

# THE BULLDOG

BERING PATROL: WINTER 2016



An ALEX  
HALEY  
boarding team  
embarks The  
"Time Bandit"—  
Photo By SK2  
Ashley Geisert



## Editor's Letter

Hello again, families, friends and readers! This Winter, ALEX HALEY got back to its bread and butter; a Bering Sea fisheries patrol, with port calls in Dutch Harbor! The weather in the Bering has been wildly erratic; days of beauty, silence and sunsets give way to snow, ice, wind and massive seas in the span of hours. Our transit out had many nearly falling out of their racks as ALEX HALEY pushed through the Bering's heavy hitting waves. This patrol not only involved a heavy amount of boardings early on (accomplishing the majority of quarter 2's goals in 3 weeks), but also a lot of intensive damage control training. To prepare us for TSTA, the training team has given us multiple days worth of "Damage Control Round Robin" training on days that the seas are too heavy to do boardings in, and while we pursue the mission at hand, we are simultaneously looking forward to the challenges and tests ahead. There is no sugar coating this; the Bering Sea is rough and temperamental. But it is also bountiful and, at times, stunning. Thank you all tons for the care packages and for reading. I will be covering as much of TSTA as I physically can (when I myself am not getting my hands dirty in the drills).



# FISHERIES PATROL WINTER 2016



Photo By OS3 Kristofferson

Article by FS1 Robert Vernon

The main goal of the Bering Sea fisheries mission is to promote safety at sea and enforce federal regulations that allow a sustainable fishery. Every year, the Bering Sea fishery produces upwards of 6 Billion dollars in revenue and employs thousands of people. While at sea, commercial fishing boats are often boarded by the US Coast Guard. On these boardings the boats are inspected to ensure that all their safety equipment is in good and orderly condition as required by federal law. When the boats are endorsed for specific fisheries they are thoroughly inspected by trained members to ensure that they are complying with all federal fisheries regulations. Some of the items inspected are, but not limited to: fishing gear, fishing permits, catch record logs, fish on board and accurate weight measurements. These inspections help to prevent over fishing and ensure a level playing field for all commercial fishermen. Without these inspections and enforcement actions the sustainable fishery you see today will gradually decrease, causing a mass shortage of fish sticks and fish sandwiches.

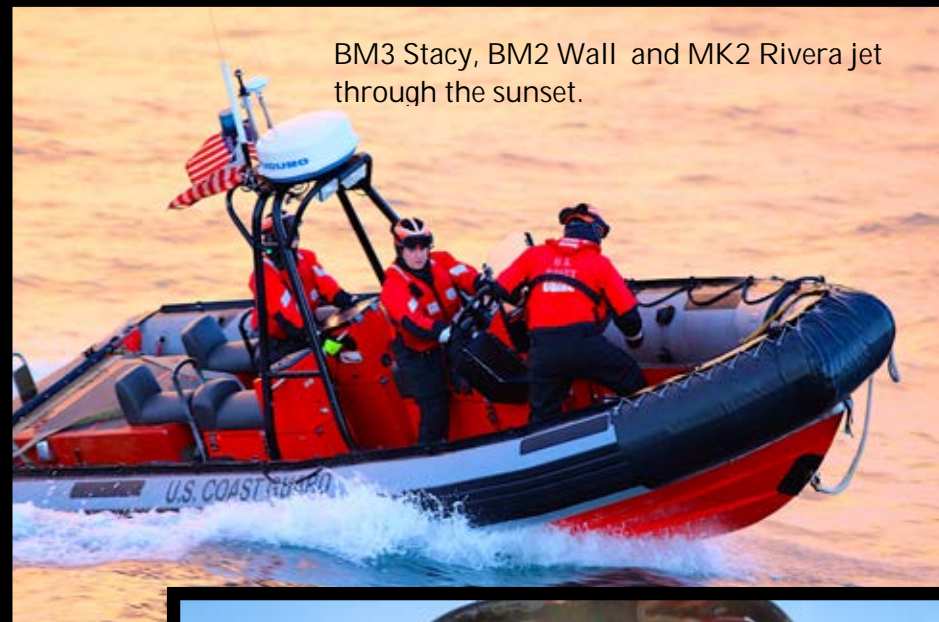
A small boat returns to the Cutter.



BM3 Blackwell



BM3 Stacy, BM2 Wall and MK2 Rivera jet through the sunset.



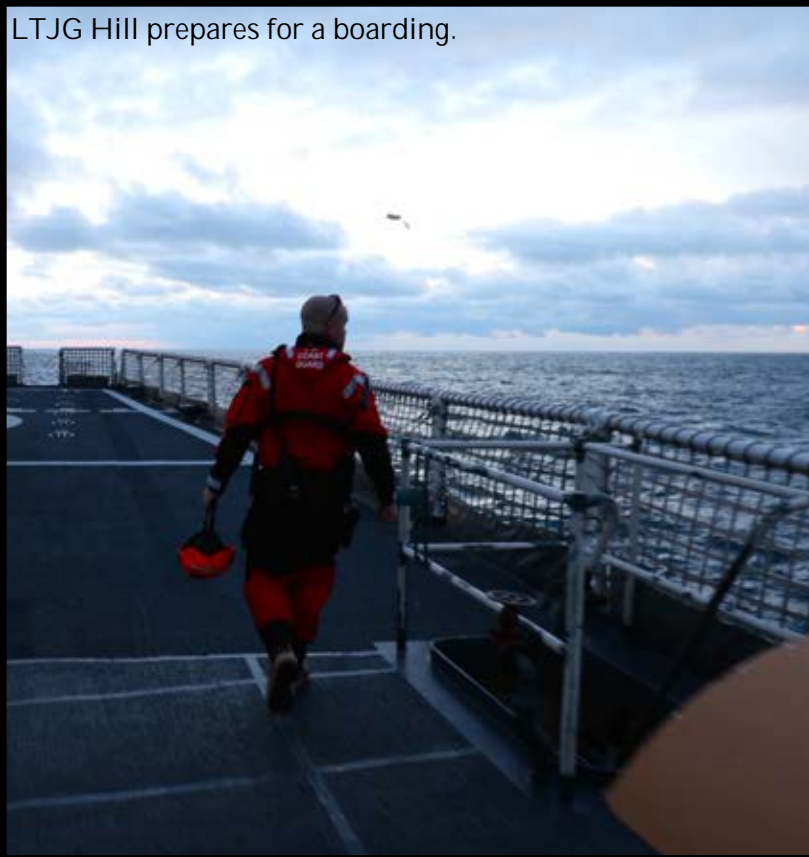
LTJG Euchler and BM3 Blackwell being filmed during a boarding on a "Deadliest Catch" vessel.



ALEX HALEY follows "Time Bandit", of "The Deadliest Catch".



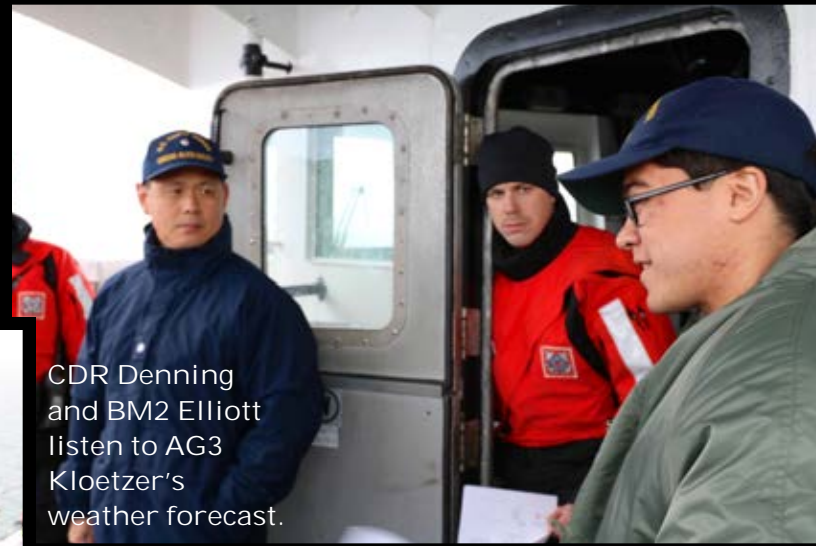
LTJG Hill prepares for a boarding.



OS1 Vowels briefs the boarding team before they head out.



Deck force prepares a small boat in the snow.



CDR Denning and BM2 Elliott listen to AG3 Kloetzer's weather forecast.



ALEX HALEY's team heads out into the cold.

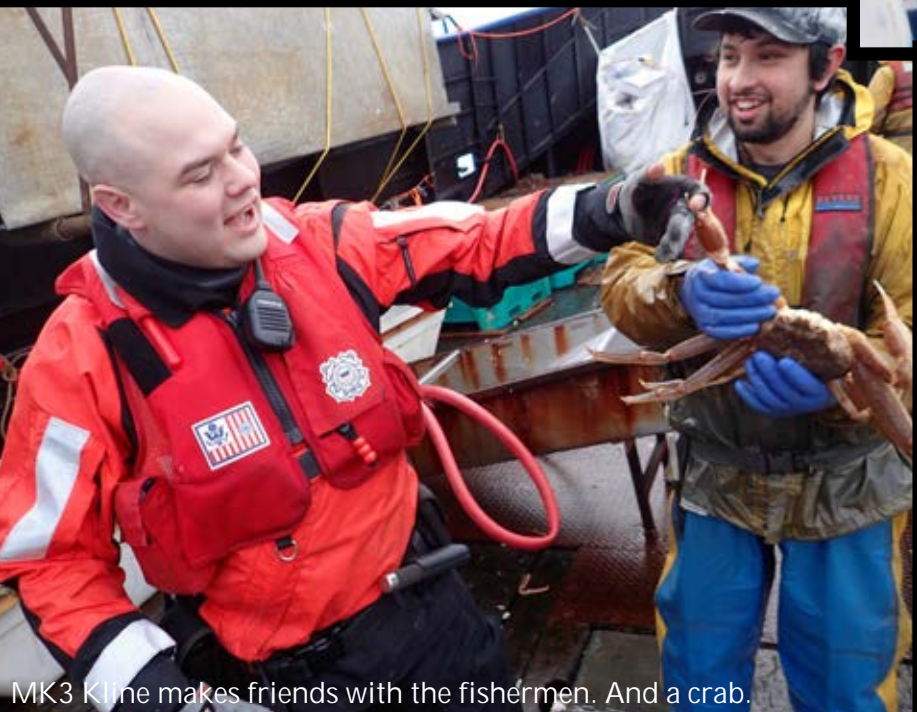


BRRRRRRRR



MK3 Kline weapon checking before a boarding.

SALMON SHARK BY  
CATCH (on board  
boarding photos By OS3  
Chantz Black)



MK3 Kline makes friends with the fishermen. And a crab.



The Bering Sea  
experiences  
extremely  
diverse  
conditions on a  
daily basis.



# TRAINING



EM1 Campbell

SN Laporte



EM1 Campbell and FSC Cleary teaching us how to properly shut a door; yes people do it wrong.



DC3 Zylawy and MKC Harper



OS2 Southwell and MKC Harper on the P100 pump.



DC3 Zylawy, SK2 Geisert, SN Lauvray, ENS Nazario and SN Strouse

ENS Palenzuela teaches plotting.



SK2 Geisert revving.



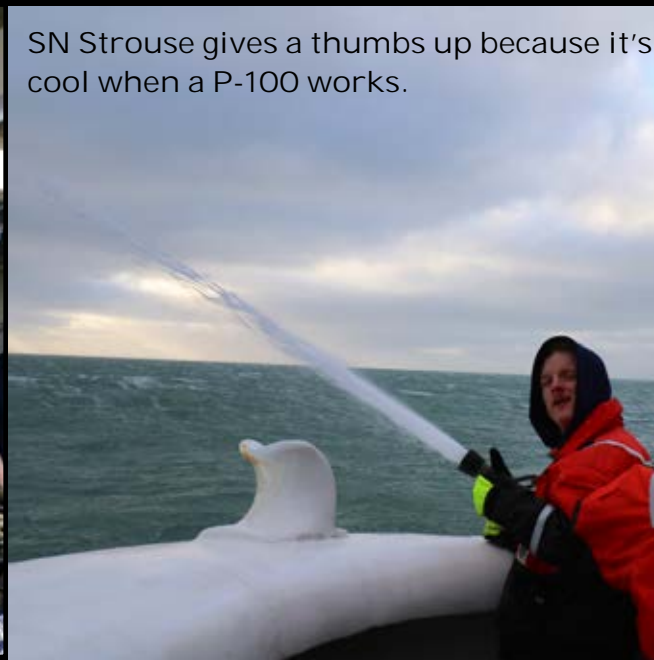
GM3 Godie teaches a .50 caliber class.



EMCS Midgett teaches the ins and outs of an Electric Submersible Pump, or "ESP". FN McClintock feels the power.



SN Strouse gives a thumbs up because it's cool when a P-100 works.







Engineering dept training with EO LT Smude and MPA CWO Trapp.



Law Enforcement class with LTJG Hill

# CONGRATULATIONS TO SK3 JULIA SKIDMORE: SAILOR OF THE QUARTER!



"I note with pride and am pleased to commend you for performance of duty while onboard USCGC ALEX HALEY (WMEC 39) from 01 Oct 2015 to 31 December 2015. Demonstrating exemplary performance above and beyond your normal duties, you were selected as ALEX HALEY's Sailor of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2015. You spearheaded the gym renovation project and quickly assembled a focus group to ensure this project maximized effectiveness. Dedicating tremendous personal effort and time, you researched and procured over \$30,000 in new gym equipment to rejuvenate a space vital to crew morale and fitness. Not satisfied with just overseeing the project and handling the administrative tasking this overhaul required, you rolled up your sleeves and jumped in to assist in sanding and preparing the deck for the new equipment. While accomplishing this you also ably assisted in completing a self audit of 957 procurements to ensure ALEX HALEY had accurate expectations in advance of the first Finance Administration Inspection in four years. You volunteered to train the divisional supply Petty Officers in the acquisition and maintenance programs used onboard ensuring smooth operations throughout the logistics chain. This was evident throughout the first week of the new Fiscal Year when you ordered \$150,000 worth of parts and supplies. Furthermore, you developed and implemented the Duty Storekeeper position to increase communication between the supply shop and various departments. This innovative effort improved customer service and minimized the time between the order and use of each order. Your hard work and positive attitude are a testament to your professionalism and dedication to duty. You are commended for your outstanding performance of duty. By your meritorious service you have upheld the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard. You are hereby authorized to wear the Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon Bar (gold star in lieu of a second)

For the Commandant, CDR Seth J. Denning"



# ETC RAYMOND HERNANDEZ BECOMES ALEX HALEY'S NEW COMMAND CHIEF



Greetings Shipmates, Family and Friends,

As I take reigns as the Command Chief onboard the mighty CGC ALEX HALEY, I want to first thank BMC Cleversey for his tireless efforts and devotion to the crew during his tenure. He consistently made himself available to all hands and I promise to stay the course during my tenure. I am honored to hold the title moving ahead and am looking forward to fostering my already strong relationships with the crew, command and families every day. We have a unique opportunity to sail in the area of operations as we do. The Alaskan seas provide a rewarding experience like no other, and as we continue to break bread north in the Arctic, I foresee that becoming even more evident. The fruits of our labor are apparent on a daily basis through boardings, operations and search and rescue efforts which in turn creates a bond amongst one another that I have never felt in my years of service. Another Command Chief reached out to me recently and told me, "You are the voice of the crew to the command, but also the voice of the command to the crew". I believe in that principle resonating up and down the chain to solidify both opinions forming one solid and cohesive voice. Working together we will maintain the synergy and accomplish our end goal of completing our Coast Guard mission safely, effectively and have fun doing it. Thank you to all hands and their families for their sacrifice and my door is always open for questions, concerns or just for a chat.



Chief Raymond Hernandez

Background Photo By OS3 Kristofferson

# PATROL CANDIDS AND MORE!

SN Pinckney doin' dem helo ops.



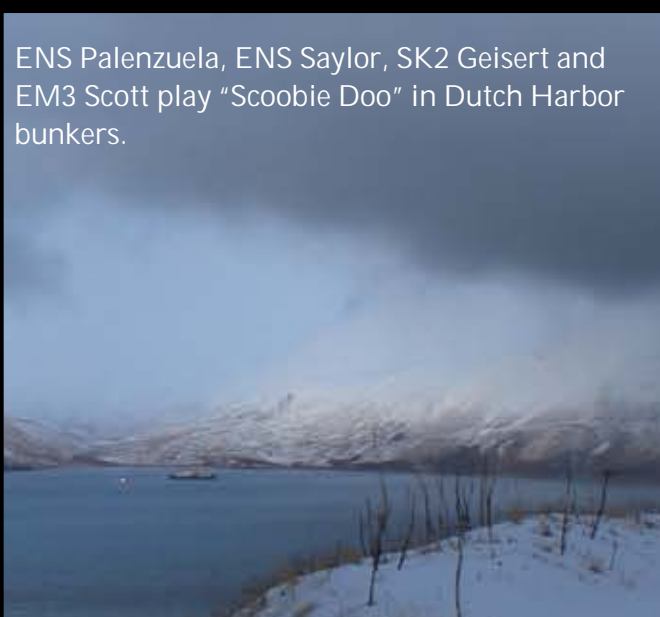
SN Ramirez, happy lookout.



SN Yoakum, ninja lookout.



ENS Palenzuela, ENS Saylor, SK2 Geisert and EM3 Scott play "Scoobie Doo" in Dutch Harbor bunkers.



Background: Snowy mountains in Dutch Harbor. Photo By SK2 Ashley Geisert

OS3 Black reads a law enforcement brief to CDR Denning and LT Saldivar; "OPS" threw it overboard minutes later.



SN Lauvray and SN Staff : awwwwwww..

There is... a lot going on in this photo.



AAAAAAA!!!!



"He went THATTA WAY!"

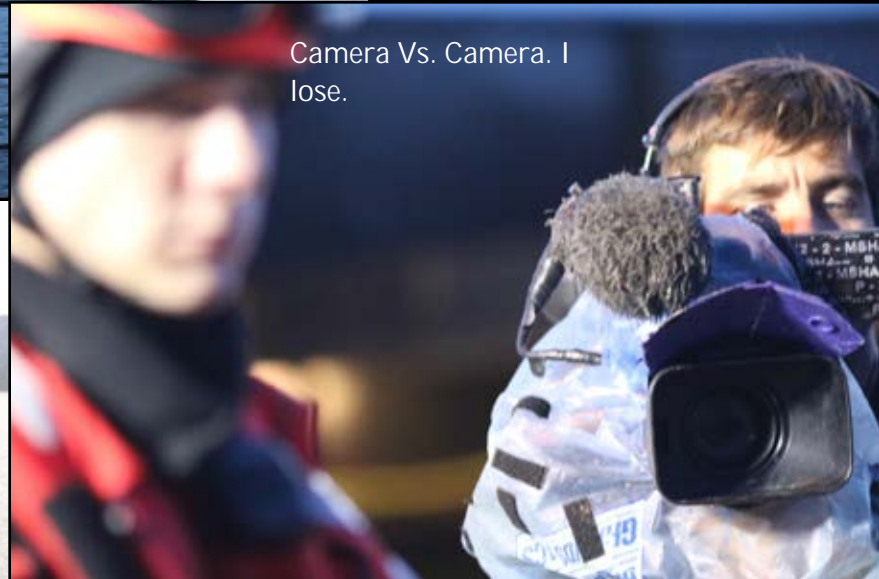
ENS Saylor performs a levitation spell under LTJG Hill's wizardly guidance.



Don't mess with the gun crew.



Camera Vs. Camera. I lose.



BMC Cleversey oversees line handling; taunts included.



FN Rich aims the barrel at the Bering during gunnery exercises.



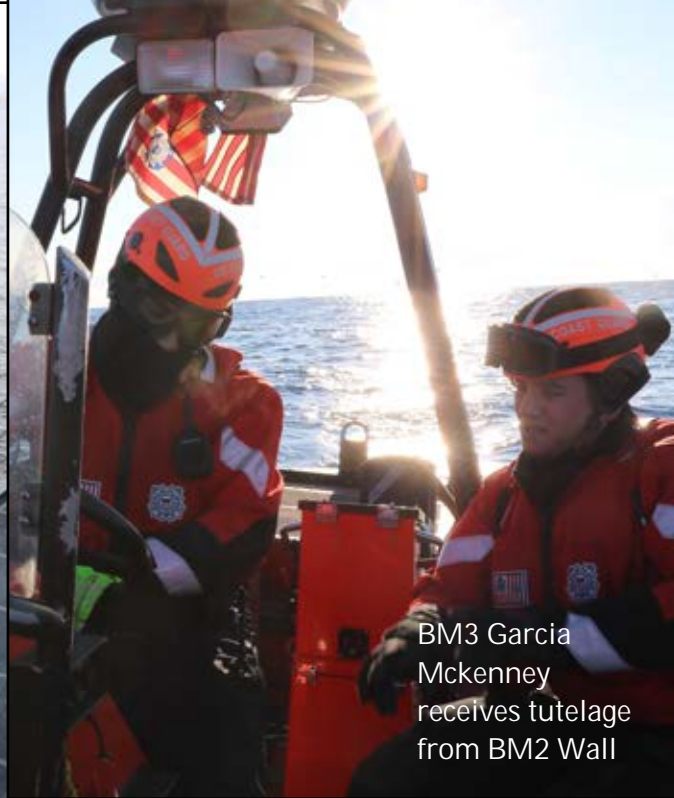
RATATATATATATAT!!!!!!



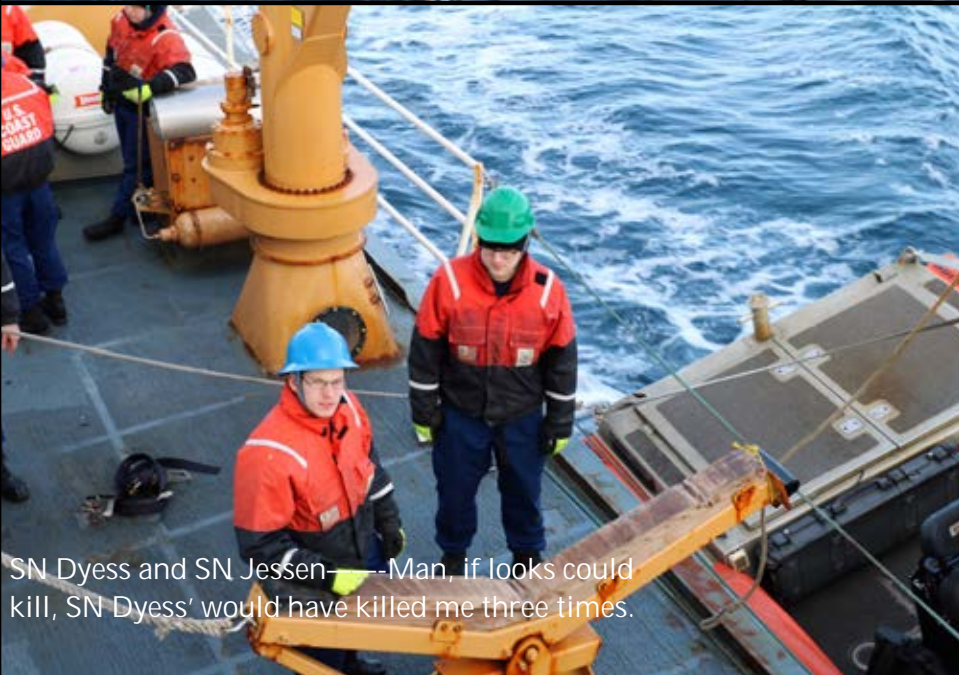
MK2 Girucky decides this is a fantastic photo opportunity.



Deck force on a rare sunny day.



BM3 Garcia Mckenney receives tutelage from BM2 Wall



SN Dyess and SN Jessen—Man, if looks could kill, SN Dyess' would have killed me three times.



OS3 Black looking menacing pre boarding.

The boarding teams often have large turbulent climbs to board fishing vessels. Photo By BM3 Michael Rones

Okay, the Bering Sea seriously has no idea what kind of weather it wants.

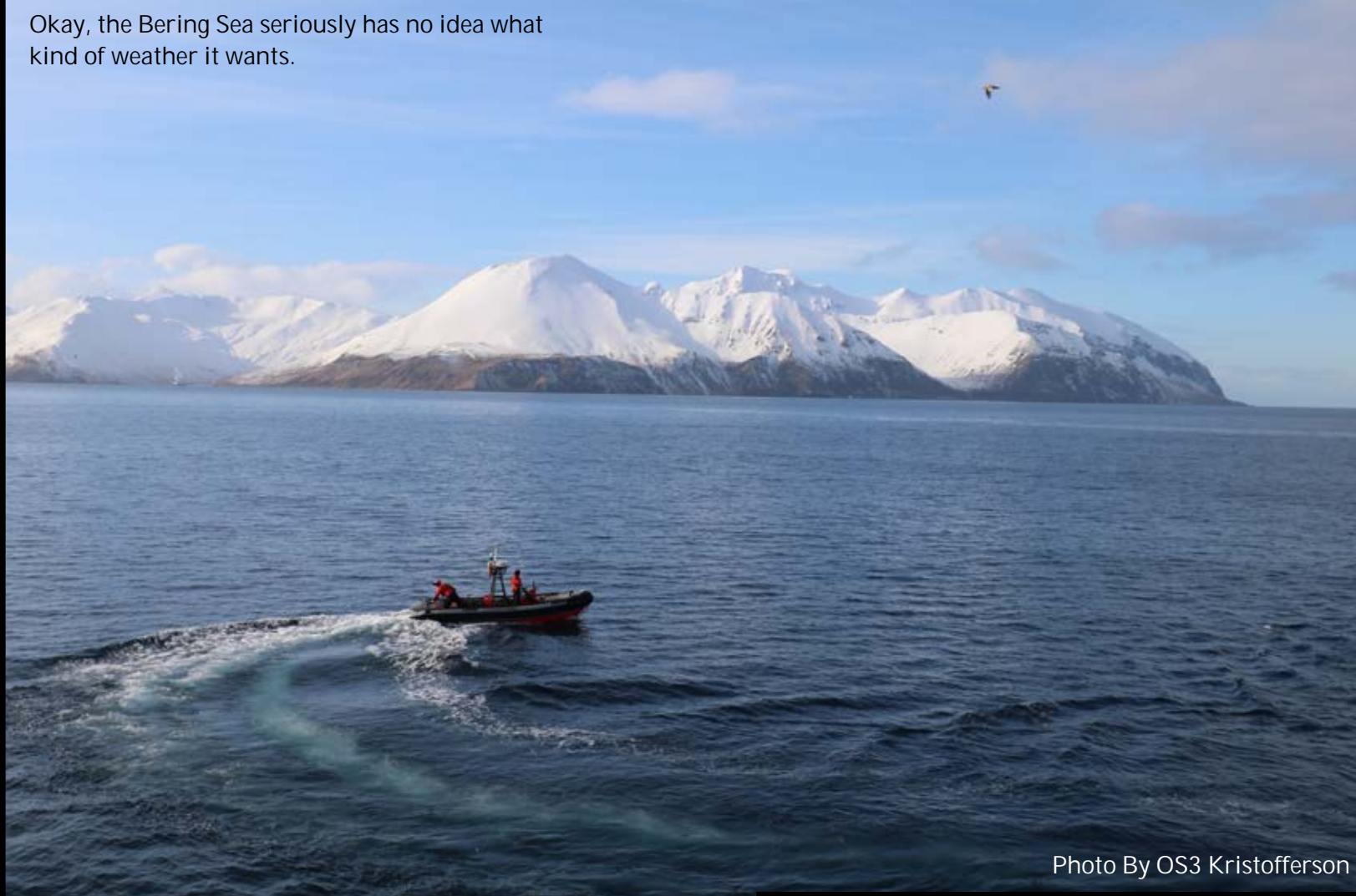


Photo By OS3 Kristofferson

Pulling covers off of small boats—



Don't slip! Photo By BM3 Michael Rones



Tie down team go!



SN Garcia Medina and SK2 Geisert: Ey you!



Indoor/bad weather candid! Photos By ENS Dayra Nazario



FS3 Kovac is fantastic at displaying stress management.



BM1 Nelson, MK2 Girucky, BM3 Blackwell and SN Marrano



ENS Hardey



MK2 Rivera



SN Stonecipher and SN Mueller, AKA "The Giggle Brigade"



SN Lauvray, up to mischief?



FS2Condulle



ENS Nazario hiding from the camera.



DECK FORCE—Masters of rust!

EM2 Fadeley and EM3 McCormack



YN1 Fomby and MK3 Moorer having a laugh.



EM3 Sullivan loves this place! And coffee.



Unorthodox hiding techniques 101



SN Pinckney, SN Mutchler and SN Staff on the bridge.



SK1 Mitchell



Wow. Is LT Saldivar actually smiling and waving at the camera!?



CDR Denning and LCDR Haas ; everybody smiles through the rough seas!



"THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE!!!" BMC Cleversery and LTJG Jaeger battle for Deck Force supervisor supremacy.

# DUTCH HARBOR HIKE

Surprisingly enough, a Unicorn didn't pop out of the snow. The weather in Dutch Harbor is NEVER, NEVER like this.

Hikers pictured: CDR Denning, LCDR Haas, LTJG Euchler, LTJG Jaeger, EM2 Fadeley, BM3 Rones and FN Rich.

Photos taken By BM3 Rones (first page) and CDR Denning (Second Page)





Photos that need no caption. Pictured:  
LTJG Euchler





A Bald Eagle calls out from atop ALEX HALEY

Photo By CDR Seth Denning



Also BM2 Diaz celebrated his final Bering patrol wearing an awesome hat. Photo By DCC Waylon Shane Truelove

WEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!!!!!

3,220 Nautical Miles Traveled (before leaving the Bering)

# PATROL STATISTICS



52.5  
FLIGHT  
HOURS



115 Drills  
Performed

36 Fisheries Boardings

AND NOW, WE DEPART THE BERING. TILL NEXT TIME!

