



Welcome to the latest edition of the SPENCERIAN. The past several months have been extremely busy for the SPENCER crew. We are thrilled to share our exciting news with family and friends! SPENCER could not accomplish all it has without the support from our loved ones back home!

Update

The SPENCER completed its drydock availability and set sail for Boston in the middle of April. After three months in drydock the crew was ready to return to home port and enjoy time with family and friends before embarking on a District 1 patrol. As we pulled in to Base Boston, we could see our loved ones on the pier, with signs, cheering us on! We returned to Boston looking much better than we left, and excited to take on the operational demands of the upcoming patrol. The first stop in our patrol was to Naval Weapons Station Earle, NJ to pick up ammunition. On our way to NWS Earle, we transited through the Cape Cod Canal. Transiting through the canal was a unique opportunity.

SPENCER patrolled in support of Coast Guard District 1 for 55 days. The crew was very busy conducting boardings and training. Our first port call was in Portland, Maine. The crew enjoyed a few days of relaxation, eating some great food, and touring the beautiful coastal city. SPENCER then headed back out to sea for the longest underway stretch of the patrol. Before we knew it, our bow was pointed toward the Big Apple, and the SPENCER crew was gearing up for Fleet Week in New York City. SPENCER proudly participated in the Parade of Ships, and crewmembers were invited to various events throughout the city. Fleet Week was a fantastic experience, one that we will never forget! Before returning to Boston for a busy summer in port, SPENCER made one final stop in Newport, RI. The SPENCER crew finished the patrol strong. The last leg of the patrol proved to be the busiest, as SPENCER sprung into action to combat a fire onboard a fishing vessel and then towed a disabled sailing vessel a mere two days later. After many busy months away from homeport, SPENCER pulled into Boston on

a foggy Tuesday morning, ready to spend the summer with family and friends, prepare for the Change of Command on July 2nd, complete some maintenance, and get ready for our fall patrol.

CG Yard

In the beginning of April, SPENCER entered the very final stage of its drydock availability. It was finally time to shake off the dust and refloat! The refloating process took several hours. As we were slowly lowered into the water, crew members and contractors were stationed in various compartments throughout the ship to ensure that there was no flooding. Luckily there was no flooding to be found- a testament to the hard work of the Coast Guard Yard workers and our crew members. After refloating, the next few weeks were focused on getting SPENCER ready to set sail. There was much to be done, but the SPENCER crew was excited to get back to Boston, and diligently worked around the clock to prepare. In the middle of April, our preparations were finally complete, and SPENCER was ready to sail home to Boston, eager to show off our new paint job, amongst other improvements.



The Engineering Department under the stern.

Cape Cod Canal

In the beginning of the District 1 patrol, SPENCER had the opportunity to transit through the Cape Cod Canal. The Cape Cod Canal is a man-made body of water that connects Cape Cod Bay with Buzzard's Bay. This canal is seven miles long and 480 feet wide. Transiting through this canal can be tricky, and the margin for error is extremely small. ENS

Young, who was the Conning Officer for this evolution, noted that maneuvering through this canal was unlike anything she had ever done before, and she really had to be on her toes. The entire navigation team greatly benefitted from



this transit, as the precision required greatly increased their seamanship skills. While sailing through the canal, we could see people jogging and riding their bikes along a path. We also passed the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. In all, our transit through the Cape Cod Canal was a fun, new experience that saved us some time during our transit to NWS Earle, NJ.

Portland, Maine

SPENCER's first port call of the patrol was in Portland, Maine. Portland has a long history as an established fishing and trading settlement. In 1632, the British officially founded the port of Portland. Since then, Portland has grown to become a major hotspot for shipping and fishing in the northeast. While in Portland, the crew

enjoyed exploring this coastal city. For some, it was their first time in Maine. Portland is much smaller than Boston, but is filled with impressive restaurants and unique culture. As in many coastal areas, Portland is known for their fresh seafood. As the weather was finally beginning to warm up, we enjoyed many of the outdoor restaurants overlooking the harbor. Many crew members saw family and friends in Portland, and some took the opportunity to go back home to Boston. It was a relaxing break during the patrol. The SPENCER crew left Portland feeling rejuvenated, and ready to carry out our normal operations.

Fleet Week

This May, SPENCER had the privilege of being in New York for a time-honored tradition- Fleet Week. Fleet Week is a celebration of the sea-going services and it brings together Coast Guard, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel to honor their service and sacrifice. The week kicked off with the Parade of Ships through New York Harbor. SPENCER fell into the parade behind USS STOUT and sailed all the way to the George Washington Bridge. During the parade, SPENCER sailed with over 80 members of the media. All on board were filled with emotion and pride when SPENCER rendered honors to the Freedom Tower and the World Trade Center Memorial. Once SPENCER moored to Pier 92 on Manhattan, she opened for tours. Thousands of people came on board to see how we live and work. Visitors even had a chance to see a Search and Rescue demonstration carried out by a HH-65 Dolphin helicopter from Air Station Atlantic

City. Fleet Week also included a variety of events, ranging from luncheons to Broadway shows, for crew members to attend. Some of the crew was even on the television program Fox and Friends.



SPENCER, along with USS BARRY, USS STOUT, and USCGC STURGEON BAY at Stapleton Pier in Staten Island, NY.

Fleet Week was a great success. It required a tremendous amount of effort but it was well worth it. It gave people who don't know much about the Coast Guard an opportunity to learn a little more and it gave us a chance to thank them for their continued support.



SPENCER approaching the Freedom Tower during the Parade of Ships.

Final days of the Patrol

For the final port call of the patrol, SPENCER pulled into Newport, RI for three nights. The crew enjoyed some down time and the opportunity to explore the coastal town. Many were excited for the opportunity to visit the famous Newport Mansions. After pulling out of Newport, SPENCER continued its high operational tempo. While conducting a law enforcement inspection onboard the commercial fishing vessel HERITAGE, SPENCER's rescue and assistance team was called into action to combat a fire in the fishing vessel's galley. With SPENCER's help, the vessel was able to extinguish the fire with no injuries sustained and minimal damage to the vessel. Two days later, SPENCER responded to a distress call from the sailing vessel ALIEN I, which was 300 nautical miles offshore. After steaming through the night, SPENCER arrived on scene, rescued the couple onboard, and placed the vessel in tow. After towing the vessel for 300 miles, SPENCER delivered ALIEN I and her passengers safely to Station Woods Hole. SPENCER then resumed normal law enforcement operations in the North Atlantic.



The sailing vessel ALIEN I in tow behind SPENCER.

Over the past several months, the Morale Committee has hosted many fun events for the SPENCER crew. At the end of the dry-dock availability, SPENCER held a joint barbeque with CGC RELIANCE at the Coast Guard Yard. Crew members of both SPENCER and RELIANCE enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, and games of cornhole, softball, and volleyball. On patrol the Morale Committee continued to sponsor a variety of events onboard. One of the most popular events is the weekly cornhole tournaments held on the flight deck. Another crew favorite was a lip-syncing contest. The crew was amazed by the talents of FS3 Hunter and FS3 Turon! On some evenings, the crew enjoys trivia and card games on the mess deck, while others prefer to fish on the fantail.



GM2 Chan and GMC Schafhausen are focused during a game of cornhole.

Morale



CDR Williams and LT Stutt enjoying a fish call.

Hail and Farewell

This summer will mark a very busy transfer season for SPENCER. As we say goodbye to many members of our crew, we have begun to welcome several new shipmates.

A special welcome aboard to:

- ME3 Conkey
- ET3 Smith
- SA Crawford
- FN Meyer
- FN Mode
- MK3 Lopez
- OS3 Imo

Bravo Zulu

Congratulations to OSC Derflinger and OS3 Lorenzo for earning their Permanent Cutterman's pin! Congratulations to CWO Orellana on his promotion! Congratulations to FSC Espinoza, FS2 Miller on their

advancement! Additionally, congratulations to GM3 Lachey for earning the honor of Sailor of the Year onboard CGC Spencer.



OSC Derflinger and OS3 Lorenzo receiving their Cutterman's pins from CDR Williams and LT Brietzke



CDR Williams swearing in CWO Orellana to the Officer Corps



FS2 Miller's advancement



The crew applauds FSC Espinoza after CDR Williams advances him to Chief.



GM3 Lachey, SPENCER's Sailor of the Year

