

THE BULLDOG

In later pages...

- Welcoming our MH-65 Helicopter
- We are SKs
- Who are Snipes?
- Community Relations
- Arctic Swim Call
- Multinational SAR-EX
- Shenanigans! Shenanigans for All!



After some months of preparation, extensive dockside renovations, and tons of new faces, Coast Guard Cutter Alex Haley is finally underway again on her way north to the Arctic. In store for her and her crew are places unknown, new people to meet, a temporary Helicopter crew, various community relations projects, breaking in a new jet-drive small boat, various morale events, fish calls and hunting excursions, and that's all just to scratch the surface.

Coast Guard Cutter Alex Haley welcomes the arrival of the MH-65 Dolphin Aircraft from air station Humboldt Bay. It will play a vital role in helping achieve the cutter's missions and complete them to the highest degree.



Okay, lets be honest, setting up and securing the deck for flight operations is tough work. It's even tougher when it's raining and there are tons of new faces, myself included, that need to have our hands held by senior personnel to learn our

new roles. Luckily, Alex Haley is equipped with a crew that always seems to find a way to have some fun during challenging evolutions. Pictured to the center left is FN Campbell (left) and MK3 Baker (right) showing us all how it's done. Pay no mind to the expired training dummy, Oscar, who did not survive the simulated helicopter Crash-on-Deck Drill.

HS1 Dejanakul, SK2 Geisert, FS3 Duffield, SN Ramirez, and SN Dyess stand at the ready during their Flight Quarters billets. They are BDS (Battle Dress Station) and are tasked with responding to any personnel casualty that may arise.



MK3 Hagerty mans the JP-5 Pump Room. Here he is in control of sending JP-5 aviation fuel to and from an aircraft.

EM3 Llanes patiently mans the AFFF Operator billet during Flight Quarters. He is responsible for sending AFFF, a fire-fighting agent most commonly used to combat flammable liquid fires, to various spaces throughout the ship in the event it is needed.



(Clockwise from Top Left) AMT1 Humphrey, LCDR Bucciarelli, LT Lloyd, AET2 Bunz, and AMT3 Robertson

Shop Shoutout!



It is no secret that there is a *mostly* friendly rivalry between each shop onboard any Coast Guard Cutter. Each shop will claim to be the most superior shop onboard and most vital to the success of operations. So who is the real victor of this quarrel? No one is. In reality, no one shop can exist without the support of each of the others. Each plays a unique and important role in order for the ship to be able to carry out her mission. With that being said, let me introduce Alex Haley's Storekeeper Shop. Pictured above, the SK shop poses for a new family picture. From left to right is SK2 Geisert, SK1 Johnson, and SK3 Reyes. The SK shop is in charge of making sure the ship and all of her shops are supplied with every tool, part, material, ingredient, or entertainment system that it may require. This can range from a bottle of hand soap that can cost a few bucks to a thirty thousand dollar mechanical pump. Without this shop, Alex Haley would quickly use up all of her resources and rapidly deteriorate causing us to fail our missions and not be able to stay afloat.

Snipes Lament

Now each of us from time to time, has gazed upon the sea.
And watched the warships pulling out, to keep this country free.
And most of us have read a book, or heard a lusty tale.
About the men who sail these ships, through lightening, wing and hail.

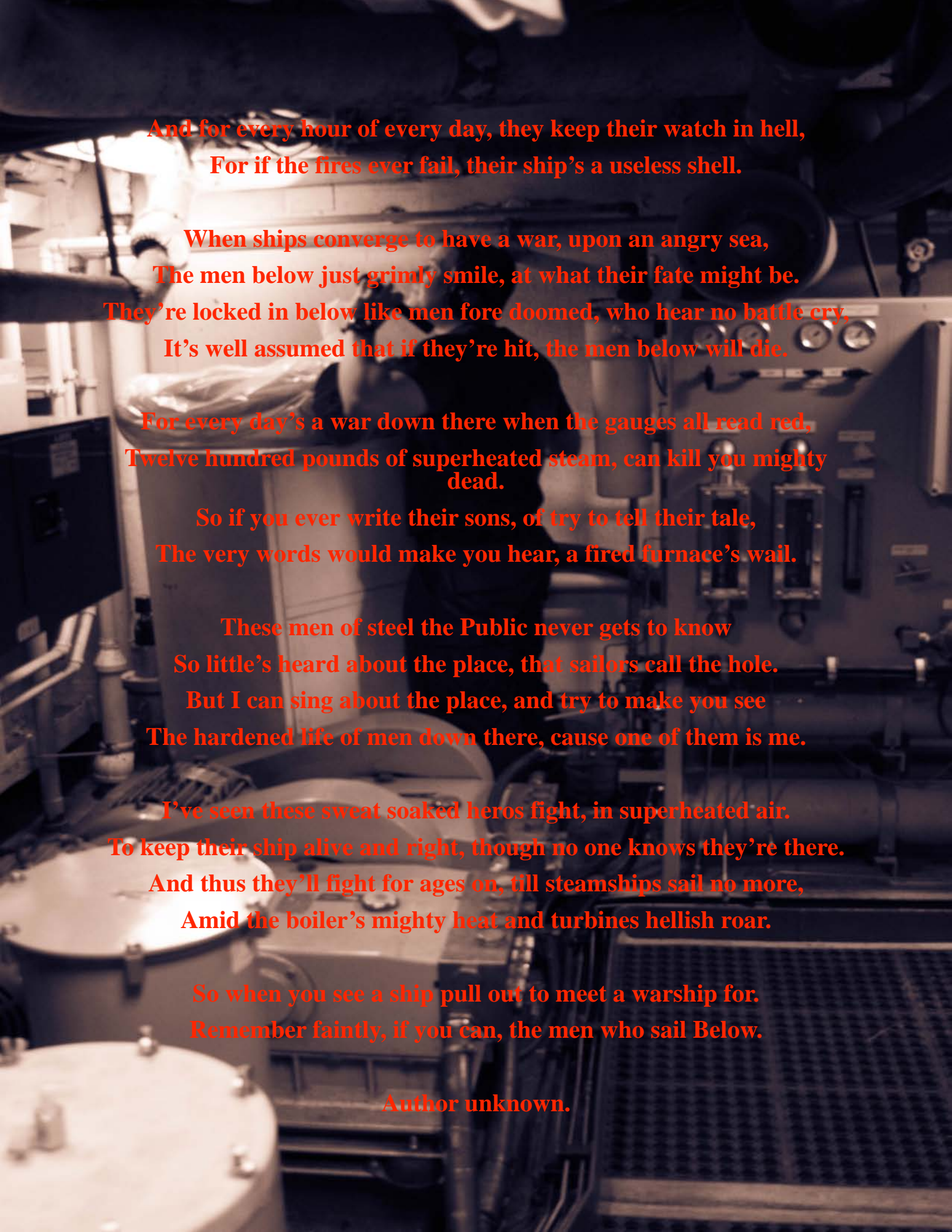
But there's a place within each ship, that legend fails to reach.
It's down below the waterline, it takes a living toil-
A hot metal living hell, that sailors call the 'HOLE'".

It houses engines run by steam, that make the shafts go 'round.
A place of fire and noise and heat, that beats your spirits down.
Where boilers like a hellish heart, with blood of angry steam
Are of molded gods without remorse, are nightmares in a dream.

Whose threat that from the first roar, is life living in doubt,
That any minute would with scorn, escape and crush you out.
Where turbines scream like tortures souls, alone and lost in hell,
As ordered from above somewhere, they answer every bell.

The men who keep the fires lit, and make the engine run.
Are strangers to the world of night and rarely see the sun.
They have no time for man or God, no tolerance for fear,
Their aspect pays no living thing, the tribute of a tear.

For there's not much that men can do, that these men haven't done.
Beneath the decks, deep in the holes, to make the engines run.

A photograph of a ship's engine room. In the background, a man in a dark uniform is visible, looking towards the camera. The room is filled with various mechanical components, pipes, and gauges. The lighting is somewhat dim, with a warm, orange-red tint overlaid on the entire image.

And for every hour of every day, they keep their watch in hell,
For if the fires ever fail, their ship's a useless shell.

When ships converge to have a war, upon an angry sea,
The men below just grimly smile, at what their fate might be.
They're locked in below like men fore doomed, who hear no battle cry,
It's well assumed that if they're hit, the men below will die.

For every day's a war down there when the gauges all read red,
Twelve hundred pounds of superheated steam, can kill you mighty
dead.

So if you ever write their sons, of try to tell their tale,
The very words would make you hear, a fired furnace's wail.

These men of steel the Public never gets to know
So little's heard about the place, that sailors call the hole.
But I can sing about the place, and try to make you see
The hardened life of men down there, cause one of them is me.

I've seen these sweat soaked heros fight, in superheated air.
To keep their ship alive and right, though no one knows they're there.
And thus they'll fight for ages on, till steamships sail no more,
Amid the boiler's mighty heat and turbines hellish roar.

So when you see a ship pull out to meet a warship for.
Remember faintly, if you can, the men who sail Below.

Author unknown.

DC3 Matthews stands a vigilant machinery watch. During this watch, her job is to make rounds of our Main Machinery Room in order to keep a watchful eye on our propulsion plant as well as several fuel tanks and our water-making reverse osmosis plant.



During a training evolution, the editor of this newsletter may or may not have accidentally snapped a valve handle off the #3 Main Diesel Engine's emergency cooling system. Here MK3 Sandrelli crawls under the bilge to fix the handle.



MK1 Duffy pictured to the left works with MK3 Sandrelli to fix the emergency cooling valve casualty.



MK3 Baker and MK3 Sandrelli show off the delicious seafood they pulled out of the raw water strainers of the Main Diesel Engines. These large amounts of crustaceans caused the raw water system to malfunction which in turn caused the engines to start overheating. Crisis averted...

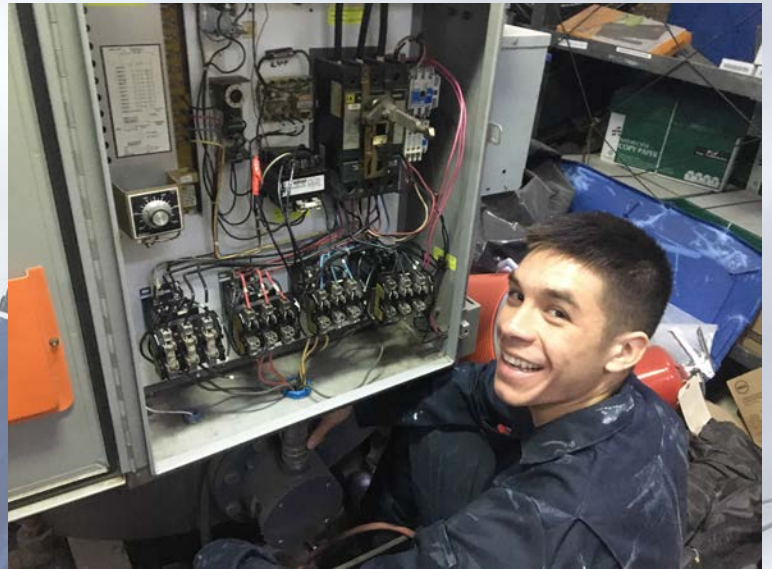
MK1 Lirette attaches blue masking tape to the #4 Ship Service Diesel Generator's Switchboard. Blue masking tape is used to inform trainees to simulate actions during training. MK1 is looking forward to his next victim.



ENS Hardey conducts a Switchboard watch round. In this round he will take readings of various gauges and meters in the engine room to ensure that our generators continue to purr and produce enough power for the ship.



EM3 Llanes works on the Hot Water Tank's motor controller.



ENS Schoen commences a startup routine for the #2 Main Diesel Engine prior to it turning on.



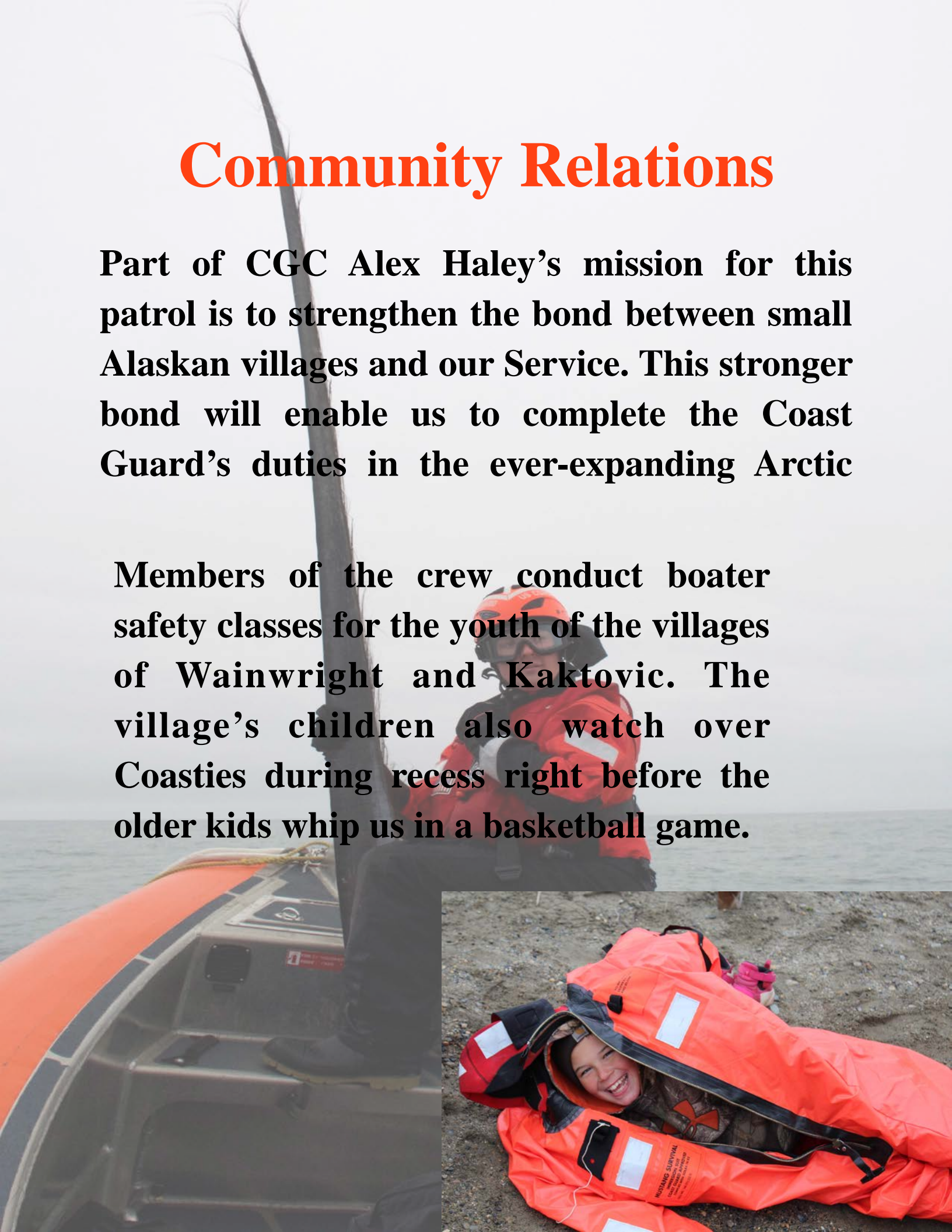
MK3 Baker is caught on television while lubing the Cutter's Starboard Propeller Shaft.



Community Relations

Part of CGC Alex Haley's mission for this patrol is to strengthen the bond between small Alaskan villages and our Service. This stronger bond will enable us to complete the Coast Guard's duties in the ever-expanding Arctic

Members of the crew conduct boater safety classes for the youth of the villages of Wainwright and Kaktovic. The village's children also watch over Coasties during recess right before the older kids whip us in a basketball game.





OS3 Kristofferson discovered his dry suite is not as dry as he thought.

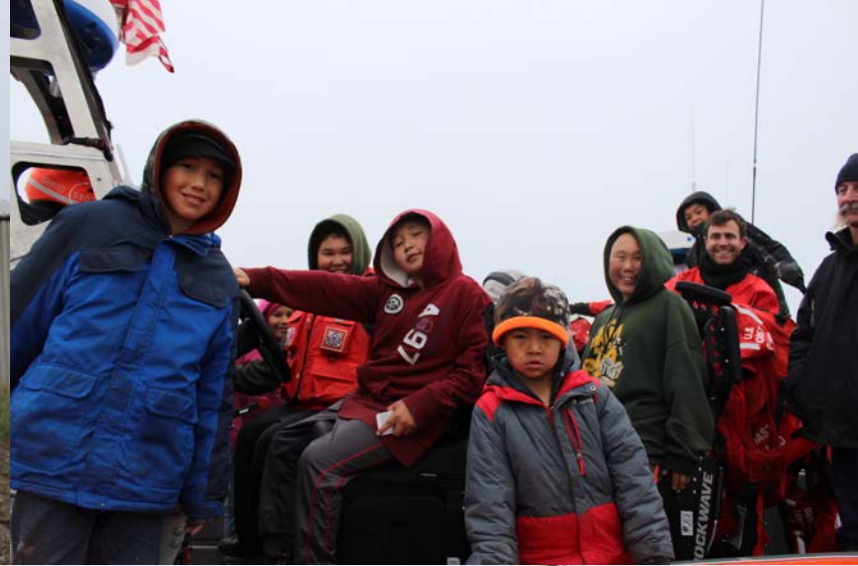


In Kaktovic, Alex Haleys's two small boats land to show the village's youth some pointers on boat safety.

-Photos by OS3 Kristofferson



ENS Cheney makes a new friend



Captain Denning takes the helm of the new MK4 jet-drive small boat



Members of the crew visit
Wainwright's school to teach
boater safety and hang out
with the children during reces

BM3 Ronces is
just happy to be
here





An army of students drag the adults out of simulated water using a heaving line



SN Dyess demonstrates his leg strength



Wainwright villagers show us how basketball is supposed to be played

Alex Haley visits the village of Savoonga for community service and some fun!







After a beach cleanup (pictured and above) members of the crew hang out on the shore and have some fun playing stickball



SK2 Geisert is amazed by the size of a whale's skull on the beach of Savoonga

When the Coast Guard asked the village of Savoonga how we may be of service, they told us about their ongoing project to build a new teen center after their old one burned down. Seizing the opportunity, several members of Alex Haley's crew sprang to action. In a single day, floor joists and plywood were set in place completing the entire floor plan. Pictures by Commander Denning





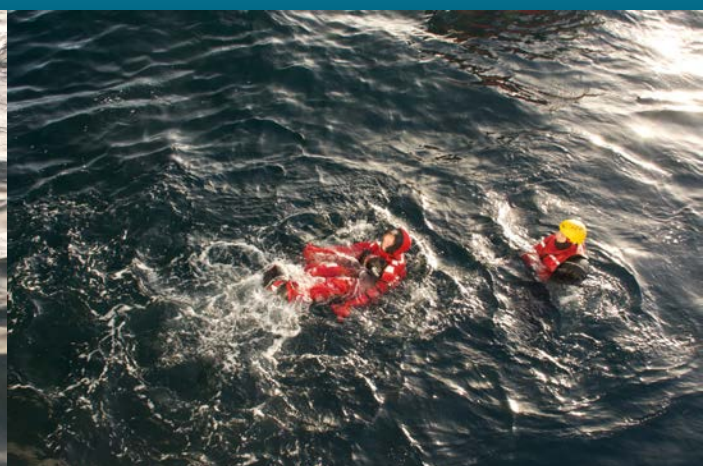
After a days worth of hard work, villagers invited the crew to compete in a friendly game of basketball against the local professionals.



And we were rocked again...

Pictures by Commander Denning

Have you ever been swimming in the Arctic? We have! (below) CGC AH initiates a "cold water survival training evolution." Members find themselves placed in a cold state of mind during frigid damage control training and then stuff themselves into emersion suits in preparation of walking the long plank. Fun fact, the water is 36F.





Crew members help a shipmate get back onto the ship after swimming from the port side of AH to the starboard (above). Here we practice methods of staying together while floating through the ice cold waters (right).



To better understand what 36 degree Arctic waters bring, this picture is what the crew woke to on the morning of this "training evolution"



Commander Denning hops into the Arctic waters with the crew (left). EM3 Smith-Reynolds gives it a go (center left and center right). MK3 Sandrelli uses the opportunity to leak test a new dry suit (bottom right). OS3 Kristofferson helps Commander Denning get back onto the ship (bottom left)



Chinook Search and Rescue Exercise:

Alex Haley participated in a Multinational Search and Rescue training exercise in frigid cold Northern Waters. Crew members simulate entering a cruise ship in distress to help combat damages and de-flood the compartments. Later, a Canadian Coast Guard rescue helicopter practices lowering two of her crew down to the flight deck of Alex Haley

DC2 Barkley discovers a hole in the skin of a cruise ship in distress (right)



MKC Grunden tells the camera that he has measured four inches of water on the deck above discovered hole (left)



MK1 Lirette ensures that crew members are up to speed on proper damage control techniques (right)



MK2 Rivera plays with the massive Canadian Helicopter from the MK4 smallboat (right)



A Canadian Helicopter lowers members of the Canadian Coast Guard to Alex Haley (left)



FSC Cleary keeps a watchful eye on shipmates as they attempt to start the P6 Pump onboard our "cruise ship in distress" (right)



SHENANIGANS! SHENANIGANS FOR ALL!



Members of the crew goof off while helping construct the teen center in Savoonga (top left) SA Parry's haircut is interrupted when quarters is called causing the crew to laugh for hours (top right) During a port call in Nome, AK, crew members explore an abandoned gold dredge (above) MKI Lirette demonstrated his sweet, sweet air guitar skills during a midnight watch (right) Members of the crew challenge locals from Nome to a friendly ball game (below)





SK2 Geisert helps clean up after a morale dinner (left). Mk3 Dehan shows off his improvised injury during our SAR-EX (below). XO whips up 12 loafs of deliciousness during breakfast. They were consumed in 30 minutes (center left). DC2 Barkley's prize possession is seal-napped and restrained (bottom left). OS3 Black shouts "hey! You with the camera! do not take my picture!" (bottom right).





SA RAMIREZ AND SA RODRIGUES POSE IN FRONT OF THE MH-65 HELO (TOP LEFT) SA PUGLIESE WALKS THE LINE IN SITKINAK (TOP RIGHT) FA KELL AND OS3 BLACK GOOF AROUND AFTER CHOW (CENTER RIGHT) A VERY CAMERA SHY EM1 CAMPBELL IS FORCED TO HAVE HIS PICTURE TAKEN WHILE MK2 RIVERA SCULPTS AWAY (ABOVE) MK3 SANDRELLI MINDS THE GAP WHILE EXPLORING AN ABANDONED GOLD DREDGE IN NOME (LEFT)

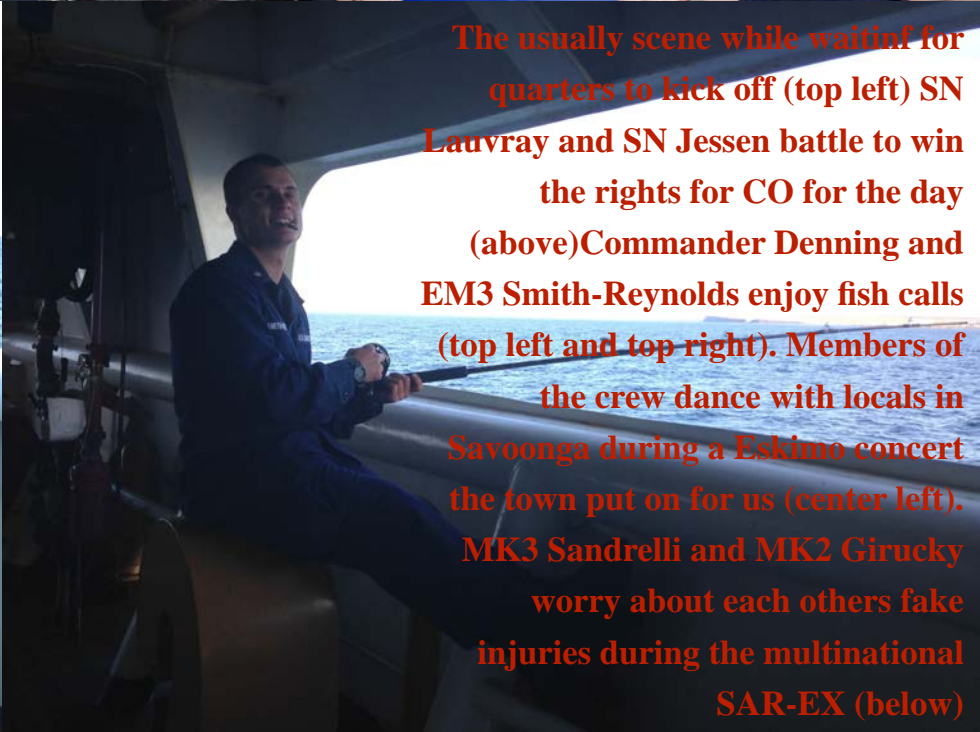


EM3 Llanes keeps the crew out of harms way by extinguishing an active volcano with his mouth (left) ENS Palenzuela is excited about harvesting deer meat during our time in Sitkinak (center left) XO poses for a shot with his deer (below) SA Keisler is released back into the wild on the island of Sitkinak (bottom left)





MK2 Girucky takes a load off after hauling deer around the mountains on Sitkinak Island (top left) DC3 Matthews keeps warm by the fire we made in Sitkinak Island (center left) SA Pugliese sets up a T for Tball but has trouble finding a suitable bat that won't break his shipmate's back. (top right) SA finally finds a suitable bat and ball shaped rock (above) MK3 Sandrelli is attacked by two caterpillars while taking a selfie in with the Canadian Helo



The usually scene while waiting for quarters to kick off (top left) SN Lauvray and SN Jessen battle to win the rights for CO for the day (above) Commander Denning and EM3 Smith-Reynolds enjoy fish calls (top left and top right). Members of the crew dance with locals in Savoonga during a Eskimo concert the town put on for us (center left). MK3 Sandrelli and MK2 Girucky worry about each others fake injuries during the multinational SAR-EX (below)





DC2 Barkley wears eye protection while participating in a morale dinner (left) MK2 Girucky helps the flight crew refuel the MH-65 in Kaktovic after it had to abort its attempt to land on the cutter due to low visibility

A message from the new editor...

Thank you for reading my first edition of the Bulldog Newsletter. Admittedly, there was a bit of a learning curve for using Apple Pages, but in the end I feel that I am now better prepared to serve you all in later patrols. As I stated in my introduction letter in the previous issue, I am happy to hear any comments or ideas of what you might like to see or read about in later issues of the Bulldog. Please feel free to contact me at tyler.F.Smith-Reynolds@uscg.mil if desired.

Until we meet again,

EM3 Tyler Smith-Reynolds

