



*Commander Coast Guard Pacific Area,
Commanding Officer and Crew
request the honor of your presence
at the decommissioning of
U.S. Coast Guard Cutter HAMILTON (WHEC 715)
on Monday, the twenty-eighth of March 2011
at three o'clock in the afternoon
onboard USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC 715) at
Naval Base San Diego, Quaywall 5*

Reception following the ceremony

(Please present invitation card at Naval Base Main Gate)

*R.S.V.P. by email or phone
Email: William.A.Allen@uscg.mil
Phone: 619-556-6559
Please R.S.V.P. by March 14*

*Official Party: Full Dress White
Military Guests: Tropical Blue Long
or Equivalent
Guests: Business Attire*

USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC 715)

DECOMMISSIONING



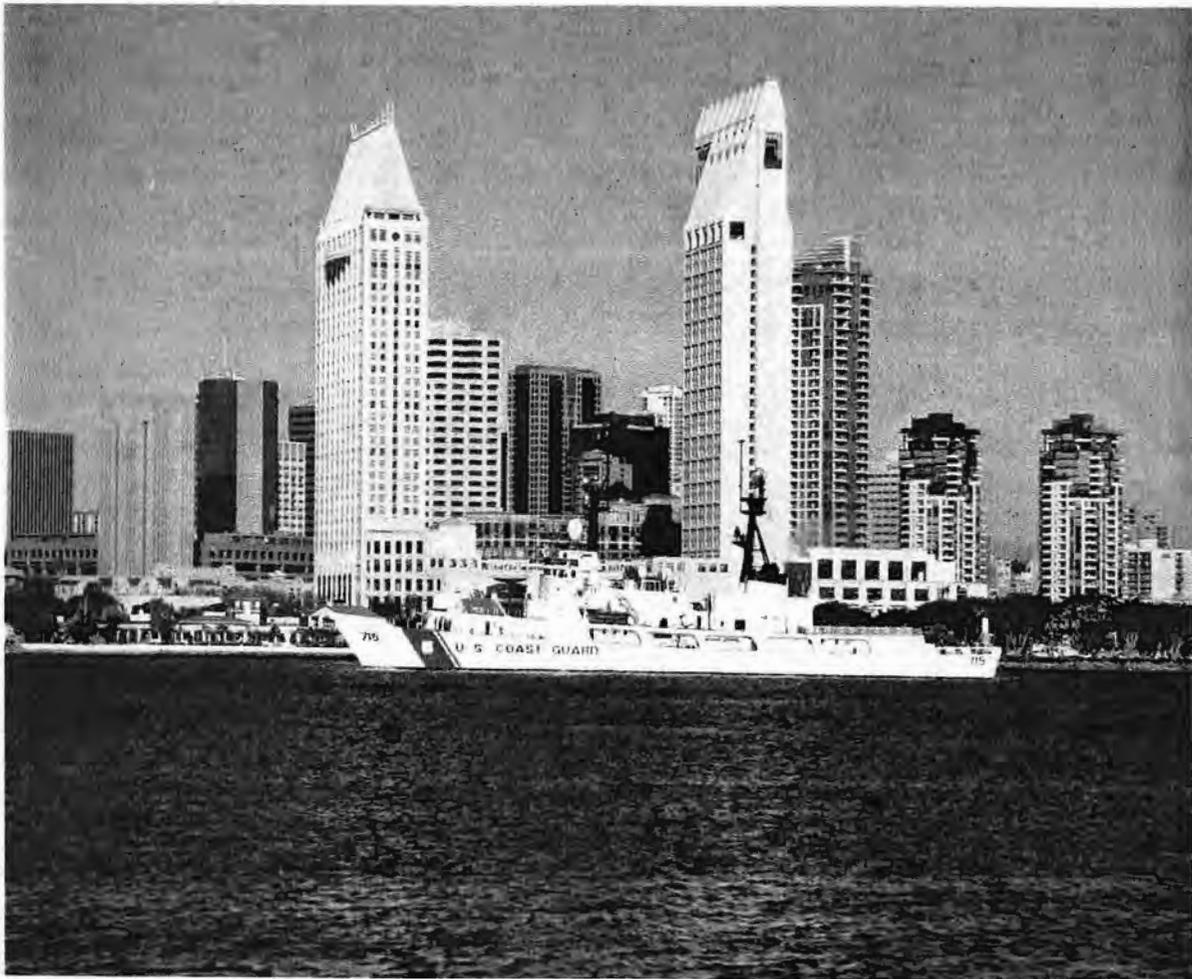
**March 28, 2011
San Diego, California**

The Decommissioning Ceremony



Each ship in the Coast Guard holds two unique ceremonies during the course of its existence. The commissioning ceremony bearing the promise for a bright future, and the decommissioning ceremony, signifying the end of an era, honoring all of the men and women who have given their time, their energy, and for some their lives to fulfill and surpass the expectations of those who stood in the commissioning ceremony. Custom has established that this ceremony be formal and impressive - a solemn occasion on which we pause to reflect upon the rich heritage of this ship and the United States Coast Guard.

USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC 715)



Keel Laid	January 4, 1965
Launched	December 18, 1965
Commissioned	March 18, 1967
Decommissioned	October 25, 1985
Recommissioned	June 3, 1989



USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC 715)

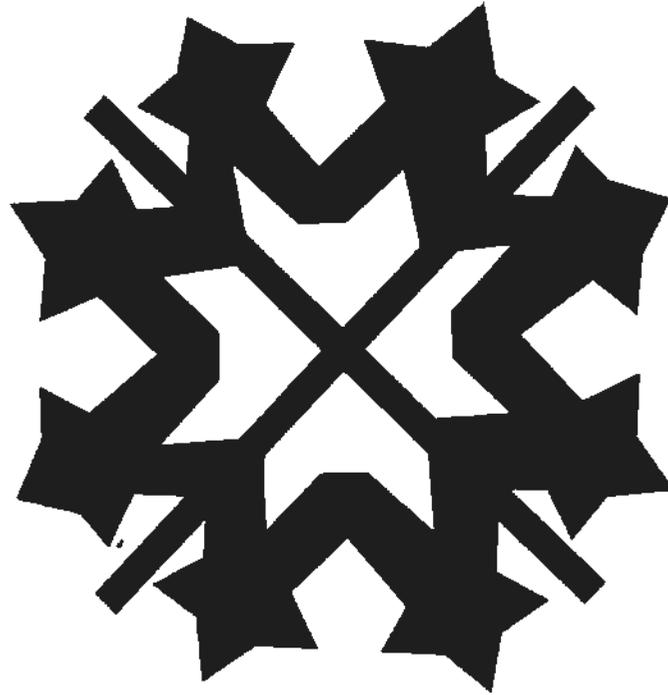
The USCGC HAMILTON was launched on December 18, 1965, at Avondale Shipyards in New Orleans, Louisiana. Commissioned on March 18, 1967, it was the first of twelve modern Hamilton class 378 foot, high endurance cutters built for the Coast Guard. The HAMILTON is named in honor of Alexander Hamilton, the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, who founded the Revenue Cutter Service in 1790. The Revenue Cutter Service was the forerunner of today's Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard designed a high level of habitability into HAMILTON. Living compartments and areas provide fairly comfortable accommodations, including air conditioning, for the 173 men and women who serve on board HAMILTON.

HAMILTON was the first U.S. military vessel to employ the now common shipboard application of aircraft gas turbine jet engines with the use of controllable pitch propellers. HAMILTON's two 18,000 horsepower gas turbines can propel the ship at speeds up to 28 knots. HAMILTON also has two 3,500 horsepower diesel engines, capable of driving the ship economically at 17 knots for up to 9,600 miles without refueling. A retractable/rotatable bow propulsion unit provides exceptional maneuverability in tight situations. HAMILTON's flight deck and hangar, capable of handling both Coast Guard and Navy helicopters extends the vessel's rescue and maritime law enforcement operations.

In 1988, HAMILTON completed a three-year fleet renovation and modernization that provided the ship with modern weapons and electronics systems. All spaces and machinery were also completely overhauled and refurbished. The new technology enables HAMILTON to operate seamlessly with the U.S. Navy.

HAMILTON has served a variety of missions with distinction. During a 1969-70 deployment to Vietnam, HAMILTON interdicted weapons smugglers and fired more than 4,600 rounds of gunfire in support of U.S. and Vietnamese troops ashore. From 1965-1975, HAMILTON served on Atlantic Ocean stations, collecting valuable oceanographic data and conducting frequent search and rescue missions. HAMILTON directed the interdictions of over 21,000 Haitian migrants throughout the Caribbean during Operation Able Manner. In 1994, HAMILTON received the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation for rescuing 135 Haitians from the sea after their sailboat capsized and sank. In 1996, HAMILTON transited through the Panama Canal and served as the command and control platform for Operation Frontier Shield, a multi-agency effort to curtail the influx of narcotics into the United States. HAMILTON intercepted 14 drug-laden vessels carrying more than 115 tons of contraband worth 200 million dollars. In 1999, HAMILTON seized over 2,700 kilograms of cocaine bound for the U.S. in the Eastern Pacific. The HAMILTON has patrolled the Bering Sea off the Alaskan coast at the Maritime Boundary Line (MBL) which separates the Russian and the United States' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ). HAMILTON's presence on the MBL deters foreign fishing vessels from fishing in the U.S. EEZ.



More Recently, in 2005, the White House awarded HAMILTON the prestigious Office of National Drug Control Policy Director's Award, and the Coast Guard Foundation presented HAMILTON with PACAREA's coveted and highly praised Admiral John B. Hayes award for Operational Excellence. Other recognitions during that time include the highly competitive PACAREA Gunnery Award (2006), 4th Coast Guard Unit Commendation (2006) and Gunnery Award runner up (2005). HAMILTON was also named runner up for Galley of the Year in 2006 . For effectively documenting the extremely high cost of provisions in the Eastern Pacific, HAMILTON's input resulted in a 20% service wide increase in the basic daily food allowance for all cutters deployed to the Eastern Pacific and a 30% carryover increase for all WMEC's and WHEC's Coast Guard wide. In recognition of this and other efforts to improve the quality of life for the crew when deployed in the Eastern Pacific, HAMILTON was also awarded the Captain Niels P. Thomsen Innovation Award in Administration, Training, and Support that same year.

CGC HAMILTON was awarded a gold snowflake in 2007 for the largest single maritime cocaine seizure in history, 18 tons of cocaine on the M/V GATUN. In 2008, HAMILTON became the first multi-mission cutter to conduct a safety and security patrol in the Arctic Ocean, and the first to reach Barrow, AK, the northernmost point in North America. In 2009, HAMILTON interdicted six go-fast vessels with over 15 tons of cocaine, the most go-fast interdictions in one Eastern Pacific counter-narcotics deployment at the time. For these efforts she received her fifth Coast Guard Unit Commendation. In 2010, HAMILTON served as the Coast Guard's command ship during Operation Unified Response and Operation Southeast Watch Haiti, providing relief support and security in the aftermath of Haiti's devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake.

Since July of 2010 she has completed two patrols, conducting counter narcotics and drug interdiction operations off the coast of South America and standing by for search and rescue while conducting fisheries enforcement in the Bering Sea. In that time she has traveled 30,469 nautical miles, interdicted five go-fast vessels seizing 8,194lbs of cocaine and marijuana, and conducted over 150 hours of flight operations.



*"... by diligence, by perseverance, by
time, and by practice."*

*Alexander Hamilton
Federalist No. 25
December 21, 1787*

Arrival of the Official Party

*Capt. Matthew J. Gimple
Commanding Officer*

*Vice Admiral Manson K. Brown
Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area and
Coast Guard Defense Force West*

National Anthem

Invocation

Chaplain Daniel Owens, Lieutenant Commander, US Coast Guard

Remarks

Vice Admiral Manson K. Brown

Capt. Matthew J. Gimple

Reading of Orders

Decommissioning

Presentation of Ships Flags & Pennants

Benediction

Departure of Official Party

*Reception Following on the Ship's Flight Deck
(Band selections performed by Navy Band Southwest)*

Vice Admiral Manson K. Brown

**Commander, Pacific Area, and Commander, Coast Guard Defense Force West
United States Coast Guard**



Vice Admiral Manson K. Brown is a native of Washington, DC. A 1978 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, he also holds Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and National Resources Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He is a registered professional civil engineer.

Vice Admiral Brown's previous commands include the Fourteenth Coast Guard District, Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific, Sector Honolulu, and Group Charleston. From 1999 to 2002, he served as the Military Assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, including duty as the Acting Deputy Chief of Staff for six months after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In May 2003, he served as the Chief of Officer Personnel Management at the Coast Guard Personnel Command. From April to July 2004, he was temporarily assigned as the Senior Advisor for Transportation to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq. Working in a combat zone, he oversaw restoration of Iraq's major transportation systems, including two major ports.

Previous tours of duty include Assistant Engineering Officer aboard the icebreaker GLACIER, Project Engineer at Civil Engineering Unit Miami, Deputy Group Commander at Coast Guard Group Mayport, Engineering Assignment Officer in the Officer Personnel Division at Coast Guard Headquarters, Facilities Engineer at Support Center Alameda, and Assistant Chief, Civil Engineering Division at Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific.

Vice Admiral Brown's many military decorations include the U.S. Transportation Secretary's Gold Medal, Legion of Merit, and Iraq Campaign Medal. In 1994, Vice Admiral Brown was honored as the first recipient of the Coast Guard's Captain John G. Witherspoon Award for Inspirational Leadership. Off duty, he is an active road cyclist.

Captain Matthew J. Gimple

Commanding Officer, USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC 715)



Captain Matthew J. Gimple is a native of Oregon, Ohio. He graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1989 and subsequently earned graduate degrees in Environmental Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in May 1999 and National Security and Strategic Studies from the U. S. Naval War College in June 2002.

After commissioning, he served as Operations Officer and Navigator in USCGC HORN-BEAM (WLB 394), an oceangoing buoy tender home ported at Cape May, New Jersey. From 1991 to 1993 he was Commanding Officer USCGC POINT SAL (WPB 82352) at Grand Isle, Louisiana. Following a tour ashore, he served as Executive Officer Pre-commissioning Detail WLB MAT located at Newport, Rhode Island, and returned to sea as Executive Officer in USCGC WILLOW (WLB 202). From 1998 to 2001, Captain Gimple was Commanding Officer USCGC STURGEON BAY (WTGB 109), a domestic icebreaker home ported at Bayonne, New Jersey. During this tour, he participated in Operational Sail/International Naval Review 2000 in New York Harbor as the Senior Sector Commander Afloat. He served as Executive Officer in USCGC MELLON (WHEC 717) at Seattle, Washington, and Commanding Officer USCGC STEADFAST (WMEC 623) at Astoria, Oregon. Notably, STEADFAST recorded the first at sea seizure of a self-propelled semi-submersible submarine while on patrol in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Captain Gimple completed shore assignments at the U. S. Coast Guard Academy as a navigation instructor in the Professional Development department. After attending U.S. Naval Command & Staff College, he was assigned as Executive Assistant, Director of Operations Capability at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, assisting with budget development and program execution encompassing all Coast Guard aviation, cutter, and boat forces. Most recently, Captain Gimple served as the Command and Operations School Chief at the Leadership Development Center providing direction and guidance during the training of Prospective Commanding Officers, Executive Officers, and Operations Officers receiving orders to afloat billets.

Captain Gimple's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (three awards), the Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation (three awards), and the Cutterman Insignia.

Ships Company

Commanding Officer
Captain Matthew J. Gimple

Executive Officer
Commander Douglas D. Goodwin

Operations Department

LT Andrew Dunlevy
LTJG Jesse Feldberg
LTJG Dave Radin
LTJG Ryan Newmeyer
ENS Devin Strzok
ENS William Allen

Operations Officer
Combat Information Center Officer
1st LT/Assistant Operations Officer
Assistant Navigator
Communications Officer
Administrative Officer

NAVIGATION DIVISION

BMC Lloyd Cottrell
BM2 Jared Cleberg
BM3 Mathew Waitukaitis

BM1 Andrew Voakes
BM3 Joscelyn Greenwell

COMMUNICATIONS

OSC Ronald Bender
OS1 Cara Ryser
OS2 Richard McGillis
OS3 Emily Shea

OS1 Walter Alridge
OS2 Robert Casillas
OS2 Ryan Parsons

COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER

OSC Brian Coleman
OS2 Christopher Brady
OS3 Mike Gillian
OS3 Johnny Lopez
OS3 Erika Thurman

OS1 Sky Jay
OS2 Richard Farmer
OS3 Jon Hernandez
OS3 Clare Garcia
OS3 Xavier Martian

DECK FORCE

BMC John Carter
BM1 Jessica Young
BM3 Hernnan Ossandon
SN Brett Barker
SN Michael Clark
SN Benjamin Dodson
SN Brett Esser
SN Timothy Gigliotti
SN Mathew Hirshland

BMC Thomas Zolzer
BM2 James McDonogh
BM3 Tiffany Steffler
SN Mark Chua
SN Jason Cross
SN Nicholas Durfey
SN Alec Gaudin
SN Todd Gorla
SN Peter Kelley

SN William Landers
SN Soe Min
SN Jorge Munoz
SN Maison Paps
SN Trevor Reeves
SN Raymond Ritter
SN Angela Stowman
SN Peter Tomlin
SN Yasmine Vasques
SN Edward Welter
SA Leslie Coatney

SN Jonathan McCormick
SN Kyle Monson
SN Kasey Olson-Ramsdell
SN Aaron Powell
SN Richard Ringel
SN Christopher Scales
SN Ryan Thatcher
SN Juan Valencia-Orozco
SN Brandi Walls
SN Henry Wilson

Engineering Department

LT Igor Landyshev
LTJG Ryan Mowbray
LTJG Mathew Meacham
LTJG Andres Lui
ENS Kristopher Lopez
ENS Spencer Ross
CWO2 Damian Wicox

Engineering Officer
Auxiliary Division Officer
Electrician's Mate Division Officer
Damage Control Division Officer
Assistant Damage Control Division Officer
Assistant Auxiliary Division Officer
Main Propulsion Assistant

Main Propulsion

MKCS Steve Santos
MK1 Derek Shay
MK2 David Northrop
MK3 Cheryl Lawrence
MK3 Mitchell Crawford
FN Daniel Quigley
FN Sally Schumacher
FN Kyle Cook

MK1 Vince Hiongson
MK2 Eric Holt
MK3 Wardell Bennett
FN Michael McClosky
FN Marcus Sharer
FN Maxwell Vincent

Auxiliary Division

MKC James Conley
MK1 Aaron Mertz
MK3 Michael Forbes
MK3 Corey Castagnola
FN Alina Orlenok
FN Joshua Andresky
FN Michael Diaz

MK1 Perry Lanning
MK2 Robert Kiser
MK3 Gabriel Aldrich
MK3 Branden Brittain
FN Gary Meier
FN Chad McWilliams
FN Christopher Parrinello

Damage Control Division

DCC Kevin Vento
DC2 Reginald Torre Franca
DC3 Curtis Rust

DC2 Scott Rightweiser
DC3 Adrian Carrillo

Electrical Division

EMC Timothy Fitzgerald
EM2 Raymond Colon
EM2 Jose Pena
EM3 Virginia Timanus

EM1 Eugene Setzer
EM2 John Obrein
EM3 Tristan Gober
FNEM Gregory Zagorski

Weapons Department

LTJG Benjamin Litts
LTJG Jack Shadwick
LTJG Edward Kunigonis
ENS David Phillips
ENS Chad Ray
CWO2 Laurence Niemeyer

Weapons Officer
Aviation/Training Officer
Law Enforcement Officer
Gunnery Officer
Fire Control Officer
Electronics Maintenance Officer

Gunnery/Maritime Enforcement Division

GMC Andrew Benning
GM2 Austin Ragland
GM3 John Ngo

GM1 Jason Keith
GM2 Daniel Mosquera
GM3 Phillips Jager

Fire Control Division

ETC Wallace Tillery
ET2 Jenny Markham
ET3 Jacques Meehan
ET3 Richard Chaires

ET2 Jeffery McEvoy
ET3 Tyler Atwood
ET3 David Chaffin
ET3 Jonathan Gibbs

Electronics Division

ETC Brian Godwin
ET1 Bryan Duncan
ET2 Matthew Burns
ET3 Eric Lum

ET1 Joseph Rutledge
ET1 Bret Gibbs
ET2 Randy Manlimos

Supply Department

CWO3 Scott Blume

Supply Officer

Food Services Division

FSCS Steven Sumner
FS1 Andrew Ha
FS2 Lindsay Bird
FS3 David Anderson
FS3 Kristen Money

FS1 Benjamin Benton
FS1 Mathew Williams
FS3 Brandi Sheffield
FS3 Christopher Hutchens
FS3 Arthur Nigro

Administrative/Supply/Health Services Division

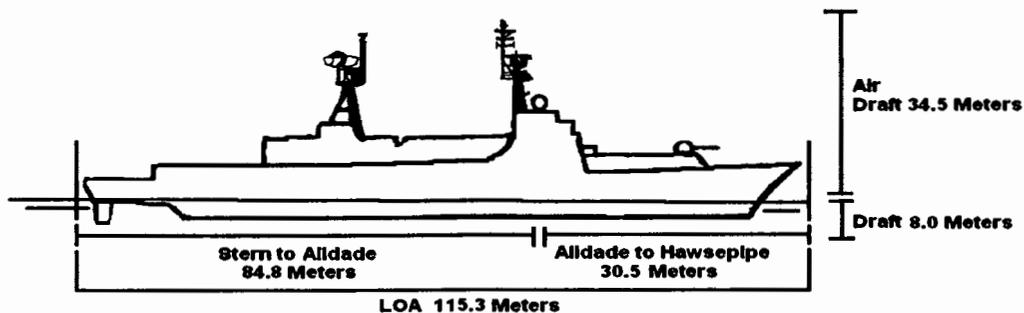
HSC Brian McConnell
SKC Clifford Cook
SK2 Curtis Jones Jr.
SK3 Phillip Will II
SN Mathieu Hinds

YNC Joseph Belger
SK1 Andrew Hernandez
YN2 Jonathan Raimey
HS3 Alberto Castilleja
SN Daniel Ruiz

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD CUTTER HAMILTON (WHEC 715)

SHIP'S PARTICULARS

Length Overall 115.3 m (378.25 ft)
Bow to Bridge distance: 32 m (105 ft)
Bridge to Stern distance: 84.8 m (278 ft)
Beam: 12.8 m (42 ft)
Anchors: Two - Two 6,000 lb Navy Stockless Anchors
Anchor Chain: Port / Stbd - 9 shots on Deck
Draft, Fwd, @ Full Load: 4.5 m (14.78 ft)
Draft, Aft, @ Full Load: 4.8 m (15.61ft)
Navigational Draft: 7.6 m (26 ft)
Displacement: 3300 Long Tons



Ships Machinery Characteristics

Two Diesel Engines; 3,500 horsepower each, totaling 7,000 horsepower
Two Gas Turbines; 18,000 horsepower each, totaling 36,000 horsepower
Two Controllable Pitch Propellers; Inboard rotation
Bridge, local, and Engine Room control of turbines, diesels, and propellers
Bow Prop (trainable to 360 degrees); 500 horsepower; 5 speeds
Twin Rudders (Full Rudder = 30 Degrees)
Two Steering Pumps: 1 pump = 2 1/3° rudder per second



Shield: The wavy bars and light blue and white allude to coastal waters and the cutters' operational theater of operations. The harpoon and gauntlet symbolize WHEC-715's weaponry, defense systems, and capabilities while suggesting the numeral "1", highlighting USCGC HAMILTON as the first cutter of its class, echoing the motto, "*Semper Primus*".

Crest: The compass rose symbolizes navigation, leadership, and the far reaching scope and mission of the past and present USCGC HAMILTON. The laurel branches denote honor and victory, commemorating HAMILTON's war service and awards. The heraldic bezant signifies gold courage, recalling the first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, for which the ship is named. The ship's propeller refers to the pioneering of the gas turbine engine and use of controllable pitch propellers on American warships by USCGC HAMILTON. The two dolphins symbolize life saving, search and rescue, and relief operations. They are noted for their grace, intelligence, and loyalty and have been credited with helping drowning seamen.

Supporters: The crossed anchors, adapted from the Coast Guard Seal, recognize Alexander Hamilton, for which the ship is named, as the founder of the Coast Guard.

Commanding Officers

Captain W. F. Adams

Captain R.E. Hoover

Captain J.H.B. Morton

Captain J.H. Swint

Captain M.W. Hallock

Captain G.P. Sherburne

Captain W.M. Flanders

Captain R.S. Palmer Jr.

Captain J.G. Heydenreich

Captain A.C. Buechler

Captain A.B. Ford

Captain W.R. Wilkins

Captain C.H. Helman

Captain S.E. Breedlove

Captain T.B. Doherty

Captain R.K. Corrigan

Captain J.M. Krupa

Captain W.N. Collins

Captain D.T. Glenn

Captain M.A. Tekesky

Captain J.S. Lee

Captain L.L. Bardo

Captain V.D. Delaurentis

Captain M.J. Gimple



The Cutter
Author Unknown

*When she steams into the harbor
People don't flock 'round like bees;
For she ain't no grim destroyer,
No dark terror of the seas.
And there ain't a load of romance
To the guy that doesn't know,
In a ship that just saves vessels
When the icy northers blow.*

*But the men that sail the ocean
In a wormy, rotten craft,
When the sea ahead is mountains
With a hell-blown gale abaft;
When the mainmast cracks and topples,
And she's lurching in the trough,
Them's the guys that greet the "Cutter"
With the smiles that won't come off.*

*When the old storm signal's flyin',
Every vessel seeks a lee,
'Cept the "Cutter", which ups anchor
And goes ploughing out to sea,
When the hurricane's a-blown'
From the banks of old Cape Cod
Oh, the "Cutter", with her searchlight,
Seems the messenger of God.*