

# USCGC ASPEN (WLB 208)

## Command Philosophy

### ASPEN SAILORS:

#### ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION

CGC ASPEN is one of the Coast Guard's most versatile assets and her sailors are required to conduct many of our Service's missions. Be it servicing aids-to-navigation, enforcing laws, aiding mariners in distress, protecting the environment, or conducting other important maritime tasks, ASPEN and her crew are expected to be *Always Ready*. This dynamic reality requires us to be as flexible and adaptable as this amazingly capable cutter. With Safety as our principal concern, we will skillfully prioritize the demands placed on ASPEN and our shipmates. We will be well-maintained and well-trained. We will accomplish our missions as expected.

"You can't change the wind, you can, however, adjust your sails to reach your destination." – Unknown

#### ARE PROFESSIONALS

Professional mariners continuously learn and apply best practices. Expect your shipmates to be professionals; respect each other's knowledge. Teaching, training, and drilling are priorities aboard ASPEN.

Professional mariners believe in protecting the sea – it's where we make our living. By operating ASPEN in accordance with all environmental laws and enforcing the same, we will preserve our marine resources.

Professional mariners know they must protect themselves and their ship. Respect the sea. It is a sometimes dangerous, unforgiving place. We will identify and manage risks. We will properly prepare and secure for sea.

We will take pride in ASPEN's and our personal appearances. ASPEN represents you and you represent her.

"It is not the ship so much as the skillful sailor that assures the prosperous voyage" – George William Curtis

#### ARE PROACTIVE

Communicate up and down the chain. Listen to each other. Share knowledge. Immediately speak up about dangers.

We will hold one another accountable. We are always guided by our shared values: *Honor, Respect, & Devotion to Duty*.

Lead and follow with an obvious dedication to your Service and your shipmates. Come to ASPEN ready and expecting to work. Report and fix discrepancies as you discover them. When needed, improve our procedures immediately. Actively track projects to ensure they are completed well and on time.

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving – we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it – but we must sail, and not drift, or lie at anchor." – Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

#### MAKE SEA DUTY REWARDING

Know and value your shipmate's personal lives, goals, and concerns. Inspire each other by staying positive, healthy, and willing to laugh and smile. Humiliation or unfair treatment of a shipmate will not be tolerated.

We will give direct and timely recognition and feedback. Seek to improve yourself professionally and personally; encourage and help others to do the same.

Celebrate this tour! These are the good old days... the ones we will look back upon. Act today knowing you are creating the memories you will fondly and proudly recall tomorrow.

"Sometimes we are lucky enough to know our lives have been changed, to discard the old and embrace the new and run headlong down an immutable course. It happened to me... on that summer's day when my eyes were opened to the sea." – Jacques Cousteau.

**Remember the Motto from ASPEN's Crest: Superior Technology, Superior Performance**

LCDR Tom D'Arcy, Commanding Officer