

RUSH HOUR

United States Coast Guard Cutter RUSH (WHEC 723)

INTRODUCTION

It's been a while....but the RUSH HOUR is back!

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RUSH HOUR IS BACK!

After a long rest, RUSH HOUR is back and ready to provide you with the amazing stories which happen so frequently on the RUSH. Are you ready?

So, you may be sitting at the dinner table and at some point a question may pop in your head. What exactly has the USCGC RUSH been doing? Well, RUSH has been busy. Please let me elaborate on the understatement of the century. RUSH, after completing a groundbreaking District 14 patrol, traveled a couple thousand miles to San Francisco where extensive (and much needed) repairs were completed. Sounds like alot? We are not done. RUSH's crew has spent the last month and a half conducting training, completing maintenance, and conquering any challenge which has presented itself. Even still, that is only a glimpse of what RUSH has really accomplished. RUSH crew members eagerly volunteer their time to support the community, supporting various charities, and continue to excel in everything they do. Now, I may be bias in my observations, but you really won't find a better crew. Nevertheless, I can guarantee you three things:

1. RUSH HOUR will be often
2. RUSH will do something amazing this patrol
3. RUSH HOUR will disseminate these amazing events (Of course, while maintaing operational security)



Pictured: ENS Sara McGuigan

ENS McGuigan is our Community Service Officer among many other things. She ensures that RUSH's abundance of role models are able to find time to spend with the community. From Honolulu to Samoa to San Francisco, RUSH always leaves a positive mark on every community.

DRY DOCK

What is a Dry Dock?

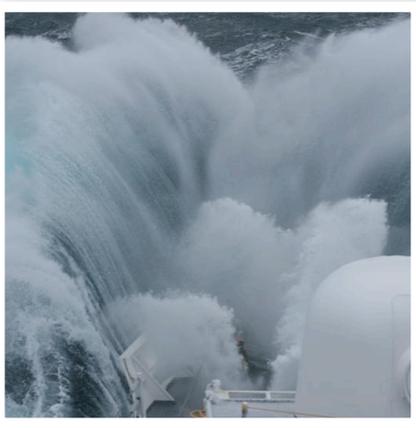
A Dry Dock is vital to a ship's longevity, material condition, and just simply essential for maintaining a safe ship. Scheduled typically every four years, the ship receives an extensive mechanical makeover: Though it may seem casual, a plethora of dangerous variables exist. After all, a ship is designed with the intentions of it being in water. With that said, I must interject a quick comment. The personnel aboard RUSH performed amazingly throughout the entire Dry Dock (Per Sea Trail Story Below). Anytime a cutter can depart a Dry Dock and have no major personnel casualties or ship casualties, that event alone highlights the quality of the Coast Guard Cutter RUSH personnel. Even though Dry Dock's are maintenance centric, RUSH was able to complete some major remodeling in the Wardroom and Chief's Mess which are now a part of the 21st Century.

Bigger, Faster, Stronger...

Well, RUSH didn't necessarily get bigger, but I can guarantee you one thing: RUSH came home much faster and stronger. During the Dry Dock, RUSH acquired a new set of shafts, cleaned and repaired its rudders, upgraded its bow propulsion system, and even added a fresh, innovative stern flap (A stern flap is like a car spoiler, but for ships). Every single person on the RUSH put forth their best efforts to sustain our ship and create a healthy and clean living environment. Efforts included installing new chill water insulation to prevent mold, adding fresh paint to our living spaces, and renewing our decks for safety and cosmetic purposes.



Just The Two of Us: USCGC Rush and Jarvis
RUSH and its sister ship JARVIS don't seem to like being far from each other, and Dry Dock 2009 was no exception. They do seem to work together well as no catastrophic events or injuries took place during a tedious maintenance period. Also, each member will have the distinction of being apart of a truly unique event: It was the first time two 378'S were docked (back to back) in the same Dry Dock.



USCGC RUSH powering through the Pacific Ocean

Sea Trials...The Ultimate Test

It is only fitting that a long maintenance intensive period should end with a bang. Sea Trials certainly provides that BANG, and so much more. RUSH engineers spent countless hours ensuring RUSH could not only safely pass Sea Trials, but excel, as RUSH always does. Well, we faced our test. Thirty to forty knot winds screamed alongside, with bulldozer like swells pounding our ship, and lets not forget the strong current that lashed in seemingly every direction. Like I said, we faced our test. Of course the sea was no match. We ripped through the wind like a razor blade, plowed through the swells like a rhino, and stood strong against the currents.

WHAT TO EXPECT....

RUSH HOUR:

A typical newsletter will provide updates on recent events, perhaps a small preview and what to expect, and pictures. However, the USCGC RUSH personnel refuse to be typical. Here is what you can expect from us:

- Pictures, Pictures, and more Pictures
- Super Shout-out Section
- The Highlight RUSH
- Green & Clean
- A typical day diary
- Pictures, Pictures, Pictures!
- Instant RUSH



OS1 Saejung preparing to race three kids during a community service event. Who won? Let's just say OS1 gave them a few tips.

Welcome to the USCGC RUSH family!

My name is Sarah Rasnake, my contact information is below.

I would like to introduce myself as your ombudsman. The ombudsman program is a group of spouse volunteers appointed to help communication between the Coast Guard and the families of our active duty members. I will be facilitating communication between the RUSH command and the families through emails and phone calls. I can provide information and referrals regarding available services and benefits during your move and your time on island. I am your resource for information and communication during emergencies. For routine questions or concerns, please call 8am-8pm Hawaii time or email anytime. For emergencies call anytime and I will do everything in my power to assist you.

OMBUDSMAN'S

CORNER

As ombudsman, I keep a database with contact information of the RUSH families. If you have not already done so, please contact me so I can keep you up to date with ship information. Also, keep my contact information handy for any questions, concerns or emergencies.

If you are a single member and would like to have your family back home included on emails, please have them contact me. Also, families of members should keep my cell phone number handy in case of a family emergency during deployments as I can reach the boat very quickly.

Once more, Welcome to the RUSH family!

Respectfully,
Sarah Rasnake
USCGC RUSH Ombudsman
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FORESIGHT

RUSH Auxiliary (A-GANG) Division members spend some time on the S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien. The Engine Room in the back was the same used as in the movie "Titanic."



Green and Clean!

The United States Coast Guard has hundreds of direct and indirect missions. One of them, Environmental Protection and Enforcement, has become more and more relevant (thus highly prioritized) the past decade. With that said, RUSH HOUR is proud to introduce "Green & Clean." A newsletter which not only highlights the various environmental missions RUSH partakes in, but also will cover pollution prevention methods RUSH has established over time. Ever wonder why fuel sits on top of water or why even a drop of it is harmful to the vast marine wildlife? Well, "Green & Clean" will cover all those questions and much more. It will also include tips and tricks about what you can do to go **GREEN**. It is also another opportunity to post more pictures of RUSH personnel in action! The first release is scheduled for Monday, August 17th.

SUPER Shout Out Section!

Some of you may be familiar with the past Shout Out Sections. No need to worry, the RUSH HOUR will still contain this ever important section. However, if you would like a special line to be highlighted in the RUSH HOUR, please add SUPER in the subject line. What we will do for you, is make sure your message stands unique among the others. Please send all shout-outs (Regular or SUPER) to myself,

Brandon.J.Aten@uscg.mil.

Please keep in mind that on occasion it may take a few days for your email to be received, but if you do not see your Shout Out in the most current issue, it will make it on the next issue. Any advice for improvements, please feel free to let me know. The RUSH HOUR is dynamic to your needs.

Page Summary:

- Green and Clean Intro
- Super Shout Out Instruction



Public Affairs Note:

My name is Brandon Aten and I am the Public Affairs Officer on the USCGC RUSH. Family support holds our men and women on the RUSH dear, so if you would like a

message sent to them at any point, please feel free to email me at: Brandon.J.Aten@uscg.mil. It has been sometime since the last Newsletter release, but you have my word that future newsletters and

articles will come by the dozen. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to informing you on the all the amazing activities RUSH crew members so often achieve.