

USCGC MIDGETT (WHEC-726)

UNITED
STATES
COAST
GUARD



M I D G E T T N E W S L E T T E R

Letter from the Captain

Dear Shipmates, Friends & Family:

I hope this letter finds all well and either enjoying your summer or successful and happy in your surroundings as you transition to new duties. I, myself, am new this summer and had the privilege of taking command of MIDGETT on 11 June on a beautiful Seattle afternoon.

As reported in the last newsletter, MIDGETT completed a scheduled dry docking in early June and since then a very energetic crew has been preparing the ship for deployment, training and operations in support of the nation's maritime interests and responsibilities abroad. As of the writing of this piece, MIDGETT will be deployed to the south to assist in interrupting the flow of illegal contraband to the United States. But, as with any Coast Guard unit, we will be prepared to change missions at a moment's notice if called upon to do so.

I arrived during transfer season of course, and am sorry to see such good people departing MIDGETT for new duties. But, I am also equally encouraged by the arrival of some great new people as well. I believe MIDGETT received some outstanding talent in this year's transfer season. I am looking forward to growing as a team during the next deployment. Best of luck to our departing shipmates and their families—I wish you all great joy of success!

I am also pleased to announce MKCS Red Sharp as my newly appointed Command Senior Chief. Senior Chief Sharp brings a wealth of experience, expertise and leadership to the position and I am glad to have him working with the command team.

On June 28th, XO conducted a very informative pre-deployment night for the new spouses and crewmembers. First, let me welcome all the new folks to the area and the MIDGETT community. Second, let me reaffirm our commitment to the health and safety of our dependents. If there is ever something you are having trouble obtaining from our family support networks, let us know so we can help. We often can help work through problems—this is our job, so don't worry about asking for help.

Semper Paratus,
W. R. Meese
Commanding Officer

William R. Meese
Commanding Officer
USCGC MIDGETT (WHEC 726)
Homeport: (206) 217-6280
Cell: (860) 639-3045



Executive Officer Notes



Greetings to all of MIDGETT's family and friends. I can't begin to tell you how excited I am. First I want to welcome all of the new crewmembers and their families. We had an excellent Pre-Deployment Seminar prior to the start of our patrol during which time we had representatives from Base Support Unit (BSU) Seattle, Medical Staff, Tri-Care, Work-Life Staff, Chaplain and our own Ombudsmen to discuss some of the local resources available in Seattle. If you did not get a chance to attend the seminar, or would like to know more about resources in the area, I encourage you to reach out to one of our three fantastic Ombudsmen, Cindy Geelan, Beth Pester and Norma Bailey.

I am also very excited to be completed with our Dry-dock. Everybody worked extremely hard cramming over \$3.8 million worth of repairs and improvements into a few short months. I believe that effort truly paid off. For those of you who were able to attend the Change of Command and saw how great the cutter looked first hand, I think would agree with me.

Finally, I am excited to be back underway. Like they say, "ships and sailors belong at sea." Although like the rest of the crew, I am sad to leave my family ashore, I know they will be in good hands. We are doing some great work out here, and hopefully will soon have some good news to report. In the meantime, we are keeping busy with the copious amounts of training required

to get all our new shipmates qualified and prepare for our Training Assessment in September.

As always, I thank you for your support shore side. Without you we couldn't do our mission.

v/r,

The OMBUDSMAN is a critically important link between the command and the crew's families, and is key in helping the command provide the support you may need. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the OMBUDSMEN if you have questions or need assistance either while we are deployed or while we are inport.

Cynthia Geelan
(425) 968-2105 (Home)
MidgettOmbudsman02@gmail.com

Beth Pester
(425) 408-0888 (Home)
(707) 364-8226 (Cell)
MidgettOmbudsman03@gmail.com

Norma Bailey
(360) 697-2079 (Home)



Change of Command



CAPT Miller and LT Allen

On June 11th, CAPT Meese relieved CAPT Miller as the Commanding Officer of the CGC MIDGETT.

CAPT Meese's last assignment was the Coast Guard Academy where he was head of the Nautical Science Department.



Captain William Meese



The official overseeing the Change of Command was CAPT Diaz, the Chief of Staff of Pacific Area Command.

The Change of Command was a great success. A special thanks goes to ENS Fyfe and visiting 1/c Cadet Willmann, for orchestrating the event.



CAPT Miller was an excellent commanding officer. He always kept the safety and wellbeing of the crew in mind, while still maintaining an effective and efficient ship.

CAPT Miller will always hold the respect of the crew, and will be missed. Fair winds and following seas, Captain.

The MIDGETT crew is pleased to be adopted by the Navy League Tacoma Chapter, and we hope to forge a lasting bond with them in the years to come.



CAPT Meese receiving the certificate of adoption from VP of the Navy League of the U.S. Tacoma Chapter, Mary Olsen.

Navy League Adoption



The visiting Tacoma Chapter council members, on the bridge of CGC MIDGETT. (Left to right) Mike Till, Gordy Strang, John Wells, VP Mary Olsen, Roger Olsen and Regina McDaniel.



The Navy League of the United States is an organization created in 1902 to support sea-going services. It has grown to have over 60,000 members and 250 chapters. Local chapters, such as the Tacoma Chapter, adopt ships to honor outstanding crew, support families of those underway, and raise money for fleet week.



CAPT Meese presenting a MIDGETT plaque to Chapter VP Mary Olsen.

Welcome Aboard!

ENS Williams	OS2 Buenarentura	MEI Vitorino		Operations
OSC Mountcastle	OS3 Taylor	SN Armstrong		
OS1 Eckart	OS3 Montgomery	SN Clark		
OS2 Pelham	BMC Morseburg	SA Cox		
OS2 Rivas	BM2 Riesbeck			

	Engineering	ENS Gentile	FNMK Hauch
		DCCS Garcia	FN Block
		EMI Shaadt	
		MK3 Cole	



LTJG Guanci	ET1 Butler		Weapons
ENS Kesting	ET3 Williams		
ENS O'Brien	GMI Jones		
ETC Buono			

SUPPORT		FSCS Melendez
		HSC Monk
		SKC McQuade
		SK2 Grindheim

Fair Winds & Following Seas

BMC Harper
OSI Snyder
BM2 Stuart
BM2 Caires

BM3 Campbell
SN Delacruz
SN Melendez
SN Valentine



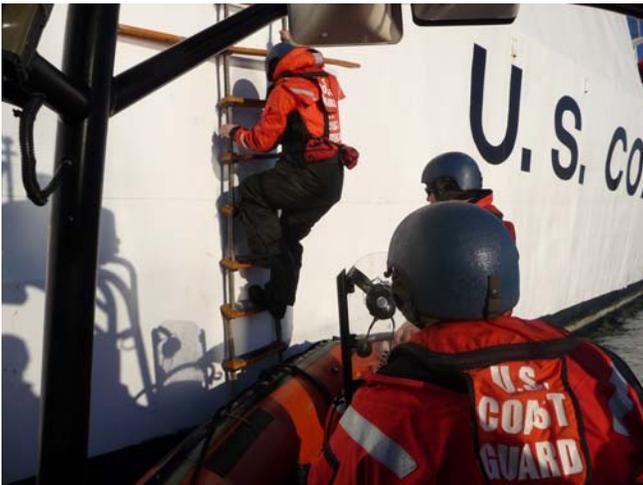
Operations



Engineering

LTJG Smith
CWO2 Lovelace
DCCS Agar
MKC Clafin

EMI Sanders
MK3 Blake
FN Danielson
FN Holder



LTJG Kim
LTJG Lam
LTJG Leuthold
ETCS Webb

ET1 Hotai
ET1 Tucker
IT2 Hansen
GM2 Penna



Weapons

SUPPORT



HSCS Apolito
FSCS Bandalan
FS3 Dean
FS3 Tissue

SKC Jewell
SK2 Garcia