

# ROUGH RIDER



NAVY  
WEEK  
SIOUX FALLS

# Rough Rider of the Week

Story and photo by  
MC3 Tyrell Morris

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)  
Public Affairs

This week's USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Rough Rider of the Week is Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Airman Blakney Miles from Air Department's V-3 division.

Miles enlisted in the Navy April 13, 2011 to travel and further her education.

"I decided to join the Navy because I wanted to get out of Baltimore and be a part of something bigger than myself," said Miles.

The native of Baltimore, Md. has established herself as a shining star among her peers since reporting to TR in August 20, 2011.

Miles believes she was selected as Rough Rider of the Week because of her work ethic and commitment to excellence.

"I work hard, and I do my best to complete all tasks with minimal to no issues," said Miles. "I have proven myself to complete numerous tasks at once and in a timely manner."

Though modest about her performance, Miles says the reason she was chosen was that she has proven to her chain of command that no matter what the tasking is, she can complete it in a timely manner. Miles volunteers for the most difficult assignments and maintains a positive attitude and professional appearance at all times.

"Miles is one of my most reliable air-



Photo by MC2 (SW) Austin Rooney

men in V-3 division," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) (AW/SW) Brian Stuchinski, V-3 leading petty officer. "She performs her job with little assistance and minimum supervision.

Her work ethic and professionalism are paramount to V-3 division's success.

"She is always finding ways to complete all assigned tasks even when she may lack the resources," said Stuchinski.

While Miles' leadership have nothing but praise toward the Rough Rider of the Week, she displays humility in her newest accomplishment.

"When I found out I received RROW, I was surprised," said Miles. "I work with

and for an excellent group of Sailors who make it fun and enjoyable to come to work each day. I couldn't have done it without them."

Miles plans to make the Navy a career. Her goal is to work hard and keep advancing through the ranks. Miles also plans to use her education benefits to earn a degree in veterinary medicine.

However, her short-term goals are getting her warfare pins and advancing to petty officer third class.

In her spare time, Miles enjoys fishing, swimming, going to the beach, and doing anything that involves being outdoors.



# FLEET & FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

## PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**Story and photo by  
MCSN Josh Petrosino**

*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Public Affairs*

The Fleet and Family Support Center offers many different programs to help Sailors aboard TR in many ways that apply to any Sailor's everyday life.

The Personal Financial Management Program is one of the many programs offered to Sailors aboard TR. The program offers Sailors advice on buying a house, budgeting or saving money, investing, personal loans, debt, and just about anything involving money.

Faye Smith, a financial educator at the Fleet and Family Center in Newport News, Va., is one of those trained professionals.

"We do the basics like budgeting to see where your money is going, car buying, TSP, credit, and even a program called 'smart start for newly weds' which prepares you for the cost of being married," Smith said.

The steps a Sailor must take in order to get financial counseling are simple.

"All you have to do is walk in and say 'I'd like to make an appointment with you, and this is what the issue is,' or just call us," said Smith.

The Personal Financial Management Program offers many benefits for Sailors aboard TR and their families.

"It's free," said Smith. "If you go out in town to see someone about your finances, the minimum would be \$150 an hour. So free is a wonderful word when it is really, truly free."

However, many feel that going for help is embarrassing or shameful. But Smith said that coming in is confidential and your chain of command will know nothing about it.

CTT 1st Class Pamela Cuffee is one Sailor who took advantage of the service.

"It was absolutely life changing," said Cuffee, who came in with her husband for advice on saving money and buying a house. "We didn't realize how much money we could save."

Cuffee has advice for Sailors aboard TR.

"More people should come," said Cuffee. "It's a free service and you can always know more about your money. The program is very helpful and will help us save a lot of money each payday. Faye is wonderful."

Sailors aboard TR are encouraged to visit Smith and the team of professionals at the Fleet and Family Support Center for any of their financial needs.

"Come see us," said Smith. "It doesn't matter what it is, we're here and we're available. And there's free candy."

# KNOW YOUR RATE: YEOMAN

**Story and photo by  
MC3 Andrew Sulayao**  
*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)  
Public Affairs*

The United States Navy is a huge organization. Because of its size, organization within the Navy can be difficult.

Fortunately, the Navy has Yeoman to take care of that.

Yeoman have been around since the birth of the Navy. According to history.navy.mil, the rate started as Carpenter's Yeoman established in 1798 and Boat-swain's Yeoman in 1799. These Yeomen helped with administration and paperwork for the Sailors on the deckplates. From then on, Yeomen were established for nearly every department.

According to military.about.com, Yeomen today perform administrative and clerical work. They receive visitors, answer telephone and sort incoming mail. They type, organize files and operate modern office equipment such as word processing computers and copying machines.

They are also responsible for preparing, typing and routing correspondence

and reports, organizing/maintaining files, performing office personnel administration and serving as office managers.

"Yeomen are specialists for attention to detail," said Yeoman 2nd Class (SW/AW) Trevor Hunnicutt of USS Theodore Roosevelt's X-1 division. "We're assistants and subject matter experts to administrative correspondence."

Because Yeomen work in a rate that doesn't necessarily spend their days getting their hands dirty, many Sailors dismiss the rate as an easy one. However, they could not be more wrong.

"If the Navy didn't have their Yeomen, our Sailors wouldn't be going on leave, getting correct evaluations in a timely manner, sometimes awards and maybe even Basic Allowance for Housing," said Yeoman 3rd Class Brittany Miles. "We route and organize our Sailors' chits and make sure they're correct. It may not be dirty, but it can be stressful because



Yeoman 3rd Class Brittany Miles looks over leave chits aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).

the work never ends."

Yeomen have been necessary for the Navy since the late 1700s and will continue to be for generations to come.

"Yeomen will stay because our work will always continue past the close-of-business," said Miles. "People have a lot on their plates during the work day, so paperwork and administrative duties are the last thing on their minds. That's what Yeomen are here for: to take care of what's necessary while our Sailors work hard."



# Sioux Falls Navy Week

Story and photos by MC3 Kimberly Romanowski

*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Public Affairs*

Sioux Falls Navy Week is one of 15 Navy weeks planned across America for 2012. Navy weeks are designed to show the investment Americans have made in their Navy and increase awareness in cities that do not have a significant Navy presence.

While at Navy Week, the Sailors teamed up with Sailors from USS Rushmore (LSD 47) to support Deputy Commander for Fleet Management and Chief of Staff, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini in community outreach efforts.

These Community outreach efforts were to attend several meetings with associations from all over Sioux Falls, meet with Sioux Falls Mayor, Mike Huether, a memorial Ceremony at USS South Dakota Park, attend the YMCA summer camp, visit with veterans at Sioux Falls Va Health Care System, visited the troubled youth at the McCrossan Boys Ranch, had dinner and played with children at the Boys and Girls Club of Sioux Empire, participated in Caps for kids at Children's Home Society, served food at The Banquet (a local food kitchen), and stocked food at Feeding South Dakota.

"It felt great to go back home to South Dakota and help out those who are a fellow Dakotan that is in need," said Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class (AW/SW) Terrence Raymond, a native of Mitchell, S.D. "This trip made me remember what it feels like to be home and how caring and giving everyone is here."

The Sailors helped out more than they thought they would.

"Navy week here in Sioux Falls reminds us that there are other branches of military other than the Army or Air Force," said Marvela Shatter, the food

Director of The Banquet. "It helped the veterans of the Navy come out of their shell and say hey I'm a Navy veteran."

"Not only were the children excited about having the Navy come here to play and have dinner with them," said Nicole Peterson, assistant Director at the Boys and Girls Club of Sioux Empire. "Not only having one day to interact with the Navy these children had to days and it just makes these children feel great. This opportunity gives them that positive influence that some children might not get and to have someone to look up to."

Not only did the children we encountered enjoy our time, the sailors enjoyed their time too.

"During this trip my two favorite places were the veteran's hospital and the McCrossan Boys Ranch," said Lt. Jerry Higgins, a native of Rapid City, S.D. "I really enjoyed the time we spent with veterans because it gave me the heritage that comes along with them. The boy's ranch had a lot of impact on me from the sad stories of why they were there to the impact of shedding light on their future."

Sailors from the TR explain how they felt at the end of the Navy week.

"During Navy week we meet so many people through events we went and helped a lot of people as we went," said Raymond. "I enjoyed the time that I spent in Sioux Falls and it seems like Sioux Falls enjoyed having us."

"This Navy week was nothing short of what I expected," said Higgins. "It turned out to be more and I'm glad that we were able to make a positive community attribution and I would highly encourage everyone to try to go home for Navy week in their home state. I would definitely do it again."



Top: A member of the U.S. Navy Parachute Team, The Leap Frogs, jumps with an American flag in tow to cap off the Veteran's Appreciation Ceremony held at the USS South Dakota (BB-57) Memorial during Sioux Falls Navy Week 2012

Left: Lieutenant Jerry Higgins visits with children at a community outreach event held at YMCA summer camp during Sioux Falls Navy Week 2012

Right: Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class (AW/SW) Terrence Raymond prepares food



# General Quarters

*TR conducts first GQ drill in three years*

**Story by AN Alexandra Hassoldt**  
*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)*  
*Public Affairs*

**U**SS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) held its first general quarters drill in more than three years July 26 while undergoing Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH) at Huntington Ingalls Newport News Shipbuilding.

This drill was held to conduct a muster of repair locker personnel, to check damage control communications, practice battle dress, and to train on setting material conditions.

“I think we are still in the early stages

of damage control awareness,” said Chief Damage Controlman (SW/AW) John Scott, the ship’s Damage Control Training Team (DCTT) coordinator. “We have a lot of potential. Looking at the environment we are in, I would say we will get a lot more proficient as time goes on.”

Many of TR’s crew had never participated in GQ. The drill was an opportunity for many Sailors to expand their knowledge and use their previous training.

“This was my first time taking part in GQ, I am still getting qualified,” said Electrician’s Mate Fireman Emmanuel Uzoh. “I will be more prepared for a real casualty.”

According to Scott, the drill was effective in that the crew and their leadership realized the strengths and weaknesses of the TR’s damage control program.

“Today was an eye-opener for most of the crew,” said Scott. “Just hearing the announcement come over the IMC reminded everyone that this ship is coming back to life, and we’ll be out to sea and operational again very soon.”

In the future, Scott said DCTT plans to hold GQ drills at least once per month, if not more often. With each drill the crew will become more familiar with GQ and eventually be prepared in the event of an actual casualty.



*Left: Chief Damage Controlman (SW/AW) John Scott, USS Theodore Roosevelt’s (CVN 71) Damage Control Training Team coordinator, gives Sailors a brief during the ship’s first general quarters drill in more than three years*  
*Right: Logistics Specialist 1st Class (AW/SW) Katie Wilson, a member of USS Theodore Roosevelt’s (CVN 71) Damage Control Training Team, teaches Sailors how to identify different flags*

*Photos by MC2 (SW) Austin Roonev*

# PHOTO

# FIND



Photo illustration by MCSN Casey Cosker

Can you find the 7 out of place items in this photo?

1. Waldo
2. Mouse
3. Ruler
4. Theodore Roosevelt
5. Goblin
6. Smiley face
7. UFO

# PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by MC3 Katie Lash

Gunner's Mate Seaman Cedric Morris races through the inflatable obstacle course at the health fair July 20 at Huntington Hall. Many events such as a BBQ and dunk tank were also available for Sailors to enjoy. The TR health fair featured many booths and activities to help educate, inform and promote a healthy lifestyle for all Sailors.

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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.

# DUTY FIRE MARSHALL

“THE JOB OF THE FIRE MARSHALL IS TO KEEP THE STANDARDS OF THE SHIP’S INTEGRITY AND PERSONAL SAFETY.”

DC2 (SW/AW)  
DONNELL CHAPMAN

QUALS:  
GASFREE ENGINEER  
DC ASSISTANT SENIOR  
ELNISTED  
DC REPAIR PARTY LEADER  
DC TRAINING TEAM MEMBER

“I’M A ROUGH RIDER”