Volume 1, Issue 2

DECEMBER 2011 - FEBRUARY 2012

COUNT ON US!

THE DEPENDABLE DELIVERY

USCGC DEPENDABLE (WMEC-626)

Greetings DEPENDABLE Family & Friends!

The past several months have been extremely busy. March brought the end of our 59-day patrol in support of Operation Atlantic Venture, which serves to support maritime safety, security, & stewardship missions in the off shore waters stretching from Maine to Northern New Jersey.

Throughout our patrol, we worked in concert with a host of other Coast Guard surface, air, & shore-based assets to enforce laws associated with fisheries & safety regulations, marine mammal protection, & other maritime safety & security missions. Central to the success of these operations are at-sea boardings & our law enforcement teams conducted over 60 of them, ensuring compliance with applicable manning, safety, documentation, & gear requirements.

As often occurs during the winter months in the tumultuous North Atlantic, instances of vessel distress arise requiring a rapid transition from law enforcement to emergency response, & we faced several during this patrol. For example, in early January, we responded to a Search & Rescue case involving a 75-foot disabled fishing vessel in danger of running aground amidst deteriorating conditions off Cape Ann, Massachusetts. Initially over 50 miles from the vessel, the crew pounded through heavy seas & high winds throughout the late night hours, arriving on scene prior to dawn, taking the vessel in tow, & safely delivering the boat & crew of four to a safe haven in nearby Gloucester.

In addition to the aforementioned operations we followed a rigorous training regimen, conducting frequent drills & exercises in areas such as shipboard engineering, gunnery, command & control, firefighting, navigation, & small boat handling. We made periodic stops in Boston & New Bedford, Massachusetts, Halifax, Nova Scotia, & Brooklyn, New York.

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~FROM THE CAPTAIN~

Hello once again to friends and family of DEPENDABLE! While it's currently approaching 65 degrees as I pen this note, that was certainly not the case this past patrol! With most of my past underway time logged in the warm waters off Florida and in the Caribbean, our recent patrol environment took some getting used to from a weather perspective. It marked the first time that I've seen snow shoveling necessary to prepare small boats for launch, or snow angels on a flight deck. Despite the weather challenges, and true to form, the men and women of DEPENDABLE adjusted, overcame, and excelled, logging an impressive array of accomplishments.

We now find ourselves amidst yet another productive and high tempo maintenance and repair period in preparation for several key inspections , as well as our next trip out on the pond. Many thanks to those of you who continue to support our efforts, whether you're a member of our mission support network helping us get ready for our next trip, or a DEPENDABLE spouse providing constant support and encouragement – our mission, crew, and cutter successes don't just materialize based upon the efforts from inside our lifelines, but from your help as well, and I thank you for your continued dedication, devotion, and support!

Count on us!

Sincerely,

Lee Petty
Commanding Officer

MEET THE CREW

Brandon McLaughlin

Rate/Rank: Seamen

Age: 28

Department: Deck

A little bit about me: I'm from Portland, Oregon & I enjoy working on cars, snowboarding, bungee jumping, & pretty much anything that gets the adrenaline pumping.

If I were CO for the day I would… "Grant liberty to all non-rates."

Bryan Hayworth

Rate/Rank: Yeoman First Class

Age: 39

Department: Support

Last Station: MLC Atlantic out of Norfolk, VA.

A little bit about me: I'm from Archdale, NC & my favorite NASCAR driver is Dale Earnhardt Jr.

If I were CO for the day I would… "Have a meeting."

Daniel Kobs

Rate/Rank: Storekeeper Third Class

Age: 24

Department: Support

Last Station: ANT Bristol out of Bristol, RI.

A little bit about me: I'm from Kenosha, WI & my favorite sports team is the Green Bay Packers.

If I were CO for the day I would… "Have Dunkin Donuts cater coffee break."

Welcome Aboard!

FN Davies
SN Word
FN Iavarone
OS3 Mclean
ENS Nieto
SN Thompson
EM3 Murphy
SN Lenk

Advancements!

LTJG Kraemer & OS1 Hess

Good Luck to Our Departing Shipmates!

FN Irizarry - AET “A” School
EM2 Abascal - IT “A” School
FS1 McNeal - TRACEN Cape May
FN Moore - MK “A” School
FN Soto - ET “A” School
SN Thorson - IT “A” School
FN Mimnaugh - PATFORSWA
FN Lagarce - MST “A” School
SN Phillips - SK “A” School
SN Bailey - SK “A” School
FN Workman - GM “A” School

Awards

SAILOR OF THE YEAR
BM2 CHRISTOPHER HOLMES

NON-RATE SAILOR OF THE PATROL
SN JUSTIN HOCHBERGER

SAILOR OF THE QUARTER
BM1 PETER FAGER

Operations

In December, the Operations Department kept busy with required equipment maintenance/repair, & also with preparations for the ship's D1 fisheries patrol. The CIC, Deck, Navigation, & Law Enforcement division have been hard at work & have made outstanding contributions that deserve recognition.

During the patrol, the deckies successfully launched the small boat over 100 times, ensuring the boat crews made it in & out of the water safely each time. BM1 Peter Fager & BM2 Christopher Holmes logged over a 40 hours each, serving as DEPENDABLE's reliable boat coxswains.

ME1 Greg Petrongolo & ME3 Robert Pagano defended their "Law-Dawg" nicknames, logging over 104 combined hours of small boat operations. GM1 James Fickes & GM3 William "B-B Guns" Rayne got a chance to expend a few rounds of ammo during an exciting Gunnery Exercise.

OS1 Hughes, OS1 Hess, OS2 Watford, OS3 Young, & OS3 McLean did a fantastic job handling all communications while out on the water, which can become quite hectic when operations are busy.

Engineering

A lot of people only see what our sailors do on the weather decks, but what goes on behind the scenes is just as important & just as exciting! Hundreds upon hundreds of hours were spent this last patrol, keeping DEPENDABLE ever ready to execute the mission & bring our sailors safely back home.

Main Propulsion division suffered multiple machinery failures over the past two-month patrol, but due to their hard work and great attitudes, all challenges were resolved quickly & efficiently. After one of our boilers became inoperable, CWO Barker, MKC Verch, MK1 Andreasen, MK3 Chester, MK3 Kasheta, & MK3 Farber all spent over 200 hours troubleshooting & resolving the issue to ensure DEPENDABLE had steam to supply heat, hot water, & cooking equipment for the galley.

Damage Control division kept incredibly busy - it's a lot of work maintaining a ship over forty years old. Whether it's testing for adequate water tight integrity throughout the ship, welding/grinding equipment, or conducting atmospheric testing prior to entering confined spaces, our damage controlmen are the "go to" guys on board who get things done. With our big CART inspection on the horizon, DC1 Stevens, DC2 Pietraszkiewicz, & DC3 Lewis continue to ensure that everything ranging from manuals to damage control equipment is updated, in good condition, & ready for any equipment failures.

The Electrical Division did an excellent job this patrol, documenting over a hundred hours of preventative maintenance & responding to numerous electrical issues throughout the patrol. DEPENDABLE's EM's, EMC Belmas, EM2 Olivarez, EM2 Abascal, EM3 Young, & EM3 Rendon, repaired the 400HZ frequency converter, which will be able to supply any embarked helicopter with power. Our EM's conducted important electrical safety training to the crew, & also replaced lightbulbs, chased grounds, & always assisted other engineering divisions when troubleshooting equipment failures.

The auxiliary division comprised of MKC Bailey, MK1 "Hambone" Hamilton, MK2 Tartaglia, MK3 Johnson, MK3 Pizzi, FN Costick, FN Thomas, & FN Heckler spent nearly every port call working on small boats, galley equipment, laundry equipment, or air conditioning systems. Their hard work & dedication to their job without a doubt made DEPENDABLE have a great, successful patrol.

Support

The Support department has been doing an excellent job taking care of the DEPENDABLE & her crew with supplies, parts, food, & medical care along with keeping the electronics & computer systems up & running.

SK1 Tommy Hughes & SK3 Daniel Kobs' logistics efforts consisted of five emergency procurements, 153 routine procurements, & the precise management of all port call expenses.

ET1 Shawn Russell, ET2 Michael Scott, & ET3 Mason Cambridge balanced four electronic equipment repairs ultimately ensuring safe cutter navigation & small boat navigation & communications.

The crew of DEPENDABLE relied heavily on IT2 Joshua Craig to maintain our cutter computers, telephone lines, & internet connectivity throughout the patrol which ultimately allowed crewmembers to stay in touch with folks on the beach.

HS1 Rorai "Doc" Greenan handled all medical issues ultimately resulting in the treatment of 81 patients, keeping everyone upright & productive for the majority of the patrol.

FSC Scott Romich, FS1 Pat McNeal, FS3's Jacob Doss, Jeffrey Ladjack, Alexander Donnell, & Kyle Velasquez kept crew morale high, serving over 23,895 delicious meals to the crew.

YN1 Bryan "BrYN1" Hayworth has been extremely busy, making preparations for a heavy transfer season. The obvious joy on his face SAYS IT ALL! →

FROM THE COOKS

SECRET Recipe

Recipe for *FSC Romich's Crab Cakes*

1 lb Crab Meat
1 oz Dijon Mustard
1 Egg
1 teaspoon Old Bay
3 tablespoons Mayo
½ teaspoon Worchester
1 teaspoon Honey
31/2 teaspoon diced Onions & Peppers

Mix all the above ingredients together.

¼ stick of butter
¼ teaspoon Old bay

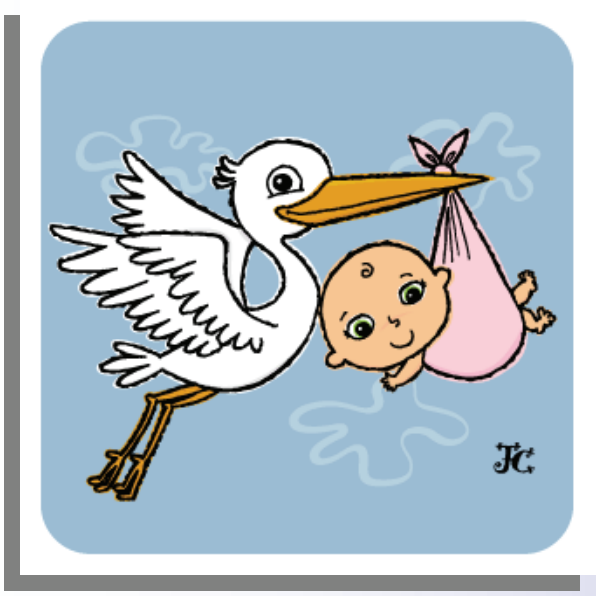
Use an Ice cream scoop to make the crab cakes & place them on a lightly buttered pan. Sprinkle Old Bay & butter over the crab cakes & bake them in an oven at 400 degrees for about 12 to 15 minutes or until they are lightly browned on top.

ENJOY!

OPERATION STORK

WE HAD A NEW BABY REPORT TO DEPENDABLE DURING OUR PATROL...

CONGRATULATIONS TO
JOSEPH & THERESA DITULLIO
THE PROUD NEW PARENTS OF DAUGHTER
VALENTINA!



Morale!

Holiday Party!

Patrol Snapshots!

DEPENDABLE IN THE NEWS!

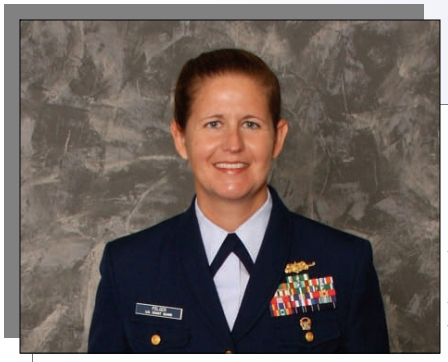
"...because of the 30-knot winds, greater than 10-foot seas, & the size of the trawler, the 210-foot Coast Guard cutter Dependable was diverted northward to help."

Safe in port: Coast Guard towing relay brings in stranded trawler

By Stephanie Bergman, January 14, 2012
The Gloucester Daily Times

After an engine breakdown & bad weather left it stranded at sea overnight, the stern trawler Bulldog was towed by the U.S. Coast Guard from the waters off Portsmouth, N.H., into safe harbor in Gloucester. The 75-foot fishing boat suffered from what was described as a broken engine shaft Thursday night while fishing off the coast of New Hampshire. A 47-foot motor lifeboat was sent by the Coast Guard from Portsmouth to help them, but because of the 30-knot winds, greater than 10-foot seas, & the size of the trawler, the 210-foot Coast Guard cutter Dependable — based out of Cape May, N.J., but sailing in Cape Cod Bay — was diverted northward to help. According to Coast Guard Lt. Nathaniel Robinson, based at the Portsmouth station, the rough water & bad weather Thursday & Friday convinced rescuers to tow the boat south to Gloucester rather than fight the storm to bring it to Portsmouth."These guys (aboard the Bulldog) are from New Bedford anyway, so it brought them closer to home," said Robinson, referring to the New Bedford-based company that owns & operates the Bulldog, the B & D Fishing Corp., run by New England fishing magnate Carlos Rafael. The Dependable towed the Bulldog & its four-man crew to the entrance to Gloucester Harbor close to 11 a.m. Friday, but the cutter is far too large to enter the harbor, so two smaller Coast Guard boats, including Station Gloucester's 47-foot motor life boat, took over, towing the Bulldog to dock at Cruiseport Gloucester. ***To view the complete article, CLICK HERE.***

~XO's Corner~



Greetings families!
Thank you for all of your support while we were away doing all of the exciting events captured here. The crew is very proud of their work, but they are often more proud of their families & the support you provide to help them do their work. Special thanks to Lara Hayworth for fulfilling the Ombudsman duties recently.

Many of you receive the emails from the Training Center regarding all MWR & family activities on base - continue to check them out; it seems there is always something new for all ages. Whether it's on base activities, or just soaking in the fabulous spring weather, enjoy this time of year. It's a treat to have Cape May to ourselves before the summer season begins. Fortunately, we will also have a large portion of the summer home with families - a first for the ship in three years!

Thank you, LCDR Felger

We want to thank all of you for your continuous support!

The Officers, Chiefs, & Crew of
USCGC DEPENDABLE (WMEC 626)
COUNT ON US!

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