

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)



**Commanding Officer: LT Scott A. Rae**  
**Executive Officer: LTJG Kenneth R. Sauerbrunn**  
**Engineering Officer: CWO4 Christopher Brady**  
**1st Lieutenant: BMC Daniel A. Babcock**

**85 Port Terminal Boulevard, Slip #3**  
**Bayonne, New Jersey 07002**

**Website: <http://www.uscg.mil/dI/CGCSTURGEONBAY/>**

**Welcome Aboard**  
**STURGEON BAY**



# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

## Commandant Visits Bayonne, New Year celebrated aboard STURGEON BAY!

It's a windy morning in the upper bay  
STURGEON BAY is anchored, not underway  
With chain veered out a length of 5 shots  
In position 40N 074W, making zero knots

The sea bottom is mud, above us the sky  
Where fireworks illuminate the starry night  
And the anchor light glows an all around beam  
Like the moon above and its silvery gleam

All fittings with an X or Y are closed  
And Sector New York's tasking, everybody knows  
The small boat is cradled, that's easy to see  
While both gens are providing electricity

Both engines are secured, the temperature cold  
Onboard a party is starting to unfold  
Family and friends have been with us this trip  
Ever since STURGEON BAY departed her slip

There are festive hats and kazoos in mouth  
In hopes the New Year brings happiness and health  
We are fortunate to have friends, family and crew  
Who help us along in all that we do

Just like those soldiers serving elsewhere tonight  
In the air, out at sea, or in a combat fight  
We are standing the watch for our country today  
We are Semper Paratus, we are STURGEON BAY

Written By: LTJG Ken Sauerbrunn, XO SBAY

**Special Thanks to the North Jersey Council of the Navy League and the Navy Lake Hurst Historical Society for providing Christmas and Thanksgiving Turkeys to the crew of STURGEON BAY!**

**Also special thanks to the Central Jersey and North Jersey Council of the Navy League for organizing the children's Christmas party. HUGE SUCCESS!!!!!!**



Admiral Thad Allen, Commandant of the Coast Guard, made a brief visit in Bayonne to speak with the CG units there.

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

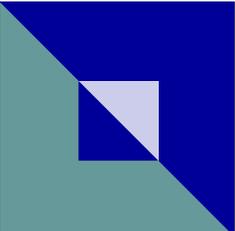
(October, November, December 2008)

### **STURGEON BAY continues to support local education through Partnership in Education.**

The crew of STURGEON BAY again supported local schools through the Partnership In Education Program (PIE). STURGEON BAY devoted over 900 hours again to the PIE program. One new school was added to STURGEON BAY's program, the Helen I. Smith Elementary School in Saddle Brook NJ. The Highland Ave School in Midland Park NJ also received a visit from STURGEON BAY crewmembers. Highland Avenue School is one of the original schools STURGEON BAY started the PIE program with. Many hours are spent in the school working with the teachers and the children.



*Above Left photo: SN Connor and BMC Babcock participate in the PIE program at the Helen I. Smith Elementary School in Saddle Brook NJ. Above photo: SN Willett teaches knot tying class at the Highland Ave School. SN Willett had the sixth graders tying knots like "old salts" by the end of the day! Left photo: STURGEON BAY hosted several teachers aboard from the Highland Ave School. It was a day for the teachers to get out of the classroom, bring their families, and spend the day aboard touring the city from a different prospective.*



# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### **STURGEON BAY gets Education Award!!!!**

On December 2nd, 2008 under sunny skies and bright smiles from Bayonne area elementary school students, STURGEON BAY hosted a ceremony commemorating receipt of the 2008 Collaborative Partnership in Education (PIE) award. Many leaders of STURGEON BAY's twelve partner organizations, including the Bayonne Superintendent of Schools Mrs. Patricia L. McGeehan, Ed.D., were in attendance to witness recognition of STURGEON BAY's PIE program that quadrupled over the past year. In all, STURGEON BAY crew volunteered over 2,371 hours touching the lives of over 1,200 children through regular visits to Bayonne public schools, the IWO Jima and Capodanno Naval Sea Cadet Division's, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Philip G. Vroom School, and Liberty Science Center while hosting many highly successful PIE events aboard STURGEON BAY.

Coast Guard retired Chief Petty Officer Bob Laura, a 33 year 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher at Highland Ave Elementary School, gave stirring remarks to the backdrop of a slide show documenting many creative events such as 'floating' classrooms and 'soap-box derby' type science projects. Seeing practical application to classroom concepts led students to comment, "So this is why I need to know this stuff" and "Oh, now I get it!". Eric Smith of the Coast Guard auxiliary provided myriad examples of programs that foster a lasting relationship with Bayonne area youth by integrating real life experiences in physics, math and nautical sciences into the classroom.

During a moving segment of the ceremony, students gave personal testimonials of the positive effect the PIE program and STURGEON BAY volunteers had on them and their school or program throughout the year. STURGEON BAY's crew significantly impacted the lives and educational experiences of students throughout the greater Bayonne and Northern New Jersey area, and significantly enhanced the relationship between the cutter and local communities.

The ceremony culminated with the presentation of the 2008 Collaborative PIE Award to Commanding Officer LT Scott Rae and the crew of STURGEON BAY. The collaborative award is one of two national PIE awards given by the Office of Civil Rights annually.

The Partnership in Education Program was established in 1991 under the authority of the National and Community Service Act of 1990. To date, over 12,000 Coast Guard employees have volunteered more than 175,000 hours, working with elementary and secondary students through more than 600 established partnerships with local school systems. **Written By: Captain J. Kolb, U.S. Coast Guard**

**\*Please enjoy the photos on the next few pages from the award ceremony!!!!**

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### STURGEON BAY's PIE Award Ceremony



*Chief Bob Laura delivers recognition speech at the PIE ceremony on December 2nd.*



*Captain J. Kolb, Director of the Office of Civil Rights at CG Headquarters delivers the recognition plaque to LT Rae for the national Collaborative PIE Award on December 2nd.*



*Captain R. O'Brien, Coast Guard Sector New York, visits with students in attendance at the PIE ceremony.*



No celebration is complete without a cake!!  
Thank you to William Cagney and his family for providing the cake, it was PERFECT!



*Above: Naval Sea Cadet William Cagney delivers a very moving speech about his involvement with STURGEON BAY and the valuable education and mentoring he received from the crew of STURGEON BAY.*

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### STURGEON BAY's PIE Award Ceremony



*Top left photo: STURGEON BAY crew poses with students who were involved in the PIE program. Top right photo: Audience in attendance at the PIE ceremony on December 2nd. Far right photo: Students, teachers and STURGEON BAY crewmembers pose for a group photo prior to going aboard for lunch. Above photo: Student from the 21st century learning program gives thank you speech at the ceremony.*

*The STURGEON BAY Partnership in Education Award ceremony was a huge success and I want to personally thank everyone that attended to help make it a special day. None of it could have been possible without the support of our core partners and certainly not without the VERY HARD work and dedication of the STURGEON BAY crewmembers!!!*

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### Look what the crew is up to!

*Below left photo: MK1 Gill receives the Good Conduct award from LTJG Sauerbrunn. Below right photo: EM3 Hoyte is selected as Sailor of the Quarter, 4th Quarter FY 2008. Congratulations!!!*



*Left two photos:  
FA Wilburn  
receives his  
inport watch  
qual, SN Reyes  
receives his  
Helm qual.  
Congratulations!*



*Above: SN Barrett receives Sea Service  
award. Below: MK3 Melnychenko receives  
Conduct award. Congratulations!*



*Left: SN Willett  
and SN Barrett  
receive the CG  
Sea Service  
Award for  
completing one  
satisfactory year  
of Sea Service.*



# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### Look what the **ENGINEERS** are up to!

As December approached, it was time to start thinking about Ice Season and getting the cutter ready to head up the Hudson River to break ice and keep commerce moving. Before that could happen, the “bubbler” had to be installed on the stern of STURGEON BAY. The bubbler is a hull lubrication system that basically forms a bubble bath around the cutter as it moves through the ice. This gives the hull a more slick condition so it can move more freely through the ice. The bubbler is only used in the winter and is stored on the pier in the off months. The unit weighs 22,000 pounds and requires a special crane to load it.



*STURGEON BAY  
engineers pictured loading  
the “bubbler” in  
preparation for Ice  
Breaking season that  
commenced on December  
15th.*

*Pictured left: Engineers  
expending CO2 fire  
extinguishers as part of a  
maintenance cycle each  
fire extinguisher goes  
through. The white  
“smog” was quite  
impressive!!!*

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### Crew/Cutter News

- SN Connor reported aboard, he is from Massachusetts. **WELCOME !!!!**
- EM3 Hoyte was selected Sailor of the Quarter, 4th Qtr FY08
- FA Wilburn was selected Sailor of the Quarter, 1st Qtr FY09
- MK1 Gill and MK3 Melnyzenko awarded Good Conduct awards. Congratulations !!!!! Keep up the great work, Bravo Zulu.
- FS1 Espinoza received recognition coin from CG Sector Long Island Sound Commander for outstanding patrol performance.
- FN Dugan got married, congratulations!!!
- The SN Steward family welcomed a new baby to the world!
- SN Connor qualified as Inport watch stander and Helm/Lookout.
- SN Willett and SN Barrett received the Sea Service Ribbon for one year of Sea Time completed, Congratulations-old salty dogs now!!!!
- BM1 Megahey complete Aid Positioning School.

*STURGEON BAY hosted the Capodanno Naval Sea Cadet division aboard for a day in the city and a wonderful lunch aboard. The event was in celebration of a year of fun, work, mentoring and training held aboard STURGEON BAY. Mostly it was a way for STURGEON BAY to give back to the cadets and their families. Over 60 cadets and family members attended, what a great day!!!*



# STURGEON BAY News Letter

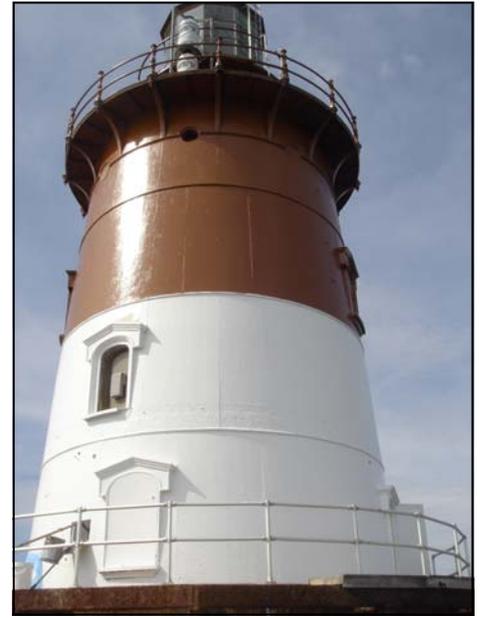
## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

### STURGEON BAY crew refurbishes two lighthouses!!



STURGEON BAY crewmembers refurbished two lighthouses during the quarter. (Top) ROMER SHOAL LH, Lower Bay of NYC and ORIENT PT SHOAL LH, Long Island Sound. Over 100 hours were devoted to the projects, restoring both LH's to their original charm. (Bottom right photo): BM3 Chaplin, SN Reyes, SN Willett and BMC Babcock take a break from painting to pose for a picture. (Far left photo): ROMER SHOAL LH was in terrible condition, Aids to Navigation Team NY worked with SBAY crewmembers to change the appearance drastically (Right photo)



*STURGEON BAY crewmembers worked very hard on these two projects. Both LH's were in desperate need of fresh paint and maintenance. (Far left photo): MK1 Gill looks on from the small boat at the finished product.*

# STURGEON BAY News Letter

## 1st Quarter, FY 09

(October, November, December 2008)

## From the Commanding Officer

The 1st Quarter of FY 09 was nothing short of busy, exhausting, but very rewarding for the crew of STURGEON BAY. The three month period took STURGEON BAY out of our element. We spent 8 weeks working outside the port of NYC. Two separate patrols took the cutter and crew as far north as Rockland Maine, and as far east as Nantucket. The crew performed admirably, completing a multitude of missions while working for 4 different Coast Guard Sectors. I am extremely proud of the crew and their performance during operational tempo that was double the normal schedule. No loss of productivity, and only praise was garnered from all those who benefited from STURGEON BAY's performance. To end the period, STURGEON BAY, crew and family spent New Years Eve underway patrolling, but watching fire works and ringing in the new year. Thank you. LT Scott A. Rae

*Special KUDOS to FS1 Espinoza for his extraordinary efforts in making Thanksgiving underway a memorable one. He created a spread fit for Kings!! Thank You*

FS1 Espinoza and Thanksgiving Dinner, Thank You!!! SBAY crew enjoying Thanksgiving Dinner.



## Upcoming Events

**Ice Season, December 15 to 31 Mar 09**

**Rippowam School Event, 28 Jan 09**

**Navy League Sailor of the Year Dinner**



**STURGEON BAY** crewmembers ran into "rock legend" Dee Snyder from Twisted Sister while on liberty at Port Jefferson NY.

## Upcoming Birthdays



MK1 Gill, 13 Jan

FS1 Espinoza, 5 Feb

SN Connor, 12 Feb



**ESOPUS MEADOWS LIGHTHOUSE.** Photo taken from SBAY during an ice patrol in the Hudson River.