



## Aloha!

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USCGC RUSH  
(WHEC 723)  
Honolulu, Hawaii

FPO AP 96677-3921

400 Sand Island Pkwy  
Honolulu, HI 96819

Public Affairs Officer  
LTJG Walter Daniel  
wdaniel@rush.uscg.mil

Greetings from USCGC RUSH, underway on the high seas! This is the second issue of our underway newsletter created especially for our family and friends back home. We hope it provides a window to our world underway!

Since our last port of call, Team RUSH has an interesting couple of weeks due mostly to the diversity of our operations. We kicked off our transit period with holiday routine on board in observance of Columbus Day. The Auxiliary division took a breather after a prolonged fueling detail while crewmembers on duty found some time to sleep after busy days including the on-load of our food replenishment. A good day of rest and relaxation proved essential as the crew took advantage of a day off from work.

The rest of the week was busy as Team RUSH completed numerous training objectives while keeping up with the demand of current operations. ENS Dawson organized RUSH's contribution to the Combined Federal Campaign, providing crewmembers with an opportunity to donate to numerous worthy causes, while HSC Romero and HS3 Jones found time to update everyone's shots and malaria medication.

In preparation of our upcoming Tailored Annual Cutter Training (TACT), we conducted various duty section drills focusing on our ability to fight fires and stop flooding. Inport Duty Sections Bravo and Charlie did a great job simulating fighting fires in the crew lounge and berthing areas. Our Damage Control Training Team had an opportunity to apply their knowledge and experience to train others in fundamentals and details in shipboard damage control.

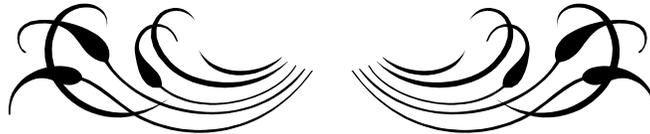
We also had a chance to shoot our Close-In Weapons System (CIWS). ETC Smith, ET3 Replogle, ET3 Maravilla, ET3 Solari and SNET Johnson did an excellent job getting the CIWS up and running. It was a great show and it also allowed us to practice manning up and executing a General Quarters scenario.

RUSH Morale also had a great start this week. Along with planning for preparations for upcoming Halloween and Thanksgiving activities, the Morale Committee kicked off our "Mess Cook for a Day" campaign where we got to vote for four crewmembers we wanted to see on the front line serving our food and washing our dishes. Led by ENS Murray and HSC Romero, it was a friendly competition that raised money for Morale.

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We also had time to enjoy “Steel Beach” after the work hours, where we could get some sun on the weather decks or catch up on some reading outside. ENS Dawson, GM1 Barringer and IT2 Kraus also provided excellent morale with running the ship’s store frequently to stock up on some snacks. On Saturday night, we played RUSH BINGO led by HSC Romero and LTJG Weeks.

These past few weeks have been a success for Team RUSH. We’ve established strong foundations in our work and experiences to aide us in future operations to come. Your support from home is, as always, essential to our success and is greatly appreciated from the entire crew.



### Crew Recognition

Generator Watchstander: **ENS Lopez, DC2 Osborne**

Throttleman Watchstander: **EM3 McMurphy**

Engine Room Watchstander: **MK1 Paris, MK1 Collins, FN Seguin, FN Shingleton**

General Shipboard Damage Control Training: **FN Shingleton, FN Fouret, FN Raby**

Safety and Security Watchstander: **EM2 Thompson, FN Barrick**

Flight Deck Tie-Down: **GM3 D'Amato, YN3 Mansfield**

Designation as Gangway Petty Officer of the Watch: **SNOS Brown**

Qualification as CIC Watch Supervisor: **OS2 Troha**

Qualification as Radio Watchstander: **OS3 Ford**

Sailor of the Quarter: **OS2 Motu**

Basic Damage Control Personnel Qualification Standard: **LTJG Weeks, ENS Dawson, HSC Romero, HS3 Jones, BM3 Rowley, SNBM Wells, SN Mazzeo, SN Cordova**

Engineering Officer of the Watch: **ENS Sumner**

Excellence in Information Systems Performance (Page 7): **IT2 Kraus**

Designation as Boarding Team Member: **ENS Huff, MK3 Reed, BM3 Rowley, GM3 D'Amato**

Designation as Boarding Officer: **ENS Murray**

Designation as Helicopter Control Officer: **LTJG Weeks**

Coast Guard Good Conduct Awards: **ET3 Willis, YN3 Mansfield, ET3 Maravilla**

Advancement to SN: **SN Wood**

Letter of Commendation: **SN Argyle**

Coast Guard Achievement Medal: **LTJG Johann**



## Meet The Crew

HSC Romero

This week, we are highlighting our senior corpsman, Chief Health Services Technician Dave Romero, and asked about his life aboard RUSH and in the Coast Guard.

*How long have you been in the Coast Guard, and where have you been stationed?*  
I've been in the Coast Guard for 17 years and have been stationed in the following places:

- USCG Training Center - Cape May, NJ
- USCGC STORIS - Kodiak, AK
- USCG HS "A" School (Student) - Petaluma, CA
- ISC Alameda Clinic (Two tours) - Alameda CA
- USCG Station Grande Isle - Grande Isle, LA
- USCGC MOHAWK - Key West, FL
- USCG HS "A" School (Instructor) - Petaluma, CA
- USCGC RUSH - Honolulu, HI

*Can you describe what your job entails on a daily basis?*

I provide twenty-four hour medical care for 160 crewmembers on board. When out at sea, my team includes myself, another Health Services Technician and a few other personnel trained in the practice of immediate First Aid and general healthcare procedures. We provide first-response emergency assistance to everyone on board and we also make sure their medical needs are met. This includes administering shots, prescribing immediate pharmaceutical care and conducting general follow-up care as you would find in a health care facility on land. We also are responsible for making sure the ship's water is within consumable standards and monitor safety precautions on board such as hearing conservation and heat-stress management.

*What is your most memorable moment in the Coast Guard?*

In 1992, I was a part of an extensive Coast Guard operation involving the repatriation of Haitian migrants in the Caribbean Sea. I spent three months on various Coast Guard cutters providing health care to Haitian migrants. This included delivering babies, treating dehydration for over sixty people at one time and treating other various injuries obtained from exposure to the sun and sea over extensive periods of time.

*Tell us about your family*

I am happily married with three kids (Peter 11, Emily 9, Abigail 3) and one on the way.

*Tell us about your experiences moving around to different units*

It's the best part about the military life. The kids really are excited to see different places and experience different cultures.

*What are your future plans and goals?*

I want to eventually run my own clinic in the Coast Guard. I also want to pursue my Bachelor's Degree in Medical Administration and work as a Clinic Administrator in a civilian hospital.

*What is your favorite part about being on board RUSH?*

The people. Providing assistance to the whole crew and making sure everyone is taken care of.

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Happy Birthday to the following crewmembers!

LTJG Andrea Weeks  
BMC Phillip Gordon  
BM1 Duncan McAndrews  
SN Robert Miller  
SN Justin Tillman

Farewell to the following personnel who are enroute new horizons.  
Fare Winds and Following Seas!

*LTJG Catharine Johann* – Flight School, Pensacola FL  
*SN Jeffrey Argyle* – BM "A" School, Yorktown VA

HAWAIIAN WORD(S) OF THE WEEK: **Lokahi** - Harmony

HAWAIIAN PHRASE OF THE WEEK: **A`ohe pu`u ki`eki`e ke ho`â`o`ia e pi`i.**  
No cliff is so tall that it cannot be scaled

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**SHOUT-OUTS!**

HSC Romero sends: **Happy Belated B-day Peter. I love you and wish I could be there to help celebrate your 11th year of joy you have brought into my life. Every year of your life brings your mom and I the greatest gift of all. You! Peter you are in my heart and dreams as are you Mom and sisters. I love you all and I will be home soon to play some Halo 2 with you : )**

SK3 Cheney sends: **Hey Mom and Dad happy 32nd anniversary , Happy 22nd birthday Lisa, Love Adam**

OS2 Motu sends: **Much love to my family in San Leandro, Samoa and New Zealand. Tia, you and that other local girl behave! I don't think Ilwaco is ready for da kine local girls causing local-style ruckus! lol, and see you soon. Ifong, congratulate Daniel for me, and you guys take care over there. Jess you hang in there sis. Your deliverance is coming! Stay strong and be blessed. To the Tobosa ohana, may the peace of God fill your hearts in times like these. Be blessed...**

HS3 Jones sends: **I would like to make a "shout out" to a funky little girl out there named Danica. Happy 25th Birthday KAH KAH!!!**

LTJG Daniel sends: **Moani, Congratulations on your mid-term. Keep working hard. Tell everyone I said hi. I love you**

CDR Mathers sends: **To Julianna and Anna, it's been a year since God placed Anna into our lives and made you a Mother. I'm so proud of how you've joyfully taken on this task with love and nurturing that has caused Anna to blossom. I can't wait to see you both and see Anna walk up to me saying "up, Dada" - Love, Dwight**

BM2 Rossignol sends: **I am very proud of you sweetie keep up the good I love you very much.**

OS1 Ausmus sends: **Hey Peanut Farmer – I love you and miss you!**

**Please enjoy these photos of our patrol**



**FS2 Hagenmayer helps prepare gourmet cheesecakes for the crew**



**SN Argyle, BMC Gordon and SNOS Stacy enjoy a round of RUSH BINGO**



ENS Torres gets ready to fly...



SN Ascencio and SN Griffiths cook up some pizza for PIZZA NIGHT!



CAPT Ware congratulates RUSH's newest boarding team members



FN Fouret, MK1 Pohler and FN Seguin at work in the engine room



FN Raby does his part to keep RUSH running



The Engineers take time off for a quick picture



HS3 Jones and FN Martinez in the Barber Shop – words fail us



Cleaning a trash can with a fire hose – only in the Coast Guard



One of many breath-taking sunsets in the Pacific Ocean

We wish you continuous happiness and peace back home. We'll take care of ourselves out here, and look forward to seeing you again!

Malama Pono,

The Officers, Chiefs and Crew of  
USCGC RUSH (WHEC 723)  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
Kia'i Kai No Ka Oi – The Best in the Coast Guard!

Visit us at:  
[www.uscg.mil/pacarea/rush](http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/rush)



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