

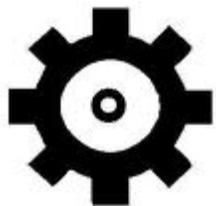
MOHAWK MONTHLY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

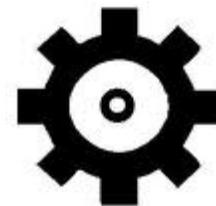


'Tis the season to be out at sea! The MOHAWK is doing everything we can to bring the holiday spirit to the high seas. MOHAWK has been busy with operational tasking, training, and maintenance projects. During our busy workdays we are doing our best to share holiday cheer with one another. We wish you happiness and good health during this Holiday Season!

Happy Holidays from



Main Prop



CWO Santa Green, MKC Dasher Torres, MK1 Cupid Huber, MK2 Donner Berard, MK3 Prancer Pumo, MK3 Rudolph Copper, MK3 Vixen Hargrove, FN Comet Grimes, FN Blisten Guthrie, & FN Dancer Singer

A COAST GUARD CHRISTMAS

Twas the night before Christmas and all through each state,

Coast Guard families were starting to celebrate.

Just then from the White House came an urgent call,

A crisis had arisen that would affect one and all.

In fact the State Department was frantic,

For Santa Claus had just gone down in the Atlantic!

It was foggy and Rudolph had made a blunder.

Santa, sleigh, and eight reindeer were going under.

Though the stockings were hung by the chimneys with care.

Poor Santa gurgled, "I'll never get there."

When what to his wondering eye should appear;

But a Coast Guard Cutter with their rescue gear!

The officers and crew were so lively and quick;

Sure was a lucky break for good old Saint Nick.

With a nod from the Captain they went right to work.

Rudolph was embarrassed, he felt like a jerk.

Poor Santa was soggy, but as anyone could see,

He was very grateful to the U.S.C.G!

And we heard him exclaim as they towed him from sight,

"If it weren't for my weight, I'd enlist tonight!"

C

Merry Christmas to all of my family I love you all: Pa, Jaquie, Mom, Jerrica, Tammy, Natalie, Duck, Shone, and all the fam I love you.

-Keiron

L

Abby and Amanda. I miss you very much. Merry Christmas. I can not wait to see you!!!!

A

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year. Wish I was there with you girls. Love You! Miss You!

S

Daddy Kane

Happy Holidays to the Wolf and Decker families. I miss you all and wish I could be with you all for the holidays. Have a happy and healthy New Year, and see you all soon!

S

PO2 Brad Wolf

I

"JOYEUX NOEL!"

"Hey Mom and Dad, I hope you have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Be home soon. Love Rad"

F

"Hi Dacey and Riley, Daddy loves you and wishes you a very Merry Christmas, be sure to read the Cajun Night Before Christmas this year. I hope you enjoy your gifts from Santa. I love and miss you both very much. I will be home soon, Dad."

I

"Hey Dawn, I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. Thank you for taking care of the home front while I am away. I love you and can't wait to get home JUS LIKE DAT! Love Rad"

E

D

SMELLS LIKE CHRISTMAS! We miss you Kate! – Tommy, Al, Tony and Trish

Melanie - I miss you, sweetheart! Merry Christmas! Love, Paul.

S

C

I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas! I miss you all very much and I can't wait to come home and visit again. I can't wait until I am home for Christmas again.

L

Daddy: thank you for everything that you do for me. You are my hero and I don't know what I would do without you! I will always be your little princess, combat boots and a debutante dress. I love you daddy!

A

Mom: thank you for all your lectures and nagging, you have taught me so much through the years. Even though you are sick you are the strongest woman I have ever met. I hope to be like you. I love you mom!

S

Micah: I could not have asked for a better big brother. You have inspired me through out the years. Thanks for letting me talk to you and come to you for advice whenever I couldn't go to anyone else. You are my best friend and I love you so much!

S

Sandy: thank you for loving my brother and giving him everything he has ever wanted. You mean so much to me and I am glad to have you as my sister in law. Also, thank you for all the goofy times in the car singing and laughing and talking girl talk! I love you!

I

F

Raider: you are awesome kid! Keep up the good work in school and in everything that you do. I am so glad you are in our family! I love you kid!

I

Haylie Faith: you are my angel. You have brought so much joy to my life. I remember the day you were born, when I held you I just cried. I miss you so much and I can't wait to come home and spend more time with you! Don't grow up too fast. I love you so much!

E

James Cooper: my little boot camp surprise. You are the cutest little boy I have ever seen in my life! I just want to squeeze you until you pop! I love you so much!

D

Xoxo- Bekah

S

Merry Christmas Momma, Daddy, and Devin. Can't wait to see ya'll enjoy the weather and stay warm! You know I will! Love ya'll and miss ya'll bunches!

Chloe

C

Mom, Dad, Katie, Lizzy, Steve, and ReRe- Merry Christmas! There are a few things I wish for you this holiday season. 1.) I hope the chicken tastes good maybe even spicy hot 2) no claws need to be clipped, 3) there is no need for a taxi, 4) you have lots of company 5) You have very few events 6) what else am I forgetting? Have a great Christmas Eve and Christmas day and tell everyone I said hello! You have no need to worry I will be staying away from red wine this holiday season! LOVE YOU ALL!

L

A

Xoxox Trish

S

Mom, Dad, & Megan Happy Hanukkah!!!! Shalom! & Many blessings!!! I wish I was in Kirkwood with you guys but duty calls! When you see the family be sure to tell them I love them !! Take pictures of the tree, the family & if it snows take pictures too! If you see my friends tell them I love them & miss them too !!! I'll get you your presents soon! Oh & by the way I have a massive moustache! I'm giving dad & Grandpa a run for their money! AMDG! –BEC (Ensign Fogarty)

S

I

Merry Christmas Leo, Maddibear and Booboo! Hope you have a wonderful day in the snow at Nana's....Hopefully, Santa brings everything you asked for! I will be home soon and can't wait to give you lots of hugs! Don't forget to call Gramma and Poppop too! Love you bunches and bunches....Mommi P.S. Leo, I have lots of hugs for you too! -B

F

I

Merry Christmas Mom, Dad, Lauren, Katie and Jesse!! Thanks for my fake Christmas and all my gifts. Hope you have a great Christmas! I hate that I am missing out on mom's dinner. Wish we were all together. Love you guys! Love molly

E

D

Merry Christmas Mom, Dad, Allie, Ian, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins! I hope everything is awesome back in cold, wintry, blistering freezing Michigan. I'll probably get hit for that comment, but all the more reason for ya'll to visit! I assure you that I am holding down the fort in the Caribbean. Papa John-that's the body of water between Florida and South America. I miss you all very much and can't wait for my make-up Christmas in Key West upon our return. Allie and Bubba-can't wait for your spring breaks down in KW.

S

Love always, Kate

Search And Rescue

Sailing Vessel Columbine

On December 3rd MOHAWK gave the ultimate holiday gift to three gentlemen sailing off the coast of Cuba. In rough seas and shallow waters sailing vessel Columbine ran aground. Due to the shallow water and rough seas the recovery of the three men was not easy. The boat was taking on water and the condition of the vessel was deteriorating by the hour. Coxswain, BM2 Dan Torres, was able to maneuver the small boat to a location where MK3 Shawn Copper, boat engineer and cutter rescue swimmer, could swim to recover the three survivors. The efforts of both small boat crews and the rest of the crew onboard MOHAWK made it possible to safely maneuver MOHAWK and the two small boats in order to get the three SAR survivors onboard. MOHAWK responded to Columbine's distress call and was able to get the three gentlemen safely onboard the MOHAWK.

Left: FN Copper exiting the small boat after the rescue. SN Alejandro and SN Morgan welcoming one of the SAR survivors onboard MOHAWK

Right: SN Laster and SN Alejandro helping SAR survivor get safely onboard the MOHAWK.



This was a note sent to our CO from one of the crew members onboard SV Columbine.

Dear Commander Hendrickson - I am one of the 3 survivors that your men removed from the sailboat Columbine in Cuban waters December 3. We are all well and very grateful to be alive and intact. I did not want to walk away from this experience without expressing to you and ALL your crew how fortunate we felt to be rescued by the Mohawk. There was no-one of your large crew that did not make us feel warm and accepted. We were treated with the utmost courtesy and concern. That I will always value. You should be duly proud of the young people on your ship. They do credit to the USCG at a time when PR is important. Personally, I will never forget the calm and soothing demeanor of your young swimmer "Coop" who greeted me with a smile and warm "how are you doing sir?" as we bobbed around in the surf. They are true professionals and do their service proud. While I hope that I never again have to avail myself of Coast Guard services, I will always remember and relate to friends my experience and support for the Coast Guard.

Thank you all again from the bottom of my heart.

and to all a good night...

Still Mohawk's on scene

*Down goes the **red***

*And down goes the **green***

Yet strong we still steam

The tightest of teams

Know that while you rest

The best

You could request

Patrols a coast near

We do it for the freedoms

We hold so dear

For our loved ones

We want, never to fear

It's the end of the year

But we've only just started

Daily we get tested

*And daily we make
progress*

*Without our support
however*

It all comes a haltin

You're what we need

To succeed

*And when success is
measured*

By lives saved

And drug busts made

A coasties family

Is too valuable to trade.

Happy Holidays from the Electronics Division



ET3 Taylor, IT2 Deacon, IT3 White, IT3 Rodriguez, ET3 Akers, ENS
Fogarty, ET1 Parlett and ET2 Harling

WELCOME ABOARD NEW SHIPMATES

DC3 Thomas Jones

My name is Thomas Jones I am originally from Orlando, Florida, but have lived in Columbia, South Carolina for most of my life. I am 21 years old and enjoy traveling and meeting new people. I like the outdoors and playing sports. I have been in the Coast Guard for a little over a year and have been stationed at ISC Saint Louis and Yorktown, VA.



SN Timothy Spencer

My name is Timothy Spencer. I am 19 years old and was born in Seattle, WA. I grew up there till I was 12 years old and then moved with my family to the Island of Kodiak, Alaska. I have been there for 7 years and now am on the completely opposite side of the United States where I requested so I can enjoy the sun. I love playing sports and being active as well as hanging out with friends. I am glad to join the crew of the Mohawk and am looking forward too learning new things and spending time underway going to cool places.



Twas the Night Before Christmas

- Coast Guard Edition -

Twas the night before Christmas when all through this cutter
Not a blip on the radar not even sea clutter

The crew was nestled all snug in their beds
While visions of late racks danced in their heads
And engineers in their earmuffs and I in my hat
Had just settled our brains for a long BARPAT

When out on the horizon the lookout did spot
There arose a small object that looked like a cot
Away to the bridge wing I flew like a short blast
Tore open the OOD binder for there was a go-fast

Within a blink of an eye LE Phase I was set
If this were a drill all objectives would be met
With full speed ahead we'd catch up quite quick
In combat the materials were gathered for a nic kit

More rapid than eagles the boarding team did assemble
I could swear for a second the drug runners did tremble
Hawk I sped away not a minute to waste
The go-fast was caught and disabled with great haste

The cutter turned around to get on a good recover course
There were cheers of happiness not an ounce of remorse
Bundles of drugs they found within sight
Land was close the runners thought that they just might

On the flight deck the Captain did praise there was not a doubt in his mind
That the crew of the MOHAWK would come through in a bind
Despite all the commotion and the great fight
It was still a Merry Christmas and a wonderful night!

By: ENS Kate Murray

Law Enforcement Training

Over the last three weeks MK1 Tolliver and ENS Baladad, along with other qualified Boarding Officers (BO) and Boarding Team Members (BTM), have been rigorously training their shipmates in law enforcement tactics, procedures, and policy. Part of the qualification process includes receiving full face OC Pepper Spray exposure. Congratulations to ET3 Akers, FS3 Mc Caleb, FS3 Traitel, FN Smith, FN Wise, SN Busch, SN Duval, SN Hicks, SN Howard, SN Morgan, SN Mick, and SN Schilling for completing this training! Congratulations to SNBM Jordan for becoming qualified BTM. Congratulations to GM1 Van Riper, BM1 Lowery, and MK3 (Slow Chetta) Pumo for recertifying their law enforcement qualifications. Law enforcement training will continue throughout the duration of the patrol in order to successfully and safely execute our mission.



Left: ENS Skordinski and SN Alejandro performing a frisk on CDR Hendrickson, acting migrant. DC2 Aspuru fills the position of translator.



Right: IT2 Deacon escorting CDR Hendrickson, acting migrant, to Administration/Health Care station.



CO's CORNER

Happy Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, Ramadan, Saturnalia, Solstice, Yule, Three King's Day, or whatever special "holiday" you observe this time of year. If I didn't mention your particular holiday observance, send me an e-mail and tell me about it. I would love to learn about it because the holiday season is a wonderful blending of so many different cultural observances.

I think the most important part of the holiday season is not that we are politically correct in what we call it, but that we are respectful of everyone's observances. There are so many different traditions from so many different cultural observances that have become associated with "Christmas", it's really a hodge-podge of celebrations in one – many of the observances I listed above have lent traditions to the holiday. And that's what the season is really about, isn't it? Coming together – both as family and as people in general? Appreciating each other and respecting our similarities as well as our differences.

We are a pretty diverse crew aboard MOHAWK. I never really realized it before, but this is probably one of the most ethnic- and gender-diverse crews I have ever served with in nearly 30 years in the Coast Guard. And the amazing thing is that we work together to form one incredibly well-oiled machine as you see in the articles that appear here in our newsletter. I believe we would be less of a ship and crew were it not for the diversity that we celebrate. As our Human Relations Council Chairman, MK1 Tim Tolliver wrote in the Council's Mission and Policy Statement; "We strongly believe that diversity contributes immeasurably to the creative thinking and innovation critical to excellence." And you may rest assured your Mohicans demonstrate that excellence every day.

Our Biggest Fans!



Left: MK1 Tolliver's son Phoenix sporting the new MOHAWK gear!

Right: DC1 Moore's son Patrick ridding his bike in his new shirt!

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR QUALIFICATIONS

- ENS Baladad
- EMC Kane
- DC1 Moore
- DC2 Husband
- OS2 Vega
- ET3 Taylor
- EM3 Chau
- SN Nordstrom
- GM3 Seisdedos

Underway OOD
Underway EOW
Underway EOW
Machinery
CIC
CIC
Machinery
BMOW
Helm and Lookout



*HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!*

HS2 Gomez January 11th

BM3 Fisher January 28th

Happy Holidays from the Operations Specialists



**OS2 VEGA, OSC HOLLIDAY, OS1 CARROLL, OS3 JONES,
OS3 ARCHIEGA, OS2 ANDZELIK, ENS OHLE,
ENS GODDEN, & OS3 HENRY**

Happy Holidays from the Supply Department



FS3 Traitel, FS3 McCaleb, FS3 Floyd, CWO Davis, YN2 Wakim, SK1 Valentin,
YN1 Grix, HS2 Gomez, and SK2 Charles.

Happy Holidays from the NAV Division



ENS Murray. BM3 Castro, BM2 Wolf, BM1 Lowery, & BM3 Fisher