

Shore Ties

VOLUME 12

JUL-SEP PATROL 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Tailored Annual Cutter Training	2
Drug Bust	3 - 4
PANAMAX 2008	5 - 6
Advancements and Awards	7 - 8
Patrol Pictures	9 - 10
Welcome from the Executive Officer	11

From the Cabin

Greetings from HARRIET LANE and welcome to all of our newest families and friends who joined our crew during the summer transfer season!

We're just wrapping up a very successful underway period that began back in early July with our annual training cycle known as TACT (Tailored Annual Cutter Training). The crew performed at an exceptional level exceeding all the required criteria for each of the training areas (Weapons, Seamanship, Damage Control and Engineering). The overall result was earning the Operational Readiness and Battle "E" awards for Operational Excellence. Achieving this mark in the fleet is commonly referred to as a "Clean Sweep" and is symbolized by a broom being hoisted aloft when the ship returns to homeport.

After completing our training, HARRIET LANE began her patrol in the Southwestern Caribbean in early August. We had several exciting cases where we pursued "go-fast" vessels (30-40ft open hulled boats with multiple high powered outboard engines commonly used to carry illegal drugs). One pursuit and interdiction by HARRIET LANE's Over The Horizon (OTH) small boat and Boarding Team found the boat was empty except for barrels of fuel. Another, more successful OTH pursuit, led to the vessel jettisoning over 2,400 lbs of cocaine before beaching itself on a remote beach. The jettisoned contraband was recovered using both of HARRIET LANE's small boats.

In addition to our counter drug successes, HARRIET LANE participated in the annual multinational PANAMAX Exercise centered on the Panama Canal. The United States and 18 other countries participated in two weeks of inport and underway training and exercises to improve our interoperability and enhance



our capabilities to counter regional transnational threats. The exercise culminated in a final at-sea scenario to demonstrate the skills and techniques honed during the training portion of the exercise. This year's exercise was hailed as the largest and most complex PANAMAX to date.

Within the lifelines over the past few months, we had 14 crewmembers complete a college level history course to earn three college credits – congrats to all who participated! Also, we had many crewmembers who worked very hard and qualified in multiple watchstations throughout the ship this patrol. You can be very proud of the many accomplishments your HARRIET LANE crewmember achieved during this very busy and successful patrol.

We're all very much looking forward to reuniting with our families and friends in the very near future. As always, thank you so much for your support – we couldn't do our jobs without it!

J.W. McKinley
Commanding Officer
USCGC HARRIET LANE

Tailored Annual Cutter Training



HARRIET LANE crewmembers practicing fire-fighting techniques.

Tailored Annual Cutter Training (TACT) trains and certifies HARRIET LANE's Onboard Training Teams (OBTTs). It is intended to be an intensive training period dedicated to developing cutter performance in shipboard operations as well as survival under adverse and hostile conditions. Cutters in the TACT program train for Coast Guard and Navy missions by completing required "schoolhouse" courses (usually fire-fighting/DC/navigation) at Navy Fleet Training Centers, and a standard training exercise (STR) matrix tailored to each cutter class. The three primary objectives of the fleet training program are to: (1) demonstrate proficiency in applicable Coast Guard and Navy mission areas; (2) demonstrate proficiency in evolutions which are essential to the safe operation

of cutters under adverse/hostile conditions; and (3) demonstrate the ability to sustain training/readiness levels over the long term through effective use of certified cutter On Board Training Teams.

HARRIET LANE successfully completed over 140 drills with an average drill score of 97% making the cutter eligible for the Operational Readiness Award and all of the individual Excellence awards, including Weapons Excellence, Operational Excellence, Seamanship Excellence, Damage Control Excellence, and Engineering Excellence. In addition, each crewmember is eligible to wear the Battle 'E' ribbon.



CWO Parker and FS3 Fitzpatrick performing rapid plotting.

Drug Bust



“With the Coast Guard’s help, and with our partners in other nations, with the collaborative efforts with the leaders of all the nations in our neighborhood, we’re going to fight drug traffickers, whether they try to bring the drugs into this country by sea, by land or by air.”

President George W. Bush

Drug Bust con't



HARRIET LANE
boat crewman re-
covering bales from
water.



One "key" of cocaine interdicted by HARRIET LANE.

Campaign *Steel Web* is the Coast Guard's overarching drug interdiction strategy to reduce the supply of drugs to the U.S. by denying drug traffickers access to maritime routes in the six million square mile transit zone. The Coast Guard and our interagency partners have diligently worked to produce significant interdiction successes in the transit zone – Eastern Pacific, Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico – in recent years. The Coast Guard, working with

our Interagency and international partners, established a new record with 355,755 pounds (161.7 MT) of cocaine removed in FY07. This is a 23.9 percent increase over FY06 and 5.2 percent higher than our previous record set in FY05. The

Coast Guard has removed on average 319,945 pounds, or 145 metric tons, of cocaine from the transit zone each year between fiscal years 2004-2007, the four highest removal years on record. In comparison, from 1994 to 2003, the interagency seized on average 98,000 pounds, or about 44 metric tons of cocaine per year.

On the afternoon of August 3rd, a bridge lookout reported a "go fast" vessel off the bow. HARRIET LANE immediately set the Go Fast Response Bill and launched the Over-The-Horizon small boat in pursuit of the vessel. The go fast vessel began to jettison the drugs while being pursued and ultimately fled for land. HARRIET LANE successfully recovered over 42 bales of cocaine (2461 pounds) that will never make it to the streets of America. The drugs and case package were ultimately turned over to the Honduran government for final disposition.



Jettisoned bales of cocaine floating in the water.

PANAMAX 2008



“PANAMAX 2008 was one of the largest multinational training exercises in the world, involving more than 30 ships, a dozen aircraft and 7,000 personnel from 20 nations.”

SOUTHCOM
Website



PANAMAX 2008 con't



Brazilian and Panamanian ships in a maneuvering exercise during PANAMAX.

PANAMAX 2008 was one of the largest multinational training exercises in the world, involving more than 30 ships, a dozen aircraft and 7,000 personnel from 20 nations. The U.S. Southern Command-sponsored exercise focused on ensuring the defense of the Panama Canal, one of the most strategically and economically

crucial pieces of infrastructure in the world. PANAMAX 2008 exercised ground, sea and air responses to any request from the government of Panama to assist in protecting and guaranteeing safe passage through the canal and ensuring its neutrality.

The key points of PANAMAX are:

1. The Panama Canal is critical to the free flow of trade and goods in the region and the world. The region's economy and political stability largely de-

pend on the safe transport of several hundred million tons of cargo through the canal each year.

2. Global threats that have emerged in the 21st century affect all free nations and have transnational impact. A multinational approach is required to effectively neutralize these threats.

3. PANAMAX provides effective training to increase multinational force interopera-



Multi-national law enforcement training participants.

bility while supporting the training requirements of all participating nations' civil and military services.

4. PANAMAX provides training to ensure civil, naval, air, and ground security forces can operate as an effective team, coordinating assets and sharing information to respond quickly to crises and protect the security of the region.

5. The increased participation in PANAMAX over the years underscores the importance that the international community places on cooperative efforts and strong partnerships as pillars of worldwide security and stability.



ET2 Christopher Mosquera translating during law enforcement training.

Awards and Advancements



IT1 Gerald Rowan receives the Coast Guard Achievement Medal.



BM2 Jeremy Call receives his first Good Conduct Medal.



SNBM James Wyle is advanced to BM3.



FS2 Emilio Avina receives the Commandant's Letter of Commendation.

Awards and Advancements



LTjg Nicolas Sites receives the Commandant's Letter of Commendation..



SNOS Colin Reinert is advanced to OS3.



MK3 Matthew Brazzel is advanced to MK2.



ENS Sean Lott is promoted to LTjg.

Patrol Pictures



HARRIET LANE Wardroom at first Rock Band contest.



LE Training in Panama.



Swim Call - This is not going to end pretty.



Fish Call.

More Patrol Pictures



Pipe patching 101.



Weapons familiarization.



50 caliber gunnery exercise.



SN Evan Beavers snorkeling in Key West.



USCGC HARRIET LANE (WMEC

4000 Coast Guard Blvd

Portsmouth, VA 23703

Phone: 757-483-8720

Fax: 757-483-8725

E-mail: Ryan.A.Kowalske@uscg.mil

USCGC HARRIET LANE is a multi-mission Coast Guard cutter, responsible for a variety of Coast Guard missions including Search and Rescue, Enforcement of Laws and Treaties, Maritime Defense, and Protection of the Marine Environment. The versatility of the Famous class cutter makes it a very cost effective platform in carrying out national objectives.

HARRIET LANE's modern command, control, and communications capabilities, including satellite communications, make the cutter an important asset for long range offshore missions. HARRIET LANE can effectively coordinate the efforts of multiple ships and aircraft while conducting missions over large areas of ocean.

Welcome Message from the Executive Officer

Greetings everyone.

I just wanted to use this forum to introduce myself. In early July I relieved Lieutenant Commander Greg Magee as the cutter's Executive Officer. I report aboard having completed two years working with Chairman Robert C. Byrd's professional staff on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Previously, I have served in four other cutters, including: USCGC PLANETREE (a now decommissioned 180' buoy tender); USCG EAGLE (America's Tall Ship); USCGC SE-NECA (sister ship of HARRIET LANE); and USCGC CHANDELEUR (110' Patrol Boat). I have also served ashore teaching navigation to cadets at the Coast Guard Academy.

As you read this edition of Shore Ties - my wife Cami and I will be close to celebrating our one year anniversary. When not on board, I reside with my wife in Washington DC.

I'll end my comments by simply stating that I am happy to be here and I look forward to meeting the crew's families and friends during my tour. Thank you for your support while we are at sea!

Regards,

LCDR Adam B. Morrison