

## COAST GUARD CLUB NEWSLETTER

January 2002

**WHO RECEIVES THIS NEWSLETTER?** Members who have an upcoming birthday, each potential **Coast Guard Club** recruit, & any Coastie I write to. This Newsletter is posted on the Web at <http://home1.gte.net/ke7a/index.htm>, [www.jacksjoint.com](http://www.jacksjoint.com) & at [www.fredsplace.org](http://www.fredsplace.org). If you can receive e-mail files & would like an e-mail copy of this Newsletter each month, please contact me.

**E-MAIL:** My address is [CGC@triad.rr.com](mailto:CGC@triad.rr.com) & [ad4pt@arrl.net](mailto:ad4pt@arrl.net). Members of the **Coast Guard Club** who have e-mail service, please let me know & I will add you to Appendix E of the call book. Additionally, Dick Anderson, [ke7a@gte.net](mailto:ke7a@gte.net), & I need to know when you obtain, cancel, or change providers or addresses. After I changed providers from JUNO to Road Runner, I sent a message to all members who have e-mail & found that about a dozen had invalid addresses on record. Please take a look at Dick's Coast Guard Club page at <http://home1.gte.net/ke7a/index.htm> to ensure your address is listed correctly. You may also go to [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) & look up KE7A to link up or Search "USCG amateur radio operators net".

### OPERATIONS

The CG & the fishing vessel *Sea Trek* rescued 2 men after their boat caught fire 35 miles E of Gloucester. Crewmembers from the fishing vessel *Sailor's Choice*, a 60-foot FV homeported in Gloucester, reported smoke in the engine room. The men abandoned their boat & activated their emergency position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB). The CG issued a broadcast to other boaters in the area, urging them to assist the *Sailor's Choice*. The FV *Sea Trek* found the 2 men drifting in their life raft. A 47-foot rescue boat crew from CG Station Gloucester rendezvoused with the *Sea Trek* & transported the 2 men back to Gloucester. The *Sailor's Choice* sank in 80 feet of water 55 miles E of Boston. The cause of the fire is not known at this time.

The crew of a C-130 Hercules aircraft from CGAS Clearwater found 2 divers on the outer edge of the Oculina Banks about 17 miles E of Sebastian Inlet after an extensive nighttime search. 2 men were pulled from the ocean by a CG HH-60 Jayhawk rescue crew from CGAS Clearwater after spending almost 8 hours in the water. The CG received a call from the Brevard County Sheriff's Office stating 2 divers were missing about 17 miles E of Sebastian Inlet. The C-130, HH-60, the CGC *CHANDELUER* & a rescue boat from Station Fort Pierce were all launched to help in the search. The 2 men entered the ocean & when they did not surface, the vessel operator went for help. The operator beached the 21-foot Bayliner at Indian Atlantic Beach & made an emergency phone call. The operator did not have a good location where his 2 friends were diving, but was able to tell rescuers that they were diving in about 128-feet of water. Search & Rescue planners in the 7<sup>th</sup> District Command Centre in Miami initially directed search units to focus on the 128-foot depth contour off Sebastian Inlet. Later, the coordinates of the dive site were taken from the Global Positioning System unit on board the boat & focused search efforts. As the C-130 was flying its search patterns the divers, who were well-prepared, used their dive lights to signal the aircraft passing overhead.

CG Station Golden Gate & CGAS San Francisco rescued a sinking FV 4 miles W of Double Point. The *Pavo Engrande*, a crab fishing vessel, started taking on water. A helicopter from CGAS San Francisco & a rescue boat from Station Golden Gate were deployed to assist the vessel. The helicopter lowered a water pump to the sinking vessel & the rescue boat crew helped with dewatering the vessel well enough to tow the *Pavo Engrande* to Pier 45 in San Francisco. Modern radio communication & tracking devices from the *Pavo Engrande* assisted greatly with the speedy rescue of the vessel. This is the first search & rescue of the local crab fishing season.

A helicopter crew from CGAS San Francisco located a hoax caller transmitting a false Mayday call from his house in Salinas, interrupting an actual Mayday call from a sinking fishing vessel off the coast of Santa Cruz. The hoax on VHF radio channel 16, from an individual later identified as a 44-year-old Salinas resident, stating, "Coast Guard, Coast Guard, Mayday, Mayday." The caller first stated he was located off Half Moon Bay, & then changed his story to say he was off Pebble Beach. The caller claimed his vessel was taking on water, which prompted the CG to respond. CG Station Monterey, which had a 47-foot motor lifeboat searching the area indicated by the call, did not hear the transmissions, nor did a C-130 in the area. A HH-65 helicopter crew was able to locate the signal & alerted the Salinas Police & the FCC to the caller's whereabouts. The helicopter was then diverted to an actual Mayday call received from the 33-foot FV *Emyle*, taking on water 4 miles off the coast of Santa Cruz. A 47-foot motor lifeboat from CG Station Monterey & the CGC *ACTIVE* from Los Angeles also responded. The helicopter located the *Emyle* & the 47-foot motor lifeboat crew from Station Monterey then rescued the *Emyle's* 2 crewmen & the vessel sank shortly after the rescue. The cause of the sinking is unknown. The CG is exploring the possibility of referring the hoax call to the U.S. Attorney for possible prosecution. Knowingly & wilfully transmitting a hoax distress call is a felony, & is punishable by up to 6 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine & restitution to the CG for all costs incurred responding to the distress. The maximum civil penalty is \$5,000. In fiscal year 2001, the latest year in which statistics are available, 22 percent of CG Group San Francisco's search & rescue cases were hoax calls.

CGC *HEALY*, the nation's largest & most technologically advanced icebreaker, returned home to Seattle from a highly successful 192-day long maiden scientific voyage to the Eastern Arctic. *HEALY* made port calls in Costa Rica, UK, Norway & Spain & spent nearly 3 months in the Arctic Ice Pack in addition to becoming only the second U.S. surface ship to reach the North Pole. Throughout the course of the deployment, *HEALY* steamed nearly 30,000 nautical miles. *HEALY* will remain in her homeport of Seattle until the Spring of 2002, at which time she will sail for another extended deployment to the western Arctic.

C-130 crews from Air Station Elizabeth City are gearing up for the 2002 iceberg season after the CG International Ice Patrol (IIP) hosted its 2001 Annual Conference in Groton, Conn. Fixed-wing CG aircraft, primarily the C-130, conduct the primary reconnaissance work for IIP. Ice reconnaissance flights flown by C-130s forward-positioned in operating bases in Newfoundland & Labrador are made on the average of five days every two weeks beginning in late January & continue throughout the ice season. The usual patrol time is between 5 & 7 hours, with each flight covering 30,000 square miles or more in the vicinity of the Grand Banks in the Northern Atlantic. The IIP is responsible for detecting & tracking movement of icebergs in the shipping lanes of the North Atlantic & warning the transatlantic mariner of these dangers. The IIP traces its origins directly to the sinking of the luxury passenger liner RMS *Titanic*.

A C-130 Search & Rescue airplane landed safely at Norfolk International Airport after declaring an in-flight emergency during a routine training mission. With 7 crew on board, the aircraft experienced a hydraulic leak that caused the flaps to fail. The crew attempted to land at E-City but was unable to slow down enough without the use of the flaps to land safely. After 3 attempts to land, the

crew diverted to Norfolk International Airport where there is a longer runway, landing safely on their first approach. The cause of the hydraulic failure is under investigation.

CGC *POMPANO*, an 87-foot Coastal Patrol Boat, will be commissioned into service in a ceremony at CG Station Gulfport. The *POMPANO*, homeported in Gulfport, is a new Marine Protector Class vessel capable of performing search & rescue, law enforcement, fisheries patrols, drug interdiction, & alien interdiction duties up to 200 miles offshore.

Battling low visibility caused by heavy snow, a Coast Guard rescue helicopter crew from Air Station Sitka transported a Haines woman to Juneau for medical treatment. The CG received a request to airlift 68-year-old Ingeborg Olsson to Juneau's Bartlett Regional Hospital (BRH) after she suffered complications from a hernia. The helicopter crew departed Sitka & arrived at the Haines Airport where they picked up Olsson. Flying through snow squalls & minimal visibility with 30-knot winds, the rescuers transported Olsson to Juneau. A Capital City Fire & Rescue ambulance crew took Olsson to BRH for medical treatment. On average, the Coast Guard saves 12 lives daily.

#### Stats FY 02 on 13 December 2001:

Lives saved:	338
Drugs seized	
Cocaine:	11,028 pounds
Marijuana products:	112 pounds
Migrants saved:	696

**USCG RESERVES** — Over 2800 Reservists have been called to active duty in support of Operations Noble Eagle & Enduring Freedom. Unlike the Army, Air Force, Navy, & Marine Reserves who are organized into large units, most CG Reservists train & drill with CG field units & blend in with the regular active duty forces to perform the myriad security, safety, & emergency response missions. One exception is the CG's 6 specialised Port Security Units, which are self-contained rapid response units trained primarily in port & waterway security. 4 of the PSUs were used to help patrol New York, Boston, Seattle & Long Beach ports in the weeks immediately following the September attacks.

**CGC McLANE RESTORATION:** Jim Gill, K6IRR, is trying to obtain information regarding the types of radio gear about the WSC (125-ft. Cutter class) during the 1940s & where replacement equipment for this period may be found. Jim may be contacted at [pdp@cts.com](mailto:pdp@cts.com).

**COAST GUARD CLUB CALL BOOK** is bound in a spiral binder & includes the latest changes, & now includes a Certificate of Membership in the **Coast Guard Club** suitable for framing. As of today the book is 1" thick. If you want a copy of the call book, send a cheque for \$15.00, which includes postage, payable to **Don Gardner**. (Sold to CGC members only.)

**COAST GUARD NETS:** The Coast Guard Radio Amateur SSB Net is on the air each Saturday from 1200-1300 ET on 14300 (14313 alternate). At 1300 ET the Net shifts to 14327 & continues, usually for about 30 minutes. Dick Anderson, KE7A, in the Dallas-Ft Worth area, is the NCS. A CW Net with Fred Goodwin, K7LF, as NCS, is on 14052/7052 & runs simultaneously.

**COAST GUARD STORIES:** Check Out: **Jack's Joint**, [www.jacksjoint.com/](http://www.jacksjoint.com/), which has interesting Coast Guard short stories & scuttlebutt. I used selected short stories from this site for my version of **Coast Guard Stories, Vol. I & Vol. II**. I will print the volume(s) for you on my printer, put it in a spiral binder & send you a copy postage paid for \$19.95 each, or \$39.00 when both volumes are ordered. These volumes are on file at USCG Hq. in care of Dr Browning, the Coast Guard Historian. Dr Browning advised they will be kept in a place of honour in the Public Affairs Office. Volume III has begun & is in need of stories from Coasties. If you have something interesting to write regarding & incident or memories of your time in the 'Guard', please send it to me by e-mail, diskettes, or a paper copy. Don't worry about spelling, punctuation, or whatever.

**QUA?** If you have a news item of interest to our members, especially reunion information, please send it in. Want to swap, sell, trade ham gear?

**COAST GUARD PRODUCTS:** Shop at the Academy Exchange, [www.shopcoastguard.com/acatalog/](http://www.shopcoastguard.com/acatalog/). The Coast Guard flag can be bought there.

#### REUNIONS

**CGC CAMPBELL:** Reunion 15-18 May 2002 Charleston, SC. Contact James Kelly, VP, USCGC Assn., W32-@909, fone 860 848 1160 or email [jkelly@uconnect.net](mailto:jkelly@uconnect.net).

**CGC CASCO:** Any former crewmembers who would like to be placed on a mailing list of shipmates & activities that includes a reunion every several years, contact: Gordon C Kelly, P O BOX 141, Lyon, WI 53148.

**CGC ROCKAWAY:** Reunion 26-28 April 2002 at Orlando, FL. Latest news & updates check [www.cccnews.net/rockaway/index2.htm](http://www.cccnews.net/rockaway/index2.htm). For more information contact Chief Harris 602 274 8980, email [tio@inficad.com](mailto:tio@inficad.com) or Frank Carlsson [adselinc@aol.com](mailto:adselinc@aol.com)

**SURVIVORS OF THE USS ALEXANDER HAMILTON (CG)** reunion will be held 27-29 January 2002 in Baltimore. A special ceremony is planned on 29 January aboard sister ship CGC *TANEY*. For further info. contact Mike Walling at work 617 443 2617, or home 978 562 9873, or e-mail [mwalling@military.com](mailto:mwalling@military.com).

**MEMBERSHIP:** There are 504 members now in our club as of 28 December, which exceeded our goal of 500! Next year's goal is 530. de AD4PT.