



Aloha!

Contents

The Weeks in Review
Pages 1 and 2

RUSH Recognition
Page 2

Meet The Crew
Pages 3 and 4

Crew Birthdays
Page 4

Crew Farewells
Page 4

Shout-Outs!
Page 5

Photo Album
Pages 6 and 7

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Greetings from USCGC RUSH, underway on the high seas! The third issue of RUSH HOUR is here and ready to give you an inside look at RUSH at sea!

After a well-deserved port of call, Team RUSH headed out to sea to continue its mission at hand. We marked the halfway point of our patrol and continued our training agenda and operational commitments.

On Saturday, our “Messcook For A Day” campaign ended as our four newly-elected messcooks got down and dirty as a fundraising effort for Morale. The role of a messcook includes maintaining the sanitation of our messing quarters and providing immediate assistance to our Food Service Division. This responsibility is normally given to all non-rated personnel aboard RUSH. For this week’s campaign, crewmembers voted for these personnel costing one dollar a vote. The top four personnel with the most nominations were selected to assist our messcooks for a day. Our winners for this weeks competition were CDR Mathers, SKC Tahtinen, ETC Eastman and BM1 Anderson. Each were great sports and cheerfully took on duties to help their shipmates. All together, we raised a total of nine hundred and sixty-nine dollars for Morale! Our messcooks ended up with some extra helping hands while our four winners developed a greater appreciation of a duty that is sometimes overlooked.

Sunday rolled around and the Morale Committee was back in full force, setting up crew festivities in celebration of Halloween. ENS Murray, along with the rest of the Morale Committee, turned our helicopter hangar into a stage show. Our Halloween party kicked off with a RUSH Costume Contest with costumes ranging from evil pirates to Sponge Bob Squarepants. All the costumes were very creative, and our winning prizes went to ENS Eckel, ENS Pizzuro, HSC Romero, BMC Gordon and ENS Butterworth. We also had lots of games for the crew to enjoy. HSC Romero helped organize Bobbing for Apples while SN Miller gave out prizes for our Pin-The-Patch-On-The-Pirate competition. LTJG Weeks hosted our Pinata contest while ENS Murray and ENS Hague got the crowd excited with our Dangling Doughnuts competition. Everyone had a night of fun celebrating Halloween celebrating with shipmates that ended off with a movie on the flight deck.

Kia'i Kai No Ka Oi – The Best in the Coast Guard!

Our week continued with great success in operations and training. We met many training objectives with our shipboard helicopter, as well as advanced shipboard damage control standards. Team RUSH continues to work hard and diligently in all areas, and maintain the tradition of excellence for which we are known throughout the Coast Guard.

The following note of congratulations was presented to Team RUSH from District Eleven Commander RADM Eldridge following a successful drug interdiction this patrol. Great recognition goes out to all members of Team RUSH for their unfailing devotion to duty that allowed this victory in the war on drugs. It is a true reflection of the fine work attained by this exceptional group of men and women everyday.

SUBJ: BZ - GO FAST (WON) - INTERDICTION/DISRUPTION

1. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OFFICERS AND CREW OF USCGC RUSH, YOUR EMBARKED HITRON HELICOPTER, AND NUMEROUS MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT (MPA) FOR YOUR PERFORMANCE IN THE DETECTION AND DISRUPTION OF A GO FAST VESSEL (GFV) IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC FROM 01 OCT TO 03 OCT.
2. INITIAL DETECTION OF THE GO FAST OCCURRED ON 01 OCT 500NM SOUTH OF GUATEMALA BY A USAF MPA. USCG CUTTERS SHERMAN AND CHASE RESPONDED TO THE SIGHTING BUT WERE TOO FAR AWAY TO CLOSE THE DISTANCE. ON 03 OCT, CGC RUSH PICKED UP THE GFV'S TRAIL AFTER A MPA FOUND THE GFV LOITERING IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS OFF THE GUATEMALAN COAST. DURING THE COURSE OF THE THREE-DAY CHASE, THE GFV JETTISONED OVER EIGHTY BALES, ESTIMATED AT 4,000LBS OF SUSPECTED COCAINE. CGC RUSH INTERCEPTED THE GFV USING THEIR EMBARKED HITRON HELO, THEN DEPLOYED THEIR BOARDING TEAM. ONCE ABOARD, THE BOARDING TEAM CONFIRMED NO CONTRABAND WAS PRESENT ON THE GFV. THE BOARDING TEAM REMOVED THE GFV CREW FOR SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA REASONS DUE TO THE GFV TAKING ON WATER, AND THE CUTTER SUBSEQUENTLY SANK THE GFV AS A HAZARD TO NAVIGATION. ROUGH SEAS AND HIGH WINDS LEFTOVER FROM A CARIBBEAN HURRICANE COMPLICATED THE LENGTHY INTERCEPTION, AND TESTED THE RESOLVE AND ENDURANCE OF ALL INVOLVED PARTIES.
3. CGC RUSH EXPEDITIOUSLY COMPLETED THE RIGHT OF VISIT BOARDING AND ASSEMBLED THE CRITICAL INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR DISTRICT ELEVEN TO ASSIMILATE THE VESSEL TO WITHOUT NATIONALITY AND ENFORCE U.S. LAW. YOU PROVIDED PROFESSIONAL CARE AND RESPECT TO THE FIVE CREWMEMBERS WHO COULD NOT UNDERGO U.S. PROSECUTION DUE TO LACK OF EVIDENCE AFTER NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE THE JETTISONED BALES. FOR THE NEXT SIXTEEN DAYS YOU KINDLY TREATED THEM AS SAR SURVIVORS UNTIL LOGISTICS PERMITTED THEIR RETURN TO COLOMBIA ON 19 OCT. DEALT A DIFFICULT SITUATION TO HOUSE THE GFV CREW AS GUESTS ONBOARD, YOU DISPLAYED TREMENDOUS PROFESSIONALISM IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE COAST GUARD.
4. WELL DONE! YOUR EFFORTS PROVOKED A PROFILE STATELESS GFV TO DISRUPT ITS LOAD OF SUSPECTED COCAINE. ALL COMMANDS AND UNITS DEMONSTRATED EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION, COMMAND AND CONTROL COORDINATION, AND A COMMITMENT AND RESOLVE TO STOPPING THE DRUG SMUGGLERS. BRAVO ZULU!
5. RADM K. J. ELDRIDGE, DISTRICT ELEVEN COMMANDER, SENDS.

Crew Recognition

Qualification as Inport Officer of the Day: **ENS Hague, ENS Dawson**

Qualification as CIC Watchstander: **SNOS Brown**

Qualification as Navigator of the Watch: **SNBM Chasteen, BM3 Hosch, BM2 Rossignol**

Advancement to E-6: **OS1 Motu**

Advancement to E-5: **FS2 McAdams**

Advancement to E-3: **FN Mazzeo, SN Dugal, SN Stein**

Completion of Shipboard Basic Damage Control Personnel Qualification Standard: **SN Poen, SN Graney, SN Tillman, SN Hirsh, SN Dugal**

Qualification as Boatswain's Mate of the Watch: **SNBM Wells, SN Stein**

Flight Deck Tie-Down: **SN Escobar**

23 October – 06 November 2005



Meet The Crew

ENS Jennifer Lopez



This week, we are highlighting our Engineering Auxiliary Division Officer, ENS Lopez. We asked about her life aboard RUSH and in the Coast Guard.

How long have you been in the Coast Guard, and where have you been stationed?
I have actively been in the Coast Guard for five months now after graduating from the Coast Guard Academy in June of this year.

Can you describe what your job entails on a daily basis?

I am the division officer for the Auxiliary division on board RUSH. We are in charge of engineering functions on board that, basically, do not deal with the propulsion of the ship like maintaining the ship's water system, the sewage system and all air conditioning on board.

What is your most memorable moment in the Coast Guard?

That would have to probably be during my Third Class Cadet summer in the Academy, where I got to actually fly an HH-65 Dolphin helicopter over Miami Beach! I had a blast!

Tell us about where you are from and your family growing up

I was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. I grew up with my mom, Irma Martinez, my Grandma and my three brothers Joe, Sam and Mark. I have four nephews and two nieces with another niece on the way. Growing up, I did a lot of different activities. I've played soccer since I was three and was in dance class beginning when I was five.

What are your future plans and goals?

I actually have two options when it comes to my future goals. My first option is to hopefully go to Flight School and become an HH-65 Dolphin pilot. From there, I'd like to attend graduate school for Aeronautical Engineering to set me up for an Engineering Officer position of an Air Station. Following retirement, I'd like to continue my work as an aeronautical engineer and work for either BOEING or Lockheed Martin. My second option would be to attend graduate school for Civil Engineering and then continue working at various engineering units. From there, I would then like to retire and work for the Department of Transportation.

Who is your hero, and why?

My mother is my hero because she is a very strong-willed independent woman who took care of four kids on her own. She had to make a lot of sacrifices for us and stayed strong throughout our lives.

Who is your favorite person on board RUSH?

My Boss-man, MKC Cockerel, LTJG Daniel, MK3 Reed, FN Martinez – actually, everyone aboard RUSH is my favorite!

What is your favorite part of serving aboard RUSH?

The people. The crew is probably the best in the fleet! Everyone is friendly and always willing to help out. The Chief's Mess is awesome and I could not have asked for a better department. I love being an engineer and I love everyone I work with!

Happy Birthday to the following personnel!

CAPT Dana Ware
OS2 Jesus Cacapit
SA Ruth Cordova
EM3 Ryan McMurphy
ENS Jeannie Oliver
SNOS Atraya Stacy

Farewell to the following personnel who are enroute new horizons.
Fair Winds and Following Seas!

BM2 Brandi-Marie Lingwai – USCG Station Curtis Bay, Baltimore MD
SN Stephen Escobar – BM "A" School, Yorktown VA

HAWAIIAN WORD(S) OF THE WEEK: **Ohana** - Family

HAWAIIAN PHRASE OF THE WEEK: **Mai pale i ke a'o a ka makua**
Do not set aside the teaching of your elders

SHOUT-OUTS!

BMC Swansburg sends: **To Tammy and Carly Ann Swansburg, Daddy is on his way home to give you lots of hugs and kisses!**

YNC Daniels sends: **Stephan, Congratulations on your team taking 1st place in your JROTC competition and for you being promoted another rank since I've been gone. I'm so proud of you. Love Mom**

SN Hirsh sends: **I want to send much love to all family and friends. Not much longer before the patrol is over. Good luck finishing the semester Anne, Erica, Jamo, Tim, and everyone else in school. Can't wait to see you all back in Cincy. LETS GO BENGALS!!!**

BM2 Rossignol sends: **Carolyn, thanks for the care package, I love you very much.**

CDR Mathers sends: **Julianna and Anna - I'm counting down the days until we return. Thanks for doing such a good job handling this, your first, patrol. Love, Dwight.**

MK2 Hightower sends: **Hay Cory, I love you so much and I will be home soon to keep you company. Be safe and remember that I am always thinking of you and I will always love you.**

SKC Tahtinen sends: **Teresa, I hope that all is good back home with you and Golden Eye. I Love You and will see you soon!**

OS3 Pineda sends: **Hey everybody how are you doing? I am fine!! Can't wait to come home and see yall for Christmas. I love you all see yall when I get there, love Jesse**

FS1 Lewanski sends: **Happy Anniversary Naomi. It won't be long and we will all be together again. Happy 1st birthday Aaron! Stay strong son, you make us so proud! I love you all.**

ET3 Replogle sends: **Happy 2nd Birthday to my son Noah! I'm sorry to have to miss it. May there be many many more that we can spend together. You're doing a fine job Amanda. I hope you both have a warm and fun Thanksgiving with your family, and before you know it, we'll be together at Christmas time!**

OS1 Motu sends: **A warm aloha to all of our loved ones and friends for your undying support while we are away. Mahalo for your prayers and thoughts, and know your crew continues to strive! We are blessed to have you and look forward to seeing all of you again.**

CWO2 Gephardt sends: **Donnamarie- Happy Birthday!!!!, loving you always, Me. To Donna, Zachary, Nicholas, Amanda, Kaitlyn- I am thankful everyday for you all, Enjoy your thanksgiving, I will be with you all very soon. Please give my best to the rest of our family. Love you all, Dad**

IT1 Bettencourt sends: **Hi JD! Hi Ian! I miss you guys soooooo much! You boys make me very proud for being "Man of the House" while I'm gone. Keep up the good work silly monkeys!**

LTJG Daniel sends: **Hi Honey. Thanks for everything. Tell everyone at home hello and I miss them. I'll be home before you know it. I love you.**

Please enjoy these photos of our patrol



BM2 Lingwai enjoys her role as a Navigator of the Watch



SN Stein, BM2 Lingwai and SA Cordova get ready for Halloween!



SN Ronnfeldt and her new "friend" enjoy festivities for Halloween



CWO Drushal, ENS Eckel, ENS Pizurro and CWO Gephardt. Or wait, who's who?



ET3 Replogle takes his shot at the Bobbing for Apples competition



ENS Murray and YN1 Farnady compete for late racks in Dangling Donuts



ETC Eastman serves his division as a part of the Messcook For A Day campaign
From left to right: ET3 Forester, ET3 Willis, IT2 Kraus, ETC Eastman, ET3 Shiflett, IT1 Bettencourt and ET2 Bailey

We wish you lots of love and joy back home. We'll take care of ourselves out here, and look forward to seeing you again!

A Hui Hou,

The Officers, Chiefs and Crew of
USCGC RUSH (WHEC 723)
Honolulu, Hawaii
Kia'i Kai No Ka Oi – The Best in the Coast Guard!

Visit us at:
www.uscg.mil/pacarea/rush

