

FALL 2016  
VOL. 1

# THE SENECA SAILOR

"The Official 411 on the 906"

## FROM THE CO'S CHAIR



It was my distinct pleasure to head out to sea with the SENECA team for the first time. There were several other SENECA team members that had just reported during the inport prior to this patrol. For those of us that were new, it was a great first patrol to get a feel for how the ship conducts operations and get to know each other better. We were busy with Joint Interagency Task Force-South operations but not so busy that we could not continue to train and prepare for upcoming inspections that will occur shortly after we return to Boston.

For the members of the crew that were not new, this patrol provided some variety from what they had experienced on the previous trips to the Eastern Pacific. I can assure all of the families that everyone seemed to enjoy our main port call in Roatan, Honduras. I think there are many family trips being planned to return to the island in order to share this experience with our loved ones.

I am conducting interviews with many of the crew members as I settle in. As I have mentioned to them many times, my overall impression of the crew is one of professionalism and an obvious willingness to pull together during challenging evolutions or situations.

We are all benefiting from this positive attitude and willingness to make things happen. Now, due to the tropical storm that is supposed to roll through the Caribbean, we will do the thing that no one ever expects; arrive home early! We look forward to seeing you all in Boston next week. Thanks again for all of your support to the members of SENECA; you are the real heroes that allow all of the good things SENECA accomplishes to happen. A Tradition of Honor, A Legacy of Action.

## Looking Back and Moving Forward: From Underway to the Inport

As we steam up the coast of the United States, the SENECA crew is proud to be coming home after a great patrol. For 1/3 of the crew this was their first patrol on SENECA and for many their first time underway. SENECA's time was spent patrolling in support of the Coast Guard's counter narcotics mission. It was also a great patrol for the crew to train and work on qualifications. The inport period is going to busy with multiple inspections. The main inspection this inport period is the Command Assessment of Readiness for Training (CART). SENECA will run through multiple drills and assessments this inport.



# Messages from the Crew

**ETC MICHAEL GESSNER**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!!!!! To my Daughter Audrey (28 Sep) and my beautiful wife Denise (08 Oct).**

**FN SAM RUSSELL**

**Thanks to everyone at home keeping in touch and congratulations Beanie for making Varsity! So proud of you. Miss you guys so much and cant wait to be home soon!**

**LT PAUL ALEXANDER**

**Kate, Bridget, & Ellie, I love you and miss you all; I can't wait to see you again!"**

**ET2 THERRIEN LEWIS**

**Susie, thanks for holding things down and being such a great mother. Give Levi and Elaina a big squeeze for me. I'll be home in no time. I love and miss ya'll.**

**DCI NICK HUSBAND**

**Missing you gets easier everyday because even though I am one day further from the last time I saw you, I am one day closer to the next time I will see you. Can't wait to see you Melissa, Thomas, and Nicholas, Love you so much!**

**EM2 DANIEL SCOTT**

**Kyla, Peyton, Scooter, and Monroe, I miss you guys! I'll be home soon and we'll all be together. I love you and stuff!!!**

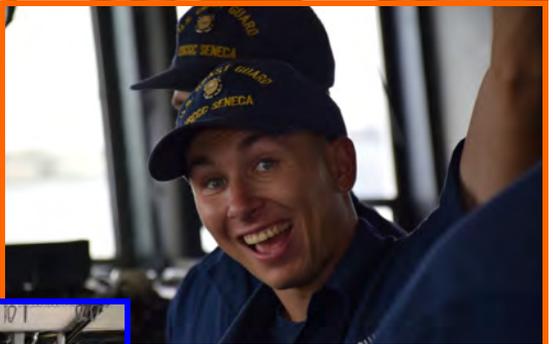
**ENS ALEXIA PARKS**

**Santana Parks- Good luck with football, I can't wait for the big Thanksgiving Game. Go #2!!!**

**FS3 JON DEMERY**

**I love and miss all of you. Be back soon!**

# Camera Roll!!!



# Change of Command

On August 12, 2016 Commander Alan McCabe assumed the duties and responsibilities as Commanding Officer from Commander Jason Brennell.

Commander McCabe reports to USCGC SENECA after completing a tour as the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to Commander Naval Forces Europe/Africa and Commander Sixth Fleet. During this tour CDR McCabe was responsible for coordinating Coast Guard forces in the European and African theaters in support of the Combatant Commanders and the Naval Component Commander while also providing subject matter expertise to the command for maritime security, search and rescue, and maritime law enforcement. Commander McCabe has been married to his wife Kimberly for nearly 20 years and they have two boys, Dylan (15) and Fin (13).

The Change of Command Ceremony is a time-honored tradition which formally restates to the officers and crew of the command the continuity of authority vested in the Commanding Officer. The Change of Command of a naval unit is a unique ritual representing a total transfer of responsibility, authority, and accountability from one individual to the next. The ceremony is based on Coast Guard regulations that require all hands to muster at the time of the change of command. The regulation states that the officer about to be relieved shall read their orders to detach and then turn over command to the successor, who shall read their orders and assume command.



# Happy Birthday



<b>EMI DARRYL MCDONALD</b>	<b>AUGUST 30TH</b>
<b>BM2 MICHAEL PUGH</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 1ST</b>
<b>DC1 NICK HUSBAND</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 12TH</b>
<b>ISI WHITNEY GRAHAM</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 6TH</b>
<b>ET1 BRANDON GOODWIN</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 22ND</b>
<b>EM3 PAUL DAMATO</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 21</b>
<b>IT2 ELIAS HILDERBRAND-WILLIG</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 1ST</b>
<b>BM3 WILL SOUTHARD</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 21ST</b>

## SPOTLIGHT: MORALE COMMITTEE

### **What is the Morale Committee?**

The Morale Committee is made up of volunteers from different rates and ranks around the ship! A couple patrols ago the ship hosted a lively election and voted for EM1 Crowell to be SENECA's Morale President. Since then EM1 and the Morale Officer, ENS Parks, have worked with the Morale Committee to host events such as bingo, trivia, charades, pictionary, gun shoots, helicopter flights and of course Casino Night. Casino Night happens at the end of every patrol where crew members can win prizes such as ipads, gopro's, gift cards, liberty passes, the Command Chief's parking spot, and Captain for the day.

### **What are they doing this patrol?**

The Morale Committee started a new recycling program! The crew is collecting pull tabs from soda cans and empty shells from gun shoots to help save the Earth and increase morale funds.

The First Class Petty Officers hosted the first Morale Dinner of the patrol and they hit it out of the park. Serving up smoked brisket with mac and cheese and coleslaw— no one left hungry! Morale dinners are fun because different departments and ranks are in charge of preparing, serving and cleaning up the evening meal. This allows our awesome cooks to take the night off for once.!

The crew is currently playing the game Assassins. Everyone who participates gets a target—a.k.a. a clothespin with another crewmember's name on it—and has to sneakily kill their target—a.k.a. place the clothespin on the crewmember without the crewmember noticing. Over two-thirds of the crew has signed up to play, which means for days people will be walking around the passageways watching their backs suspicious of one another. There are still a few players left.....who will win???

# MORALE

## THANK YOU to...

**GM3 Guinn** for leading the morale clothing order for the entire crew last inport.



**BM3 Southard** for announcing 1MC Trivia last patrol.

**OS2 Desalvo** for hosting pub trivia once every patrol and acting as the former Soda Petty Officer.



**IT1 Kuivinen** for providing the Morale Committee with a new bingo system and hosting bingo.

**IS1 Graham** for hosting events like charades and pictionary regularly and getting all of the soda for this patrol.



**ET1 Goodwin** for hosting events like charades and setting up all the electronic needs of the Morale Committee from NFL games in the helo hangar to providing awesome music on the mess deck.

**EMC Craig** for raffling the Command Chief parking spot as a prize every patrol, we all know parking in Boston can be a nightmare!



**The Food Services Division** for providing extra snacks on morale nights and scheduling special BBQs for the Morale Committee.

**EM3 Meckes** for arranging the assassins game and for announcing the morale trivia throughout the patrol.

# CAUGHT ON CAMERA!



# CG Foundation Spouse Education Grant (SPEG)

## About the Grant

- Grant is supported by gift funds from the CG Foundation and will be disbursed based on availability of funds on a first come, first served basis.
- Grant is intended to assist spouses pursuing professional development courses, licensing courses, certificates, certifications and undergraduate/graduate degrees.

## Who is Eligible?

- Spouses of active duty enlisted personnel in pay grades E-3 to E-6.
- Spouses of Reservists (pay grades E-3 to E-6) on any type of active duty orders for at least one year in duration.
- Applicants must be pursuing a degree or certification from a nationally or regionally accredited institution. Typically, these programs give credit in semester, quarter or clock hours.

## What will the grant cover?

- Required educational items not funded through other educational resources.
- May include: books, school fees and transportation.

## How much will it pay?

- The maximum payable is \$500 per calendar year.
- Please go to this website for application forms and procedures!
- [http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/cgi/civilian/spouse\\_grant.asp#1](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/cgi/civilian/spouse_grant.asp#1)

## HAVE A FAMILY EMERGENCY?

Service members can rest assured that the Red Cross will deliver notification of an emergency such as the death or serious illness of an immediate family member, as well as the good news of the birth of a service member's child or grandchild. Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, the Red Cross relays urgent messages containing **accurate, factual, complete and verified descriptions of the emergency to service members stationed anywhere in the world, including on ships at sea** and at embassies and remote locations. If you or a loved one needs to utilize this service, call **(877) 272-7337** or visit **www. Redcross.org**.



**American  
Red Cross**

SHOUTOUT TO ET2 CLAY FOR TAKING PICTURES DURING THE PATROL!!!!!!!