

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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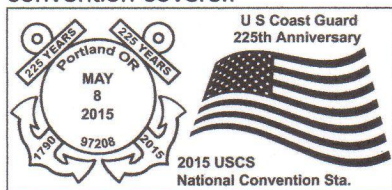
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Late March 2015

Deposit Balance \$ _____

PIPEX May 2015

We are fast approaching the USCS National Convention in Portland OR. Dates are May 8, 9 and 10. Our USCS convention coordinator is Mike Brock, a member of the USS Olympia Chapter. Mike is our society's point man with PIPEX and will be designing the USCS convention covers.



I have been in communication with the Portland post office to see if we can have a separate convention postmark for our covers. Portland has shown interest, but somehow thinks we only need one day. If I can get them to do the design I submitted for all three days, I will pursue this project further. Right now is may not happen. The proposed postmark is shown, commemorating our convention and the 225th Anniversary of the U S Coast Guard.

My reservations are in for the convention. Will I see you there?

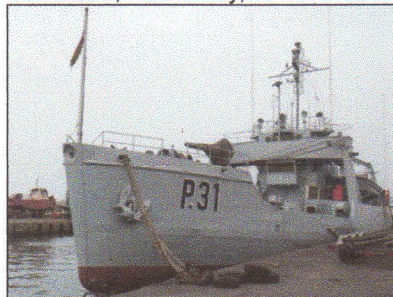
The demise of my WindowsXP

I am subjected to "outages" with my computer operating system. It is 10 years old and I suspect the operating system (WindowsXP) is slowly entering the last stages of it's life. Microsoft no longer supports it. I can no longer play videos, unless they are on Youtube. My floppy drive no longer works. No biggie there, as I don't believe there is a use for a floppy any longer. Currently it is not letting me access the Internet, but that is a biggie! For several weeks,

access was spotty. The signal from Comcast has been excellent, but XP is blocking it somehow. This Newseyletter is done on this computer and not having access to the Internet to put it together is worrisome. Peggy's PC is Windows 7. I never paid any attention to it as I was comfortable with WindowsXP and thought it would outlast me. So, I have tried using Pegs PC and find it is nothing like XP. Down loading jpegs and storing them seems painful. Uploading to covers to put on eBay seems painful. Well, I suspect I better get used to the pain, and I'll start looking for a replacement for my 10 year old Dell 4550. Contact me if you have any suggestions that will calm my worries. I fiddled with anything I could get to in my computer and somehow hit on something for Internet connection and got back on-line!

Two Former USCG buoy tender serve in Nigeria

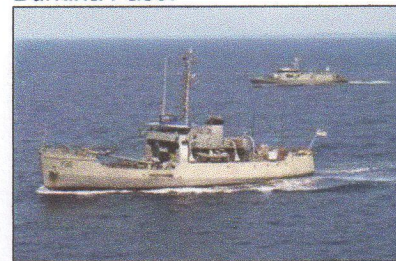
US Africom, Wednesday, 25 March 2015



GNS BONSU P.31 ex- USCGC SWEETBRIAR WLB-405

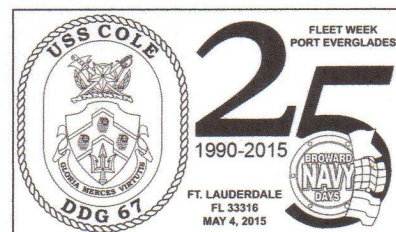
On March 17-18, Ghanaian, German and U.S. Navy Sailors occupied the ship to practice tactical sweeps, room clearings, prisoner handling and medical responses as part of a training program prior to the start of Exercise Obangame Express in the Gulf of Guinea region. Those skills will be put to the test March 20-26, 2015 during the exercise, when 24 countries and

international organizations will work together to increase maritime security and sustain global commerce. The connection to Obangame Express also brings to the surface ties to recent U.S. and Ghanaian history. And less than a year later, on March 19, 2004, *Bonsu* and its sister ship, *GNS Anzone P.30*—the former U.S. Coast Guard buoy tender ex-USCGC *Woodrush WLB-407*—rushed to Equatorial Guinea during domestic unrest to evacuate more than 427 Ghanaians and nationals of Nigeria, Togo, Benin and Burkina Faso.



GNS AZONE P.30 ex-USCGC WOODBINE WLB-407

While *Bonsu* is currently docked as it awaits repairs for parts that are today more difficult to acquire, the ship's time of active service is not yet over. According to Attaché, the Ghanaian Navy expects to send the ship out to sea for work-up trials by summer 2015, where it will continue its service as a workhorse that has ably served two allies in ensuring safety and security on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean.



Pictorial cancel submitted for Fleet Week, Broward Navy Days, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316-9998.

Check out the naval items on eBay. Proceeds go to Decatur Chapter. Seller: CGCOVERGUY

Information published here is not guaranteed.

Visit the Universal Ship Cancellation Society web site at: www.uscs.org/