

Students From William Byrd Middle School Support IKE

Story by MC2 (SW/AW) Gina Wollman
Courtesy to the 5 Star

Sailors aboard Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE) are finding encouragement and support in letters from the young students of William Byrd Middle School in Roanoke, Va.

In 2008, teachers from the middle school were invited by Executive Officer Capt. Ted Williams to experience life aboard IKE. This visit left them with a lasting impression.

"It was an experience that I will never be able to forget," said Heather Wise, an 8th grade Physical Science teacher at the school. "The students had so

many questions for us when we returned. We took their questions and made a list for them to choose from, which guided them as they wrote their letters. After mailing the first batch off, the students and I waited eagerly for responses."

Wise added that many of the middle school students have relatives currently serving in the military and were extremely excited to learn how they could keep in touch with the Sailors aboard IKE.

Once the letters arrived, Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Jason Kjos took charge of distributing the letters to Sailors who were interested in replying back to the students.

Kjos said the Sailors who stopped by his office to

pick up letters were enthusiastic and excited to know that they could brighten a young child's day just by writing them a letter.

"It doesn't take much effort to touch a child's life," he said. "Just by taking five minutes out of your day to write a note and tell them how much their support means to us while we're deployed, letting them know that it's important to stay in school and get their education; all of these things can have a very powerful impact on an individual."

Wise said the students were also thrilled as the letters from Sailors began to flood the schools inbox.

"When items were included with letters such as hats, stickers, coins, and even a few T-shirts, it meant the world to them," said Wise. "It means so much to see our students excited about learning."

Having a partnership with IKE has not only improved the teachers' curriculum, but it has also connected students with real Sailors who can bring to life what they only discuss in the classroom, said Wise.

"They have taken us outside of our classroom walls and textbook," she said. "They have given us a real world application for what we study concerning forces and motion. Students see the principles of what we teach applied to the carrier and real men and women working with the laws of motion in their jobs."

Though last week ended the school year for William Byrd students, Wise said that many of them plan to continue writing to the Sailors.

"We told them that they could continue writing as long as it was okay with their parent or guardian," she said. "They truly enjoyed hearing from individual Sailors; it was so much fun to watch their faces light up as they read the letters and then passed them around, reading each others and comparing what was written."

Seaman Christopher Fernandez said that even though the crew is praised for doing something special for the students, he sees this partnership from different perspective.

"It is a wonderful feeling to know that there is so much support for the American military coming from such an unexpected place," he said. "These children are being taught very young to appreciate those who are serving their country. The fact that they are supporting us so willingly and with such enthusiasm - knowing that they are taking their own time to write us and tell us about their lives, it stands as a good reminder for why we are serving, and who we are serving."



Story by MC3 Ridge Leoni
5 Star Staff Writer

Tiger Cruise 2010 has been given the green light and Sailors aboard Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE) are excited about the opportunity their friends and family will have to experience life aboard an aircraft carrier.

A unique Navy tradition, the Tiger Cruise represents an opportunity for crewmembers to acquaint their families and friends with their shipboard duties and living environment aboard "Mighty IKE."

The program objective is to strengthen family ties and increase awareness and appreciation of the Navy and its mission through personal interaction and shared experience.

Tiger Cruise coordinator Lt. Edward Lin said bringing family aboard IKE while being out to sea is the best way to show them what you do.

"Just having them aboard a fraction of the time we spent gives them a sense of what the Sailors do first-hand," said Lin. "I think it's better than just seeing the life of an aircraft carrier on TV, and it is a rare opportunity to bring them aboard."

Lin said Sailors will need to have friends and family complete required paperwork before the Tiger Cruise.

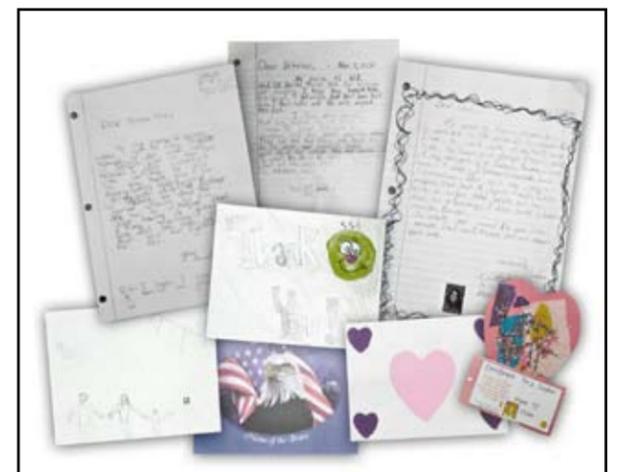
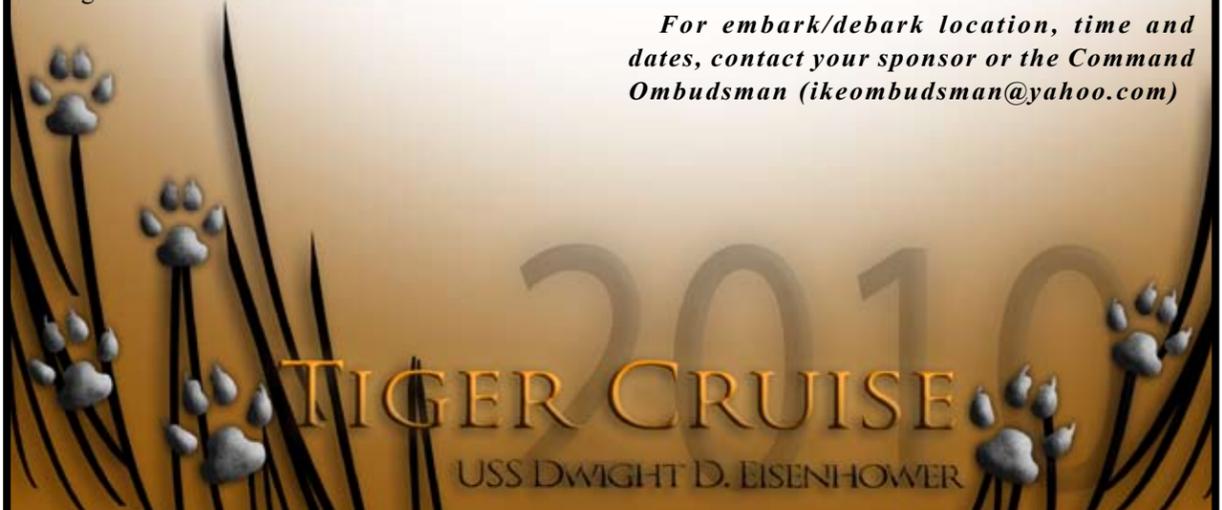
"There are two forms that you need to have filled out to have Tigers come aboard IKE. The first is the medical form. It will determine if they are physically fit and if they are in good health to spend two days at sea with us," said Lin. "The second form is a special power of attorney. This form is used for the guests that are under the age of 18 who are traveling with their parents or guardians."

Both forms need to be turned in by June 30, said Lin. Registrations will be accepted through June 19.

The cost of the cruise is \$50 per guest, which includes a Tiger Cruise bag, water bottle and I.D. card holder, said Lin. Payment will be collected on the aft mess decks June 21-26, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

"There will be plenty of activities for the Tigers to enjoy while out to sea. We will have the air power demonstration and other fun activities that are currently in the planning stages. I'd like to keep that a mystery, but I can guarantee you that it is going to be a fun-packed two days," said Lin.

For embark/debark location, time and dates, contact your sponsor or the Command Ombudsman (ikeombudsman@yahoo.com)





PERSONNEL SPECIALIST

PSSA LISARELI OCEGUEDA



Department/Division:
Admin / X-2

Hometown:
Orange County, Calif.

Time in the Navy:
10 Months

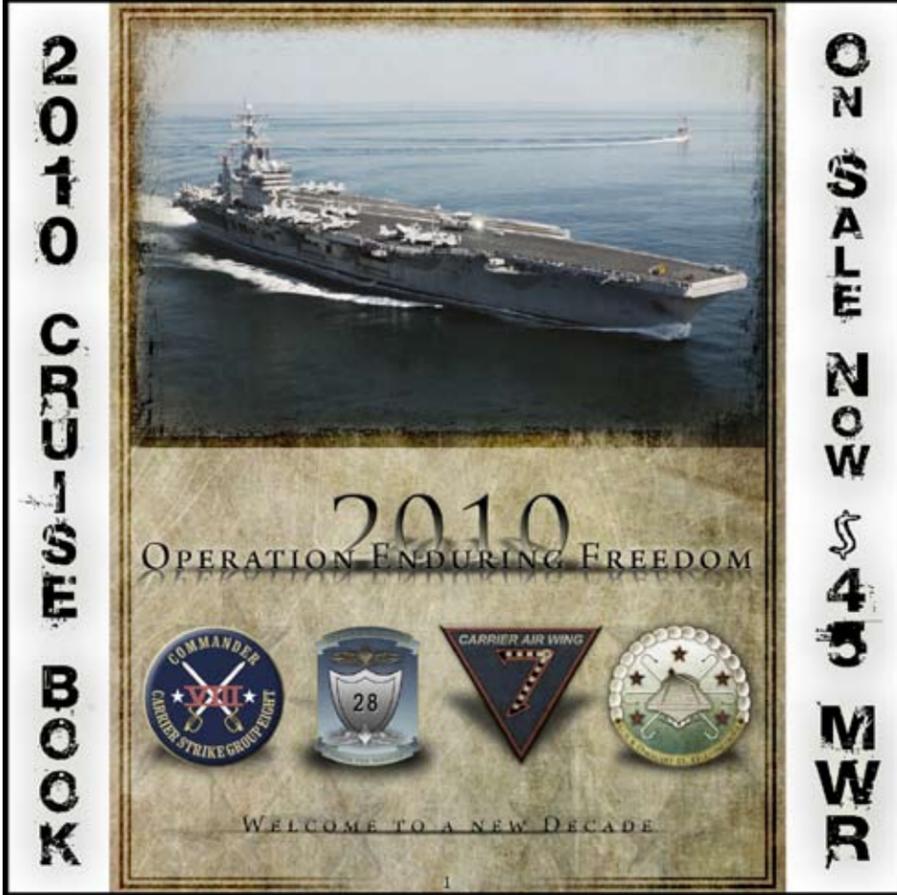
Goals:
Earn an associates degree
Enroll into STA - 21
Go IA

Achievements:
Nominated for Bluejacket
of the Month, April 2010

“ I check in new Sailors on the ship and make sure that all of their paperwork is properly filled out and updated. The greatest thing about my job is that I meet a lot of new people. I haven't been aboard long, but I love my job. ”



ANNOUNCEMENTS/MOVIES



Happy Birthday!

The IKE Birthday meal for the month of June will be held on Wednesday, June 23 at 5:45 p.m. in the First Class Mess.

Signups will be taken in the S-2 Administration/Training Office, located at 2-175-5-Q until 6 p.m. on June 22. ID card is required to sign up. Points of contact are CS1 Oldham, CS3 Bates and CS3 Harris, at J-6740/6707.

June's Leadership Development Committee Essay Contest

Topic: Describe an instance where you were forced to choose between a convenient lie and telling the truth. Did it prove more beneficial to tell the truth and show integrity or tell the lie? Why or why not?



Limit: 500 words maximum Due by: 20 June 2010 Submit to: XO's Admin

Prizes: 1st Place (96 hr special liberty)
2nd Place (48 hr special liberty)
3rd Place (24 hr special liberty)

Current Captain's Cup Standings

SUPPLY	165
ENGINEERING	153
YAO-140	128
WEAPONS	73
AIR	61
YFA-83	50
COMBAT SYSTEMS	48
OPERATIONS	21
HEALTH SERVICES	20
AIMD	12
MEDIA	4
YFA-131	1

Breakfast-for-Dinner Thursday

"Breakfast for Dinner" will be offered every Thursday night during normal dinner hours on the starboard side of the aft mess decks.

2010 Tiger Cruise

\$50 Registration Fee

Ticket Will Be On Sale On the Aft Mess Decks, Behind the Scullery

Time: 0900 - 2100

***Must Use Navy Cash Card**

5 STAR

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Public Affairs Officer:
LCDR Tommy Crosby

Assistant Public Affairs Officer:
LT John Supple

Visual Information Officer:
LT JG Benjamin Addison

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THURSDAY'S IKE MOVIE SCHEDULE

Channel 5	Channel 6	Channel 7	Channel 8
8:30 a.m. American Pie 2	8:30 a.m. Brooklyn's Finest	8:30 a.m. Sherlock Holmes	8:30 a.m. Hard Target
10:30 a.m. Inkheart	10:30 a.m. Into the Wild	10:30 a.m. Thank You For Smoking	10:30 a.m. Tag Out Training
12:30 p.m. She's the Man	12:30 p.m. Shoot 'em Up	12:30 p.m. X-Men	12:30 p.m. Coping with Military Separations
3 p.m. The Wild	3 p.m. There Will Be Blood	3 p.m. Tropic Thunder	3 p.m. Choices Have Consequences
5:30 p.m. Airplane	5:30 p.m. Aeon Flux	5:30 p.m. House Bunny	5:30 p.m. RSEP: Afghanistan Insurgent
7:30 p.m. IKE News	7:30 p.m. IKE News	7:30 p.m. IKE News	7:30 p.m. IKE News
8 p.m. American Pie 2	8 p.m. Brooklyn's Finest	8 p.m. Sherlock Holmes	8 p.m. Hard Target
10 p.m. Inkheart	10 p.m. Into the Wild	10 p.m. Thank You For Smoking	10 p.m. Tag Out Training
12 a.m. She's the Man	12 a.m. Shoot 'em Up	12 a.m. X-Men	12 a.m. Coping with Military Separations
2 a.m. The Wild	2 a.m. There Will Be Blood	2 a.m. Tropic Thunder	2 a.m. Choices Have Consequences
4 a.m. Airplane	4 a.m. Aeon Flux	4 a.m. House Bunny	4 a.m. RSEP: Afghanistan Insurgent