

Welcome to USCGC Boutwell

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Boutwell Sets Sail

Coast Guard Cutter BOUTWELL cast off her lines and sounded the whistle on February 5th, and headed towards what is expected to be another successful Eastern Pacific counter narcotics patrol. If our last patrol was any indication, the crew, under the command of Captain Peter Brown will once again be ever vigilant in our desire to keep drugs out of American cities. Through the use of a highly trained aviation detachment and the excellent watch standers which scan the horizon 24 hours a day searching for vessels of interest, BOUTWELL will no doubt continue to make a difference in the global war on drugs. BOUTWELL set the bar high last patrol interdicting nearly 23 thousand pounds of cocaine, but remain determined to top that number this time out.

One of BOUTWELL'S other missions while on patrol is the interdiction of migrants, many of whom spend vast amounts of money to escape their homeland, often with an eye on the United States. Along the way the BOUTWELL'S crew will enjoy beautiful port calls, which not only offer a chance for well-earned relaxation, but the ability to reach out to the communities we visit with human relations projects.

While away from home and family the crew will grow together to work as a finely tuned machine that is unparalleled in many other units. We, in fact, become each other's family. To see the crew of BOUTWELL come together as it does day in and day out is truly a fine example of the Coast Guard's core values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. Life onboard a 378' cutter is where one truly learns what it means to be a shipmate. Although we are separated into our various departments, Operations, Deck, Engineering or Support, at the end of the day we are all members of BOUTWELL.

What, in fact, this Eastern Pacific patrol holds in store is yet to be seen, but to everyone back home, know that USCGC BOUTWELL is always on watch, and ALWAYS READY.

~HS3 Curtis Munsey

Greetings Fred's Place members and readers,

BOUTWELL is back at sea on a law enforcement patrol after several months of maintenance and training in our homeport of Alameda. In January we went to sea for two days of helicopter training, ensuring that we're ready for flight operations for this patrol and future ones. Most of us got to enjoy the holidays with family and friends, and we were able to watch the Super Bowl before sailing on February 5th with over 40 new crew members. The 160+ men and women that are BOUTWELL have been training themselves and each other in the critical skills necessary to keep the ship safe and operationally ready. We've done fire and flooding drills, including training with our new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for firefighting, as well as law enforcement quick response drills. Our law enforcement and ship handling skills were already tested when a "go-fast" boat typical of those used by drug traffickers and operating at high speed without lights appeared less than a mile from BOUTWELL in the wee morning hours. An alert lookout spotted the boat and the bridge called away our go-fast response bill. The crew performed superbly, despite the unexpectedly early wakeup, and stopped the go-fast, which we suspect had already off-loaded a cargo of drugs. The Mexican Navy then arrived on scene and took custody of the go-fast and its 3 crew members. BOUTWELL then anchored in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico for two days of rest, relaxation, and refueling. The Navy League of the U.S. has a strong presence in Puerto Vallarta, and they were very gracious hosts. My shipmates and I enjoyed a welcome, but short, break in a prime tourist area and we're now back at sea performing the mission. Thank you for your continued support!



Captain Peter J. Brown

CAPT Peter J. Brown

Commanding Officer

USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC 719)

[Underway in the EastPac . . .](#)

Engineering Department Pulls it all Together

This inport was chocked full of maintenance and engineering challenges, successfully overcome through the unwavering dedication and professionalism of all members of the engineering department. An added kudos goes out to the supply division for getting us the parts we needed. The repairs included work on pretty much every major component necessary to safely and effectively maneuver BOUTWELL, as well as, maintain a proper standard of living... for being onboard a ship anyways. Equipment affected/repaired this inport included our boilers, refrigeration units, main diesel engines, reduction gears (ship's transmission), ship's generators, fuel oil purifier, steering system and autopilot controls. We also went through several administrative/technical reviews, and completed a upgrade of firefighting breathing equipment. When all was said and done, over 3500 man hours were logged during a busy inport. Through their devotion to duty, BOUTWELL continues to make a name for herself as an effective and capable Coast Guard asset carrying out our primary missions of law enforcement, search and rescue, defense operations, and Homeland Security. No less than in keeping with our motto "Best in the West!" We all thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you back home.

~LTig Jon Lee



SN Pitt's Hard Work Pays Off

It's late and the majority of the crew has already hit the rack. The engines are turning and the decks are as still as they can be. Somewhere topside, a white light creeps out from underneath the door to the aviation shop. It's here that SN Albert Pitts is overlooking gear and admiring the ready condition of his collateral duty. A condition of readiness that he became certain of as it was made official by the passing of BOUTWELL'S STAN (Shipboard - Helicopter Standardization) in January 2007. A feat only made more impressive by the fact that it was done with zero discrepancies on a 108 item checklist. Sorting through tie down vests, Pitts smiles and recalls his favorite part of the week long process of stringing up and weight testing each of the flight deck nets. An event made even more impressive considering Pitts was asked to adjust nearly half of the nets to meet a new standard a mere few days from STAN. Still, Pitts appreciates all of the effort that went into making STAN a success. Whether it's qualifying new tiedowns, or knocking out checklists, he's confident it will all pay off when Boutwell receives her next Helo on the current South Patrol.

~SN Joe Klemencic



In the AV Shack, SN Pitts is all business

Boutwell Crew Members Helping the Community

On February 13th, seven crew members of BOUTWELL rolled up their sleeves for a good cause. AGAPE, a home for abused children, was in need of a make over. The project consisted of repainting several rooms, as well as prepping the roof to be resurfaced. It's always rewarding to be able to help the community during our brief visits, and this time was no different. Special thanks are in order to the Puerto Vallarta Navy League, for helping to coordinate this project. A thanks also goes out to the crew members who participated, CDR John McKinley, Ens Cole Morgan, FS1 Mary Brooks, FS1 Ed Csech, FS2 Kevin Dixon, ET3 Dan Ramirez, and YN3 Wilford Malsol.

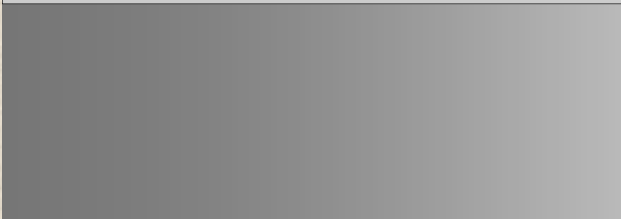
~SNBM Peacock



CDR John McKinley, Executive Officer



FS2 Kevin Dixon and ET3 Dan Ramirez



YN3 Wilford Malsol and Ens Cole Morgan



FS1 Mary Brooks and FS1 Ed Csech



SHOUT OUTS!

*~ Ryan, Sharon, Mom, & Daddy ~
So, I did forget to pack a few things for this trip... You Guys!*

"Way Down Here You Need A Reason To Move" J.B. ~ J.T.

Love, Laura

"Hey y'all, just wanted to say hey. Hope all is goin well. Love lots.

-Chris L."

Just wanted to say hi to all my friends and family back home. Hope all is well, and can't wait to get home and see every one again. Erin, miss you, and HTF

Love,

Cole

To Our Readers:

We thank you for your continued support, and appreciate your interest in BOUTWELL'S activities. If you have any ideas/suggestions, please email our Public Affairs Officer, ENS Cole Morgan, at cmorgan@boutwell.uscg.mil. Also, if you would like to be emailed whenever we make a new posting on Fred's place, please email ENS Morgan at the above address.

OMBUDSMAN CORNER

Hello my name is Heather Stapley and I am filling the Ombudsman role for the ship. I am excited about the serving in the position and look forward to meeting all of you.

Heather Stapley Ph#: 925-687-2481, Stapley1hc@yahoo.com, Thanks!!