

### Sailor of the Quarter

VALIANT's Sailor of the Quarter program is intended to acknowledge and reward outstanding performance of VALIANT enlisted personnel. Individuals selected have gone above and beyond what is asked of them, devoting their time and effort to VALIANT and her crew.



VALIANT's most recent Sailor of the Quarter was Petty Officer Second Class Jackie Spelz from the Engineering Department. Below is his citation, which was presented on January 11, 2012.

Congratulations on your selection as VALIANT's Sailor of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of calendar year 2011. As the Engineering Department's technical expert for the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) charging station, you completely revamped the maintenance program for this component after you discovered the charging compressor had several incorrect parts installed that allowed unacceptable levels of moisture to enter the SCBA bottles whenever the charging station was used. Your diligence and attention to detail has guaranteed this vitally important piece of Damage Control (DC) equipment is always in optimal running condition and ready for use in the event of a shipboard emergency. Your expert welding skills were evident after a Surfaces Forces Logistic Center mandated inspection revealed a severely corroded

stanchion on the port side boat deck. Not satisfied with a quick repair, you fabricated and installed a five foot section of deck safety stanchion; completely eliminating a major safety hazard and bringing VALIANT in line with a short fused class-wide Time Compliance Technical Order. You also worked tirelessly during VALIANT's October/November 2011 Emergency Dry-Dock in Jacksonville, FL where you ensured all required fire watch personnel were properly equipped and at their assigned stations at the appointed time. As shipyard welders worked around the clock, you supervised the renewal of 30 square ft of degraded hull plating and witnessed all non-destructive testing to the hull weld seams. Your role during this dry-dock allowed VALIANT to depart the shipyard on time despite a nine day delay to the start of the contract. You did this while simultaneously completing all back-logged DC equipment maintenance required before VALIANT could depart on her November/December 2011 District Seven patrol that immediately followed. Your commitment to the professional growth of your shipmates coupled with your "can-do" attitude has made you an example to all onboard. With your impressive understanding in all areas of shipboard DC, you personally provided hands-on training to six newly reported personnel, helping them obtain qualifications in both basic and advanced DC fundamentals. Your efforts have allowed VALIANT to maintain a full compliment of qualified personnel in both repair lockers despite the unavoidable departure of experienced personnel. Your exceptional pride and positive attitude throughout this quarter have been example for others. Bravo Zulu on this great achievement, shipmate!

J. C. Dettleff, CDR, USCG

Commanding Officer