

THE BREAKWALL

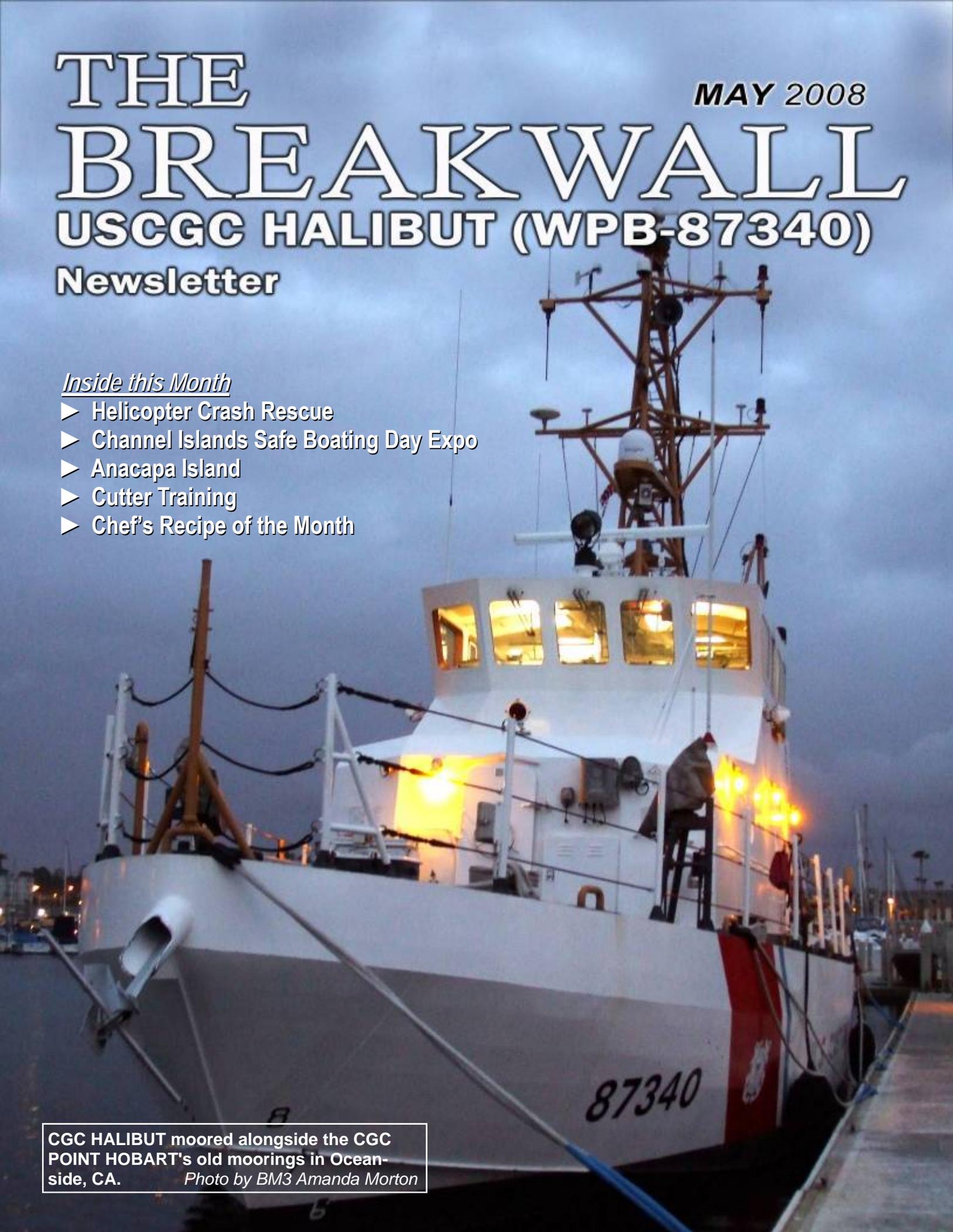
MAY 2008

USCGC HALIBUT (WPB-87340)

Newsletter

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CGC HALIBUT moored alongside the CGC POINT HOBART's old moorings in Ocean-side, CA.

Photo by BM3 Amanda Morton

Greetings

Friends,

I'm proud to publish an article this month on the crew's outstanding response to a helicopter crash in which their actions made a positive difference in the lives affected. Additionally, we visited Channel Islands Harbor and participated in a Safe Boating Day Expo, took a tour of Anacapa Island, and performed several mission related activities on the water.

We said goodbye this month to an exceptional team player, MK2 Bryan Devore, and said hello to a new member, MK3 Cooper who transferred from the CGC ALDER (Duluth, MN). Enjoy the newsletter and thank you for your continued support of the cutter, crew, and morale program!

Best Regards,

LJG Paul Miller
Commanding Officer



HALIBUT CREW PROFILE



MK2 Daryl Lirette

Hometown: **New Orleans, LA**

Favorite Part of Job:

Helping and making a difference in other's lives.

Status:

Married , Wife - Wendy, Son - Jackson, Daughter - Mikayla

Career Aspirations:

MK2 wants to be a Company Commander at CG Training Center Cape May and eventually be the first MK Master Chief Petty Officer of the U.S. Coast Guard.



HALIBUT Morale



CGC HALIBUT'S Morale Fund contributes directly to the Morale, Wellness, and Recreation (MWR) of the crew. Unit ball caps and T-Shirt sales contribute directly to this fund. If anyone is interested in supporting the morale program with either a private donation or through hat/t-shirt sales, please contact:

Paul.J.Miller@uscg.mil

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HALIBUT CREW HELPS TO SAVE A LIFE

Story by PA1 Allyson E.T. Conroy

Pictures by Jerry Taylor, S&B Custom Images

Memorial Day weekend is always traditionally busy for the men and women of the Coast Guard who spend this first weekend of summer on the water. Across the country their job is to make sure boaters are safe and to respond to a variety of situations. The early summer weekend of 2008 will definitely be a memorable one for a number of Coasties in the Los Angeles region.

At 9:21 Saturday morning, while on patrol, the Cutter Halibut received a distress call stating a helicopter had crashed near Two Harbors on Catalina Island. Upon receiving the call, the crew of the Halibut saw the black smoke rising from the area, confirming the emergency. The commanding officer, Lt. j.g. Paul Miller, called the sector command center to let them know what he had heard.

"I called Deputy Bruce Straelow, who is an Isthmus [County] Sheriff to get details," Miller said. "He was on scene and had requested rescue assets, which I in turn passed to the sector (search and rescue) controller." Within minutes the cutter was steaming toward the crash site to offer assistance.

About the same time the cutter received the information about the crash, Air Station Los Angeles also heard the distress call and launched a rescue helicopter and crew to help in any way they could.

"It appeared both [the] Halibut and the air station ...launched on search and rescue after hearing distress calls," air station public affairs officer, Lt. David Middleton said. Middleton believes that by doing so, this saved "valuable minutes and were some of the first assets on scene."

About 20 minutes later the cutter arrived at Isthmus harbor, anchored and sent a rescue and assistance team with emergency medical kits to the island. The team consisted of Executive Petty Officer BM1 Alyson (AJ) Pulkkien, BM3 JR Tinajero, Seaman Brandon Blackwell, MK2 Daryl Lirette, and Game Warden John Castro.

"Upon arrival to the pier we unloaded the equipment and ran approximately 600 yards to the crash site. There were several rescue vehicles in the area (around) the downed helicopter. Yellow caution tape had been set up to restrict access to the area," said Castro, who was underway with the Halibut for a joint patrol.

The five members of Halibut's rescue and assistance team were directed by the lifeguards and sheriff rescue personnel to the third victim, Sky. There they helped paramedics with the care of Sky by helping administering pain medication, putting her on the back board for transportation and caring for other injuries she sustained as a result of the crash.

"The Halibut's rescue and assistance team were essentially charged with the care of Sky," Miller said. "The other rescue personnel on the ground ran out of backboards and medical supplies, which is where our EMT/MED kit came into play."

According to Castro, Sky was conscious the entire time the team helped stabilize her for transportation. In all, the Halibut crewmembers were on scene helping for about a half hour, directly resulting in saving Sky's life.

"I believe the prior relationships and the professionalism displayed by each of the [agencies] made the difference in this tragic event," Castro said.

While the Halibut crewmembers were helping with Sky, the Coast Guard rescue helicopter landed on the island and flight mechanic AET2 Nate Falkenstein and rescue swimmer AST3 Karol Garrison both offered their assistance.

In all two lives were saved that morning, including Sky.

"I am very proud of the way the team performed that day. Each of them stepped up, helped out and made a tremendous difference," Miller said of his crewmembers. "They were able to put their training to use in a situation where limited resources were available and helped save a life."

Though this was not a boating accident or even water related, it shows how diverse the missions are that members of the Coast Guard are called on to respond to on any given day.



CUTTER ON PATROL



(clockwise)
CGC HALIBUT underway at sunset off of the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach, MK2 Lirette helps a visitor on the bridge, BM3 Tinajero speaks with a visitor family during HALIBUT's participation in CG Station Channel Islands "Safe Boating Day Expo", PO Gray talks to a guest on the fantail.



Safe BOATING Day expo



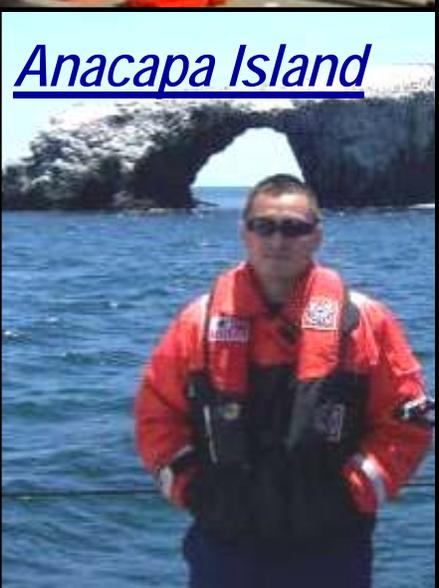


(clockwise)
 LTJG Miller with guests on the bridge, HALIBUT moored in Channel Islands Harbor, BM3s Tinajero and Morton inspect the small boat, LA County Lifeguards and Sheriff's joined HALIBUT for a memorial day brunch while moored at the CG Mooring Ball in Malibu, CA, BM3 Tinajero looks on as HALIBUT stands off of Santa Cruz Island.

More pictures next page ➤



CUTTER TRAINING



FS2's Recipe of the Month

Cooking the Coast Guard Way

Seared Ahi Tuna with Cilantro Vinaigrette



- 1 bunch Cilantro
- Fresh Ginger (grated)
- 2-3 cloves garlic
- 2 tblsp Mirin
- 1c Canola Oil
- 1/2c Rice Wine Vinegar
- 2 tblsp Soy Sauce
- Sea Salt & White Pepper to taste
- Juice of 2 fresh limes

In a blender, combine all ingredients except oil. Blend until fine and add oil by dripping in slowly. Place vinaigrette in bowl and in refrigerator. Season Ahi with salt and white pepper. Heat skillet to 450 degrees and place 2tblsp of canola oil in pan (make sure pan/oil is "smoking" hot). Sear Ahi on both sides to preference. Drip vinaigrette over Ahi and serve with rice noodles and Bok Choi.

HALIBUT on You Tube

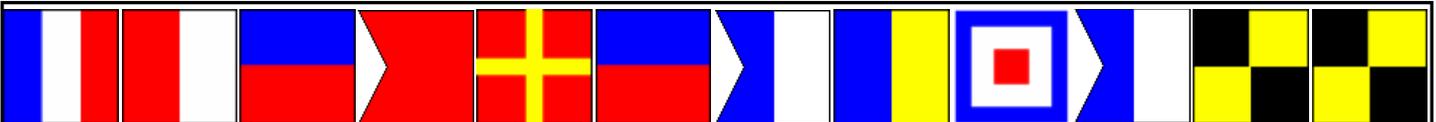
To see the latest CGC HALIBUT YouTube Video, please Go to:
http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=us+coast+guard+halibut&search_type=

Or click on the You Tube logo below

Videos by SN Brandon Blackwell



A view of the lighthouse on Anacapa Island



Homeland Security

THE BREAKWALL

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 LTJG Paul Miller

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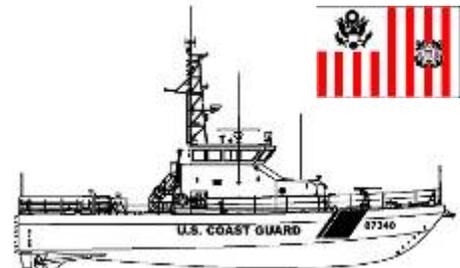
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