

RUSH HOUR

United States Coast Guard Cutter RUSH (WHEC 723)

DUTCH HARBOR, AK SPECIAL EDITION!

Special points of interest:

- Restaurant/Travelers Guide to Dutch Harbor!
- *Extreme Sledding!*
- Look for your loved ones "Shout Outs!"
- The In & Out fashions of Dutch Harbor

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Greetings from the Commanding Officer!

February 15, 2008 - Greetings from the Great White North! I hope everyone is doing well back in sunny Honolulu! We are in the final stages of our winter patrol and should be returning home soon. As most of you know, we are currently in Dutch Harbor making repairs to our hull. Some water got behind our hull insulation and rusted away one of the stringers which supports our hull. Without the stringer, the hull flexed in the seas and eventually cracked. This was not an immediate casualty, but happened over a long period of time. The quick response of our DC Team, led by Chief Hayes, shored up the bulk head and allowed us to return to Dutch Harbor.

The crew is looking forward to getting back to the warm sunshine of Hawaii. The sun does

not rise here until around 1000 and then we call it gray light, since we rarely see the actual sun. We also enjoy winter storms about every 4 days. It is a strange sight to see the ship covered in ice and snow. Our actual return date to Hawaii is still up in the air depending on the time to make hull repairs and the weather during our return trip. I will keep Debbie updated on our progress, and she will notify you, via E-Mail, on our expected arrival date and time.

This will be my final trip as Commanding Officer of CGC RUSH. It has been my distinct pleasure to command such an outstanding crew. You can be very proud of your love ones as they serve our great nation as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard. I also truly appreciate



your sacrifice which enables your Coastie to serve on-board cutter RUSH. My Change of Command will most likely be on 27 Jun 08 at 1000. Mark your calendars now. Debbie and I hope to see all of you there.

CGC RUSH Participates in search for Missing Balloonist

January & February 2007 - A few days from making a port call in Dutch Harbor, RUSH was diverted 500NM south of Adak to help search for missing Japanese hot air balloonist, Michio Kanda.

Mr. Kanda, 58, went missing a few days into his attempt to break his own world record in a

flight from Tochigi, Japan to Portland, Oregon. The Coast Guard responded to the search with air assets, as well as, Cutters RUSH, JARVIS and HICKORY. Coast Guard HC-130's made daily flights over the search area, but the search area was plagued with bad weather on a daily basis, mak-

ing it nearly impossible to search for debris.

It appeared that the Coast Guard was about to make a break in the case, when debris was spotted 400NM south of Adak. Unfortunately, the search was suspended due to inclement weather and it is not known if it will resume?

RESTAURANT/TRAVELERS GUIDE

THE GRAND ALEUTIAN: SUNDAY MORNING BRUNCH



February 2008 - What a great experience for an unbelievable price! For \$25, you can eat until your heart is content.

The Sunday Brunch, of course is only offered on Sunday's and begins at 10:00AM. There is open seating, but it is recommended that you call ahead if you plan on having a group larger than 6. Open seating occurs in *The Chart Room*, which over looks Margaret Bay. This large room features a wall of windows that allows the sunlight to pour in, which is a welcome thing here since most

of the time there are too many clouds that block the sun.

As you make your way to your seat, you are paraded by the amazing spread of food. On your right, the salad bar is endless: Waldorf salad, Cesar Salad, Garden salad, and the list goes on. This table also features fresh pastries, fresh fruit, four kinds of smoked salmon, and fresh juices. The dessert table is on this side too, but I'll cover that in a minute. On your left is the hot food. You have bacon and sausage, biscuits and gravy, crapes, hash

browns, fresh cut roast beef, ready to order eggs and omelets, as well as, waffles. Once you've had your fill here, you can move to the dessert table. Now, I'm not a dessert person, but I made sure to leave room in this case. The desserts included: Chocolate covered strawberries, carrot cake, marzipan cookies, chocolate covered nut clusters and so on and so forth. This table looked like it could have been from any 5 star hotel in New York City.

This meal earns 4 out of 5 stars!



AMELIA'S: AUTHENTIC MEXICAN CUISINE (LUNCH)



February 2008 - So, here's the "story." Ten years ago (the date is irrelevant), a Mexican woman named Amelia, came to Dutch Harbor on vacation. Who vacation's in Dutch Harbor? Anyway, she saw a need for Mexican Cuisine and decided stay and open a restaurant. Her location is perfect and the restaurant is very humble. The lively decorations are a mix of wind chimes (a lot of them) and traditional Mexican wall art. I'm not sure I know where the wind chimes fit in, but that doesn't matter because it

adds to the experience.

Amelia's offers a variety of food, which was a surprise. The menu is very sturdy, a good sign of food variety, and the food selection includes: Mexican, hot/cold sandwiches, steaks, seafood, and more. At first, the prices seem a bit steep and you're not too sure what to expect. However, the speed of the service, quality of food, and portion size quickly make you forget how much you're spending. The other item on Amelia's menu, that everyone raves

about are, the milk shakes. These milk shakes are amazing! The not too frozen, not too melted (perfect) delectable treat is served in a tall glass and you get the extra! That's right, what doesn't fit in the glass is served in the metal cup it was mixed in. If you are looking for the perfect meal, I suggest ordering the cheeseburger and chocolate milkshake.

Despite paying on average \$20 per person, I give Amelia's 4 star 's for quality and portion size.



PEKING!: JAPANESE, CHINESE, AND KOREAN CUISINE (DINNER)

February 2008 - This Korean owned and operated restaurant, that specializes in amazing sushi, is a must stop for any sushi loving visitor. Although the menu offers traditional Japanese and Chinese cuisine, most RUSH personnel went straight for the sushi. Like Amelia's, Peeking will hit you hard when it comes time to pay your

bill; however, the service and quality of food far out weigh any price.

The Dynamite Roll and Spicy Tuna Roll were the best in my opinion. The Dynamite Roll was fried in tempura and served hot, whereas the Spicy Tuna Roll almost did not need any wasabi sauce. Both rolls cost \$14.95 and worth the cost. The other

roll that I sampled was the Dragon Roll. This was the most expensive roll at \$19.95, but was also the biggest roll. Unfortunately, Peeking did not offer any kind of dessert, but the portion size left little room for anything else to eat.

Peeking gets 3 out of 5 stars, only because of price. Expect to pay \$30 per person.



UNALASKA (DUTCH HARBOR) AIRPORT

Tom Madsen Airport - Located 800NM southwest of Anchorage, this 3,900ft runway offers locals, vacationers, and stranded Coasties one of two methods of leaving Dutch Harbor (car ferry the other method). During the winter months, it's possible to go days without seeing a commercial airline arrive or depart the airport, due to decreased visibility. I would recommend only visiting Dutch Harbor during the Spring and Summer to ensure you're not stranded here.

So, who is Tom Madsen and why is the airport named in his honor? Charles Thomas Madsen, Sr., was killed in a plane accident in 2002. Mr. Madsen was a bush aviator for nearly 20 years and was well known throughout the Aleutians for "willingly jeopardizing his own life in order to save the lives of others." He often volunteered his own time to assist in search and rescue missions, as well as, utilizing his own aircraft to transport people in need of medical treatment. "In one particular incident," Mr.

Madsen "flew in 100mph winds with heavy snow and sleet in order to save the life of a toddler who had ingested a fatal amount of iron pills.

Thomas Madsen epitomizes the term 'bush pilot' in selflessly putting others' needs above his own to meet the needs of humanity."

Mr. Madsen would have made a great Coastie! Fair winds and following seas to this exceptional individual...Semper Paratus!



NO SKI LIFT, NO PROBLEM: MT BALLYHOO

February 2008 - The skiing and snowboard junkies got their fix during our extended stay in Dutch Harbor. The old adage, "good things come to those who wait" definitely applies to this story.

Just because there was no ski lift or pre-forged paths for these extreme sport fans to use, didn't mean that the adventure stopped at the base of the mountain. The 2-hour hike up the 1,634ft tall Mt. Ballyhoo will go down as one of the best

liberty experiences of the patrol and the envy of the crew. LTJG's Boice and Woessner, ET2 Smith, AST3 Abrams, and HS3 Polhemus skied and snowboarded multiple times during our stay. Each run took approximately 15 minutes, which really didn't equal the effort put into getting to the top. However, the pictures will provide memories for years to come.

The powder was 3 ft deep and resting on a good base, which made for ideal skiing condi-

tions. The conditions on the first day were comparable to that found at any number of top ski resorts around the US. The priceless feeling of knowing you and your friends are the only individuals, on an island of 5,000 people, skiing a mountain that can only be skied by hiking it first is awesome! I wouldn't expect the State of Alaska to invest in a ski lift anytime soon. So, any entrepreneur looking for a monopoly this is your best chance.



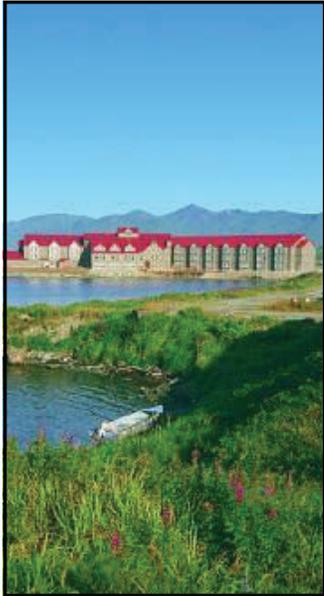
RATE OF THE MONTH: Boatswain Mate (BM)

February 2008 - The most versatile member of the Coast Guard's operational team is the Boatswain's Mate (BM). Boatswain's Mate, are masters of seamanship. BMs are capable of performing almost any task in connection with deck maintenance, small boat operations, navigation, and supervising all personnel assigned to a ship's deck force. BM's have a general knowledge of ropes and cables,

including different uses, stresses, strains, and proper stowing. BMs operate hoists, cranes, and winches to load cargo or set gangplanks, stand watch for security, navigation, or communications. BM's can be found in nearly every duty station available throughout the United States and various locations overseas. They serve on every Coast Guard Cutter, from harbor tugs to sea-going ice-

breakers. Additionally, in many assignments you will act as the federal law enforcement officer. BM's are officers-in-charge of many patrol boats, tugs, small craft, and small shore units including search and rescue stations and aids to navigation teams. BMs utilize their leadership and expertise to perform the missions of the Coast Guard, at sea and on shore.





THE GRAND ALUETIAN HOTEL

February 2008 - An outpost for American forces during World War II, the Margaret Bay site was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1985. In May of 1993, it made history again when its new landmark hotel - the first of its kind in the Aleutian Chain- opened its doors to adventure seeking travelers.

The Grand Aleutian was the brainchild of former UniSea, Inc. President, Dick Pace. His vision evolved into a

striking red-roofed, three-story reality built through the combined efforts and cooperative spirit of the architect, contractors, and Unalaska community.

It was a bold step to build a 112-room hotel "in the bush," and the Grand Aleutian's exterior makes a bold statement. Sympathetic to the native architecture, the hotel's driftwood-hued wood siding meshes with the local landscape. The contrasting roof echoes the peaks of the Aleutian Range; the roof's

dormers give the hotel its inviting lodge appearance.

Inside the hotel, a dramatic three-story lobby greets hotel guests with a massive stone fireplace and larger-than-life "fiber mural" by renowned artist Nancy Taylor Stonington.

Winding past the fireplace, the main staircase leads to the intimate second-floor lobby where comfortable chairs and a roaring fire invite guests to relax with a good book.

THE IN & OUT FASHIONS OF DUTCH HARBOR



EXTREME SLEDDING!



February 2008 - If skiing and snowboarding are too expensive, then purchase a \$20 piece of plastic that you can sit or kneel on. On mountains across Dutch Harbor, thrill seekers are flying off cliffs and doing flips in the air, whether they intended to or not; All with a piece of plastic under their butts. The best thing, you don't need the expensive ski resorts and ski accessories for this type of fun!

The only other recommended pieces of gear are a good pair of waterproof boots, non-cotton pants, and a pair of Gortex gloves.

Departments across the boat, non-rates to junior officers, and from sunrise to sunset, you could spot RUSH extreme sledding all over Dutch Harbor. Even if you didn't spot them, you certainly noticed the foot tracks and sled imprints all over

the place. Thankfully, the worst injuries were only a cut chin (FN Wilt) and a bruised buttocks (SK3 Ramirez).

For fear of starting any kind of war on the boat, I credit the BM's, EM's, DC's and MK's with brining extreme sledding to Dutch Harbor. I encourage you all to introduce the sport to Hawaii, as I hear that the Big Island has gotten a fair amount of snow fall this year.

Shout Outs!



To MK1 Collins: Happy Birthday Daddy and Happy Anniversary Honey! We love and miss you very much and we will see you soon at the pier! Muahz!! Love Cathy and Brandon

YN2 Flowers: To my family back in SC and to my husband Michael and my little monkey's, Miguel and Casey. I love you all and can't wait to see you.

F&S2 Litka: Happy Valentines day to the 4 most important women in my life...Brenda my wife, Lindsey & Shauni my daughters and "Binky" my little Chihuahua. I will see you soon. Get the boogie boards out because we will be hitting Sunset Beach soon!! Love Always & Forever, Randy (Dad)

IT1 Bettencourt: Hey JD! Hey Ian! I'll be home soon! I can't wait to see your new soccer moves. Beckham's got nothing on you guys! Kristie, we made it. I can't wait to be a family again. You're patience, love and support have been extraordinary. I love you!!!

OS1 Saejung: Hey Elayne Kai and Madyn; Hope you all are doing well. Things are good on the boat. Daddy will be home soon. I Love and Miss you.

OS3 Meyer: I'll be back in the hot sun soon tuning into a red lobster after hours of neglected surfing. 1.5 years left! Mom and dad can I live above the garage for free again? Jk—cheers, Paul Meyer

SA Garzon: To my dad and brother, love you all very much and miss you...I'll be home in June.

SN McCrory: Leah: Not Too Much Longer Now Baby! I love you and miss you. 10/29/05:) Mom, Dad, Family: Thank you for all of your support. You all are the best! Love and miss you!

BM1 Tapp: Anne, Sarah, Emma...I can't wait to see you back at home for family time and big hugs! Not much longer now for our own "Daddy-Daughter Dance!" I love you!

EM2 Sisneros: Stephanie, Aaron, and Alex—I love you, I miss you, and I look forward to coming home.

SN Tamanaha: Mom, Amanda, and Rubylynn—hope that you are ok and hope to see you all soon.

FS2 Johnson: Berfa, Melon, Mark, B.J., Ida, Jerrica, Wyatt, Dixie, Duncan, Debbie: I love all of ya'll and I can't wait to see ya'll in a couple of months! I'm passed the point of ready to get back to my Southern lifestyle! Love Always, Curt

OS3 Stacy: To my family and friends, I love you all and I hope that you are doing well. I will hopefully be home soon.

IT3 Lopez: Hi Kanoe! I'll see you on the 24th. Oh wait, the 28th. Crap, they found more damage. Oh, forget it son, you'll never see me again. We will be stuck here forever.

OS3 Mahoney: Hello Mon and Dad, and the rest of the Mahoney family and friends. Thank you all for your prayers of support and all of the kind emails to get me through this patrol. I will be home soon and can't wait to see all of you. Love you all. Aaron

MK3 Vega: Krystal—I love you, baby, and I'll be seeing you really soon! Melodie and Bob—Just hangin' and almost home, see you guys soon!

SN Sanchez: To my mom and pops, Thanks for the continuous support! To all my family and loved ones, thank you and love you all! To my homie Aaron, stay up! To my girl Kathy, I love you!

LCDR Clevenger: Hello, My Ed and My Family! Miss you! Keeping busy and looking forward to returning home! :)

ENS Grupp: Dear Grupp Family - I miss you all very much; almost as much as I miss Timmy's cookies. Lovebeth

ENS Mulhern: DAD! Love you, miss you, we haven't sunk yet so I guess I'll see you pretty soon, eh? Lovealways Anne

EM1 Olsen: Solana my beautiful wife I will be home soon and I can't wait to see you. Congrats to Justin, Nancy, Clint and Char on your new bundles of joy.

ENG2 Jefferys: Serena, Chase and Pam, cannot wait to see you. Miss you all love dad.

SN Duffy: Hey MOM and DAD, Family and friends! We are having the time of our lives! It has been a great tour so far and I couldn't have asked for more. I will be home in late April and am expecting to see all of you. Keep your minds open and remember that I love all of you! See you soon!

FN Dale: To all my family and friends, I love you guys and I will be home soon.

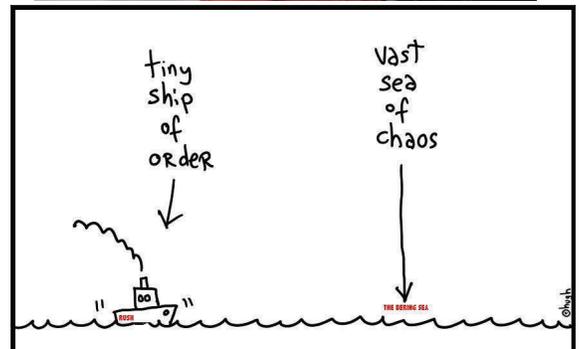
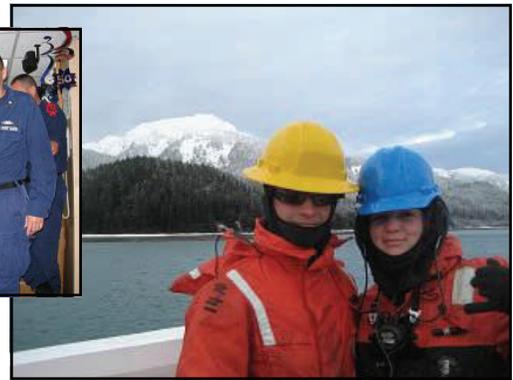


Shout Outs!

CDR Thomas: Rebecca, Christian, Cameron, & Courtney: Thanks for the love and support, always thinking of you. Have a PEACHY day! Love, Pops (the Old Man & the Sea) "Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will." - Gandhi

MK1 Lowery: Hey Lowery Ladies, I love you and will be home soon! I love and miss you all! Lee







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USCGC RUSH is the ninth of the Hamilton Class High Endurance Cutters. It was commissioned on November 16, 1968 in New Orleans, LA.

USCGC RUSH is the fifth Coast Guard Cutter to be named after the eight Secretary of Treasury, Richard Rush. A member of John Quincy Adams' cabinet from 1825-1828, Secretary Rush is best remembered for his accomplishments as a statesman and diplomat.

Presently, maritime law enforcement is one of RUSH's major missions throughout the entire Pacific Ocean, from Alaska to South American to Asia. RUSH patrols and conducts boarding's to ensure compliance with International and U.S. laws. RUSH also performs Search and Rescue missions to protect life and property at sea.

CREW ACHIEVEMENTS

Fair Winds and Following Seas:

LTJG Paul (PATFORSWA)
LTJG Heffner (PATFORSWA)
FS2 O'Der (PATFORSWA)
GM2 Jirschele (PATFORSWA)

Good Conduct Awards:

GM2 Eystad
BM3 Duque
OS2 Ford
MK3 Techaira
OSC Curcio
BM1 Tapp
MK2 Lunsford
ET2 Samelo
OS2 Mixon
SKC Tathinen
YNC Gunderson
ET2 Smith
OS1 McCown

Coast Guard Achievement Medal:

BM3 Miller

Letter of Commendation:

BM1 Tapp
MK1 Lowery
MK1 Collins

CG Team Award:

LTJG Boice
LCDR Clevenger

CG Team Award:

CWO Jefferys
ENS Cain
MK1 Lowery
MK2 Edwards
MK2 Lunsford
MK3 Gallagher
MK3 Techaira
FN Gillis
FN Galvador
FN Dumag
FN Dale
FN Macias
SN Tamanaha
LT McConnell
LTJG Heffner
ENS Pagarigan
LTJG Paul
LTJG Robinson
ENS Germuska
ENS Mulder
ENS Mulhern
BM1 Hoffman
BM2 Seyler
BM3 Gomez
BM3 Ortiz
OSC Curcio
OS1 Saejung

CG Team Award:

OS2 Brown
OS2 Cacapit
OS2 Jiminez
OS3 Gonzalez
OS3 Hall
OS3 Jenkins
OS3 Mahoney
OS3 Mcilwain
OS2 Mixon
SNOS Rochus
Cutterman:
GM2 Eystad
LT McConnell

