

# USCGC MIDGETT (WHEC-726)

UNITED  
STATES  
COAST  
GUARD



SHIP NEWSLETTER MAY 2010



## WINTER OLYMPICS PATROL & DRY DOCK

### *Letter from the Captain*

Greetings from Bellingham, WA. I cannot believe how much we have accomplished over the last couple of months. We have quite a bit to report from the success of our Olympic Security Patrol in February, to the selection of one of MIDGETT's sailors as District Thirteen's Enlisted Person of the Year (EPOY), to our current state in the midst of a two-month dry-dock.

I am happy to report that our Olympic Security Patrol was a tremendous success. I hope you were all able to enjoy watching the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics at home knowing that MIDGETT was standing the watch. We conducted small boat operations almost every day, conducted shipboard drills and training and numerous helicopter / flight operations. We also fostered a tremendously valuable working relationship with the Canadian Navy that will be used for future joint maritime operations.

Now the crew is in full swing overseeing the work of over 60 individual dry-dock projects, and busy cleaning, repairing and improving their equipment and spaces in a true all-hands evolution. It seems like the 4 days on – 4 days off schedule is allowing everyone enough time off to enjoy time in Bellingham or back home with family and friends. The work we are doing in Bellingham will pay big dividends down the road by keeping MIDGETT one of the best maintained ships in the Coast Guard. This will in turn keep the inport work schedule manageable and allow for the underway schedule to remain consistent and predictable.

Unfortunately this will be my last newsletter as I soon will be departing for a new assignment. I hope that you can attend my change of command at BSU Seattle, at 1700 on Friday, 11 June 2010. I will be relieved by CAPT William Meese who is reporting here from his current job as the Head of Cadet Professional Studies at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. I want to thank you for all your support over the last two years, and I will greatly miss this cutter and crew as I transfer to be the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commandant for Operations in Washington, DC. Enjoy the newsletter, and I hope to see all of you at my change of command!!

As a final reminder, we are fortunate to have three dedicated OMBUDSMEN volunteers. They are:

Cynthia Geelan  
(425) 968-2105 (Home)  
MidgettOmbudsman02@gmail.com

Norma Bailey  
(360) 697-2079 (Home)  
MidgettOmbudsman01@gmail.com

Beth Pester  
(425) 408-0888 (Home)  
(707) 364-8226 (Cell)  
MidgettOmbudsman03@gmail.com

The OMBUDSMEN is a critically important link between the command and the crew's families, and are key in helping the command provide the support you may need. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the OMBUDSMEN if you have questions or need assistance either while we are deployed or while we are inport.

Serving together,  
Captain Matthew Miller, USCG  
Commanding Officer, USCGC MIDGETT (WHEC 726)



# Executive Officer Notes



Welcome to our latest newsletter. During our Olympic Security Patrol, in order to get the crew into the Olympic Spirit, MIDGETT held her own version of the Olympics. The MIDGETT Olympics were a tremendous success with 4 teams participating in 6 grueling competitions: Push/Pull Up Contest, Jello Eating Contest, Bean Bag Toss, Pipe Patching Race, Relay Race and the Useless Talent Show. The victors were representatives of Deck Force from the team of Senor Woody Fitzpatrick Ohiotownville, however in the end everybody was won over by the Olympic Spirit.

Our time in drydock has been especially busy. As you can tell by some of the photos, MIDGETT is hardly recognizable out of the water. The masts are “shrink-wrapped” as well as lots of other parts disassembled. Although everything looks disheveled, it is actually being surgically dissected and operated on by dozens of engineers and contractors. As we approach the six-week point things are getting very busy as we start putting everything back together again. We are still currently on schedule to finish the first of June and MIDGETT will hopefully be back in Seattle in time for the Change of Command on 11 June 2010.

Cross your fingers.



If we weren't busy enough, we are also preparing for a good size crew turn over. Old shipmates have already started departing and new shipmates are arriving every day. We have over 40 new personnel arriving and over 40 departing during the months of May and June. It truly is a bitter-sweet time as we recap the memories of the last two to three years, and acknowledge all the accomplishments of our departing shipmates. We share their excitement as they close this chapter of their lives and move to new places and start new adventures. And at the same time, we heartily welcome all the new personnel who will soon be our friends and shipmates. We are encouraged by their energy and enthusiasm as we look forward to a new Commanding Officer and the adventures that await us during our next patrol.

In closing, I too want to thank the support of all the friends and families. It is because of you that we can go out and conduct our missions knowing that you are safe, and supporting us the entire time. It is my hope to provide these newsletters more frequently, to keep you updated with news and pictures. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very Respectfully,

# Patrol Operations

**Cutter MIDGETT**  
**1,847 Miles Patrolled**  
**68 Underway Drills**  
**38 Vessels Boarded**



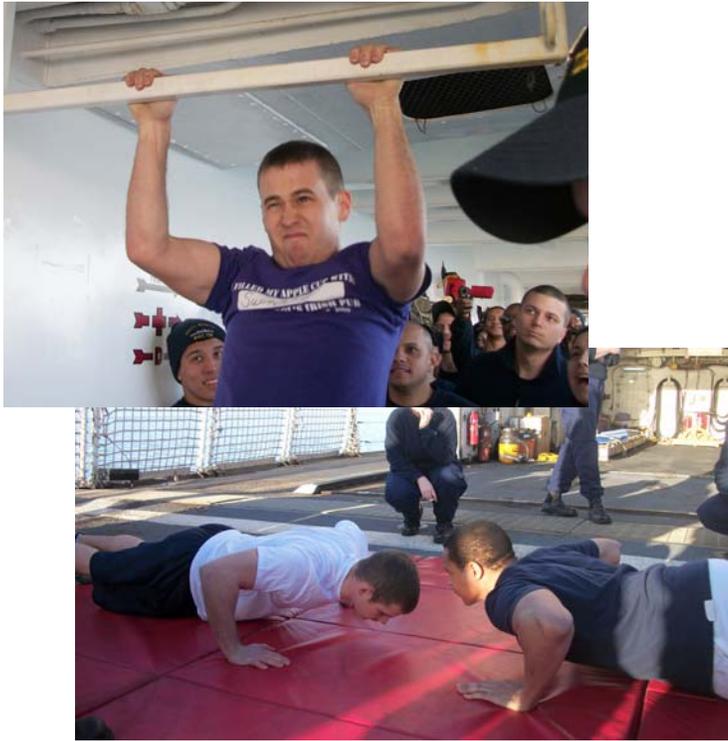
**Helo Ops**  
**58 Deck Landings**  
**28 Vertical Insertion Exercises**  
**12 Pilots Qualified**



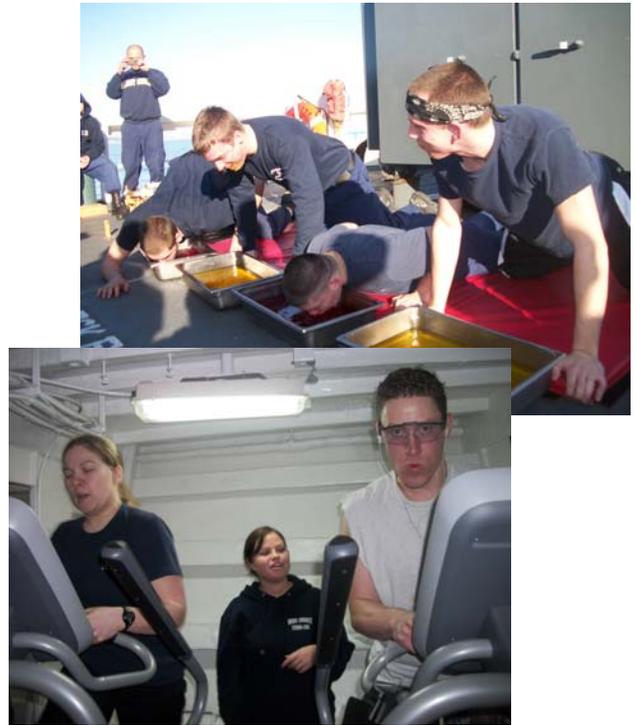
**Cumulative hours on station:**  
**MIDGETT, 2 Patrol Boats, and MSST**  
**= 2,598 total patrol hours**



Push-up/Pull-up Contest



Jell-O Eating Contest



Relay Race

# MIDGETT OLYMPICS



Closing Ceremonies: The Flame Extinguished



Hail the Conquering Heroes



## Fairhaven Shipyard-Bellingham, WA



Walking the Blocks

A formal inspection of the blocks the MIDGETT would be held on.



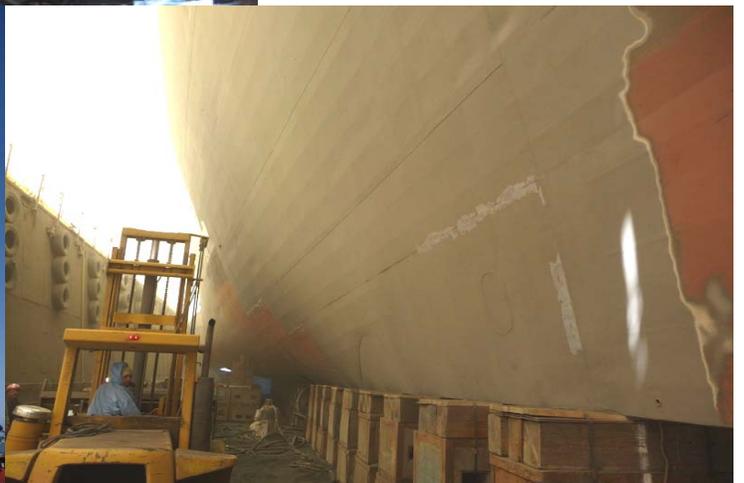
Views of the MIDGETT with no Propellers or Rudders



Wrapped for hull overhual



Bare steel of the hull after paint removal



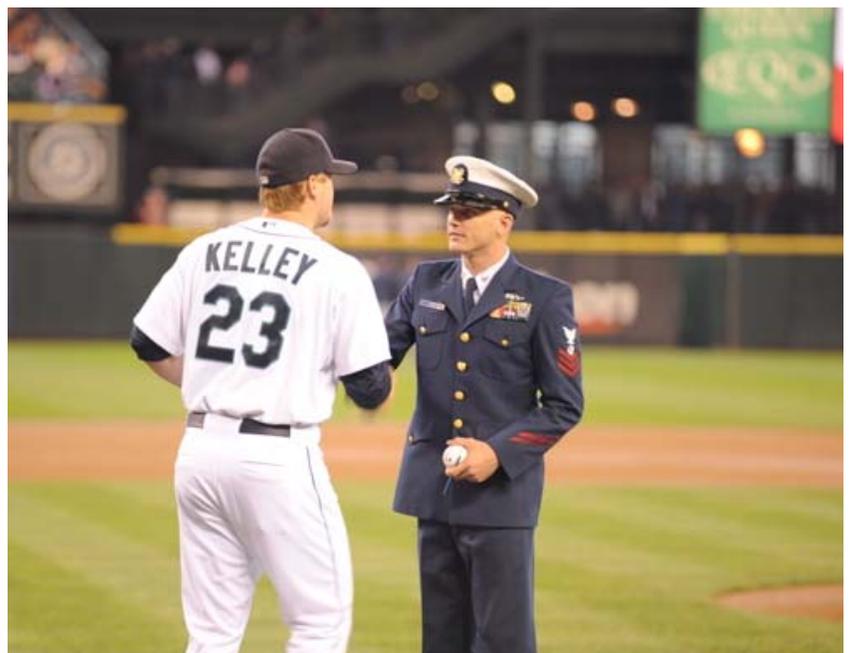
## Seattle Mariner's Armed Forces Appreciation Night



Coast Guard member's present a large National Ensign at Safeco Field



MK1 Jeffery Davis, the Thirteenth District's Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Year, stationed on the CGC MIDGETT, shakes the hand of Seattle Mariners team player. Service members from each branch of the military participated in the ceremonial first pitch.



# Welcome Aboard !!

- BM3 Arnold
- SN Kampen
- BMI Birt
- SN Cheng
- SN Wilkins
- SN Moen
- SA Thigpen
- SN Doherty
- SN McKenzie
- SN Sorensen
- SN Kopp
- SN Travillion



## Operations



## Engineering

- FN Holder
- FN McCarty
- FN Sanders
- DC3 Greenwell



- GM3 Bajos



## Weapons

## SUPPORT



- FS3 Rogers
- FNFS Rodriguez
- SK3 Hoy

# Fair Winds and Following Seas

- SN DeMars
- SN Svela
- BM2 Kidzus
- BMI Bennett
- SN Parnell



## Operations



## Engineering

- FN High
- FN Smiley
- FN Gray
- LTJG Robertson
- FN Degraw
- MKI Davis



- GM3 Stemmerman



## Weapons

## SUPPORT



“All Present or Accounted For”