

CGC MARGARET NORVELL

Miami Beach, FL

WPB 1105

THE RITA REPORT

EDITION 3: NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2014

Welcome aboard! The crew of MARGARET NORVELL hopes you had a joyous and relaxing time during the holidays. We have been as busy as ever with everything from firefighting training and hosting the Boy Scouts onboard to conducting baptisms at sea. The crew thoroughly enjoyed themselves with the Orientation Cruise for families and friends, a holiday party prior to returning to homeport in December and some much deserved down time that same month after a busy patrol. Please enjoy this edition of newsletter!



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THE CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Friends, Family, and Shipmates,

Welcome to another edition of the *The Rita Report*. The past two months have been extremely busy for MARGARET NORVELL and her crew. The intense operational pace challenged everyone with thirty-one days underway over the two-month period. Luckily, we were able to spend both Thanksgiving and Christmas in Miami with our loved ones--a rare treat for coastguardsmen on a cutter. The holiday respite allowed members to both enjoy their families at home and to travel to destinations across the United States.

Despite the crew being scattered during the inport, we did manage to host a number visits for members of the local community. We had fifty students from the Mast Academy's Coast Guard JROTC visit the cutter as well as a Cub Scout den and students from the University of Miami. One of the highlights of the period was the orientation cruise.

As a crew, we had the opportunity during early December to thank the families and friends of MARGARET NORVELL by hosting an orientation cruise. It was a splendid (South Florida) December day with forty-eight guests onboard. We cruised from Sector Miami in Miami Beach down the cruise ship channel and anchored in front of downtown Miami. There we served lunch, gave tours of the cutter to families, and got to know a little bit more about each other's lives .

outside the lifelines. Undoubtedly the climax of the day was the baptism of five children. Captain Walcott, Chaplain, USN, accompanied MARGARET NORVELL on the cruise to conduct the traditional baptisms during which he used the ship's bell as a baptismal basin. The children baptized included Chase Austin Saponara, son of LT Ernest Saponara, Derrick James Garcia, son of BM1 Ronald Garcia, Landon Kade Stewart, Sean Kensinger and Jaxen Kensinger, sons of FS3 Landon Stewart. As maritime tradition dictates, these names will be engraved on the ship's bell for eternity. A special thanks to Sector Miami, specifically Boatswain Arturo Howard, and District Seven for making time in our busy operational schedule to host this special event.

During our patrols, besides interdicting higher than normal numbers of migrants illegally attempting to reach the U.S. by sea, we did enjoy some nice port visits. We were again able to visit Bimini, a crew favorite. And we made it to Nassau for an enjoyable two-day port call where we visited with a Royal Bahamas Defence Force ship of similar design as MARGARET NORVELL, a real treat. I had the opportunity to catch up with my Officer Candidate School classmate, LT Bertram Bowleg, Operation Officer aboard HMBS ARTHUR DION HANNA. We look forward to an opportunity to operate with our Bahamian partners at sea in the future.

We also experienced a noteworthy operational event, as boarding

officer BM2 Test (formally Lindenthal) terminated the voyage of a fishing vessel that had inadequate safety gear off Key West. BM2 Test's initiative and month's preparation in becoming the cutter's only living marine resources boarding officer certainly paid off. We celebrated Mrs. Webb's promotion to Lieutenant Junior Grade, a well deserved accomplishment. We also welcomed BM3 Carlos Sosa and his wife, Renee, to our MARGARET NORVELL family. Lastly, we had Coast Guard Auxiliarist Isaac "Yitzy" Rosenberg join our crew...but more about that in the next issue.

In the meantime, please check out another CNN online story about MARGARET NORVELL and life aboard an FRC. You can find it at <http://www.cnn.com/video/data/2.0/video/us/2014/11/26/coast-guard-cutter-orig-jd.cnn.html>.

Happy New Year!



A Day in the Life of a United States Public Health Service Officer

Featuring: LT Kans Lewis
Written By: SN Maryanne DeLoeste

Onboard MARGARET NORVELL, the crew works side by side with the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) any time we conduct Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations (AMIO) and bring migrants onboard the cutter. A USPHS officer is required to be onboard to provide health care and public health services in support of immigration law enforcement and ensure that the migrants are returned to their respective countries in relative health and safety. The crew must keep the migrants safe and treat those in need of medical assistance who may need it after having been at sea with little to no resources.

The MARGARET NORVELL warmly welcomes Lieutenant Kans Lewis, our USPHS officer who will be onboard the cutter anytime we work for Sector Key West. Lieutenant Lewis was born in Haiti and shortly after high school traveled to West Palm Beach, Florida. In 1998 he joined the United States Navy as an active duty corpsman. In July of 2003 he was released and worked to obtain his Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Mr. Lewis furthered his education and received his Masters to become a Nurse Practitioner. From December 2010 to 2012 he worked for the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBP) in Fort Worth, Texas, where he partnered with medical doctors, physician assistants and USPHS officers to provide medical assistance to inmates. A great deal of his decision to become a USPHS officer was influenced by his diligent efforts working for the FBP. All in all, his journey has directed him now to work

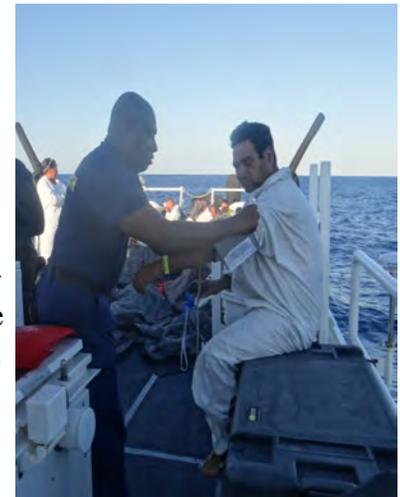
for DHS with the Coast Guard cutters at Sector Key West, Florida, assisting and treating migrants and smugglers rescued or interdicted at sea.

Onboard MARGARET NORVELL, Mr. Lewis provides all routine, chronic, urgent and emergency care for the migrants 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This also includes sick call twice a day, morning and evening, for the migrants onboard. The duty he assumes requires one week afloat and one week ashore, however, he is fulfilling a position that usually filled by two USPHS officers. The task can be arduous, but he carries out his job with both stoicism and enthusiasm. Mr. Lewis deals with many different medical situations, for example one migrant reported to have chest pains and to have experienced a mild heart attack. He was really experiencing angina pectoris which is not unheard of for those in stressful situations, and stress onboard the cutter is quite common for both the migrants and the crew due to sea state and other conditions. And not only does he provide care for the migrants, but he also provides assistance for Coast Guard personnel for any injuries and illness that may arise during the patrol. All in all, Lieutenant Kans Lewis's duties are greatly needed and very much appreciated for both the care of migrants as well as Coast Guard personnel.

LT Kans Lewis, right, has become part of the MARGARET NORVELL crew not only by helping the migrants, but by helping and spending time with the crewmembers.



LT Kirk Fistick,
Commanding Officer,
USCGC MARGARET
NORVELL,
with LT Kans Lewis.



LT Kans Lewis attending to
migrants onboard
MARGARET NORVELL.





Burial at Sea

Petty Officer

Adolph Du Mont

US Navy Retired

07 December 2014

Pearl Harbor Day



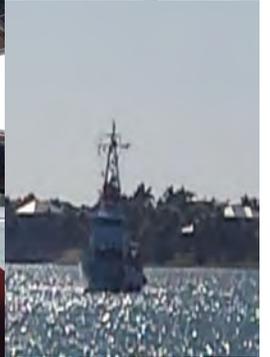
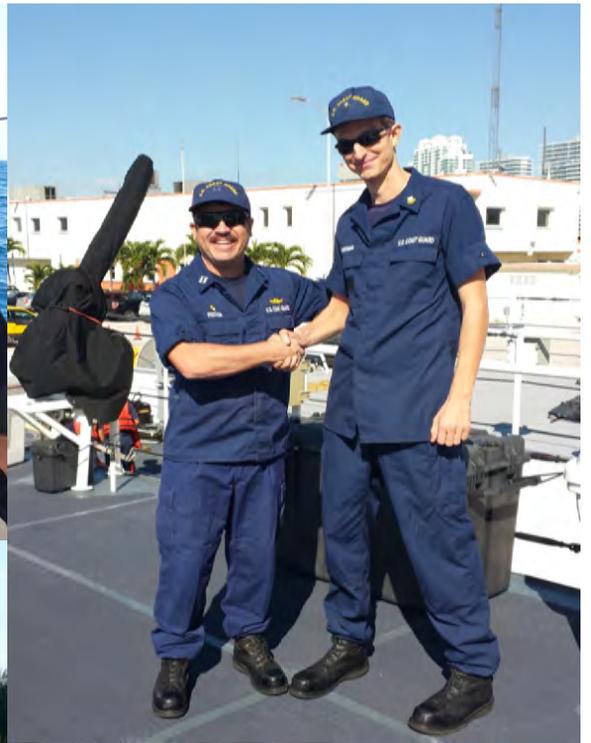


CGC MARGARET NORVELL hosted members from the Marine and Science Technology Academy (commonly referred to as the MAST Academy) during this last inport. The MAST Academy is a public high and magnet school within the Miami-Dade school district and is located on Virginia Key. Students who attend the academy can choose to study one of three majors--Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences, Marine Studies and Culture and Marine Related Industries--while also completing the required curriculum. The MAST Academy is also home to the only Coast Guard JROTC program in the country. It was a pleasure to show the young students around the cutter and to share with them the missions that the Coast Guard completes every day. We hope to continue this relationship with the MAST Academy as time goes on and help mentor these students throughout their academic ventures.

During a weekend trip, a group of sixty Cub Scouts came onboard and received a tour of MARGARET NORVELL from GM1 Ben Henninger and BM3 Carlos Sosa. During this time, the young boys were captivated by the ship's gun mounts and the ship's bridge. Asking intriguing questions, they left with a basic knowledge of the Coast Guard and Fast Response Cutters as well as the inspiration of having met two successful young men, one being a former Boy Scout and Eagle Scout himself.



Communities In Schools (CIS) is the nation's largest organization dedicated to keeping kids in school and preparing them for future success in life. Two of MARGARET NORVELL's officers, LTJG Webb and LT Fistick, both volunteer for CIS mentoring young high school students and providing them information on all avenues available after high school.





On November 8, 2014, ENS Katherine Webb advanced to Lieutenant Junior Grade. With this advancement, Kate leaves behind her butter bars, but she will never forget her time onboard as an Ensign and all that she has learned.



During the November inport period, members of the crew partook in the RESOLVE Firefighting School, located in Fort Lauderdale, FL.





During the Orientation Cruise, CGC MARGARET NORVELL was honored to have Chaplain Walcott join the crew and families to conduct baptismal ceremonies. As per tradition, the names of those baptized will be engraved in the ship's bell. Congratulations to the families of:

Chase Austin Saponara

Derrick James Garcia

Landon Kade Stewart

Sean Kensinger

Jaxen Kensinger



Friends, Family, and Shipmates,

Thank you for reading the Rita Report we hope you it gave you a little insight as to what your loved one is accomplishing on a daily basis. Would like to take this time to thank all the crew members for their contributions to the newsletter and for their hard work while onboard. Now that you have enjoyed the newsletter, if you would like to provide feedback or comments please feel free to contact me at Jillian.E.Kelly@uscg.mil. Thank you all for your support, enjoy!

Very respectfully, ENS Jillian Kelly