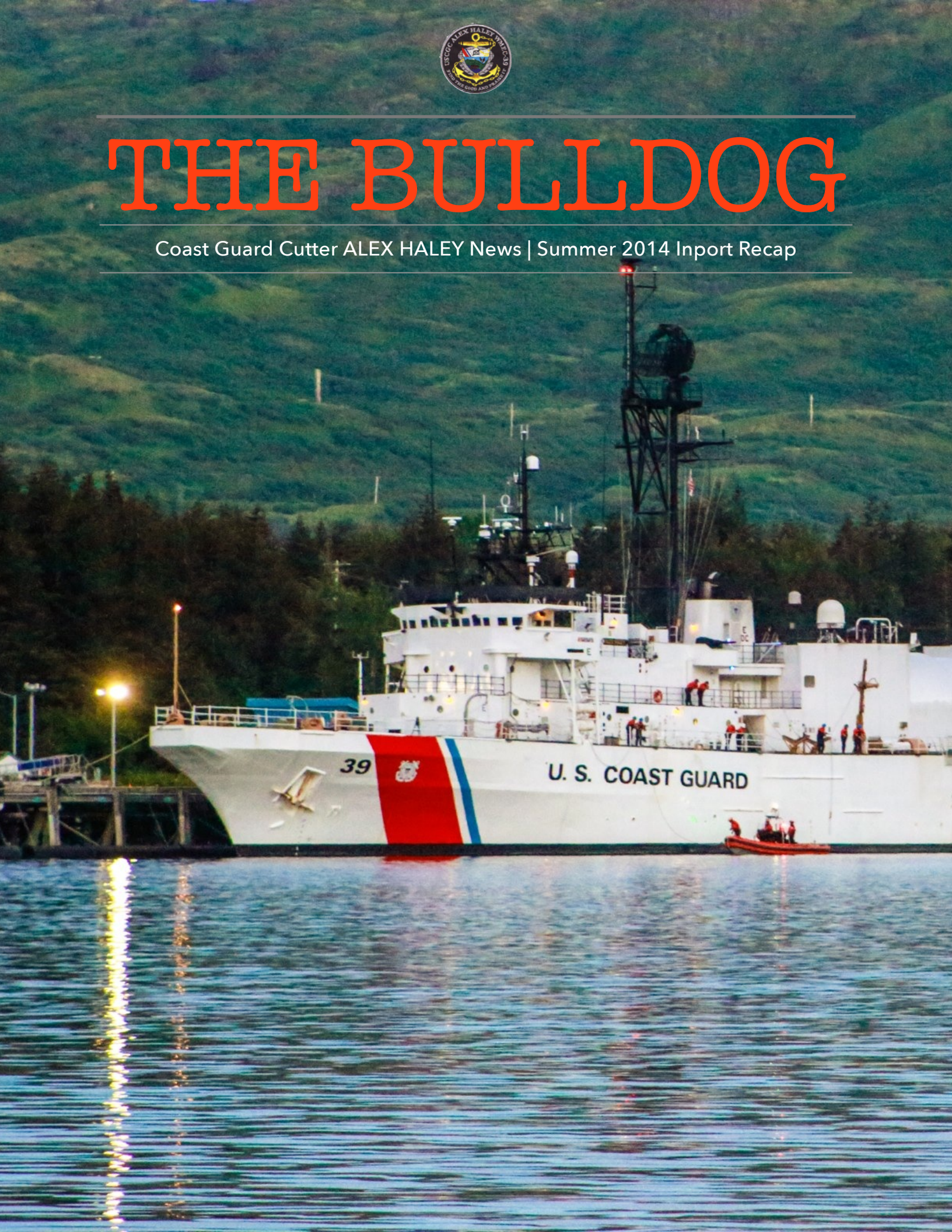
THE BULLDOG

Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY News | Summer 2014 Inport Recap



WELCOMING OUR NEW OMBUDSMAN

I take great pleasure welcoming Mrs. Jenny Kocsis as a Co-Ombudsman for USCGC ALEX HALEY, The Bulldog of the Bering. Mrs. Kocsis is married to Senior Chief Bill Kocsis.

Jenny has a wealth of knowledge from her time in the Coast Guard and has been very active within the Kodiak community with Cub Scouts, Girls Scouts and the school system. She has a strong understanding of the challenges, sacrifices and rewards associated with the military lifestyle.

She will be serving with our other Co-Ombudsman, Holly Wilson who is married to Chief Spencer Wilson. The Ombudsman serve as a vital link between the command and the families of those onboard, assisting and referring individuals to the proper resources as well as forwarding ideas from the families. They will also be my main conduit for passing information to Alex Haley family and friends. I sincerely appreciate the devotion and service they have countered to take on! Jenny, welcome to the team! I look forward to working with you and Holly!

As a reminder, both Holly and Jenny will be leaving Kodiak next summer. If anyone things they might be interested in service as an Ombudsman, I encourage you to speak to them about their experiences. The Ombudsman can be reached at (907) 942-2862 or at ahombudsman@hotmail.com.

-CDR Stephen White

CELEBRATING USCGC ALEX HALEY'S 15th BIRTHDAY - 15 JULY 2014

Commissioned by the U. S. Coast Guard on Ju,y 15, 1999, USCGC ALEX HALEY recently celebrated its 15th anniversary within the service. CDR Stephen White, Commanding Officer, (pictured above) served a beautifully decorated cake baked to perfection by SNFS Anna Jackson to the ship's officers and crew. The celebration was an excellent way to end the overnight shakedown.

USCGC ALEX HALEY WINS A C-130 PULL AGAINST BASE KODIAK AND AIR STATION KODIAK!

Crew of USCGC ALEX HALEY demonstrated their bulk strength this inport during a challenge between the local commands. BASE KODIAK, AIR STATION KODIAK, and USCGC ALEX HALEY selected 10 members of their crew to include commanding officers to see who could pull a 135,000 pound C-130 50 feet the fastest. All crews dug in and pulled as fast and as hard as they could, but ultimately we prevailed! Our first place time was held over BASE KODIAK's second by a mere tenth of a second!

DEPENDENTS CRUISE THROUGH CHINIAK BAY ON USCGC ALEX HALEY

It's always fun to get our friends and families on board for a day. USCGC ALEX HALEY's Dependent's cruise got off to a foggy start, but the weather lifted to find us having fun playing games, fishing, and barbecuing in Chiniak Bay. Thank you all so much for braving the waves and hanging out with us for the day.

K-9 KIRA FROM LOCAL KODIAK POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINS ABOARD USCGC ALEX HALEY

DECK FORCE CONDUCTS CUTTER SURFACE SWIMMER TRAINING

A unique opportunity presented itself when the Kodiak Police Department's Narcotics Devision requested our hand in some training. Detective J. Rozmus and K-9 KIRA came aboard for some shipboard familiarization. K-9 KIRA is a Belgian Malinois from Europe that has been with the department for about 3 months. She is a dual purpose canine, cross trained for patrol and narcotics detection work. The training served to help the team learn more about how narcotics present themselves on a ship or, more likely, fishing vessel.

Taking advantage of the sunny summer inport, we conducted numerous trainings in order to qualify new personnel. Cutter Surface Swimmer training, simulating the recovery of a man overboard, being one of them. The swimmers were lowered on a swimmers hoist by the deck crew and retrieved the man overboard dummy using a Stokes litter and personnel retrieval line.