

USCGC MIDGETT

MIDGETT NEWSLETTER

SOUTHPAT VOL. I

Letter from the Captain

MIDGETT Friends and Families:

I hope this edition of the newsletter finds you all in good health and spirits. We've made the long journey and have begun to conduct our mission in earnest. After having not been south since last February, it is interesting to see how we all are trying to adapt to being in the heat again. As you can see by the articles in this edition, we had a successful Mexican port call in a place none of had been before. This of course is one of the benefits to being on sea duty, the thrill of seeing and appreciating new places. The people were very hospitable, the area was safe, the cultural experiences were educating and the food was outstanding.



I am continually amazed by the things we see on the ocean. During the two weeks prior to our port visit, we spent time in an area with abundant sea life. In all my years of going to sea, I've seen nothing like it. On a daily basis, we would see whales, dolphins, uncountable sea turtles, sharks, rays, tuna, marlin, schools of sardines, and sea birds such as frigate birds, brown boobies, shearwaters, storm petrels, and pelicans. Of course, there were numerous fishing vessels we had to navigate through day and night.



The crew as always is resilient and performing its mission in an outstanding manner. Keeping up with this ship, nearly 40 years young, takes a lot of hard work. Thanks for all you do to support your hard working Coasties!

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XO's Corner

I hope everyone is making it through winter back in the states. Reports from Seattle were that everyone survived the snow with only power outages and no damage. I was encouraged to hear that families were talking and looking out for each other. For the crew, knowing that the folks back home are safe and secure keeps them from worrying and focused on the mission at hand. Keep your lists of resources close at hand, the first being the Ship's Ombudsman, Ms. Cindy Geelan (midgettombudsman2@gmail.com, 425-968-2105). Cindy is there to point you in the right direction or get you in touch with people who can help with the challenges you may be having, and in the case of an emergency, can quickly get in touch with the ship. Thanks again for all your support back home!



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ENCOUNTERING

In the space... Main Prop don't stop... and neither do the hard working engineers of A-Gang, DC Shop, and the EM Division.

So far we've consumed over 316K gallons of potable water, burned nearly a quarter of a million gallons of fuel, onload 210K gallons of propulsion fuel and transferred over 500 gallons of jet fuel to helicopters. Engineers have spent over 65 hours conducting engineering and damage control training completing over 23 training drills, processed over 3000 loads of laundry and fixed well

over two dozen ship system failures from the galley's ovens to the ship's steering system.

We've provided training that assisted in the qualification of over 60 crew members (about a third) and we've sent nearly 20 crew members to various schools to improve their competency in shipboard damage control.

The 45 hardworking men and women of the Engineering Department are extremely dedicated and determined. As she

approaches 40 years of service, MIDGETT only remains operational due to the blood, sweat and tears of the engineers that keep the engineering plant, electronics, auxiliaries and damage control equipment running 24/7. In engine spaces that exceed 160 degrees, there's no shortage of long days onboard.

EO, LCDR Sherman, boasts, "they're an extremely impressive group of professional mariners and they always make me proud - but nothing is possible without the proud families at home - so thank you for all of your support!"

WEAPONS

The Weapons Department, headed by LTJG Andrea Rice, contains the Fire Control Division, the Gunnery Division, the Information Technician division, and the Electronics Technician Division. With the focus on law enforcement for this patrol, the Weapons Department has played a crucial role in preparation. In the first two weeks, the Weapons Department has been responsible for three successful gun evolutions involving the 25mm and the 50 cal weaponry. Additionally, the

small boats have had successful evolutions in which the crew members have fired shotgun and M16 rounds while traveling at 25+ knots. The Weapons Department plans on holding gun evolutions for the CIWS and 76 MM in the near future.



Weapons Dept engaged in a GUNNEX

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OPERATIONS

Operations department has been working hard to get the ship headed toward all the action and ensuring the crew is ready once we get there. Operations department has conducted activities ranging from small boat training and rescue swimmer training to intel gathering. On a continual front, the crew of CGC MIDGETT is ensuring we are in compliance with new operating procedures.

AVSTAN was an effective refresher for all hands, reminding the crew how demanding

helicopter operations can be which will soon become an integral part of MIDGETT's daily routine. With continued hard work, operations will have MIDGETT crew working together like a well oiled machine.



MIDGETT conducting rescue swimmer training.

SUPPLY

The Supply department had numerous accomplishments during the 94 day Alaska Fisheries patrol and plans to continue the great working during this patrol.

During last patrol, the FS division cooked 61,200 meals valued at around \$220,000. The FS division also provided soup and snacks throughout the days providing extra replenishment for the crew. Upon taking custody of a seized fishing vessel the FSs prepared additional meals for the Boarding teams that stood watch on the unsanitary vessel for over 24 hours at a time. The FSs prepare meals everyday no matter what type

of weather we encounter. The SKs closed out Fiscal Year 2011 and spent over \$250,000 while the cutter was underway with very limited internet connectivity. New mattresses were ordered for the entire crew. It's quite a balancing act to coordinate freight deliveries when the schedule can always change.

The SK shop welcomed our new SK1 Jovanny Escarra, and SK3 Charles Gallant, valued assets in the shop. The YN division continues to process travel plans for crew members leaving for their respective schools. Travel plans are tricky when the schedule and location constantly

Crew members loading stores



change. The YNs also processed over 150 emergency contact information and life insurance updates.

The HS division processed 75 physical assessment exams and attended to 200 sick call members last patrol, and welcomes HS3 Bull to the division. The HS presented training on heat stress and tropical illnesses to keep the crew informed and in good physical shape.

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SAN DIEGO

MIDGETT's first stop was in San Diego to participate in AVCERT. Through a series of drills and inspections, MIDGETT and her crew qualified to safely conduct helicopter operations. After putting our best foot forward, crew members enjoyed some liberty. The morale committee arranged for transportation to and from the San Diego Zoo and SeaWorld. After a day in sunny San



Diego, the crew made preparations to hit the high seas.



CGC MIDGETT arriving in Coronado Bay, CA



SNFS Fraser and FS3 Doty touring the town



Superbowl Sunday!

An epic rematch of the New England Patriots and the New York Giants proved to be another nail-biter with the game winning play determined in the last 39 seconds of the game. The NY Giants pulled off the win, beating the Patriots 21-17.



CGC MIDGETT crew enjoyed Superbowl festivities underway. The FS division supplied a variety of game-time appetizers like shrimp, taquitos, and a fresh veggie tray. The dinner menu included delicious roasted pig, chicken wings and icecream to top the night off. A big thanks to the cooks for pulling off a great event.

himself and his team's performance" from the friendly heckling and well-natured jeering that accompanied the game.

Football enthusiast, ENS Tracey Womack won the Morale Committee's closest points prize. And LTJG Kesting won the NFL Pick'ems contest. ENS Subramanian won the "least capable of defending

Best Superbowl commercial award was a toss up between the jogging service member reaching out and grabbing his cool drink of GI Bill benefits and OPSEC's ominous "Loose Tweets Sink Fleets!"



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HITTING THE BOOKS

CGC MIDGETT is offering a semester at sea of Human Biology taught by Vincennes University visiting professor, Dr. Tina Brents. A native of Rapid City, South Dakota, Dr. Tina (as she is affectionately referred to underway) joins MIDGETT for the entirety of her patrol—offering a 3 college credit course coupled with a 1 credit biology lab. Students will get textbook and hands-on experience as they explore the web of electrons, neurons, and capillaries.

Her premiere tour teaching at sea, Dr. Tina is finding her sea-legs and shows a demonstrated interest in all things afloat. She can be found interacting with shipmates of all rates and ranks and quickly learning the ropes of shipboard life. Some of her hobbies include: Organic Gardening, Yoga & Meditation, playing with her grandchildren, and Medical School (MD/PHD in training). Welcome Aboard, Dr. Tina Brents!



**Dr. Tina Brents, DC FIAMA
Biology Professor**

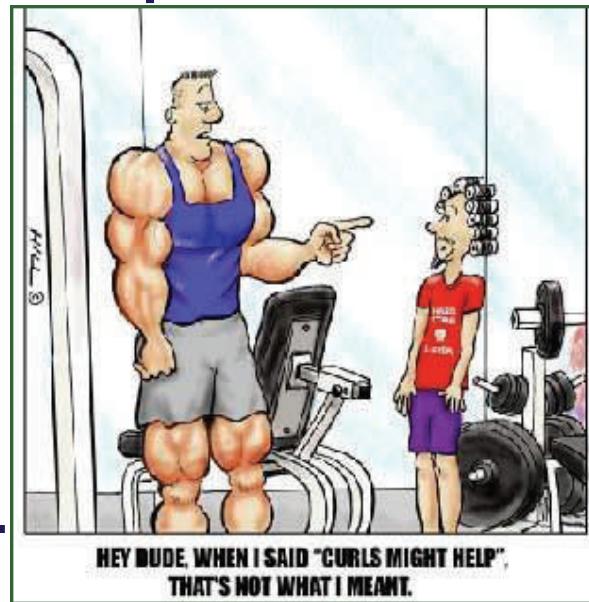
Hour of Power!

The MIDGETT crew is trying to keep pace with MK3 Kate Hauch who hangs up her coveralls for PT gear each evening in the “Hour of Power”. MK3 Hauch describes HOP as, “an interval workout relying mainly on body weight for resistance. The intervals allow each person to go at their own pace for each exercise whether it be 1 repetition or 50.”

A strong turnout, the crew dives into burpees, squats and sit-ups — burning off last night’s midrats.

If you haven’t already given it a shot, join MK3 Hauch on the flight deck. According to MK3, “the fitness level of the participating crew varies. We have veteran HOP participants, runners, weight lifters, beginners — anyone can get a good workout in!”

Like church on Sunday morning, you’ve gotta get there early to snag a spot in the back row!



HEY DUDE. WHEN I SAID "CURLS MIGHT HELP", THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

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Puerto Chiapas!



Puerto

Chiapas, MX served as a great platform for the crew to stretch their legs and support a diverse range of events. Unique tours were offered for the crew such as a visit to "the Chocolate City", a village religious festival, and guided tours of a local coffee plantation and the Mayan



Leave the heavy lifting to YN3 Wheeler and HS3 Bull.

Top Left to right: SN Cheng, ET3 Light, SN Hoewisch, SN Doherty, MEI Vitorino, GMI Jones, SN Jones, SN Pedersen

Bottom Left to Right: LCDR Sherman, LT Stalvey, MKI Eribal, BMI Bradley, ET3 Williams, ENS Cederstrom, CDR Neumann



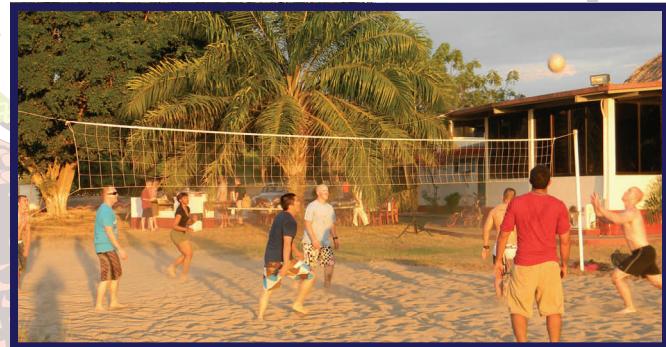
ruins! Other crew members decided to explore the city of Tapachula.

Available a stone throw away on the pier were amenities such as free wifi, a swimming pool, volleyball court, and shaded tiki huts where ice, cold drinks were enjoyed in the company of friends.

The Morale Committee set off in search of additional fishing gear and sports equipment in support of the command endorsed Fish Calls and Steel Beach morale events underway.

The following day included a soccer match against the 14th Mexican Naval Zone. Admiral Sanchez of the 14th Naval district, CAPT Meese, CDR Neumann, and MIDGETT's department heads all attended (some even played) in the friendly battle. Afterwards a small reception was held

where a trophy was awarded to each team for their unique strengths on the field. That evening a Promotion Party was held on the naval base in honor of our officers who have recently been promoted; LCDR Sherman, LTJG Gentile, LTJG Swagerty, LTJG Kesting, LTJG Williams, LTJG O'Brien and TAD member, LTJG Haseley.



ET3 Williams, OS3 Monahan, SN Baker, SN Jinnai, SN McDonald, ET3 Rojas & SN Doherty partake in some sand volleyball



EO flips burgers and dogs at the Promotion Party



IT2 Reed, ISI Gaul & ET3 Wonder tour
the Izapa Mayan ruins

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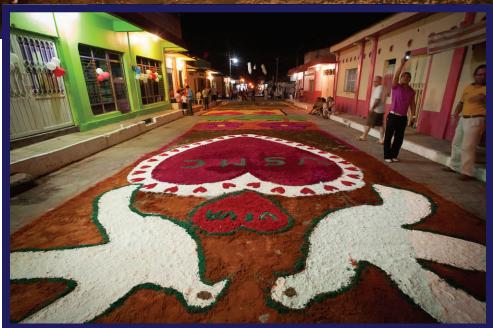
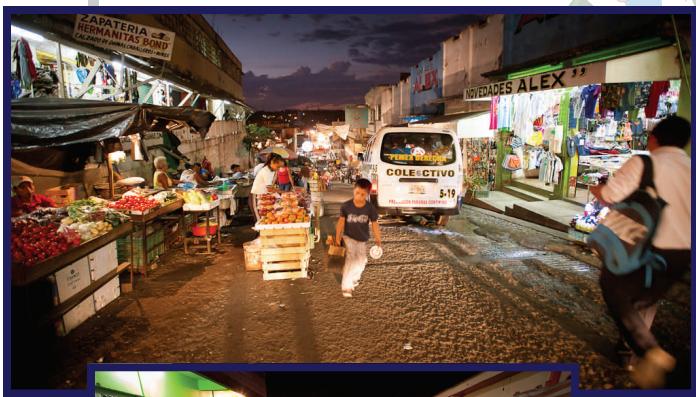
FN Feuerstein, FS3 Irish, SNFS Fraser, SN Guetersloh, SN Clary
enjoying a chance to stretch their legs during a brief stop for fuel



At the coffee plantation, the art of steaming a good cup of joe was leaked.



In Tuxla Chico,
“The Chocolate
City”, locals
demonstrated
their chocolate
making process



The streets of Tuxla Chico were hand-decorated
in dyed sawdust to celebrate a religious festival.



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- ◊ Steady the Service
- ◊ Honor our Profession
- ◊ **Strengthen our Partnerships**
- ◊ Respect our Shipmates



CAPT Meese, ENS Cederstrom and Mexican Navy delegation

CGC MIDGETT, currently patrolling in the East Pacific, is performing her law enforcement duty as part of Operation Martillo. Since the operation has several Central American countries participating, MIDGETT has not forgotten its secondary mission of strengthening the United States' international relationships.

In one case, MIDGETT came across two Guatemalan naval patrol boats, and Captain Meese immediately invited a few of the crew-members to come aboard.

Before the Guatemalan patrol boats left, MIDGETT provided food and other supplies to the crew to use as they continued their respective patrol.

Foreign visitors rarely leave CGC MIDGETT after a visit without a ballcap or souvenir, in recognition of their visit.

MIDGETT has made it a point in port visits to hand out t-shirts as a gift to the fuel and sewage workers.

MIDGETT crew is aware that most of the fishing vessels in the area are operating without proper radio equipment, do not have the correct gear on board, and sometimes operate far from land. Rescue or assistance may have to be provided at any time.



US and Mexican delegations enjoying a front-row seat to the sporting event.



CAPT Meese & CDR Neumann extend greetings to the Mexican 14 Naval Zone Admiral

MIDGETT recently visited the port of Puerto Chiapas, Mexico. Captain Meese and Commander Neumann were able to meet with Mexican Naval members, including the 14th Mexican Naval Zone Commander. The Mexican Navy proved to be very hospitable, and even challenged the MIDGETT crew to a soccer match.

The MIDGETT crew looks forward to future port visits to continue improving US relations and partnerships.



US and Mexican soccer teams pose for a post-game group shot

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WELCOME, AVDET!

MIDGETT welcomed the aviation crew from HITRON based out of Jacksonville, Florida. We have the unique opportunity to sail with the HITRON Commanding Officer—CAPT Cottrell and her finest crew. CAPT Cottrell will join us for a couple weeks performing mission critical operations and will be relieved by LT Van Ginkel who will finish out the patrol with MIDGETT.

A hearty welcome to LCDR Workman (Mission Commander), LT Kuhl (Aeromedical Physician's Assistant), AET1 Blake (Plane Captain), AST1 Puglia (Precision Marksman), AMT3 Titmus (Aircraft Mechanic), and AET3 Hammit



(Communications Specialist).

In support of CGC MIDGETT's operations, the AVDET's primary mission is to conduct aerial use of force and counterdrug interdiction. The MIDGETT crew is looking forward to enhancing our mission capabilities by employing the "Force from Above."



Introducing the AVDET at Quarters

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Be My Valentine?

To Brittany Monaghan: You're the twinkle in my eye, you're the song in my laugh, you're the light in my smile. You're my everything. Happy Valentine's Day."

"Happy 3 Year Anniversary Deirdre! I love you!
-Michael"

To my main squeeze and lil' squeeze: Happy Valentine's Day, Pup and Mush! I'll be home to scoop you both up in no time!
Xoxo MommaBear"

Happy Valentine's Day Steph. Love you. Madison, I'll be home soon for your birthday. Miss you.

To my beautiful wife Cherry and Daughter Isabella in Ketchikan, AK, missing you very much and I hope you enjoy the gift I sent you.
"Mahal Kita"

"When I see the stars illuminating upon my head I think of you. There are a million places that I rather not be but just the place next to you. Happy Valentine's day C" — Manny

G,
YOUR EYES, LIKE THE STARS,
LIGHT UP THE MIDNIGHT SKY.
YOUR SMILE, LIKE THE SUN,
BREAKING FREE FROM THE
DARKNESS. YOUR LOVE, LIKE
THE SOUTHERN BREEZE,
BLANKETS ME IN WARMTH.
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY, MY
LOVE.
M

Happy Valentine's Day to my WONDERFUL grandchildren Liam Tobin, Serenity, Sebastian & Sawyer Clapper, and my daughters Amber Clapper and Heather Veerkamp-Tobin. I have been deeply blessed to have you all in my life. Lots of Love and Hugs! And...A big Valentine's kiss to my husband, Troy Barnhart. I Love You!

Stephanie- I LOVE YOU very much and I am always thinking about you. Happy Valentine's Day. Love Chris

"Happy Valentine's Day Hayden, Walter, Killian, Molly & Claire! Love, Aunt Cake"

"Happy Valentine's Day to my best friend and husband, I love you. love always, me <3 "

"Happy Valentine's Day to my wonderful husband! I love you! Andrea R."

"Roses are Red, Violets are blue, I love you, mom". Love, Jenny

OCEANS APART, DAY AFTER DAY, AS I SLOWLY GO INSANE. LOVE YOU MY SWEET.



Separated by sea, not by heart!!!

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BRAVO ZULU!

Bravo Zulu to the hard-working shipmates of CGC MIDGETT who have recently been recognized for the following accomplishments! Keep up the hard work. I in 3's will soon be behind you!

ADVANCEMENTS

FN Hernandez

FN Baeten

AWARDS

Good Conduct

DCC Lusk

MK3 Martinez-Espino

OS2 Pelham

QUALIFICATIONS

Security

DC3 Tarbox

DC3 Adams

EM3 Hannemann

FN Rohrberg

SN Baker (I/P)

SN McDonald (I/P)

SN Conner (I/P)

SN Jones (I/P)

Auxiliary

MK2 Storey

LTJG Haseley (TAD)

Machinery

DC2 McMeekin

MK1 Brackin

Throttles

MK2 Bounds

DCC Lusk

FOWK

MK1 Brackin

Small Boat Engineer

MK2 Lake

Aviation Fuel Handler

FN Baeten

FN Ginter

Underway OOD

ENS Cederstrom

BMI Birt

Helm & Lookout

ENS Copening (TAD)

BM3 Franzese

SN Nicholson

SN Weichers

SN Pedersen

SN Strawn

SN Britt

SN Morales

SN Smith

SN Case

Master Helmsman

SN Thompson

Coxswain

BM3 Iverson

BMOW

SN Grant

JOOD

ENS Copening (TAD)

Import OOD

OSC Kozisek

YNC Taly

I/P Radio Watchstander

OS3 Whaley

OS3 Locher

OS3 Montgomery

U/W CIC Watchstander

OS3 Locher

IMPORTANT NOTE!
We are seeking motivated shipmates to assist in the publication of the MIDGETT newsletter. If you'd like to provide articles or photos please contact LTJG Haseley or ENS Subramanian.



Keep an eye out
for the next issue
of the MIDGETT
Newsletter where
more will be
divulged about the
Mustache
challenge and
other crew news
and morale events.

Articles written by: LTJG Haseley, ENS Subramanian, ENS Cederstrom, and SN McKenzie; Photos provided by: FS1 Van Kampen & MX Navy Public Affairs Office.