UNIT INFORMATION SHEET
Last Updated 09 February 2017

UNIT NAME: USCGC ALDER (WLB 216)
UNIT LOCATION: DULUTH, MN – DISTRICT 9
UNIT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY: LAKE SUPERIOR AND UPPER LAKE MICHIGAN

PERSONAL MAILING ADDRESS:

YOUR RANK AND NAME
USCGC ALDER (WLB 216)
1201 Minnesota Ave.
Duluth, MN 55802

COMMERCIAL PHONE NUMBER: (218) 529-3131
FAX NUMBER: (218) 529-3135
SHIP'S CELL NUMBER: (206) 310-4061

WEB SITE: https://www.uscg.mil/d9/cgcAlder/
EMAIL: Christian.R.VonStralendorff@uscg.mil (LTJG Christian von Stralendorff for initial contact/ public affairs)

UNIT MISSIONS: The ALDER has a wide array of missions. Our primary mission is Aids to Navigation on the Great Lakes (mostly Lake Superior and Lake Michigan) and includes but not limited to: ice breaking, search and rescue, law enforcement, and public affairs.

TYPICAL SA/SN JOB ASSIGNMENT: The typical SA/SN job integrates you as a member of the Deck Force. As a member of the deck force you work on the buoy deck tending to ATON and participate in the general upkeep of the ship. You may also serve as a member of the small boat crew during small boat evolutions, law enforcement boarding teams and act as a mess cook in a two week rotation with other nonrated crewmembers.

TYPICAL FA/FN JOB ASSIGNMENT: The typical FA/FN will serve in the Engineering Department. You will learn about the Power plant aboard ALDER while being integrated into the department through the ownership of the engineering spaces. You should also expect to serve in the capacity of a mess cook for two weeks at a time, in a rotation with other nonrated crewmembers.

INPORT WATCH TYPE AND DUTY ROTATION FOR SA/SN/FA/FN: As a SA/SN/FA/FN your primary watch standing responsibility is as a Quarterdeck Watch stander, along with ensuring that the

material condition of the engineering spaces are maintained and that the machinery is working properly. You will also fill a fire billet in an emergency situation. Expect your watch rotation to be one out of every three days until you become qualified to stand duty by yourself. Qualified watch stander duty rotations is one out of every five days, depending on the number of qualified watch standers.

UNDERWAY WATCH TYPE AND DUTY ROTATION FOR SA/SN: Underway you'll be standing watch as a Lookout and Helmsman. The watch rotation as a break-in underway is one out of every three, four-hour watch rotations. Qualified watch rotation depends on the number of qualified underway Lookouts and Helmsmen.

UNDERWAY WATCH TYPE AND DUTY ROTATION FOR FA/FN: Underway your primary watch station will be as a Journeyman Engineer (JE, also known as an oiler), making rounds of all spaces to ensure that there are no developing problems on the ship. The watch rotation as a break-in underway is one out of every three, four-hour watch rotations. Qualified watch rotation depends on the number of qualified underway Journeyman Engineers.

SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING AFTER HOURS: Report to the Quarterdeck Watch stander, who will then inform the Officer of the Day (OOD) of your arrival. The OOD will provide you your rack assignment and basic check in.

IF UNIT IS UNDERWAY, WHERE TO REPORT: If ALDER is underway you should report to the Executive Petty Officer, Coast Guard Station Duluth. The Station is located on the same grounds as the pier ALDER moors at. The phone number for the XPO is (218) 529-3101.

HOW MUCH PERSONAL STORAGE SPACE (IN CUBIC FEET): Space is tight in the berthing areas. You will have a standard five foot locker and space under your rack for stowage.

UNIFORM NORMALLY WORN DURING THE WORKDAY: The uniform for the typical workday is clean Operational Dress Uniform (ODU).

RECOMMENDED UNIFORM ITEMS IN ADDITION TO SEABAG ISSUE: It is required you bring your standard issue of uniforms and gear. Additional clothing and gear for the climate will be issued to you sometime shortly after your arrival.

AVERAGE SUMMER TEMPERATURE: High: 76, Low: 55
AVERAGE WINTER TEMPERATURE/SNOW: High: 19, Low: 02, Snow: 19"

UNIT MUTUAL ASSISTANCE REP/ PHONE #: LCDR Chad Conrad (218) 529-3131

WHAT TYPE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE AREA: There are three main colleges/universities in the area, all within a 10 mile radius of the unit. ALDER also offers books and study guides for the ACT SAT, ASFAB, and ASTB. ALDER's current Education Service Officer is ENS Christian von Stralendorff.

RATINGS PRESENT AT UNIT: BM, DC, EM, ET, FS, HS, MK, SK, and YN

NAME OF NEAREST CITY AND DISTANCE: ALDER is located in the heart of the City. Downtown Duluth is less than a mile away. Minneapolis/St. Paul is about 150 miles south.

NAME OF NEAREST MILITARY FACILITY AND DISTANCE: Duluth Air National Guard Base, 13 miles.

LOCATION OF NEAREST EXCHANGE AND COMMISARY: Small Exchange at ANGB, 13 Miles. Nearest CG Exchange is in Sault Ste Marie, approximately 8 hours away.

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS IN THE AREA: Apostolic, Baptist, Catholic, Congregational, Episcopal, Jewish, Lutheran, Methodist, and Muslim.

IF A CUTTER, COMMON DESTINATIONS OF DEPLOYMENTS: The primary area of operation is on Lake Superior and Lake Michigan but trips that cover the other 3 Great Lakes are made during the summer time.

UNIFORM TO REPORT IN: Service Dress Blue during winter months and Tropical Blue Uniform during summer months.

IF SPONSOR NOT AVAILABLE, RECRUIT SHOULD ASK FOR: The Officer of the Day. He or she will able to assist you with questions or concerns you may have.

ANY OTHER INFORMATION A NEWLY ARRIVING MEMBER SHOULD KNOW: Be sure to bring cold weather civilian clothes. The climate is cold in the winter but this is a college town and there is plenty to do within a mile or two of the ship. In the summer the weather brings in a large number of tourists and the locals are big fans of the Coast Guard. Expect average deployments of 2-4 weeks.

MEMBERS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS

IS MESSING AVAILABLE: Yes. All meals are provided onboard.

QUARTERS AND OR BARRACKS AVAILABLE: Yes, initially you will live onboard but living accommodations are dependent upon housing availability. Generally, nonrated personnel will live onboard until qualified as Inport Watchstander, then they will be allowed to move into Government leased housing.

RATE OF AUTO INSURANCE FOR TYPICAL 18-20 YR OLD SINGLE MALE: $100.00/Month

IS UNACCOMPANIED PERSONNEL LEASED HOUSING AVAILABLE: Yes, but it is dependent upon availability.

WHERE WILL A SINGLE NON-RATE LIKELY LIVE: Onboard ALDER.

SHOULD MEMBER SUBMIT HOUSING APPLICATION TO HOUSING OFFICE: Yes, our housing officer is MKC Richard Hamilton. He will provide you the information you need. He can be contacted at (218) 529-3131 or emailed at Richard.C.Hamilton@uscg.mil.

WHERE DO MOST PEOPLE BANK: There are a multitude of banks in the surrounding area, Wells Fargo and North Shore Bank of Commerce are two of the biggest.

IS THERE A CREDIT UNION IN THE AREA: Yes, the Duluth Federal Employees Credit Union.

IS THERE A MALL IN THE AREA: Yes, Miller Hill Mall in Duluth, MN with more than 30 stores. The Mall of America is 2 hours south in Minneapolis.

MEMBERS WITH DEPENDENTS

COST OF AVERAGE TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT IN THE AREA WITH OR WITHOUT UTILITIES: Is about $900-$1000 dollars not including Utilities. Heating Bills will tend to be high due to the cold climate. You may want to look for apartments in the spring because the college students fill up the housing in the area by early September.

BAH RATE FOR AN E2: Check most recent BAH rates at http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bahCalc.cfm

IS LEASED HOUSING AVAILABLE: Yes, contact the Housing Officer for more information.

IS GOVERNMENT OWNED HOUSING AVAILABLE: No.

WHAT IS THE AVERAGE WAIT FOR HOUSING: Time frames may vary depending upon availability of housing.

HOUSING OFFICER: MKC Richard Hamilton can be contacted at (218) 529-3131 or emailed at Richard.C.Hamilton@uscg.mil.

WHERE DO MOST DEPENDENTS LIVE: Most dependents live with the members. There is a split between people living in Duluth, MN or Superior, WI which is a few miles away across the bridge but historically has had cheaper housing.

RATE OF AUTO INSURANCE FOR TYPICAL YOUNG FAMILY: $130/MONTH

WHERE DO MOST DEPENDENTS RECEIVE MEDICAL CARE: St. Luke's or St. Mary's Duluth Clinic.

WHERE DO MOST DEPENDENTS GO TO SCHOOL: Duluth or Superior Public Schools. Duluth is also home to the University of Minnesota Duluth which offers various degrees - Go Bulldogs!

WHAT LEVEL OF TRICARE IS AVAILABLE: For all active duty members TRICARE Prime Remote is offered. For Dependents it depends on where they reside. TRICARE Prime Remote in Minnesota and TRICARE Prime in Superior - these are two different regions.

IS DELTA DENTAL AVAILABLE: No, United Concordia.

IS IT ADVISABLE TO BRING DEPENDENTS ALONG WHEN REPORTING? We encourage members to wait until they have confirmed housing.

OTHER "GOOD TO KNOW" INFORMATION: The Coast Guard Cutter ALDER (WLB 216) was launched as a new cutter on 07 February 2004, and has now replaced the Coast Guard Cutter SUNDEW. The Plank owner crew received ALDER on 02 September 2004 and commissioned her on 10 June 2005. CGC ALDER is the newest and last of the WLB (Sea going buoy tender) series of ships. Duluth, MN, our home port, is an excellent place to have family and friends come to visit, with plenty of sights to see and things to do.