



Sixth Rock From the Sun



Volume 3, Issue 1

"Serving our Fleet Around the World"

MARCH 2007

Officer in Charge

CDR Randal J. Onders, SC, USN

Dear Families and Friends,

Greetings from the Tip of the Spear! SATURN's Military Department is busy and morale is high! Our crew takes great pride in providing logistics support to our many "customers" - the ships of the United States Fifth Fleet. We have already participated in numerous underway replenishment events, and we have been recognized by for our operational logistics excellence, in the fine SATURN tradition. We've also been fortunate to spend some quality time in port, particularly in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Everyone received a well-deserved break and enjoyed the many opportunities to sightsee in this interesting part of the world.

Every member of SATURN's Military Department takes pride in our important mission to re-supply the Fleet with food, spare parts, supplies and fuel. We provide everything the ships need, from paper towels to jet engines. Our combined Military and Civilian crew is dedicated to "Bringing Logistics to the Fight!"

In this issue of our deployment Family Gram, you will read about some of our other activities and will receive heartfelt greetings from the crew. We still have work to do, but we miss all of you and look forward to our return to family and friends back home. On behalf of the entire Military Department, thanks for your continued support. We couldn't do it without you!

COMMAND INTRODUCTIONS

Officer in Charge (OIC): CDR Randal Onders

Assistant Officer in Charge (AOIC): LT Alfred Applewhaite

Stock Control Officer (SCO): LTJG Jose Gorritz

Material Officer (MATO): CWO2 Julius Arturo Marzan

Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL): SKCS(SW) Paula Moore



Aerial view of USNS SATURN and USNS SPICA during turnover on 14 February 2007 in the Red Sea.

From the Senior Enlisted Leader

SKCS(SW) Paula Moore, USN

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After an all too short in port time, we are off again. It is very difficult on us to be away from our families so often; it's always a challenge. You are constantly in our thoughts and our homecoming is right around the corner.

After our last deployment, the ship went through a one-month availability period in November where we had some repairs completed. This time the repairs were in Norfolk so we had no out of state travel to deal with. We transferred from the yard to Pier 8 on Naval Station Norfolk and loaded for the current deployment. The trans-Atlantic crossing was a bit rough at times, but we got our sea legs back in a hurry! We stopped in Rota, Spain to pick up our security detachment and have a little relaxation time. We entered the Persian Gulf and immediately began servicing the fleet. We've stopped in Djibouti, Africa and Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates (UAE). The ship loaded cargo in both ports for our supported ships. While in Djibouti, most of our sailors made a stop at the Base Exchange and the outdoor club for a USO sponsored comedy event and a band. We crossed the equator during February and had a Crossing the Line Party to celebrate.

Keep us in your thoughts; we'll be back before you know it.

Let's be safe out there!

Supply/Admin Divisions

Petty Officer Rosa, our administrative guru, gave his personal time to create "Crossing the Line certificates" and cards for the entire crew. We crossed over the equator in February and had a great party/picnic to celebrate. The entire crew, all 165 of us, participated in some way.

Having completed a major offload of our stock after the last deployment, we have a significant decline in the total number of line items to maintain. It doesn't put a decline on the workload, as we will always be busy with customer requirements.

On February 18, 2007, SATURN pulled in to her first load out port in Djibouti to receive food provisions delivered by a major commercial vendor. The cargo consisted of approximately 200 metric tons of frozen, chilled, dry foods, fruits and vegetables, ultimately to be transferred to USS HAWES, USS NITZE, USS SHREVEPORT, and USS BATAAN. It was a hot and humid day, but it did not slow down the QA team in doing what they do best and that is to make sure that every item is inspected and accounted for. SGT Valencia Jackson, Food Inspector from Mid-Atlantic District Veterinary Command, Norfolk, VA, temporarily assigned to the SATURN did an outstanding job in inspecting food items that were considered below standards and deemed unfit for human consumption. Food items that were deemed unsatisfactory were rejected and returned to the commercial vendor. SGT Jackson's teammates, SK1 Pridgen, SK2 Johnson, SK2 Williams, and Ms. Shirley Stroman were all instrumental in the superb accomplishment for that day's goal. At the end of the day, it was indeed a great sense of accomplishment and self fulfillment because each one felt that they did something right and in the "bigger picture" saved thousands of dollars in taxpayer's money.

Our Supply/Admin Team:

SKCS(SW) Paula Moore – LCPO from Pennsylvania
SK1(SW) Rosalind Pridgen – LPO from Washington
PS1(SW) David Rosa – Independent Duty PS from Florida
SK1(AW) Syreatha Hubbard – Stock Control from Virginia
SK2(SW) Michael Johnson – QA from South Carolina
SK2 Joya Davis – Stock Control from Georgia
SK2 Jennifer Williams – QA from Texas
SGT Valencia Jackson – Army Food Inspector from California
Ms. Sandra Downs – UNREP from Virginia
MS. Linda Robinson – UNREP from Virginia
Ms. Shirley Stroman – QA from Virginia

USNS SATURN has the best reputation everywhere she operates. Her crack crew makes this a reality. SKCS Moore couldn't be more proud of her team. They take their taskings seriously and run with them. She knows her team can handle anything.

We will have a drastic turnover of our Storekeepers upon the completion of this deployment. All but one of us will transfer; it will be a fresh new crew that makes the next cruise.

Some personal notes from our team:

LT Applewhite would like to say, Greetings! Your love ones have been providing outstanding support to the Battle Groups. Day in and Day out, everyone is focused on the mission. I am very fortunate to have such an outstanding group to work with. I will keep them safe and you will see them soon.

To my son, Kris; Thanks for being strong and doing well at Norfolk Academy (NA). Keep it up. To my wonderful wife and great friend, thanks for keeping everything together and giving me this great opportunity. I love you very much! To Mr. and Mrs. Atterbury; Thanks for your support and time.

LTJG Gorritz would like to say, Greetings to my wife and son in VA, and to my parents, brothers, sister & nephew in PR. So far it has been a rather busy, but fun deployment. Love and miss you all very much, but will be back soon for good. God bless you.

CWO2 Marzan would like to say, I miss you Beth, Joshua, and Andrew. I will be home soon.

SK2 Davis would like to say, "HELLO Booboo and Qwonie, Mommy loves you dearly and be good for Daddy and Grandma. Jashwon be a good Big brother and Qwonie be a good lil brother. Daddy, Thank you for being the Best Father I have come to know and love".

SK1(AW) Hubbard would like to say, "To my daughter Victoria, I love and miss you so much. If you need 'anything', you don't hesitate to ask! Tell everyone back home; hello, and that I love them as well. Be good baby girl!"

SKCS Moore sends LOVE to her wonderful, endearing husband. I love you Sweetie! And Smokey too!



Supply/Admin Division – Starting from the left.

Top Row: Ms. Linda Robinson, SK1 Hubbard, SKCS Moore
Ms. Sandra Downs *Bottom Row:* CWO2 Marzan, PS1 Rosa,
SK2 Davis, SGT Jackson, SK2 Johnson, SK2 Williams,
SK1 Pridgen, LTJG Gorritz

ADP Division

Welcome back to another SATURN family newsletter from Automated Processing Division. Let me first start by saying welcome to a lot of new personnel inside our division; they are ITSN Danelle Hankins from Washington DC, ITSN Marcus Burnette from Baltimore, MD, ET1 Danny Roth from Victoria, TX, ITSN Sheila Roberts from Mississippi and ET2 Scott Always from Pittsburgh, PA.

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ADP Division - Starting from the left.

Top Row: ET2 Alway, ITSR Burnette, IT3 Ringold, ITC Rice, IT2 Joyner, IT1 Mosley *Bottom Row:* ET1 Roth, IT3 Grant, IT3 Brown, ITSA Mitton, ITSA Hankins, ITSN Roberts, IT3 Kerns, IT2 Brown

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I would also like to say farewell to IT1(SW) Terrence Mosley who is retiring after 20 years of service, and a farewell to IT2(SW) Sir Leanord Brown and IT2(SW) Jeremy Headrick. We have spent our first month underway getting to know each other, and spending a lot of time repairing computers onboard, which is expected after a few months in port. We had a great opportunity for our first time sailors to see some nice ports early during the deployment such as Rota, Spain and Souda Bay, Greece and we can't leave out the exotic port of Djibouti, Africa.

We would like to take a moment to say a couple of hellos to our families back home:

ITC(SW) Rice

Hey everyone, I'm back on another cruise. I miss you all; I hope this finds everyone in good health and doing well. Cameron, Kaylen and Ashton, I miss you all, Sherry, miss you bunches, can't wait to get back home. Mom, Dad and the rest of the family, I miss you all. See you all real soon!

IT3 Ringold

To My Family: Thank you for your support. Life is livin'. You know I'm alive. Send my love to the rest. And please welcome the soon to be Mrs. Ringold into our family. Don't worry; I made a good choice J.

ITSN Roberts

Hello everyone! I am doing just fine. I wish all of you could see the things that I am seeing. I hope you all are doing just fine. I love ya'll and I'll see you when I get back!!!! Love Always, Sheila

ITSR Burnette

Hey Mom, I'm doing fine. How are you guys doing? This deployment is pretty fun. I still have a lot to learn, but I'm still moving. We're supposed to be coming home soon. Tell my friends I miss all of them, most of all Miles. I really can't wait to see my little sister. Tell Sade I miss her and I will send some gifts soon. I will talk to you soon. I LOVE YOU!

IT3 Brown

Hey Mom, Jah, Sedrica, and Sherman. I hope all is well. Being out to sea isn't easy, but I am hanging in there. The main thing I miss is being able to go where I please. Anyway, the first place I want to go when I get home is Golden Corral... For a whole week (maybe two). I wish to see all of you when we pull back in Norfolk. I miss you and I have something for each one of you. Love, Shameeka

ITSR Hankins

Dearest Family, I miss you guys so much. I am surrounded by a great group of sailors and I can't wait to see you guys. I love you very much thanks for all the support Information Systems Technician almost Seaman Apprentice Danelle Evette Hankins

ITSR Mitton

Je vous manque, je veux rentrer. m'envoie les cadeaux !!! Hi Papi, Mom, Motherlove, Auntie Sharon, Granddaddy, Jordon, Chaz 'King of South'. I know you guys miss me, I would miss me too. I love you all. I also love candy & gifts. See you soon. Mom, don't forget my banner (PINK). I MISS MY MOMMA!!!

IT3 Grant

Hi guys. Hope everyone is doing ok. I miss you all and I'm thinking of you. I'm doing great but can't wait to come home. Take care. Robert

IT3 Kerns

Love you all, see you soon.

ET2 Alway

Jenny, Mom, Dad, Sandi, Alex, DJ, My other Mom & Dad, and of course Angus... HELLO! I hope none of you are missing me as much as I miss all of you. Can't wait to be back home, although, I'm actually enjoying this cruise very much. Seeing a lot of new, exciting places... But, everyday it's the same faces, and I miss seeing all of yours. Hope the weather for all of you up in PA is warming up. Jennifer, I'll be home soon. I love you.

IT2 Joyner

Hope everyone is well, and will see you soon. Love Preston.

ET1 Roth

Hi everyone. Love and miss you all. Having a great time back at sea.

Operations Division

The Operations Department is in good spirits as we press on with our evolutions and focus on our mission. SATURN provides a great service to the fleet which requires detailed planning 24/7. What the fleet needs are supplies. Where and when they get those supplies is what we do. We have a great department, including OSC(SW/AW/IUSS) Reynolds, OS3 Fleming, OS3 Coss, and OSSR Hellbusch. We would like to welcome aboard OSC (SW/AW/IUSS) Reynolds, reporting from Training Support Center Hampton Roads, Dam Neck Annex, and OSSR Hellbusch report from OS "A" School, Great Lakes, IL. They will be welcomed as new shipmates and crewmembers, as we all are an essential part of the SATURN Team.

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Personal Notes:

From OSC (SW/AW/IUSS) Reynolds:

Mom, Dad, and Furry Critters,
Life aboard USNS Saturn is swimmly swell. Can't believe I spent all that time on shore duty. I wish everybody good spirits and good health. Critters don't destroy anything while I am gone. Everybody be safe, if you can't, then come back with good stories.
Love, Sea Warrior Chief.

From OS3 Fleming:

Hello, just wanted to tell you all that I love you and miss you all so much. As I work seven days a week every week I will be thinking of all of you and how you're sitting at home on the weekends living it up. I will be home soon so be good and I will see you later. For Ethan and Chloe, daddy loves you and if your good for mama I will get you guys something special. Ash, you know I love you and there is not a second that goes by that I am not thinking about you. You're always in my heart and in my minds. Love you all.

From OS3 Coss:

Hi, I am fine!

From OSSR Hellbusch:

Hello, I'm having some fun staring at a lot of water and that's about it. I also do some work and that's ok too, even if it takes away precious time staring at the water. Days go by pretty fast out here and I'll be home before you know it. To everybody that is not getting this "family gram" tell them that I love them and miss them. I love you Mom, Dad, Cody and Lisa. Not necessarily in that order ;-) Love your son, or boyfriend, Dustan

Promotions/Awards/Qualifications

Congratulations to the following personnel who were selected for promotion to the next higher pay-grade since the last issue:

ET3 Alway – Advanced to ET2
IT3 Joyner – Advanced to IT2
ITSN Brown – Advanced to IT3
OSSN Coss – Advanced to OS3
OSSN Fleming – Advanced to OS3
ITSA Grant – Advanced to IT3

The following personnel received end of tour/personal awards:

OSC Schaefer - Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal
PS1 Rosa – Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal
ET2 Alway – Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal
IT2 Brown – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
SK2 Davis – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
IT3 Grant – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
SK1 Hubbard – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
SK2 Johnson – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
IT3 Kerns – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
IT1 Mosley – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
PS1 Rosa – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
SK1 Pridgen - 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
SK2 Williams – 5th Fleet Flag Letter of Commendation
OS3 Coss – CTF 53 Letter of Commendation
OS3 Fleming - CTF 53 Letter of Commendation
IT2 Joyner – Good Conduct Medal
SK2 Williams – Good Conduct Medal



Operations Division – Starting from the left. OSC Reynolds, OS3 Coss, OSSR Hellbusch, OS3 Fleming, OSC Schaefer

IT3 Kerns – Good Conduct Medal
SK1 Hubbard – OIC Letter of Commendation
OS3 Fleming – OIC Letter of Commendation
IT3 Grant – OIC Letter of Commendation

The following received the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM) and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM).

OSC Reynolds – GWOTEM
ET1 Roth - GWOTEM
ET2 Alway – GWOTEM
IT3 Brown - GWOTEM
ITSR Burnette – GWOTEM
ITSA Hankins – GWOTEM
OSSR Hellbusch – GWOTEM
ITSA Mitton – GWOTEM
IT3 Ringold – GWOTEM
ITSN Roberts – GWOTEM

Selected for Sailor of the Year

PS1 Rosa (Calendar Year 2006)

Selected for Junior Sailor of the Year

IT3 Grant (Calendar Year 2006)

Selected for Sailor of the Quarter.

SK1 Hobbs (3rd Quarter Calendar Year 2006)
SK1 Hubbard (4th Quarter Calendar Year 2006)

Selected for Junior Sailor of the Quarter.

IT3 Grant (3rd Quarter Calendar Year 2006)
OS3 Fleming (4th Quarter Calendar Year 2006)

Qualified Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS)

PS1 Rosa – Qualified
IT2 Headrick – Qualified
IT2 Brown – Qualified
IT3 Grant – Qualified

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HAIL & FAREWELL

Welcome Aboard to the following new shipmates.

OSC Reynolds	ET1 Roth
ET2 Alway	IT3 Brown
ITSR Burnette	ITSA Hankins
OSSR Hellbusch	ITSA Mitton
IT3 Ringold	ITSN Roberts

Fair Winds and Following Seas to the following shipmates.

OSC Schaefer	ET1 Blaylock
SK1 Hobbs	IT2 Brown
OS1 Smith	OS3 Castello
IT3 York	OSSR Spencer

Important Information

MAIL

If you wish to send mail to one of our Sailors, please use the following format.

Sailor's Name
 USNS SATURN (TAFS 10)
 MILITARY Department
 FPO AE 09587-4052

Emergency Points of Contact

Duty Chaplain: 757-277-4608

American Red Cross: 1-800-696-3873 or 1-877-272-7337

<http://www.nmcrs.org/>

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society can provide interest-free loans or grants to help with *emergency needs* such as:

Emergency Transportation; Funeral Expenses;
 Medical/dental Bills (patient's share); Food, Rent, and
 Utilities; Disaster Relief Assistance; Child Care Expenses;
 Essential Vehicle Repairs; Unforeseen Family Emergencies

How to apply:

1. Servicemember or eligible family members who have an emergency need should contact the [nearest NMCRS location](#) and make an appointment to be seen by an NMCRS caseworker. Bring your ID card and latest LES, if available, with you. If that office is closed and the emergency is of such a nature that it cannot wait until the next business day (e.g. death in the immediate family), the answering machine will provide instructions for obtaining "after hours" assistance.

2. When there is no NMCRS office in the area, an available Army Emergency Relief, Air Force Aid Society, or American Red Cross Chapter Office can process your request on behalf of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. **If you need emergency assistance after hours, please call:** ARC Armed Forces Emergency Service Center (877) 272-7337



King Neptune and his court. This court presided over those Pollywogs who wanted to be come Shellbacks during our February 2007. [Top Row: IT1 Mosley, ITC Rice, IT2 Joyner, CWO2 Marzan Bottom Row: SK1 Hubbard, SK1 Pridgen, Mr. Willie Robinson (King Neptune)]



And The Winner is..... ET2 Alway, IT2 Joyner, and SK2 Williams receiving their awards during an Awards Ceremony in January 2007.



Bingo!!!!!! Several of our shipmates during our infamous SATURN Bingo Nights. (From left to right OSC Reynolds, ITSA Hankins, and IT3 Brown)

Once Again, Thank you for all the love and support you have given us. Without you we would not be able to make this possible.