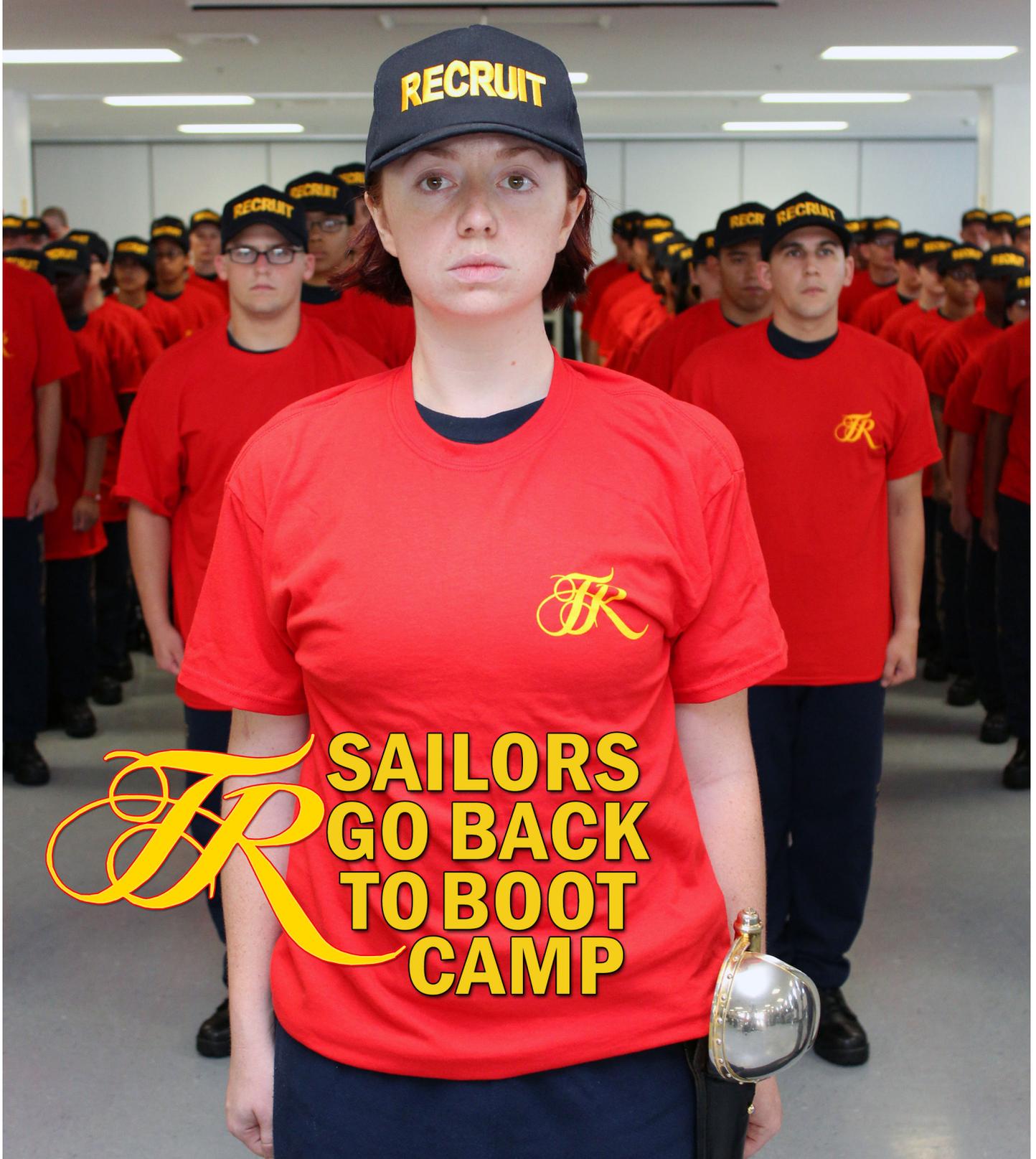


XO's Happy Hour:
TR Sailors Talk Back

TR Bids Farewell to FAF

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT

ROUGH RIDER



TR SAILORS
GO BACK
TO BOOT
CAMP

XO boosts Sailors' morale with music during 'happy hour'

Story and photos by
MC3 Andrew Sulayao

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)
Public Affairs

It's approximately 7:35 a.m. Will Smith (a.k.a. Fresh Prince) and DJ Jazzy Jeff's *Summer Time* plays over the 1MC. Sailors are dancing while high-dusting their spaces, rapping "here it is, a groove slightly transformed – just a little bit of a break from the norm," with a foxtail in one hand and a dustpan in the other. "Summa summa summa time," the Sailors sing along to the song. The Sailors seem to have a little bit more pep in their step as Smith's chorus echoes throughout the passageways of the ship.

It's as if the Sailors are actually enjoying cleaning stations.

Cleaning stations – a necessary evil to help maintain and prolong ship life, reduces health hazards in a ship's environment and improves the aesthetic look of the ship's spaces.

But most Sailors hate cleaning. Most dread when the bells strike on the loudspeaker as 7:30 a.m. arrives for USS Theodore Roosevelt's (CVN 71) Executive Officer (XO) Mark Colombo's "Happy Hour," the time where everyone on the ship cleans their assigned spaces. Most loathe the "high-to-low" procedure, the monotonous sweeping of the decks, the rags on the bulkheads when everything appears to look just fine as it is.

As a result, Colombo has directed that music be played during XO's Happy Hour. The music is used to test the 1MC loudspeaker for permanent operational use – while improving morale and motivating Sailors while cleaning during the hour.

"The music playing during XO's Happy Hour allows us to see if the 1MC's speaker is working correctly," said Interior Communications specialist (SW) Bill Bauer. "However, the big reason is the morale boost for TR's Sailors. It's very beneficial for the Sailors while they clean to listen to music, and it also allows us to troubleshoot if something goes wrong with the 1MC."

According to Bauer, the Rough Rider

of the Week (RROW) chooses songs for the playlist of the week. However, recent RROWs have been providing a playlist for one day of the week, leaving the rest of the playlist to be chosen by Bauer and Interior Communications Specialist 3rd Class (AW/SW) Edwin Nieves. So far, the majority of songs have been classics from the 1960s – early 2000s. Not many current, trendy songs have been played.

"We will play what we have if music is not provided to us by the RROW," said Chief Interior Communications Specialist (SW/AW) Robin Kelsick, leading chief petty officer for CS-8 division. "If Sailors get a hold of myself with an MP3 player or CD with tasteful music (no profanity, offensive subjects in songs), then we will be happy to play it."

Opinions of the music played during XO's Happy Hour vary within the ship.

"It's better than cleaning in silence because when good music is playing on the 1MC, we actually have fun," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Airman Blakney Miles of V-3 division.

"I'm older, so I like the music," said Lt. Cmdr. David Etheridge, TR's maintenance manager. "However, the majority of the people who are younger may not be fond of it, so perhaps it could be geared toward those who actually do the dirty work."

"Since the music has started playing during XO's Happy Hour, morale has raised with my Sailors during cleaning stations," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 1st Class (AW/SW) Esley Smith. "It helps get the day started, and it definitely helps get through the day. However, the music should be a variety of what everybody likes. TR is a melting pot – different cultures, different age groups, different races – therefore the music should reflect that as well."

Overall, the plan to motivate Sail-



Aviation Boatswain's Mate Airman (Handling) Amanda Cubit, assigned to the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), sweeps up debris in the hangar bay during cleaning stations, or "XO's Happy Hour."

ors during XO's Happy Hour is coming along successfully. However, if Sailors are looking to listen to a wider variety of music during the hour, they must put in the effort in order to expand the playlist.

"Sailors should run their music through their chain of command and have their department heads bring it to the XO to give to CS-8," said Kelsick. "Or, the RROW can bring their rest of the department and have one day as the RROW's choice of songs, and the rest of the week can be a big playlist from their shipmates. As long as the music is tasteful, we're happy to fulfill TR's requests."

FAF Independence Day

Story by MCSN Casey Cosker
USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)
Public Affairs

Cmdr. Mark Colombo, USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Executive Officer, inspected and closed the floating accommodation facility (FAF) moored to the pier alongside the ship, June 29.

During the week leading up to the FAF's closure, Sailors scoured the facility, removing all Navy material and thoroughly cleaning every space to prepare for XO's inspection.

"The first day we moved all the lockers on the third deck into the center, and then we scrubbed up the floor with a stripper," said Aviation Ordnanceman Airman David Esmay.

Esmay volunteered to work for three days cleaning out the FAF and worked extremely long hours to ensure the FAF met the expectations of the chain of command.

"The second day we scrubbed down the heads in the first deck and did a full sweep of the whole FAF from top to bottom," said Esmay.



Cmdr. Mark Colombo, executive officer of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), and Command Master Chief Jack Callison tour the floating accommodation facility.



Aviation Ordnanceman Airman David Esmay and Electronics Technician 3rd Class Darvey Lavender pose for a photo while swabbing the second deck of the floating accommodation facility (FAF) moored alongside USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).

Chief Air Traffic Controller (AW/SW) Todd Rose was in charge of the last day's cleaning. He had nothing but praise for the sailors working under him.

"Today they've been awesome," said Rose. "They've been busy the entire time. If I need something they're like, 'Yes, Chief. Let's go.' Their efforts have been spectacular."

TR's command master chief, CMDCM (SW/AW) Jack Callison, echoed Rose's sentiments.

"As always, TR sailors have been successful in overwhelming us with their support and enthusiasm in terms of getting off the FAF," Callison said.

At noon, Colombo boarded the FAF to inspect it before turning the facility over to civilian control. He greeted the group of senior enlisted and officers who had overseen

the cleaning of the FAF, then shook hands with Steven Simmons, the facility's civilian manager.

"I appreciate [the shipyard] letting us use the facility for the few years we've been here," Colombo said.

Colombo then thorough inspected the FAF from the top to bottom. He toured the facility with his characteristic casualness, cracking jokes as he moved along. At the end of his tour, Colombo was satisfied with the cleanliness of the facility.

The XO then addressed the Sailors who had worked at preparing the FAF for closure, thanking them for their efforts and saying that they had helped TR reach a major milestone in its multi-year Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH).

"You all just made a significant step in getting us there," Colombo said. "I'm going to walk out of these doors and declare FAF independence."

TR Sailors of all ranks are excited to be rid of the FAF and moving onto their ship.

"To be honest, I've never liked being on the FAF," said Chief Fire Controlman Justin Knightes, who worked as TR's FAF manager. "We don't belong on a building; we don't belong on a barge. We all belong on a ship."

TR sponsors recruit division

Story and photos by
MC3 (SW) Tyrell Morris
USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)
Public Affairs

Seven Sailors from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) traveled to Recruit Training Command (RTC) Great Lakes to visit a division the ship is sponsoring, June 29. TR was represented by Master Chief Machinist's Mate (SW/AW) Preston Whitlock, Chief Cryptological Technician (Technical) (SW/EXW) Tricia Ghunney, Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 1st Class (AW/SW) Jason Etheridge, Electrician's Mate 2nd Class (AW/SW) Ronnie Williams, Master at Arms 2nd Class (SW/AW) Berenice Mack, Cryptological Technician (Technical) 3rd Class (SW/AW) Nicole Thompson, and Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Tyrell Morris.

USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) was the first of several ships to sponsor a boot camp division back in 2004. Now TR is adding its name to the list of ships to participate in the sponsorship program.

The TR Sailors arrived on the recruits first day and met them inside of their divisions compartment.

"It is amazing to see how much boot camp has changed since I went through back in 2004," said Mack.

This was the first of four visits TR will make to RTC to see their division. They will be returning for the division's first physical readiness test and to cheer them on when they go to battle stations. Capt. William Hart, TR's Commanding Officer, will represent the ship at the division's pass and review.

"It is important that these recruits have someone outside of their recruit division commanders that they can ask questions and get advice about what they will experience once they make it to the fleet," said Ghunney. "Sponsorship provides a two-way connection between the recruits and Sailors that will be vital as they begin their Naval careers."

TR presented the division with a custom-made guideon flag and TR t-shirts for the entire division.

"We wanted them to have something special to commemorate this sponsorship," said Etheridge. "TR's First Class Petty Officer Association purchased the flag for the division, we consider it an investment in our Navy's future."



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RRoW: AOAN Patrick Green

Story and photo by MCSN Casey Cosker

*USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)
Public Affairs*

This week's USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Rough Rider of the Week is Aviation Ordnanceman Airman (AW/SW) Patrick Green.

Green has been in the Navy for almost two years, and joined TR two months ago.

Green said he joined the Navy surpass his uncle's accomplishments as a Sailor. Green intends to become an officer like his uncle through the STA-21 program.

Presently his goals are to work as hard as possible and be the best Sailor he can be.

"Any task my supervisors put me to, I try and get done as soon as possible," Green said. "I won't complain. I just go about my business and get it done."

Green intends to take advantage

of education opportunities the Navy provides, he said. He intends to pursue a degree in business administration, sociology or communications.

"I'm going to go to school and at least get my Associate's," Green said.

According to Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class (AW/SW) Ryan Pynn, one of Green's supervisors, Green stands out from other Sailors in his department due to his hard work and dedication.

"He's a new arrival to the division," Pynn said. "Since day one he's been out there on the deck plates running it."

"They need to make more Sailors like Airman Green who come in and do their job to the best of their ability," Pynn added.

Green has advice for other Sailors.

"My advice is to network," Green said. "Keep asking questions. There's a lot to learn in the Navy."

In his spare time, Green enjoys playing basketball and golf.



Four TR Sailors earn EIDWS pins

Story and photos by MC3 Andrew Sulayao

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Public Affairs

Four Sailors attached to the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) were the first Sailors onboard to earn their Enlisted Information Dominance Warfare Specialist (EIDWS) qualification, June 27.

The four Sailors pinned are Senior Chief Information Systems Technician (SW/AW/IDW) Malcolm Tipton, Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 2nd Class (SW/AW/IDW) Zane Johnson, Cryptologic Technical (Maintenance) 2nd Class (SW/AW/IDW) Matthew Armstrong and Information Systems Technician 2nd Class (SW/IDW) Scott Solis.

The EIDWS qualification signifies an understanding of specific knowledge pertaining to rates in the Information Dominance Corps: Cryptologic Technician, Intelligence Specialist, Information Systems Technician, and Aerographer's Mate.

According to Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 1st Class (SW/IDW) Nicollette Jeffery, the assistant coordinator of the EIDWS program onboard TR, the IDW program started to develop in late 2011 and officially started when the four Sailors were pinned.

"Because information and intelligence is one of many aspects of our mission on this ship, it is important to have this program for Sailors in the Information Dominance Corps to learn

for the mission at hand – to protect this ship so we may protect others," said Jeffery.

According to Jeffery, the four Sailors who have earned their EIDWS qualification have shown their strong work ethic by taking the next step forward to advance their career and set the standard for future Sailors.

"It's great that the newly qualified IDW Sailors have taken the initiative to obtain their qualification," said Jeffery. "To be the first IDW qualified Sailors, speaks levels on their performance as 'squared-away' Sailors."

As the first Sailors to earn their EIDWS qualification onboard TR, the four Sailors are now considered the example for the program on the ship.

"To be the first IDW Sailors attached to TR is an honor," said Solis. "As the program furthers, my peers and I can look back and see ourselves as the foundation of a great program. I thank my shipmates for all of the hours they spent studying and working with me so that I could become IDW-qualified."

The significance of the program will only grow as time and technology advances forward.

"The next world war is going to be focused on cyber warfare," said Armstrong. "Information and intelligence is the most valuable thing our ship holds because it holds our operational security at risk. We as the information dominance corps must keep our intelligence safe so we can sleep safely in our racks at night."

Photo of the Week



Capt. William Hart, TR's Commanding Officer, addresses TR's newly-frocked senior chiefs at the Huntington Hall field, June 29.

Photo by MC3 Sean Hurt

Photo Find



Can you find the 6 out of place items in this photo?

1. Dove
2. Waldo
3. Whale
4. TR the Man
5. Wrench
6. Mouse
7. Quarter
8. Smiley face

Cleaning supplies and furniture sit on the floating accommodation facility (FAF) moored alongside USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) on June 29.

Photo and Photo Find by MCSN Casey Cosker

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.

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MC3 Sean Hurt

Layout & Design

MC3 (SW) Tyrell Morris

Rough Rider Contributors

MC3 Katie Lash
MC3 Andrew Sulayao
MCSN Casey Cosker

Command Ombudsman

April Kumley
cvn71ombudsman@yahoo.com

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PETTY OF THE OFFICER WATCH

ET3 (SW) ERIC
JOHNSTON
COMBAT SYSTEMS

QUALS:
MOOW, POOW



“ THIS WATCH IS PRETTY STRAIGHT FORWARD, BUT IMPORTANT. IF THERE'S EVER A FIRE OR EMERGENCY, I WILL BE THE ONE TO LET EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT IT. ”

“ I'M A ROUGH RIDER ”