Ropeyarn Sunday â€œSea Storiesâ€• and Open Trackbacks

Description

First of all, mea culpa for not getting this up as the sun went past the yard arm. My apologies. Hammer up those great trackbacks and get some readership from my small stable of transient visitors!

During most weeks, I load up the old mental VHS tapes and surf thru them and see which story tickles my fancy (and hoping it will do the same for your fancy), but I was a little preoccupied.

Just at this moment, I recalled the end of a Combined Federal Campaign on my second ship. Thereâ€™s a story here about sacrificial giving that fits the theme:

It was the last day and the goal wasnâ€™t met, but it was not much more than propbaly $100 away from a successful mark in my â€œFitness Reportâ€• (FITREP). Back in those days, such things were â€œchallengesâ€• to be faced and defeated, where,. later in life, I have come to understand itâ€™s about us actually considering much more about the comfort of our fellow man.

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AS I stood up on the bridge (we were inport), one of the operations specialistâ€™s came up the centerline ladeer from Combat Information Center (CIC). I knew he was one whoâ€™s name wasnâ€™t on the divisionâ€™s envelope, so I asked him if his â€œdivision representativeâ€• (the divisionâ€™s chief petty officer in his case) had given him the chance to donate. He started tap dancing, and I knew the Chief was anyting but a supporter of the CFC campaign and had grudginly taken the assignment, but I could tell he didnâ€™t really want to give anything because of something the Chief had said. I was crest fallen, so near, yet so far from a third campaign of my career going in the â€œCollected 100%â€• column on the next FITREP. Then he asked a question:

â€œDoes the money go where you write on the card?â€• â€œYes, Didnâ€™t the Chief tell you that?â€• â€œNo, he said they let you do that to feel good, but they send it where they want to.â€•

I assured him the money went as designated. I said it with a false confidence then, but found out later I was correct.

He took a card and filled it out, indicating a pretty good sized dollar amount, particularly for an E3. He turned the contribution card over and wrote one charity for the approved listing, and handed it to me. I met goal. He put his money to something he knew was a good place. Win (Command looked good), win (I looked good), win (for his conscience) and for the charity and those it served, a win, too.

Category

1. "Sea Stories"
2. Humor
3. Military
4. Open Trackbacks
5. Supporting the Troops

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