

MOHAWK MONTHLY

It was another busy month for the MOHAWK crew. From crew members traveling to Washington DC for the Commandant's State of the Coast Guard Address, stopping by the White House for a Rose Garden ceremony, chillin' with VIPs to hosting the Atlantic Area Deck Landing Qualification Roundup and dancing their dogs off, a lot has been accomplished over the last month. As we prepare for a training availability in Mayport and our Africa deployment, the crew is working hard to ensure MOHAWK is ready to perform at her absolute best - and also taking a little time for themselves.



GUN SHOOT. The Weapons Division ENS Baladad, ME1 Van Riper, GM2 Mobiglia, and GM3 Seisededos successfully exercised the Mk-75 while MOHAWK was underway. Pictured above, MK3 Hargrove, FN Singer, and SN Cline manually raise the Mk-75 barrel out of non-firing cut-out zone.



BM3 JORDAN AT HIS GENERAL QUARTERS BILLET FOR THE GUN SHOOT.



SN SHILLING DRESSED OUT IN TIE DOWN TEAM UNIFORM AND READY FOR FLIGHT OPERATIONS.



BM3 WALLER SUPERVISING SEAMAN MEMBERS OF DECK DEPARTMENT AS THEY PERFORM MAINTENANCE ON THE FLIGHT DECK.

ROUND 'EM UP, MOHICANS!

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MOHAWK recently hosted the Atlantic Area Deck Landing Qualification (DLQ) Roundup. The crew worked with several different air stations, including Elizabeth City, New Orleans, Miami, Savannah, and Houston and both the HH-60 Jayhawk helicopter and the HH-65 helicopters. In addition, MOHAWK hosted crewmembers from other cutters as far away as Portsmouth, New Hampshire to help them complete their flight deck qualifications. In three days

PREPARING TO LAND...



CG HH-65 preparing to land on MOHAWK's flight deck.

* ENS Baffer, MK3 Cabrera-Matos, and DC2 Husband filling roles on fire team for flight operations.



the crew performed over 800 evolutions and qualified seven Landing Signals Officers, six tie down team members, and several helicopter pilots.

FLIGHT DECK TEAM PREPARES FOR LANDING



Part of the Tie-down Team and Landing Safety Officer's (LSO) job for flight operations is to ensure that there is no Foreign Objects or Debris (FOD) on the deck before the helicopter lands. Photographed is ENS Murray, ENS Ohle, and SN Mick completing FOD walk down of flight deck before we commence flight operations.

CO'S CORNER

Ahoy MOHICAN family, friends, and loved ones. Wow, where does the time go? It's already spring - fortunately my air conditioning bill hasn't caught up with the season yet, but it will soon enough. Spring is the perfect time in the Keys; the weather is awesome, the fish start biting, the bugs aren't yet biting, and there's so much to do. I know I have been keeping the crew busy lately, but my plan is to hit our preps for the Africa deployment hard now and then make May and the first two weeks of June a slow time so that your MOHICAN can spend time with his or her favorite crew - YOU! We will have a couple of family events in May, a picnic and information sharing evening on or about the 13th. We'll share deployment information, family services support information, I am hoping to have the new Sector Chaplain there, and I also need to talk to you about hurricane preparedness. I want to assure you that there is a plan in place to support our families during our long trip across the pond. More information will come to you soon through the Ombudsman

Network. If you are not on our Ombudsman distribution list, or if you have specific questions, drop our Ombudsman Team - Dawn, Megan, and Jessica - an e-mail to: MOHAWKOmbudsman@yahoo.com (I know, real original e-mail address, eh?). Until next time, thanks for all of your support and patience as we go about keeping MOHAWK at the pointy end of spear of Coast Guard and U.S. operations around the world!

MOHICANS ATTEND STATE OF THE COAST GUARD ADDRESS

by **Bridget Flores**

LTJG



On February 12, five crew members represented MOHAWK at the Commandant's State of the Coast Guard address at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. - at the invitation of the keynote speaker, ADM Allen. The luncheon highlights the missions completed in the previous year and looks forward to the future goals. Admiral Allen talked about the humanitarian service provided by MOHAWK and Air Station Clearwater in the aftermath of the earthquake that had devastated Haiti in January. MOHAWK was one of the first Coast Guard assets on scene in Port-au-Prince Harbor the day after the earthquake and immediately deployed medical assistance, humanitarian supplies and a security

team. The Commandant specifically discussed HS1 Gomez's treatment of the seriously injured and the Air Station Clearwater flight crewman who delivered a baby on board CGC TAHOMA. Crew members LTJG Bridget Flores, MKC Anthony Edwards, MK1 Tim Tolliver, HS1 Elias Gomez, and FN Rebekah Runner enjoyed the luncheon and sightseeing, but not the cold!

COAST GUARD ACADEMY CADETS VISIT KEY WEST

by **Kate Murray**

Ensign

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On March 10, 2010 nine cadets from the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT spent the day touring the MOHAWK. The cadets graciously gave up their spring break to provide cosmetic touch-ups on the CGC INGHAM, commissioned in 1936. The group of cadets was led by Mr. Grenier, a civil engineering professor at the Coast Guard Academy. Grenier rekindled his past visiting the cutter he spent three years on as a Machinery Technician (MK) years ago. Onboard MOHAWK, the cadets received a tour led by LT Schurke and ENS Murray, were shown the Haiti Relief video provided by FN Runner and asked questions ranging from cutter life to the ship's involvement in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

VROOM-VROOM!

The engineers' hard work inport and underway was put to a test in late March when the ship sailed to conduct engineering trials. MOHAWK also completed a successful Full Power Trial achieving a classified top speed - we could tell you how fast we went, but then we'd have to shoot you. The Main Propulsion Division including CWO Green, MKC Torres, MK1 Huber, MK2 Berarad, ME3 Pumo, ME3 Cooper, FN Guthrie, FN Grimes, FN Howard and FN Teller - with some help from the Key West MAT Team - were responsible for the excellent results. Way to keep her runnin' cool and quick, guys!

WELCOME ABOARD

SK3 Alex Guterrez



I have been in the Coast Guard since 2005. My first unit was Air Station San Francisco, then AMT (A) School in North Carolina. From there I went to Charleston to the 378 CGC GALLATIN. Then I went to SK (A) school in Petaluma and now I am stationed on CGC MOHAWK. In July it will be three years on being married and we are expecting our first baby July 26th. I like being in the water sports, fishing, and love the outdoors.

FS3 David Cepero-Febres



I am 33 years of age and proud! I have 2 kids: an 11 year old daughter named Rose Lyann and a 5 year old son named David Daniel. I have been in the Coast Guard for 7 years. I switched rates from BM to FS due to medical reasons. I was stationed as a BM2 at Coast Guard Station St. Inigoes in St. Inigoes, Maryland. So far, my favorite place to be stationed is in District 7. I love South Florida and especially Key West. I was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, but was raised in Dorado, Puerto Rico. I love to go to the beach, chill out with friends, smoke cigars, and Salsa dance. My favorite foods to eat include flans, pig roasts, and all Puerto Rican foods. Before I joined the Coast Guard, I was a hospitality worker. I worked for hotels, such as the Hyatt and the Hilton, and worked in the food service profession. I worked in fast food, restaurants, catering, and home business. My favorite sports include baseball (MLB-Yankee's), football (NFL-Dallas Cowboys), and basketball (NBA-Miami Heat). I absolutely love music. My favorites are tropical music and salsa.

SN Edwin Andrea Ares



I am a seaman (SN) on the best cutter in Key West: CGC MOHAWK! I am also known as "Tree Trunk," thanks to ME1 Van Riper. I am a really sociable person, enjoy going to the gym, and I love boxing and MMA (UFC). I was born in THE BRONX (NY) and raised en la Isla Del Encanto, PUERTO RICO. (I am a New Yor-Rican baby!!!). I have a family of my own that I love to death; a beautiful wife named Carmen and a gorgeous daughter named Doris. She is 5 months old and the most precious thing in my life. I am looking at going to Operations Specialist "A" school.

WELCOME ABOARD

SN Jonathan Eagle



I was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I graduated high school in 2008. I went to Tulsa Community College for 2 semesters. I played paintball on a 3 VS 3 tournament team. My favorite baseball team is the Cubs. My favorite football team is the Eagles. My job before the Coast Guard was as a waiter at a golf club.

SN Kyle Suga



I am from Sabastian, Florida. I like to fish, hunt, surf and go to the beach. I like watching football, MMA, and I am excited to learn about the ship and start getting my quals done.

SN Ronald Craven



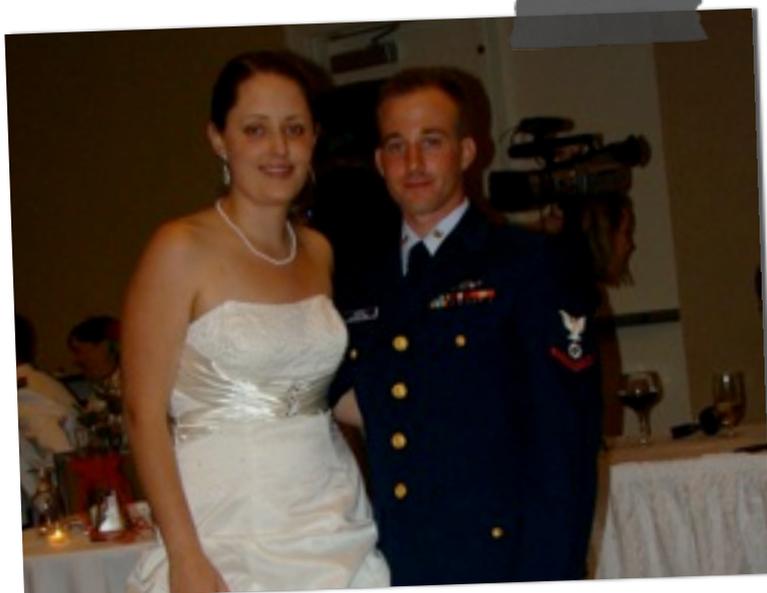
Born and raised in Charleston South Carolina for 25 years. I pursued a business degree after high school and decided I needed a break from college. I then worked for a harbor tugboat towing company for 3 years and enjoyed being on the water. It took 2 more years for me to realize I wanted to enlist in the Coast Guard. I joined to add structure to my life, seek a rewarding career, and to become part of a brotherhood.

COAST GUARD BALL HAS CREW PUTTIN' ON THEIR DANCIN' SHOES

Right: MK3 Anthony Horine and his wife YN3 Jessica Horine.

Bottom Left: LTJG Bridget Flores and her husband FSC Leo Flores.

Bottom Right: OSC John "Doc" Halliday and his wife Rose.



The Florida Keys Coast Guard Ball - one of the highlight gala events of the Key West social calendar - was recently held at the elegant Casa Marina beachside resort. There was a great turn out of MOHAWK crew members including CDR Hendrickson, ENS Baffer, OSC Halliday, FSC Hoffpauir, YN1 Grix, OS1 Carroll, ET2 Harling, and ME2 Wolf. Rear Admiral Dan Lloyd, director of JIATF South, spoke at the dinner. The Ball included great food, drinks, and several hours of dancing. There was also a raffle - FSC Hoffpauir won a Wii. Everyone looked really spiffy and the captain didn't sing karaoke so a good time was had by all.

AN INVITATION TO THE WHITEHOUSE ROSE GARDEN

by **ELIAS GOMEZ**

Health Service First Class

Hi everyone my name is Elias Gomez I am the Independent Duty Corpsman on board. On March 10th I was fortunate to be chosen to represent MOHAWK and the Coast Guard for an event at the White House. This event was a follow-up conference given by our Commander in Chief, President Barrack Obama and special guest Haitian President, Rene Garcia Preval. The event took place at the Rose Garden which is directly adjacent to the oval office. I was one of two Coasties and one of about 30 people that were invited to attend. Those that were around me had been part of the Haiti Relief effort shortly after the earthquake. There were all branches of the uniformed services there, and also some civilian agencies. Some of the agencies to name a few were; DHS, FEMA, USAID, and the LA County Fire Dept. Well, you could just imagine the excitement we had being able to be there and get

a very close look at the historic building and beautiful paintings in the White House. The best part about the whole trip was when our President stepped down from the podium and shook our hands. He thanked each and every one of us for the work we did down there and for representing our service and country in such a mighty way. You know, this could not have been possible if it were not for our families back home holding it down for us so

we could do the job that we were called to do. I thank you for your love, support, sacrifice and most importantly for your prayers. We would not have been as successful if it were not for God and for the prayers that He heard from you during our most difficult and emotional time.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Washington, DC



HS1 Elias Gomez and ET1 Marcel Leroy the prepare to meet President Obama in the Oval Office.

ET1 Marcel Leroy (MSST Miami), HS1 Elias Gomez (CGC MOHAWK), Rear Admiral Stephen W. Rochon (Director of the Executive Residence and Chief Usher to the White House), and Captain Little (USCG) all represent the hundreds of CG men and women who helped in the Haiti relief efforts.



CONGRESSWOMAN ROS-LEHTINEN VISITS MOHAWK

Congresswomen Ros-Lehtinen and staff with MOHAWK crew members, LTJG Flores, ENS Ohle, SN Alejandro, Hs1 Gomez, FN Singer and BM3 Waller.



MOHAWK was visited by Monroe County's Congressional Representative, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen shortly after our return from Haiti. She traveled to Key West to meet the crew of MOHAWK, tour the ship, get first-hand accounts of the work we do, and express her gratitude

for our relief efforts. During her visit, the MOHAWK crew presented Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen with a life ring signed by the crew and a unit ballcap - making her an honorary MOHICAN.



SN Hicks, SN Spencer, OS3 Jones, FN Howard, SN Reid, ET3 Lugo, BM3 Jordan, and SN Morgan rendering honors.



Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen talks to the crew on the messdeck.



BM3 Flsher provides an accurate depiction of the ship's navigation equipment to Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen and her staff.

NEWLYWEDS



We wish to share our joy with you, our friends and family. We are delighted to announce DC2 Nick Husband and Melissa Ashmore's marriage. We tied the knot on March 31st on the beautiful island of Key West. Melissa- I will love you are cherish you forever. I'm the luckiest man alive to have found my soulmate. I will love you always and forever Melissa.