



THE BULLDOG

Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY News | 2014 Awards | Farewell to Shipmates

**PATROL
RECAP
INSIDE**





B R E N T T A Y L O R

2014 ENLISTED PERSON OF THE YEAR FOR ALASKA

Petty Officer Taylor demonstrated superior professionalism and outstanding performance of duty while serving onboard ALEX HALEY. ET1 Taylor was extremely dedicated to the professional growth and development of his shipmates, assisting with their qualifications, leadership and personal matters. During this past year, he supervised 60 qualified and 20 break-in watchstanders. ET1 Taylor personally led a 10 person team comprised of Base personnel, civilian contractors and ship's force in the overhaul & replacement of the cutter's 2-ton shipboard radar antenna. As an active morale committee member, he was instrumental in the planning and execution of morale events underway and in port. Additionally, ET1 Taylor's dedication was apparent with the exceptional achievement of qualifying as Underway Officer of the Deck, a qualification normally held by officers, chiefs and senior Boatswains Mates. In his continuing pursuit of a Bachelor's Degree, ET1 Taylor earned three college credits during patrol with ALEX HALEY's underway college. He expertly led the Electronics and Communications Divisions to a 98 percent

score during Tailored Ships Training Availability, earning a Battle "E" for the Command and Control warfare area. Through his professionalism, he resolved over 20 electronic line items to achieve zero discrepancies during Boat STAN and was a responsible steward of \$322,000 of funding for electronics systems maintenance and property of electronic equipment. ET1 Taylor was actively committed to public outreach as evidenced through hosting Kodiak Cub Scouts onboard as well as the planning and supervision of "Haunted Haley", which hosted 500 visitors and garnered more than 600 canned food donations. He led crew members in community service/ beach clean-up projects, fund raising efforts for charity auctions and luncheons for students as part of the Partnership in Education program. ET1 Taylor displayed exceptional loyalty to shipmates: always the first person to volunteer his liberty time to mentor shipmates, exchange duty and assist with qualifications. ET1 Taylor has been stationed onboard ALEX HALEY since June 2013. He is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and enlisted in the Coast Guard in 2001.



NOEL CORDERO

2014 WINNER OF THE ADMIRAL GRACEY AWARD

This month, we congratulate Petty Officer Noel Cordero, the recent recipient of the 2014 Admiral James S. Gracey Award. The award is presented to the individual within the U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area who, by performance of duty, best exemplifies the professionalism, devotion to duty and excellence of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Pacific Area Coast Guard Foundation is honored to commend and award SK3 Noel Cordero, USCGC ALEX HALEY in Kodiak, Alaska. Petty Officer Cordero demonstrated exceptional professionalism and leadership while procuring 500,000 dollars in needed supplies and 500,000 gallons of fuel for the cutter while operating in the Coast Guard's most logistically challenging region. As one of the most experienced Boarding Team Members, her expert knowledge of Alaskan fisheries was essential to the execution of 110 boardings and the detection of 16 violations. This aggressive enforcement posture propelled ALEX HALEY to lead the Pacific

cutter fleet in achievement of boarding goals. During the annual Tailored Ships Training Availability, Petty Officer Cordero led the Medical Training Team, a position normally filled by a senior Health Services Technician, earning a perfect score in all drills and earning the Battle "E" for Medical. On two occasions, Petty Officer Cordero used her Suicide Intervention skills and Victim Advocate training to compassionately respond to shipmates with suicidal ideations, disabling their plans and remaining with the members until medical care arrived. She led numerous community outreach and service projects across Alaska including work with Kodiak High School and the Partnership in Education Program, and a renewal project at the Kodiak Humane Society. During ALEX HALEY's holiday visit to Akutan, she brought donated clothing, blankets and gifts to the village. Through her excellence and professionalism, Petty Officer Cordero truly exemplified the highest traditions of the U.S. Coast Guard.

FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ON APRIL 2, 2015

“For exceptionally meritorious service from July 2014 to December 2014, while engaged in vital law enforcement and life saving search and rescue operations with national and international impact. In support of multiple missions, included Operations BERING SHIELD, MARINE RESOURCE PROTECTOR, and BERING SAFEGUARD ALEX HALEY conducted nine search and rescue cases, saved six lives and led the Pacific Area cutter fleet with 140 boardings that resulted in 37 fisheries and safety violations. Their detection and case package documentation of five foreign vessel incursions along the United States-Russia Maritime Boundary Line resulted in enforcement action by the Russian government and safeguarded the rich Bering Sea fish stocks of our Exclusive Economic Zone. Additionally, ALEX HALEY exhibited exemplary diplomacy while leading the high

PRESENTATION OF THE COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION TO USCGC ALEX HALEY

visibility search and recovery for the crew of the sunken fishing vessel 501 ORYONG from the Republic of Korea, further strengthening our international partnership. ALEX HALEY’s crew strengthened strategic partnerships with communities in Adak, Dutch Harbor, Akutan and Kodiak by providing essential civil services, mentoring future scholars and sharing in the traditions of native peoples during 11 outreach events. The crew’s superlative efforts served to promote good will and strengthened essential relationships between the Coast Guard and its regional customers. Demonstrating a superb level of readiness, ALEX HALEY excelled during all annual inspections and ensured unwavering reliability of the engineering plant and small boats. The professionalism, pride and devotion to duty displayed by USCGC ALEX HALEY are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.”

2014 Unit Awards Won by Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY

The ADMIRAL JOHN B. HAYES A W A R D

The Admiral John B Hayes award is presented to CGC ALEX HALEY for its overall achievement. ALEX HALEY displayed exceptional operational acumen, leading the fleet in number of law enforcement boardings. ALEX HALEY exhibited exemplary diplomacy while conducting the high-visibility search for the crew of the Korean fishing vessel 501 ORYONG, lost off the Russian coast. ALEX HALEY’s crew strengthened partnerships with communities in Adak, Dutch Harbor, Akutan and Kodiak by providing essential civil services, mentoring future scholars and sharing in the traditions of locals during 11 outreach events. Demonstrating a superb level of readiness, ALEX HALEY excelled during all annual inspections and ensured unwavering reliability of the engineering plant and small boats.



The COMMANDER JIM SIMPSON A W A R D

The Commander Jim Simpson award is named in honor of the first press assistant to the Commandant and recognizes excellence in an all-encompassing unit public affairs program. ALEX HALEY is presented the award in the Large Afloat category for an outstanding Public Affairs program that enhanced community relations and internal communications. Through numerous outreach events, several radio show interviews, two public service announcement internet spots and the frequent publishing of “The Bulldog” newsletter, ALEX HALEY has truly endeavored to share with and educate the public about the Coast Guard story. ALEX HALEY’s international search and rescue case also garnered the unit exposure in numerous countries around the world.



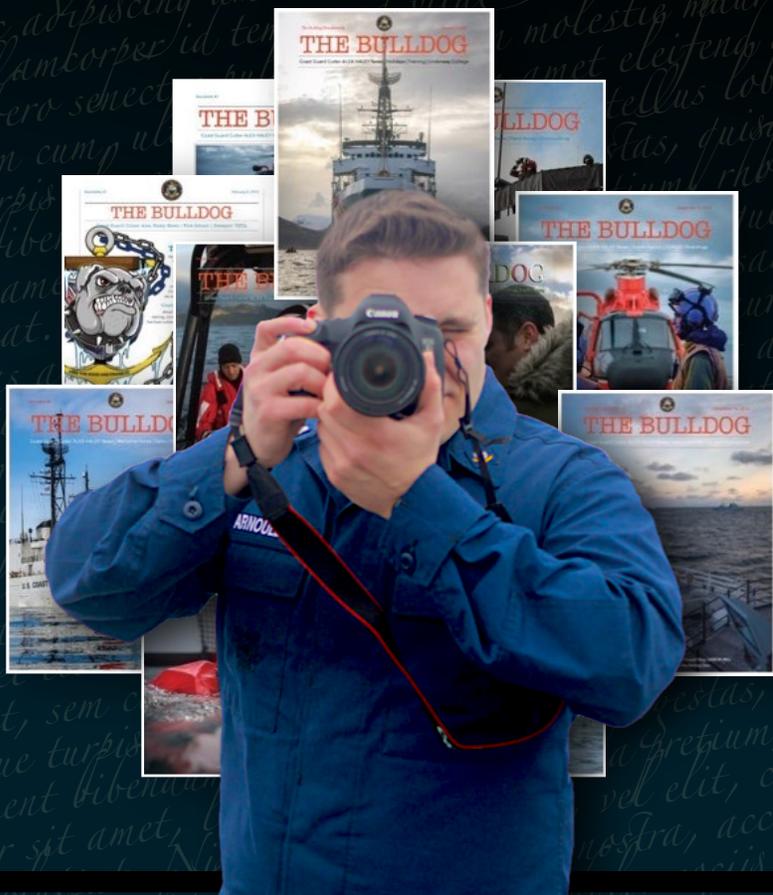
Chief Journalist Alex Haley Award

Petty Officer Dale Arnould has been awarded the U.S. Coast Guard's 2014 Chief Journalist Alex Haley award for consistent dedication to an internal communication program by producing a biweekly, underway newsletter that highlights cutter operations. The award recognizes the achievement of individuals whose efforts and published works have helped raise the visibility of the Coast Guard. His efforts in Public Affairs have enhanced both community relations within Alaska and internal communication within the Coast Guard. His operational photography, capturing the various challenging missions of the U.S. Coast Guard Seventeenth District has been internationally published. He has been the creative mind behind every edition of "The Bulldog", including this one.

A Final Letter from the Editor: Passing Over **THE BULLDOG**

"We released the first Bulldog Newsletter on February 8th, 2014. Since then, 17 more have brought home your sons, daughters, husbands, wives and friends through pages of their hard work and dedication to our awesome ship. It has been a pleasure and privilege to capture and publish the strength and unity that is, and I hope forever will be, the crew of ALEX HALEY. Photography has always interested me. From hanging out of helicopters to being drenched in small boats, I've been allowed great liberties to record epic moments of the Coast Guard's Alaskan story. For this, I am truly grateful. But alas, the time has come to follow my dream of turning my still photography into motion pictures. I have sincerely enjoyed putting together each Bulldog for you, the families, friends and coworkers of ALEX HALEY. Fear not, however, for the stories and pictures you have grown accustomed to. I pass over THE BULLDOG's reins to my Public Affairs relief, OS3 Jesse Kristofferson. He'll continue bringing you the good ALEX HALEY word."

Dale Arnould



THANKS FOR THE HELP!

Our patrols aboard ALEX HALEY are usually cold, arduous and eventful. With the most at-sea boardings in the fleet, our crew is good at getting the job done. Sometimes these efforts are made easier by bringing in a few more expert hands from other units and services. This patrol we sailed with ME1 Luis Romero, a veteran boarding officer, AG1 Aaron Kawczk, an Aerographers Mate from U.S. Navy Fleet Weather Center San Diego and CWO Randy Sommerville from Sector Puget Sound.



AG1 AARON KAWZCK

AG1 Kawczk, you are commended for your outstanding performance of duty while onboard ALEX HALEY from March to May 2015. Your knowledge and expertise regarding meteorological observations was evident in the completion of over 50 comprehensive weather briefs, enabling the cutter to maintain mission readiness throughout the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. Your tailored predictions allowed the cutter to better execute operations by mitigating the challenging wind and sea conditions we encounter. Additionally, the cutter and embarked aircraft executed three Search and Rescue cases. You also demonstrated a strong commitment to Alaskan communities through your volunteer work in the remote Native Village of Atka. Joining a ship wide service project, you helped build, paint and install twenty new crosses at the Atka cemetery, significantly enhancing the image of the Coast Guard throughout the region. Thank you for your outstanding dedication to ALEX HALEY.



CWO RANDY SOMMERVILLE

Mr. Sommerville volunteered to sail with us on ALEX HALEY this Spring as a stand in Supply Officer. He provided excellent leadership and assistance to our Administrative Division and Support Department. Mr. Sommerville helped keep everything on track throughout the patrol, from the logistics of our numerous Dutch Harbor port calls and sailors flying out for schools, to coordinating lunches for our deployed Aviation Detachment and reviewing numerous inspection checklists. He was a welcome member to the wardroom and ship by participating in several morale events and community service engagements. Thank you, Mr. Sommerville, for your time and dedication to ALEX HALEY.



ME1 LUIS ROMERO

ME1 Romero, thank you for your outstanding performance of duty from March to May 2015. As a Law Enforcement Instructor, you conducted training sessions for law enforcement personnel; this training led to the qualifications one new Boarding Team Member and two Boarding Officers. Additionally, you accomplished all required semi-annual re-qualifications for ALEX HALEY's enforcement teams. You led personnel on 33 Alaskan Living Marine Resources boardings as a Boarding Officer directly supporting ALEX HALEY's mission in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. Your expertise, and that of the personnel you trained, detected and documented two fisheries violations and three violations of commercial fishing vessel safety regulations. Your hard work resulted in a safe fishing fleet and improved the sustainability of Alaska's multi-billion dollar fishing industry. Your presence, enjoyed at several morale and community outreach events, will be missed. Thank you for your dedication to ALEX HALEY.

A FAREWELL TO SHIPMATES

During a Coast Guard career, tours begin and tours end. Each one is different and offers a variety of professional and personal developments. There remains, however, one heavy constant that one must endure during each transfer season. The day will inevitably come to say goodbye to the people you have served with. A frequent motto of Alaskan tours is, "It is what you make of it." This echoes the truths of our namesake, Alex Haley's own

personal motto of "Find the good and praise it." These both govern our interpersonal relationships within the incredibly diverse workforce of the Coast Guard. In true ALEX HALEY fashion, we've woven a tight-knit crew that would have made Chief Haley proud. We'll be sad to see each other go, but rest assured that we'll meet again in our small Coast Guard. Below, you will find the members that will depart our decks this summer.



CDR Steve White

"Captain, there is not a member of this crew that did not grow under your leadership. For example, you helped us learn that a truck can literally fly on the streets of Nome and that a song sung perfectly off pitch will prevent bear encounters, even when carrying a pack filled with meat. We learned that the City Mayor is the perfect point of contact when looking for an empty dumpster and how to correctly pronounce "kerr-OH-kee". You also taught us that when times are slow, 20 gallons of milk and 250 hard-boiled eggs may be the perfect solution. Most importantly, you showed us what it means to serve rather than simply work in a service. You've led us through good times and rough seas, and truly made it a privilege to sail with you. Best of luck as you take Alaska to Los Angeles. Thanks, shipmate."
-Your Crew

"When first getting orders to USCGC ALEX HALEY I was worried, to say the least, about taking on the responsibility of an Armory without help. When I arrived in June 2012, my concerns were laid to rest after meeting GM3 Wyatt Laney. He always put my mind at ease with, "We're cruisin'. We've got this!" He kept things "solid" with his California attitude and reminded me that remembering where you are from makes a lot of difference. When I began to feel the weight of the boat would consume me, he had words (at times strange ones) which would somehow motivate and encourage me. For three years I have sailed with Wyatt and I am glad to call him coworker, shipmate and, most importantly, friend. Wyatt, you have come a long way brother. Our journey is at its end now, off to new challenges and missions. I have learned a lot about myself working with you. Finally, I'm happy to say, in turn, "We're cruising. We've got this!" Good luck, brother."
by GM1 Brandon Hayward



GM3 Wyatt Laney

"To EMCS Bill Kocsis, also known in the Chief's Mess as "Wild Bill Kocsis": A new chapter in life begins as you leave the mighty Bulldog and venture back home to Michigan with family in tow. A long awaited new beginning beckons and you must answer the call. Pick up that phone. Embrace your fresh start and never forget the 22 years of devoted service to your country. Friend and fellow Chief, I am appreciative of the times we shared as shipmates underway and our short time in port. Your tutelage and mentorship will be missed throughout the ship. Keep making those ripples in life that make you - you. Be good, take care and God Bless. Don't let the door hit you on the way out. Mark Twain said it best when he wrote, "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did so." So throw off the bowlines and catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."
by ETC Ray Hernandez



EMCS Bill Kocsis

"To some, the legend of Lieutenant(jg) Thomas Hernandez remains clouded in a mystery that provokes wonder and acute fascination. Many such fascinations involve his ability to develop and wear such a beautifully full and eloquently regal mustache without carrying himself in an aloof or unapproachable manner. His humble nature extends beyond his mustachery; he remains a man of few words. As a Deck Watch Officer, his expertise is second to none. While onboard the ALEX HALEY, he has safely piloted the Old Dog of the Bering through restricted waters and avoided crab pots. He has taught the art of celestial navigation to those with no formal education. He has supervised the beaten and down-trodden and stood strong by mess cooks long forgotten. He has emerged the People's Champion. Long live Mr. Hernandez and may God bless him."
by GM3 Wyatt Laney



LTJG Tom Hernandez



ENS Chris Varrichio

"Simple words from a simple homie to a very intellectual brother..... It's been real. Soon you'll be married to a rad chick, which I'm super stoked for. I better be getting an invite to the wedding. The next thing we know we'll have little Chris Varrichios talking non-stop about gas consumption and better fuel mileage. I'm going to miss you. Dutch Harbor will definitely miss your piano playing Mozart ambiance. I'll see you soon, on the beach, eating tortillas, drinking margaritas and listening to the Mariachi of Cancun. Well, that's what I'll be doing anyway..."

by LTJG Tom Hernandez



BM2 Theo Aniskoff

"It has been a highly valuable experience working with you, Theo. I definitely appreciate your sense of humor and professional expertise as a coxswain on the longer patrol days. I also enjoyed going through your trove of dog pictures (dog napping, dog standing, dog in snow, dog with toy, etc.) and receiving updates regarding her current status. I wish you the best of luck at your next unit and future career."

by LTJG Cameron King



DC3 Gabriel Rosario

"Gabe, you're a man of many talents, but only one speed. Always friendly always relaxed and always ready to have a good time no matter what situation he finds himself in, you're the kind of guy you always want to be around. From fixing cars to bench-pressing elephants, you always seem to have the right skill and ability for every problem. You've been an awesome addition to this boat and I doubt there will be anyone else like you. Gabe, you're a great dude and an even better friend and I know I can say on behalf of the entire crew that you will be genuinely missed. Enjoy Fire Station Cape May. Keep on rockin'."

by EM3 Garric Sullivan



SK3 Noel Cordero

"Noel, thank you for being a devoted, understanding and loving friend during these vigorous times. Whenever I needed someone to talk to it has always been and will continue to be you. We may be characterized by opposite extremes, but we are opposites that fit. If having you as a lifelong friend is the greatest thing I get out of this unit, it will be okay with me. You are such an amazing woman and I feel blessed that you have accepted me into your life. I won't say goodbye because I will see you again. Therefore, you better make some room for me in Atlantic City, because I'm coming! I will miss you."

by SK3 Julia Skidmore



MK2 Jon Broemeling

"MK2 Broemeling, Jon Brom, Jon, Jonny, it's been a pleasure sailing with you. I'll be sad the day you leave here, never to return to our home aboard the ALEX HALEY. I'm going to miss your bright, shining face smiling and laughing early in the afternoon. The coffee pots will always be full and miss your touch and critique. Your rack curtains will always be open and empty. That warm and fuzzy feeling that you create in the spaces you occupy will feel more like a sunny day in Kodiak. Have fun on your little cutter in the Puget Sound; I'm sure you'll look off into the sky and think, 'Man, I sure miss that boat, can't wait to go back.' Sad to say you'll never have the same amount of fun as you did here. So long, good friend, and enjoy the rain."

by FS2 Bob Vernon



GM1 Brandon Hayward

"Brandon, when I reported three long years ago, I wasn't sure what was in store for me. Luckily, however, you showed up just a few days later and took me under your wing. Thank you or the many memorable moments you shared with everyone onboard, especially me, from getting me out of my first Kodiak speeding ticket to Fancy Night Out in Dutch Harbor with champagne and rosé. Your family is the best a man could ask for. I feel incredibly lucky to have not only been your friend and neighbor, but also accepted in to your home. To Sandra, Shaelynn, and Caleb and Max, I love you guys. Keep Brandon safe and out of trouble. This cutter will not soon forget your hilarious jokes, thousands of movie facts and good tunes you've provided. We're not losing a shipmate, we're truly losing a brother."

by OS3 Dale Arnould



OS3 Dale Arnould

"To Dale LaRue Arnould, second of his name, known by friends and foes as 'Master Third Class Petty Officer of the Coast Guard': One late watch, you stated, 'I love the Coast Guard and I love the fisheries mission. I would make a career of this if I didn't have this crazy dream.' We, the Unholy Order of Bell Tower Inhabiting Weirdos of the Combat Information Center, hope that you find nothing but success in your film career. This ship will not be the same circus without you; we bid you adieu, monsieur, and wish you the greatest of journeys in France. You will be missed, good friend, and remember to eat lots of crepes and 'White Cake' in Paris. Take care, Muffin."

by OS3 "Jessica" Kristofferson, ET2 "Life Coach" Zappia, OS2 "Noodle" Southwell, OS3 "Howler Monkey" Howells, and "Bilge Fingers"



LTJG Kelsey Freeman

"Hey, boss. Everyone is going to miss you when you leave. The BMOWs will probably miss your ninja cat reactions to early morning watch notifications. The Deckies will probably miss having the best boss ever and your enthusiasm towards Boy Band Wednesdays. MPA will probably miss how well you treat the wardroom chairs that he spent hours putting together. Personally, I'm going to miss how much you've taught me. Like if you were to get in a fight, make sure you lead with the face, and it's always better to have less sleep and more Pitch Perfect. But seriously, your attitude and presence will be severely missed by all. You've had such a positive impact on so many crew members. I know you're going to be a great Commanding Officer on USCGC STURGEON. Just like R. Kelly, you're the World's Greatest. Bye forever."

by ENS Kristin Euchler



LT Michael Adams

"I want to recognize Lt Mike Adams, Engineering Officer and recall some of his adventures onboard. When I first met EQ we were in the yards of Alameda. Mike and his wife, Jacquie had been in San Francisco for the weekend. Mike had eaten something exotic and was meeting his new XO after a 48 hour struggle with food poisoning. Other adventures include all-night break-downs at Pasagshak, earning his Permanent Cutterman's Insignia, becoming a dad and bringing home his first mountain goat! EO was always teaching new sailors how to fish and was the first to light the bonfire, even in winter storms. Congrats on a successful tour! Best wishes to you, Jacquie and Gavin."

by
LCDR Brian Chambers



MK2 Dan Anderson

"MK2 Anderson, Danderson, you will be greatly missed onboard. From your little pranks you always play to how you seemingly know know the answer to every question by quoting manuals word for word, no doubt from the countless hours you spent reading them, you have been a great addition to this crew. You are always willing to help anyone on or off the boat and most of all you're a great friend and shipmate. Good luck as an MK1 and we look forward to working with you in the future."

by DC2 Jason
Manor



DCC Spencer Wilson

"Chief Wilson, have safe travels to your next billet. Your three year tour has finally come to an end, even with the dreaded juice machine moved to the mess deck, which only took one year. ETC Hernandez will have to fill in for the random songs you have serenaded the Chief's Mess with as you came and went. No longer can ETC Hernandez and I come to your house to partake in beverages and the famous six hour smoked hotdog. Furthermore, the Coast Guard can finally afford to build an ALEX HALEY replacement cutter, no longer having to pay your heating bill. May all the thermostats onboard be turned down to 68. Enjoy your keychain paddle."

by FSC Joseph
Cleary



BM3 Rian Bareuther

"As a fellow class member and former ALEX HALEY shipmate, I have highly enjoyed getting to know you over the last six years. Your enthusiasm for navigation and personal fitness were a valuable asset to the divisions, or, as you guys alternatively like to refer to yourselves, department, and I am very thankful to have worked with you. Your personal fortitude and willingness to help any person in need will surely serve you well as you pursue your dream of becoming a Navy Seal. I wish you the best and I hope our paths cross again."

by
LTJG Cameron King



DC2 Jason Manor

"It was a bittersweet moment when you departed for "C" school. The moment you took off in the helicopter it sank in that I may never see you gain. I fell to my knees and screamed, "MANOR!" It wasn't until I heard the music playing and saw the celebration begin that I finally realized I was free of Manor! Okay, okay, on a serious note, this is really the one part about transferring that is not so great. I spent three long, adventure filled years onboard ALEX HALEY with you and we have become good friends and, of course, I was a great supervisor. Good luck to you and only call me when you get some catfish."

by
DCC Spencer
Wilson



LTJG Cameron King

"Cameron, this patrol hasn't been the same without you. Without you here to play live music on your recorder, such as the "Marine Corps Hymn," I've had to listen to those country songs you loved so much. Andrew says he misses the concerts, too. We've seen a 70% decrease in whale sightings without you on the bridge finding every pod in the Bering Sea. The wardroom truly has missed your infectious laugh and all your stories. Thank you for everything you did here, especially the outreach with Partnership In Education. It was fun going over to the high school and working with the students. Good luck at Coast Guard headquarters, you're going to do great!"

by
LTJG Kelsey
Freeman



EM3 Zach Gott

"Zach Gott, you're a very unique guy with very unique qualities and not a single bad bone in your body. Always excited, always determined and always singing and dancing, you're a free spirit that lets nothing get you down. From standing watch to fire team to everyday tasks, you're always the life of the party, putting everyone else instantly in a good mood. It's impossible to be anything but happy around you. The crew will be sad the day you leave, Zach. You made this ship a better place the day you stepped on. I hope you affect your next unit the way you have us. You're one of the best ALEX HALEY has ever sailed with. You will be missed."

by
EM3 Garric
Sullivan



MK2 Rob Kohl

"Rob, to talk about you in 100 words is extremely challenging because there are more than 100 adjectives alone that describe you. We've shared some crazy times from downtown Kodiak to the Olds. As for you being my supervisor, you were a mentor in more ways than one. I personally will never forget the shotgun and the play station controller. As you affectionally call him, Little Dan would like to thank you for being the ring leader of many great pranks and antics. Thank you for being a great friend and we both hope to see you in the future. Have fun and good luck at your next unit. Cheers to lifelong friends made in the Bering."

by MK3 Connor Kline and
SK1 Dan Mitchell

PATROL RECAP

8,248
NAUTICAL MILES

56
DAYS

33
BOARDINGS

105
FLIGHT HOURS

A FINAL, BULLDOG WORD FROM CAPTAIN

As I finish my last patrol on the Mighty Bulldog, I'm flooded with memories. Some of those memories are the rough conditions we braved. Others revolve around the long periods we spent at sea away from friends and family. Many of the memories fill me with pride as I think of all the accomplishments this crew has achieved and the great service they provided to our nation. But more than anything, I remember the people I have grown so close to. The bond we have formed as shipmates who shared a common experience that can only be forged at sea. I am humbled to have served alongside the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY. Your sacrifices enabled us to do our duty. To all, Fair Winds!

Sincerely and God Bless,

CDR STEPHEN R. WHITE
COMMANDING OFFICER
USCGC ALEX HALEY

