Newsletter #6

August 26, 2014

THE BULLDOG

Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY News | AVDET | Adak Bulldog Bash

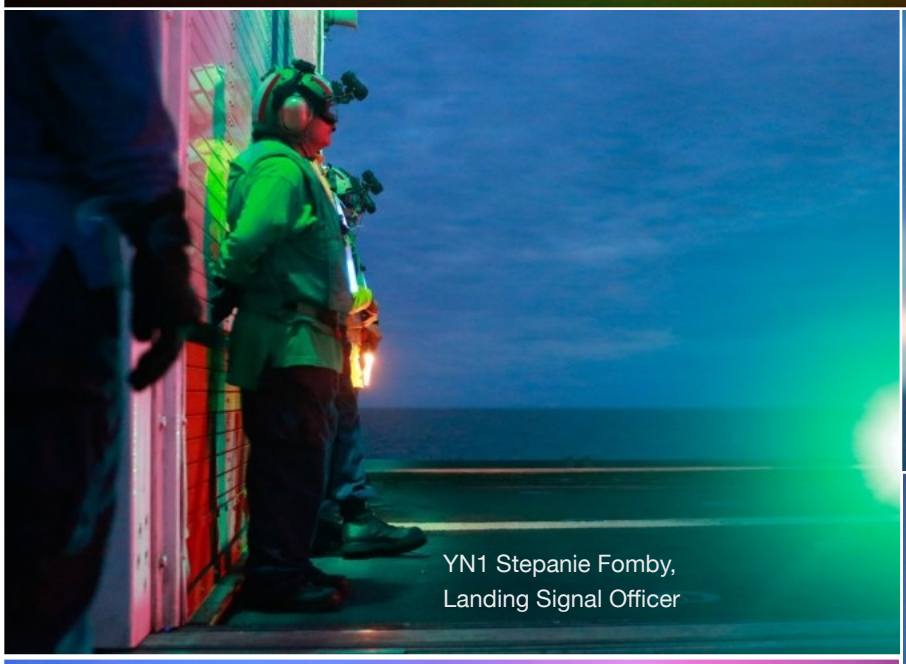
BM2 Michael Rones (front) and BM3 Rian Bareuther (behind) in CG23141

Aviation Detachment

ALEX HALEY is greatly appreciative of the the Aviation Detachment crew that sailed underway during the first half of our Summer ALPAT. They immediately became a part of the crew, offering their knowledge and expertise to assist with many shipboard evolutions. Each member was integral in providing support to the crew of the ALEX HALEY outside of the normal scope of operations, from volunteering as Victim Advocates to leading morale pizza night to offering familiarization flights to junior members of the crew. Within the scope of operations, the AVDET crew proved themselves as an essential aspect towards mission success, completing over 50 flight hours that led to successful law enforcement intelligence gathering and to the successful rescue of a fisherman from the fishing vessel PATRICIA LEE. Great friendships were made with these extraordinary men and we look forward to the next time we have the pleasure of sailing together.

by ENS Joel Hill

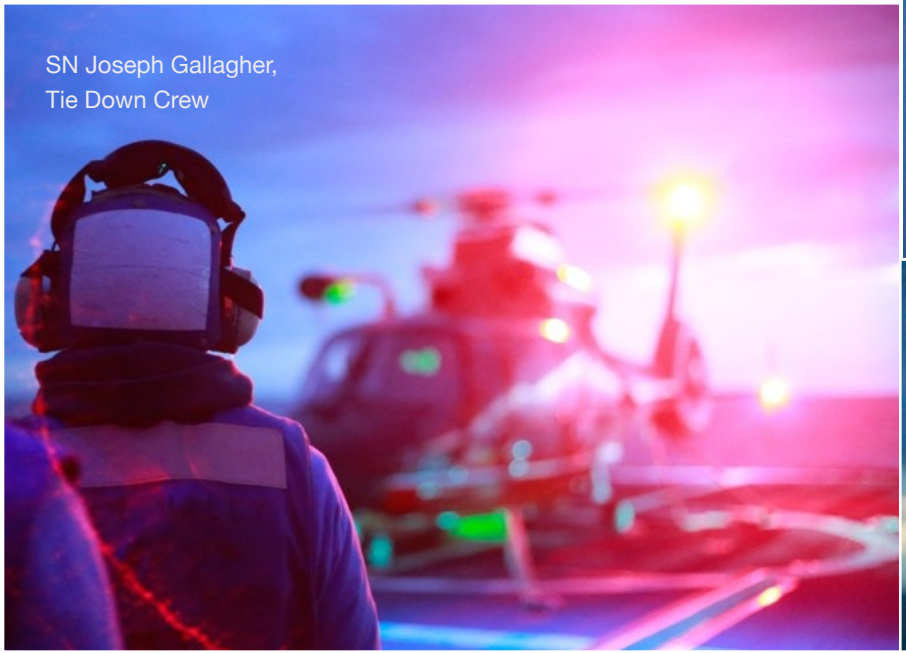
TOP: ALEX HALEY says goodbye to its first, stellar Aviation Detachment this patrol. From left to right, LT Jim Burruss, AMT2 Joe Bauer, AET2 Adam Gaskill, AMT1 Robert Medolla, LCDR Jed Young. Not pictured: AMT2 Chris Mix | **ABOVE:** CG6503 is airborne from Cold Bay, Alaska. **RIGHT:** The CG6503 conducts a bow hoist on ALEX HALEY. | **BELOW:** LT Jim Burruss watches AMT2 Adam Gaskill unfold the blades of the helo.



YN1 Stepanie Fomby,
Landing Signal Officer

SN Steven Gould,
Tie Down Crew

SN Michael Mackie,
Tie Down Crew



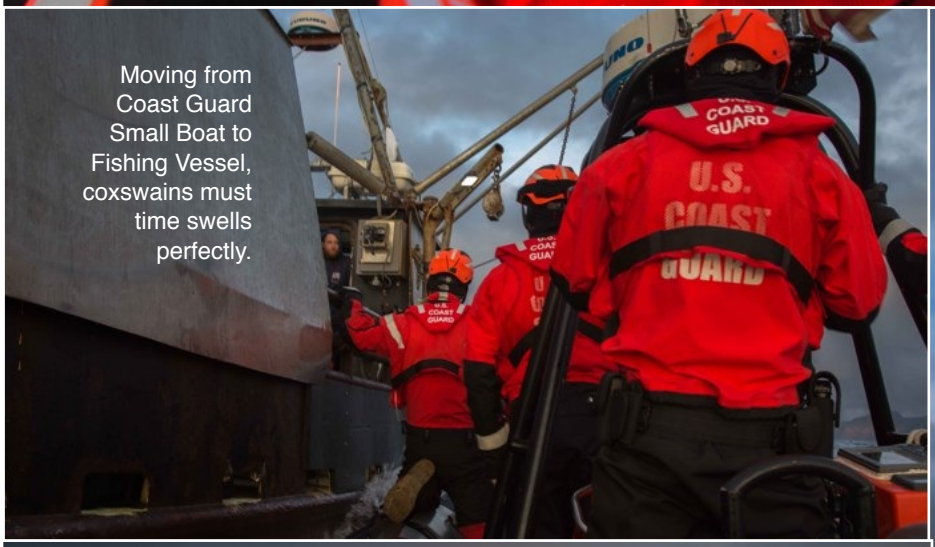
SN Joseph Gallagher,
Tie Down Crew

SN Octavio Estrada,
Tie Down Crew

SN Tyler Johnson,
Boarding Team

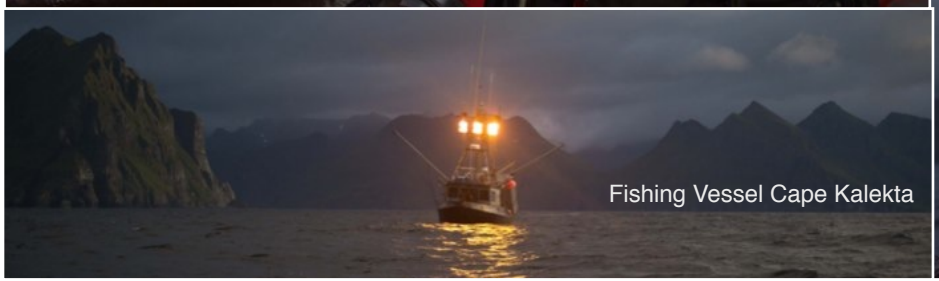
MK3 Peter Madden
Small Boat Crew

ALEX HALEY boarding team prepares to board the fishing vessel Cape Kalekta.



Moving from Coast Guard Small Boat to Fishing Vessel, coxswains must time swells perfectly.

BM3 Rian Baruether throws over a life ring during a small boat man overboard drill.



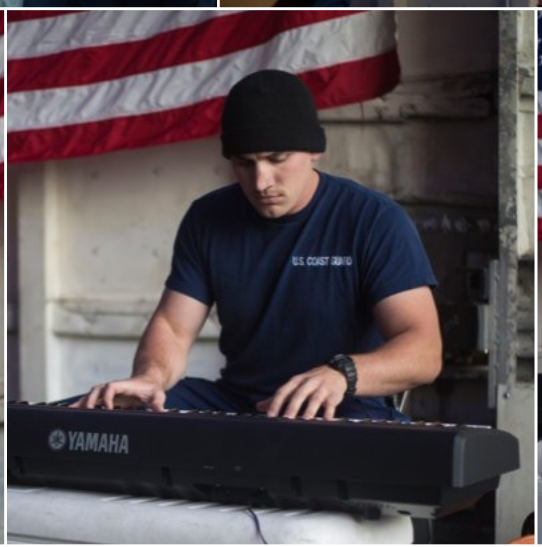
Fishing Vessel Cape Kalekta

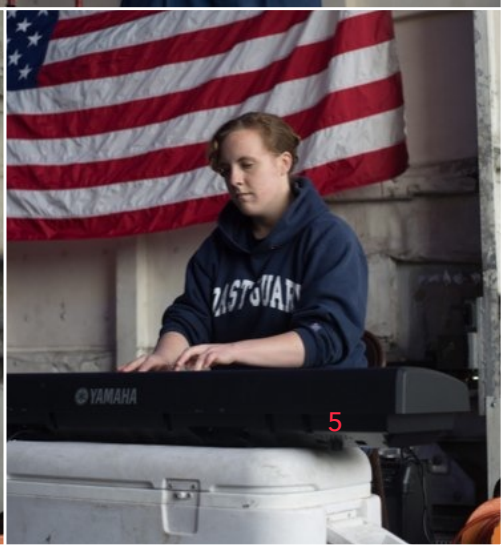
Bulldog Variety Show

Hidden Talents are Revealed at the Bulldog Variety Show

Patrolling the Bering Sea can be an arduous task for a crew. Sometimes a little levity is required to recharge our shipmate's morale. Turning our hangar into a stage, the Bulldog of the Bering put on her first annual Variety Show! With performers from every department, we showed off our hidden talents of music, dance, and … other things. From the unexpected to mind-glowingly remarkable, the evening was cherished by all. Truly getting to know the people that we serve with is vital to mission success. This was exactly what we needed to get our heads in the game and spirits soaring! We look forward to next patrol's variety show!

TOP: SN Sam Brown performs the Hopak on the violin. | **LEFT:** FN Alex Medeiros sings an original song, "The Crew of The ALEX HALEY". | **MIDDLE:** ET2 Andrew Montgomery, the human jukebox, takes requests. **BELOW LEFT:** Deck Department shows their skills line dancing. | **BELOW RIGHT:** Chief Petty Officers Raymond Hernandez and Joe Cleary perform an interpretive dance. **BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT:** SN Joseph Gallgher on acoustic guitar, ENS Chris Varrichio and ENS Cameron King on electric keyboard.





Taking The Show On The Road

ALEX HALEY Crew Bring Their Musical Talents to a Concert in Adak, Alaska

Considering how much of a success the talent show onboard was, we thought it would be a great idea to share our talented musicians with the people of Adak as well. Days prior to pulling in, flyers were sent to the community advertising "The Adak Bulldog Bash" and by the time we arrived, they were all over the town. The event was held in Adak's community center and ended up having a packed audience. Attendees included the mayor, city manager, harbormaster, United States Fish & Wildlife Service of Adak Branch Manager, and several more. All were entertained by the musical performances of ENS Cameron King and ENS Chris Varrichio on electric keyboard, ET2 Andrew Montgomery and SN Joseph Gallagher on acoustic guitar, GM1 Brandon Hayward and IT2 Patrick Godfrey on electric bass, and SN Sam Brown on violin. Everyone had a great time and it was the perfect opportunity for ALEX HALEY crew to immerse themselves within the Adak Community.

by ENS Kristin Euchler

ABOVE LEFT: Citizens of Adak gather at the community center for The Adak-Bulldog Bash. | **ABOVE RIGHT:** Musicians ET2 Andy Montgomery, SN Sam Brown, SN Joseph Gallagher, and ENS Chris Varrichio jam out with local youth Augy. | **BELOW LEFT:** GM1 Brandon Hayward and IT2 Patrick Godfrey take turns playing bass. **BELOW RIGHT:** Switching to acoustic guitar, IT2 Patrick Godfrey sings "The World I Know" by Collective Soul.

Ramping Up Community Service

Officers and Crew Construct Railing for Adak Resident Mary Prince

The ALEX HALEY crew has always been supportive of efforts to help out and connect with the communities we visit, and Adak has been no different. In the early afternoon of August 22nd, members of the wardroom, chief's mess and crew gathered to construct a railing for a local Adak elder, Mary Prince. After Mary's recent heart surgery, locals helped to build her a ramp leading to her front door for easier access, but worried about her safety during Adak's harsh winters. With tools and lumber provided by the community center, Team ALEX HALEY got to work to construct a wooden railing on both sides of the ramp with braces at each end for extra stability. Several Adak locals stopped by while we were working to thank us for assisting the longtime resident and much loved Mary Prince, who also expressed her deepest thanks. Ms. Prince was given an ALEX HALEY watch cap and is recognized as an Honorary Crew Member.

by ENS Kristin Euchler

LEFT: LCDR Brian Chambers, ENS Andrew Jaeger, CDR Stephen White, ENS Kristen Euchler, ENS Joel Hill, and LT Michael Adams pose with Mary Prince on the railing allowing safe access to the house. | **TOP RIGHT:** The railing was a necessary addition to combat Adak's harsh winters. | **BOTTOM RIGHT:** ENS Kelsey Freeman and BMC Brian Cleversey assist with the railing.

YN1 Stephanie Fomby is Presented the National Ensign

In ALEX HALEY tradition, a national ensign that has been flown during a portion of the current patrol is presented to an outstanding sailor. YN1 Fomby accepted our latest ensign. Having flown from Kodiak, along the Maritime Boundary Line, and above the Arctic Circle, this flag was given to YN1 for her excellent service. In her two months on board, YN1 has coordinated several complicated flights from remote Alaska for crew's medical and emergency leave, revamped the ship's store, and assisted with the ship's capital property report. YN1 has also gone above and beyond, becoming the ship's underway duty Gunners Mate, issuing out weapons for boarding evolutions and is nearly qualified as a Landing Signal Officer for flight operations. Her dedication to crew and unit are second to none. We thank you for your hard work YN1!

Farewell Cadets!

First Class Cadets Dylan Finneran, Matthew Panciacco, Neil Clarkin, and Jennifer Lane pose for a picture while swimming together in the Arctic Ocean, earning them the title of "Bluenose".

United States Coast Guard Academy Cadets Say Goodbye

As cadets at the United States Coast Guard Academy, we are sent each summer to a unit within the Coast Guard with the intent to gain an understanding of life in the fleet and the roles of a junior officer. The crew of ALEX HALEY taught us much more than we could have ever expected. From the first day we reported aboard, we were immersed in learning damage control and standing inport OOD. Onboard, we were afforded numerous unique experiences such as swimming above the Arctic Circle, assisting in flight operations and learning firefighting and pipe patching. While underway, the crew took us under their wings and taught us the necessary skills to meet required qualifications. The bridge team trained us on the safe navigation of ALEX HALEY, culminating in the achievement of a Quartermaster of the Watch qualification. On the engineering side, we were educated on the operation of the ship's major systems and were provided both instruction and hands-on training damage control techniques, allowing us to complete our Basic Damage Control qualifications as well. During our days off-duty in Kodiak we were fortunate enough to take part in the area's legendary fishing, hunting and hiking. While in Nome, Alaska, we had the unique experiences of playing softball with the local youth team and exploring the remote Alaska community. The ALEX HALEY wardroom was gracious enough to host us at various functions and ensure that we made the most of our time in Alaska. The cutter is truly a unique unit where all crew members are treated as family and we are so grateful to be a part of it. We cannot thank you all enough for what you have taught us and the amazing memories we have made together. Have a safe patrol and know that we are all thinking of you. It is with heavy hearts that we leave Alaska hoping that we will serve with you again in the future.

Cadets First Class Lane, Clarkin, and Panciacco sing at the Bulldog's Variety Show

by First Class Cade Jennifer Lane

U.S. COAST GUARD
CUTTER ALEX HALEY

THE "BULLDOG OF THE BERING"

PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE ADAK BULLDOG BASH

FEATURING

SAMUEL BROWN
VIOLIN

JOSEPH GALLAGHER
ACOUSTIC GUITAR

CHRIS VARRICHIO
ELECTRIC KEYBOARD

ANDY MONTGOMERY
ACOUSTIC GUITAR

CAMERON KING
ELECTRIC KEYBOARD

WE ALSO INVITE
ANY ADAK
MUSICIANS
TO THE STAGE

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE

COMMUNITY CENTER | FRIDAY 6:30 - 9:00