

COAST GUARD CLUB NEWSLETTER

March 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 & at www.fredsplace.org. If you can receive e-mail files & would like a copy of this Newsletter each month, please contact me.

E-MAIL: My address is CGC@triad.rr.com & 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, & I need to know when you obtain, cancel, or change providers or addresses. 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 & look up KE7A to link up or Search "USCG amateur radio operators net".

DEATH OF THE FIRST MCPOCG

At 1740 PST on February 24, 2002, MCPOCG CHARLES L. CALHOUN, USCG Ret, The First Master Chief of the Coast Guard passed away in Santa Rosa, California due to natural causes He was 78. He will be interred on March 16, 2002 at Berlin, Maryland.

SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS

A CG helicopter crew from Sitka medevaced an ailing woman from the clinic in Kake suffering from medical complications. Staff from the Mt. Edgcombe Hospital contacted the CG Command Centre in Juneau requesting medical assistance. A commercial medical flight was unable to land at the Kake because of runway conditions. A CG flight surgeon was consulted & recommended the medevac. The helicopter crew arrived in Kake & transferred Berkeley to the helicopter, which then returned to Sitka where Berkeley was transferred to an awaiting ambulance.

A CG helicopter crew airlifted a 60-year-old woman suffering chest pains from Prince William Sound's Chenega Bay & transported her to Anchorage for further medical care. Darkness prevented commercial air services from transporting Eleshansky. The Kodiak-based helicopter crew airlifted & transported her to an awaiting ambulance crew at Anchorage in stable condition.

A CG helicopter crew airlifted an ailing man from Petersburg & transported him to Sitka for further medical care. A doctor from the Petersburg medical clinic notified the Coast Guard that 74-year-old Walter Dawson experienced an intestinal infection & needed further medical care. The Sitka-based helicopter crew airlifted Dawson & transported him to an awaiting ambulance crew in Sitka in stable condition.

Three men were rescued from their 80-ft fishing vessel moments before it sank 3 miles south of Point Judith, R.I. CG Station Point Judith received a distress call from a crewmember of the fishing vessel *Forager*, homeported in Providence, R.I., stating that their vessel was rapidly taking on water. The station's 47-ft rescue boat, which was nearby investigating a source of a flare sighting, immediately diverted to assist the fishing vessel's crew. The CG rescue crew arrived on scene & began working to dewater the vessel. The CG crew decided to remove the *Forager's* crew—the FV sank within minutes. The CG's Marine Safety Office (MSO) in Providence, with the assistance of the 47-foot boat crew, has placed containment boom in the area where the *Forager* sank to contain any possible pollution. MSO Providence will also conduct an investigation into the sinking of the vessel.

Coast Guard Seaman Jason S. Bush will be awarded the CG Silver Lifesaving Medal by Pacific Area Commander VADM Ernest Riutta at CG Group San Francisco on Yerba Buena Island. Bush is being recognised for heroic action on the afternoon of July 23, 2000 when he saved 2 swimmers from drowning in a swift current of the Russian River near Guerneville, Calif. Bush witnessed the 2 young men being swept downstream towards a fallen tree. Without hesitating, he entered the water, swimming to the victims. One man clung to the tree while the other had disappeared beneath the surface. Bush searched the murky waters, finding the man & discovering he had no vital signs. Bush revived the man by performing CPR & brought him to the riverbank. Bush continued to administer first-aid to the victim until medical personnel arrived. Once the first victim was stabilized, Bush returned to the river & led the second man, still clinging to the tree, to safety.

A CG helicopter, using 2 different flight crews, travelled more than 1,000 miles to transport an ill man from Dutch Harbor to Kodiak. Heidi Lim, a physician's assistant at the Dutch Harbor clinic, contacted the CG to request assistance. Olexander Usov, 47, sought treatment at the clinic for severe internal bleeding. He received a blood transfusion from the doctor's spouse in Dutch Harbor. Usov needed more blood, but the clinic did not have his type. CG search & rescue coordinators worked with commercial air ambulance services to evacuate Usov. Helicopter & C-130 airplane crews took off from CG Air Station Kodiak & transited to Cold Bay. The C-130 crew landed at Cold Bay where a new helicopter crew refuelled the Jayhawk & flew to Dutch Harbor. The crew carried blood units on board in case Usov required another blood transfusion. Upon landing in Dutch Harbor, his condition became unstable & required another blood transfusion to stabilize him for the flight back. After the blood transfusion improved his condition, the helicopter crew transported him to Cold Bay for a rendezvous with a commercial air ambulance team. Inclement weather prevented the commercial aircraft from landing at Cold Bay. Weather there consisted of clouds at 400 feet, visibility less than 1/4 mile, blowing snow & 40-knot winds. The commercial air ambulance crew informed the CG they could not land & returned to Anchorage. The helicopter crew refuelled in Cold Bay again & took off for Kodiak where they landed 14 hours & 15 minutes after initially beginning the rescue mission. An ambulance crew transferred Usov to a Kodiak hospital. He is the 8th person rescued by a CG helicopter crew in Alaska this month.

The Southeast Tanner Crab fishery is open & CG men & women are standing by to provide SAR assistance if necessary. About 80 vessels & crews are expected to participate in the 6-day fishery. Most of those vessels are from Petersburg & Juneau, fishing in Icy Strait & near Juneau. Prior to the opening, the CG conducted a pre-season campaign emphasizing fishing vessel safety & the "Ready For Sea Programme". The campaign is a balance of safety & stability awareness, & commercial fishing vessel safety voluntary examinations. A survey during the past 10-years revealed that most SAR cases occur in the first 3-days fishery. A variety of CGCs & aircraft are positioned & standing by to assist mariners, including the Cutters *MAPLE* & *ANACAPA*, along with AirSta Sitka's rescue helicopters crew.

CGC *STEADFAST*, based out of Astoria, Ore., offloaded 3,572 pounds of marijuana this morning at NavSta San Diego & turned over the contraband to the DEA. While on patrol in international waters off the Mexican coast, the San Francisco-based helicopter assigned to *STEADFAST* spotted a 30-foot go-fast boat with 3 persons on board & several hundred bales on deck. During the pursuit, the suspects began throwing the bales overboard. After a 7-hour pursuit, *STEADFAST* & the Dolphin helicopter eventually recovered 562 bales of marijuana. The 30-foot go-fast vessel was last seen heading in the direction of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

The CG is suspending the search for a 2nd recreational crab fisherman who has been missing since he & another man were reported overdue. The search was suspended after a CG Dolphin helicopter from CG AirSta Port Angeles; the CGC *ACUSHNET* & a CG Auxiliary boat searched the Dungeness Bay area for more than 22 hours. The body of Mr. Wasankari's son, Steve, was found in Dungeness Bay, 2 hours after the search began. He was recovered unconscious by the CG helicopter, transported to awaiting Clallam County EMS & taken to Olympic Memorial Hospital in Port Angeles. Unfortunately he did not regain consciousness.

Statistics 20 February

Lives Saved: 658; Drugs Seized: Cocaine 70.560 lbs, Marijuana 19,534 lbs, Migrants Interdicted: 1529; Security Zones in place: Atlantic Area — 103, Pacific Area — 28; Reserves recalled, Atlantic Area, 1380, Pacific Area, 503.

FRIENDS OF LONG ISLAND WIRELESS HISTORY is preparing an exhibit for the Long Island Maritime Museum & would be interested in hearing from anyone who served on a land DF or HuffDuff station, or aboard a ship using HuffDuff. Contact Van R Field, W2OQI, at wreck_and_rescue@juno.com.

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.

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/, 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.

REUNIONS

CUTTERS: Reunion 27 to 31 October at Wilmington, NC for *DILIGENCE, McCULLOCH, MENDOTA, & NORTHWIND*. Further info: Joe Pickens, Lighthouse Road, Given, WV 25245, fone 304 372 5648, e-mail n8uxe@citynet.net.

CGC ANDROSCOGGIN: Reunion officers & crew from Vietnam era 1967-68, sometime in September (specific date to be announced later). More info RMCM Jack Cunniff, 1130 Oceanwood DR N, Neptune Beach FL 32266, e-mail RMCMJACK@aol.com or RMCM J L Thomas Sr., 6605 Morocco DR, Louisville KY 40214, fone 502 364 9861, e-mail: NBNP374@aol.com.

CGAS ELIZABETH CITY: Reunion 31 May-2 June biennial reunion sponsored by CPOA open to everyone assigned to any E-City command. Website www.geocities.com/ecitycpoa/ecreunion. More info packet from CPOA, POB 1362, Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1362, fone 252 335 5594, e-mail ecitycpoa@yahoo.com.

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.

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 COURIER: Reunion 11-18 October for all who served aboard. Further info: Rev. Gil Riggs, POB 828, San Rafael, NM 87051, fone 505 287-3338, e-mail dnewe113@charter.net. Approx attendance at this time is 80.

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

LIGHTSHIP SAILORS: Reunion 1-4 August. For further info contact Marty Krzywicki, 940 Albermarle St., St Paul MN 55117, fone 651 588 0504, e-mail LightshipSailor@msn.com. Direct reservations at the Hampton Inn Westport, fone 508 675 8500 and mention 'LSA' for reduced rate.

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.

MEMBERSHIP: There are 515 members in our club as of 23 February. Our 2002 goal for 2002 is 530. de AD4PT.