



Courtesy of Seamanship and Small Boat Operations Training

Stories from Winter Training pp. 6-20



Courtesy of Aviation Rescue Swimmer Training

Next Up: Summer 2016 pp. 22-25

U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps

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Sea Cadet Quarterly



What I Did Over My Winter Break

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Joshua Thaniel, NSCC
HMCM William R. Charette Battalion, Bethesda, Md.
Staff Cadet, Recruit Training, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Most teenagers spend winter break enjoying their new presents or relaxing without thinking about schoolwork. This winter break, I wasn't playing with any gifts. I was getting ready for school. Only at this school, I would be an instructor. For the first time, I would lead and set the example for young recruits.

I was the Leading Petty Officer for Alpha Company, with two petty officers under me. My excitement initially wavered when it became apparent how challenging the environment was for many of the recruits. I, along with my team, had to learn how to motivate them to work together. We emphasized that our success would only come as a team. I made sure my team of petty officers and I showed how well we worked together and we rewarded our cadets for taking initiative and completing tasks completely and accurately.

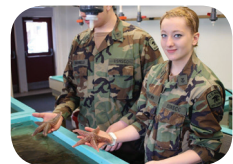
I'm a pretty good storyteller, and when they did exceptionally

well at a task, I would tell them stories about the trainings I had been through. I told them about small boat operations on Zodiacs in Virginia, submarine training in Connecticut, boot camp and training on the beaches of Puerto Rico, and all the great times I had at the Naval Academy. All of my stories tied into the importance of being prepared, being the best I could be and how much they could get out of taking Sea Cadets seriously. They were mesmerized and motivated. Alpha Company won Honor Company and the Honor Cadet of the Training also came from Alpha Company; these were the two highest honors of the training.

Relaxation was not a major part of my winter break and I can say I am a better person for it. I hope the recruits from Alpha Company are too.

Photo: Thaniel (right) with his fellow cadets at Winter Training.

From the Field



Maj. Robert Demchak, USAF (Ret)

Maine

Cadets spend time in the biology lab at Maine Maritime Academy.



Courtesy of LCDR Michael Campbell, NSCC

India

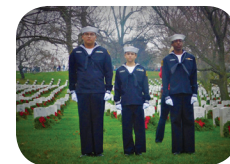
The director of IEP visits with Indian Admiral Robin K. Dhawan.



Courtesy of Escondido Battalion

California

A cadet shares his copy of Sea Cadet Quarterly with Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-Calif.).



LTJG Lori Donato, NSCC

Virginia

Cadets lay wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery.



Alison Lucerne

New Jersey

A cadet lays a wreath in support of Wreaths Across America.



Courtesy of Diablo Squadron/ Training Ship Lorraine Hughey

California

Pearl Harbor survivor Mickey Gantich was the honored guest at a unit's inspection.

Fair Winds and Following Seas

By John W. Alger

President/Acting Chairman, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Board of Directors

As many of you know, our National Chairman Dr. John Stegman unexpectedly passed away in early December. I had the pleasure of knowing John for nearly 20 years, beginning in 1997 when I was council president for the Pittsburgh Council. He had a passion for the Sea Cadets and he will be missed by all who knew him, particularly those in the Liberty Region. When I attended his memorial, along with past chairman Warren Savage, Tim Fanning and Navy League National President Skip Witunski, I was glad to see a large representation of the Sea Cadets. I think there was nearly as many Sea Cadet and Navy League folks there as family and friends. That speaks most highly of John.

As NSCC President and Vice Chairman, I have assumed the duties of both the President and Chairman until our normal elections in June. Regardless of whether I continue as President at that time or "fleet up" to Chairman, I want you all to know that the business of the Sea Cadets marches on under the most capable leadership of retired Navy Capt. Henry Nyland and the entire national headquarters staff.

A Tribute to Lt. Cmdr. Milton Jones

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Beau Fairless, NSCC and Petty Officer 3rd Class Brannon Kan, NSCC
Van Voorhis Memorial Squadron, Las Vegas, Nev.

A man that served his community in a multitude of ways by serving his church and dedicating 18 years to the Naval Sea Cadet Corps has recently passed away. His passing has caused immense grief in the community that surrounded him, especially the Sea Cadet unit. Van Voorhis Memorial Squadron, the unit that he served with, was especially close to him with his constant guidance and inspiration to become a leader. During drill weekends, he devoted his time not only to teaching the cadets basic military skills, but also the fundamentals that are necessary to become successful in life. Many of the cadets' lives have been changed for the better due to this exceptional man and what he did for the program. The people that have been affected by his generosity and the Sea Cadet unit by which he impacted with great care and dedication will dearly miss him.

Website:

www.seacadets.org

Policy and Reference:

homeport.seacadets.org

Online Unit Management:

magellan.seacadets.org

National Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/usnsc

National Twitter page:

www.twitter.com/seacadets

International Exchange Program:

iep.seacadets.org

Meet NHQ

Everyone, let us introduce you to Fai Blakley, one of the hardest working people you'll ever meet. Fai is responsible for financial operations, internal control policies, audit liaison, mandatory federal grant, tax, pension plan, other regulatory compliance reporting, "and a bunch of other stuff." She has worked at NHQ for 15 years.

Hailing from Arlington, Virginia, she loves Italian food, visiting Kiawah Island in South Carolina, spending time with her kids, and growing exotic vegetables. Her favorite thing about the Sea Cadet program is the people who "meet each evolving challenge to make a successful program that delivers such a unique training experience for our cadets." Thanks for all you do for our program, Fai!

Our 2015 Individual Award Winners



Willis E. Reed Award for Sea Cadet of the Year Chief Petty Officer Justin Deuel, NSCC, Col. William B. Travis Division

"I would like to thank my father for introducing the program to me. Being a former cadet, a military veteran, and a registered nurse, my father has devoted more than enough time to others over his lifetime. From cadets to patients, he has taught others to be more than just themselves. Joining the Sea Cadets was a milestone decision in my life. At first, I didn't realize how this organization would guide my future. I knew I desired to do something important in my life, so I joined the program to reach that goal. I have not only achieved this goal, but I accomplished it beyond my dreams. That is one reason I am thankful to receive the Willis E. Reed Award for National Cadet of the Year of 2015."

Chief Deuel has been an extremely dedicated member of the program for five years. Always the last to leave drill, Deuel is a confident leader who eagerly takes on new responsibilities. In addition to managing his time between community college classes and his duties as a Coast Guard Auxiliary member, he has completed 75 training days, to include Merchant Marine Operations and various medical trainings. He will graduate from high school this year and plans to join the U.S. Coast Guard as a Flight Surgeon after completing a nursing degree.



Keith T. Weaver Award for League Cadet of the Year Petty Officer 3rd Class Laura Smith, NLCC, Training Ship Barque Eagle

"I can't believe I won this. This is an incredible feeling that I can't even begin to describe. I am amazed, shocked, humbled, and overwhelmed with joy. When I first joined the cadets, I didn't know what to expect. I never knew how much I could enjoy the PT, marching, discipline, mentoring, and most of all the lifelong leadership skills that I am acquiring. I believe we are the best because that is what we have been taught and I see it every drill. This is the greatest program and I have the best leadership and shipmates in all of the cadets. I am so proud to have been chosen but this award is a reflection of all my fellow cadets because without them I could not have done this."

With enthusiasm that is "off the charts," Smith has stood out since she attended League Orientation. She has completed 82 hours of community service — never missing an event — and honed her seamanship skills aboard USS Salem. Her unit cites her dedication, leadership and overall desire to be the best as inspirational to everyone around her. With her willingness to assist others and her exceptional bearing and behavior, Smith is a prime example of what a League Cadet can achieve.



Nicholas Brango Award for Inspirational Leadership for NSCC Officer of the Year Lt. j.g. Jo-Anne Dao, NSCC, Band of the West

"I have been with the Band of the West for more than five years now and am more convinced than ever of the long lasting value the Sea Cadet program provides for this next generation. What I have seen time and time again is that although our cadets initially join because of their shared interest in music, it is the overall experience and opportunities within the Sea Cadet program that keeps them in for the long run. As a member of the BOTW we take every opportunity to honor our veterans with our gift of music and our cadets are able to connect on a deeper level with our veterans."

Dao works tirelessly to provide exceptional opportunities to Sea Cadet musicians in her unit and around the country. Overseeing an eight-day training event in Washington, D.C., she led cadets on a concert tour of our nation's capital bringing incredible high-level exposure to the national Sea Cadet program. She truly believes in the unit's motto — "Music is our Mission" — and creates many opportunities for her unit to serve by performing for our nation's veterans. Her unit and the national program are better thanks to her incredible tenacity and leadership.



Judge R.T.S. Colby Award for Excellence in Training for Instructor of the Year Instructor Michelle Papakie, NSCC, America Division

"I first joined the program for my son and daughter and like so many others became hooked on helping future generations through outstanding training and mentorship. It never ceases to amaze me the opportunities available to the Sea Cadets and league cadets across the country and beyond. It has been my pleasure and honor to play a very small part in making our program and young people be the best that they can be."

Instructor Papakie is a highly dedicated and versatile volunteer. With a work ethic described as "impressive," she works hard to make her unit run smoothly. She is extremely dedicated to the success of the cadets, providing guidance and a disciplined environment in which they can thrive. As an escort officer, she takes incredible initiative to accomplish whatever needs to be done to make the training run smoothly. A quick learner with a "can do" attitude, Instructor Papakie is an exceptional example of all that instructors can achieve.

Chief's Corner: Servant Leadership

By Chief Petty Officer Kolin Burns, NSCC
Atterbury Battalion, Edinburgh, Ind.



"The servant-leader is servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead. The best test is: Do those served grow as persons; do they, while being served, become healthier, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants?" – Robert K. Greenleaf

This quote introduces the thought of servant leadership as being represented by seven pillars. The servant leader is thought of as a person with the following characteristics: a person of character, putting people first, a skilled communicator, a compassionate collaborator, has foresight, is a systems thinker, and who leads with moral authority. These characteristics can be grouped into three categories that define what the servant leader represents.

The first group is traits that the servant leader has. Being a person of character requires that the servant leader maintain integrity, demonstrate humility, and serve a higher purpose. Putting other people first includes displaying a servant's heart, being mentor minded, and showing care and concern. These pertain to creating a trustworthy environment for all.

The second group is skills that the servant leader has obtained. Three characteristics that fit in this group are skilled communication, foresight and system thinking. Skilled communications are defined by the ability to demonstrate empathy, invite feedback, and communicate feedback. Having good foresight is determined by the ability to be a visionary, display creativity, and exercise sound judgment. System thinking is important as well because it gives comfort with complexity, demonstrates adaptability and considers the "greater good." These skills are important because they help the group progress, communicate effectively and deal with complicated subjects and projects.

The final group is granted by those you are leading. It contains only one characteristic, but it could arguably be the most important characteristic. Leading with moral authority is "the principled exercise of free choice, which almost always involves some sort of sacrifice," says Steven Covey. Without the support of those following, there is no one to lead.

The pillars of servant leadership provide a basis for an effective, loyal and progressing group. Those that you are leading must be supportive of your leadership, or you will have no one to lead. To be successful at being a servant leader, you must consider who you are leading. You must have the traits, skills and the support of the group for a successful group.

Promotion to Chief Is Just the Beginning

By Chief Petty Officer Blaine Bradley, NSCC
Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.

Not long ago, I earned the honor of being pinned chief petty officer, something I worked and sacrificed literally for years to achieve. I thought it was the culmination of a very long journey. I was wrong; it was just the beginning. I also realized, as is stated in the Chief Petty Officer's Oath, all the challenges I faced to get there were to make me stronger when I arrived.

One of the biggest and most surprising challenges in making the transition to chief was from a leadership standpoint. I have always wanted to be a naval aviator, and as such, the USNA has always been my goal. At the Naval Academy, things are pretty simple; if a higher ranking midshipman gives you an order, you follow it. No questions, no excuses. Not that it happens much, but if you don't follow the order, you can be pretty certain that the response you are sure to receive will not contain anything warm and fuzzy. Basically, you do what you're told to the best of your ability without discussion. Simple, right? When everyone there has signed a contract committing several years of their lives to military service, giving, receiving and carrying out orders is just what you do! The USNSCC is not as straight forward. No one is required

to show up for the next drill, no one is required to do coursework, no one is required to do anything. They can just quit if they don't like it, which makes for a very lonely chief. So expecting cadets to just "follow orders" because you outrank them, may be a bit much to expect from an 11-year-old. In short I found that being a chief in this program is probably one of the toughest leadership positions. You have a substantial amount of responsibility to produce results, whether that means seeing to it that the crew reports with the right uniforms on time to drill, or motivating them to complete coursework, or to push harder during PT or a hundred other things. Balancing all the different personalities you come into contact with, the different levels of motivation, the different circumstance that each person may have going on in their lives is a huge challenge. It takes an enormous amount of finesse, creativity, and becoming a leader as opposed to a boss. Having had just a small taste of this opportunity so far, I truly feel that if you can lead and leave a lasting impression to strive for excellence as a Sea Cadet, you can be a great leader in the military or any company in the civilian world!

Alumni Spotlight: Stephanie Horvat

Former cadet says the Sea Cadet program changed her life — and now she's inspiring others.

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Stephanie Horvat, USCG

When I walked into Naval Operations Support Center Harrisburg in January 2007, little did I know how much the Sea Cadets would change my life.

I flourished in the program. I found my inner confidence and developed my leadership skills as I ranked up. I attended as many trainings as I could, from Grayfox to POLA, two Coast Guard trainings and staffing a Recruit Training. My Sea Cadet chief set a high standard and inspired me to be better in my skills and leadership.

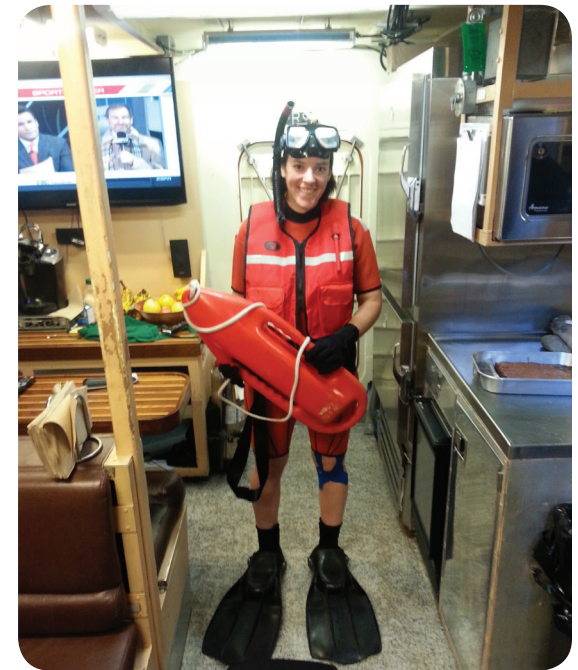
When I attended my Coast Guard trainings in July 2009, I fell in love. I loved how they operated and how they saved lives for a living. I was sold. I came back, and all I could talk about was how I wanted to join the Coast Guard.

I attended more trainings as a midshipman, acting as XO at a few trainings and battalion commander at a few others. I even got an internship at CSPAN just from being in the Sea Cadets.

My experience was invaluable when starting a new unit in Lebanon, Pennsylvania in 2012. Recently, one of my first cadets became a Marine. When he told me how much I meant to him and how he looked up to me, I teared up. To inspire someone like that is indescribable.

When I went to Coast Guard boot camp in May 2014, I was automatically chosen as a leader. Being in Sea Cadets helped me to know what to expect in Coast Guard boot camp. Because I knew the system, I was able to help my company through the rough parts of boot camp.

I am still heavily involved in the program. I'm currently stationed in Jonesport, Maine about an hour from Canada. I drive three hours each way to be involved with Sea Cadets. I hope to inspire and teach the cadets like I was inspired. Without the Sea Cadets, I would not be where I am today.



Horvat on the day she qualified as a cutter surface swimmer.

A Strategy for Completing Your Correspondence Courses

By Seaman Apprentice Rachel Griffith, NSCC
George Washington (CVN-73) Division, Bronx, N.Y.

On Homeport, a total of fourteen correspondence courses are offered. Unlike many cadets, I have done all of the correspondence courses available – and in less than six months after joining. Doing the correspondence courses makes you and your unit look good. Some cadets don't complete them because they are not motivated or lack the necessary self-discipline, which holds some cadets up for promotion. Meanwhile, others can't find an efficient system for completing them.

My strategy involves answering each question while reading the text. In other words, you should read the question first and then read the text while looking for the response to that

question. You may find it helpful if you print out the questions, circle your answer to each question and then write the page number of the answer next to each question.

When you have finished each assignment, carefully transfer your answers onto answer sheets (one sheet per assignment) and don't forget to check your work. My father, Instructor Andrew Griffith, recommended this strategy to me when I first started doing the course work, and I found it to be highly effective. Sit down and get them done. You will be much happier with the coursework done and behind you than trying to delay or avoid it.

The Flip Side of Recruit Training

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Emily Lo Vece, NSCC
Manatee Division, Yankeetown, Fla.
Staff Cadet, Recruit Training, Camp Perry, Ohio

It seems like just yesterday I attended Recruit Training. However, that experience was now a full year ago and this winter I had the fantastic opportunity to be on the flip side of recruit training. On Christmas day I flew out of Orlando, Florida to join six other staff cadets in Ohio. I quickly learned that “Camp Perry is a happy place,” and I was surrounded by a wonderful group of other staff members.

Before going to staff a training, most cadets will ask their shipmates how to prepare. The most popular response I received was, “Don’t expect to get lots of sleep.” This rule definitely held true for my first staffing experience, but it was well worth it. As a recruit, you are under so much stress and constantly feeling sleep deprived. When I was going through my boot camp experience, it never occurred to me that my petty officers were the ones waking me up. They were getting even less sleep than I was! Herein lies the flip side — the recruit perspective versus staff cadet perspective.

Each side has its individual experiences with unique ups and downs. As a recruit, you learn the basics and just how important it is to follow your leaders. When staffing, it is your job to teach this principle and carry out all of the orders appointed

by your officers. Both of these objectives are difficult ones, but they are certainly vital to building great cadets.

There is one thing, however, that you experience as a staff cadet directly resulting from your position. This is the feeling of pride on graduation day in all you have taught the new cadets and your excitement for their future in the Corps. When someone from your company, or even another, takes the time to find you after graduation to say, “Thank you, petty officer. You were tough on us, but I learned something, and I appreciate it” it is the greatest feeling. I was prepared to simply lose some sleep and march my legs off, but staffing was a much deeper experience than I could’ve imagined. What I learned was far more important than losing sleep or having sore calves, and I hope to experience this flip side a few more times before I graduate.



Rutledge (left) leads the cadets of Alpha Division. Leadership, he states, “is a process that involves lots of trial and error, a process that takes lots of self-reflection.”

Always Expect the Unexpected

By Chief Petty Officer Drew Rutledge III, NSCC
Yorktown Division, Goose Creek, S.C.
Staff Cadet, Recruit Training, Keystone Heights, Fla.

When one enters the realm of being a staff cadet of a Recruit Training, an essential mindset to have is always to expect the unexpected. In my years of being in the Corps, I had looked up to petty officers, chiefs, and officers for leadership aspects that would benefit me when I became a staff cadet in charge of recruits that would be looking up to me.

Leadership is not a skill that is easily acquired by just anyone; it is a process that involves lots of trial and error, a process that takes lots of self-reflection, and a process that requires you to keep your head held high despite factors that might influence you to do otherwise. A former executive officer once told me, “Leadership is like a radio, and you’re trying to find out what station your subordinates are on.” Not only do great leaders strive to make themselves better, but they make every effort to construct the best cadets or people that will transform the future of our nation.

Stepping into the doors of Recruit Training Command Northeast Florida, I had no idea what to expect. There were new officers, new staff cadets, new recruits, all of whom I had never met or interacted with before. As a newly promoted chief, I had expectations to uphold. The weight would be on my shoulders, not because I was a staff cadet, but because there were cadets before me who gave their all to ensure that I could stand where I am today. However, you can’t better yourself if you do not take on challenges, and that’s exactly what I did as the Recruit Division Commander for Alpha Division. My recruits learned quickly that I was stern and quite rigid, but that everything I did would help them in the future. They quickly learned the basics of the Corps, attention to detail, responsibility, accountability for themselves and their shipmates, teamwork, and having the ability to work under intense pressure.

From reveille to taps, my division was constantly on their A-game. From sounding-off cadences to holding a one-

thousand-yard stare, the recruits knew what was expected of them. Nonetheless, I knew that I had to set the example for them; if I wanted them to be on time to the formation, I was standing there ten minutes before. Are staff cadets perfect? No. We often found ourselves “out on the bulkhead” getting chewed out by the Assistant Division Officer. On some days, it seemed like I could have done better, but on others, it seemed like the recruits in my division were improving. After receiving guidance from officers, I quickly learned that as a chief, not everything is in your hands, and sometimes you have to play the cards you are dealt in order to succeed.

As the Recruit Training went on, you could see the development of the recruits. Taking one glance at my division, you could see heads held high and a sense of pride in each and every one of their eyes. When the time came for graduation, I was deeply unsettled; I quickly realized that my recruits had minutes before they were newly announced as cadets.

As I called out each of my recruits’ names and they walked across the stage, I became more and more upset. In just nine days, I had created a deep connection with my cadets. I stood next to my division with pride and considered myself as their equal, despite me being a staff cadet. They had earned their right to be called cadets. I waited to hear them name the Honor Division and Honor Cadets. I was sure that there was no possibility that my division would be Honor Division. However, there it was: “The Honor Division is...Alpha Division.” I stood there in awe from the shock that went through my body. My division had shown that they progressed not only to me, but to the officers of the training, too.

The cadets from Alpha Division have great futures ahead of them, and I cannot wait to see the great petty officers and chiefs they will become. I wish them luck in their future endeavors, and if there is one piece of advice that I could give them, it would be to expect the unexpected.

Don’t Give Up the Ship

By Midshipman Austyn Sutton
Katy Division, Katy, Texas
Recruit Division Commander, Camp Perry, Ohio

As a Recruit Division Commander for Winter Combined Training Command Midwest 2015, I had the honor and privilege to work with many fine cadets and officers. I wish to extend my congratulations to each of the Sea Cadet Corps’ newest cadets, and I would also like to pass on words of advice and encouragement.

First, I noticed that recruit training was the first taste for many of our young cadets of what the military has to offer. For many, as it should have been, recruit training was a challenge. One that, for eight days each cadet needed to wake up before the sun and say, “I can do this.” The stress, both physically and mentally, of the path we have all chosen to follow can be overwhelming at times. However, in the end, as President Wilson stated in 1914, “Nothing is worthwhile that is not hard. ... you get your zest by doing a thing that is difficult, not a thing that is easy.” This holds true for both mind and body. Success begins in the mind, with you saying to yourself, “I can conquer this task.” So, to all cadets, convince yourselves that you can accomplish something great and go after it.

Second, continue to challenge yourselves and step outside of your comfort zone. As a leader and a follower, you

will never grow without attempting something new. Ask to march the formation, lead a work detail, or whatever it may be. Leadership and followership are both difficult arts that require practice and hard work. The path to successful leadership is not easy, but I believe each of you are capable of accomplishing your goals and breaking down walls.

Finally, do not become flustered with failure. As a young cadet, and especially as a young adult, it is almost guaranteed that you will make some mistakes along the way. As Admiral Greenert recently wrote in an essay, a command should be, “as tolerant of innocent mistakes as it is intolerant of character failings.” Never become discouraged and always give it your all.

When the going gets tough, in the words of Commodore Perry, “Don’t give up the ship.” Congratulations to all of our newly graduated recruits across the Sea Cadet Corps.

Sutton is currently an NROTC Midshipman studying Marine Engineering Technology at Texas A&M University at Galveston. He is currently the executive officer of Katy Division and a former chief petty officer with Central Maryland Corsairs Squadron.

Staff Cadet Prepares for Future

By Chief Petty Officer James Arter, NSCC
Annapolis Division, Annapolis, Md.
Staff Cadet, Seamanship and Small Boat Operations, Naval Station Norfolk, Va.

This winter I had the opportunity to staff Small Boats Ops in Norfolk, Virginia. This was the second training I was able to staff, so I had an idea of what I was getting myself into. I attended the training last winter and a few of the officers were the same from last year. While staffing, I saw an entirely different side of the training that I did not see last winter. I learned first-hand all the work and preparation that were put into running the training. There were a lot of late nights where we would spend hours preparing for the next day, whether it was setting the plan of the day, setting up for class or going back to the docks and prepping the boats.

This year the cadets had an opportunity that I did not have last year. They had 7M RHIBs at their disposal, which were an excellent resource for them. The other staff cadet, Petty Officer 3rd Class Haak Burns, was a close friend of mine from last year's training, and was great to have around. It gave me the opportunity to help teach him what I have learned throughout the years. Staffing at trainings like this is the reason that I decided to become a military officer. Throughout the training, I was able to teach the new groups of cadets everything that I have learned from last year's training, and on the side, I was able to help provide guidance on leadership to my fellow staff cadet and prepare him for the future within the program.

I could not ask for a better way or a better group of staff to have ended my cadet career within the program. I was able to make close friends and bonds that will last a lifetime.



From Student to Teacher

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Haak Burns, NSCC
Dealey Division, Stamford, Conn.
Staff Cadet, Seamanship and Small Boat Operations, Naval Station Norfolk, Va.

One year ago, I attended Seamanship training as a timid and skittish seaman apprentice. Despite that, I graduated with the Honor Boat crew, having learned a lifetime's worth of maritime and boating skills. One year later, I made the transition from student to teacher and came back to staff the same training, not as a timid seaman apprentice, but as a confident and knowledgeable petty officer.

Instead of learning the skills I was taught as an seaman apprentice, I would instead be learning leadership qualities and techniques through hands-on experience. I had the privilege of staffing with a chief petty officer who was also a graduate of the training. He provided me with numerous opportunities to develop my leadership skills by taking control of things that required the communication of ideas and organizing the cadets. By taking a step back and letting me interact with the cadets, he allowed me to further develop my leadership abilities.

Being the LPO was not an easy job, however. I was responsible for the wellbeing of the cadets as well as making sure they were working with their boat crews. The rewards, however, were worth the effort. Being able to watch 16 cadets go from knowing nothing about seamanship to being able to complete dangerous night operations shows that I did my job of teaching them. As LPO, I had taught my cadets to the best of my abilities, and they had fun learning about small boat operations. I was very proud of them on graduation day.

Cadet Enjoys First Training

By Recruit Cadet Michael Mott, NLCC
Training Ship Ranger, Fort Worth, Texas
Navy League Orientation, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

I arrived in California for Winter Training for Leaguer Orientation. This was my first training. I went with Cadet Wanasiek to eat lunch first then we went to the USO. Then we were taken to Camp Pendleton for training.

When I got there, it was a surprising sight. There were a bunch of portables there with Division 1, 2, and 3 on them. I checked in for camp; there were only a few people there for camp on the first day because many do not come until the day training starts. When I signed in, I met the person in charge of the camp; her name was Lt. Cmdr. Franklin. She asked which football team we liked best and when I said I liked the Steelers, she said "Okay then, back of the line." That is how I first met Lt. Cmdr. Franklin. We went to Evening Chow, and they had steak, green beans, rice, and bread. The food was great, and we got to talk together. The next few days were much the same because most of the time we just traveled around camp marching. However, we started our day with PT every morning — a one-mile jog. It was great! At the end of each day, we would take a nice warm shower and then set up watch.

One day, we were able to go out to the soccer field to play a game of soccer with the Marines. They were defending their title, and we kicked their butts in the game; the score was 5-0 and they were really sad because they had that trophy

for a long time and they got attached to it. It was the best game of soccer I had ever played.

We were told we were going to run five miles on a cold winter's night, but when we went to get chow, instead we got a New Year's Eve party! The first thing I said when I saw it was: "I still want a five-mile run." We had PRT the next day and I did awesome on my push-ups and sit-ups. Then I ran the mile in 6:53 and got second place. When we got to graduation, we saluted the flags and then walked on to the stage. Once it was done, we marched out using the movement "Eyes Right" and when we were told to return our RDC said "Ready Two" and we marched off in happiness trying to contain ourselves from all the joy. The commander called out my name and I could go home. We got to the airport and got our tickets to go on a flight back to Fort Worth. When I got home, I saw my parents and was glad because I needed them to come and take me home so I could go to bed. I was happy I went; it was a really fun experience for me, and I cannot wait until RT this summer.



What I Did on My Christmas Break

By Seaman Apprentice Rickeyria Phillips, NSCC
Pathfinder Excursion Squadron, Franklin, Ga.
Recruit Training, Augusta, Ga.



I recently attended a nine-day winter Recruit Training in Augusta, Georgia. It was on an active military base named Fort Gordon. The 197.4-mile drive took a little over three hours. Arriving at the base, a soldier welcomed us and kindly pointed us in the direction of where I needed to be. Arriving promptly, I gathered my seabag and very respectfully asked permission to come aboard, and so began my first day at RT, which was a very scary thought for me. After telling our loved ones goodbye, we went to our division room and put away our things in a particular way. There I meet my fellow recruits, six of the hardest working, most amazing girls I have ever met. I did not know it then, but those six girls would soon help me get through my first time being away from home for more than a weekend.

The days at RT consist of reveille at 0500 and marching to breakfast at 0545. PT was at 0700 unless we were off doing some amazing training drills with our two staff sergeants who were Marines. 0820 was instruction periods, which the staff always kept interesting and exciting. 1100 break for noon meal and back to class, 1630 evening meal, 1800 night routine and taps at 2200.

Anytime we had in between we studied for our final exam. Many days the wonderful staff would change things up by taking us to the shooting range where we learned to shoot M16s, the fire station where we learned about fire safety and knot-tying or the pool where we did swim qualification and I earned first class swimmer. We also learned several different swimming strokes. Recruit Training at Fort Gordon was a great experience that I will never forget; I highly recommend this training and base.

Cadet Excels at Orientation

By Recruit Cadet Mi-Cha O'Brien, NLCC
Training Ship Columbia, San Diego, Calif.
Navy League Orientation, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

I am a 12-year-old League Cadet, and I have several reflections about winter training. There were many “ups and downs” — events that were both memorable and transformative leading up to graduation. Above all, the commitment and the strength needed to survive the week were beyond what I imagined would be required going into this training.

Upon entering Marine Corp Base Camp Pendleton in California, I thought it was going to be too challenging, and that I might not graduate. I was fearful that I'd be one of those cadets who would not make it, and would have to call my parents to pick me up early. Waking up every morning at 5:30 a.m. was the first challenge I faced each day. Other challenges followed, including having to march in step. If our division was not in step, we had to hold our

hands up while marching, for as many as 15 minutes, which felt like an eternity at the time. Playing soccer with the Marines and having fun with our instructors was definitely the upside of the training.

It was an honor to be nominated as Honor Cadet. Meeting the criteria proved to me that I had the knowledge, skill and attitude to continue to grow in future trainings.

My main takeaway from winter training was to be the best person I can be. The Sailor's Creed and the Law of the Navy have become significant ways to live by for me. Winter training has shown me that there is more to the Sea Cadet Program than just attending monthly drills, and has strengthened my appreciation for the program.



Orientation: “An Enlightening Experience”

By Recruit Cadet Emmanuel Flores, NLCC
Training Ship San Francisco, San Francisco, Calif.
Navy League Orientation, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Navy League Orientation provided insight on the intricacies of not only the Navy League Cadet Corps itself, but the chain of command, leadership, and respect for those above you. Throughout the duration of the training, we were encouraged and pushed to exceed what we perceived as our academic, physical, and emotional limits. Furthermore, many of us persevered through hardships with the support of the officers and were able to overcome the mental and physical pain. The empowering words of our officers and the incentive of home invigorated my fellow shipmates and me to approach our challenges with grit and not cower in the face of possible suffering.

Throughout orientation, we endured rigorous physical

training routinely, whether it was a mile run, push-ups or other activities. Aside from the physically arduous aspect of the training, the provided meals were especially palatable and satisfied the vast majority of recruits and trainees.

One of the other highlights of the training was the phenomenal opportunity and privilege of playing soccer with several U.S. Marines and experiencing a Military Convoy Simulator. In the simulator, we got to fire hyper-realistic simulated firearms while riding in a Humvee! While this was great, I think the most enjoyable and ultimately best aspect of the entire training was the so-called “five-mile run.” I thought League Orientation, although extremely rigorous and strenuous, was an extraordinary and enlightening experience.

The American Spirit of Competition

By Seaman Apprentice Morgan Tapley, NSCC and Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Palumbo, NLCC
Spc. Justin O. Penrod Division, Champaign, Ill.
Recruit Training and Navy League Orientation, Camp Perry, Ohio

Our time at training made us proud of our country and culture, particularly the American spirit of competition, an idea boldly embraced by Midshipman Sutton, who was the RDC of Recruit Training, and Lt. jg. Palumbo, who was the executive officer of League Orientation. Although there were no formal competitions between Recruit Training and Orientation, the encouragement to view all mutual activities as competitions invariably yielded positive results in everything from memorizing the General Orders to physical training. But the best aspect of our friendly competition was that while it enormously improved both groups individually, it also inspired camaraderie and unity within the combined NSCC/NLCC team. Competition encourages respect for shipmates and *esprit de corps*. Despite our age differences, everyone eagerly assisted our shipmates with various tasks, cheered for one another during PT, and encouraged each other to persevere.

A Snowy, Yet Successful Recruit Training

By Seaman Apprentice Blake Sketchley, NSCC
Naval Station Everett Division, Everett, WA
Recruit Training, Naval Base Kitsap, Wash.



From day one at RT, I knew this would be a tough but exciting experience. Looking back on it, the fun parts far outweighed the hard times. The nine days I spent there were more than worth the struggle we all went through!

The first day, although necessary, was mostly uneventful. We were given bunks, organized by company. I got lucky — an old friend from NLCC was assigned to my company, along with four cadets from my home unit. I felt at least somewhat at home, as I had been to Bangor once before as a League Cadet, and I was familiar with the area. One thing that impressed me was being able to meet cadets from all over the country. Our training had cadets from California, Colorado, Tennessee, and even as far as Florida!

We woke up on Day Two to a big surprise — it was snowing! The snow was still coming down in large flakes as we marched to the track to do our PRT. We were all freezing as we ran our mile, which slowed us down. If we did not have to do the PRT, I probably would have enjoyed the snow. I would soon come to regret the fact that it did snow, because from then on, the roads were a little icy; it was not fun to march anywhere then! Most of the days had a general routine: wake up to staff banging on lockers, march to the track to do PT, eat morning chow, take some classes, eat midday chow, do marching practice, more classes, eat evening chow, more classes, and go to bed after some personal time. Classes ranged from Basic Seamanship, to Weapon Functioning, to Fire: Chemistry, Classification and Prevention.

My favorite parts were swim qualifications, New Year's Eve and graduation. I got second-class swimmer, which made me happy. The swim qualifications were held either the third or fourth day into RT, and I enjoyed the challenge. On New Year's Eve, the staff surprised us by letting us stay up to watch a movie. We got to eat pizza and drink soda as we watched “The Guardian”, a story about a Coast Guard Senior Chief Rescue Swimmer. On top of that, I got to call home!

When it finally came to graduation day, we went down to the Naval Undersea Museum. On the bus ride there, all the recruits were obnoxiously singing along to some popular music (it was still funny). I looked over at a fellow recruit and said, gesturing at the singing cadets, “This is what happens when you go to RT!” Upon receiving my certificate at graduation, I felt proud and elated that I had made it through Boot Camp. I look forward to now attending advanced trainings to enhance my Sea Cadet experience.

Let's Talk About Recruit Training

From camaraderie to food to feeling nervous, there are some common themes when it comes to Recruit Training. Cadets from around the country tell us about their experiences this winter.

#1

It's normal to have some nerves.



Seaman Apprentice Tomas Garay of O'Callahan Division says it best: "When I first arrived at the sign-in table I was a little nervous and happy. I was happy because I knew that after I finished with RTC I would be able to attend advance trainings. I was nervous because I didn't know what to expect."

#3

Know your stuff.



Martin advises recruits to prepare. "I would recommend that cadets attending their first training should know their General Orders, study Anchors Aweigh and practice their military bearing." Garay tells cadets to know your facing movements and to exercise before you go.

#5

Soak up that feeling at graduation.



#2

The food is really good!



Those faces aren't for the food. Depending on the training, your food may be cooked by cadets attending Culinary Arts training or by volunteers or in a cafeteria setting. Regardless of who cooks it, you're going to be hungry! Seaman Apprentice Zane Martin of O'Callahan Division says: "The food was delicious! I do not care what anyone says, it was good!"

#4

Get to know your shipmates.



Seaman Apprentice Siobhan Ferrall and Seaman Apprentice Jade Morton of Veterans Pride Battalion attest to the importance of knowing your shipmates: "We knew we were going to be stuck with the same people for nine days, so, on the fourth night, we all got together and shared, shipmate to shipmate, our names, our birthday, any sport we played, and a fun fact. We got closer as shipmates and as friends, and we turned into a family by the end. We all had our sad moments, and our happy moments, but we made it through in one piece, and, more importantly, we made it through together."

Every cadet who has graduated from Recruit Training will tell you how proud they are of themselves and their shipmates on graduation day. Seaman Apprentice Andaman Wright of Kentucky Division expresses it like this: "Over the course of a week we learned to rely on each other, learned our strengths and how everyone is important in teamwork. We encouraged each other and felt pride in our team and our fellow recruits. It feels good to have a working team. We listened to each other's goals and ambitions. We shared our aspirations. We left with a feeling of inspiration. I want to DO. I want to DO. I want to DO! There is so much I want to do."

Unforgettable Experience at RT

By Seaman Recruit Cesar Flores, NSCC
Camp Lejeune Battalion, Camp Johnson, N.C.
Recruit Training, Fort Gordon, Ga.



My experience at Recruit Training was one that I will definitely never forget. I learned so many lessons that will help me in the future. I was able to get the feel of how everyday life is as a recruit and I learned a lot of skills that increased my interest in enlisting in the military and even making the military into a career for me.

I liked how they treated us like actual recruits from the moment we arrived at our barracks. I was hoping that we would be given challenges and that the training would be intense. I loved that I never knew when we would be faced with a challenge and the thought of a challenge coming at us at any moment excited me.

One of my favorite aspects of the training was teamwork. Having shipmates there to help me whenever I needed it was very helpful. I also liked helping the other recruits and being depended on with certain tasks. I really enjoyed some of the team-building exercises as well.

I enjoy exercising and the training gave me a chance to stay very active most of the time. I am very happy that I was able to experience what the physical aspect of recruit training would be like. The most challenging part for me was marksmanship. I had never shot an M16 rifle or an M4 rifle and I was very surprised with how my results came out. I also enjoyed learning how to tie knots. I was very proud of myself for being able to learn how to do that.

I was very honored and proud to have gone through such a great training and say that I became a Sea Cadet and the training has made me like the program even more than I had before. It made me see what a great opportunity this program is and what it'll do for me in the future.

The Start of My Journey

By Seaman Apprentice Lucy Ackerman, NSCC
Blue Angels Squadron, Seattle, Wash.
Recruit Training, Naval Base Kitsap, Wash.

It was not an experience to put in the back of my mind and forget about, but rather my Recruit Training was the experience of a lifetime. The education I obtained extended from learning the value of the word "shipmate" to understanding how to direct a team safely and efficiently to victory. Throughout boot camp, I learned the simple and intangible skills of a successful shipmate and Sailor. These skills started with sewing, cleaning and following orders and extended to understanding and executing following and leadership skills. Recruit training has inspired me to not just be the best version of myself but to help those around me to be their best. Naval Base Kitsap was the start of my journey towards a fulfilling and successful life of Honor, Courage and Commitment.

Training at a Glimpse



"My experience at Recruit Training was the most rewarding challenge I have done. I had the opportunity to learn how to march properly, practice military bearing and see true leadership in action. The Staff Cadets and Division Officers conducted themselves with professionalism and respect and they made it their duty to prepare us to be Sea Cadets. I would recommend the Sea Cadet Corps to everyone who desires to learn skills that will prepare them for everyday life."

Seaman Apprentice Marco Fiorello, NSCC
Moffett Squadron, Mountain View, Calif.
Recruit Training, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Be Prepared to Work: My Culinary Arts Experience



By Seaman Apprentice Michael Knigge, NSCC
Camp Lejeune Battalion, Camp Johnson, N.C.
Red Horse Air Force Base, Port Clinton, Ohio

My winter training as a Sea Cadet started out with me waking up at 0400 Christmas morning. My journey began from Coastal Carolina Regional Airport in New Bern, North Carolina, on to Charlotte, North Carolina with my final flight designation to Cleveland Hopkins Airport. Training was during my winter school break and it was challenging, interesting and very amusing.

The Air Force spent a great deal of money renovating the Red Horse Galley, which now has state of the art equipment that they so gracefully let us use under the supervision of Lt. Cmdr. S.B. Lukasiewicz, the commanding officer of our training.

It was a challenge to prep and feed between 100-125 persons three times daily. Keeping the scullery running smoothly was equally challenging. We operated in two shifts with the earliest at 0515 and second shift beginning at 0730.

On day four, we started our “Top Chef” competition. We were divided into two groups. We had three rounds: the appetizer, the entree and the dessert. The staff officers were our judges, critiquing on taste, presentation and creativity. I was happy my group won in the end. We had a lot of fun competing against each other. Lt. Cmdr. Lukasiewicz she said that it was the closest competition ever in the history of her staffing culinary training.

The quarters had great sleeping arrangements. They were very well equipped with a entertainment center with TV for what down time we were allowed. I enjoyed meeting shipmates from different regions, to include: Rhode Island, Maryland, Ohio, and Michigan to name a few.

Lt. Cmdr. Lukasiewicz conducted a very good advanced training. I recommend the training to any cadet, but be prepared to work!



Courtesy of Winter Survival Training

Winter Survival: Useful and Challenging

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Roy French, NSCC
Truxton (DDG-103) Division, Oswego, N.Y.
Winter Survival Training, Aurora, Colo.

This winter, like many other cadets, I attended a winter training. Unlike other cadets, I attended winter survival training. I reported to the training command where I was issued snowshoes, an inert weapon, a rucksack and a sleeping bag. After, we were given about six hours of instruction on how to survive the harsh conditions of the Rocky Mountains. Then we ate our last meal and retired to bed. The next morning we all piled into a bus and traveled for hours to the training site.

Upon arrival, we hurried to our designated area and set up camp. I built the fire while the others focused on the shelter. I soon had a flame made with nothing but flint and steel. After we had established our camp surviving was relatively easy even with temperatures averaging 20 below zero. We were summoned to rally at Point Bravo, a small barn where we rendezvoused with the other squads. It was there where most of the actual training occurred. We learned how to properly trap, kill and clean small game, how to safely participate in live fire exercises and much more.

The food was scarce throughout the training and when we did receive food we had to earn it. One night we were ordered to patrol a road and collect the “safe” package. I did this by interpreting the Russian messages on the packages. As a result of selecting the correct package, my squad was rewarded with MREs. The following night I learned the importance of the 11th General Order when our camp was bombarded by firecrackers and flares. After spending five days and four nights in the mountains, it was surprisingly bittersweet to leave. I’ve attended many trainings but this was the most useful, educational and challenging. I would highly recommend to those interested in special forces.

Cadet Enjoys Experience at MAA Training

By Apprentice Cadet Maya Wyr, NLCC
Band of the West Division, Redwood City, Calif.
Master-At-Arms/Unarmed Combat Training, Camp Pendleton, Calif.



Master-At-Arms/Unarmed Combat Training was a great experience. I learned a lot, met new people, made new friends and all of the learning was active. Everything, I mean *everything*, was physical. I loved my division officer, officer-in-charge and sensei. Lt. Cmdr. Franklin was tough but fair. One of the highlights was the obstacle course. It was fun to compete and have some team bonding. Another highlight was the Marine Simulator. It was amazing to try out the weapons and how the “game” worked. Our truck got stuck under a bridge and we were thrown up into the air. That... was interesting...

I also remember the morning of graduation day we were stuck outside with our breakfast and I didn’t want to take off my gloves because it was about 30 degrees out. Also, the showers were really cold because the water hadn’t been used in a while so it took a long time to heat up. Another pro was that the food was great! The first morning the eggs were a bit watery but they fixed that quickly. One other cadet and I were the only two females at MAA training and there were only two females for Leaguer POLA too, so in the mornings and evenings we talked a lot. To sum it up, MAA training was a great training that I’m glad I didn’t pass up.

‘Interactive and Fun’ Medical Training

By Seaman Devin Sabatino, NSCC
Charlotte Division, Charlotte, N.C.
Medical Training, Naval Station Newport, R.I.

In my opinion, Medical Training was very good. When we got there, we had our own rooms with one bunkmate. We got situated and learned the rules and how the training was going to go. It was not a lazy go-to-the-classroom-and-take-notes-then-you’re-done training. We were graded on everything we did, our bearing, physical appearance, and our motivation. There would be a quiz every morning on the material we were supposed to study the previous night. There would be a certain amount of reading we would have

to do every night, including some assignments, so it was important that we manage our time well.

The first few days of the training was note-taking and basic material. As the days progressed it became more fun and interactive. We demonstrated certain techniques and we learned how to take vital signs. The teachers were good as well. There was hospital corpsman, a FNP, a trauma doctor and an EMT. They were all very skilled and made it interesting — and they kept me awake in the classroom!



Breathing Beneath the Atlantic

By Seaman Sam Stoepfel, NSCC
Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.
Basic Scuba, Key Largo, Fla.

My winter experience at Scuba was awesome! It was very different from the other trainings I've done. My adventure began with the flight — it was my first time flying and there were connecting flights to navigate. At first, it was a lot to take in. I followed the instructions that my parents made sure I'd read ten times and once I was through the first flight, it was easy. Flying wasn't bad; it was kind of cool. Our training was roughly 45 minutes from the airport. Our base was two minutes walking distance from the Atlantic Ocean — amazing.

Our first day was mainly settling in and allocating jobs. This was our chance to get to know everyone. There were a total of 10 cadets at the training along with three officers: Lt. Sandi Chamyan, Ensign Alex Dale and Ensign Cait Epstein, all from Enterprise Division in Miami.

On day two, we started going over our book work and took tests in class. Study packets were sent in the mail that we were expected to learn before we arrived at training. We learned how the equipment was used and what not to do. Day three we started to do more hands-on learning in the bay, we called these the "confined waters." Confined waters are where you go into an area of water such as a pool or an area of water that is safe. In the confined water swim, we learned how to switch from snorkel to regulator without inhaling the water. In the confined water dives, we were diving to a depth of around eight feet. It was a great experience, but it was probably the most physically and mentally exhausting part of the training.

After the training was done for the day, we went to the park and played kickball. We dominated that game. My dive partner was Sam Dahm, from Lexington Division in Colorado. Diving partners are there to help you in case of an emergency. If you run out of air, partners can share their air with you. I thought it was pretty cool. It's also a lot more fun to have a diving partner because you have someone to share the amazing experience with. During the training, it rained a little bit but we didn't care. What was important was the fact that we kept learning and practicing skills in the water. Our first open water dive was about 35 feet in depth. On day five, we went in the Atlantic Ocean and dove off of the boat. The water was terribly rough for our first time ever! There were waves that were seven to 10 feet high. The boat ride took us out into the Atlantic Ocean about 40 minutes. I experienced seasickness for the first time. It's a terrible feeling, and the only good thing about seasickness is how quickly you recover. I now have my "sea legs" and the fish had my lunch!

Soon it was the last day of training. We cleaned and took some final pictures. I graduated with the rest of the cadets and received the PADI open water scuba certification. The PADI certificate is a certification that shows that you met the course requirements. Dive centers and resorts require proof of certification before they will rent scuba equipment or fill scuba cylinders.

My Scuba experience was pretty amazing. Thanks to the staff for giving me the opportunity to have fun and learn at the same time. Best winter break ever!

POLA and Scuba in Paradise

By Seaman Daria Savchenko, NSCC
Battleship Missouri-Hawaii Division, Honolulu, Hawaii
Petty Officer Leadership Academy and Basic Scuba, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

In the beginning of August, I was excited to hear that there was a training coming up in which I could attend Petty Officer Leadership Academy (POLA) and learn to Scuba. I wanted to improve my leadership skills since I was Assistant Leading Petty Officer of my division and I wanted to learn how to dive. The training started on Oct. 4, when we checked into our barracks, and lasted until the graduation ceremony on Oct. 11.

I did not know what to expect for the first five days of POLA. I thought it would consist of many PowerPoints and presentations, but that was far from the truth. Each cadet was assigned one day where he or she got to act as the Leading Petty Officer. This meant marching the cadets to and from events, making sure they had proper gear for that day's activities, and reporting to the officers. I was the first to be in charge, and this was intimidating to me. My day as LPO was filled with mistakes which later on turned into helpful lessons. However, I saw an enormous transformation with my cadets. Every day, they improved from the last and truly became leaders.

Learning to dive was an experience of a lifetime. I was pleasantly surprised to know that we would go on five certification dives in the ocean. We had to do an online course to become familiar with the basic concepts of all things diving related. Then we had a few nights of instructional time in the pool where we learned skills and practiced swimming with the gear on. Finally, we had two days where we got to dive in the ocean. My favorite part was being able to "breathe underwater" and see all of the marine life. I saw plenty of starfish, sea urchins and different fish.



My Week at STEM Training

By Seaman Anthony J. Firpo, NSCC
Ben Moreell Battalion, Port Hueneme, Calif.
STEM Training, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

I arrived at Camp Pendleton at 0800; the sun was out, but it was cold, a perfect way to start the day. Once we arrived I went directly to the line and checked in, went back to my parents and said my goodbyes. Afterwards, I went and joined my group to start my winter training with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). The first thing Instructor Nohrenberg did was assign us our rooms, which three to four people slept in, we cleaned out the barracks, and after everything was clean and tidy, we had chow. After chow, we went into the classroom and cut PVC pipes and called it a day. For the next couple of days we woke up at 0500 and started our day in a classroom. Our objective was to build a SeaPerch vehicle that can maneuver under water. The first step in constructing the SeaPerch was taking the PVC pipes, and assembling them, the next step was skinning the wires, and soldering them together. Then we formed a team of three,

so we can put together a presentation on how we built the SeaPerch, and how it will function under water. Once we did our presentations, we went to compete at a nearby pool. The competition was the last step of our training, and by far the most exciting. We went through obstacle courses and a time lap/race. I didn't win, but it was a great accomplishment. Then came graduation day, and it was time to go home. It was an honor and a privilege to have had the opportunity to involve myself in the STEM program, a life experience that will serve me in the near future.



The First-Ever Chief's POLA

By Chief Petty Officer Riley Dunn, USCG
Commanding Officer, Scorpion Squadron, Keyport, Wash.
Chief's POLA, Naval Base Kitsap, Wash.

Training Contingent Naval Base Kitsap held its first ever Chief Petty Officer Leadership Academy during this past winter training cycle. From the Dec. 26 until Jan. 3, the chiefs and petty officers first class in attendance were subject to various leadership training classes. They learned the difference between motivational and intimidation style leadership, the characteristics of a good leader, and even how to facilitate leadership. They were involved in discussions about ethics in their decision making, how to create realistic goals, and how their personal values coincide with organizational goals.

Since their training took place during the annual winter Recruit Training, they were also given instruction on uniform inspections, how to counsel junior members and resolve conflict. There were even a couple of times where the CPOLA cadets were given time to work with the RT Staff Cadets on their leadership skills and their confidence.

The group was tasked to work together on a project intended to better the USNSCC as a whole. This project could not simply be "we have a problem with the system", but had to be more along the lines of "we have found a problem, and here is how we would fix it". They were given time to meet as a Chief's Mess and they chose the current advancement requirements, specifically the financial burden imposed on cadets for trainings that are required to advance. They spent countless hours researching, discussing, and eventually coming up with an answer that they had to present.

Of course, no training is complete without the proper amount of team-building. The cadets assisted with the team-building exercise for the RT Cadets that we affectionately called "Earn Your Colors". Each RT Company had to complete tasks to earn the two pieces of their guidon as well as their company flag at the top. We found that by the end of day 5, not everyone in the RT Companies knew who was standing next to them in formation. The CPOLA cadets were grouped together with the RT Staff Cadets to get to know each other better.

What better way to finish training than to attend the POLA graduation in Seattle, Washington? By doing so, the CPOLA cadets were brought to understand the importance of supporting their subordinates, both within their home unit and out.



My POLA Express Adventure

By Seaman Nick Ottinger, NSCC
Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.
Petty Officer Leadership Academy, Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

My journey to Petty Officer Leadership Academy (POLA) began with a special Christmas gift given to me by my best friend and her family. This year I really wanted to attend winter training so I could promote again before the summer, but financially, it was not going to be possible this year. What I did not know is that my friend Sierra was listening when I asked to go. She knew how important Sea Cadets is to me. That night she went to her family and said, "I know what I want for Christmas! I want to send Nick to POLA for his winter training! It means so much to him, and they can't afford it this year. Mom and dad, I want to give up my big gift so he can go!" I had no idea this was happening.

One evening just before Christmas, Sierra and her whole family came over for dinner. Once they arrived, they gave me a card telling me to have fun at POLA! I looked at them very confused then Sierra handed me the money needed to attend POLA and told me for Christmas she was sending me on my training! I was so excited and could not believe how blessed I am to have such a special friend! But my incredible journey does not end there. If it were not for our division's Training Officer, Ensign Bruley, driving me and three other shipmates all the way to Fort Indiantown Gap in Pennsylvania, I still would not have been able to attend.

After a long journey, we arrived. I was so excited to be there. There were 32 other cadets at this training, none of whom we had met before. As the week progressed, we started to learn how to become a petty officer and a better leader in the Sea Cadets. I learned that being a petty officer in this program is not easy; it takes hard work and dedication to be a good leader. We learned about the counseling skills that are needed to be able to deal with conflicts in a shipmate's life, which is a huge part of being a petty officer. We were given tools to build our team – that's really important if you want to be a good petty officer too. The best part of the training was getting enough confidence to speak in front of an audience. I now have some new cadences and techniques on how to be a good leader that I'm looking forward to trying now that I'm back at my division. The food at this training could have been a little bit better but that's military life for you! We were taught service etiquette and the proper way to sit at a big event such as a dinner party.

I really hope that every cadet who goes to POLA enjoys it as much as I did. I will never forget my own very special POLA express!

Patience is Part of Leadership

By Able Cadet Haley Jenkins, NLCC
Training Ship Franklin, Bakersfield, Calif.
Petty Officer Leadership Academy, Camp Pendleton, Calif.



I went to a training called POLA. POLA stands for Petty Officer Leadership Academy. At first, I didn't want to go to the training because it would require me to miss most of my winter vacation. Once I got there and started to see all of the people that I knew from Navy League Orientation on USS *Hornet* at Alameda, I was so happy to see my friends again. After I unpacked my bags and changed into my uniform, we were told to go outside to the basketball court. There we would be playing a game similar to jump rope but a lot more complicated. It was complicated because we would run through the rope, jump over the rope, then run out and try not get touched by the rope afterward.

That was our first team building exercise. From that team building exercise, we got to know everyone. What I learned from that exercise is to have patience with people and there is a time to mess around and there is a time to take things seriously. The next day we had another team exercise. We had to do a trust fall with our partners that we were assigned. That was the first part of the exercise. The last part of the exercise was to fall off a picnic bench and fall. Our teammates had to catch us. I was scared that my team was going to drop me but they told me that they wouldn't, so I trusted them and fell. I was so happy that they didn't drop me. What I learned from this exercise is always to trust your team and that they can turn into your family.

What I learned from this training was that being a good leader means having patience with people and not getting mad at them when they don't understand something.



My Seamanship Experience and a Tribute to My Commanding Officer

Photos courtesy of Seamanship and Small Boat Operations Training

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Lucas Winslow, NSCC
 Gulf Eagle Battalion, Fort Myers Beach, Fla.
 Seamanship and Small Boat Operations, Naval Station Norfolk, Va.



This training had a huge impact on me even before I went. In November, Lt. Cmdr. Carloni, then the commanding officer of my unit, passed away. He had been part of the Special Warfare Combatant-Craft Crewman, or SWCC, community and often encouraged me to join the community once I graduated. Sadly, he passed away before I attended this training, but that gave me even more motivation to attend and to do my best.

This training focused on seamanship more than small boats, but that didn't matter to me. As soon as I got on a 7 Meter Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (7M RHIB), I knew that I would enjoy being on boats. The more the officers talked about the SWCC community the more intrigued I was. This training focused on training us on the Zodiac FC 470 and also the 7M RHIB. Thanks to the officers and staff, I was able to ask all of the questions I wanted about SWCC and the Riverine Department of the SWCC community. The more questions they answered, the more convinced I was that I needed to be in the SWCC community.

Thanks to the USNSCC, I was able to train on U.S. Naval Base Norfolk. I would like to thank the USNSCC, the late retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Carloni, Lt. j.g. Dobbins, Lt. LaMartina, Lt. Cmdr. Gallagher, Lt. Cmdr. Corsano, Ensign Nelson, Ensign Davis, and most of all, my parents for their support and advice. Thanks to them I now know that I want to be a member of the SWCC community and I understand how to make that dream become a reality.



Voyage of Discovery

By Seaman Apprentice Andrew Horton, NSCC
 Theodore Roosevelt Division, East Moriches, N.Y.

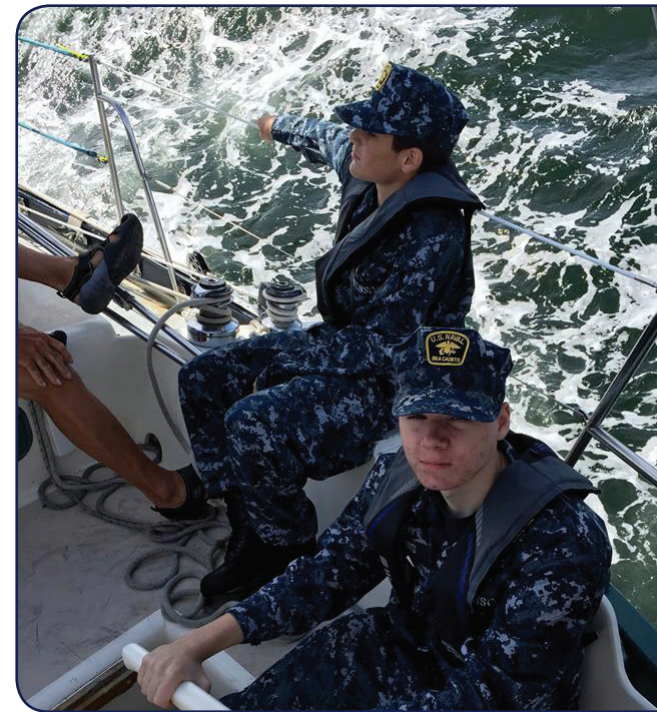
On Friday, August 14, 2015, I embarked on a vessel called *Nada* through Mt. Sinai Harbor alongside Capt. Roger Noakes, Capt. Bill, Lt. Robert Garceau, and five of my fellow cadets from Theodore Roosevelt Division. Feeling nervous as the youngest cadet to board the *Nada*, I was uncertain about what I would experience. Even though my thoughts were set that this would be a working experience and training, I was confident that this adventure at sea would be rewarding.

After safety precautions and Capt. Noake's instructions about the ship, we set out to our first stop, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. Here we learned that the academy offers course study as well as physical and mental challenges to advance in the U.S. Coast Guard. It was a place I may consider attending and would love to visit again.

Back aboard the *Nada*, we learned many skills and useful tasks that built character and leadership skills. We used the radio to call the Goldstar Rail Bridge to lift so we could pass. We tied knots, raised and set main and jib sails, charted our course and used navigation. Also, we had to differentiate buoy colors and lights for why and when they are used. These skills forced us to work together as a

team to achieve a desired goal. Then, there was the watch! Watch consisted of two people and alternate shifts. Night watch was an effort for some because you needed to stay alert. The purpose of rotating shifts was to manage time and energy. I feel my fellow shipmates and I were helpful during these times. There was never a question of trust of the capability of one cadet or another, which built a closer relationship toward each other. Berthing quarters were tight as well, which also drew us closer. Meals were a group effort. Often, meals were cooked by the standby crew. The meals also challenged us to manage energy levels and to be creative.

We sailed to Buzzard's Bay, Massachusetts, which was very exhilarating! I think it is best to say that this was my favorite and least favorite part of the whole voyage. It was my favorite because waters got rough and the crew needed to pull together. I was located at the bow of the ship when water got rough. I immediately placed a life preserver on and tied myself to a line for safety. I looked up at the dark skies and my only thought was how cool this was and how fast things can turn



for the worst. Water was crashing in and there was no better way for us to be challenged about safety and emergencies then to live through it. The exhilaration and thrill quickly turned to nausea when I went below deck. This was my first experience with seasickness. I was advised to rest to make it pass. We docked at a nearby harbor for safety. It was then that I wished we were still whale watching as at the beginning of this voyage.

To our surprise, Lt.

Garceau exercised a man overboard drill. We all knew it was coming, but never expected our lieutenant to be the one overboard. We heard a loud shout from Capt. Noakes stating man overboard! After we got over the initial shock, we quickly came to the rescue. Again, teamwork is vital in these situations. The skills and tasks we learned earlier on during the voyage were utilized and executed to lift the lieutenant to safety. He must really like and trust us! We threw life jackets to him and assigned a spotter, then secured the lieutenant to a line. The purpose of this drill is to practice and react quickly to do the maneuvers right the first time for a successful rescue.

If I had the privilege to sail *Nada* again, I would do it in a heartbeat. The instruction under Captain Noakes and Bill along with Lt. Garceau was extremely informative and life-changing. I gained self-confidence and courage through this experience and even surprised myself by achieving things I never thought I could. Even though the Voyage of Discovery was made to be a skill based, working training, I had a lot of fun as well. I am very grateful for this opportunity.



Push Yourself to the Limit

Ever wondered if you have what it takes to pursue a special operations billet in the military? Excited to push yourself really, really, *really* hard this summer? This training might be for you.

By **Anthony K. Almon, CDR (SEAL), USN (Ret)**
NSWOC Chief Instructor

41 pounds of steak. 26 cases of MREs. 600 Bagels. Add the efforts of 12 highly dedicated instructors, and you have the recipe for success.

From July 19 to Aug. 2, 2015, Naval Special Warfare Orientation Courses, or NSWOC, was taught in Panama City, Florida. The purpose of the course was to give a select group of Sea Cadets a better understanding of the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) and Naval Special Operations (NSO) communities. They learned about the missions, the culture and what it takes to

gain success in these elite units. Three Navy communities were represented at this training: Sea, Air, and Land (SEAL), Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Special Warfare Combatant-Craft Crewman (SWCC). SEAL and SWCC represent Naval Special Warfare and EOD is part of Naval Special Operations. Each rating had a unique training track during this orientation. A general overview of each of the training tracks is below:

SEAL	EOD	SWCC
Physical Standards Test	Physical Standards Test	Physical Standards Test
Scuba Skills Assessment	Scuba Skills Assessment	
Dive Principles Review	Dive Principles Review	Intro to Small Boats
Underwater Navigation	Underwater Navigation	Maritime Navigation
		Boat Repair and Maintenance
Hell Night	Hell Night	Hell Night
Land Navigation	Land Navigation	Land Navigation
Tactical Equipment Use	Tactical Equipment Use	Tactical Equipment Use
Small Unit Tactics	Small Unit Tactics	Maritime Tactics
Patrolling	Patrolling	Clandestine Operations
Actions on target	Actions on target; Identification/ Disarmament of Ordnance	
Navy Dive School Tour	Navy Dive School Tour	Navy Dive School Tour
Demolition and Weapons	Demolition and Weapons	Demolition and Weapons
Final Training Exercise	Final Training Exercise	Final Training Exercise



Final Training Exercise



Physical Screening Test



Scuba Skills Assessment

Physical Screening Test

The demands of the NSW and NSO communities require a high level of physical fitness. One of the first evolutions of the training was to ensure each cadet was able to pass the Physical Screening Test. This test consists of a swim, push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups and a 1.5-mile run. As with life “in the Teams”, physical fitness is an important part of NSWOC training and it is imperative to ensure each cadet can meet the physical challenges to avoid injury and be able to perform the demanding tasks required during this training.

Scuba Skills Assessment

Safety was the most important aspect of this training. Each SEAL/EOD candidate was required to provide proof of Basic Scuba certification. Due to the inherently dangerous nature of this training, it was important to ensure that each cadet that was going to dive possessed the necessary skills to perform safely in the water. Inability to pass this portion of the course was grounds for not being allowed to participate in the dive portion of training. All review and assessments were conducted by an onboard certified NAUI instructor. Two hours of classroom review covered underwater physics, physiology, the underwater environment and basic SCUBA equipment. The cadets were further assessed in a controlled environment by demonstrating a working knowledge and understanding of Scuba equipment. Cadets had to show proficiency in proper assembly and disassembly of all components of the equipment. Cadets were then observed in a swimming pool and required to demonstrate the following necessary skills: mask clearing and recovery; regulator recovery and clearing; out-of-air emergency procedures; shared-air procedures (buddy system); buoyancy control; and basic hand signals.

Diving

One of the primary distinctions of SEAL Teams is their superior maritime capability or combat swimming. One of the SEAL capabilities is to navigate underwater to a ship, plant explosives and make a successful underwater extraction. This was the “mission” that was put before the SEAL and EOD Sea Cadets at this training. They learned underwater navigation, dive planning, contingency planning and safe underwater operations. Their final operation was to conduct a dive consisting of several “dog-legs”, ending their journey at the end of a pier.

Land Navigation and Small Unit Tactics

After a week of dive training at the Panama City Marine Institute, operations were moved to Tyndall Air Force Base. We were fortunate to have the support of Victor Licause, a retired SEAL Master Chief. Vic provided training in small unit tactics, navigation, and actions on target. “Tactics” is a very fluid art form, and is continually evolving to encompass changes being made by technology, terrain and enemy capability. His insight and professional approach to training resulted in a high level of preparation for the FTX.

“Hell Night”

Dewayne Montgomery, or “Coach Pain”, is the voice and face of BattleFrog, an obstacle course race series designed by SEALs. He is extremely fit and has an uncanny ability to

motivate people from all walks of life. “Hell Night” was basically a small version of Hell Week in SEAL Training. Hell Week is designed to drive SEAL candidates well beyond their breaking point, revealing to them that they are truly capable of much more than they realize.

“Hell Night” was designed to push each cadet beyond their pre-conceived limits. Coach Pain and the rest of the staff forced them to reach inside themselves to realize their true potential. During this challenge, none of the cadets quit! They demonstrated perseverance and drive, giving them an insight into their true capabilities.

Demolition and Weapons Training

Although the EOD candidates worked one-on-one with members of active duty EOD, all cadets were exposed to demolitions and weapons training. Live fire took place with pistols and semi-automatic weapons. Cadets were trained on the safe use of weapons during this training.

The Bay County Sheriff's Department and Navy EOD conducted training in the assembly and safe detonation of a basic demolition charge. As with all evolutions, safety was at the forefront of the operation.

Final Training Exercise, or FTX

There are some phenomenal training areas at Silver Flag, including mock-ups of villages that may be found in some of the hot-spots of the world. The FTX was the application of the previous training blocks, with each group applying the skill sets from their respective tracks. Before conducting the exercise, there were comprehensive briefs, mock-ups and walk-throughs. Each cadet understood their function in this operation and was briefed on contingency plans. As the squads patrolled into the target area, the “opposition” was waiting. Role-players from Red Horse were in place, booby-traps were set and everyone was engaged.

This training was a huge success! We absolutely could not have conducted this training without the overwhelming support provided to us by the Panama City Marine Institute, the Red Horse Battalion, and other components of Tyndall Air Force Base, including the dining facility that was able to accommodate us. To these units, we owe big thanks.

A total of 26 Sea Cadets applied for this training in 2015. Some of the candidates were unable to successfully meet the rigid standards, resulting in a total of 20 graduates. The number of graduates isn't as important as what each cadet took away from the training. In addition to having a look at the NSW and NSO communities, each cadet was forced to look inside themselves to figure out how badly they wanted to complete this training. These lessons will stick with them for the rest of their lives.

Upcoming Summer Training

The 2016 NSWOC training calendar will be released in the near future, identifying all the requirements and other details. The SEAL, SWCC and EOD trainings will take place in late June/early July. This year, we are expecting support from additional active duty SEALs and SWCC, adding depth to the existing program. Have questions? Contact the NSWOC Commander LCDR Jim McClure, NSCC, at daybeacon@gmail.com.

Looking for a Challenge? Consider Aviation Rescue Training

By Seaman David Welchons, NSCC
Escondido Battalion, Escondido, Calif.
Aviation Rescue Swimmer Training, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

If you are physically fit, enjoy a challenge, and are comfortable in the water, this is a training you just might want to consider. In the training, you will be pushed to your limit, so you had better love to PT. The OIC and the XO are both prior rescue swimmers in the Navy and do a great job with the training.

I started training for Rescue Swimmer in March by running, swimming, biking and other sports activities. We all started day one with the SEAL PRT and 1st class swim qualification, and it only got harder after that. At the beginning we PT'ed every day for most the day including swimming, running, push-ups, sit-ups, flutter kicks, and many other forms of endurance building exercises.

Beyond the physical conditioning, we got to spend a day on North Island, tour HSC-3, HSC Weapons School and SAR School. We also got to tour the Salvage Rescue Dive Team facilities. In the brief class time, we learned CPR, first aid, and a few other things that had to do with SAR/Rescue Swimmer. Also with all of this (as you might have guessed), we spent a lot of time in the pool/ocean learning and practicing our rescue skills. And this is only the surface of what we got to do.

In the end, we all learned great team work and left with some awesome camaraderie. Working together is the only way we made it through the two weeks. Do extra work to pull someone up to where you are and you will stand out in a good way. Some points that were repeated time and time again: "Teamwork, teamwork, teamwork," "It pays to be a winner," and last but not least "So others may live..."

Preparing for My Future

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Zachery Frederickson, NSCC
Antelope Valley Squadron, Lancaster, Calif.
Aviation Rescue Swimmer Training, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Aviation Rescue Swimming was everything I expected it to be and more. I went into the training thinking about enlisting in the Navy and becoming an Aviation Rescue Swimmer; I came out knowing what I wanted to do in the future. On day zero everyone was asked a simple question, "Why do you want to be here?" Answers ranged from wanting a challenge to not having any other training available. I was the only cadet to respond, "I want to be a rescue swimmer." After that moment Ensign Scott Welchons, the commanding officer of the training, wanted to push me to my limits and wanted me to succeed in becoming a rescue swimmer just like he was.

Overall the training was the hardest two weeks of my life. Even after all the swimming, pull-ups and pushups I did to prepare, I didn't feel my physical ability was adequate. I don't think anyone at the training was prepared. Everyone had their strengths; some had running, some had swimming, and some had the ability to hold the plank position for what felt like hours. I think to be qualified for this training you need to be proficient in all three. You'll need strength for the hard workouts, endurance for the long hours and the mental toughness to get out of bed the next day.

This training brought together the best group of guys I have met to this day. Through this training, we created such a magnificent bond. Their brotherhood made the training worth every drop of sweat. Leaving this training has left me prepared for my future. I am ready to become a part of an elite group of men and women who live their lives by the phrase "So Others May Live."

Check Out These Academy Programs

We encourage eligible cadets to apply for programs offered by our nation's service academies. In many instances, we are able to provide tuition reimbursement upon successful completion. These programs are a great pathway for our cadets who are exploring the service academy option and for cadets looking for an extra challenge. For information on reimbursement visit: www.seacadets.org/academy-programs-2016

Naval Academy's Summer Seminar (NASS)

When is it? Three sessions: June 4-9; June 11-16; June 18-23

What is it? A program designed to expose students to all aspects of the Naval Academy including the academic program and midshipman life. Students will also receive an overview of Navy and Marine Corps service options.

Who should apply? Rising high school seniors

When is the deadline? March 31

How do we support it? We will reimburse the \$450 tuition fee after successful completion.

For more information go to <http://www.usna.edu/Admissions/Programs/NASS/index.php>

Naval Academy's STEM Seminar

When is it? Three sessions: June 6-11 for rising 9th graders; June 13-18 for rising 10th graders; June 20-24 for rising 11th graders

What is it? A program focused on science, technology, engineering and math designed to encourage students to pursue a course of study in engineering and technology throughout high school and college

Who should apply? Rising 9th through 11th graders

When is the deadline? April 15

How do we support it? We will reimburse the \$550 tuition fee after successful completion.

For more information go to <http://www.usna.edu/Admissions/Programs/STEM/index.php>

Naval Academy Sports Camps

The Naval Academy hosts many outstanding sports camps throughout the summer. We will not provide reimbursement for these camps. Advancement credit will only be given if the camp length is four nights/five days or more.

For more information go to <http://www.navysports.com/camps/navy-camps.html>

Coast Guard Academy's Academy Information Mission (AIM)

When is it? Three sessions: July 3-8; July 10-15; July 17-22

What is it? A program that provides immersion in academy tradition and cadet life

Who should apply? Rising high school seniors

When is the deadline? April 6

How do we support it? We will reimburse the \$475 tuition fee after successful completion.

For more information go to <http://www.uscga.edu/AIM/>

West Point's Summer Leaders Experience (SLE)

When is it? Two sessions: May 28-June 3; June 4-10

What is it? SLE is a fast-paced program of academic classes, military training, physical fitness training and intramural athletics conducted during the month of June each year. You must have standardized test scores to be considered for SLE.

Who should apply? Current high school juniors who will be 17 by July 1, 2017 (the year they would be a USMA freshman)

When is the deadline? March 30

How do we support it? We will reimburse the \$400 tuition after successful completion.

For more information go to <http://www.usma.edu/admissions/SitePages/Summer.aspx>



A Visit to USNA and Arlington National

By Chief Petty Officer Melissa Snyder, NSCC
Knighthawk Squadron, Vienna, Ohio

Recently, I got to shadow midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy and go through their daily routine, which included their workouts, classes, formations, mandatory military knowledge and extracurricular activities. I was surprised that it wasn't like Recruit Training 24/7 for the plebes. With the exception of chow calls, formations and the required military knowledge tests, there were only slight distinctions between plebes and upperclassmen during the school day and extracurricular activities. My midshipman was able to set up a meeting with a member of the High Power Rifle Team for me. He told me how to prepare myself for try-outs and what was most important to the team. This made me feel more confident about my application and made me more determined than ever to get accepted into the academy. It was a very fast paced two days, but I loved every second of it.

After the visit to the academy, I went with Chief Petty Officer James Arter of Annapolis Division, Chief Petty Officer Blaine Bradley and Petty Officer 1st Class Samantha Lolo of Wolverine Division to Arlington National Cemetery where we had the privilege and honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

A Unit Promotes First Chief Petty Officer

By Airman Recruit Ally Merino, NSCC
Sandhills Squadron, Fayetteville, N.C.

On Jan. 9, Sandhills Squadron promoted Petty Officer 1st Class Meghan Wellman to the rate of chief petty officer. Wellman was honored as the first chief in the unit and one of only three in Region 5. The promotion ceremony was conducted at the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Auditorium at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Wellman started her career as a Sea Cadet in Columbus, Ohio. She has also served at the Raleigh Battalion in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Sandhills Squadron or "Spartans" as their unit emblem displays is a new unit quickly establishing themselves in Region 5 as a tough group of cadets. During her time as a cadet, she was able to swiftly move through the ranks while occupying every leadership billet and opportunity available to a cadet.

Cadet Wellman boasts an impressive list of achievements including many advanced training opportunities. In order of attendance, Chief Wellman has graduated from: Recruit Training, Basic Airman, Petty Officer Leadership Academy, Basic Medical, Recruit Training Staff and FAA Ground School. She also had the opportunity to train overseas in Scotland with the Royal Naval Sea Cadets in the summer of 2015.

Wellman has met most of her closest friends through Sea Cadets, and truly feels that she wouldn't be where she is today without the support of her fellow cadets, her unit's instructors and her family. The opportunities she has been presented with through the NSCC are infinite and she's grateful for every single one.



Honoring the Memory of Four Chaplains

By Seaman Justin Presbrey, NSCC
Newport News Division, Concord, N.H.

On Feb. 7, just days after the 73rd anniversary of the U.S. Army transport ship *SS Dorchester's* devastating sinking and the loss of 672 servicemen, the Newport News Division from Concord, New Hampshire provided the color guard for a memorial service to honor the four brave chaplains who died on board the transport ship.

Dorchester transported hundreds of servicemen abroad to fight for freedom. Most of these men were going to sea for the first time. *Dorchester* left N.Y. on Jan. 23, 1943, headed for an Army base in Greenland. This was a dangerous trip, not only because of the icy cold Atlantic waters, but the presence of German submarines sinking nearly 100 ships a month in the path that the ship would need to take to reach Greenland.

Linda Rudd, chaplain of American Legion Post 31, began the memorial service by telling the saga of the Four Chaplains. "It was the evening of Feb. 3, 1943, on the *SS Dorchester*, and the temperature was 34 degrees just off the coast of Greenland. This was known as Torpedo Junction, the U-Boat infested waters of the North Atlantic during World War II. The *Dorchester* was only 150 miles from its destination when the captain ordered the men to sleep in their clothing and keep their life jackets on. When a periscope broke the surface of the chilly Atlantic waters at 12:55 a.m., the German U-223 submarine fired three torpedoes at *Dorchester*, sinking it in just 20 short minutes. The *Dorchester* sank, along with the four chaplains and 668

of the 902 servicemen."

The Four Chaplains who displayed the ultimate selfless acts of courage and commitment were: Reverend George L. Fox, a Methodist Minister from Vermont; Reverend Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed Minister from Ohio; Father John P. Washington, a Catholic priest from New Jersey, and Rabbi Alexander Goode from Indiana. These chaplains moved along the men encouraging them to put on lifejackets and directing them off the sinking ship. When all the lifejackets had been handed out, all four chaplains took off their own life jackets to save four more soldiers. These four chaplains helped save 230 service men that night. Nearby rafts carrying servicemen recounted seeing the four chaplains linked arm-in-arm praying and singing aloud as the ship submerged into the water.

During this memorial service, each chaplain's biography was read and a candle was lit to honor their lives. A one-time only posthumous Special Medal for Heroism was authorized by Congress and awarded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on Jan. 18, 1961. Congress attempted to confer the Medal of Honor, but was blocked by the stringent requirements that required heroism performed under fire. The special medal was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor. We want to keep their memory alive by sharing this story with others. These men of different backgrounds came together for one calling in desperate times and displayed true heroism.

At a Glimpse

"On Jan. 31, 2016, Centurion Battalion commemorated 'The Four Chaplains' in a service held at the American Legion Post 112. On this solemn day the Sea Cadets of the battalion reflected upon the Chaplain's humanistic values of courage and selflessness. Unimpeded by religion or personalities, the Four Chaplains gave their lives for the many. The ceremony left me with the profound sense that my future in the military will be about sacrifice and serving selflessly." — **Seaman Recruit Brenden Niestzche, Centurion Battalion**

The Culture in Wolverine Division

By Seaman Andre Sanderson, NSCC
Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.

Today I took my Petty Officer Third Class Exam and failed miserably. I did not study for this test and was trying my best to avoid taking it. I'm a freshman and I'm proud of the fact that I made the honor roll, but I have to work hard and study even harder for every A or B I get.

After the test, Chief Bradley saw that I failed and instead of ripping me like I expected (and probably deserved) he said, "For future reference, study harder for your upcoming test." Chief Bradley told me to go see the commanding officer and I wanted to teleport myself. When asked by the commanding officer if I passed I told her "No, ma'am," and braced myself for a lecture filled with yelling, but instead she said two words over and over again. "Study harder, study harder, study harder."

Later, I ran into Lt. Cmdr. Heather Sydes and was again reminded of my epic PO3 failure. "Teleport now," I said to myself, because I knew I was in for an earful. She told me that next time I should review the assignment questions for the upcoming test and shook my hand. I could not believe that no one had chewed me out.

Don't get me wrong — I'm still disappointed that I failed my test, but the encouragement and support that I got from my commanding officer Lt. Cmdr. Stoyanovich, Lt. Cmdr. Sydes and Chief Bradley lets me know that even though I failed, I can pick myself up and try again by studying and retaking the test.

I believe my experience is a great example of the positive, stern and encouraging culture that exists in the Wolverine Division. The leaders in our division just want us to work hard, do our best and succeed. The Wolverine Division leaders think that we can become the next generation of great leaders. I agree with them and think that the Wolverine Division provides a culture that will create great future leaders.



Editor's Note: Since writing this article, Seaman Sanderson has successfully passed his Petty Officer Third Class Exam with a score of 90%. Bravo Zulu!

BRAVO ZULU

Centurion Battalion and Fort Fisher Division are advancing to the CyberPatriot VIII National Finals Competition!



Centurion Battalion Team: CPO Peter Steffey; CPO Nolan Johnson; PO1 Sam Precourt; SN Monica Vogel; SN Leilani Morales; SA Jacob Dawson; ENS Ken Steffey; INST Chris Walcutt; MIDN Jesse Rodriguez; and INST Rachel Thompson.



Fort Fisher Division Team: PO2 Nick Winham; PO2 Maya Morales; SA Jonathan Truong; SA Garrett Swift; SA Laura Lopez; INST Joseph Gombos; and ENS Dina Swift.

Cadet Enjoys History on USS Yorktown

By Seaman Apprentice Jada Bachorek, NSCC
Knoxville Anchor Division, Knoxville, Tenn.



On my trip to USS *Yorktown* in Charleston, South Carolina, I learned many things about the area's history. When I first entered the ship, I saw so much information posted around the Hangar Deck, all organized by different topics. One of these areas was about the POW camps. I particularly remember reading about the Stalag POW Camps in Germany.

Stalag was a word that was used for a non-commissioned personnel POW camp in Germany. If a prisoner was an officer, they were usually held in separate camps called Oflag.

The ones that held Allied Air Corps prisoners were Luftwaffe camps (or Stalag Luft). One of the most well-known was Stalag Luft III, where over seventy Allied prisoners had attempted to escape. This event later had a movie based on it called "The Great Escape". However, within at most two months, 73 were re-captured. Fifty of whom were killed.

Personnel who hadn't escaped or been killed had the ability to speak with fellow prisoners through a code called the "tap code." One of the tap code's most famous uses was during the Vietnam War but it was also used in many other situations. When using the code, you would think of the alphabet in rows of five, tap the number of letters that you want to go over, than tap the number of spaces downward

that you wished to go. For example, three taps goes over to the letter C and three more taps lead to the letter N.

There's a lot more information other than the POW camps though. For instance, the Battle of Midway happened in June 1942. In the attack of Pearl Harbor, it was proved that the aircraft carrier was now the primary offensive weapon for the Navy. Aircraft from six Japanese aircraft carriers had sunk four U.S battleships and damaged four others. U.S. carriers had conducted some harassing strikes against Japanese territory. The most dangerous and daring strike was the Doolittle Raid on April 18. Sixteen bombers launched from the USS *Hornet* (CV 8) and hit various targets in Japan. The physical damage to Japan was small, but the psychological impact would take a toll.

However, the history of Fort Sumter was one of the most interesting topics, in my opinion. About 90% of the bricks in the fort are original, and though some are crumbling it is a federal offense to attempt to even take a small piece of anything off the small piece of land. The fort's total area is around 235 acres and is in the shape of a pentagon. The fort was opened and established as a public monument on April 28, 1948. This was exactly 87 years after the Confederates opened fire on and, 34 hours later, captured the fort. Union forces would try for nearly four years to take it back.

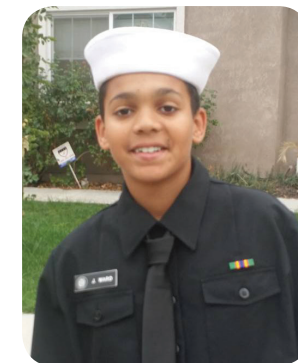
In conclusion, this is only the tip of the iceberg of the all the information on the entire ship. My trip to USS *Yorktown* was an experience I will never forget, and the knowledge I acquired is something I hope to keep and remember for the rest of my life. Living on board for several nights was unique and the food wasn't too bad! I encourage all Sea Cadet units to take advantage of this historic training opportunity.

League Cadet Building Stellar Reputation

By Instructor Eleassia Davis, NSCC
Training Ship Sea Wolf, Stockton, Calif.

While most 11-year-old boys are busy building make-believe adventures in Minecraft, Joshua Ward, an 11-year-old League Cadet, is busy building a stellar reputation for himself as a cadet of Training Ship Sea Wolf. Recently promoted to ALPO, Ward has attended several trainings, including the recent Winter Training held at Camp Pendleton, where he studied underwater robotics. "I got to build a SeaPerch. It's a vehicle made out of PVC and motors. . . We stripped the wires and connected it all to a battery. I enjoyed it. We had a little competition and we got second place unfortunately," he laughed. Ward says his favorite part of the Winter Training program was when he and his fellow cadets were preparing to watch a Star Wars movie and went shopping for snacks at the Marine Corps Exchange.

When asked what advice he would give a prospective cadet, Ward had this to say, "It's a fun program. Once you get done with the orientation, you get to do many things. The most fun thing about being a Navy Leaguer is the opportunities and the trainings. The hardest thing about the program is orientation and being away from family." When asked to share what has been his most memorable moment since becoming a cadet, Ward reflected, "My most memorable moment was going shooting with my fellow cadets. I did pretty good: 190 out of 200. That makes me an expert!"



Call to Cadets: Consider a Joint Service Operation Command Drill

By Petty Officer 1st Class Lucas LaFave, NSCC
Darter-Dace Division, Marquette, Mich.

Every Sea Cadet unit across the country has a drill at least once a month. Those drills may include marching, color guard practice, and other knowledge. But don't you want more? If you could have the chance to see what other Sea Cadets units, or even Young Marine, Civil Air Patrol, or JROTC units do, would you take it? That is where a Joint Service Operation Command, or JSOC, drill comes in. This is a large-scale drill with as many people as you would find at any advanced training. Our first cadet JSOC drill was in August at Camp Rotary in Claire, Michigan and it had the name "Warrior Weekend." Youth from every branch of the military had the opportunity to work, learn and even be housed together.

JSOC was by far the best drill I have ever been lucky enough to participate in. I made great friends with a few Young Marines and JROTC kids. We did activities like single rope bridge, patrols, marksmanship, archery skills, nature marching and hiking, trust building and confidence building exercises, rock climbing, rappel tower, zip lines and a lot of selfies. While maintaining a clean cut, military attitude and image, we managed to have a great deal of fun.

The best part for me was the interaction. All the Sea Cadets, Young Marines and JROTC cadets fit into their mixed companies. Leadership was distributed evenly among the branches, and no one gravitated more to his or her branch. The whole contingent loved mixing it up and seeing the youth from all over the state of Michigan.

This was an extremely beneficial training drill for the more than 100 officers and youth in attendance. We were able to share ideas and experience what drills at other units or branches are like. To this day I still have a group chat in my phone named "Warrior Weekend Crew" where all of us love to text and keep up-to-date with everybody on. Shipmates, talk to your commanding officers and ask them about being able to do this with your unit. See our Facebook page "Warrior Weekend (A JSOC Training for Junior Military)" and like it to read everything we do and how we do it. The Corps as a whole would benefit from more interaction.

So get out there and talk to your officers about doing a JSOC drill. Talk to other junior military programs. Talk to other Sea Cadet units. I wish everyone the best of luck in their Sea Cadet journey.

National Flight Academy Inspires Students Through STEM

Submitted by National Flight Academy

Located adjacent to the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida, the National Flight Academy, or NFA, is a 102,000 square foot facility designed to be fully and intensively immersive. The NFA's adventure begins with our landlocked, virtual aircraft carrier, AMBITION (CVT-11). Students live aboard for six days ("Deployments") or three days ("Cruises") and experience theme park-style thrills surrounded by advanced technology, flight simulators and virtual reality missions that ignite imagination and encourage learning.

Each deck of AMBITION is designed scenically and theatrically to simulate a modern aircraft carrier. Students experience the constant rumble of the ship's engine and aircraft taking off and landing. All of the senses give you the feeling of being in a real aircraft. The first deck houses the galley, mess deck, administrative spaces and the aircraft hangar bays. The second deck is dedicated to academic spaces including the Joint Operations Command and Joint Intelligence Center. The third and fourth decks house berthing (crew quarters), lounges and activity rooms.

The NFA inspires 7-12th grade students to develop an interest in aviation all while teaching those 21st century soft skills important in the work environment. Ambition eXperimental Pilots (AXPs) plan missions with their squadrons using 30 networked flight simulators that communicate with their squadron partners in the Joint Operations Center. Throughout the week, missions progressively become more challenging as the AXPs advance their aviation and science skills as well as their communication skills. NFA's mission is to inspire students, who subsequently return to their parent schools and seek out the more challenging courses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

The National Flight Academy welcomes support from individuals, corporations, and foundations for the sponsorship program. Learn more online at www.nationalflightacademy.com.

Sea Cadets Inspired by the Past

By Seaman Apprentice Jacob Milenovic, NSCC
Columbus Squadron, Columbus, Ohio

On Feb. 7, Columbus Squadron visited the Motts Military Museum in Groveport, Ohio. We were honored to have a personal tour by Mr. Motts, founder of the museum. Mr. Motts was a former Ohio National Guard staff sergeant and worked as a photographer. He started collecting Civil War artifacts when he was just a boy. As his collection grew, he created a museum in his home. The museum moved to its current location in 1999.

During our tour, Mr. Motts first talked about the French and Indian War. He discussed where different battles and historic sites were located and showed us some incredible artifacts from each. He showed us Revolutionary War and Civil War artifacts, including priceless rifles, uniforms, and bullets that had collided together in battle. Mr. Motts even has a rare mask of Abraham Lincoln's face. The number of artifacts went on and on, and the history behind each piece was amazing. He showed us uniforms from World War I, as well as paintings and weaponry used in the Korean and Vietnam wars. He also has a 1911 copy of the Blue Jackets manual his collection. Mr. Motts then took us outside and showed us his collection of tanks, helicopters, cannons and planes. He also showed us a Higgins boat that served in World War II. The boat is one of only six in existence today. He took us to the museum's garage and when he opened the doors, lying before us was a fire truck from 9/11. Fire Engine 18 from New York City had been smashed when the Twin Towers fell. Mr. Motts told us the story behind the truck and that

before the towers crashed down, the crew members of the fire engine crawled underneath the truck, and it saved their lives.

Before we left, we met Mr. Don Connors, a retired sailor from USS Franklin. He told us his story when he was fighting in the Pacific. In March 1945, USS *Franklin* was forty miles off the shore of Japan when the ship was under attack by Japanese aircraft. In that battle, the USS *Franklin* lost more than half of its crew. After the story, he showed us his medals, and we all thanked him for his service.

At the end of the tour, each of the cadets came up to Mr. Motts not only to shake his hand for the tour but to thank him for his service in the Ohio National Guard and for preserving our military history. The Motts Military Museum is a great place for education, families, and other Sea Cadet units to visit. It was a fantastic tour, and every cadet in my unit appreciated it. We can't wait to return for another visit. Their website is www.mottsmilitarymuseum.org.



Cadet Reaches New Heights

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Daniel Ta, NSCC
Seal Beach Battalion, Seal Beach, Calif.

The Sea Cadets have helped me tremendously on my endeavors for a better future. The program trained me on how to become effective leader, to have the discipline, endurance, confidence to handle difficult tasks, and the organizational skill to carry out massive events. I used those skills for my Eagle Scout Community Service project. I founded Penny Wise Club, a high school financial literacy club, to inform my peers that financial literacy is important! Many teenagers do not understand the value of money, and spend lavishly. Our club hosted a financial literacy seminar where I invited the California State Treasurer, John Chiang, whom I interviewed in front of 700 high school students to underline the importance of financial literacy.

In the past several months, it was a humbling experience for me to be selected as one of the 100 most influential people in Orange County, and to receive the City of Cypress' Special Recognition and the key to the City of Cypress. I was chosen to be among a small delegation to deliver the

Boy Scout's Report to the Nation. I will meet the President, Congressional leadership and other national leaders at the end of February. I was privileged to be selected as one of the honorees in the OneOC Orange County wide banquet that honor volunteerism.

I attribute many of my acquired characteristics to the trainings that I have received through Sea Cadets program including Navy League Orientation, Sailing, POLA, MAA Training, and others. One training that is the most memorable to me is FAA Ground School. I was able to challenge myself academically and tested my limits on the amount of information I could retain and organize without letting in any mistakes. I am grateful for all the officers and instructors who selflessly dedicated their time to give my comrades and me the type of trainings that allow me to be who I am today.

I look forward to continuing my contributions and receiving more trainings that are unique to the Naval Sea Cadets program, taking me to levels better than I am today.

Honoring Our Veterans for Christmas

By Lt. j.g. Shannon Montgomery, NSCC
Commanding Officer
Kentucky Division, Lexington, Ky.

The Christmas season is an important time to remember not only our veterans, but our veterans' families. During a time when family is the center of focus for the holidays, honoring their loved ones by placing wreaths on their graves is a service Kentucky Division is honored to perform. In partnership with Wreaths Across America, Kentucky Division first sold wreath sponsorships at local businesses in November. Then in December, they joined family members of veterans, as well as other volunteers, in a memorial ceremony followed by the placing of wreaths on the graves of servicemen and women at Camp Nelson National Cemetery in Nicholasville, Kentucky.

The 32 cadets and officers of Kentucky Division who attended the ceremony exemplified the mission of Wreaths Across America, which is: Remember, Honor, Teach. It was such an honor for our cadets to be able to participate in this memorial ceremony with these families. The hundreds of graves at Camp Nelson represent decades of loved ones who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Honoring those veterans along with their families is one of the privileges our unit has during the holidays. Kentucky Division also places flags during Memorial Day and Veterans Day. It is important for our veterans, their families, and our community to know those who have protected our freedoms will always be remembered.



N.Y. Division Places First at Swim Competition

By Midshipman Robyn Frank, NSCC
Lt. Michael Murphy Division, West Sayville N.Y.

On November 16, 2015, the Lt. Michael Murphy Swim Team hit the road to the Massachusetts Maritime College for the All Regional Championships, not knowing we would be coming home with a trophy in our hands! These young cadets worked very hard to achieve first place, training two nights a week for three months. They worked extremely hard during every practice! When the Murphy swim team first started practicing they only had beginner skills, but with time, the cadets learned three new strokes and how to do flip-turns.

Then finally the day had come for the Murphy swim team to compete in the All-Regional Championships. During the ride from Long Island to Massachusetts, you could see the excitement and determination on the cadets' faces. As we arrived, we were all very anxious but we made sure we all stayed focused. The meet had begun and with every race, every flip-turn and every lap the cadets gave it their all! The hard training and all the laps they swam in practice showed. After all the races were completed, the moment of truth came... the final results. The announcer started off with third place, and then second place, and finally first place. When the announcer said, "And in 1st place: the Lt. Michael Murphy Division!" we couldn't believe it! It took a second for us to realize that we had won! When they handed over the trophy, the cadets couldn't have been any happier and the coaches were so proud! Not only did we take first place and come home with the trophy but we had four cadets take home medals too. It was a very memorable day for the All-Regional Champs.



INST Domadio, NSCC



Courtesy of RTIL - Photojournalism Training

Heading to Recruit Training This Summer? Get Ahead Now

By Lt. Cmdr. Brian Kobleur, NSCC
Commanding Officer, Recruit Training Illinois

In a few short months, recruit trainings across the country will again transform thousands of new recruits into basically trained Sea Cadets, ready for amazing training opportunities around the world. No matter where you experience Recruit Training, we welcome you as shipmates and are committed to your success and safety. It may not seem like it in the moment, but the hardships and adjustments you experience are necessary and worth it. Here are my top eight tips to ensure that you're prepared.

- #1**
Read the Welcome Letter! Read it again. With your parents. Again. Not three days before training starts, either. You don't want to show up a day late with the wrong uniform.
- #2**
If there is a training website or Facebook page, join it. Read it. Ask questions if you can't find the answers in the Welcome Letter... because you read it, right? Right?
- #3**
Break in your boots early — at least 30 days before the start of training. Wear them every day. Blisters are the worst. You don't want to have to sit out because of them.
- #4**
Get in shape now. There are published minimums, but do you really want to go through life hitting the minimums?
Sea Cadets strive for the max.
- #5**
Now is the time to stop drinking caffeine. There are no sodas, coffee or sugary treats at Recruit Training, so stop now. Your future self will thank you.
- #6**
Have a vision of yourself at graduation. Believe in yourself! We do. Don't quit! Thousands of cadets have done this and they're no better than you are.
- #7**
Listen to the message, not the delivery. This is probably the first time you've been in an environment like this. Remember: the staff wants to help you succeed.
- #8**
Give it your all and just keep up with us! At RT, you'll make new friends, learn invaluable skills and you'll truly earn that sense of accomplishment on graduation day.

Wiregrass Division Honors Our Veterans

By Chief Petty Officer Jenna Goulart, NSCC
Wiregrass Division, Enterprise, Ala.

This past drill my unit, Wiregrass Division, had the honor of assisting our local Disabled American Veterans Chapter in handing out Christmas bags to veterans at a local assisted living facility. It was an amazing experience.

As we walked into the facility I did not know what to expect. I expected there to be the “thank you for your service” talk, where you politely say thank you, but what happened touched my heart. Each of us, carrying three bags of essential items for the veterans, walked along the bulkheads until we made our destination.

As we entered the room something happened. Tears began in rivers and streams. When we began to speak to the veterans we all received the same answer, “We haven’t seen a uniform in years.” It shocked us. Our unit is located right outside of Fort Rucker, Alabama so we are all quite accustomed to seeing ceremonies and men and women in their uniform.

We simply didn’t understand until that point how much our uniforms and how we presented ourselves truly meant until now. Sure when it is time for inspection I tell the cadets to make sure they iron and do this and do that, but in reality that’s not what the uniform is even about. That’s not what Sea Cadets is about. It is about honoring those who have gone before and recognizing the true value of those who have served.



“Volunteering for Wreaths Across America helps me remember and respect the service and sacrifice of those who gave for our country. We should be thankful and always remember.”
— Petty Officer 1st Class Maxwell Balay, NLCC, Training Ship Reina Mercedes, Annapolis, Md.

One Person Makes a World of Difference

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Beau Fairless, NSCC
Van Voorhis Memorial Squadron, Las Vegas, Nev.

For years, I have dedicated myself to making an impact on my community. Joining the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps has allowed me to do so. With their support, I have spent countless hours helping veterans, and in that time have been inspired by the realization that even though I am just one person, I can still make a world of difference.

During Christmas of 2014, I worked with HELP USA, a group that provides supportive services to the homeless. With HELP USA, I adopted a veteran’s Christmas wish list. It was my personal joy not only to fulfill his wishes but also to meet him. During our meeting, my recipient, Rodger, told me about how he was working tirelessly to get back on his feet. A sense of sadness washed over me; to see our veterans living on the streets was a difficult reality to stomach. On the bright side, seeing all that can be done to give these veterans back their livelihoods gives me hope.

To help Rodger and many others, I started a GoFundMe account in August of 2015 and created a website to publicize my efforts. The outpouring of generosity was inspiring. Thanks to their compassion, I was able to raise \$2,800 to support HELP USA and the veterans they house. I was able to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for over 175 veterans. It was my pleasure to adopt two veterans’ Christmas wish lists this year. I also arranged \$500 in gift cards for the veterans and \$1,000 in new beds.

Today, I am proud to report that I have contributed to the well-being of our local veterans in a multitude of capacities. As I move forward from this experience, I hope to continue inspiring more people to find their calling through volunteerism and action.



Left: Fairless spending time with veterans at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Above: Fairless (center) with Melissa Clipper, the president of Blue Star Mothers of Nevada and Iler Jenkins of HELP USA.



Photo of the Quarter



Camp Pendleton, Calif.— Families wait anxiously to be reunited with their cadets after graduation.

Important Reminders

Who’s ready for summer training? Once published, the schedule will be available here: magellan.seacadets.org/public/training.asp

The deadline for the next issue of Sea Cadet Quarterly is May 16. Submission guidelines can be found at www.seacadets.org/scq Send submissions to pao@seacadets.org

Interested in our International Exchange Program? Visit iep.seacadets.org for information. Adult applications are due April 8. Cadet applications are due April 22.

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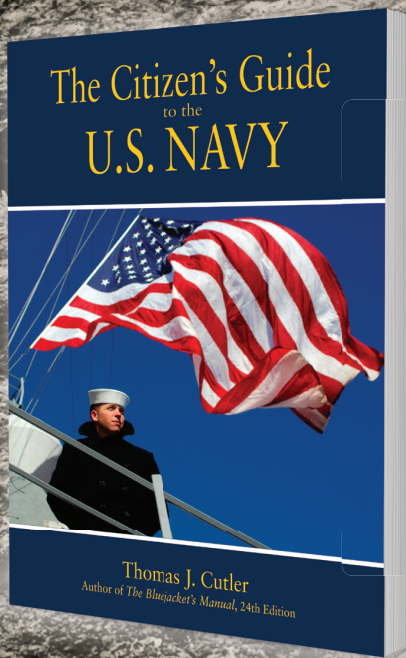
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