

BLUE NOSE
TRIBUNE

JUNE/JULY '15

And We're
Off!
AWS '15



Window to the Mission

Welcome to the first edition of the Blue Nose Tribune. Over the course of the next four months or so, we here at BNT will periodically bring you a little access to the onboard life and times of the Healy crew. We don't have to go crazy here with introductions and such. If you know someone on board, chances are you've heard all about our cutter. Nothing bad, we hope. Some of you probably read our blog over on the Healy website (<http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/cgchealy/aws15/>). A lot goes on during our deployment, it's hard to cover in a few paragraphs. This won't cover everything, but we'll try to get as close as we can to having you on board. Enjoy this first issue and if you'd like, give us some feedback so we can make it better. - Staff

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Letters

Have something you want to tell us? Email Justin.H.Knowlton@uscg.mil and see your name made famous in our letters section.



Joke of the Month

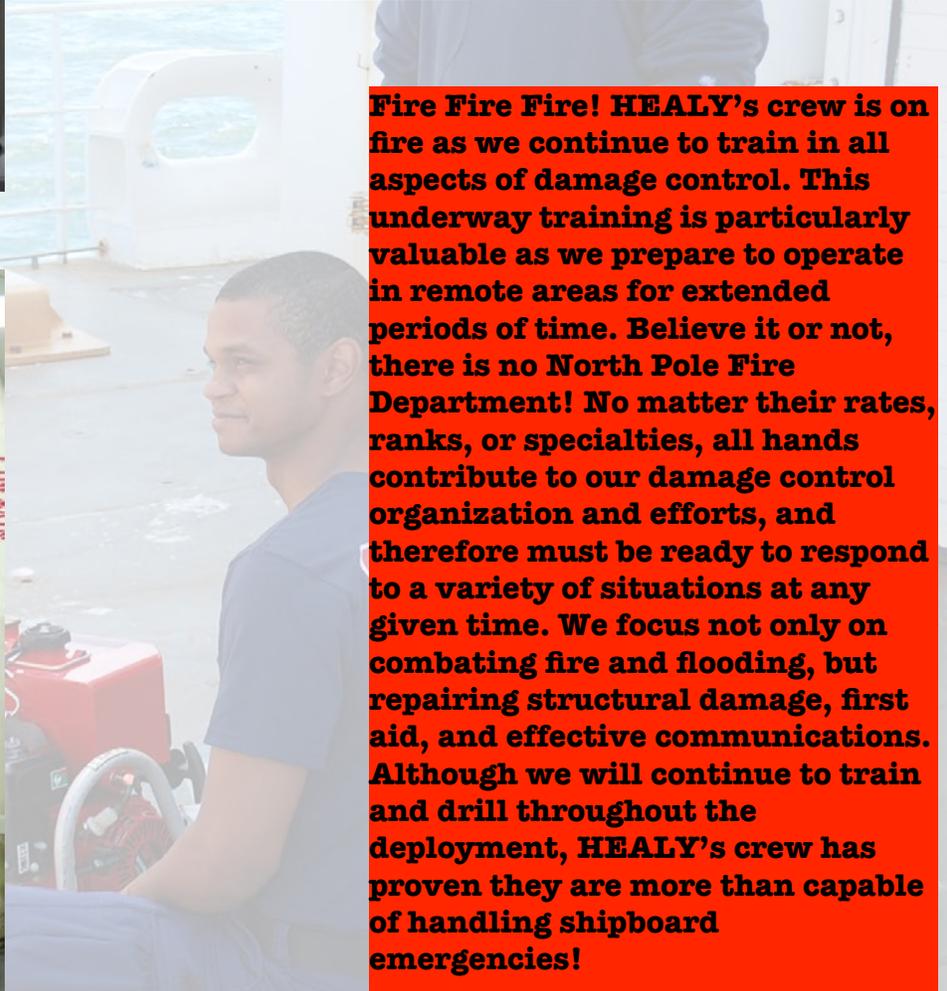
How much does Healy weigh?

.....enough to break the ice

-ENS Laurin Smith



Drill Baby, Drill!



Fire Fire Fire! HEALY's crew is on fire as we continue to train in all aspects of damage control. This underway training is particularly valuable as we prepare to operate in remote areas for extended periods of time. Believe it or not, there is no North Pole Fire Department! No matter their rates, ranks, or specialties, all hands contribute to our damage control organization and efforts, and therefore must be ready to respond to a variety of situations at any given time. We focus not only on combating fire and flooding, but repairing structural damage, first aid, and effective communications. Although we will continue to train and drill throughout the deployment, HEALY's crew has proven they are more than capable of handling shipboard emergencies!

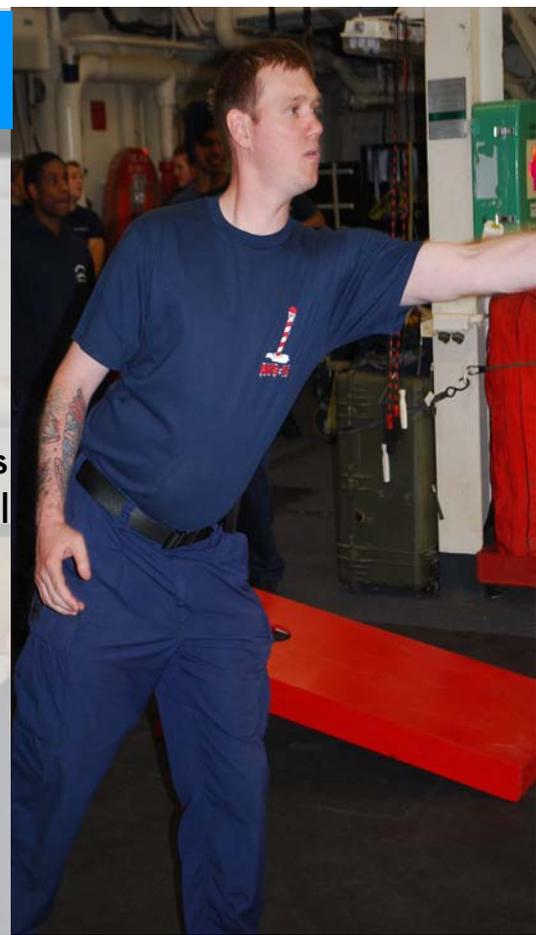
Summer of the Cadet

Per summer tradition, HEALY welcomed a new group of Cadets from the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. While on board, these future decision makers start from scratch by breaking in all standard watch stations and getting their hands dirty with the crew. Though their time with the crew may not be extensive, these young individuals become integral in the day to day operations of the cutter, standing watches and providing extra hands to the crew. In exchange they receive vital, early career experience with those they will soon command. It's not all work without play, though. Between Seattle, Victoria, and Kodiak, there are plenty of non Coast Guard things to experience.



More Morale!

Morale season is here! I mean, we can't work all the time. We'd go crazy. So to prevent that, the ship's Morale Committee likes to put on events for crew members to lighten the workload. Events include hangar movie night complete with popcorn, trivia competitions, cookouts, and the recent addition of cornhole tournaments. The Morale Committee holds meetings once a month to discuss ideas for future events and purchases of morale related items like mountain bikes. All hands are always welcome to participate in the meetings and help out with events.



Distinguished Visitor

HEALY is one of the highest profile cutters in the Coast Guard fleet. With this distinction comes attention. With attention comes visits from very important people, as everyone wants to know what HEALY is doing. In early June, HEALY was honored with a visit by the Deputy Commandant of Operations, Vice Admiral Charles Michel (now Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard). The responsibilities of the DCO include establishing and providing operational strategy, policy, guidance and resources to meet national priorities for USCG missions, programs, and services. On his visit, VADM Michel took a tour of nearly every space and spoke with nearly every member of the crew. Afterwards, he took extra time to speak to the crew as a whole, highlighting the emerging importance of the Arctic and HEALY's major role in this.



Fair Winds and Open Leads

LT Sweet-Charity Keplinger



This month saw the departure of the ship's resident sawbones. Over the last three years, LT Keplinger saw to the scrapes, cuts, and bumps on the head. Aside from that, she was also the Education Services Officer, Deck Watch Officer, Star Wars fanatic, ship celebrity and dog lover. Known more affectionately as "Doc", LT Keplinger is currently en route to a position in the Base Clinic in Portsmouth, Virginia, and brings with her the love and respect of an entire crew.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

“Archer’s Great Alaskan Cheesecake”



Crust:

- 1 Cup graham cracker crumbs
- 3 Tablespoons sugar
- 3 Tablespoons melted butter

Mix together crumbs, butter, and sugar with fingers and press into bottom of springform pan. Use bottom of a glass to firm it up. Bake at 325 for 10 minutes.

Cake

- 4 8oz pkg of Philly cream cheese
- 1 Cup sugar
- 3 Tablespoons all purpose flour
- 4 Eggs
- 1 Cup sour cream
- 1 Tablespoon real vanilla extract

Mix cream cheese, sugar, and flour at medium speed with mixer until well blended. Add eggs one at a time, mix well until no yoke is seen before adding next egg. Mix in sour cream and vanilla. Pour into springform pan. Bake at 450 for 10 minutes. Reduce oven to 250 and bake for an hour. Remove from oven. With small icing spatula or knife, loosen from rim of pan. Cool in fridge before removing pan rim. Top with your brand of happiness.

We were going to take a picture of the finished product, but it was eaten before we could find the camera. Here’s a couple of engines, instead.



NOTES FROM THE CABIN

CAPT JASON HAMILTON



Dear HEALY Family & Friends,

Greetings. We are currently operating at about 74 North, well into HEALY's AOR of choice - the Arctic. Since the change of command nearly 6 weeks ago, HEALY has sailed approximately 6 thousand nautical miles including over 2 thousand in ice covered waters, made port calls in Victoria, BC and Kodiak Alaska, hosted a family and friends cruise for 250 visitors, embarked VADM Chuck Michel (now the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard) for a tour, conducted science on-loads for AWS-1501, and we are now in the thick of our first mission. It has been a busy and successful beginning to our summer. I couldn't be more proud of the crew's hard work. We are coming together as a team and achieving excellence!

In addition to our operational successes, many of our shipmates have been advanced or promoted and others have attained notable qualifications. Considering over a third of our crew has changed over, getting underway and conducting operations, training and achieving qualifications was vital to our success. These are significant professional milestones and we congratulate our shipmates on their achievements.

We are currently partnering with the Research and Development Center and interagency and industry partners to develop and expand technologies to improve our ability to operate in the Arctic. This includes a myriad of technologies including testing unmanned aerial vehicles, an aerostat, wave gliders, and an Arctic search and rescue exercise. I look forward to updating you on the successful completion of AWS-1501 in our next newsletter.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication at home. You enable your loved ones and HEALY to proudly serve and protect the United States at the far reaches of the planet. We couldn't do our vital missions without you. If you have interest in following our current expedition, please stay tuned to our web pages: <http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/cgchealy/aws15> and <http://icefloe.net/healy-main>

Best Regards,

Captain Jason R. Hamilton
Commanding Officer
USCGC HEALY (WAGB 20)