

Important Points of Contact!

OMBUDSMAN:

TBD- It could be you!

Tricare:

877-874-2273

LCDR Myron McConville

(Chaplain):

910-545-6976

Teresa Blais (EAP D8 Rep):

504-253-4711

CGC CYPRESS:

850-452-9044

Captain's Corner: (CONT.)

One last note --- Cara Doerr will be departing for a new station in May. Cara has done an excellent job as the unit Ombudsman. We will miss her and wish her well. With her pending departure, I am soliciting for someone interested in filling the role of the next CYPRESS Ombudsman. I have had a few interested candidates, but want to spread the word as wide as possible. Contact me directly if you are interested.

Semper Paratus!
LCDR Amy Florentino

Open SORS!

Hello, all you CYPRESS newsletter readers! For this second quarter edition of the newsletter I will be focusing on the Ship's Spilled Oil Recovery System (SORS) and the personnel that run the operation on deck. This oil spill response equipment is found on all 225' Juniper class buoy tenders. Although many believe the SORS equipment (yes, those two large containers that say SORS) located in the hold are only there to prevent the hold from becoming a roller rink, a live pool for dolphins and other exotic marine animals, or jacuzzi central, they are there as mission critical equipment that is required to be onboard while CYPRESS is underway. With the completion of SORS training at the end of March, it is important that all of CYPRESS' crew is familiar with this equipment.

With the potential to be either first responders or support for oil spill disasters, it is essential that CYPRESS and her crew understand and are prepared to break out the equipment and assist in the cleanup process. CYPRESS' SORS equipment can be found hiding in the SORS cargo hold. All WLBs carry two sets (A and B) of SORS equipment, in case one fails. Each set consists of two metal cages that hold the DESMI Terminator (weir skimmer, which collects oil from the oil water interface at the surface), the control stand, the essential hydraulic hoses, the Fast Boom Sweep (the 60 foot inflatable booms that collect the oil), and the two (one large, one small) Canflex Bladders, known as "Sea Slug", (the bladders used for storage and transportation of collected oil/water). You will also find the outrigger arm segments and truss float in SORS cargo that are pieced together and sent over the side using the crane. The equipment is staged on the buoy deck and is carefully sent over the side, keeping personnel safety first during the entire evolution.

AtoN

Q S W I V E L T X O W V X E F G X C S W R P
Q W C F Y U H W Y A C K R V K C Q N V G D V
I P R X H I R E C Z S M R O C O K Z M M J U
P G E X T M W B L U X F C I O C L R Y M B W
I J G K E L K W P D K L J G O O V E G Y E H
V C G C B Z G E T Z I Q G L F L K Z R R T I
M T I A Q J R C T J Q R B B I T O K I O T P
T Q R G N V H H V W B D B A I L I E P D S O
M E N U I H I A D G A F B L R Z L N E F K S
S C F S W I Q N C E M U P A R K Q I S Z E Z
Z C O G L R G A H X X S L C C B I L M D L C
P R G G X J L M A Q I L H A A O A E U I C R
H A N D B V G R I T O A H X H Q N G C H J I
B Z I U V Y E A N C I S E O S H A A R O V T
W Y L F D O C C E N Z F T E V V U C V D X T
F O S J S U W S S M A D L X A O Q M T M M E
N E G B X B R T F H K D C R O S S D E C K R
S N C O K O B O N C D D E H X Z O D A B H N S
N P Z U H P J V J A D Q A J F D R N N U T H
I X U U P T E Z S S I N K E R U J I P N J G
T A K E E G P S R Y O W V T L S A J A L J F
H F R G A F B A G T O T E E X M W E Q F Y S

BUOY
BAIL
SHACKLE
SWIVEL
HOG
CROSSDECK
SLING
MAIN
WHIP
CHAPE
SINKER
SPLITKEY
CAGELINE
BRIDLE
HEADBLOCK
SADDLE
SUPERVISOR
RIGGER
GRIPES
CHAIN
CRITTERS
VEGA
CARMANAH
HORSECOLLAR
CHAINSTOPPER

2ND Quarter of 2014 CGC CYPRESS

"THE STRONG ARM OF THE GULF"

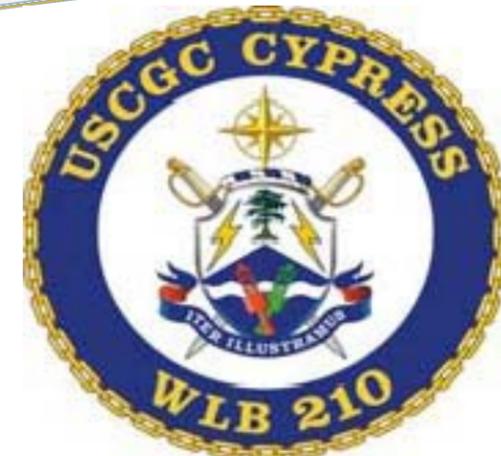


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Blue Angels Air show!



July 12th, 2014 will be the first time since 2012 that the Blue Angels will be back in action in Pensacola, FL. Stand by for more information for this upcoming fun and exciting event!

SPECIAL THANKS!

Special Thanks to LCDR Florentino for being a frequent CYPRESS Newsletter article author, as well as LTJG Bertram and LTJG White for helping out for this edition of the CYPRESS Newsletter in the great year of 2014!

Getting Back into the Swing of Things

-by LTJG Jake Bertram

As the sweet sounds of dockside (needle-gunning and the occasional smoke alarm) fade and are replaced by the hum of the standard inport work day, it is important to take a moment and consider the workload we'll expect over the next few months.

CYPRESS' dockside period was a resounding success, with essential repairs and upgrades to our decks, duel point boat davit, and buoy handling equipment. The Coast Guard invested a huge amount of time and resources into refurbishing the cutter and ensuring all systems are functioning properly. With the conclusion of our dockside, it is time to begin the long process of returning the ship to a highly efficient and fully operational state.

To help "knock the rust off" and get the ship fully operational again, we'll schedule training days, complete mandatory drills and exercises, and ease back into our primary mission of servicing aids to navigation.



CYPRESS maintains six "training teams" devoted to planning and executing the myriad of required drills to maintain crew proficiency. These range from the Navigation and Seamanship Training Team evaluating the ship's reaction to reduced visibility during Special Sea Detail to the Engineering Training Team simulating casualties to major pieces of equipment to the Damage Control Training Team instructing the crew on proper procedure to combat fire and flooding.

Over the coming months, crew training will be a major priority for the cutter. Drills, boat ops, and sweepers (for cutter cleanliness and sanitation) will all be prominent parts of future patrols.



2nd Quarter Recognitions:

Departed Crew Members:

"May the wind always be at your back and the sun upon your face. And may the winds of destiny carry you aloft to dance with the stars."

- EM1 Aaron Evans
CG Achievement Medal

- EM3 Chad Theriot
Letter of Commendation

- FN Dammron Parsons
Letter of Commendation

- SN Daniel Powell
Letter of Commendation

Crew Member Awards:

Thank you to all those that strive to create a safe, professional, and hardworking work environment onboard CYPRESS. Your hard work and good conduct has not gone unnoticed!

- MK1 Stewart
Good Conduct Award

- MK3 Banks
Good Conduct Award

- BM3 San Diego
Good Conduct Award

- SN Powell
Good Conduct Award

Lastly, a special Thank You! to those that received Positive Page 7s for their assistance and commitment throughout the entire dockside period.

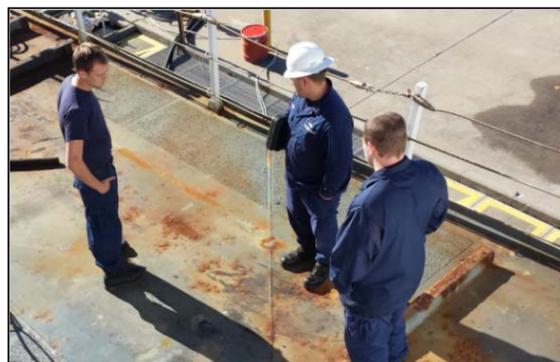
Captain's Corner:



Greetings CYPRESS family and friends!

Welcome back to the Captain's Corner. CYPRESS just finished up a 12 week dockside maintenance contract. During this contract, both outside workers and ship's force revitalized a number of areas on the ship and overhauled several critical pieces of equipment. We renewed the rigging for all of our buoy deck weight handling equipment and overhauled the inhaul winch and hydraulic chain stoppers. We received a new ATON small boat and overhauled the port side davit. The middle picture is the old boat, which will be sold through the Federal Government as Excess Property. The picture to the top right is the port engineer and CYPRESS crew members (MKC Deneke and BM2 Harding) inspecting the boat deck after the dual point davit was removed. We also cleaned many behind the scenes engineering systems including ventilation, grey water and sewage.

We completed topside maintenance including painting on



the boat deck, air castles, and bridge hand rails. Our Cracker Jack night crew painted every square inch of several interior engineering spaces from aft steering to SORS machinery room. All in all it was a very busy yet very productive maintenance period. I appreciate people's flexibility in working long hours to get the jobs done correctly. I was impressed with the 'ALL HANDS' attitude of the fire watches, work item inspectors and ship's workforce. Of special note the Product Line and Port Engineer made certain to mention how well the crew did in executing this contract in our final team meeting. Bravo Zulu on a job well done.

As this extended inport period came to a close, we took the chance to refocus on operational readiness. The crew completed a stem to stern Unit Safety Assessment Tool (USAT), Spilled Oil Recovery System (SORS) training and a Ready for Operations (RFO) day. The RFO day consisted of drills and buoy tending with two ship riders. We hosted my boss, Captain John Arenstam, from



District 8 and his counterpart LCDR Brian Huff from District 7. These two ATON professionals brought an outside set of eyes to review how CYPRESS conducted training and operations. They offered some great insight and commended our outstanding attitudes, risk assessment and team work. At the end of the day, they also stamped us ready to sail, which was critical because CYPRESS is about to get busy again. During the next two quarters, we have several extended trips planned including an out of district ATON patrol, NOAA weather buoy operations and Blue Angels air show support to name a few. That is about all I can give for details in the newsletter due to Operational Security (OPSEC) requirements, but needless to say it will be busy.

I urge all crew members and dependents to review Hurricane readiness plans and get ready for the upcoming season. As the season draws near, we will hold an all hands/dependents event to conduct training. We will work with morale to add some food and fun to the occasion.



Mighty Morale –by LTJG Nathan “Wheetay” White

Hello again morale family! Just a word from your friendly neighborhood Morale Officer. It has been a while since we last talked, and it seems like just yesterday that the Morale Committee was working away, deciding on just how much money to spend on Haunted Ship decorations (thousands) and whether or not a BBQ was an appropriate choice for the Holiday Party dinner (I will let you decide that one). You might think with all of these events, Morale just takes off the rest of the year! No, you better believe that we have been busy, making Morale a priority (right after drills, small boat ops, dry dock, and cleaning for sweepers). Here is a quick highlight of the CYPRESS Morale events of the past three months:

- On 28 February, we clinched 2nd place in the NAS Pensacola Centennial Kickball tournament. Highlight: BM3 Stoddard talking trash before the game even started.



- On 08 March, 17 CYPRESS crewmembers participated in the McGuire's 5K Prediction Run! Unfortunately, no one placed first, except maybe for number of Irish Wakes consumed.
- On 22 March, 3 brave souls completed the NAS Pensacola Blue Angels Rock N' Fly Half Marathon, burning a combined 7,142 calories. (Enough to eat 3 of FS1's doughnuts)

- On April 4th, 2 CYPRESS crewmembers completed the Habitat for Humanity build on two houses in the local Pensacola area. They completed the framing of two houses for needy families in the community. The effort was greatly appreciated, and cast a positive light on CYPRESS and the Coast Guard.
- CYPRESS also held a March Madness Tournament bracket for the Men's NCAA Tournament. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th were awarded \$100, \$50, and \$25 gift cards. Congratulations to OPS (1st), FN Harper (T-2nd), EM2 Labianca (T-2nd), and BM1 Liuzzi (4th). EM2 Labianca placed second, picking Duke to win it all. *Duke!*

Stay tuned for our next installment, and as always, I look forward to hearing any suggestions for Morale events.

CYPRESS VISITORS

We welcomed with open arms, shared experiences, and said our goodbyes. Thanks to those that sailed with Cutter CYPRESS this past quarter.

- CAPT John Arenstam
- LCDR Brian Huff
- LCDR Robert Gomez
- ENS Rita Walter
- FN Trenton King

UPCOMING EVENTS

18 April – 30 May : Softball Tournament, NAS Pensacola (Mondays and Wednesdays)

20 April : CYPRESS Easter Party, DC1 Chad Klingler's House

17 May : Emerald Coast Mud Run (Morale Event): 10K Elite / 5K Competitive Mud Run

04 August : Coast Guard Day celebration, CG Station Pensacola (tentative)

31 October : CYPRESS Haunted Ship, downtown Palafox Pier (tentative)

POC for all events is LTJG Nathan White at (850) 452-9044.

