

Photo of the Week



USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Duty Section 1 In port Emergency Team advances on a mock-fire during a fire drill in the ship's hanger bay Jan. 27. The team successfully completed the drill quickly and efficiently.

Photo by MCSN Jennifer Castillo

Staff

Commanding Officer

Capt.
William Hart

Executive Officer

Capt.
Douglass 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

MC3 Corey Hixson
MCSN Jennifer Castillo
MCSN Sandra Pimentel
MCSA Cory Asato

Command Ombudsman

Ellasin Allen
tombudsman@yahoo.com

Web site

www.tr.surfor.navy.mil

The Rough Rider is an authorized publication for the crew of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).

Contents herein are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Navy or the Commanding Officer of TR.

All items for publication in the The Rough Rider must be submitted to the editor no later than three days prior to publication.

TR's Ghost Riders

TR's top-seeded basketball team advances

Chaplain's Corner

Remember the past; look to the future

USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT ROUGH RIDER

TR'S TOP SAILORS HOW THEY GOT THERE

AO1 (AW/SW)

Kenson Noel

HM2 (SW/AW)

Pamela Patterson

LS3 (SW/AW)

Christopher McGuire

DC3 (SW)

Crystal Latham

MWR Upcoming Events

Couples Dinner

7th Annual Armed Services YMCA Romantic Couples Dinner Saturday, February 12, 2011 Oceana Community Center 1200 S. Birdneck Road, Virginia Beach, Va. 23451

Please enjoy a romantic evening, while our trained staff takes care of your children. Dinner will be served between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

E-3 and below – \$15.00 per couple
E-4 and E-5 – \$25.00 per couple
E-6 and up – \$35.00 per couple
Child minding is included in this price!

Register early to reserve your table as reservations are LIMITED! Last day to register is February 9, 2011.

For more information please call Kim Fadely at (757) 433-2055 or email at kim.fadely@asymcahr.org.

Ski Trip

The NAVSTA Norfolk Liberty program has some great trips coming up for the new year starting with two ski trips to Wintergreen Resort

E1-E3 \$55

E4-E6 \$65

E7- Up \$85

Guest \$95

Feb 26. Cost includes transportation, Ski or board rental and lift ticket

Super Bowl Golf

Super Bowl Blitz Golf Outing

Sunday, Feb. 6.

9 a.m. Shotgun Start, Florida Best Ball

Foursomes, \$25 for military, \$30 for guests.

Call 462-8526 for details.

Rough Riders of the Week: PSSA Tucker and AT3 Syck

By MCSN Sandra Pimentel

This week USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) recognizes two Sailors as Rough Riders of the week; Personnel Specialist Seaman Apprentice Joshua Tucker and Aviation Technician 3rd Class Eric Syck.

Tucker, a native of Wetumpka, Ala., joined the Navy in Jan. 2010.

As a member of Administration Department's X-2 division, Tucker helps to scan records into Electronic Submissions (ESUB), where they are then sent and added to each Sailor's Electronic Service Record (ESR). He assists in updating page 2's, charging leave chits, and updating the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

Among his many duties,

Tucker was one of four people responsible for processing 2,500 leave requests during the holiday leave periods.

"I think that I was chosen because I am helpful," said Tucker. "I try to stay motivated and I think that is noticed."

As of recently, Tucker was responsible for re-enlistments and extensions, soon he will be taking over separations.

In February, Tucker will be returning home to participate in the Navy's Hometown Area Recruiting Program (HARP).

"Tucker is a good Sailor with great potential," said Personnel Specialist 1st Class Mark

Johnson. "He never has a problem doing what he is asked and is always very squared away."

His ambitions are to be an entrepreneur once he leaves the Navy. Tucker hopes to start a self storage company in Alabama and eventually move into rental properties.

In his off time Tucker enjoys spending time with his wife and six-year old daughter. Another passion Tucker has is for music. You can view his work online at www.YouTube.com by searching for the alias Tyrone.

The next Sailor, Syck, is from AIMD's IM-3 Division/Ship's Force Rehab Team. Syck, a Mableton, Ga. native, joined the Navy in April

2007 and reported to the TR in July 2008.

Syck is a Sailor who has distinguished himself in AIMD on a daily basis. He has earned the Rough Rider of the Week through his unrelenting hard work.

"Syck's integrity, dedication and technical abilities make him an invaluable member of the department," said Aviation Electronics Technician Chief (AW) Thomas Keith, divisional leading chief petty officer for IM-3 division.

When he learned of his nomination Syck felt that he was chosen because he is a hard worker.

"I always look for ways to excel," said Syck. "I work well within the IM3 team and always take exceptional pride in my work. I have taken advantage of the opportunity to showcase my leadership potential by taking charge of various paint prep teams, organization of supplies and following up with leadership to ensure timely and proper completion of tasks."

Syck is planning on returning to college to finish a engineering degree in electronics.

In his free time Syck enjoys working out, working on cars.



Chaplain's Corner: Remembering Forward

By Lt. Cmdr. Raynard Allen



Ravi Zacharias said, "For most of us, the act of remembering or revisiting a memory takes us back into the distant past. We remember people, events, cherished locales and details from days long gone. Of course, not all memories are pleasant, and traveling toward the distant past can also resemble something more like a nightmare than a nostalgic trip down memory lane. Nevertheless, even if we have but a few, all of us have cherished memories or times we periodically revisit in daydreams and remembrances."

Nostalgia is one such way of revisiting these times. It can be defined as that bittersweet yearning for things in the past. The hunger it creates in us to return to another time and place lures us away from living in the realities of the present. Nostalgia wears

a shade of rose-colored glasses as it envisions days that were always sweeter, richer, and better than the present day. In general, as Frederick Buechner has said, nostalgia takes us "on an excursion from the living present back into the dead past..." or else it summons "the dead past back into the living present."

In either case, nostalgic remembering removes us from the present and tempts us to dwell in the unlivable past. Without finding ways to remember forward—to bring the past as the good, the bad, and the ugly into the present in a way that informs who we are and how we will live here and now—all that we are left with is nostalgia.

It is far from a sense of nostalgia that drives the writer of Psalm 78. Instead, the psalmist recalls the history of Israel as a means of remembering forward, bringing the full reality of the past into a place of honest remembrance not just for the present generation, but for the sake of generations to come. The psalmist exhorts the people of God to listen and incline their ears to the stories of the Exodus, the wilderness wanderings, and the entry into the Promised Land.

"We will not conceal them from their children, but tell to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength and his wondrous works that he has done.... That the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be born, that they may arise and tell them to their children, that they should put their confidence in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep the commandments" (Psalm 78:4-7).

Despite God's great works among them, the people of Israel did not keep the covenant of God and refused to walk in God's way. They forgot God's deeds and miraculous signs. They put God to the test and did not trust in God's salvation. They were rebellious and "grieved God in the desert" (vs. 40). There are no rose-colored remembrances here, no bittersweet yearnings to which they can return. Rather, the darker parts of the story are remembered alongside God's long-suffering and loving-kindness—urging the people to think about this God in the midst of their present circumstances.

What had God done among them in the past? And how might they now live in light of that past? In the same way, when

Jesus instructs his followers during that last supper together saying "this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me" he is not calling them to bittersweet yearnings, or simply to remember events lived long ago (Luke 22:19). Rather, he is calling them to remember in such a way that shapes all their living to come. Surely the disciples would not have understood fully all that Jesus was saying in his call to remembrance

Yet, they became his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth. Remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus was not just a fact they rehearsed, but a lived reality that gave contour and context for their generation and for generations to come.

As another year comes and goes, we are offered the opportunity to remember and to ask how we remember the stories of the past. What stories do our lives tell? Does the great story of salvation impact the reality of our daily lives? Will we proclaim with the ancient psalmist: "Yes, we your people and the sheep of your pasture give thanks to you forever; to all generations we will tell of your praise!"

Who's winning Super Bowl XLV



"I'm not a fan of Green Bay, but I know that they are going to win. They have the best receiver and Pittsburgh's defense isn't that great."

-Aviation Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class (AW) Derrick Blakely



"The Steelers! They have the better team and the youngest coach who has ever made it to the Super Bowl. Twice."

-Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SW) Rory Rice



"Green Bay. The Steelers have a good defense, but this year we have a good passing game. I don't think that they can cover our four best receivers."

-Air-Traffic Controller 2nd Class (AW/SW) Jaine Murphy



"I don't really care because my team isn't in it. But, if I had to choose, as much as I hate to say it, the Steelers."

-Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 1st Class (AW/SW) Melanie McCollum



PHOTO FIND

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

1. Packers Helmet
2. Steelers Helmet
3. Basketball
4. Arrow
5. CD
6. Sword
7. Stapler
8. Theodore Roosevelt

A Sailor from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) demonstrates how to hold a rifle during a hands on training class for the U.S. Navy Marksmanship Team, held at the Norfolk County Rifle Range in Chesapeake, Va., Jan. 27

Photo by MCSN Sandra Pimentel

TR Ghost Riders Advance 74-60



USS Theodore Roosevelt's (CVN 71) Ghost Riders huddle after winning their opening round game in the Portsmouth Basketball League Playoffs at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard gym. The Ghost Riders defeated the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Runners 74-60.

Photo by MC3 Corey Hixson

By MC3 Corey Hixson

The TR Ghost Riders (13-1) basketball team played in the first round of the Portsmouth Basketball League Playoffs at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard gym against the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Runners. This TR basketball team is not like any of the other teams in this year's playoffs. The Ghost Riders are the league's number one seed.

The game started with both teams going back and forth between lead changes. Half way through the first half, things began to improve

for the Ghost Rider's offensively and defensively. That led to them taking a 38-32 lead at halftime.

Although the Ghost Riders showed improvement on both sides of the ball, the change in pace was key because of an adjustment on one side of the ball.

"We started kind of slow," said team coach Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Senior Chief (AW/SW) Richard McCray. "We had to switch up our defense, and things began to get better from there."

The Ghost Riders carried their momentum from the first half into the second half where they continued to play well on both ends of the court. Their lead increased to double digits several times during the half despite the attempts by the Runners to get back into the game. The Runners cut the deficit down to six points at one point during the second half, but the Ghost Riders quickly increased their lead back to double digits.

With under a minute left in the game, the Runners began to intentionally foul the Ghost Riders in hope that

the team would miss its free throws and give them a chance at a comeback.

The Ghost Riders were not fazed by the Runners late game tactics, and increased their lead to 14.

The Ghost Riders won their first game of the playoffs with a final score of 74-60.

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Jeremy Olds led the team in scoring with 25 points, Airman Patrick Green had 15, and Hospital Corpsman Seaman Rashad White finished with 11.

The Ghost Riders' early game adjustments and each team members individual play led to the team's advancement to the second round.

"We started off slow, so we had to switch our defense, said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuel) 3rd Class David Jones. "After that our shots got better, and we just started clicking. Everybody on the team scored and brought something to the table."

Although the Ghost Riders are the top seeded team and they won their first playoff game, it is clear they have a greater goal in mind.

"I feel good," said Olds. "We're trying to get that championship."

TR's Sailors of the Year

By MCSA Cory Asato

Recognition, prestige and an extra bullet on the eval all come with earning the title of Sailor of the Year (SOY). USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Sailors of the Year for 2010 earned every one of those perks.

Being up against some of the fiercest competition, these TR Sailors had to prove they were SOY material.

"I was up against shipmates that I know and work with who all are hard chargers," said Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (SW/AW) Pamela Patterson, TR's junior sailor of the year. "I was surprised when I was told that I was receiving the award."

The humble attitudes displayed by TR's 2010 SOY only attribute to their character which helped them rise to the top.

"I was not working toward achieving this award," said Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class (AW/SW) Kenson Noel, TR's Sailor of the Year. "I just do my work to the best of my ability and try to help others as much as possible."

The multitude of responsibility held by these Sailors outweighs the rank they wear.

"Successful Sailors set a trend early on in their career, often showing the traits of a seasoned chief," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate Master Chief (AW/SW) Jimmie Gardner, TR's acting command master chief. "These Sailors take on the hard jobs and volunteer their extra time."

Damage Controlman 3rd Class (SW) Crystal Latham received TR's Rough Rider of the Year award during TR's 2010 Holiday Party, held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center.

"I wasn't expecting it, but I'm still very thankful that I was recognized," said Latham.

Latham was noted as excelling in her work performance by Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW/AW) Jeffrey Graves, her supervisor.

Sailor of the Year AO1 (AW/SW) Kenson Noel



- ✓ Off duty education
 - 5 classes from associate's degree
- ✓ Command collateral duties
 - Leading Petty Officer for Weapons Department
 - Ammunition Administration MO Accountant
 - Duty Section Leader
- ✓ Volunteer work
 - Sponsored RTC division with TR
 - Participated in 911 memorial in N.Y. City
 - Volunteers with Red Cross regularly

"Latham leads the tank and void team, inspecting tanks and voids for any corrosion," said Graves.

Latham mentioned punctuality as one of her strong points.

"I hold punctuality to be very important," said Latham. "It's just as important to get the job done on time as it is to do it well."

TR awarded Logistics Specialist 3rd Class (SW/AW) Christopher McGuire on a job well done by presenting him with TR's Bluejacket of the Year award.

Starting out the year undesignated, he quali-

Jr. Sailor of the Year HM2 (SW/AW) Pamela Patterson



- ✓ Off duty education
 - Working towards bachelors degree
- ✓ Command collateral duties
 - Tobacco cessation coordinator
 - Ship Shape Coordinator
 - Assistant Suicide Prevention Coordinator
 - Co-founder of TR's Suicide Prevention Coordinator Program
 - Vice President of SCPOA
- ✓ Earned ESWS and EAWS qualification

fied as an Enlisted Surface Warfare specialist and entered into the logistics specialist rate after passing the 3rd class exam in March.

"The transition between work centers was almost seamless with Logistics Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Makia Adams mentoring me through the process," said McGuire.

McGuire stated that he trained more than 100 Sailors over the past year as repair parts petty officers.

"He takes the time to train individuals senior to him and is very hard working," said Adams,

How They Did It

Blue Jacket of the Year LS3 (SW/AW) Christopher McGuire



- ✓ Command collateral duties
 - TR's primary purchase card holder
 - Responsible for multi-million dollar Budget ordering, tracking and procurement with SUPSHIP
 - Trained four helmsmen while TAD to USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70)
- ✓ Earned EAWS qualification
- ✓ Advanced too Petty Officer 3rd Class from undesignated Seaman

TR's 2009 Junior Sailor of the Year.

Adams commented on McGuire's eagerness to learn and perform with thorough precision.

"McGuire's hard work and results deserve merit," said Adams. "He performs way beyond his pay grade."

With six command level collateral duties and currently working on her officer's package, Patterson took home TR's Junior Sailor of the Year award.

"Winning this award has been the highlight

Rough Rider of the Year DC3 (SW) Crystal Latham



- ✓ Off Duty Education
 - Completed 5 college classes
- ✓ Command collateral duties
 - Served in supervisory position
 - At-sea Fire Team Phone Talker
 - In port Emergency Team Member
 - Damage Control Sounding and Security leader
 - Qualified as Damage Control Watch Supervisor
- ✓ Earned ESWS qualification

of my year with TR," said Patterson. "What drives me to succeed is my six-year old daughter and being the best I can be."

Patterson has impressed her superiors and those she works with throughout the command.

"Patterson operates at such a superior level to her pay grade," said Sonar Technician (Sub-surface) Chief (SS/IUS/SW/AW) Paul Alvarado, a Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program counselor who works with Patterson. "She takes the best course of action and outperforms in her duties."

Alvarado was not at a loss for words when

describing Patterson and her work ethic, both have taken part in building TR's first Suicide Prevention Coordinator program.

"Patterson is passionate about what she does, extremely professional, caring and compassionate with her patients," said Alvarado. "She has a vested interest in what she does."

Selflessness is an asset any Sailor can utilize along with the Navy Core Values. Noel is another great example of that trait. He took home top honors as TR's Sailor of the Year.

"I do my best to give back and help others," said Noel. "I work as a driver for Red Cross, whenever they are in need of someone to respond in crisis."

Noel takes his responsibilities seriously and sees that they are handled thoroughly and professionally while looking for every avenue to give back and help others whether he works with them or not.

"The Navy is a job just like anything in the civilian world so of course you're expected to do your job, but why not do it well?" stated Noel. "I do my best and that helps other Sailors. I try to be like a beacon of light in the night for others to see the right path. If you

ever need any help, let me know."

Doing a great job with a clean appearance is just the start. Gardner shares other points which can help any Sailor become recognized as Sailor of the Year.

"Being a well rounded Sailor is what gets you noticed and giving the best effort at everything. Involvement with command collaterals and awards are great, but the trick is to go above what the command has to offer. Sailorization is the key to success, participation at every level from a work center and eventually throughout the fleet. As Sailor of the Year, you now represent TR."