DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS HAWES (FFG 53)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS HAWES (FFG 53)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1999

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Chronology
(2) Descriptive narrative
(3) LOA "ready to train" message from CDS-22
(4) SUPSHIP Portsmouth SRA conclusion message
(5) SUPSHIP Portsmouth Certificate of Completion and Acceptance of Work
(6) Aviation Certification
(7) Engineering Underway Demonstration from CDS-22
(8) Engineering Underway Demonstration from CCDG-2
(9) Self-Sufficient Ship of the Quarter Runner-up
(10) Bravo Zulu for TCDEX
(11) CINCLANTFLT Notice 5050 for visit of Ms. Mary Ellen Fraser, Professional Staff Member, House Armed Services Committee
(12) Bravo Zulu for the visit of Ms. Mary Ellen Fraser
(13) Bravo Zulu for Pride and Professionalism from CDS-24
(14) Bravo Zulu for Supply Management Inspection from CDS-22
(15) Bravo Zulu for Opposition Force Support from CCG-4
(16) Bravo Zulu for 1A GTE Change Out from CCDG-2
(17) Bravo Zulu for Holiday Lighting from NAVSTA Norfolk
(18) Change of Command Notification
(19) Change of Command Pamphlet
(20) Color photograph of CDR Charles B. Dixon
(21) Color photograph of CDR J. Scott Jones
(22) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet with Commanding Officer's Biography insert
(23) 3.5" Diskette with cover letter, enclosures (1) and (2)

1. In accordance with reference (a), the command history for calendar year 1999 for USS HAWES (FFG 53) (UIC: 21234) is submitted for review.

2. Command Composition and Organization.

a. Mission: Multi-mission platform capable of performing in a variety of roles ranging from convoy escort to anti-air and anti-surface warfare. The addition of Naval Tactical Data System, Light Airborne Multi-Purpose helicopters, and the Tactical Towed Array System (TACTAS) has given USS HAWES a combat capability far beyond the class program expectations of the mid-1970s, and has made the ship an integral and valued asset in virtually any war-at-sea scenario.

b. Organizational structure: The immediate senior command is Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO TWO (UIC: 0131A). Aircraft normally attached to HAWES are assigned by Helicopter Squadron Light FOUR EIGHT from Mayport, Florida (UIC: 53918).

c. Name of commander: J. Scott Jones (CDR, USN).

d. Permanent duty station: Norfolk Naval Base, Virginia.

e. Type and number of aircraft assigned: Two SH-60B LAMPS Helicopters.

3. Chronology is contained in enclosure (1).

4. Descriptive narrative is contained in enclosure (2).

5. Supporting documents are contained in enclosures (3) through (22).

6. This cover letter and enclosures (1) and (2) are saved as MS Word 6.0.

J. SCOTT JONES

Nineteen Hundred Ninety-Nine
COMMAND HISTORY
Chronology

01-11 Jan	Holiday Leave Period
19-22 Jan	PLOT I
28-29 Jan	Ammo Offload (Yorktown)
3-5 Feb	Small Arms Qualifications
8-10 Feb	U/W VACAPES
18 Feb-7Apr	CDS22 Flagship
21 Feb	Winter Party
24 Feb	Transit to Moon Engineering Co./Commence SRA
01-31 Mar	Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Drive
12-14 Apr	Light Off Assessment **Enclosure (3)**
26 Apr	Dock Trials
27 Apr	Fast Cruise
28 Apr	Completed SRA **Enclosures (4) and (5)**
28-29 Apr	Sea Trials
30 Apr	Commissioning Ceremony for HT1(SW) Crumpacker
1-21 May	FMAV
10-14 May	HORSE
24-28 May	CO's Time (Underway VACAPES)
1-4 Jun	Aviation Tech Assist/Certification **Enclosure (6)**
7-9 Jun	Weapon's Onload (NWS Yorktown)
10 Jun	Engineering Underway Demonstration **Enclosures (7) and (8)**
14-18 Jun	LMA Assist
16 Jun	RADM Route, COMCRUDESGRU TWO Visit
16 Jun	Announced as Self-Sufficient Ship of Quarter Runner-up **Enclosure (9)**
17 Jun	TCDEX **Enclosure (10)**
18-21 Jun	Transit to Boothbay, Maine
21-25 Jun	Windjammerfest Boothbay, Maine
26-27 Jun	PASSEX (Boston OPAREA) with USS MITSCHER and USS ARLEIGH BURKE
28 Jun	TRACKEX with USS CONNECTICUT(Narragansett Bay OPAREA)
29-30 Jun	CO's Time (Narragansett Bay OPAREA)
01 Jul	CO's Time (Narragansett Bay OPAREA)
02-05 Jul	4th of July PVST Eastport, Maine
06-08 Jul	Transit to Norfolk, Va
16 Jul	HAWES Summerfest
19-21 Jul	CART II
23-25 Jul	Transit to Andros Island OPAREA
26-28 Jul	SUBTRE (U/W Andros Island OPAREA)
29 Jul	Transit to Ft Lauderdale
30 Jul - 01 Aug	PVST Ft Lauderdale

02-04 Aug	Transit to Norfolk, Va
05 Aug - 24 Sep	C4I Install
12-13 Aug	Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification
26 Aug	Smart Card Video Shoot
26 Aug	Host to Ms. Mary Ellen Fraser, Professional Staff Member, House Armed Forces Services Committee **Enclosure (11) and (12)**
08-09 Sep	Host Ship for the Turkish Ship TCG GOKCEADA
09 Sep	Host Luncheon for CO NAVSTA Norfolk and Base CMC
15-18 Sep	Hurricane Floyd Sortie
16 Sep	Chief Petty Officer Initiation
20 Sep	Host RADM Lecumberry, Uraguayan Chief of Naval Operations
24-30 Sep	Inport Norfolk, Va
25 Sep	Honored USS McFaul as they departed for Deployment **Enclosure (13)**
01-13 Oct	Inport Norfolk, Va
04-08 Oct	Supply Management Inspection **Enclosure (14)**
08 Oct	Retirement Ceremony for RMCM Kowaleski
12 Oct	Ammo Onload
14 Oct - 16 Nov	CDS 22 Group Sail
15 Oct	UNREP with USNS Laramie
16 Oct	PUBEX
17 Oct	Light Line Transfer
18 Oct	76 MM/CIWS PAC Fire
21-22 Oct	Opposing Force vs IKEBATGRU **Enclosure (15)**
22 Oct	UNREP with USNS Kanawha
23 Oct	TOWING/TOWED EX
24 Oct	Wagon Wheel G
25 Oct	VBSS Boarding by USS COLE
26-30 Oct	GTE 1A Changeout, NSRR, PR **Enclosure (16)**
26-30 Oct	Port Visit, NSRR PR
27 Oct	MCPON Visit on the Flight Deck
31 Oct	CDS-22 Visit
31 Oct	Moor to Buoy
31 Oct	TORPEX
01 Nov	UNREP with USNS Laramie
07 Nov	CDS 22 PHOTOEX
07 Nov	Burial at Sea
08-12 Nov	Port Visit Miami
11 Nov	Host Reception with SIMPSON for SOUTHCOM
11 Nov	CDR Jeffery Scott Jones, Perspective CO, arrives
15 Nov	VANDELEX
15 Nov	UNREP with USNS Laramie
16-22 Nov	Inport Nauticus Naval Museum

19 Nov	Change of Command Ceremony **Enclosure (17)**
22 Nov	Transit to Norfolk Naval Station
22 Nov - 31 Dec	Inport Norfolk, Va
17 Nov - 17 Dec	FMAV
03 Dec	Promotion Ceremony for LTJG Higgs
05 Dec	HAWES Kid's Holiday Party
09 Dec	Commissioning Ceremony for ENS Harkin
10 Dec	Retirement Ceremony for HT1(SW) McPherson
12 Dec	HAWES Holiday Party
17 Dec	Awards and Frocking Ceremony
17-31 Dec	Holiday Leave and Standdown
20 Dec	EM2(SW) Gardner Reenlistment and Holiday Lighting Contest **Enclosure (18)**

Nineteen Hundred Ninety-Nine
COMMAND HISTORY
Narrative

HAWES began 1999 inport Norfolk at Pier 7. Half the crew was on holiday leave, while the other half continued the usual routine of maintenance and cleaning.

HAWES' first inspection hurdle was the Pre-Light Off Training (PLOT) Assessment. This underway period allowed HAWES' to demonstrate her Engineering Readiness and to evaluate those areas upon which training should be conducted during the upcoming yard period.

Making further preparations for entering the yards, HAWES conducted an ammunition offload at Yorktown Naval Weapons Station. On the return voyage, HAWES embarked 25 family members and friends to experience a bit of life at sea.

The following week, the Ordnance Officer, LTjg Davila, oversaw three days of small arms qualifications at the Marine Pistol and Rifle Range at Dam Neck. Crewmembers were given the opportunity to refine their marksmanship skills as well as fulfill one of their most basic military duties.

The following Monday, HAWES got underway for her final at sea training period prior to the shipyard. The crew stressed damage control, combat systems, and engineering readiness. During this brief underway, HAWES was privileged to conduct burial at sea ceremonies for four former Sailors. This solemn ceremony recognizes the contributions each Sailor makes to the defense of our nation, and provides a link between the crew and those men and women who previously served in the naval service.

Returning to port, preparations for the shipyard continued, including work on the ship's diesel generators and a topside groom of PCMS materials. The supply department began an intensive review of HAWES' spare part inventory to ensure maximum material readiness. On 18 February, HAWES raised the CDS 22 pennant and began duties as the Squadron flagship.

On 19 February HAWES received her latest Executive Officer. LCDR Timothy Mahan, Jr. reported from the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI. LCDR Mahan's previous assignments included USS JOHN C. STENNIS, USS JESSE L. BROWN and Commanding Officer, NRC Burlington, VT.

Away from the ship, HAWES families had the opportunity to enjoy each other's company at the winter party. The Greenbrier Country Club was the site for the evening gala. Dancing followed a buffet dinner. Throughout the evening, door prizes were drawn.

On 24 February, HAWES made the brief transit down the Elizabeth River to commence her Selected Restricted Availability

(SRA) work. The crew moved onto the barge as work began in earnest on generators, berthing areas, and the sanitation system, among other things.

March was a month of repair and restart. The SRA at Moon Engineering continued. While material discrepancies were being corrected, crewmembers went to numerous schools. Training teams reviewed training schedules and devised plans to prepare the crew for the upcoming Inter-Deployment Training Cycle.

Throughout March, the ship actively conducted the annual Navy Marine Corps Relief Society drive. In addition to the standard donations, HAWES conducted a weekly hot dog sale, and a raffle in which the "winner" would have the opportunity to work in the scullery. The crew raised over $4400 for this worthy cause thanks to these innovative efforts.

On 12 April, HAWES completed its Light Off Assessment. Under the watchful eye of CDS-22 and ETG engineering inspectors, HAWES performed numerous tests on the engineering plant to demonstrate its readiness for underway operations. Additionally, HAWES performed a Main Space Fire drill. At the conclusion of these evolutions, CDS-22 reported HAWES as "ready to light off" to SURFLANT.

On 26 April, HAWES conducted dock trials on all combat systems, engineering, and navigational systems to ensure that her material condition was satisfactory for underway operations. The following day, the crew performed a fast cruise to verify watchbills, refresh watchstanders on their duties, and to make further preparations for getting underway.

On 28 April, HAWES got underway for the first time since February. After leaving Portsmouth, HAWES went to anchorage to weight test the davit. Hours later, HAWES rendezvoused with USNS PATUXENT (AO-201) in the eastern Virginia Capes OPAREAS for a fueling at sea. HAWES returned to port the following afternoon after conducting combat systems drills in the morning.

On 30 April, HT1(SW) Crumpacker was commissioned as an Ensign Limited Duty Officer at the Breezy Point Officers Club. Ensign Crumpacker served onboard HAWES for over 2 years, and distinguished himself as an Engineer and as an asset throughout the command. His work helped establish Training Department onboard HAWES and provided numerous opportunities for professional development for all HAWESMEN. Ensign Crumpacker transferred to USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG 49) in Yokosuka, Japan.

On 1 May, HAWES began a three-week maintenance availability pierside at Naval Station Norfolk. While a majority of the major industrial work had been completed in Portsmouth, SIMA needed an opportunity to complete repairs on engineering equipment. In addition, during this availability, the non-skid deck material was redone in preparation for Aviation

Certification. While SIMA was making repairs, HAWES crewmembers assisted in the work and completed necessary tasks to prepare for the upcoming Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. Specifically, Search and Rescue programs were reviewed, and the swimmers' qualifications and skills were evaluated. HAWES' aviation material readiness was revamped as well, ensuring the ship was ready to conduct flight operations.

Midway through the availability, the engineering department satisfactorily completed the HORSE evaluation, a further check and assist on HAWES' engineering equipment readiness. During this evaluation, HAWES received final approval from CDS-22 for her Damage Control fire fighting abilities. The HORSE review and Damage Control review freed HAWES to concentrate on operational engineering readiness.

During the following week, HAWES got underway to commence basic phase training, including engineering and combat systems drills. During the CO's time in the VACAPES, all engineering and combat systems watch teams participated in various drills and improved their warfighting proficiencies. In addition, HAWES conducted numerous seamanship training exercises, including man overboard drills and SAR swimmer deployment.

June was the start of a very challenging month for HAWES. On 4 June, HAWES successfully completed the Aviation Tech Assist/Certification. The following week, HAWES made the short transit to NWS Yorktown for a weapons onload, followed immediately by an Engineering underway demonstration witnessed by CDS-22 on 8 and 9 June. Supply Department received a LMA Assist Visit on 14-18 June, and the Combat Systems and Operations personnel conducted a TCD Exercise. During this busy week, HAWES was joined by Admiral Route, Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO, in its award ceremony where those personnel advanced by the previous exam cycle were frocked to the next higher paygrade. Further, the officers and crew received word that HAWES was selected as the Self-Sufficient Ship of the quarter runner up.

On 18 June, HAWES got underway to transit north to Boothbay Harbor, Maine for Windjammer Days. HAWES dropped anchor in Bootbay Harbor, Maine on 21 June and went to work promoting the ship and the U.S. Navy. HAWESMEN conducted tours and answered questions for over 815 visitors. The HAWES Color Guard marched in the "Sea Creatures" parade through lovely downtown Boothbay Harbor. The crew enjoyed some quaint small town liberty and then it was back to work on 26 June as HAWES headed back to sea for an ENCOUNTEREX with the USS ARLEIGH BURKE and USS MITSCHER. Despite foggy conditions, HAWES utilized her EW gear and tracked down the new AEGIS destroyers and simulated firing on them. After the exercise, HAWES refueled from USNS KANAWHA enroute to

the Narragansett Bay OPAREA for a tracking and familiarization exercise with the Seawolf class submarine, USS CONNECTICUT.

The month of July was welcomed with a grand 4th of July Celebration hosted by Eastport, Maine. The community of Eastport welcomed the HAWES Wardroom with a warm reception. HAWES, also, participated in several events including a Fireman's Muster, talent show and Codfish Race. HAWESMAN demonstrated their pride in the Country my marching in the 4th of July Parade. The HAWES Wardroom showed their gratitude by hosting a reception on the flight deck for the local officials.

Enroute to Norfolk, HAWES wrapped up an intensive training period by conducting several Seamanship, Combat Systems and Engineering Training drills. Upon return to Norfolk, HAWES crewmembers took advantage of the short in port period to conduct repairs and train. The HAWES Summerfest was held on July 16th. It was a great opportunity for family and friends to come together and spend a great day of good food and fun. July 19th through 21st a very successful CART II was conducted onboard.

On the 23rd of July, HAWES got underway for the Andros Island OPAREA. HAWES conducted a Submarine Training and Readiness Evaluation with the USS OKLAHOMA CITY and USS MEMPHIS from July 26th through July 29th. HAWES pulled into Port Everglades, Florida on the 30th of July to begin a three-day port visit. The month of July also brought the announcement that MA1 Godfrey, SK1 Jones, SH1 Timmons, ET1 Korsten and GSM1 Blalock were selected to be Chief Petty Officers. This began the Chief Petty Officer initiation for these outstanding selectees.

HAWES began the month of August with one last day in the wonderful city of FT. Lauderdale, FL. HAWES set an early Sea and Anchor Detail and pulled out of Port Everglades for the transit home. The trip home was packed full of training and qualification boards. The crew of the Mighty Warship HAWES continued to set the standard for all to follow. HAWES completed a very difficult 85 round PAC Fire. HAWES was the first FFG in many years to accomplish this feat. On the 5th of August, HAWES returned home, to eagerly waiting family and friends, to begin the C4I Installation in preparation for the George Washington Battle Group Deployment in June of 2000.

On the 12th and 13th of August, HAWES completed a very successful Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification, certifying HAWES in one of her most important warfare areas, Surface Warfare. As part of the C4I Installation, HAWES is the test platform for a new initiative called Smart Card. The Smart Card Program allows HAWES to automate many of the functions that take up crewmembers time. On the 26th of August, a film crew came on board HAWES to shoot a video in order to show the rest of the Navy what the Smart Card program was all about and how it will

benefit them. The 26th, also, brought the official visit of Ms. Mary Ellen Fraser, Professional Staff Member of the House Armed Services Committee. HAWES had the distinct pleasure of briefing her on the advantages of the Smart Card Program and how it could further benefit the Navy.

Most of the month of September was spent completing the C4I Installation. HAWES raised the CDS 22 pennant and assumed duties as flagship on the 3rd. On the 8th and 9th of September, HAWES hosted the Turkish Ship, TCG GOKCEADA, a former US Frigate. The Wardroom had the distinct pleasure of spending an afternoon at the Breezy Point Officers' Club with the Wardroom of the GOKCEADA. It was a great opportunity to make new friends and swap sea stories. The HAWES Sailors were full of nervous energy as HAWES administered the 3rd Class, 2nd Class, and 1st Class Petty Officers Exams on the 9th, 14th, and 16th of September. The 10th of September brought the retirement of one of HAWES's fine Sailors. The retirement ceremony for Chief Gas Turbine Specialist Mechanical Rast was conducted in an honorable and distinguished manner, much like his service to the Navy.

The 15th of September brought the order for the Atlantic Fleet to Sortie for the evasion of Hurricane Floyd. This monstrous storm brought much devastation for many residents of the Hampton Roads Area, including two HAWES Sailors. Hurricane Floyd proved to be a rough ride for the HAWES with seas cresting over twenty feet at its worse. This, further, proved to be a challenge for the personnel taking the 1st Class Petty Officer Exam on the 16th. The 16th, also, brought the initiation of the Chief Selectees to Chief Petty Officers. MAC(SW) Godfrey, SKC(SW) Jones, ETC(SW) Korsten, and GSMC(SW) Blalock all donned khakis and were frocked to the rank of Chief Petty Officer. There could not have been a better time than when surrounded by swells in excess of fifteen feet high. The mighty crew of the HAWES weathered the storm and safely brought her home on Saturday, the 18th of September. Upon return to homeport, preparations continued for the Logistics and Management Assessment and Group Sail coming up in October. On the morning of 25 September, HAWES honored our shipmates on the USS MCFAUL by saluting them as they departed for deployment.

HAWES' high-paced tempo continued into October as Supply Department conducted their most intensive inspection, the Logistics and Maintenance Assessment (LMA). LMA was conducted from the 4th to the 8th of October. On 8 October, HAWES said goodbye to a shipmate as the Command Master Chief; RMCM(SW) Kowaleski retired on the flight deck. HAWES received some last minute ordnance on 12 October as one of the final preparations for Group Sail. On 14 October, HAWES got underway with her DESRON sister ships for Group Sail. HAWES and the other DESRON

TWO TWO ships participated in several seamanship and ship handling evolutions including small boat operations, towed and towing exercises, mooring to a buoy, and light line transfers.

On October 18th, HAWES showed her Combat Systems prowess by firing a 76 MM/CIWS PAC Fire. The 21st brought some "real world" war fighting scenarios for HAWES. HAWES played as an "opposing force" against the Eisenhower Battle Group. On 26 October HAWES arrived in Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico for both a change out of 1A Gas Turbine Engine and a liberty visit. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Herdt honored HAWES by taking some time out of his schedule to visit HAWES crewmembers on the 27th of October. The MCPON answered crewmember's questions and informed them of new and changing Navy policies. On the 31st of October, HAWES turned her attention to anti-submarine warfare and launched torpedoes during a TORPEX, thus wrapping up the month of October.

HAWES filled up her tanks along side the USNS Laramie to begin the month of November. HAWES honored fellow comrades at arms by conducting a Burial at Sea for BMC Reginald P Ewers, AMS2 Bernard J Thomas, GM3 Raymond L. Wylie and SK1 Aubrey A. Lee on the 7th of November. The 7th, also, brought an opportunity to conduct a Photo Exercise with our sister ships from the Squadron. After working hard during an arguous group sail, the Destroyer Squadron TWO TWO ship's pulled into Miami for some well-earned liberty.

Miami was a great opportunity for the crew to participate in every thing from community service to sporting events. HAWES Sailors participated in a softball tournament, a picnic hosted by the local Navy League Chapters, community relations' projects to the VA Hospital and local schools, a Veteran's Day Parade, and professional sports venues. The HAWES Sailors, also, hosted tours onboard for the fine citizens of Miami. The Chief Petty Officers attended a reception at the Tobacco Road Bar and Grill, which allowed the Squadron CPO's an opportunity to meet each other and develop a good working relationship. HAWES and SIMPSON were the host of an exceptional Patriotic Salute and Reception. We were honored to have the Deputy Commander in Chief of Southern Command as the guest of honor. While in Miami, CDR Jeffery Scott Jones joined the Mighty Warship HAWES as the Perspective Commanding Officer.

HAWES pulled out of Miami with great excitement for the voyage home, yet looking forward to another opportunity to return again to Miami, Fl. This time was spent conducting training and it was a chance for CDR Dixon to begin his turnover with CDR Jones. During the transit home HAWES participated in several exercises including an underway replenishment with the USNS Laramie and a Vandal Exercise with our CDS 22 sister ships.

HAWES pulled into the Nauticus Naval Museum late on the 16th of November. Immediately, preparations began for the Change of Command Ceremony. The Change of Command Ceremony was conducted on the 19th of November. The guest speaker was Commodore Miller, Commander Destroyer Squadron TWO TWO, and in attendance was Rear Admiral Route, Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO. Also, in attendance were the family and friends of both CDR Dixon and CDR Jones. Besides the formal turn over of the HAWES to CDR Jones, the Change of Command Ceremony was an opportunity to honor several outstanding HAWES Sailors. GSE1(SW) McGrath was selected as Sailor of the Year and MSSN Checo was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year. Further, OS2(SW) Smith was promoted to the rank of OS1 through the Command Advancement Program. His promotion was not the only one, CDR Dixon was frocked to Captain. There was a reception held afterward, during which everyone raved about ice sculptures done by HAWES' very own MSC(SW) Ayotte.

Despite unfavorable weather throughout the weekend, HAWES conducted over 50 tours as Host Ship for Nauticus. HAWES was underway early Monday morning for CDR Jones first underway as CO of HAWES. It was a short transit back to home, Norfolk Naval Station. The month of November was also a time to say goodbye to some old shipmates and welcome aboard to some new ones. LT Stiglitz hosted a Hail Farewell for the Wardroom. We said goodbye to CDR Dixon, LT Anderson and LTJG Ramthun. We welcomed aboard CDR Jones, LT Seifert, and ENS Labott. HAWES rounded out the month of November with an FMAV that continued into December.

December was time of celebration for the HAWES family. Besides the Holiday Seasons, HAWES celebrated the promotion of ENS Higgs to LTJG and the commissioning of DCCS(SW) Harkin to Ensign. December 17th was the Frocking Ceremony for our Sailors who were selected for advancement. HAWES had three Sailors advance to First Class Petty Officers, nine Sailors advance to Second Class Petty Officer, and eleven Sailors advance to Third Class Petty Officer. The 10th of December was a day to honor the Retirement of HT1(SW) McPherson, who retired after twenty years of faithful service to God, Country and the Navy. HT1(SW) McPherson was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his dedicated service to the U.S. Navy. On December 20th, HAWES set another milestone in her already distinguished career. Under stunning holiday decoration lights, brilliantly displayed for the festive season, HAWES was judged as the best frigate on the Norfolk Naval Station waterfront. The judging took place as many families and friends gathered on the Foc'sle to witness EM2(SW) Gardner's reenlistment under the warm glow of the thousands of holiday lights he and his shipmates hung. Their

hard work and effort paid off as HAWES won the "best in the class" category. The Wardroom joined together, yet again, for another Hail and Farewell. CDR Jones hosted the Wardroom as we said goodbye to LT Stiglitz and welcomed aboard LT Johnston, LTJG Ehret, and ENS McCorkindale. HAWES celebrated the Holidays by hosting the Kid's Holiday Party and the HAWES Holiday Party. Both events were an excellent opportunity for family and friends to gather and rejoice in the pleasure of spending the Holidays at home and remember those shipmates who do not have that luxury, because they have the watch.