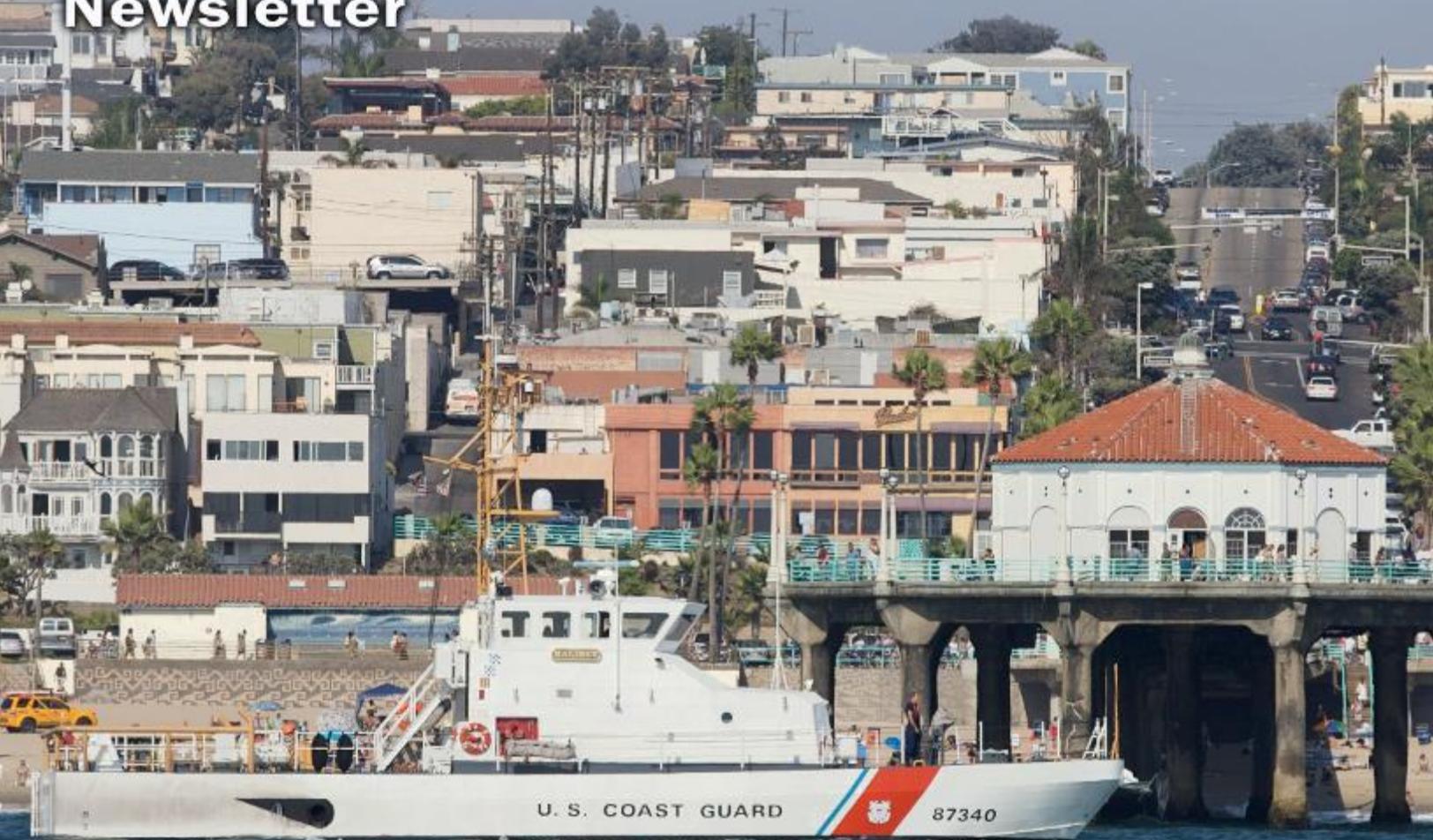


THE BREAKWALL

AUGUST 2008

USCGC HALIBUT (WPB-87340)

Newsletter



Inside this Month

- ▶ Crew Members Honored
- ▶ On Patrol
- ▶ POINT BRIDGE History
- ▶ Chef's Recipe of the Month

USCGC HALIBUT stands off the Manhattan Beach pier as she patrols in her backyard on a summer day.

Photo by Baywatch Rescue Boat Captain Phil Navarro

Greetings

Friends,

August was another busy month for HALIBUT. At the beginning of the month, crew members part of HALIBUT's rescue and assistance team at the Catalina Helicopter Crash in late May were honored by Los Angeles County 4th District Supervisor Don Knabe and LA County Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman. I'd like to thank Supervisor Knabe and Fire Chief Freeman for their outstanding recognition of the crew's heroic efforts.

Additionally, HALIBUT completed a patrol of California's Northern Channel Islands with Game warden John Castro. The patrol yielded an early morning Commercial Fishing vessel termination for lack of fire fighting equipment as well as a white sea bass seizure by Fish and Game for lack of a permit.

As always, enjoy the newsletter and thank you for the continued support!

Best Regards,
LTJG Paul Miller
Commanding Officer



HALIBUT CREW PROFILE

J.R. Tinajero



Age: 24
Hometown: Selma, CA
Favorite Part of Job: Law Enforcement Missions as a CG Boarding Officer
Career Aspirations: JR has submitted his AA in Criminal Justice, and continues professional growth with the goal becoming a Customs or police officer.



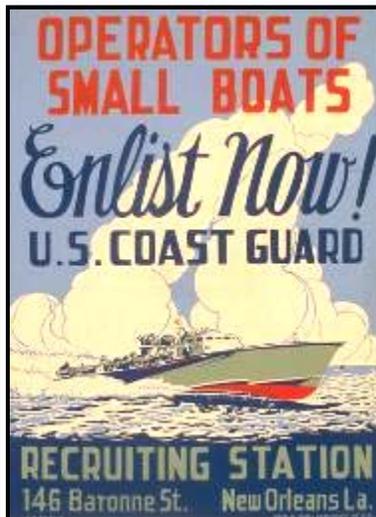
HALIBUT Morale



CGC HALIBUT'S Morale Fund contributes directly to the Morale, Wellness, and Recreation (MWR) of the crew. Unit ball caps and T-Shirt sales contribute directly to this fund. If anyone is interested in supporting the morale program with either a private donation or through hat/t-shirt sales, please contact:

Paul.J.Miller@uscg.mil

SEE BACK PAGE FOR ORDER FORM



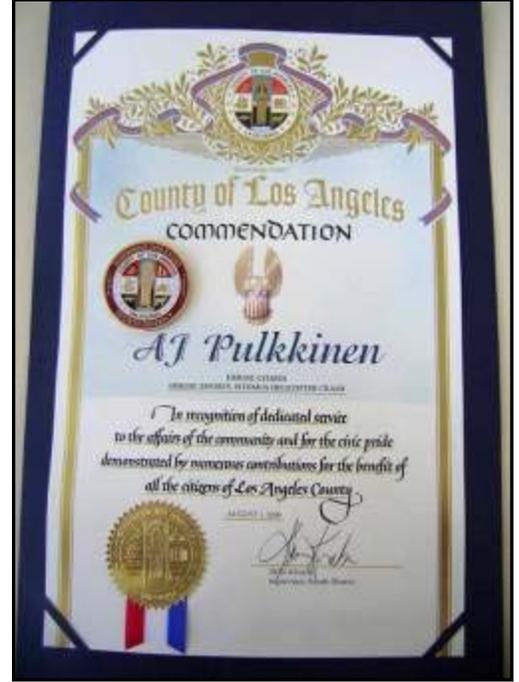
SN Brandon Blackwell poses with Sky Sharpe a survivor of the Catalina Helicopter Crash



Crewmembers Recognized by L A County



USCGC HALIBUT crew members **BM1 AJ Pulkkinen**, **MK2 Daryl Lirette**, **BM3 JR Tinajero** and **SN Brandon Blackwell** as well as **Rescue Boat Captain Matt Lutton** were awarded a **Commendation Scroll** from **Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe** and **Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman** for heroic achievement during a helicopter crash rescue on **Catalina Island** in **May of 2008**.



PATROL



(clockwise) HALIBUT in Cabrillo Marina, San Pedro, BM1 Pulkkinen and BM3 Tinajero complete an at sea transfer, a fishing vessel HALIBUT boarded off Santa Rosa Island, MK2 Lirette, SN Castilleja, and BM3 Tinajero complete a boarding of a fishing vessel in the early morning hours in the northern Channel Islands, white sea bass.

(Pictures by Game Warden John Castro and Tom Tcimpidis AUX)

CGC POINT BRIDGE History:

The Search and Rescue Case of the Sailing Vessel MARY ROMER

As recounted by RD3 Wayne Smith, CGC POINT BRIDGE

... At one point while I was semi-reclined, eyes closed for a few minutes, something told me to open my eyes. I did so just as the boat dropped off the backside of a huge swell. To my surprise a watermelon that had been secured to the starboard side of the mess deck shelf had been launched into the air. It wobbled in the air for a second, then fell for my chest. I was able to catch it without breaking open!

At 0400 I returned to the bridge. We were getting close to the distressed vessel so everybody on watch stayed put. At 0500 we were on scene. It was still dark out, we had no radio, radar, or visual contact of the Mary Romer. A large M/V had received the SOS from the Mary Romer's EPIRB, made their way to the distressed boat's position, hove to, and stood by since 0130 waiting for the Coast Guard to arrive. They helped us locate the vessel by shining their search light on her. The M/V then got underway and departed. It was still too dark to safely do anything, so we just stood by, keeping track of the S/V until we could visually see the boat.



About this time we received a radio call from CGC CAPE WASH: "POINT BRIDGE, CAPE WASH out of Morro Bay. Can we assist?" The 95 foot cutter with a larger crew definitely offered the advantage. BRIDGE would have to tow the Romer to Santa Barbara, WASH was a shorter distance to north to Morro Bay; both captains agreed it would be WASH, and both captains agreed it would be hell hooking up. The WASH's small boat approaching the Romer offered a sight unequalled in my Coast Guard rescues. The crew's four meter inflatable rocked above the Romer then plunged downward. Neither were in sight at the same moment until in between peak and valley. Frothing peaks obscured the view as the crewman miraculously worked a line back to the small boat which crawled back to the WASH and hooked up.

The BM from the CAPE WASH's four meter RHIB that rescued the three people on board the Mary Romer was awarded two medals for his heroics. Since we were On Scene Commander, we stood by until all 3 POB had been rescued and the disabled sailing vessel had been taken in tow by the CAPE WASH. As the CAPE WASH headed toward Morro Bay, we turned the PT BRIDGE toward SBH. The seas had dropped in height slightly to an estimated 17' now. The ride back with following seas was still one of heavy rolling, but thankfully no pitching or dropping off the top of the swells. Some of us were finally able to cat nap on the way back to SBH. Somebody located the metal coffee pot on the galley deck, washed it out, and made a fresh pot. Half the crew sat out on deck and warmed themselves in the sun. Clean ups would have to wait until we made port. Everybody was exhausted and we all looked like a bunch of zombies.

About noon, and only after a couple cups of strong coffee, I had enough courage to venture forward into the crews quarters. As I opened the hatch the distinct odor of vomit filled my nostrils. The bottom of the stairwell contained a small pool of water, vomit, a bag of donuts, and somebody's foul weather jacket. It was disgusting! About half of the pipe racks had jumped their chains and hung askew.

Cloths and gear were scattered everywhere. Most of the locker doors were swung open, swinging with the roll of the boat. I opened the door to the head and stepped in. Before this SAR case the OBA chest (30"x18"x18") was stored in an angle iron frame fixed to the bulkhead. The chest had been secured with two web belt straps. Sometime during the pounding the chest had broken loose and became a missile ricocheting off the bulkheads and scaring them with deep gashes. Had any of the crew gone into the head while this 40-50lb chest was flying around, it could have been a disaster.

About 1500 we pulled into SBH and tied up to the CGC PT JUDITH again. Before clean ups were started the crew of the JUDITH came aboard to survey our damage. Their mouths dropped open in disbelief as they viewed the mess! After 2-3 hrs of clean up and a meal, the boat looked pretty good, and we were ready to go again. In the early hours of Monday morning we slipped our mooring lines and headed home to MDR. We would all sail again on many more SAR cases and many more adventures, but none of us would ever forget the Mary Romer SAR case!

THE END

FS2's Recipe of the Month

Cooking the Coast Guard Way

THAI BEEF SALAD YAM NEUA

- 2lb Flank or Skirt Steak
- 3 cloves garlic (minced)
- Sea Salt and White Pepper to Taste
- 1 Stalk lemon grass (bulbous part only, thinly sliced)
- 1 small cucumber (Japanese cucumber, thinly sliced)
- 1 small red onion (thinly sliced)
- 1 bunch mint leaves (reserve some for garnish)
- 2 stalks green onion (thinly sliced)
- 1-2 bunches leaf lettuce or Boston lettuce

Dressing

2/3 cup Lime Juice (fresh)
 3 tsp Honey
 2- 4 tablespoon Fish Sauce
 2 Chili Peppers Sliced
 1tsp Fresh Grated Ginger

Mix together.

Season steak with garlic and salt/pepper. Grill 3min flip and grill additional 3-4min. Rest and thinly slice. In a bowl toss together beef, dressing, lemongrass cucumber, red onion, mint, and green onions. Line serving dish with lettuce and top with tossed ingredients. Garnish with reserved min leaves, lime wedges and chopped peanuts.

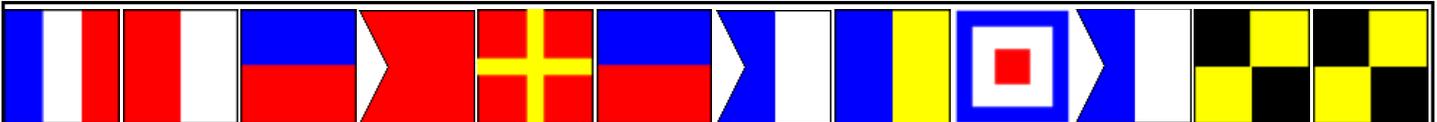
HALIBUT on You Tube

To see the latest CGC HALIBUT YouTube Video, please Go to:
http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=us+coast+guard+halibut&search_type=

Or click on the You Tube logo below



Videos by SN Brandon Blackwell



Homeland Security

THE BREAKWALL

Editors: AUX Ray J. Pages
 LTJG Paul Miller

USCGC HALIBUT
 (WPB 87340)

13871 Fiji Way
 Marina Del Rey, CA
 90292

310.823.2300





Back

HALIBUT Morale ORDER FORM



Official USCGC HALIBUT Crew T-Shirts

No. of each Size ___XXL ___XL ___L ___M

No. of T shirts ___ @ \$20 each = \$___

Official USCGC HALIBUT Unit Ball Caps

No. Ball Caps ___ @ \$15 each = \$___

Morale Donation \$___

Please Add \$8.95 for shipping on all orders

Make checks payable to
SECTOR LA/LB MORALE ATTN: HALIBUT

ORDER TOTAL \$___

Name																
Address																
City																
State	Zip															
Home Ph	-	-	-	Cell	-	-										
Work Ph	-	-	-	Ext.												
Email																

Please send this order form & checks to:

HALIBUT MORALE
13871 Fiji Way
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

Questions? 310.823.2300 or Paul.J.Miller@uscg.mil



You will receive a confirmation email when your order has been shipped