

WHAT MAKES A CHIEF PART 1

Becoming board eligible

CONTINUOUS PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

TR Sailors learn to minimize time, money, energy waste

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT
ROUGH RIDER

TRTEES
OFF
FOR
NAVY
MARINE CORPS
RELIEF
SOCIETY



Rough Rider of the Week: MCSA Cory Asato

By MCSA John Kotara

This week's USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN71) Rough Rider of the Week is Media Department's Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Cory Asato.

Asato, a Hawaiian native, joined the Navy in 2009. Asato joined the military for his two children and wife, as well as for himself.

"It was a selfless decision," said Asato, "I have a family and want to provide for them. I was tired of working three jobs then coming home to sleep for four hours, just to do it all over again."

After completing school to become a Mass Communication Specialist (MC), Asato reported to TR in August 2010.

MC's employ a multitude of skills which include photography, public affairs, computer media and printing. Asato admits that upon arriving at the TR he made a lot of mistakes.

"When Asato first arrived he was a little reluctant, respectful, and did not try to step on anyone's toes," said Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW/AW) Jerel L. Jones, "Now Asato thinks better on his feet, and

shows more initiative and is well on track to becoming a well rounded MC.

"I didn't come in shining by any means," said Asato. "But I try to learn from my mistakes."

Upon arriving to TR Asato was assigned to the ship's print shop. After a short time Asato made his way to public affairs where he worked writing for the ship's paper. Finally, Asato ended up in photography taking pictures of retirement ceremonies, reenlistments and everything picture related to the ship.

In each of these transitions Asato would often look to his fellow Sailors for help, and learn from what they had to say.

"Asato is a hard charger and is dedicated," said Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Kayla L. Thompson, Asato's leading petty officer. "He looks out for ways to improve the department, in all aspects."

Throughout his time here, Asato's chain-of-command took notice of determination and attitude towards work.

"Asato is a hard worker and has a great work ethic," said Thompson. "He is willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done, whether it is coming in early, staying late or coming in on the weekends."



Lose the Waste While in RCOH

By MCSN Sean Weir

Sixteen USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors completed Continuous Process Improvement (CPI) training at the GE Warehouse April 1 so they can organize improvement projects for the command on their way to becoming green belt certified.

CPI is a DOD wide program that takes steps towards minimizing waste when it comes to time, energy and money, said Rebecca Ferguson, logistics manager for Commander Naval Air Forces.

“This is an opportunity for Sailors to improve what they do every day and get rid of frustrations that they encounter with

their every day jobs,” said Ferguson. “At the same time the overall picture for the Navy is to save money, increase readiness, improve the quality of our product and services, reduce waste and become more cost effective.”

One example of how CPI works is the t700 engines that are at the Fleet Readiness Center, North Island, Calif. Before CPI programs were implemented it took 26 days to build one engine, they now take only four days, said Ferguson.

“Are hopes are that we can standardize a lot of the processes with RCOH, said Ferguson. The commanding officer is very interested in what this program can do. He is very involved and interested in getting into a green belt class.”

CPI goes by a belt system, white belt, yellow belt, green belt, black belt and master black belt. Someone just starting can get their white belt through Navy



Sailors from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) attend a week-long Continuous Process Improvement training course at the GE Warehouse in Suffolk, Va.

Photo by MCSN Sean Weir



Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Marlon Nesbitt participates in an exercise during the Continuous Process Improvement program.

Photo by MCSN Sean Weir

knowledge online courses. To advance past that requires Sailors to go through more training and complete qualifications.

“It is going to streamline a lot of work on the TR,” says Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class (AW/SW) Justin J. Olson, who attended the training. “It will reduce work and help prevent Sailors from repeating jobs.”

TR is the first carrier to have CPI implemented during RCOH. Over the next six months the TR's goal is to have an official CPI office, hold yellow and green belt training, and begin to implement events that will help reduce waste. This way the TR will have a fully functioning CPI program by the time they are out of the yards.



USS Theodore Roosevelt Spring Classic Golf Tournament

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) kicked off its 2011 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Annual Fund Drive March 1. The purpose of the drive is to increase awareness of Sailors and Marines and their families about the availability of assistance from NMCRS.

NMCRS is a private, non-profit, charitable organization that was founded in 1904. At the time they only had 7 volunteers. Today they have more than 3,600 volunteers who make it possible for them to serve more than 4 million Sailors and Marines and their families. They exist solely to support active and retired communities of the Naval Service.

“Last year we raised \$34,662 and as a crew we borrowed \$234,655,” said Chief Aviation Electronics Technician (AW/SW) Deric Washington, TR’s 2011 NMCRS Fund Drive Coordinator. “That is a vast disparity. If every Sailor onboard TR could afford to donate just \$5, our crew of over 2,500 personnel could raise more than \$150,000 in support of a worthwhile organization whose purpose is to provide much needed services to our Sailors and Marines.”

The command held several events during the month to help generate funds for the cause. Departmental representatives worked at the TR Grill for a week with profits from those sales going directly to the fund drive. A TR Spring Classic golf tournament was also held with those profits going to the drive as well. Those combined efforts raised more than \$5,000.

“The golf tournament in my opinion was very successful,” said Washington. “We were able to get some donated prizes from our beloved Fun Boss, Ms. Holly Scheidt, to include tickets for admission to Kings Dominion, Busch Gardens, Water Country and American Karting to name a few. We also were able to provide awards for the winning team each receiving \$50 gift cards to Dick’s Sporting Goods.”

The fund drive was originally supposed to run through the end of March, but the deadline has been extended two weeks to April 15.

“With only approximately 35 percent of the command inputs received, we have been able to raise \$17,192 from direct donations via cash, check or allotment. Since we’ve been extended an additional two weeks, we will continue the fund raising efforts through various means.”

Washington said he wants to thank those who have committed valuable time and resources to support the fund drive. Every Sailor is encouraged to participate in the fund drive, no matter how minimal the donation.

“I’ve used NMCRS before and it was a good experience,” said PSSN Andre Sheppard. “I used them for the Quick Assist Loan Program. I was in and out pretty quickly and the pay-back amount and schedule they set up for me didn’t put me in any kind of financial hardship. I would definitely recommend their services to anyone who’s in need.”

Financial Counseling, Budgeting for Baby, Thrift Shops, Visiting Nurses Services, interest-free loans, grants and scholarships are just a few services NMCRS offers. For more information on NMCRS, visit www.nmcrs.org.



1. Three USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors take a break during a golf tournament fundraiser for the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society held at the Chesapeake Golf Club in Chesapeake, Va., Mar. 25. The tournament was held as a command effort to raise money for the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society.

2. Chief Fire Controlman (SW/AW) Kevin E. Crumbie of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) kneels down to align himself with the hole during a golf tournament at the Chesapeake Golf Club.

3. Three USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors take turns putting during a Spring Classic golf tournament for the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society at the Chesapeake Golf Club.

WHRO-TV, TR CO Discuss Community Involvement

By MCSN Cory Asato

Bob Batcher, host of “Norfolk Perspectives,” interviewed USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Commanding Officer William J. Hart about the ship’s frequent involvement in the local community and local schools at WHRO Public Media March 30 in Norfolk, Va.

In addition to Capt. Hart, the ship’s “Mini-Boss” Cmdr. Richard D. Jones and the ship’s Public Affairs Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Karen Eifert, sat down with Batcher on the 30-minute magazine show to discuss the ship’s investment in the community.

In December, Theodore Roosevelt reaffirmed its partnership with Lindenwood Elementary school by supporting a book drive for the students that not only delivered 375 new books for the kids to read over the holiday break, but provided hats, coats and gloves for students in need.

In February, Campostella Elementary School Principal Laguna Foster was

interested in taking the lead on the national issue of bullying. TR Sailors were quick to get involved and hosted an anti-bullying assembly that involved an interactive video and judging panel to educate children in the different ways to handle a bully situation, and the effects it can have on a child.

“It seems as though you’re starting to develop a relationship with these children,” said Batcher.

“It’s really about the children,” said Hart. “Our over-arching goal is to be partners with the community wherever we can. A lot of our Sailors who are participating in these events are returning to donate their time in the community, and it is a trend we would like to see continue.”

The next event is a tsunami discussion with students at Campostella Elementary School April 1. TR’s goal is to use its resident knowledge and real world application in the STEM fields of engineering and science to assist the

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math students in understanding of the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan that occurred Mar 11.

Later in April, and inspired by First Lady Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Read, Let’s Move” initiative, TR Sailors will culminate nearly two months of physical fitness mentoring with Lindenwood students during the Navy’s biannual physical fitness assessment. 40 students will take the assessment alongside the Sailors who have mentored them and will focus on accomplishing 10 push-ups, 50 sit-ups and a one-mile run.

“We’ve been using a combination of videos through TR’s Facebook page and direct in-person mentoring to teach kids about physical fitness, bullying issues and STEM-related fields, to take advantage of as many outlets to reach out to the children,” said Eifert.

The program is scheduled to air April 17, 2011.

PHOTO FIND

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

1. Apple
2. Pizza
3. Rose
4. Index Card
5. Lame
6. Football
7. Orange
8. Office Chair
9. Lollipop
10. Soda

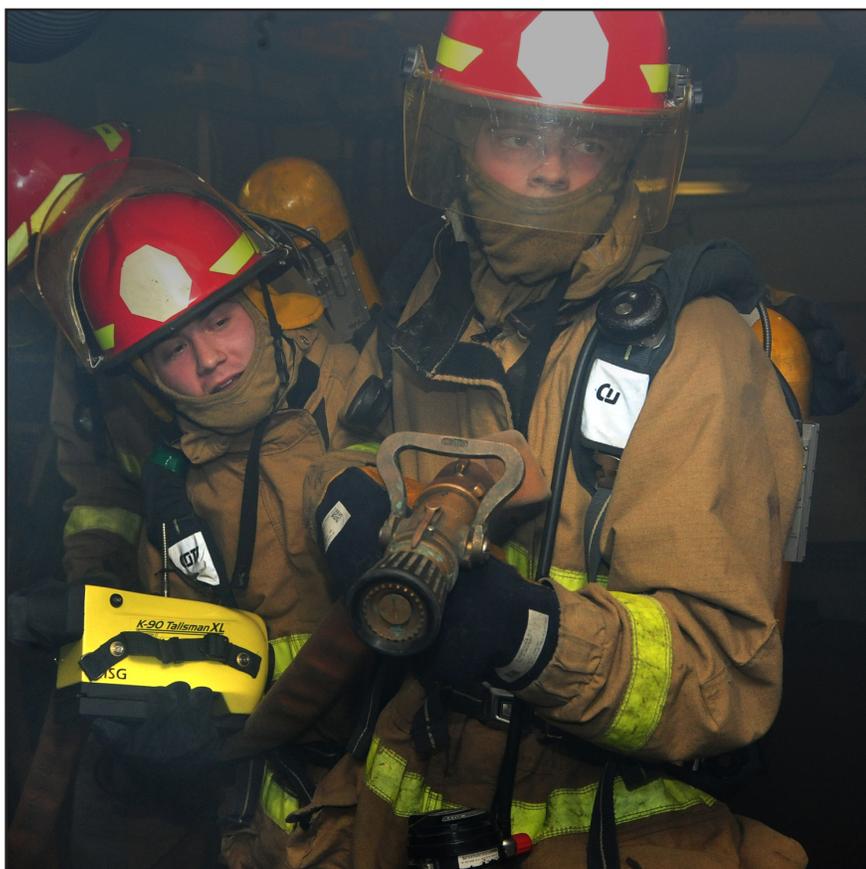


Photo Find by MC3 Andrew Skipworth

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) In Port Emergency Team work together to extinguish a simulated fire during a drill.

Photo by MCSN Jennifer Castillo

What it Takes to Become a Chief Pt. 1: Board Eligible

By MCSN Tyrell Morris

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) has 104 first class petty officers who are board eligible for Chief this cycle. However, the likelihood of all 104 candidates making Chief is not very high.

The road to making Chief Petty Officer in the Navy is a road less traveled and it is very rare a Sailor makes Chief their first time up.

“This is my sixth time taking the exam and I’ve been eligible for board every time,” said Aviation Ordnanceman 1st class (AW) Terrence Raymond, leading petty officer of Weapons Department’s G-2 division.

Just because a Sailor is not selected for Chief when they are eligible does not always mean that Sailor is not qualified or deserving. BUPERS planners have a maximum select quota for each rating that they provide to the selection board. The selection board then has the difficult task of filling the quota with the “best-qualified” candidates.

“I still kept a positive attitude each time I wasn’t selected and

continued to do my best at my job so I can try to stand out,” said Raymond.

A difficult step in the process is preparing for and passing the advancement exam. The E-7 exam is administered every January and is a difficult test.

“I began studying the bibliographies on Navy Knowledge Online in July of last year so I would be fully prepared for the exam,” said Electrician’s Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Willie Scott, production leading petty officer of Engineering Department’s E-division.

If a Sailor does not pass the exam they have already eliminated their chances of making Chief until the next year. The Sailors that do pass the exam must begin

preparing themselves for the next step in the selection process.

Sailors have to submit a package to the board to ensure the board sees their true



competitiveness.

A package will include any awards, qualifications and evaluations that have not been added to a Sailor’s service record.

The service record and its contents are ultimately the responsibility of each individual Sailor.

“It is important to periodically review your service record to make sure nothing is omitted that should be in it so it will be less work when the time comes to submit a package,” said Scott.

Once the package is submitted, the eligible first class petty officers can do nothing but anxiously await the board’s decision.

The best advice these board eligible first class petty officers could give to others who are trying to make it to where they are can be summed up in one word: **STUDY!**

“The one thing every Sailor has complete control over is how well they perform on the exam,” said Raymond. “They should take full advantage of every opportunity they have to study to maximize their chance for success.”



Photo of the Week



Two Sailors face each other in the Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek Intramural Boxing championship bout. Six USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors competed in the event against Sailors from different commands in the Hampton Roads area.

Photo by MC3 Christopher Chruuch

Staff

Commanding Officer

Capt.

William Hart

Executive Officer

Capt.

Douglas Verissimo

Public Affairs Officer

Lt. Cmdr. Karen Eifert

Media Officer

Ensign Michael Larson

Senior Editor

MCC (SW/AW) Jerel Jones

Editor

MC3(EXW) Joey Morgon
morgonjl@cvn71.navy.mil

Rough Rider Contributors

MC1 (SW)

Kayla L. Thompson

MC3 Andrew Skipworth

MC3 Christopher Church

MCSN Cory Asato

MCSN Jennifer Castillo

MCSN Tyrell Morris

MCSA John Kotara

Command Ombudsman

Ellasin Allen

trombudsman@yahoo.com

Web site

www.tr.surfor.navy.mil

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Upcoming COMREL Events

****60 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

SPECIAL OLYMPICS EVENT AT OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

More than 200 of Norfolk Public Schools' finest athletes will be taking to the field to participate in one of the world's oldest athletic competitions - the Olympics.

Special needs students representing seven Norfolk elementary schools (Crossroads, Fairlawn, Jaycox, Little Creek, Larrimore, Suburban Park and Sewells Point) will compete in the Special Olympics at Old Dominion University on April 5. The event will take place at Foreman Field. Opening Ceremonies will begin at 10:30 a.m.

The event organizers are looking for 60 USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors to volunteer. If interested contact TR's Media Department at 757-534-0716 or stop by room 410 on the FAF.

****10 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

14th ANNUAL HAMPTON ROADS YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MENTORING SUMMIT

Theme: Mentoring in and beyond the school doors.
April 9, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Youth Conference Mentoring Summit at Booker T. Washington High School

Guest Speaker: Congressman Bobby Scott
Event organizers are looking for 10 USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors to volunteer. If interested contact TR's Media Department at 757-534-0716 or stop by room 410 on the FAF.