more than a dozen Marines worked together to make a major renovation at the Broward Children’s Center. The center is a small medical facility that caters to children with serious physical limitations who often cannot be cared for at their home or are in foster care. Some of the team worked with a local contractor who donated his time to renovate a storage facility into a recreational room for the children living at the center. Other members of the team played with some of the children with educational toys or pushed their wheelchairs around the block. By the end of the event, the building being worked on had the items being stored removed, new windows installed, and a wall torn down. Chief Logistics Specialist (SW) Evelyn Hadley remarked, “Seeing the joy in the children’s faces for just having someone to hold them and play with them for a few hours reminded me how important it is to do that with my own son. I am so grateful to the Navy for giving me opportunities like this so that I can impact the community, but the Sailors all walked away being impacted the most.”

Fleet Week events all over the country provide Sailors with an opportunity to reach out to local communities and provide needed repairs to buildings, fresh coats of paints to houses, and visits to those who do not often get visitors. USS Gettysburg (CG 64) participated in these community relation events as a part of Fleet Week Fort Lauderdale hosted by Broward Navy Days, Inc. The four organized events Gettysburg participated in were led by Chaplain (LT) Buster Williams.

Williams said, “These events were a great way for the crew of Gettysburg to show Fort Lauderdale how much their patriotism is appreciated. These were Sailors volunteering to reach out to the community.”

A dozen Gettysburg Sailors travelled to Coral Springs Medical Center to visit with patients. Most patients had some attachment to the Navy, whether it be through their own service or the service of a family member. The patients, both young and old, brightened when Sailors in their dress whites entered the rooms.

Gas Turbine Systems Machinist 2nd Class (Surface Warfare) Terrence Erroch participated in the event and remarked, “Speaking with the patients about their lives and letting them know that we hope they feel better was simple, but really rewarding. We left the patients with smiles on their faces, but we left smiling also.”

At the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum, a dozen Sailors worked on painting and restoring the building. As a reward, the Sailors were given a tour of the museum where they saw memorabilia from George H. W. Bush, who flew at the air station, and Flight 19, which was mysteriously lost in the Bermuda triangle. Sailors enjoyed helping a non-profit organization preserve a piece of Naval history.

The painting continued at a local day care where a dozen members of the First Class Petty Officers Association (FCPOA) of USS Gettysburg worked with members of the crew of the USS Dallas (SSN 16). The Prestige Club of Broward County set up the opportunity to fill a need at the day care. The Sailors also had the opportunity to interact with the children at the day care.

Machinery Repair 1st Class Brandon Woodard, President of the Gettysburg FCPOA stated, “The First Class Petty Officers Association wanted to work together to accomplish a community relations event. It was a great opportunity to show junior enlisted Sailors to lead by example by investing in the community.”

Nine Gettysburg Sailors and more than a dozen Marines worked together to make a major renovation at the Broward Children’s Center. The center is a small medical facility that caters to children with serious physical limitations who often cannot be cared for at their home or are in foster care. Some of the team worked with a local contractor who donated his time to renovate a storage facility into a recreational room for the children living at the center. Other members of the team played with some of the children with educational toys or pushed their wheelchairs around the block. By the end of the event, the building being worked on had the items being stored removed, new windows installed, and a wall torn down.

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Drills, and a P-100 firefighting event.

“This was the first time I've competed in an event like this,” explained Damage Control 2nd Class Christina Busey. DC3 Fungai Diura chimed in, “It was a lot of fun. It didn’t feel like work.”

For the first event Sailors quickly donned the fire fighting ensemble, mask, hood, gloves, helmet, boots, and self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Often, it is a group effort to get dressed out and when fighting fires every second counts.

Other competing ships at the event were USS Wasp (LHD 1), USS Dallas (SSN 16), USS DeWert (FFG 45), USS San Jacinto (CG 56), and the Coast Guard cutter USCG Bernard C. Webber. Each ship provided their most skilled damage control experts.

During the main space fire competition the teams were required to take a hose down to a fire two floors below and extinguish it. Sailors from the Gettysburg blew the competition out of the water, setting a new record in the main space fire competition. The previous record had been sent just hours earlier at 3:57, but the Gettysburg extinguished the fire in a mere 3:37 and left with the record.

DC1 (SW) Peter Martinez was the team leader for the last event, “We were looking to the end of the day on a high note. Beating an eleven year record, in front of the Captain, definitely exceeded that desire.”
Gettysburg Culinary Expertise Dominates “Galley Wars”

by LTJG David Zampini, Food Service Officer

(Fort Lauderdale, FL) On April 28th, USS Gettysburg (CG 64) took home the Culinary Excellence Award at Fleet Week Port Everglades’ “Galley Wars.” Hosted by the Broward Navy Days, Inc. and its sponsors, the event pitted the USS Wasp (LHD 1), USS San Jacinto (CG 56), USS De Wert (FFG 43), USS Dallas (SSN 16), and USCGC Bruce C. Webber against each other in an “Iron Chef” style cook-off.

Each team was given a list of available ingredients and had five minutes to plan a menu. They were then brought on stage to be introduced and learned of the secret ingredient. The 140 pound swordfish was rumored to have been caught off the fantail of the Gettysburg upon entering Port Everglades. Each team had an hour to prepare three dishes, one of which had to include the secret ingredient.

Every team used the swordfish to make delicious food. However, the Gettysburg team, led by Chief Culinary Specialist (Surface Warfare) Juan Yarbrough, surpassed them all.

“The effort was superb,” Yarbrough said. “After the initial planning, everyone took ownership of their dish, and it just clicked.” The team members joining Yarbrough were CS1 (SW) Brian Hardin, CS2 (SW) Ashley Colbert, CS3 (SW) Justin Tereza, and CS3 (SW) Nathaniel Gales.

When asked about winning Galley Wars, CS1 (SW) Hardin said, “It feels awesome. It couldn’t have gone any better. It’s really nice to let the Captain shine in his hometown.”

The Commanding Officer, Captain Bob Hein, hails from the Fort Lauderdale area, and was equally as proud of his team. “It’s one thing to know that your folks are the best; it’s another for the culinary community to recognize it,” Hein said.

For taking home first place, the Gettysburg team was awarded chef coats, a knife set, and a story in each member’s local paper.

When asked about the win, CS2 Colbert exclaimed, “I thought ‘Is it April Fool’s?’ I couldn’t believe it was happening.”

It certainly was not April Fool’s Day, though it was a dream come true for the Commanding Officer and culinary team from USS Gettysburg.
Left: SN Lopez and FC3 Koya show their ability to fight through the pain of OC Spray to defend themselves. Above: Several dolphins playing off of the bow.

**Find us on Facebook!**

Anyone can like the “USS Gettysburg (CG 64)” page that is listed as “Government/Organization”. Families can join the “USS Gettysburg OMB/FRG” Group which is crucial to find updated information on weather that may impact the crew. As we enter Hurricane season we want to ensure families are safe. Also, use the National Hurricane Center at www.nhc.noaa.gov for the most current information about storms.

**Command Picnic**

The Command Picnic will be held Thursday, 5 July at Kavanaugh Park (next to 4th fleet) from. Families are welcome to attend and enjoy a dunk tank, field races, and other events for kids. A softball tournament will be held as well. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and sodas will be provided. Times are TBD.
Captain Hein greets the Commodore of the Royal Defense Force of the Bahamian Navy to Gettysburg.

The bridge team safely pulls Gettysburg into Port Everglades, FL.
Left to Right: OS2 (SW) McGee receives a NAM for his work with CCAT. FC1 Farmer receives a NAM for his leadership during SMC as the Mess Decks Master at Arms. BM1 (SW) Wallen receives a Letter of Commendation for Sailor of the Quarter for Q2 FY 2012. GSM2 (SW) Nealy receives a Letter of Commendation for being Junior Sailor of the Quarter for Q2 FY 2012. GSMFN (SW) Farias receives a Letter of Commendation for being Blue Jacket of the Quarter for Q2 FY 2012.
Fish On!

by Captain Bob Hein, Commanding Officer

This is the cry heard on fishing boats large and small multiple times a day off the coast of Florida, but rarely is it heard on a United States Naval Warship. Fortunately this cry was heard on board the USS Gettysburg (CG 64) on a recent afternoon.

We were patrolling our operating box about 40 NM East of Jacksonville as part of a Naval exercise. Our tasking required slow speeds (perfect for trolling). We allowed those anglers who were willing to give it a shot, to try fishing off the fantail of this 10,000 ton cruiser. We were operating in the Gulf Stream, seas were calm, kelp was thick, and then the cry went out...FISH ON. Well one of our Petty Officers, Trent Ramsey was in the fight of his life. No fighting chairs, no harnesses, just man, rod, reel, and fish. We saw the fish jumping about 30 yards behind the ship, easily a 30 LB Bull Dolphin. BANG, on the second jump, the bull was able to dislodge the hook, and become yet another fish tale of "the one that got away" type. We were excited for him, but disheartened, as this would have been the biggest fish we have seen landed on board.

30 minutes pass, again the cry went up. FISH ON. Our Chief Quartermaster, Jeremy Spaulding had hooked something big, bent over rod, screaming reel type of big. An experienced Florida Angler, Chief Spaulding had come prepared, and had tailored his gear to just this occasion. Using a six inch AVET reel on an Aerial rod, with 50 lb braided line, a finger mullet with a skirt, he hooked the first sail fish I have ever seen from a US Naval warship. The fight was on, the line would run out for yards, the chief would fight for inches. Sailors poured out of hatches and scuttles, as word quickly spread of the battle being waged on our fantail. Twice the fish jumped, and we held our breath, fearful of a reenactment of the scene we had just experienced. For over a half an hour, the war waged on, with neither warrior willing to show signs of weakening. Man was defeating fish, but there was still a long way to go. Eventually, the chief was able to get the fish alongside, a net was lowered, and the fish was ours. The chief beamed from ear to ear, cameras flashed lots of back slapping occurred, then the fish was passed back to the ocean from whence it came. I promise you that many a new Florida Angler was born that day.

The Miami Dolphins came for a tour of Gettysburg while in Fort Lauderdale.
From Left to Right: LT Ludwig receives his end of tour award, LTJG Ramirez receives his end of tour award, LT Martin receives his end of tour award, LTJG McCullough receives her end of tour award from her previous command, LTJG Russel receives his end of tour award.

From Left to Right: LTJG Zampini receives his Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officer pin, ENS Frederick receives her Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) pin, LTJG Russel receives his SWO pin.
Happy Birthday Shipmates!

**April**
- IT1 White April 2
- LTJG Cline April 3
- FC2 Ohler April 3
- QM3 Tatem April 3
- ENS O’Quinn April 5
- OSSN Kunz April 6
- IC1 Hooker April 8
- PSC Brown April 10
- DC3 Ellis April 11
- GSE3 Navarro April 14
- FC3 Annal April 15
- SN Lucas April 15
- OS3 Eaton April 16
- STG2 Gingras April 17
- OS2 Detresvega April 18
- GSMFN Hicks April 19
- LT Burrill April 20
- STG3 Matthews April 21
- STG2 Redd April 22
- FC1 Tynes April 22
- OS2 Bowen April 23
- SN Gatejen April 23
- GSM3 Thomas April 24
- FC1 Farmer April 25
- OC3 Bulkley April 26
- SKSN McKenzie April 26
- DCFN Huskie April 27
- CSC Yarbrough April 27
- GSM2 Black April 28
- GSMFN Rodriguez April 28
- OS2 Rodriguez April 28
- CTR2 Velenta April 30
- OS2 Wineglass April 30

**May**
- ISC Zackery May 2
- FC3 Hawkins May 4
- SR Turney May 4
- QMSN Broerman May 5
- LTJG McCulloch May 5
- DCC Sanders May 5
- ET3 Davis May 7
- GM1 Vasquez May 7
- FCSN Lee May 8
- OSSA Waynick May 10
- BM3 Panameno May 13
- SH3 Smith May 13
- ENS Fredrick May 15
- HMC Hendricks May 18
- ET3 Schartz May 18
- GSM1 Dixon May 21
- BM3 Williams May 22
- ET3 Galetti May 23
- EMC Smith May 23
- OSSA Homes May 24
- GM3 Rojas May 24
- ET2 Hughey May 26
- ENS Gargutt May 28
- GSM3 Pittman May 29
Operations Department

Operations Department has been continually exceeding the expectation of excellence during the last two months underway.

OD Division has declared the war on corrosion a victory. During our underway the ship was continually complimented on how sharp we looked. Between Man Overboard drills, flight quarters, Crash and Salvage drills, and topside preservation Deck Division has been busy. Congratulations to our three Quartermaster strikers SN Fischer, SN Smith, and SN Gatejen.

CC Division joined Operations Department running. They have been continually troubleshooting systems and equipment to ensure the ship has the most sustained Communications connectivity.

OT Division has been working hard conducting preservation on NULKA launchers and replacing critical PCMs. They also shined during the recent port visit to Port Everglades, FL.

OI Division completed primary missions in support of the Summit of the Americas and IKE C2X as part of CTF 955 ensuring combat readiness.

NN Division was given the opportunity to practice an old form of Naval communications during the C2X by doing flag hoist drills and flashing light drills. They also ensured safe navigation of the ship during the 8 hour transit up the Chesapeake Bay to Annapolis.

Combat Systems Department

During the month of February, Combat Systems Department played a supportive role underway in the Bold Alligator Exercise. Maintaining a high level of combat readiness was key to the success of the amphibious assault.

CF01 focused on the troubleshooting and repair of several transmitter group casualties, while CF03 focused their attention on USH-26 preventative maintenance, and the overall combat systems operational testing. CF02 worked diligently to ensure that all workstations in the Combat Information Center were operational.

Upon return to homeport CF division, lead by FCCS Jedrykowski, spent countless hours preserving the FWD Deckhouse. CF03 resurfaced the SPG-62 Illuminators. CF01 continued to troubleshoot transmitter group, in addition to preserving the FWD Aegis Cooling Skid. CF also had many technicians attending schools during this inport time, including 3M University, Gage Calibration Technician, Ship’s Reaction Force Advanced, and VBSS, ensuring a high level of training and proficiency among its technicians.

During some “off ship” time, several CF division personnel participated in the Rugged Maniac, a 5K race consisting of multiple obstacles. FC3(SW) Lazcos placed 3rd overall in his wave time, a direct result of his dedication to physical readiness.

Supply Department

Supply Department continues to show just how much of an impact our daily job is to the mighty ship Gettysburg. S1 scores again with a very successful recovery of the Supply data processing system, R-Supply. Even more importantly, while R-Supply was down the LS’s were still able to support Gettysburg’s mission without missing a beat...even if it meant going shore for the newest CASREP...hand soap dispensers.

Food Service kicked off a marvelous April by scoring an “Excellent” on their Supply Management Certification, blowing away the 3-day inspection. They continued to provide top-notch service while underway, before pulling in to Port Everglades, FL for a Fleet Week. Gettysburg as a whole really shined, but S2 grabbed the spotlight. They put on a fantastic reception for about 100 guests on the flight deck, which garnered rave reviews from all the attendees. They also collaborated with a local celebrity chef to put on a “Celebrity Chef luncheon” for 26 guests, which was a wonderful experience for all who attended. Then, they closed the week off by winning 1st place in a “Galley Wars” competition, which pitted all six ships in town for Fleet Week against each other in an “Iron Chef” style event. It truly has been a remarkable month, and there is no indication of slowing down.

Sales Division kicked off the new month by completing a highly successful portion of the Supply Management Certification earning an “Outstanding” score. One of the highlights of the month was Fleet Week in Port Everglades where S-3 made over $2400 selling coins, patches, and shirts that advertised the good ship Gettysburg. As a whole, April was a busy month but S-3 division remained flexible and will continue doing what they do best by having the strong enthusiasm and dedication to continue supporting the crew.
Engineering Department

Structural integrity flaws challenge Gettysburg yet again. During Fleet Week in Port Everglades, fuel was detected in the sewage system and traced to a crack between a fuel tank and the middle sewage tank. Through the valiant efforts across multiple engineering department divisions, temporary repairs were effective and continue to hold, allowing Gettysburg to remain in the fight and to participate as the Operational Forces during the Eisenhower C2X without delay. Bravo Zulu to DCC Sanders, Repair Division, GSM2 Nealy, and MP Division for your perseverance and determination.

Repair Division represented GETTYSBURG well during Fleet Week in Port Everglades earning Third Place in the DC Olympics and shattering the record time for dressing out, equipping, and engaging a fire! Outstanding job Repair Division!

Gettysburg congratulates LTJG Bright and LTJG Russell as GETTYSBURG’s newest members of the Surface Warfare Officer community. Your hard work and dedication through two years of trials and tribulations have culminated in the special day of wearing the pin of a Surface Warfare Officer. Well done, you earned it!

By ENS Roof

Weapons Department

Weapons Department enjoyed great success in the months of April and May. In the final week of March, Gettysburg underwent the Explosive Safety Tracking and Validation (ESTAV) inspection. Inspectors from throughout the Fleet thoroughly examined the upkeep of magazines, the maintenance and operability of equipment, as well as our administrative records. The hard work and preparation of our Sailors paid off with high remarks and only minor discrepancies! This lays a solid foundation to prepare for yet another inspection, Conventional Ordnance Safety Review (COSR), later this year.

Also, at the end of March, Weapons Department received a new Weapons Officer: Lieutenant Scott Jones.

Early in the month of April, Gettysburg set sail on a specific mission off the coast of Colombia. Weapons Department successfully completed a PACFIRE of both 5” guns during the underway, firing over 15 rounds.

Efforts towards corrosion control and topside preservation continue as well. Teamwork and camaraderie continue to develop as every Sailor continues to assist in maintaining the Aft Missile Deck and Fantail. These spaces are continuously exposed to high winds, seas, salt, sun, and other elements that threaten to degrade our gear and equipment. Weapons Department Sailors work tirelessly to ensure the highest quality of maintenance on all spaces and equipment.

Days underway remain busy as preparations for other upcoming inspections continue. Within the upcoming months, Weapons Department will go through Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification, Naval Surface Fire Support Certification, and Conventional Ordnance Safety Review. Each of these is crucial for Gettysburg to remain fully operational and qualified for her demanding 2012 schedule but our Sailors are hard at work to ensure continued success for the best Weapons Department on the East Coast!

By LTJG Stamm

Ombudsman

Hello Gettysburg Family!

I hope this edition finds you all doing well. As many of you may know, recently I have transitioned from my position as FRG President into the role of Ombudsman. I could not be more pleased to be able to continue my relationship with you all and to be a source of helpful information and resources. I look forward to meeting the new families that are joining the Gettysburg family, as well as continuing to meet and foster relationships with those of you that have been along for the ride for a while. Please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

If you would like to be added to my distribution list for ships information, as well as other resource referral, please email me at gettysb@yahoo.com or call me at (904) 677-6188. Also, you can find us on Facebook by searching “USS Gettysburg OMB/FRG” and requesting to be added to the group.

I look forward to hearing from you!

By Mrs. Jennifer McGuirt
GETTYSBURG Family,

Summer is bearing down on us, which means rain and possibly hurricanes. We saw one Tropical Storm this year, there may be more. Please ensure you have a plan if an evacuation is ordered.

The fishing has picked up tremendously, (it has been superb in the basin). The days are still getting longer. This is my favorite time of the year in Mayport, and sure enough, we are here to enjoy it.

It has been awesome to meet so many GETTYSBURG families at the Spring Fling, onboard the ship, and throughout Mayport. Getty Sailors continue to shine.

As I have previously mentioned, (and I never tire of it), we won the Battle "E", and it truly looks superb. A lot of hard work goes into earning those "E"s so all in the Getty family have every right to be proud. We had awesome results from the March Advancement exam. 54 Getty sailors were advanced. That was the highest in Mayport.

Our sked remains fairly firm, we can always expect minor modifications throughout the year, but our deployment next January has remained fairly stable, after that, I have no idea.

Some things that I do know, I know we are crushing inspections as they come up, I know we shined at Fleet Week, where our Damage Control and culinary expertise was rewarded. I look forward to celebrating the 149th anniversary of the Battle Of Gettysburg at the ship’s picnic on the Fifth of July. I know we could not do the incredible things we do without the incredible support we receive from our families and friends.

Happy Summer,

Keep the Faith,

CAPT Hein

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FRG News

Do you have a recipe that is famous every holiday season? Does your spouse make a special meal request every time they come home?

Share that recipe with the FRG so they can include it in their cookbook being created to fundraise for our Sailors! Submit your recipe to gettysburgfrg@yahoo.com. Provide your name and if you are the significant other of a Sailor, submit their name and your relationship to them as well. You may also include a 60 character or less quote about what the recipe means to your Sailor. Due by July 1st.