Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

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Coalition of Sailors aims to help mentor peers

By MC2(SW/AW) John Smolinski, CFAY Public Affairs

Junior Sailors from Commander Naval Forces Japan (CNFJ) and Commander Fleet Activities, Yokosuka (CFAY) held a 'Don't be that guy' event by the main gate June 24.

The Sailors are part of the Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) program.

The CSADD peer mentoring program was established in June 2010, and according to OPNAVINST 1500.80, is designed to influence positively Sailors' behavior through resources and tools that promote good decision-making processes, enabling leadership development and influence among peers at the junior level, which, in turn, fosters both an attitude and atmosphere conducive to good order and discipline.

"The CSADD program is a way for junior Sailors to influence their peer group from within," said Master Chief Operations Specialist Michael J. Bauman, operations leading chief petty officer, CNFJ. "It's one thing for an old Sailor to tell an 18 to 26 year old that what they are doing is wrong, but the message can be more effectively received when they have someone like themselves making the point."

IT2 Lisa Boutxaynho, a member of CNFJ's Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD), hands out a sticker to a Sailor departing Fleet Activities Yokosuka. Boutxaynho and nearly 20 other CSADD participants spent two hours handing out key chains, stickers and other materials aimed at promoting alcohol abuse awareness.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Brock A. Taylor

The event included handing out informative pamphlets, stickers and other items based on the Department of Defense (DoD)'s 'That Guy' campaign.

"We are here to reach out to the people who might be going to drink here tonight and to remind them to do so responsibly," said Culinary Specialist First Class Chad Shiflett, CSADD regional coordinator. "The 'That Guy' campaign is about showing the unglamorous side to drinking, and if we can just reach that one person who might otherwise take things too far, we can help prevent an incident from happening."

CSADD members from different commands at CFAY joined together to put on this event.

"For this event, we had a meeting with all the CSADD chapters from Yokosuka including some of the ship commands," said Master-at-Arms Second Class Pedro Rios-Delgado, CFAY chapter coordinator. "At our meeting, we discuss training topics that regional CSADD has put together, and then we have an open mike session where Sailors can bring up issues they are having from their command and around the base. This last meeting was about the drinking and driving problem, and we thought that we could help."

There have been 23 driving under the influence (DUI) incidents so far this year, and if continued at this pace, will pass last year's number of 30.

"This is a way for us to get our voices heard," said Rios-Delgado. "If you have problems with things in the community or the way things are going, CSADD is the way for you to speak up and make corrections."

Currently, CFAY is supporting a free taxi voucher program sponsored by Exchange New Car Sales and administered by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) food and beverage department where drivers show their keys to an on-base club manager, and they will receive a taxi voucher to take them to their on-base residence or to a Yokosuka train station for free. The taxi voucher program is good through July 31.

GW hosts double birthday celebration on the Fourth of July

By MC2 Adam K. Thomas,
***USS George Washington* Public Affairs**

SOUTH CHINA SEA, – Pausing to mark the United States 235th birthday, the crew of *USS George Washington* (CVN 73), the Navy's only fulltime forward deployed aircraft carrier, gathered on the flight deck for a patriotic 4th of July ceremony and an old fashion steel beach picnic complete with hotdogs, hamburgers, games, music and dancing July 4.

"Today, as we reflect and celebrate 235 years of our rich history, it is you and the Sailors who came before you that have set this legacy, put theory into practice, and made America what it is today," said *George Washington* commanding officer, Capt. David Lausman before a formation on hundreds of *George Washington* crewmembers. "I am proud to be your shipmate," he concluded.

The ceremony included the singing of the National Anthem and the reading of the Declaration of Independence. It also marked the birthday of *USS George Washington*, commissioned on the July 4, 1992.

"Shipmates, the *USS George Washington* is a fine aircraft carrier and I'm proud to serve aboard her in her 19th year of commission, said Commander, Task Force (CTF)70, Rear Adm. J. R. Haley. "But I'm even more proud to serve each and every day with you, the Sailors aboard *George Washington* who truly reflect the spirit of freedom. You come from different cultures and states, races and religions. You are the spirit of freedom that we celebrate today. You guys are *George Washington*!"

A massive cake in the shape of the carrier was then cut and served to the crew. Cutting the cake were *George Washington*'s youngest and oldest Sailors and four plankowners who served aboard the ship when it was commissioned in 1992.

"This is the first ship I served on after I enlisted so to be a part of today's celebration is huge," said Ordnance Handling Officer Jerry Bartee. "When I look back on the 26 years I've been in the Navy, this is definitely one of the highlights."

(Right) Capt. David A. Lausman, commanding officer, *USS George Washington* (CVN 73), helps the oldest and youngest Sailors and original plank owners of the forward deployed aircraft carrier *USS George Washington* (CVN 73) cut a cake commemorating the ship's 19th birthday July 4.

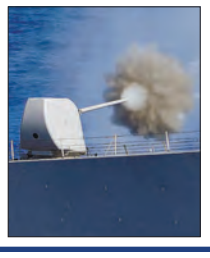
U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Juan M. Pinalez

Following the ceremony, the 5,500 Sailors aboard *George Washington* were treated to a "low ops day" that included tug-of-war, a three-point basketball tournament, doughnut eating contest, Damage Control Olympics and after sunset, the playing of the film "Independence Day" on a massive screen on the ship's flight deck, all coordinated by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR).

"A lot of us don't get to come up to the flight deck that often, said Engineman 3rd Class Helena Tan from San Francisco. "So it's pretty cool that we get to put on our civilian clothes and enjoy great weather and good food on the 4th of July. It's just nice to relax and have some time to be ourselves."

"I'm an AO (aviation ordnanceman) so I'm up on flight deck all day loading planes with ordnance," said Aviation Ordnanceman Seaman Tiffany Bessler. "Today it was really nice to be able to be up here and just relax and enjoy the party."

INSIDE



USS Curtis Wilbur conducts weapons systems tests

***USS Curtis Wilbur* (DDG 54) conducted a live fire exercise, to test the readiness of it's5-inch gun and 20mm Close in Weapons Systems June 29.**

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Yokosuka Firefighters Compete in Red Rooster Competition

Local firefighters competed for top honors during the 62nd annual Red Rooster Competition sponsored by Commander Naval Region Japan (CNRJ) Fire Department June 28.

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