

**TANKING UP**  
V-4 Division revs up

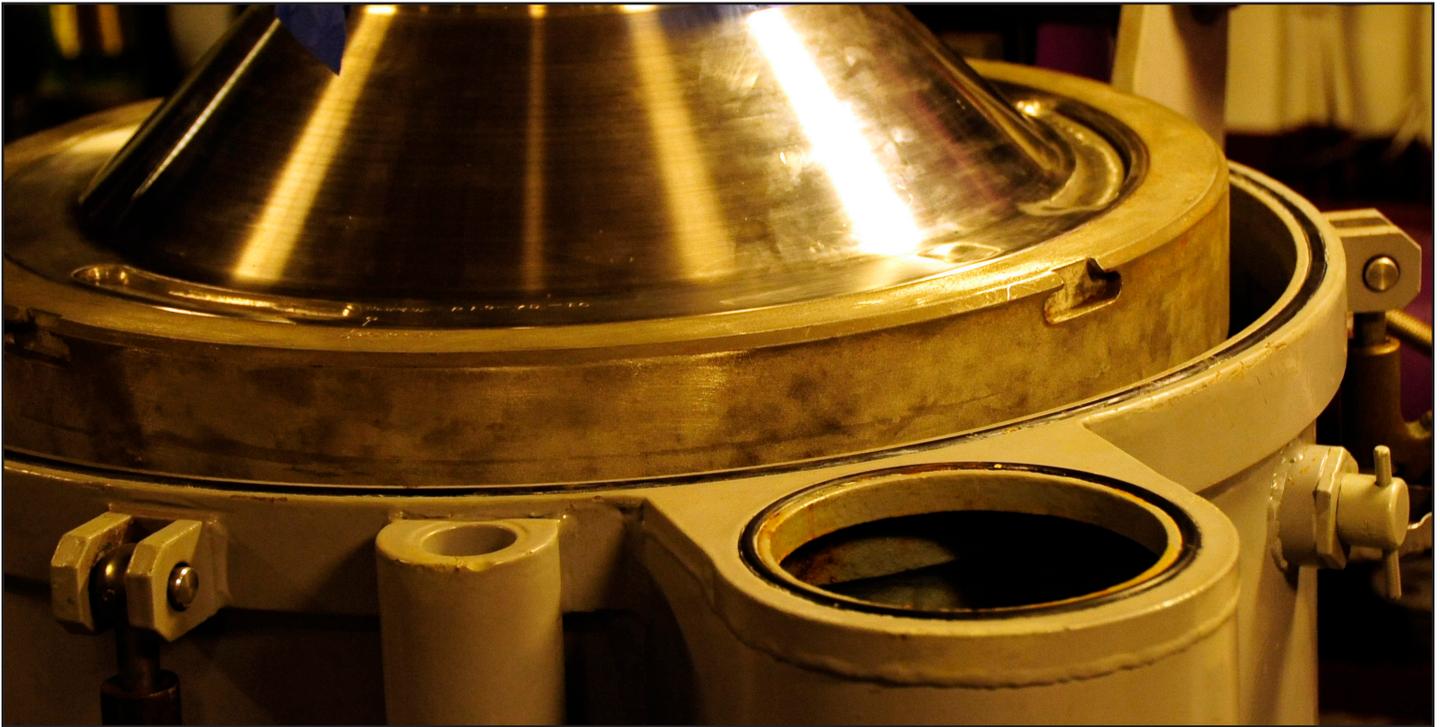
**CREW MOVE ABOARD**  
New arrivals live on TR

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT

# ROUGH RIDER



**YEARS  
LATER**



Story and photos by  
MC3 William McCann  
*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)*  
Public Affairs

# GEARING UP

## V-4 DIVISION GETS US ANOTHER STEP CLOSER TO OPERATIONAL

**D**eep in the belly of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), Air Department's V-4 division, also known as the "Grapes," are constantly monitoring, checking, rechecking and checking again the ship's fuel systems for potential leaks. This three month evolution is vital to the ship's operational readiness, and brings the ship one step closer to going back out to sea.

"Right now, we're gearing up to air test the JP-5 system," said Chief Aviation Boatswain Mate (Fuels) (AW/SW) Ernest Carter, V-4 division's leading chief petty officer. "We're also testing the welds and checking if they are holding up structurally."

The series of checks being performed have one goal: to reach the milestone of bringing approximately 800,000 gallons of fuel aboard in November.

"The testing will be conducted throughout the ship," said Carter. "We have miles and miles of JP-5

pipework from forward to aft."

An upgrade to the current fuel system, nicknamed "Auto Grape," reads the amount of sediment, or impurities, and water in the fuel. The system, upon detecting these impurities, will send a signal back to the JP-5 operator in the fuel monitoring console room.

"The whole division is working hard to ensure we meet our deadline," said Carter. "From the flight deck down to the pump rooms, everyone's doing an outstanding job to ensure this new system is ready."

"We're making sure that the piping has a proper seal, and that no leaks are evident," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuels) 3rd Class (SW) Eric Mitchell, one of the Sailors working in the fuel pump room. "It's very important, and if we don't do these checks it could be disastrous."

V-4 division is making headway with the ship's fuel systems, putting the ship one step closer to being fully operational.



Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuel) (AW/SW) Ernest Carter directs Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuels) 3rd Class (SW) Eric Mitchell at working in the fuel pump room aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).



Airman Christian Miranda, a newly arrived Sailor to USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), prepares to move into his rack aboard TR.

Story and photo by  
SN Eric Norcross  
USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)  
Public Affairs

## MOVING ABOARD SAILORS RETURN TO THEIR RACKS

For the first time in years, crewmembers of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) have moved aboard, Sept. 12, as part of TR's Complete Crew Move Aboard (CCMA).

On Aug. 23, CCMA started, beginning with departments that had habitable berthing spaces. After passing inspections, beds and lockers were assigned to Air Department's V-1 Division.

"We were some of the first to move onboard," said V-1's Leading Petty Officer Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 1st Class (AW/SW) Jamorn Driver. "The Executive Officer and Air Boss came in and said everything was good to go. We have one berthing of approximately 150 racks available for V-1, plus, a squadron berthing with another 150 racks."

Last month, V-1 began moving its Sailors out of Huntington Hall housing facility, leading the effort to vacate those barracks to make rooms available for arriving Sailors of USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), which is next in line for Refueling Complex Overhaul at Newport News Shipbuilding.

Most TR Sailors are being directed to barracks in Norfolk, Va. Those who cannot be accommodated with barracks will move onboard TR, including new check-ins, like Airman Christian Miranda.

"I've been [living onboard] one week," said Miranda, who has been in the Navy less than a year. "This is my first time living on a ship."

The change in living conditions has



presented Miranda with some challenges. With limited storage space, he had to become better organized.

"I just have my rack and standing locker," said Miranda. "I had to throw some things out that didn't fit. Now, I use boot camp folds, so everything fits really tight."

One advantage to living aboard that Miranda recognizes is the lack of a commute.

"The best part is I don't have to walk a long way to get to work," Miranda remarked. "Also, it is better to go to the galley to eat than to have to go outside to pay for a meal."

At the moment, Miranda is one of only a few Sailors who actually live on-

board. As CCMA progresses this month, that is expected to change.

"We're in a joint effort with the ship and the grooming team to get berthings ready for sailors to move aboard the ship," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 3rd Class Jeff Rossip who works at Huntington Hall housing. "My role is to successfully check everyone out of Huntington Hall and make sure rooms are 100 percent clean and ready for Lincoln."

According to Rossip, approximately 400 sailors remain in Huntington Hall and must move out by Sept. 20, as TR will no longer fund that housing facility. The completion of CCMA will bring TR closer to returning to the fleet.

# remembering

Story and photos by MC2 (SW) Austin Rooney

Eleven trees stood in strong contrast to the clear blue backdrop of the early morning sky. Although dozens of people were gathered beneath the trees, there was a respectful silence in the air.

The date was Sept. 11, 2012.



Citizens of Hampton, Va. and members of the military community attend a memorial service in remembrance of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Just eleven years earlier, millions of Americans woke up to the sight of the World Trade Center towers – considered by some to be symbols of America’s strength and prosperity – crumbling to the ground, taking nearly 3,000 innocent lives with them. What the country later learned was a deliberate terrorist attack had an immediate effect on those involved, but the lasting impact it had on America’s history and way of life was far greater. To this day, events are still categorized as “pre-9/11” or “post 9/11.”

For those few hundred people gathered around 11 trees in Gosnolds Hope Park in Hampton, Va., it was a day to remember those who lost their lives in the attacks, as well as the thousands of servicemembers who have made the ultimate sacrifice avenging those who died since.

Among those in attendance, there were representatives from Hampton’s Sheriff’s Department, Police Department, and Fire Department, as well representatives from each branch of the military. In addition, 15 Sailors assigned to USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) attended, standing in formation behind the speakers to demonstrate the military’s continued commitment to the defense of the country.

“It’s important to remember this tragedy,” said Information Systems Technician 1st Class (SW) Patrisha Wyatt, assigned to TR. “I think it still has an impact on people - even eleven years later.”

Wyatt said the tragedy had a special impact on her because it occurred on the same day she joined the Navy. After hearing about the attacks while she was at MEPS, it only strengthened her resolve to serve her country.

“I encourage everyone to be proud of their decision to serve, whether or not it was due to the attacks on 9/11,” said Wyatt.

The event included speeches by local family members of people who died in the attacks. Gloria Murray, who has lived in Hampton for 58 years, lost her daughter, Sandra, in the attack on the Pentagon that day.

“I remember waking up, turning on the TV, and seeing that the Pentagon had been hit,” said Murray, with tears brimming in her eyes. “Sandra’s husband called me and told me I would be the first to get a call when he found out Sandra was OK. I sat and waited all day for that phone call. The call never came.”

Murray said she has been attending the memorial ceremony since it was first held on Dec. 11, 2001.

“It’s hard to believe it’s been eleven years,” said Murray. “It was a beautiful ceremony, but it was sad. I guess every day is a sad day once you’ve lost a child.”

Don Weaver, also a Hampton native, lost a son as a result of the attacks as well, but in a different way. Todd Weaver, then 26, was killed in Afghanistan while serving in the Army – something he was inspired to do after watching the attacks unfold on TV when he was in high school.

“My youngest son vowed to make a difference for his country,” said Weaver. “He gave up everything to accomplish that.”

Weaver said those who made the ultimate sacrifice serving in the War on Terror, including those still serving, are continuing a great legacy of honor to their country. During Weaver’s speech, at 8:46 a.m., a bell was sounded and a moment of silence observed to mark the exact time the first plane hit the towers in New York City.

The eleven trees surrounding the quiet park have a unique connection to the tragedy as well. Planted in Dec. 2001 using soil from Ground Zero in New York City, these “Trees of Hope” have risen from those ashes and now tower over the park.

Eleven years later, the United States has also risen from the ashes of that day, moving forward while still never forgetting to look back to remember those who have paid the ultimate price in its defense.



Gloria Murray, a resident of Hampton, Va. who lost her daughter in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, attends a memorial service for the victims.



Adm. John C. Harvey Jr., Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces, addresses chief petty officer selectees from the Hampton Roads area at Norfolk Naval Station, Sept. 7.

Story and photo by  
 SN Eric Norcross  
*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)*  
*Public Affairs*

# FINAL PASSDOWN TR CHIEF SELECTEES ATTEND ADM. HARVEY SPEECH

In one of his last speeches before retirement, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Adm. John C. Harvey Jr. addressed fiscal year 2013 chief petty officer (CPO) selectees from the Hampton Roads area at Norfolk Naval Station, Sept. 7.

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) selectees took time out of their busy schedule to attend the event.

“He’s a great speaker,” said Roosevelt Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Jack Callison. “He loves what chiefs do on the

deckplate. The opportunity to let our selectees hear from a four star admiral is great.”

Mentored by his chief when he was an ensign, Harvey recognizes the impression of CPOs.

“I remember my first chief,” Harvey recalled. “He helped influence me more than anyone else I ever worked with.”

The event marks one of the important final steps in the induction of the CPO selectees.

“It’s exciting,” remarked Chief (Select)

Fire Controlman (SW/AW) David Blake of Roosevelt. “This is the end of his career and he chose to talk to us.”

Harvey said he changed his retirement date to cover the induction. Harvey will retire as one of the highest ranking officers in the Navy after 39 years of service.

“The Navy will never be any better than its chief mess,” Harvey acknowledged. “You’re part of management now. You own this Navy. You are the ones who are going to make this work.”

**National Hispanic  
 HERITAGE MONTH**

**SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 15**

Approved by former President Lyndon Johnson in 1968, National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the important contributions and long presence of Hispanic Americans in North America. September 15 is significant because it marks the anniversary of five Latin American countries' independence, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

# PHOTO OF THE WEEK



The American flag is raised to the top of the mast of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sept. 10 for the first time in three years.

*Photo by MC3 Katie Lash*



## PHOTO FIND

Can you find the **8** out of place items in this photo?

1. Waldo
2. Tire
3. Wedding Ring
4. Luigi
5. Airplane
6. UFO
7. Quarter
8. TR the Man

Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Gokhan Sozeri poses for a photo outside of Strayer University in Newport News, Va.

*Photo by MC2 (SW) Austin Rooney*

**Photo Illustration by  
MCSN Casey Cosker**

## WANT TO ADVANCE?

### E4 exam

will be held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center  
in Hampton, Va. on Sept. 20.

Check out [www.navybmr.com](http://www.navybmr.com) or NKO  
for helpful study resources and other ways to  
prepare for the test.



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Do you have a story you'd like to see in the Rough Rider? Contact the Media Department at 534-1406 or stop by 3-180-0-Q.

A woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark camouflage military uniform, is holding a Nikon DSLR camera up to her eye as if taking a photo. She is in a room with perforated metal walls and various pieces of equipment. The name 'LASH' is visible on her uniform sleeve. In the background, there is a sign that says 'MEDIA'.

“ I LOVE MY JOB, AND I TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT I DO - FROM SCRUBBING THE DECK TO INTERVIEWING THE XO. I THINK HAVING A GOOD WORK ETHIC IS IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY HERE IN THE YARDS AND IN THE NAVY. ”

MC3 KATIE LASH

# ROUGH RIDER OF THE WEEK

**DEPARTMENT** MEDIA **RATE** MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST

**DUTIES** GRAPHIC DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHY, ROUGH RIDER LAYOUT, PRINT, WEBMASTER, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, INFORMATION ASSURANCE PETTY OFFICER

**QUALIFICATIONS** MESSENGER OF THE WATCH, BASIC DAMAGE CONTROL

**GOALS** FINISH QUALIFICATIONS, EARN SURFACE AND AIR WARFARE PINS, SUBMIT OFFICER PACKAGE, BEGIN MASTERS DEGREE

**TIME IN NAVY** 1 YEAR **TIME ON TR** 5 MONTHS