a Marine Safety Office Port Arthur, Texas, small boat performed escort duties Feb. 28 for the USNS Britton, a military cargo vessel, at the port of Beaumont, Texas, as it relocated military resources in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



More than 170 reservists throughout the 5th Dist. from New Jersey to North Carolina reported for duty at Wilmington, N.C., the weekend of Jan. 25 to assist with port security during the Department of Defense's ongoing military loading operations.

The Coast Guard seized 4,265 pounds of cocaine and detained four suspected smugglers Jan. 28 from a go-fast vessel 275 miles west of Costa Rica. A total of 75 bales and 277 bricks of cocaine were recovered from the water after the go-fast crew sank their boat.

The CGCs Confidence and Monhegan repatriated 79 undocumented Cuban migrants to Bahia de Cabanas, Cuba, Jan 26. The migrants are from four separate groups intercepted since Jan 22.

FY '03 By the numbers

Lives saved: 792
 SAR cases: 10,724
 Marijuana: 9,757 pounds
 Cocaine: 38,336 pounds
 Migrants: 2,300
 Security Zones: 130

SOURCE: G-IPA-2

Air Station Houston rescues 6 from grounded ship

HOUSTON, Dec. 21 — A helicopter crew from Air Station Houston safely rescued six crewmembers today from a vessel that grounded on the jetties off Sabine Pass here yesterday.

The 110-foot offshore supply vessel Miss Eileen reportedly ran aground on the jetties yesterday afternoon.

A 41-foot search and rescue boat from Station Sabine Pass arrived on scene at 12:20 a.m. today but was unable to safely remove the men from the boat.

The Coast Guard decided to wait until first light to rescue the men since there was no immediate danger to the crew.

At 6:45 a.m., an HH-65 Dolphin helicopter launched from Coast Guard Air Station Houston and arrived on scene at 7:30 a.m.

The aircraft's rescue swimmer was lowered to the Miss Eileen and assisted the men as they were hoisted two at a time.

The crew of the Miss Eileen was safely transferred to the helicopter by 8 a.m. and delivered to shore.

The Coast Guard is investigating the cause of the accident.

PA2 James Dillard, PADET Houston



A Coast Guard rescue helicopter hoists six crewmen from the Miss Eileen.

Coast Guard assists with oil-spill cleanup of Japanese ship

KODIAK, Alaska, Nov. 30 — The Coast Guard and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation continue to monitor the final cleanup efforts of a Japanese squid boat that ran aground on Afognak Island here Nov. 10.

Cleanup operations are winding down aboard the



The Genei Maru No. 7 aground at Afognak Island, Alaska.

Genei Maru No. 7 after more than two weeks of battling extreme weather to minimize the pollution threats from the stricken vessel. More than 8,000 gallons of various oils, about 2,000 gallons of oily water and 50 cubic yards of solid waste were removed from the Genei Maru No. 7 in the past two weeks.

The boat had been drifting since May after the crew abandoned the vessel when it caught fire. A good samaritan vessel picked up the crew. The Japanese company that owned the ship believed it sank shortly after the fire. The Coast Guard Command Center in Juneau received periodic reports from mariners updating the vessel's position until it ran aground.

The owner of the Genei Maru No. 7, KK Yamatsu Inichi Shoten, is responsible for salvaging the ship. The owners will work closely with the state of Alaska to develop a salvage plan.

PAC Marshalena Delaney, PADET Kodiak

Air Station Humboldt Bay saves injured man

MCKINLEYSVILLE, Calif., Dec. 12 — A Coast Guard rescue helicopter from Air Station Humboldt Bay performed a medical evacuation of an injured man from a Dutch tanker 90 miles west of Cape Mendocino today.

At approximately 11 a.m., the Group Humboldt Bay operations center received a call for assistance from the captain of the 600-foot *Iva Pride*. The captain of the Vancouver-bound tanker reported that one of his crewmembers nearly severed a finger.

A doctor aboard the vessel talked with Cmdr. Jose Sanchez, the chief medical officer at Group Humboldt Bay, and determined the best course of action was to evacuate the man from the ship and take him to a hospital.

A Coast Guard HH-65 rescue helicopter piloted by Lt. Andrea Sacchetti from Air Station Humboldt Bay and an HC-130 long-range patrol plane from Coast Guard Air Station Sacramento headed for the vessel.

Battling steadily decreasing visibility and offshore winds gusting to 60 miles per hour, the helicopter arrived on scene less than one hour after the initial call came to the operations center. Sacchetti and her copilot Lt. Cmdr. Evan Grant coordinated with the captain of the *Iva Pride* to reduce the effects of the 20-foot waves while the flight mechanic, AMT3 Brent Gaffney, lowered the rescue swimmer, AST3 Jason Campillo, onto a clear



A rescue helicopter from Air Station Humboldt Bay flies ahead of the Dutch tanker *Iva Pride* while saving an injured man.

portion of the deck. Campillo was swung back and forth 30 feet above the vessel as strong winds continued to gust. Once he was aboard the *Iva Pride*, Campillo quickly assessed the condition of the man and placed him in a rescue basket, which was then hoisted into the helicopter. The man was transported in stable condition to St. Joseph's hospital in Eureka.

Lt. j.g. Christopher F. Kendl, Group/Air Station Humboldt Bay

Group New Orleans rededicates memorial of fallen Coast Guardsmen

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7 — Coast Guard members at Group New Orleans rededicated a memorial today to the 17 crewmembers who perished when the CGC *White Alder* sank in the Mississippi River Dec. 7, 1968.

The Coast Guard originally dedicated the memorial to the 132-foot buoy tender Dec. 7, 1969, at the cutter's homeport, Integrated Support Command New Orleans, and will rededicate it at the Group's new location in Metairie.

On the evening of Dec. 7, 1968, a collision occurred between the *White Alder* and the 455-foot freighter *Helena* in the Mississippi River near Baton Rouge. The cutter reportedly sank almost immediately in 75 feet of water.

Only three of the ship's 20 crewmembers survived the tragedy; the majority of the crew remains entombed inside the sunken cutter at the bottom of the river.

Story and photo by PA3 Kyle Niemi, 8th Dist.



Officials stand in a moment of silence during a ceremony to rededicate a memorial to the fallen crewmembers of the CGC *White Alder* that sank in the Mississippi River in 1968.

Cyberforce tested by Group Mayport

MAYPORT, Fla., Feb. 2003 — Group Mayport boarding team units are approaching the end of their year-long test of Cyberforce, a new law-enforcement tool that is designed to make the Coast Guard's job more efficient and safe.

In March, the year of testing will come to a close, and Group Mayport will submit their evaluation to the Coast Guard Research and Development center for further evaluation.

It doesn't look like much, maybe, a large pager or perhaps a small handheld label-maker. But Cyberforce is redefining the term "maintaining maritime domain awareness."

"Cyberforce" is a two-way communicator that is hooked into the National Criminal Information Center and the Florida Criminal Information Center via a secure network. It allows boarding officers to check if an individual has a criminal history, an outstanding warrant, is the owner of a registered boat, or to run a background or weapons check in a matter of minutes.

"Cyberforce is so effective, I can't imagine conducting a boarding without it," said BM2 Ricky Keefauver, a boarding officer aboard the CGC Shrike. Keefauver has been using Cyberforce for nine months while stationed at both Coast Guard Station Cape Canaveral and the Shrike.

During a boarding in August, Keefauver's boarding team received the first felony return hit using Cyberforce to query a fisherman's background. The man, who was working as a crewman aboard the fishing vessel Billy's Girl, had an outstanding warrant from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office for failure to pay child support. The Shrike's boarding team took the fisherman into custody and arranged to transfer him to the JSO via the Fernadina Police Department.

"Cyberforce truly gives our boarding officers the upper hand in officer security," said Lt. j.g. Donald Shaffer, law enforcement officer at Group Mayport and

the person responsible for bringing this law enforcement tool to Group Mayport for testing.

Since Cyberforce's arrival last October, Group Mayport units have conducted hundreds of boardings using Cyberforce. Only two outstanding warrants have been found, but numerous criminal histories have returned positive.

"Knowing if someone has a criminal history certainly changes your mindset during a boarding," said BM3 Mark Cobb, a Station Mayport reservist on active duty who has been using Cyberforce since it arrived.

Cyberforce not only gives boarding officers a greater level of awareness and assists them in expediting their boardings, it also aids in Group Mayport's homeland security mission. Cyberforce gives them the ability to maintain a strong maritime domain awareness by conducting 100 percent of background checks of the entire crew during every boarding.

Before Cyberforce, the Coast Guard's ability to run background checks on the waterways was limited and time consuming at best, according to Shaffer. Boarding officers would have to gather the required information for the background check and transmit it via radio to a Group or Station watchstander. The watchstander would either have access to NCIS and FCIS or would have to contact local law enforcement or the El Paso Intelligence Center to have the information processed. "Cyberforce eliminates all of that," added Shaffer.

In a year's time, Cyberforce has made a good impression on the users testing it. Once the testing phase is complete, operational units within

the Group will continue to use Cyberforce but will have to cover the operating cost. Group Mayport's evaluation of the tool will contribute to the potential Coast Guard-wide use of Cyberforce.

PA1 Scott Carr, PADET Mayport, Fla.



The law enforcement tool Cyberforce fits in the palm of a hand.



Boarding officers in the Mayport area like MK3 Damon Kizzar have tested Cyberforce throughout the year.

Recruit breaks boot camp record at Cape May



McMullen is cheered on by recruits from Training Center Cape May as he breaks the record for the mile and one-half run.

CAPE MAY, N.J., Dec. 4 — Seaman Recruit Paul McMullen, of recruit company Papa-163 broke the record today for the mile and one-half run at Training Center Cape May.

Many members of the training center staff, including commanding officer Capt. Douglas Wisniewski, as well as nearly 150 recruits gathered around the track to cheer McMullen on.

The old record, which was set in 2000, stood at 07:26.00 for almost three years. In spite of the bitter cold and gusty winds, McMullen set the new record of 07:09.16. It was an event that he had been training for daily throughout boot camp. In addition to the strenuous schedule kept by the recruits, McMullen ran every evening before taps and every morning before reveille, as well as kept a strict diet in order to keep himself in top shape while at Cape May. McMullen is originally from Cadillac, Mich., and entered the Coast Guard as a reservist.

McMullen joined the Coast Guard out of desire to rep-

resent his country in a different way than he has in the past.

“I would like to be an important part of the promotion and image of the Coast Guard,” McMullen said after announcing that he would like to use his success to help motivate and encourage younger athletes to join the Coast Guard.

His success before enlisting in the Coast Guard includes the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, where he finished 9th in the semi-finals. He was ranked number one in the US in 2001, 1998, 1996, and 1995. He has been named First Team All-American eight times, as well as competing successfully at several national championships for both indoor and outdoor track in the 1,500 meters.

McMullen says that he has enjoyed his time at boot camp and has developed a new sense of pride and determination since arriving in October, which he accredits to lead company commander HSC Eugene Mason and EMC Apple Heath, among others.

Heath feels honored to have met and to have impacted such a determined individual. “I am very proud of McMullen and the results of his accomplishments. It is an honor to be recognized as an influential leader that primed his desires to excel in his endeavors,” she said.

McMullen came to the training center with success in mind. He has been a positive influence on his fellow shipmates, serving as a squad leader for Papa-163. He has lead by example as well as by motivating his shipmates to stay focused on their common goal of graduating on time.

In addition to serving in the Coast Guard, he plans to continue his training in preparation for the 2004 Olympic games in Athens, Greece.

Story and Photo by Seaman Apprentice J. M. Millie Preciado



CG employee crowned Ms. Wheelchair Maryland



The 2003 Ms. Wheelchair Maryland winner, Jennifer Rechsteiner, competes for the title against many other women. Contestants must give a speech, answer questions from a panel of judges and exchange ideas during a two-day seminar.



Rechsteiner with second runner-up Juliette Rizzo.

ROCKVILLE, Md., Nov. 17 — Jennifer Rechsteiner, the Coast Guard Transition/Relocation Program Manager at Coast Guard Headquarters, was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Maryland during a gala event held at the Doubletree Hotel here today.

Each year, the Ms. Wheelchair Maryland organization holds a competition to select a spokeswoman to talk with the general public about her life with a disability, the Americans with Disabilities Act and a platform issue of her choosing.

Rechsteiner's job throughout her reign will be to impress upon the business community how full compliance with the accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act benefits far more than just the disabled community.

The Ms. Wheelchair Maryland organization does not emphasize physical beauty. It is a sisterhood of dynamic women who are dedicated to promoting disability awareness, education, and empowerment.

Since accepting the crown, Rechsteiner has visited many schools to educate the students about how people live with disabilities. She said her presentation helps satisfy the children's curiosity. She hopes by meeting her they will be more accepting and understanding of others with disabilities.

In July 2003, Rechsteiner is scheduled to compete for the title of Ms. Wheelchair America when the national pageant is held in Des Moines, Iowa.

She also is slated to travel to New York March 27-28 for a job fair where she will recruit civilians with disabilities for the Coast Guard.

Rechsteiner said she believes Coast Guard diversity is important because, "everybody has something to contribute to the mission."

Rechsteiner is a resident of Bowie, and is married with two children, ages six and three. She has a bachelor's degree in sociology from Towson State University and a master's degree in counseling psychology from Bowie State University.

Story by Robert Watson, of Ms. Wheelchair Maryland and photos provided by the Ms. Wheelchair Maryland Web site.

Former president visits CGC Diligence

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., Dec. 29 — Former President George H.W. Bush visited the CGC Diligence while it was on patrol off the Florida coast today.

Bush and his family were aboard the Disney cruise ship Wonder for a 3-day holiday vacation when he spotted the Diligence and offered to pay the crew a visit.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the Coast Guard has been providing security to cruise ships transiting in and out of ports. The Diligence was providing security for the Wonder when Bush spotted the cutter.

When Bush came aboard, he thanked the crew for their help in protecting America and for all the hard work and sacrifice they endure everyday while away from their families to protect the nation's freedom.

During his visit, Bush met with the crew and was given a tour of the Diligence. He also took rides in one of the Coast Guard's newest over-the-horizon pursuit boats used for drug interdiction and in an MH-68A armed helicopter designed for drug interdiction and homeland defense.

The Diligence is homeported in Wilmington, N.C., and the MH-68A helicopter deployed from the Diligence is from Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron Ten in Jacksonville.

Story by Lt. Craig Neubecker and photos by AVT1 Bill Greer, Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron Ten, Jacksonville, Fla.



President George H.W. Bush is transported back to the Disney cruise ship Wonder after visiting with the CGC Diligence crew.



Bush poses for a picture with the crew of the CGC Diligence while visiting during the cutter's routine patrol off the Florida coast.

Civilian honored for 60 years of government service

Washington, D.C., Feb. 5 — Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thomas H. Collins hosted a ceremony at Coast Guard Headquarters here today to recognize Felicia Chipouras for 60 years of government service.

During World War II, Chipouras received a war service appointment for the duration of the war and for six months thereafter, which was later converted to a permanent civilian appointment in 1946.

She has served with the Coast Guard for 52 years and currently works at Coast Guard Personnel Command as the chief of the separations section for enlisted personnel.

Lt. Octavia Poole, G-C



TELEPHOTOGRAPHY

Felicia Chipouras poses with Adm. Thomas H. Collins during an award ceremony honoring her for 60 years of service.

SK plays CO for a day

MIAMI, Oct. 19 — Cmdr. Michael Parks, commanding officer of the CGC Legare, reached into a pile of papers with names and pulled the name of the next, “CO for a day.”

“Hmmm...” Parks said. “SK3 Hurtte, is this your signature?”

The crew sighed as the sailor stepped forward to confirm his shot at being the “captain” of a ship on which he was only temporarily assigned.

Hurtte was loaned to the Legare from Engineering Logistics Center Baltimore for six months to do a Centralized Shipboard Supply project.

As he discussed his plans for the following day with friends in the ship’s office, Hurtte said, “We’re probably not going to work ... at all!”

The “CO for a day” project began as an idea at a ship’s morale committee meeting several months ago.

Although it had been tried aboard other ships, it had never been done on the Legare, said morale officer Ensign Maria Roerick. Once the committee ran the idea by the captain, he was extremely interested and supportive.

“Being aboard a cutter, and

working as hard as our crew does, is physically and mentally draining to a person,” said Parks. “You can’t look at morale to be a 100 percent solution, but if there’s something that can be done to relieve some of the everyday stress, then I’m all for it.”

The ‘CO’s’ day began at 10 a.m. on an ‘end-of-a-patrol’ Saturday in the middle of a materiel inspection.

Dressed in his full captain’s attire, he climbed into the captain’s chair, and jokes were made all over the bridge as plans for lunch and the afternoon’s activities were made.

Hurtte held his own private lunch with his best shipmates in the wardroom. Parks, who kept a low profile out of respect for the new captain, was cordially invited into the chiefs’ mess to eat lunch among the lions.

The day continued as the crew donned civilian tee shirts, fished off the fantail, sunbathed on the ‘steel beach’ and shot skeet. Hurtte claimed he was going to spend the day “walking among the people.” At noon quarters, the CO was even seen giving his XO bunny ears.

After a great pizza dinner, including wings and cheese sticks made by the first class petty officers, a movie was shown on the

flight deck hangar door with popcorn for all, compliments of the former captain.

At the end of the day, \$60 from the ticket sales had been raised for the ship’s morale fund, and more than a few good comments were heard around the ship. At 11 p.m., when the former captain regained charge of the Legare, Hurtte wasn’t so disappointed.

“Yeah, I had fun. I got a glimpse of the other side of the rank structure. But honestly, you really need 25 hours to complete a CO’s day, and I was only planning fun stuff, you know?” Hurtte recounted. Then he grinned. “I wouldn’t mind doing it again though ...”

PA3 Anastasia Burns, 7th Dist.



CGC LEGARE

SK3 Jon Hurtte sits in the captain’s chair on the bridge while dressed in the real captain’s shoulder boards, cap and pins.



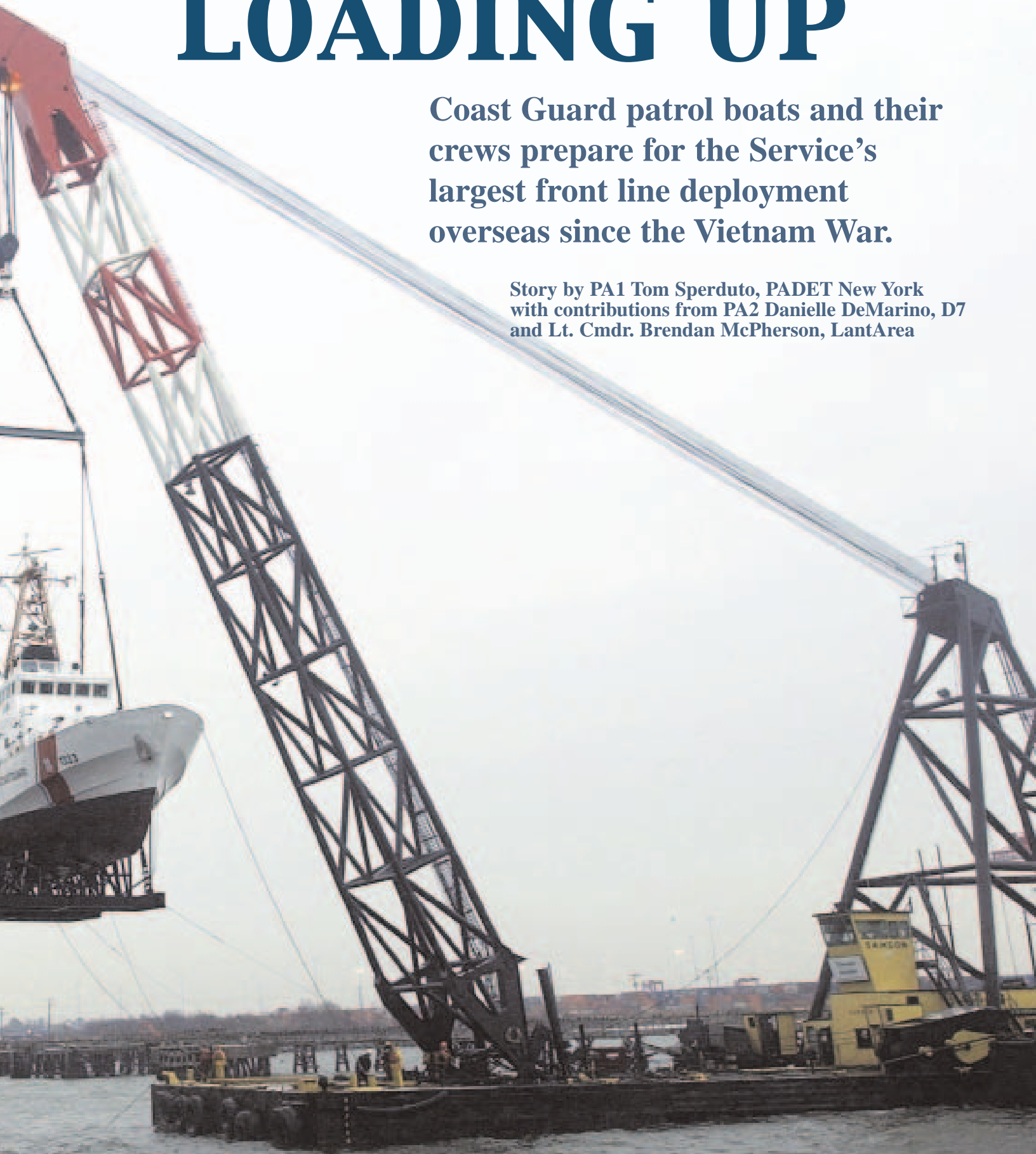
INDUSTRIAL CHALLENGER

NEW ORLEANS LA

LOADING UP

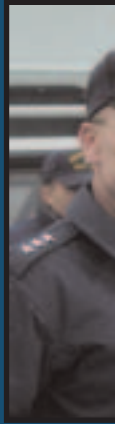
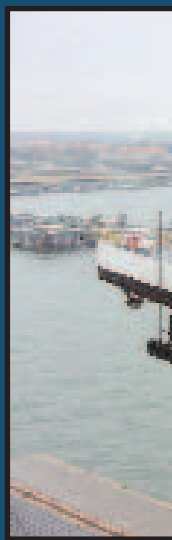
Coast Guard patrol boats and their crews prepare for the Service's largest front line deployment overseas since the Vietnam War.

Story by PA1 Tom Spurduto, PADET New York
with contributions from PA2 Danielle DeMarino, D7
and Lt. Cmdr. Brendan McPherson, LantArea





PAT TOM SPERDUO, PADET NEW YORK



After months of training, shots and lonely nights at the Holiday Inn in Portsmouth, Va., Coast Guard men and women from the Atlantic Area are ready to do their part in a foreign land in support of the war on terrorism.

Though specific dates of departure and the duration and destination of the deployment overseas are not being disclosed for security reasons, about 600 active-duty and reserve personnel from around LantArea are prepared and scheduled to deploy in the near future.

For the first time since the Vietnam War, deploying forces will include patrol boats. Their mission will be to provide port security and surveillance for U.S. ships and personnel who are in the Middle East region in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“The Coast Guard has a long history of operating jointly with Department of Defense forces in matters of national security,” said Vice Adm. James Hull, LantArea commander, who ordered the deployments. “These deployments demonstrate how the Coast Guard’s missions and expertise can play an important role in the broader DOD operation to fight terrorism and prepare for future contingencies.”

Coast Guard patrol boats receiving orders to deploy overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom

include: the CGC Wrangell from South Portland, Maine, the CGC Adak from Sandy Hook, N.J., the CGC Aquidneck from Portsmouth, the CGC Bainbridge Island from Highlands, N.J., the CGC Grand Isle from Gloucester, Mass., the CGC Baranof from Miami Beach, the CGC Knight Island and the CGC Pea Island from St. Petersburg, Fla. They will join the CGC Boutwell, a 378-foot high-endurance cutter homeported in Alameda, Calif., and operations and support personnel from 20 other Coast Guard commands, including tactical law enforcement teams from Miami and Yorktown, Va., who have already been deployed to the region or are scheduled to be deployed to the region.

Preparations for deployment have been occurring in Portsmouth non-stop, six days a week, with three primary focus areas — training, medical and maintenance, said Lt. Sean Mackenzie, commanding officer of the CGC Adak.

“We’ve done every kind of training you can imagine, including firefighting, damage control, first aid, at-sea boardings, law enforcement training and chemical biological and radiological training,” said Mackenzie.

Some of the advanced training has been held at the Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune, N.C., where Coast Guard support personnel learn how to set up security perimeters. Law enforcement training is also taught at



LT. CMDR. A.J. CAPPETO, LANTAREA



PAT TOM SHERBUTO, PADET NEW YORK



LT. CMDR. A.J. CAPPETO, LANTAREA

LOADING UP — A Coast Guardsman watches as crews raise the CGC Adak to load it onto a commercial freighter at a port in Portsmouth, Va., for transport to the Middle East region in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (**LEFT**). As the Adak was being loaded (**TOP CENTER**), Vice Adm. James Hull, Atlantic Area commander, gives a press conference, informing the media about the deployments (**BOTTOM CENTER**). Workers prepare the Adak to be lifted onto a commercial freighter (**BOTTOM**).

“Black Water,” a civilian law enforcement facility in North Carolina that teaches skills such as tactical entries and room clearings. The facility is often used by military and civilian law enforcement agencies.

“Black Water was some of the best training I have ever received,” said GM1 Matt James, an Adak crewmember. “It not only taught us tactical skills but also how to work better as a team.”

Another important part of preparations has been the numerous medical and dental appointments including the battery of shots needed to deploy. Each member receives a full physical and dental exam.

“There are seven inoculations given for this deployment, including the Anthrax and Small Pox vaccinations which have not been administered yet but are expected to be shortly,” said HS1 T.J. Miles from ISC New Orleans. Miles is assigned to Forward Support Unit Two for this deployment.

Medical personnel also are training members in an Army first aid course called “self aide/buddy aide.” “It’s a more intense training than normally given in the Coast Guard,” said Miles. “It covers everything from preventive medicine to treatment for gunshot wounds.”

Along with the hundreds of training hours and endless shots and appointments, ship maintenance for

all the 110’s deploying has been a priority.

“We’ve had more than 100 maintenance items performed since we have been here, including taking out two engines,” said Mackenzie. “The ship is in the best condition, and the crew is the best trained since I’ve been here.”

The cutters were loaded onto commercial freighters, which will transport them to the region. Crewmembers from the various units will fly there to meet them.

“We’ve been here for 92 days so far, and we are anxious to go,” said James. “We are ready and proud to do our part in the war on terrorism — and then get home to our families.”

The feeling of pride as well as the longing for everyone to return home safely is echoed in many Coast Guard homes.

“The kids say sleigh riding isn’t the same with Mom, and Colin just missed our oldest son’s tenth birthday,” said Maura Redy, the wife of BM1 Colin Redy, assigned to the Adak.

“But I am beaming with pride,” she said. “September 11 has changed all our lives forever, and knowing my husband is a part of the war on terrorism is just amazing.”



Bobby Boord
MONMOUTH CYCLES
AXO RACING
BILLS PIPES
REVOL ENGINEERING
SCOTT USA
BRIDGESTONE TIRES
WHITE BROTHERS
MNB

639
AXO

On track



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Tires squeal, dirt flies and man and metal climb to the sky like a patrol boat climbs from troth to swell.

For QM1 Bobby Boord, a traffic manager at Vessel Traffic Service New York, motocross racing is not just a sport — it's a way of life.

Boord, who broke into motocross in 1992 — his first bike was a Honda CT 175 that cost \$75 — lives for the thrill of the race.

"There is nothing like it. As I'm going to the gate, I'm thinking this is heaven on earth, and no matter where I finish, it will be another highlight of my life," said Boord.

For the 26-year-old pro-expert racer, finishing often means winning. With a total of 36 trophies — 11 for first place — Boord has attracted the attention of corporate sponsors looking to latch on to his name.

Companies like Axo Racing, Scott

USA, Bridgestone Tires, Decal works, and Monmouth Cycles have already joined the growing list of Bobby Boord sponsors.

"Bobby is an aggressive rider who is always on the edge pushing," said Chris Prenderville, team manager for the Monmouth Cycles Racing Team. "He represents our team well."

Not only does Boord represent his sponsors well, he represents his passion for the Coast Guard well.

"I'm proud to be in the Coast Guard," said Boord.

Many motocross enthusiasts and professionals know Boord as the "Coast Guard guy" according to Prenderville.

Boord says speed doesn't equal success on the track, and the start of the race is 50 percent of the battle. "It's more about rhythm than speed," he said. "Anybody can ride fast, but it takes a pro to find that right rhythm."

Finding the right rhythm isn't easy, and it doesn't come without a cost. Like most professional sports — injuries are part of the game.

"If you're a pro, you're going to get hurt out there," said Boord. "So far I have had a broken collar bone, broken foot and a torn ACL ligament in the front of my knee."

Boord's injuries have never interfered with his Coast Guard duties.

The injuries and hours of practice are all worth it for Boord who placed 11 times in the top 10 of the pro-expert class in 2002.

Boord, with eight years service, plans to continue his career in the Guard and on the track. In the next few years, Boord aspires to be one of the top riders in his sport.

"Motocross has changed my life," he said. "It's given me confidence in all areas in my life — including the Coast Guard."



High flying

(Far left) QM1 Bobby Boord, a traffic manager at Vessel Traffic Service New York, takes to the air and plays for the camera at Raceway Park in Englishtown, N.J., Oct. 25.

Track attack

(left) QM1 Bobby Boord attacks the track at Raceway Park in Englishtown, N.J. Oct. 22. Boord, a professional motocross rider, also serves on active duty.

Take Your Best Shot contest winners

The Best Shot *(facing page)*

BM2 Kellian Whidden, of Coast Guard Station Yaquina Bay in Newport, Ore., took this photo of the 52-foot motor lifeboat Victory Jan. 9, 2002. The Victory takes a breaking wave 15-18-feet tall. At the helm, BM1 Jacob Albino gets his last chance, before retiring, to pass down 23 years of knowledge to those who will continue the tradition of lifesaving at the station.

2nd Best Shot *(below)*

FS1 Al Moser, of the CGC Firebush, took this photo of BM3 Dustin Rose, of the CGC Alex Haley and Seaman Ivan Ruiz, of the CGC Firebush, standing by as the Firebush patrols the glacier area of Tracey Arm in southeast Alaska in August 2002.





Small Stuff

African American History month

— February is designated as African American History month. To explore African American history in more depth, visit the following external Web sites: www.aphiliprandolphmuseum.org and www.civilrightsmuseum.org or visit the Coast Guard historian's Web site at www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/history/h_Africanamericans.html.

Editor



Coach inducted into Hall of Fame — The Coast Guard men's basketball coach Pete Barry was inducted into the University of San Francisco Hall of Fame Feb. 2. He has been the Coast Guard's basketball coach for 12 seasons. At 170-127, his record holds the most wins by a CGA men's basketball coach.

Chuck Banning, The Day Publishing Co.

The Humane Society offers tips on temporary pet care for military personnel — With the

Pentagon ordering deployments for tens of thousands of U.S. troops in preparation for a possible war with Iraq, military families are facing difficult times ahead. The HSUS offers the following tips for keeping companion animals in the family: Make arrangements for a family member or friend to care for your pet in your absence, have a written agreement outlining the pet care arrangement, update vaccinations as needed, provide the caregiver with veterinary records and outfit your pet with a collar and tag with the temporary caregiver's contact information. For more information call (202) 452-1100 or visit www.hsus.org.

Humane Society of the United States



Troops to Teachers — Good news for service members with bachelor's degrees, to include National Guard and reserve, and all degreed retirees who want to become teachers in their next career! As part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Troops to Teachers has been re-authorized

until fiscal year 2006. The national Troops to Teachers Program has received funding to pay for the certification programs of eligible personnel. This funding consists of a stipend of up to \$5000 to cover the costs of teacher certification programs, or if a veteran is hired in a high-needs campus, the funding could be in the form of a \$10,000 bonus. Recently, the eligibility categories were expanded to include all degreed retirees of military service, not just recent retirees.

Troops to Teachers state offices provide timely and accurate information tailored to the individual's unique situation. For more information call Meryl Kettler, the Texas Troops to Teachers coordinator at 1-800-810-5484 or visit <http://tts.esc13tenet.edu/troop/tmitt.html>.

Meryl Kettler, Texas Troops to Teachers

Coast Guard Foundation photo award winners for 2002

— The Foundation for Coast Guard History announces the winners of the 2002 photo contest. Congratulations to PA3 Bill Barry, A.D. Young, Jr., Paulette Stewart, John Scozzafava and Kenneth Christian. The contest was open to everyone except officers of the Foundation. All entries are previously unpublished work and deal with Coast Guard subject matter. To view the photos go to www.fcgh.org/awards/photo.htm. Foundation for Coast Guard History

Shipmates

CGC Bramble: The Bramble is currently slated to decommission in early May. Any former crewmembers wishing to attend the ceremony are asked to contact Ensign Brian Jeffery at (810) 982-2684 or by e-mail at Bjeffery@cgcb Bramble.uscg.mil.

Grand Isle, La. : Looking for personnel who served at the following units; Baratara Bay Station 214/Station Grand Isle from 1919 to present, CGC Point Young (WPB 82303) from 1960-1965, CGC Point Sal (WPB 82352) from 1966-2001, Group Grand Isle from 1968-1987, and LORAN Station Grand Isle

1968-1980 for a possible reunion. Interested persons should contact Lt. Chris Thorpe, P.O. Box 158, Grand Isle, La. 70358 or call (985) 787-2136 or e-mail cthorge@stagrandle.uscg.mil.

USS/USCGC Burton Island: The USS/USCGC Burton Island Operation Deep Freeze support ship has scheduled a reunion for June 9-13 at the Sands Regency Hotel/Casino in Reno, Nev. For more information please contact Greg Reel, 4900 NE Park Lane, Kansas City, Mo., 64118-5928 or call (816) 454-7991 or e-mail gnbreeel@kc.rr.com.



Greetings from the CGC Alex Haley

Chief Journalist Alex P. Haley (1921-1992) enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1939 as a mess attendant 3rd class. While at sea, he would write many letters, and it wasn't long before his shipmates enlisted his help writing their letters, including love letters. During his 20 years of service, he was eventually assigned to "Our Post," the Coast Guard's official publication. In 1952, he became the Coast Guard's first journalist, and retired in 1959 after serving in World War II and Korea.

Today, Alex Haley's ties to the Coast Guard continue in Kodiak, Alaska, where the ship that proudly bears his name calls home. The cutter routinely patrols the Gulf of Alaska, the Bering Sea and the North Pacific.

The Alex Haley is the Coast Guard's largest medium endurance cutter at 282 feet long. The ship carries a crew of 10 officers and 89 enlisted personnel and has one of the largest flight decks in the fleet.

Kodiak is also the home of ISC Kodiak, Air Station Kodiak, CGC Storis, CGC Spar, CGC Firebush, and the North Pacific Regional Fisheries Training Center, to name

just a few of the area's tenant commands. The complex includes a commissary, exchange, barracks, bowling alley, golf course (the only one on Kodiak), auto hobby shop, movie theater, and a large modern gym with indoor fitness center, pool, basketball courts, and a rock-climbing wall. The morale, welfare and recreation program offers boats, new pop-up campers, and river rafts. There are outdoor activities such as hiking and easy access to some of the best salmon and halibut fishing in the world. Kodiak is also the second largest fishing port in the world, providing great opportunities to partake in fresh seafood.

Kodiak's Russian history is apparent in the numerous museums. There are ample churches of various denominations, a growing tourist trade, and like so many other cities, civilization has now reached Kodiak via espresso shops and, yes, even a Wal-Mart.

Come join those who serve on the last frontier!

The Alex Haley's Web site:

<http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/haley/>

Story by Ensign Christopher Nolan, CGC Alex Haley

Housing

Government housing is available to families.

Barracks are available to single members.

To live on the economy costs from \$600 - \$1,000 rent per month.

Facilities

Coast Guard Weight Room, Eagle's Nest All Hands Club, Sheldon Jackson College Gym.

Education

Sheldon Jackson College and University of Alaska Southeast.

Weather

Summer average in the 50s - 60s.

Winter average around the 30s - 40s and with heavy rain.

Check out Coast Guard career opportunities! Call 877-NOW USCG



SHOT IN THE ARM

HS3 Emmett Blount of the ISC Portsmouth clinic gives the Anthrax vaccination to a Coast Guardsman who is preparing to deploy overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

PHOTO BY PA1 TOM SPERDUTO, PADET NEW YORK