

# MADGE'S MOORINGS



*"It is not that life ashore is distasteful to me.  
But life at sea is better." - Sir Francis Drake*



Issue #10 February 2020

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER



**Greetings Family, Friends, and Shipmates of CGC  
MARGARET NORVELL,**

**It's been an extremely busy few months here onboard the cutter. We have operated throughout the District Seven area of operations—from Charleston, to Miami, to Haiti and everywhere in between. The bravery, ingenuity, and sacrifice from America's MARGARET NORVELL crew is on full display in the coming pages.**

**Some of the sea stories just don't fit or translate well into a two dimensional newsletter. The situational humor, starry nights, new babies, and stamina from the third SAR case in two days barely scrapes the surface of the humanity and grit that fills each crew member and makes me proud to lead such an extraordinary team. But you already know that—as parents, friends, siblings, and shipmates—that this is the best crew in the world.**

**We're grateful for the partnerships that keep this cutter and crew ready, resilient, and mechanically sound. Without the support of Sector Miami and Base Miami Beach, District Seven, the Broward County Navy League, the Miami/Fort Lauderdale Surface Navy Association, and Surface Forces Logistics Center's Patrol Boat Product Line we wouldn't be able to get off the pier and stay underway. Thank for the roles you play in keeping us ready to answer all bells.**

**As we've edited this newsletter, many more exciting events have played out, and the next few months also prove to be busy. I look forward to sharing the additional exploits and professional achievements with you again soon!**

**True, Steady, Unfailing,**

**LCDR Christopher O'Meara  
Commanding Officer**

# HURRICANE DORIAN SAR RESPONSE



Above: Miami and Key West-based Fast Response Cutters moor alongside each other in Key West, Florida for Hurricane Dorian storm avoidance.

In September, Category 5 Hurricane Dorian hovered over the Bahamas for two days, destroying thousands of homes and leaving the islands in desperate need of food, shelter, and medical care.

All six Miami-based FRCs diverted to Key West for storm avoidance before quickly regrouping to focus on providing relief and supplies in strategic regions. As part of the Southeastern United States SAR Task Force, MARGARET NORVELL and DAUNTLESS provided offshore SAR coverage from Port Canaveral to North Carolina.

# TOWING CASES



BM1 Dayron Lopez (left) and BM2 Marissa Coppin (right) set up tow.



F/V GALE FORCE in tow behind MARGARET NORVELL.

This quarter, MARGARET NORVELL responded to 2 disabled vessels needing assistance. Setting up tow requires careful maneuvering by the conn, briefs with the crew & towed vessel, & all hands on deck to ensure a safe evolution.



Prior to setting up tow, MARGARET NORVELL's Rescue & Assistance (R&A) Team consult with VIKING LADY to investigate their machinery casualty.

# “MAN OVERBOARD!”

On September 29th, the crew successfully responded to a man overboard on the towed vessel VIKING LADY.

Just after sunset, the underway OOD (BM1 James Hill) picked up radio transmission that a VIKING LADY passenger had fallen overboard. Immediately, he alerted the crew with a pipe and oversaw the execution of initial actions from the bridge. He quickly requested relief to assume the responsibilities as coxswain.

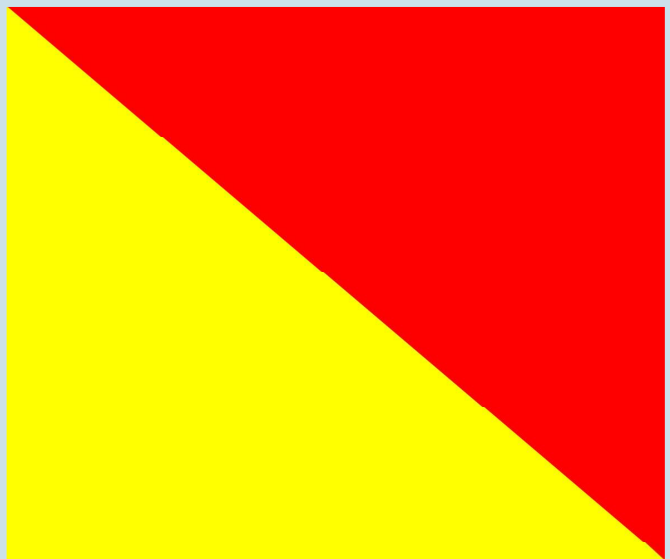
The small boat was expertly launched in under a minute with boat crew members MK1 Joseph Terralavoro and MK2 Genesis Martinez. Despite fighting 8-10 foot swells with no lunar illumination, the boat crew successfully located the man overboard and rescued the person from the water in under 9 minutes.

Given the austere environmental conditions and the fact that the man overboard was not wearing a life jacket, the swift actions of these three individuals surely saved a life!

Bravo Zulu to BM1 Hill, MK1 Terralavoro, and MK2 Martinez for their heroic actions!



VIKING LADY and MARGARET NORVELL crewmembers work together to establish a tow.



The OSCAR flag, which is hoisted by ships to communicate a man overboard.

# OPERATION ENDURING PROMISE



MK1 Joseph Terralavoro looks on as the small boat approaches COMFORT.

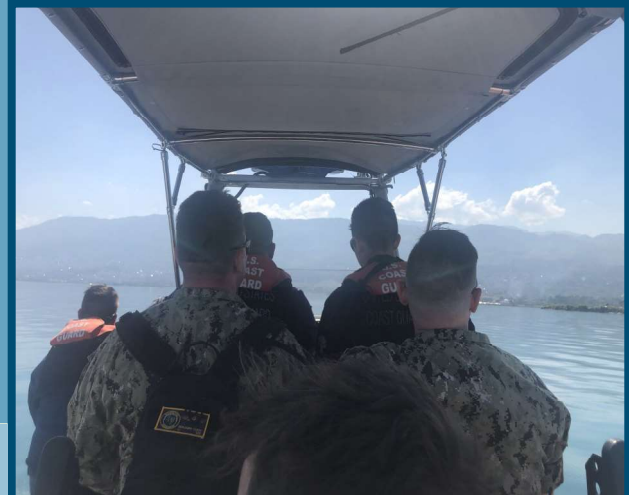


CGC KATHLEEN MOORE patrols along Haitian coastline.

In November 2019, MARGARET NORVELL & KATHLEEN MOORE provided security to US Naval Hospital Ship COMFORT during a medical mission to Haiti. Haiti was the last country out of 14 that COMFORT visited during their 5-month medical deployment. During the two week medical mission, NORVELL and MOORE deterred 112 vessels from transiting near the COMFORT, allowing for the successful treatment of 3,603 patients.



SOUTHCOM Commander, ADM Craig Faller, was all smiles after receiving an escort provided by MARGARET NORVELL boat crew members & personnel from the Sector Miami Boarding Team! Ultimately, 29 passenger transfers were conducted, including for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs and the US Ambassador to Haiti.



BM1 Dayron Lopez and MK1 Joseph Terralavoro are pictured with two Navy medical personnel during an escort to COMFORT's land-based medical site in Haiti. In total, 40 ferry escorts were conducted.

# COMFORT PUBLIC RELATIONS



US Navy members deployed on COMFORT check out MARGARET NORVELL's .50cals.



ENS Niki Kirchner-Hope, LCDR Jeffrey Purkey (Coast Guard Haitian Liason Officer), ENS Clara Wear, and ENS John Groen (TDY from CGC JAMES)



LCDR Christopher O'Meara hosts Navy Chaplains.



ENS Niki Kirchner-Hope (middle) gives two Navy medical officers a tour.



MARGARET NORVELL crewmembers celebrate the US Marine's 244th Birthday with US Marines FAST Company C.



While deploying in support of USNS Comfort, MARGARET NORVELL had the pleasure of hosting dozens of individuals, including members of the US Navy, US Marines, foreign dignitaries, and fellow Coast Guardsmen.

# COMFORT PUBLIC RELATIONS



Two Haitian reporters interview CDR Kenneth Eller, CG Attaché to the US Embassy in Haiti, and a Haitian Public Diplomacy Chief (Mrs. Jeanne Clark) regarding the Coast Guard's role in supporting the COMFORT during their medical mission.



From L to R: Mrs. Jeanne Clark, CDR Kenneth Eller, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy to Haiti (Mrs. Robin Diallo), and LCDR O'Meara.



MK1 Joseph Terralavoro gives a tour of the Engine Room to Mrs. Robin Diallo.



USNS Comfort's Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) Commanding Officer, CAPT Patrick Amersbach and LCDR Christopher O'Meara.



GM2 Vincent Padula demonstrates how to operate the MK38 Mod2 to US Marines from Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team Company C.



US Navy Chaplains during a tour of MARGARET NORVELL.

# COMFORT ALL-HANDS



SN Chance Jenkins, SN Cody Ballard, and MKC Jeff Woody during a quarters on USNS COMFORT.



ADM Craig Faller addresses SN Chance Jenkins and SN Cody Ballard following quarters on USNS COMFORT.



Five uniformed services were represented in an all-hands event aboard USNS COMFORT, during which ADM Craig Faller, SOUTHCOM Commander, thanked members for their relentless dedication and stamina during their two-week mission in Haiti. MARGARET NORVELL crewmembers had the pleasure of meeting ADM Faller following the event.



# ROYAL BAHAMIAN DEFENCE FORCE RELATIONS



Photo courtesy of the Royal Bahamian Defence Force (rbdf.gov.bs)

MARGARET NORVELL had the pleasure of working with the Royal Bahamian Defence Force on several recent occasions. In November, MARGARET NORVELL discovered multiple Dominican fishing vessels illegally poaching in Bahamian waters. MARGARET NORVELL stayed on scene until HMBS Cascarilla, pictured above, arrived to apprehend the 17 fishermen and seize 30,000 pounds (\$250,000 worth) of illegal catch onboard. The fishing vessels were seized and distributed to Bahamian fishermen affected by Hurricane Dorian.

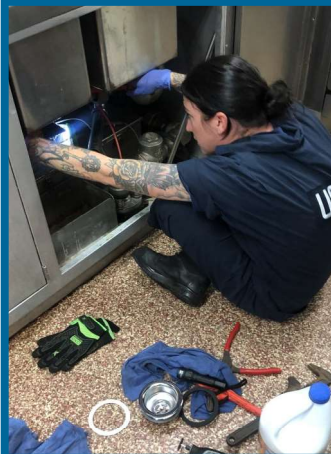


In December, MARGARET NORVELL hosted the captain and crew of the HMBS Rolly Gray (pictured top left) while MARGARET NORVELL crewmembers toured the RBDF vessel (top right). Crewmembers were surprised to discover the significant similarities between the ships, and enjoyed discussing recent experiences while operating in the same Area of Responsibility. Exchanges such as these continue to strengthen RBDF-US Coast Guard partnerships and inspire us to continue to work toward future joint operations.



Seeing double? There's a reason for that. The Fast Response Cutter is based off of a model by Damen Stan, a Dutch shipbuilding company that built HMBS Rolly Gray!

# DAILY OPERATIONS



DC2 Alisha Kleinman repairs the galley sink.



EM1 William Gore inspects a battery charger.



ENS Christian Fields (TDY from CGC PAUL CLARK) assists in securing the anchor for sea.



CS1 Joshua Montiel & ET3 Noah Rowell coordinate together in launching the small boat.

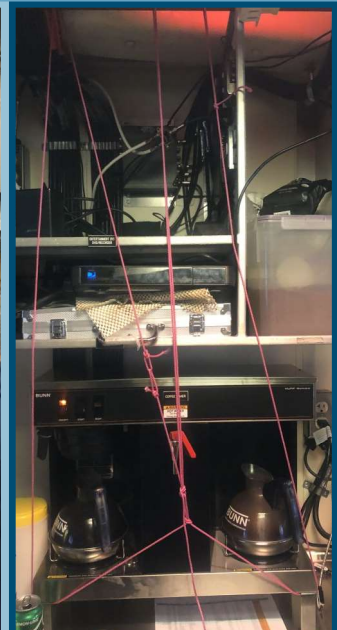
**Here's a glimpse into the daily operations & routine maintenance that keeps MARGA-RET NORVELL operating smoothly!**



BM2 Marissa Coppin, FN Monica Montenegro, DC2 Alisha Kleinman, EM3 Destinee Bickel, MK2 Genesis Martinez, MK3 Phillip Duran, SN Cody Ballard, & CS3 Taylor Littler on deck following a special sea detail.



LTJG Orlando Torres & BM1 Dayron Lopez cook a morale breakfast for the crew after a 3am anchoring & mooring evolution.



Securing for sea is serious business! During heavy weather, the coffee mess stays secure in a rather unconventional way...

# GUNNEXES GALORE

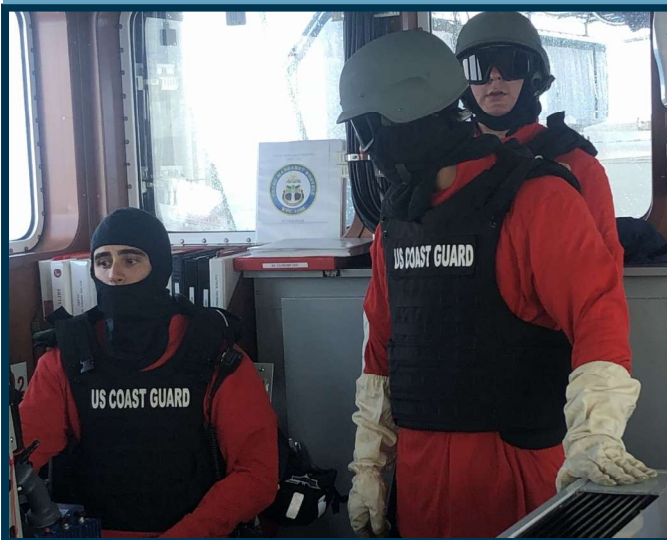
GM2 Vincent Padula conducts hands-on training for break-in 50cal gunner/loaders.



ET2 Ahmed Martinez Delapaz & MK3 Phillip Duran assist GM2 in loading the MK38.



MARGARET NORVELL recently executed .50cal & 25MM MK38 gunnery exercises (gunnex), successfully expending 100% NCEA for FY19. Gunnexes are great training opportunities for the entire crew to practice manning General Quarters Battle Stations and provide opportunities to qualify as gunner/loaders and mount captains.



The MK38 gun crew suits up prior to shooting via the bridge remote operating control station.



The aftermath of a successful gunnex!

# USE OF FORCE TRAINING



MARGARET NORVELL crewmembers engage in handcuffing training.



EM3 Destinee Bickel (left) practices application of joint manipulation on BM1 Dayron Lopez.



BM1 Dayron Lopez (left) braces as ET3 Noah Rowell (right) executes "use of force."

Training is a critical part of a unit's operational success. MK1 Joseph Terralavoro and BM1 Dayron Lopez planned and executed detailed Use of Force training to seven break-in migrant watch-standers and Boarding Team Members. Crewmembers learned escorting, handcuffing techniques, and joint and pressure point manipulation.

# HOLIDAY CHEER



FN Monica Montenegro, EM3 Destinee Bickel, & ET3 Noah Rowell pose with their pumpkins.

This Holiday season, MARGARET NORVELL had the watch. Despite being underway, the crew maintained a high morale and created many Holiday boat traditions for years to come.



An impromptu nighttime pumpkin carving session!



MARGARET NORVELL crewmembers react to Secret Santa gifts as they are unwrapped.



DC2 Alisha Kleinman & BM2 Marissa Coppin on Halloween.



The morale committee decorated 23 personalized stockings for every member during the Holidays. Much thanks to our Ombudsman, Mrs. Aislinn Woody, for providing the stockings filled with gifts— including Nerf guns!

# CUTTER ROUND-UP

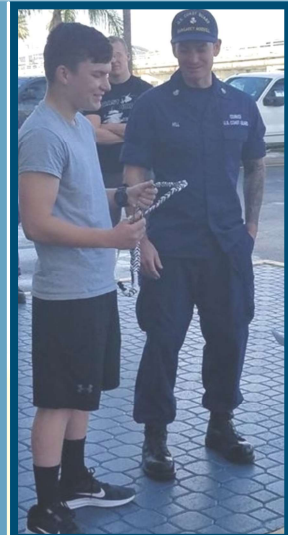
Once a year, 11 cutters in the Miami AOR get together to compete in Sector Miami's Cutter Roundup, which features a host of nautical-themed events ranging from a Cutter Surface Swimmer race, P6 Pump Relay, Bos'n Pipe Contest, DC Wet Trainer competition, Heaving Line Toss, and more. This year, MCPOCG Jason Vanderhaden and Captain Lee from reality TV-show *Below Deck* helped judge the CS Dessert Challenge. While MARGARET NORVELL didn't win, all crewmembers had a blast. Bravo Zulu to CGC ROBERT YERED for winning the Cutter Roundup for the third year in a row!



During the Scavenger Hunt event, DC2 Alisha Kleinman killed two birds with one stone by finding both CAPT Burdian and a CGC EAGLE statue!



Heads up on the pier! LTJG Matt Vieira from CGC ROBERT YERED serves a ball during the Dodgeball Competition against MARGARET NORVELL.



BM1 James Hill (middle) teaches SN Brandon Baker (left) how to use a Bos'n Pipe.



BM2 Matt Aubry meets Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, Jason Vanderhaden. \*



Sector Miami Sector Commander Jo-Ann Burdian (second from left), Command Master Chief Aaron Zimmer (fourth from left), Captain Lee from *Below Deck* (floral shirt), and MCPOCG Vanderhaden (far right) pose with other Sector Miami cuttermen.\* \*Photo courtesy of Sector Miami FB page.

# AWARDS & ADVANCEMENTS



Bravo Zulu to LTJG Niki Kirchner-Hope (left) and LTJG Clara Wear (right) for promoting to O-2 in November 2019.

Bravo Zulu to FN Monica Montenegro for advancing from Fireman's Apprentice to Fireman in January.



MKC Jeff Woody received his 3rd Sea Service Ribbon.

BM1 Dayron Lopez received his fifth Good Conduct Medal.



Left: BM2 Charles Ralph (middle), TDY from MSST Miami, acquired enough sea time on MARGARET NORVELL to earn his Permanent Cutterman's Pin. He's pictured surrounded by all of MARGARET NORVELL's Permanent Cuttermen during his ceremony at sea. Bravo Zulu, BM2!

# SAILOR OF THE QUARTERS



Left photo: EM1 William Gore (pictured left) earned a Letter of Commendation (LOC) for his dry dock contributions. During this time, he coordinated 700 work items including contracted work & depot-level maintenance. As rain flooded the Engine Room, he courageously took action to minimize damage, & later coordinated the tedious renewal of all damaged parts. Recently, EM1 was admitted into the extremely competitive Enlisted Marine Inspector's Training Program, and will start his training this summer in Houston. Bravo Zulu, EM1!

Right photo: GM2 Vincent Padula earned a LOC for his re-establishment of the Weapons Program following a 90-day dry dock. Despite reporting mere days beforehand, GM2 flawlessly executed a 16,000 round ammunition onload & oversaw the proper ammo handling training for all personnel. Due to his intense preparations, GM2 earned perfect scores during the Weapons Program's annual Ordnance Safety & Technical Inspections. Bravo Zulu, GM2! He is pictured left with Command Chief BMC Gary Auslam during the presentation of the Navy League's Recognition.





# BRAVO ZULUS



BM1 Dayron Lopez & MK1 Joseph Terralavoro were recognized for their efforts in planning and executing Use of Force Training to crewmembers, which significantly bolstered military readiness prior to patrol.



ET2 was commended for his rapid troubleshooting and resolution of degraded internet while en route to an important security mission, as well as devising a way to program MARGARET NORVELL's radios to communicate with USNS Comfort while providing security to them.



MK1 Terralavoro was recognized for discovering a cracked fuel pump housing during an underway Engineering Round. He coordinated the relocation efforts for a new part & promptly installed a replacement.



MK2 Genesis Martinez (left) was commended for discovering a cracked jacket water pipe on the #1 MDE while on an underway Engineering Round. MK2 and DC2 Alisha Kleinman (right) worked as a team to apply an emergency water active repair patch.



# BRAVO ZULUS

MARGARET NORVELL recognized TDY crewmembers who were crucial in our operational success, whether in support of USNS COMFORT or during routine operations in the Miami AOR. We couldn't have done it without them!



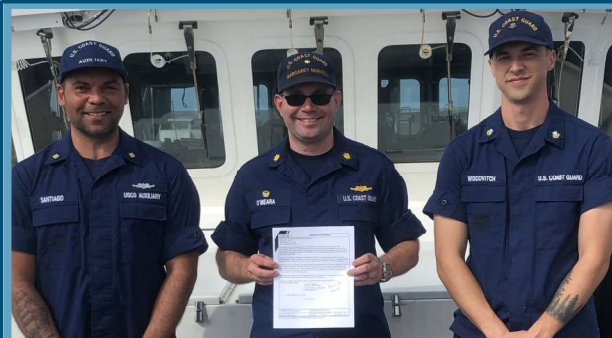
SN Mitchell Worth (left) & ME2 Charles Ellis (right) from Sector Miami Boarding Team greatly supplemented MARGARET NORVELL's Boat Crew, helping screen 112 vessels, provide 40 ferry escorts, & conduct 29 VIP pax transfers (including SOUTHCOM Commander and the US Ambassador to Haiti).



LTJG John Groen (CGC JAMES, left) & BM3 Kurt Hessler (STA Fort Pierce, right) quickly earned their underway qualifications, bolstering the watch rotation, preventing crew burnout, & playing crucial roles in several high-risk mooring & anchoring evolutions in support of USNS COMFORT



As Quartermaster of the Watch (QMOW), BM2 helped coordinate Search & Rescue (SAR) for an overdue kayaker on Christmas morning. During a challenging mooring evolution that exceeded an hour, he station-kept the small boat off MARGARET NORVELL's quarter as coxswain. Using experience from his time at Marine Safety Security Team (MSST) Miami, he also facilitated a crew-wide Mishap analysis discussion involving a collision of 3 Response Boat Small (RBS-II).



Auxilist Christian Santiago (left) & CS2 Christian Wiscovitch (right, TRACEN Yorktown) earned a Meritorious Team Award for supporting MARGARET NORVELL during 2 patrols while providing over 120 meals to the 25 person crew. They flawlessly executed multiple foreign port call logistics & commissary load-out while managing a \$16k subsistence budget. Additionally, they expertly hosted & prepared meals for multiple VIPs, including US Marines from Foreign Antiterrorism Security Team Company C, the US Embassy Port-au-Prince Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy Port-au-Prince Public Affairs Officer, the Haitian Embassy Defense Attaché, two Haitian reporters, & the captain and crew from Royal Bahamian Defence Force ship HMBS Rolly Gray.

# TRUE. STEADY. UNFAILING.



As the sun sets on this past quarter, we would like to thank those closest to us for the constant dedication and support. We invite you all to stay connected with us on our Facebook page to receive frequent updates on MARGARET NORVELL's day-to-day activity.

**Until next time!**

**SIGNING OFF...**

