

KUKUI

NEWSLETTER

<p>The Long Charlie <i>The crew endures!</i></p> <p>Page 1</p>	<p>Diving on the USS ARIZONA</p> <p>Page 2</p>	<p>Saving Lives <i>The crew springs to action to save a contractor's life.</i></p> <p>Page 3</p>	<p>Morale <i>The crew goes paint balling!</i></p> <p>Page 5</p>
--	--	--	---

The Long Charlie

After a long Charlie period, KUKUI is ready to continue her primary mission!

The long Charlie indeed. Due to a series of critical maintenance requirements, KUKUI spent a lengthy **seven** months in Charlie status. For those not familiar with what “Charlie status” actually means, we’ll break it down real quick.

Coast Guard cutters can be in three primary readiness statuses: Alfa, Bravo, and Charlie. Alfa means the cutter is underway and operational, Bravo means the cutter is at the pier but can be recalled to get underway within several hours, and Charlie means the cutter isn’t going anywhere because there are maintenance and repairs happening. That said, there was some serious maintenance and repairs going on. Normally, a Charlie period lasts between a few weeks and two months. Again, ours was a formidable seven months. So why all this time at the pier?

First and foremost KUKUI is equipped with a thruster system. Positioned at the bow and stern of the ship, the thrusters aid in the maneuvering of the ship when operating close aboard piers, buoys and other vessels; in short, thrusters are an essential part of the Juniper class



LCDR Ramassini, Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, RADM Ray admire the hole in KUKUI's deck.

WELCOME ABOARD

LT Harris	LTJG Devine
ENS Kane	CWO3 Mills
BM1 Partin	BM1 Laughlin
FS1 de la Cruz	HS1 Dias
SN Ramos	



BM2 Parker Dawson gives D14 Commander RADM Thomas a tour of KUKUI's bridge.

buoy tender. An 800kW thruster generator powers our 450 and 550 hp electric thruster motors – this thruster generator broke.

Needless to say, replacing an 800kW highly specialized generator at the bottom of the ship is a massive undertaking. Some light surgery had to be performed to the exterior of the ship to accommodate the project; a large hole was cut in the deck of the fantail and every deck below it to get the generator out of the ship. In the end, the generator was replaced and KUKUI’s thrusters were once again operational.

A slew of other highly important maintenance projects also took place during this Charlie period. It turns out that the Pacific Ocean can cause some serious rust to develop...everywhere. *(continued on next page)*

Diving on the USS ARIZONA



BM1 Jones explores the USS ARIZONA underwater war memorial.

A Unique Opportunity

Some opportunities are once in a life time – KUKUI's dive team certainly got theirs back in April. Divers got a chance to dive on one of Oahu's most historical sites, the USS Arizona memorial. Only a limited number of persons can even visit the memorial per day, diving on the site is considerably less frequent.



KUKUI's dive team splashes in Pearl Harbor at the ARIZONA Memorial.

International Relations

KUKUI's crew hosted a group of 40 Japanese Coast Guard cadets visiting from JCG Kojima. The cadets were given a tour of the ship by LTJG Jaskot and ENS Miltenberger – with support from ENS Knox, FS1 Wiggins, BM1 Korte, ET1 Bracy, and ET2 Harbinsky.

This is one of the many examples of the ongoing partnership between the Japanese and U.S. Coast Guard. During the summer of 2013, five U.S. Coast Guard cadets embarked JCG Kojima to take part in their yearly voyage around the world, in an effort to share training, knowledge, and experience between the U.S. and Japan. Additionally, Japanese and U.S. Coast Guard personnel work closely together to enforce fisheries laws in the Japanese Exclusive Economic Zone.



LTJG Jaskot shows Kojima cadets KUKUI's spacious bridge.

(Continued from Page 1)

Both rusted decks on the forecastle and the potable water pump room were completely redone and are now shiny and beautiful, helping to considerably increase the life of KUKUI's operational service.

Of course, the crew did an excellent job of improving the condition of the ship throughout this period, surging to meet the demands of the ship. While it was a tough period, it was sure worth it because KUKUI has finally returned to Bravo status and is ready to tackle ATON!

Saving Lives

AMR Rescue

Back in April during the thruster generator replacement project, the crew was eating lunch on the messdeck as normal, mentally preparing for the volleyball game against Base Honolulu. Contractors were wrapping up their work in the engineering spaces to take a lunch break when a tool was dropped causing the carbon dioxide (CO₂) fire suppression system in the Auxiliary Machinery Room (AMR) to activate. Now, you need to know that a CO₂ system is designed to replace all the oxygen in a compartment with CO₂, starving the fire and thus extinguishing it. While effective at fighting fires, it can be very dangerous to personnel within the space because of the lack of oxygen.

Immediately sirens and alarms were going off – the crew manning their general emergency billets. Meanwhile a contractor at the bottom of AMR heard the alarm, noticed that something was wrong and began to evacuate the space. Struggling to climb the stairs in the oxygen starved space, the man collapsed.

Recognizing that there was a person trapped in AMR, the investigator team comprised of MK1 Fisher and DC3 Marks quickly suited up with breathing apparatuses to enter the space safely. Upon entering AMR, they found the contractor unconscious on the deck. Marks and Fisher picked the contractor up, carried him up the ladderwell, where they were met by other members of the crew who evacuated him to the buoy deck for additional care. The crew's readiness ensured the contractors full recovery.

Bravo Zulu to the whole crew for saving a life onboard the ship!

One Chuck

In the world of diving, becoming a First Class Diver is highly sought after. BM1 David Partin completed the challenging course back in June as he prepared to report to KUKUI. BM1 will help KUKUI transition to the Coast Guard's new diver rate, congratulations DV1, Hooyah!



KUKUI's BM1 David Partin (right) and BM1 Bobby Foucha diving the MK25.

Sailor of the Quarter

Congratulations

MK3 MARK J. RIVAS

for being selected as KUKUI's Sailor of the Quarter!

XO's Corner

Aloha Friends and Family! My name is LT Jonathan Harris, and I am the newly reported XO aboard KUKUI. I recently arrived to Oahu after serving a three year tour as Delta Company Officer at the Coast Guard Academy. While at the Academy, I had the privilege of sailing aboard Barque EAGLE each summer training cadets as Deck Watch Officers. This is my first assignment in the Fourteenth District area of responsibility, and I am very excited to learn more about this region, as well as see what our highly professional crew has to offer to our nation. I truly enjoy going to sea and conducting Coast Guard missions. It is a privilege to break into the Black Hull fleet for the first time, and I look forward to working with the outstanding KUKUI crew.

Morale

Bellows Morale Event

KUKUI's crew was lucky enough to take a day off in June to enjoy an afternoon of paintball. Members of the crew suited up – the hardcore brought their own pro gear and the underprepared came in shorts and tee shirts. Two teams were formed and quickly began trading paint. Chief Mertz expertly assumed the role of sniper for team 1 – thoroughly painting members of ENS Knox's team. At the end of a capture the flag round, ENS Miltenberger heroically threw down his marker and made a mad, unarmed dash for the flag – grabbing it and capturing it with only seconds left on the clock. Regardless of which team won, each crewmember was guaranteed to leave with a healthy cluster of scrapes, welts, and bruises.

After the day's paintball events were done, the crew worked their way over to the beach to enjoy the wind, waves, and a delicious barbeque. ET3 Ruff enjoyed the surf with ENS Miltenberger while LCDR Harris and his family tore it up on the volleyball court. Overall the day was a well deserved

Congratulations!

We've been lucky enough to celebrate the advancement of FNDC Joshua Marks to Damage Controlman 3rd Class. Through his hard work, DC3 Marks was able to "strike" DC by completing a thorough curriculum and several challenging exams. After several months on the advancement list, he made it! Congratulations, shipmate!



District 14 Command Master Chief Windagle congratulates DC3 Marks!



The fierce KUKUI crew poses before the day of paintball. (the after picture was too gruesome to show) ☺

Captain's Cabin

The test of a crew's resilience comes in many formats...this last quarter has definitely tested our collective and individual resilience while we worked diligently getting KUKUI back to a safe operational status. As highlighted throughout the Newsletter, the crew not only endured but excelled at bringing KUKUI "back to life" culminating in a series of successful Aids to Navigation missions...but you'll have to stay tuned to next Quarter's Newsletter to hear more about those endeavors ☺! As always a special thank you to those loved ones who provided the support to our KUKUI family while we worked long (and sometimes frustrating) days to get back together. Our success is not possible without your persistent, dedicated support!

"Prepare – Adapt – Keep Moving Forward"

ADM Papp circa 2013