

Sea Cadet Quarterly

U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4, DECEMBER 2016



PART OF THE NAVY FAMILY
+ a look back at this year



DECEMBER 2016

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

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ON THE COVER: A Sea Cadet greets Pearl Harbor survivor Stu Hedley at the San Diego Navy Ball in October.

PHOTO BY: ENS Shannon Ward, NSCC

Sea Cadet Quarterly is the official publication of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Written primarily by cadets, it covers a wide range of topics, including stories about training and leadership experiences.

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THIS PAGE: League Cadet Summer Training, Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. Photo by MIDN Alicia Gavin, NSCC.

NEXT PAGE: Sea Cadets race boats during the international exchange trip to India. Photo by LTJG John Gallo, NSCC.

The deadline for the next issue of Sea Cadet Quarterly is 16 February.

Submission guidelines can be found at www.seacadets.org/scq.

Send submissions to pao@seacadets.org.

DEPUTY'S NOTE /

DAVID I. HULL

End of the Year Message

As we approach the end of the year, I invite all the members of our Corps to reflect on the year behind us. In 2016, we enrolled more cadets than ever before and we have laid the groundwork for a number of significant program improvements. I had quite a year myself — I left my job as a college professor, moved to Virginia to take on the role of Deputy Director, and welcomed my beautiful daughter Abigail all in the span of a month. All along I have drawn strength from our cadets and volunteers — being inspired every day by your willingness to meet new challenges and to make our cadets, our Corps, and our country stronger.

I also invite you to think about the year ahead. We're headed into 2017 at flank speed: more than 35 winter trainings will wrap up on or just after New Year's Day, with over 1,300 cadets and 200 officers projected to attend. I am so deeply grateful to the Escort Officers who are willing to give up this special time with their own families to continue our year-round mission of youth development. And I want to recognize all of the cadets who are willing to give up their brief vacations to continue on the never-ending path of self-improvement — to build their self-confidence, self-discipline, teamwork, accountability, and grit — and to help other cadets do the same. I'll be with 150 of these dedicated cadets over the winter break at Naval Station Newport — any cadet looking for a challenge should join us there.

We have many more improvements planned and challenges to face in 2017. I know that so many of the burdens of administering our program fall to our volunteers. I am thankful for many things in my life, but high on the list is the hard work that our volunteers do on behalf of our cadets. I am grateful for, and proud of, the guidance you give and the example you set. You are making an important contribution to so many lives. There is no pay, save satisfaction and pride, or perhaps an all-too-rare "thank you." So, thank you, and keep up the incredible work.

With my warmest wishes for the holiday season... Stay on target!



From My First Drill until Now

By Seaman Apprentice Jacob Lagace, NSCC
Nautilus (SSN-571) Division, Groton, Conn.

I was five-years-old, standing in a crowd of people at the Saint Patrick's Day parade, jumping up and down with excitement, anticipating catching a glimpse of our friends' son, Paulie. He looked like a hero as he marched past me in his dress uniform. Paulie was in a JROTC Marine program. He told me stories of his experience at boot camp, and would say, "At boot camp we had to stand straight up and look straight ahead, as if we were looking through the wall in front of us." I was mesmerized by his story as he reenacted the positions of attention. I looked up to Paulie. He was only seven years older than me, but to me he seemed like a full grown hero. I wanted to join a JROTC program and be like Paulie when I grew up. When Paulie graduated high school, he enlisted in the Marines. I was so proud of him.

Some years later, I learned about a program called the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets. A friend told me the Sea Cadets were "right up my alley." I researched it thoroughly and couldn't wait to enroll. I had heard the stories about being yelled at, the grueling physical training and lack of sleep. I wasn't absolutely sure what I was getting myself into. I arrived at my first drill, nervous and afraid. At the conclusion of my first drill weekend, I was exhausted but hooked. I couldn't wait to get my uniforms and attend my next drill. I loved the challenge, discipline, and structure. I wanted more.

Over the summer, I attended a ten-day Recruit Training held at the Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May, New Jersey. It was the greatest experience of my life! I learned so much; from how to make hospital corners on a bed and how to square corners while walking. Most importantly, we learned how to develop leadership skills. I formed strong bonds and life-long friendships. I entered not knowing a single person's name and by day two, we were all good friends. The sense of belonging, cooperation, and identity grew on me.

The physical training aspects were far more challenging than I expected. I vividly remember being faced with the challenge of having to crawl 90-feet across the gym floor using only our legs. A shipmate and I motivated each other to get across the gym and we continued to motivate each other throughout the week. We achieved the Honor Company award. The training I received over the summer through the Naval Sea Cadet Corps has not only helped me become more outgoing and determined but reinforced my desire to lead a military lifestyle. Attending a military academy will give me the education and skills to become a successful leader, challenge me to strive for excellence, help me become a commissioned officer while allowing me to follow my dream of honoring and serving my country.



Chief's Corner: Our Pinning Ceremony

By Chief Petty Officer Salina Ochoa, NSCC
 Battleship Utah (BB-31) Division, Salt Lake, Utah

I started my cadet career as a League Cadet at age ten and a half. It has been a long journey and I have had to remain fully focused and dedicated. I often found I was missing out on what most of my peers were doing with their time: hanging out, going to movies, sleeping in, and even missing games. I sometimes questioned why I was sacrificing so much and found myself frustrated at times. But I did not quit. I persevered and I know this will help me become successful, hopefully as an FBI agent.

I have learned to push through bad days, face fears and nerves, complete tasks in a timely manner and follow directions without asking questions. I am further ahead than most of my peers by knowing what it means to be responsible and held accountable. I am proud I persevered and I am proud of the sacrifices I have made to get here. I assure you it was worth it. Nothing compares to having the chief's cover placed on your head and anchors pinned on your collar. The journey to be becoming a Sea Cadet chief has taught me so much. Being a Sea Cadet and now a chief will and has given me opportunity to learn leadership, discipline, self respect and what it means to live the core values we are taught: honor, courage, and commitment.

To my shipmates I say, work hard, stay dedicated and focused so you may also feel the pride of being addressed as a Sea Cadet chief petty officer!



By Chief Petty Officer Carson Rogers, NSCC
 Battleship Utah (BB-31) Division, Salt Lake, Utah

Looking back on the day I was pinned, I accepted the challenges of being a chief and the chance to lead my fellow cadets. This was the day I achieved the final and most sought after rank in the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, the rank of chief petty officer. Few words can describe the feeling of getting pinned and covered.

Although it is exciting being a chief, it does come with its difficulties. I have many eyes on me now. I must perform to the best of my abilities to lead from the front and set an example to my fellow cadets. Each drill I learn something new. Just because I have made chief does not mean I know everything. There is always room to learn more. I sincerely thank the wardroom and cadets of the Battleship Utah (BB-31) Division for helping me reach this amazing achievement.



CHART YOUR COURSE



From Sea Cadet to Sailor

Cadets from Wolverine Division interview former cadet and current Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Julia Murphy.



By Seaman Grant Bruley, NSCC, Seaman Cierra McCaskill, NSCC, and Seaman Alyssa Vossen, NSCC
 Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Julia Murphy, USN, is 21-years-old and in the U.S. Navy. She serves aboard USS *Blue Ridge* as a culinary specialist, responsible for feeding around 200 officers. The mission of USS *Blue Ridge* is to maintain the peace with Asian countries. Her ship is stationed in Japan, her longest deployments have been three months, and she has been to numerous countries, including Thailand, Australia, South Korea, and the Philippines. To date, her favorite country has been Thailand.

Murphy was in the Naval Sea Cadet Corps for six years and was our unit's first chief petty officer. Her time in the program has helped her prepare for life in the Navy. Her days are around 12 hours long, and she speaks to family every other week. Life aboard the ship is "very noisy." In the galley, there is the constant banging of pots and pans. Add that to the waves that are either crashing or caressing the side of the ship, depending on the swell of the sea, and the squeaking of the ship as it moves. When the ship is in port, she gets the opportunity to explore the country, catch up on sleep, and enjoy time with friends. She also started to further her education by enrolling at the University of Maryland, studying International Business.

"Life aboard is hard sometimes. It's claustrophobic, noisy, and the hours are long, but I wouldn't want to do anything else," says Murphy. "Sea Cadets changed my life, gave me direction, gave me a family, and helped to shape my future."

Our unit is very proud of Petty Officer Murphy. We believe she is who she is partly because of the USNSCC. Petty Officer Murphy, thank you for your service to the Sea Cadets, the Navy, and the United States.



ENS DAVID OTTE, NSCC



P02 SAM STOEPPFEL, NSCC

Petty Officer Murphy's Advice for Cadets Considering Enlisting:

1. Go to the recruiters prepared with lots of questions.
2. Research the job you want and be prepared to look at all of the options. Don't be persuaded to change your mind unless you are certain.
3. Visit multiple recruiters.

Meet Our Best Recruiters



Growing the program is everyone's responsibility — and the people on this list take that seriously.

The Recruiting Incentive Ribbon is awarded to any NSCC Officer, Midshipman, Instructor, or Sea Cadet/League Cadet who recruits someone to the USNSCC. Cadets receive one award for each person recruited while officers receive one award for every two. An asterisk next to an individual's name indicates they have reached this goal more than once. Bravo Zulu to the following members who earned this ribbon between September 1, 2016 and December 1, 2016.

Adults

- LT Phyllis Baier
- Auxiliary Brian Egan
- ENS Bradley Kaplan*
- LTJG Terry Vice

Cadets

- SA/AA Zackaria Afriade
- APC/LC2 Jaydon Anderson
- SA/AA Jannelle Aquino*
- SA-T/AA-T Damian Arana
- SA/AA Jada Bachorek*
- SA/AA Kaytlynn Bacon**
- SA/AA Matthew Badinghaus
- SR/AR Sawyer Barnard
- SA/AA Elias Bennett*
- SA/AA Lauren Bozeman
- SA/AA Spencer Brink
- SA/AA Ruben Britos, Jr.
- SR/AR Nathan Bui
- SA-T/AA-T David Burkey
- SA/AA Joseph Candelaria
- SA/AA Lance Cardona
- SA/AA Blase Carr*
- SR/AR Elliott Chan
- CPO Sean Chen
- SA/AA Evan Clark
- PO3 Keaton Clay
- SN/AN Cort Collins
- PO1 Erin Cross-Kaplan
- SR/AR Andre Cruz
- PO2 Hunter Daniels
- SN/AN Nicholas Decandio
- PO3/LC4 Lance Deuel***
- PO3/LC4 Gavin Farnsworth
- SR/AR Tabitha Fayal**
- RC/LC1 Preston Fox
- SN/AN Rheaanna Freeborn
- SR/AR Jeremiah Gage
- SA/AA Alexander Gannon
- SR/AR Robert Gourley
- SA/AA William Grassel
- SR/AR Jordan Gravitt
- SR/AR Joseph Haines
- SR/AR Elisabeth Hall
- SA-T/AA-T Kaitlyn Hartsell

- PO3/LC4 Carlos Henderson
- RC/LC1 Juan Hernandez
- SA/AA Sierra Huffman
- SR/AR Ezekiel Ignacio
- RC/LC1 Jonah Jackson
- APC/LC2 Joseph Jarosiewicz
- SN/AN Austin Kaufman*
- CPO Peter Kraljic
- SR/AR Christine Lalgee
- RC/LC1 Colin Lalgee
- PO3/LC4 Justin Lam
- SN/AN Astin Lequang
- SN/AN Ian Lichty*
- SN/AN Ryan Litch
- PO1 David Lopez
- SA-T/AA-T Aaron Maguire
- SN/AN Kennedy Martin
- ABC/LC3 Dominick Mason
- SA/AA Jacob McCormick
- PO3/LC4 Mary McGinn
- RC/LC1 Michael McGuffey
- SN/AN Gavin Meyer
- SN/AN Matthew Montgomery*
- SA-T/AA-T Andrew Mora
- SN/AN John Neal
- RC/LC1 Alejandro Negron
- SA/AA Lucas Nunez
- SA/AA Christian Pember
- SN/AN Noah Portis
- SN/AN Raichel Portis
- APC/LC2 Anthony Powell
- PO3 Justin Presbrey
- SN/AN Noah Ragan
- SA/AA Devyn Reed**
- PO3/LC4 Jamin Rodriguez
- PO2 Logan Rowe
- SA/AA Caden Ruprecht
- PO2 Vito Santarsiero*
- PO3 Nicolas Schacht

- SR/AR Riley Schrick
- APC/LC2 Hugo Serrano
- RC/LC1 Kaylee Sharpe
- APC/LC2 Kenneth Sterner
- SA/AA Caden Sullivan
- SR/AR Cole Sweeney
- SA/AA Quynn Sweeney
- PO3/LC4 Franklin Tudor
- PO2 Gunnar Williams
- SA-T/AA-T Gage Wood
- PO3/LC4 Wyatt Wood

BACKGROUND PHOTO BY ENS ELAINE TORRES, NSCC

My League Cadet Experience Prepared Me For More



By Petty Officer 2nd Class Pamela Martin, NSCC
Seminole Battalion, Altamonte Springs, Fla.

I began my journey in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps as a League Cadet in October 2011. My first year as a League Cadet was exciting and a little confusing. I did not know what to expect. It did not take long for the confusion to leave and the excitement to take over. In my first year, I went to Navy League Orientation and two weeks later, I was at my first two week advance training in Culinary Arts to support a large Recruit Training. In the NLCC, I made it up to petty officer first class before becoming a Sea Cadet.

As a Sea Cadet, I remember going to my own Recruit Training (RT). Some of the other recruits who had not moved up from the NLCC, were not only nervous but scared and confused. Completing RT gives you such a sense of accomplishment. Everyone is happy to have made it. Over the years, I have completed many advance trainings. I always try to apply what I learned to grow not only as a Sea Cadet but as an individual.

Sea Cadets isn't only about joining the military. It offers strong leadership guidance and structure for one's life. It's not something that takes place just at drill or training. It is something that changes you forever. Staffing RT reminded me of when I first began Sea Cadets and how much I've changed since then. Others have also seen positive change in me. Sea Cadets challenges you, changes you, and gives you unique opportunities.

Working on your next promotion? Make sure you're on track.

Navy League Cadet Corps	Rate/Grade	Time in Rate	Time in NLCC	Course Requirements	Exam
No Insignia	Recruit Cadet (RC) (LC-1)	None	None	None	None
	Apprentice Cadet (APC) (LC-2)	4 Months	4 Months	Part I	Part I
	Able Cadet (ABC) (LC-3)	4 Months	8 Months	Part II	Part II
	Petty Officer 3rd Class (LC-4)	4 Months	12 Months	Part III	Part III
	Petty Officer 2nd Class (LC-5)	6 Months	18 Months	Part IV	Part IV
	Petty Officer 1st Class (LC-6)	6 Months	24 Months	Part V	Part V
	Ship's Leading Petty Officer (LC-7)	6 Months (Must be at least 12 1/2 years old)	30 Months	BMR Assignments 1-6	None

Advancements in the Navy League Cadet Corps require passing the Physical Readiness Test.

Naval Sea Cadet Corps	Rate/Grade	Time in Rate	Time in NSCC	Course Requirements	Exam	Training Requirements
No Insignia	Seaman Recruit (SR) (E-1)	None	None	None	None	None
	Seaman Apprentice-Temporary (SA-T) (E2-T)	3 Months	3 Months	BMR	None	None*
	Seaman Apprentice (SA) (E-2)	3 Months	3 Months	BMR	None	Recruit Training*
	Seaman (SN)/Airman (AN) (E-3)	6 Months	9 Months	SN or AN	None	Advanced Training*
	Petty Officer 3rd Class (PO3) (E-4)	6 Months	15 Months	PO3/PO2 (Assignments 1-2)	PO3	Advanced Training*
	Petty Officer 2nd Class (PO2) (E-5)	6 Months	21 Months	PO3/PO2 (Assignments 3-5)	PO2	Petty Officer Leadership Academy*
	Petty Officer 1st Class (PO1) (E-6)	6 Months	27 Months	PO1	PO1	Advanced Training*
	Chief Petty Officer (CPO) (E-7)	6 Months (Must be at least 16 years old)	33 Months	CPO	No Exam	Staff at NSCC Recruit Training or NLCC Orientation*

*Advancements in the Naval Sea Cadet Corps require passing the Physical Readiness Test.

Service Academy Hat Trick

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Kaitlyn Kutz, NSCC
Dealey Division, Stamford, Conn.
Service Academy Summer Training

This summer I had the incredible opportunity to attend three service academy summer programs. I attended the Army's SLE program, the Navy's NASS program, and the Coast Guard's AIM Program. Even though these programs may seem similar, they are each unique.

I started my summer at the Summer Leadership Experience (SLE). We were greeted with a mock R-Day which mimics a plebe's first day at West Point. We were marched to our barracks, issued clothing, name tags, and a packet we had to memorize. We then completed "The Cadet in the Red Sash." This is where new cadets have to recite a phrase perfectly to a firstie (senior). Having gone through Recruit Training in Sea Cadets, I was accustomed to this intensity. The remainder of the week consisted of classes, athletics, and tours of West Point. My favorite part of the week was the day in the field at Camp Buckner. We began with a teamwork obstacle course. The challenges could not be completed unless your entire

squad worked together. Next, we did individual confidence courses, and stations including helicopters, medical, rifle, and military tactics. It was a great week filled with academics and activities simulating Beast Barracks.

Two weeks later, I started the Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS). This program was much more physically intense than SLE. We started off every morning with intense physical workouts; some were run by SEALs. We also experienced a variety of classes and tours. Like SLE, towards the end of the week, we participated in "Sea Trials," a long, physically challenging day of military training. We completed an obstacle course, MMA, team pushups, log lifts, zodiac runs, wet and sandies, and pool training. We were given a sheet to memorize and were drilled on it during the evolution. Because of Sea Cadets, I already knew the majority of the sheet.

After staffing Sea Cadet Recruit Training, I attended the Academy Introduction Mission (AIM). I am grateful

I was still in the "staffing mode" going into AIM, which helped with the intense week. We had to keep our eyes on the boat, make our racks over and over and run everywhere. The hardest thing about this week was meeting the time objectives for going to the bathroom, taking the sheets off of our bed, or taking a shower. If we were not on the line and counted off in time, we would be told to "get some real estate" and do pushups or some other physical workout. We had breaks for "engineering time" where we were given a black box filled with an erector set and told to build a boat that would accomplish a variety of maritime activities with no guidance. This was a great challenge, and I learned a lot about engineering in those



hours. Through trial and error, our boat performed well. It was an intense week, but it paid off when I earned the title of honor graduate.

These summer programs were all amazing and unique experiences. All of the programs confirmed my desire to attend a service academy. I highly recommend for Sea Cadets who wish to attend an academy apply for these programs. They are well worth the effort!



Editor's Note: Kaitlyn has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy. After receiving one other appointment, she decided on West Point because of a close match in academics, career options, and an enthusiastic feeling after attending Summer Leadership Experience and a two-day visit with the Army Precision Rifle Team. She is currently removing herself from consideration at the USNA and USCGA to allow other candidates to secure spots in next year's class. Bravo Zulu!



Feeding My Shipmates

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

During the summer, at least six different ships and three submarines were open for cadet training. A wide variety of trainings were offered on these ships. Every cadet has the opportunity to go and stay on these ships depending on each cadet's rank and qualifications.

I had the honor and privilege of attending Culinary Arts training in Buffalo, New York at the end of July. Throughout the training, we were able to live on the decommissioned USS *Little Rock*, which is now a naval museum ship.

The training was seven intense days. We rose before the rest of the crew so we could have breakfast ready when they finished doing their physical training. After each meal, we had to clean trays, break down the side boy, clean the galley and mess deck. Throughout the training, I learned to look at each meal I got through as an accomplishment because preparing a meal for more than 100 cadets is no easy task. This allowed me to tackle each meal without panicking about the later meals.

The training was a highly rewarding experience. It is not every day that I can put food on a shipmate's plate and see a smile come across their face.

I strongly encourage each cadet to do at least one training on a ship. The staff and officers worked hard to make this training opportunity available, and I am grateful for their efforts. I had a great experience, learned a lot, made some new friends, and gained some great memories. I hope to return to this site again.

Our Swim Team

By Kathy Giordano
Lt. Michael Murphy Division, West Sayville, N.Y.

The "Murphy Swim Team" set sail on the Orient Ferry on Nov. 5, heading to Massachusetts Maritime College for the All-Regional Swimming Championships. The team was the proud defendent of the first place title in the northeast region. The USNSCC offers many great training opportunities, and swimming is one of them. If a cadet plans to enter the Navy, they should be comfortable in the water and able to meet certain standards.

Lt. j.g. Gary Vertichio, NSCC, began the "Murph Swim Team" in 2015 because he wanted to share his passion for swimming with the cadets. His vision was for cadets to utilize the program for "training, swim qualifications, and to participate in an activity that motivates the mind and keeps cadets in good physical condition." Last year the beginner team surpassed his vision when they won the championship. The team and parents hoped that another successful season would show appreciation for the generous grant they received from the John C. Dunphy Foundation. The grant secured the pool for the cadets to continue their hard work of twice weekly practice. This year, they entered the meet with confidence, skill, and a desire to defend their title.

The cadets, staff, and coaches, Alex Becker, Robyn Frank, and Krista Giordano, were so enthusiastic about the possibility of taking home the trophy for the second year. The parents and spectators all waited for the final scores of the meet to be tallied and the announcements to be made. Once again — "In first place – the MURPH SWIM TEAM!" The cadets and coaches were so proud and excited about achieving this goal for the second year in a row. They were honored to have Ms. Maureen Murphy attend, the mother of a national hero and the team's namesake, Lt. Michael Murphy. The thrill of winning the championship with Ms. Murphy present was exhilarating. She shared how proud she was of all of the cadets. This year, the unit's League Cadets also competed and came in second place. The team wants to thank Lt. Cmdr. James McLoughlin, NSCC, whose vision and implementation of the All-Regional Swim Competition, has given the cadets the opportunity to compete. Until next year...



A Sea Cadet in the Bering Sea

By Seaman Benjamin Mees, NSCC
Blue Angels Squadron, Seattle, Wash.



Over the summer I was given the opportunity to sail aboard Coast Guard Cutter *Midgett*, while she was on an Alaskan patrol, focusing on living marine resources and as a Bering Sea search and rescue cutter. My time aboard started Aug. 1 and ended on Aug. 31. At the time of my arrival, *Midgett* was moored up at Dutch Harbor, Unalaska.

On the first of August, I began my trip to Dutch Harbor. First, I took a flight to Anchorage and once I arrived I hopped on a connecting flight to the small island of Unalaska. The flight to Dutch was quite terrifying. It was a very small plane and weather up north wasn't so pretty, so it was a bumpy flight, to say the least. As I approached the island, I remembered seeing the smaller surrounding islands protruding from the ocean. It was quite an amazing view. The plane landed at Dutch Harbor, and I walked into the tiny airport. I was taken to the ship and my time aboard began. They gave me a tour and took me to my berthing, where I would sleep and live for the next month. In that berthing, I met some of the greatest people and leaders. They would always help me whenever I was having trouble. But most of all, they treated me like I was a shipmate, not like some kid. While underway, I engaged in flight operations, serving as a helicopter tie-down member. During these operations, I would run onto the flight deck and tie the MH-65 Dolphin helicopter to the deck. It was an intense job. The first few times I did it, I was scared. The blades were still at full blast on the helicopter, and

the ship would rock intensively. I grew frightened that the helo would slide and hit me. But thankfully, it didn't. After taking an exam and demonstrating that I could tie down the helicopter without assistance, I qualified as a helo tie-down member. When I wasn't doing helo ops, I served as a helmsman and lookout. I would stand four-hour watches every day. During these watches, I steered the ship on course and took orders from the conning officer. There were many controls inside the bridge and at first I was intimidated. I always had a qualified seaman with me in case I needed help. On lookout, I would scan the horizon for contacts such as other vessels, or sea animals like whales. It was truly an amazing from above. Once I had enough watches in, I was able to put in for a board and get tested. I was given a study guide to review what I had learned. Other qualified helm and lookouts would help me with my studies. I had to learn all the flags, whistle blasts, lights, buoys and distress signals. Once my board came, I felt prepared, but I was still nervous. I had a BM2 and two other seamen run the board. After many questions, I had received my score. I had passed with flying colors and was qualified aboard *Midgett*.

When the time came to fly home, I was quite sad. I had spent the majority of my summer there and would miss my shipmates. I said my goodbyes and packed up my rack. I went ashore and they announced my departure. I have never felt so proud in my life, and I am thankful to have had the opportunity to sail the Bering Sea. I am also proud to be a member of Blue Angels Squadron which prepared me for the challenges I faced.



Success for Training Ship Pampanito at the Region-12 Seamanship Challenge

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Sean Cameron, NLCC
Training Ship Pampanito, Dublin, Calif.

On Sept. 24, our battalion competed in the Region 12 Seamanship Challenge in Alameda, California. The competition included 11 challenges that ranged from marching to man overboard drills. It was my first Seamanship Challenge and I wasn't sure what to expect. Each of the challenges required two or more cadets, and some included the entire unit. Our training ship had 13 cadets competing, with only three who had previously competed in a Seamanship Challenge. Our youngest member, my brother, was only 10-years-old. I really enjoyed how teams worked together to compete in each event and how they all gave 100% to the challenges they faced. Although I didn't compete in it, my favorite challenge was the Damage Control drill with a live fire hose. Our unit cheered for our cadets from the water end of the fire hose and got really wet.

I was most proud of our unit in how we handled the Closed Order Drill because we were the only unit to earn a guidon ribbon. We had a great leading petty officer who memorized the movements and didn't use a guide to complete the evolution. I was also very proud to be chosen to do the Color Guard drill. All four of us were petty officers and I feel we did very well and made our unit proud.

At the closing ceremony, our unit got very excited as our team name was announced over and over again for earning ribbons in all but one event. It felt outstanding when Training Ship Pampanito was called the champion in the NLCC division. I felt so proud to hear the other units competing that day and chanting, "Hoorah Pampanito!" as we marched up to receive our championship trophy.



Thanks to the Coast Guard, Tennessee (BB-43) Division experienced hands-on training on the Mississippi River.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY SR BRANDON MIN, NSCC



A Trip to India in October

Eight thousand miles from home, a cadet discovers a vibrant culture and a new way of thinking about her own country.

By Chief Petty Officer Vivian Dees, NSCC
F.D. Roosevelt Squadron, Jacksonville, Fla.
International Exchange Program, India

Ten days. Seven countries. 8,647 miles. This was the Indian experience. We stayed on TS Jawahar in Mumbai, India alongside cadets from India, Hong Kong, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, and South Africa. Each morning consisted of a different nation's PT traditions, and meals were served both continental and Indian.

Split into four teams, we spent our first days learning how to pull and paddle in a straight line (a significantly more difficult feat than one would imagine). Our nights were spent learning about our respective sea cadet programs. Petty Officer 1st Class Chloe Caso, Chief Petty Officers Alex Mueller and Tracy Robinson, and myself could not be more thankful for the opportunity to spend

that time alongside sea cadets from all over the world.

One of the most exciting days of the exchange was the India Day celebration. All of the exchange cadets wore traditional Indian clothes, and enjoyed a performance by the Indian Sea Cadet Corps, consisting of dances from different regions of India. The incredible vibrancy of Indian culture was unlike anything I've ever seen.

My time in India has not only given me the experience of a lifetime, but has taught me what I love about my own country. In school, I am grateful that I sit amongst people of all shapes, sizes, and colors. The subject of race is less daunting now, and has become incredibly significant in my perception of the



world around me. India truly emphasized for me that human life is beautiful, no matter your race, gender, religion, or nationality.

India is a vastly different place than the U.S. This may seem obvious, but to feel the jungle humidity, watch the sun rise over the Arabian Sea, sink your toes into the sands of the Subcontinent, or immerse yourself in a culture whose roots extend through a millenia, can change the words "vastly different" to "wow."

"India truly emphasized to me the idea that human life is beautiful, no matter your race, gender, religion, or nationality."

Colorado Cadet Explores India

By Shawn Montano
Lexington Division, Aurora, Colo.
International Exchange Program, India

"Whenever I go to a training, they're like 'What? They have that in Colorado?'"

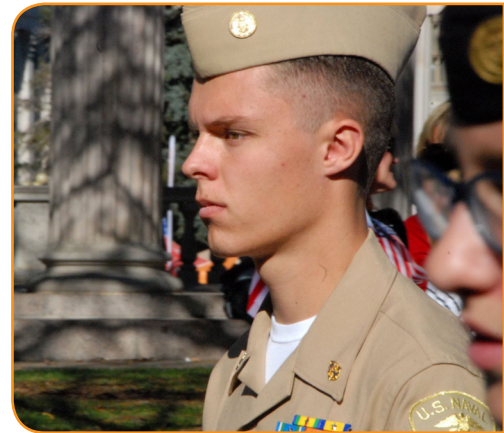
That's how conversations start for Chief Petty Officer Alexander Mueller, NSCC, a member of Lexington Division and Training Ship Colorado, when he attends training. This past summer, Mueller went to Mumbai, India as part of the International Exchange Program.

"It was 12 hours from Colorado, so it was halfway around the world," he said. "It messed with my sleep system." Mueller was one of just four American Sea Cadets to attend the training. "It was a lot of fun," he said. "I think it was valuable. I'm still in contact with a lot of the people that I met there from all of the other countries." His favorite part of the program? "Eating. I really enjoy Indian food." Another highlight was a formal dinner. "We had the Supreme Naval Commander of Western India Naval Forces."

This experience was more social than he expected. "They were extremely friendly. I wouldn't have expected that from Indian naval officers." The 16-day visit also looks good on a resume as Mueller looks beyond the Sea Cadet

program. "It does just because you get leadership skills, and then just getting to know another culture, it really helps when you are applying to colleges." Mueller plans on going to the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York. "I want to go into International Cargo Shipping." He decided on this path when he was 10-years-old. "It started when my parents brought me on a cruise. I liked being on a big ship and being on the water."

Mueller is in his fifth year at Lexington Division. "Through the program I learned about the Merchant Marines. It's cargo shipping, but you're working for the the government and I'll be a Naval Reserve Officer." Amazing what a land-locked Sea Cadet can and will accomplish.



Let's Revisit Hong Kong



PHOTOS BY LTJG RICHARD COVINGTON, NSCC



Kentucky Division Steps Back in History

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

In September, the cadets and staff of Kentucky Division had the unique opportunity to step back in time and join the volunteer crew of the LST 325. Their day began with a walking tour of the ship, providing the cadets with the history of its incredible history. Then they joined the ship's volunteers for a weekend of restoration work.

Built in 1942, the LST 325 served the U.S. Navy, including numerous trips to Normandy in 1944. In 1964 it was sold to Greece and served in the Greek Navy until 1999. A group of U.S. veterans sought out and purchased the ship in 2000, and the following year it made its journey back home. Now, after countless hours of restoration work by veterans and other volunteers, it

has a new home in Evansville, Indiana, where it serves as an educational museum. It is dedicated to preserving its unique history and honoring those who bravely served our country. The LST 325 is one of only two World War II LSTs to be preserved in the United States.

"This was a great opportunity for our cadets to work alongside these veterans," shared Lt. j. g. Shannon Montgomery, commanding officer of Kentucky Division. "These men and women have already given so much of themselves in service to their country years ago, and now they are spending their retirement years dedicated to keeping this history alive."

"This was one of my favorite activities so far," said Seaman Apprentice-Trainee Jack Johnson. "I'm looking forward to going back."

The LST 325 crew have already invited Kentucky Division back next year. Even though the cadets spent two days working on restoration projects, there is a lot more to do. "It was definitely hot and exhausting work," stated Montgomery, "but it was a privilege for the cadets to be able to give something back to these veterans."

The cadets were able to finish their work just two weeks before the LST set sail for its annual port visits. These fall tours allow opportunities for many different communities to visit the ship, meet veterans serving as crew, and learn some valuable history about the ship's role in World War II.



Cadets spent two days cleaning, scraping, and painting, including the most historic feature of the ship, the loading ramp.



Division Raises Funds with Easter Seals

By LtCdr(Q) Heather Sydes, RNR
Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.

Like many good ideas, this one was spurred by a conversation, when a friend from work asked me: "Why don't you do a 'fill-a-truck'?"

This seemed like a great idea, so we made contact with the Easter Seals and our journey began! "Fill-a-truck" is a great way to fundraise while giving back to the community. All we needed to do was get the message out that we would have a truck parked at our drill site during our November drill weekend and ask that people go through their closets and donate unwanted clothing, bedding, and linens.

Easter Seals provided the truck, and all we needed to do was fill it. I was a little concerned about our ability to fill the truck as we approached the drill weekend. I shouldn't have worried. Drill day arrived, and so did the bags — lots and lots of bags. Team Wolverine had purged their closets, and their families and friends joined in on the fun too.

On Sunday, the press arrived with a video camera. This was a chance for the cadets to be TV stars, and they certainly clamored at the opportunity. After the drill, we sat and watched the news — we were not disappointed. It was an excellent spot that raised awareness of the USNSCC and our collaboration with Easter Seals. We collected 5,296 pounds of clothing and raised \$1,060 from the Easter Seals fundraiser! We hope other divisions will be able to participate in this easy fundraiser too.



My Very First Drill

By Seaman Recruit Alina Full, NSCC
Houston Division, Houston, Texas



On the way to the Texas Maritime Academy, I felt excited to be able to learn about bridge simulation, engineering, and damage control. When we went into the engineering simulation, I felt a little overwhelmed with all the buttons and controls, but after it was explained I realized it just looked confusing. Before going into the bridge simulation, I felt a little nervous about forgetting how to correctly respond to the commands, but as soon as we started, we got the hang of it and did well. While we were walking to the damage control, I felt excited and a little nervous at the same time. As soon as we got into damage control, we got to work and the nervousness disappeared. I felt like we were making good progress, only to find that another plug had fallen out. Eventually, we figured it out and did a good job. Later, when I got home, I felt excited that I had the opportunity to try the different simulations and learn about each one. Overall, I had a very good time on my first drill!

American History at the Houston Airshow

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Noah Layne, NSCC
Houston Division, Houston, Texas



While working at the Wings Over Houston Airshow, I had the opportunity to meet many amazing representatives of our American history. This included many pilots and war veterans of all ages, but one co-pilot in particular stood out as what the American military represents. Lt. Col. Cole, a World War II veteran, happened to be at the airshow and I had the honor of going to the tent where he was located and shake his fragile, but sturdy hand. It was amazing to learn that he was the last survivor of the Doolittle Raid.

The raid was an operation of 80 pilots from the U.S. Army Air Force to attack Tokyo and its surrounding areas, striking the heartland of their war-time empire. This was to be the first time that land-based bombers had ever launched off of a carrier deck. The men involved with the attack were scheduled to bomb certain targets, such as various factories, and then land somewhere in Chinese territory. However, when they had been spotted by a Japanese fishing boat, they launched from the carrier earlier than planned, even though they knew they didn't have enough fuel to land where they desired. The rest of the raid went according to plan, and they were able to put fear into the Japanese government, who

thought they were untouchable by the Americans after the attack on Pearl Harbor. All but one of the B-25s crashed, as they couldn't find any place to land, but most of the pilots survived the mission and made it home. Thanks to their bravery, they were able to leave Japan vulnerable to additional strikes and raised the morale of the American forces, which some argue, aided us in winning the war.

Richard "Dick" Cole was actually the co-pilot of Doolittle himself, and he has received awards such as the Flying Cross for his actions during the battle. I thought about it again later that day and realized how important he was to our nation's history and eventual war victory. It was pretty extraordinary for him to be there. We had a living piece of history in Houston, speaking with us, the next generation. Even at 101-years-old, he still had the twinkle of a young warrior in his eyes and watching him take time to talk to each individual who approached him brought a sense of national pride. Getting him to sign his biography was more than just receiving something outstanding to share with my peers. It also gave me a story to pass on to others so that his legacy will always be remembered. My encounter made me realize it was more than an "ordinary" airshow and it was such a pleasure to meet a hero whom I can call a legend. Proud to have met you, sir!



"I was standing duty when my day took a fateful turn. Instead of being the gatekeeper of seats, I was the gatekeeper of a cargo hold full of emotions. As I turned to see a little boy dressed in a Blue Angels uniform, my mouth curved into a smile automatically. When he asked to take a picture with me, standing beside me with the bearing of a true Sailor, I felt great pride in being a Sea Cadet. I felt the 200-year-old legacy of the Navy within me. As I watched the boy walk away, my heart swelled with satisfaction that I was good enough for him to choose me as a role model. At that moment, I decided I will always strive to inspire the next generation." - P02 Justin Couty, NSCC

Replica Restored

By Dean Hager
Yuma Sea Eagle Squadron, Yuma, Ariz.

For several months near Phoenix, USS *Arizona* replica's owner, Mrs. Wanda Sartain, explored various avenues for help in a cosmetic overhaul of her ship without success. Invited by the National Park Service to appear again in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for the 75th anniversary of the Dec. 7 attack, the pressure was certainly on! The miles and Arizona sun had taken their toll with stress cracks, a hull delaminating, and faded paint throughout.

Remembering the enthusiastic reception she received at a previous Military Appreciation Day, she turned her attention south to Yuma, Arizona for help. So, enter the new team of volunteers headed by a Navy League of the United States' national director and Naval Sea Cadet lead sponsor, Dean "Doc" Hager. Hearing of her need, no time was wasted. Within one day of the phone call, a wonderful group of "can do" folks was assembled.

To make this a truly southern region project, several youth leadership programs were invited to participate. Yuma's own Sea Eagle Squadron's executive officer, Ensign John Bacon, NSCC, was requested to coordinate and host fellow Sea Cadets from El Centro, California and Tucson, Arizona for many hours of community service sanding the ship's superstructure. Not bad - three weekends, eight hours per day and, according to our project's master painter, the results were outstanding.

But, how can one get this big ship to Hawaii? While the replica was being painted, "Doc" canvassed every avenue to find a sponsor who would assist USS *Arizona*'s transport to Pearl Harbor. Pacific Rim shipping firm, Matson Navigation, stepped up and absorbed all of the costs and fees for the ship's transport as a donation to the Navy League of the United States, worth approximately \$25,000. Thanks to the generosity of Matson, Mrs. Sartain will see BB-39 transported via sea once again to the National Park Service's USS *Arizona* Memorial Park this

December; plus — as part of a large Sea Cadet contingent — Yuma's Sea Cadets will march with her at the event's Dec. 7 Parade in Honolulu.

So, hundreds of man hours, tons of sandpaper and sweat later, it's completed! Thanks to a Navy League, Sea Cadet, and business community team,

USS *Arizona* replica was repaired and her Pearl Harbor Day transport fully funded.

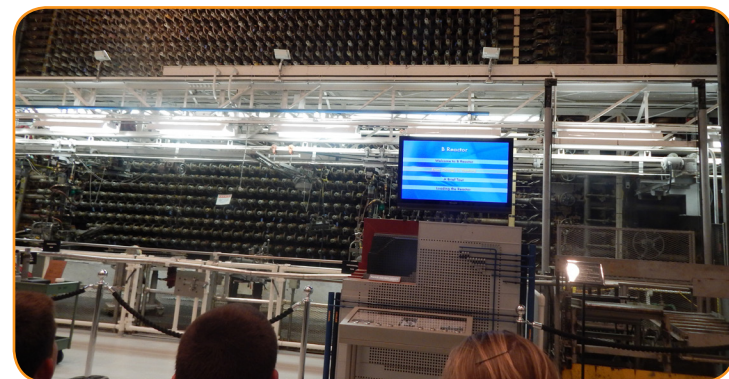


Site B Reactor Tour

By Lt. j.g. Scott Kiser, NSCC
Columbia Basin Battalion, Kennewick, Wash.

The Hanford Site sits on 586-square-miles of shrub-steppe desert in southeastern Washington State. Beginning in 1943, the site was used to produce plutonium for the bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, ending World War II. Construction of B Reactor began in October 1943, and fuel was loaded into B Reactor on Sept. 13, 1944 — just 11 months later. B Reactor went "critical" at 10:48 p.m. on Sept. 26, 1944 and reached full power in February 1945. People from all over the country came to Hanford, ultimately forming a 51,000-person workforce. Very few of the workers knew what they were building or what these facilities would do once they were completed. Hanford employees believed they were doing important war work, but beyond that, they knew few details.

The B Reactor is now a National Park and offers tours. The cadets from Columbia Basin Battalion had the honor of going on one these tours. The cadets saw firsthand how it was built and operated. The tour included the charging room, rod room, and control room. While touring the reactor, the cadets learned the importance of this facility, the role it played in ending World War II, and the impact the Hanford Site had during the course of the Cold War.



Cadets and the Navy

We are proud members of the Navy family. Our cadets tell us about their participation in a ship commissioning, retirement ceremony, and the Navy Ball.



"In the midst of all the activity, Mr. Jim Zumwalt, the son of Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, who the newly commissioned ship is named after, just happened to come by our recruiting booth... My mom and I took this opportunity

to personally talk to him about the immense impact his father had on my family history and legacy. We shared the story of my grandfather, PO1 Andres Fajardo, USN (Ret), who enlisted in the Navy during the Vietnam War. Due to the tireless efforts of Admiral Zumwalt in ensuring racial and gender equality in the Navy, my grandfather was able to advance beyond the job of steward after ranks and rates were opened to Filipino sailors. And because of this, my grandfather advanced to petty officer first class, he was able to continue serving for 26 years, and was granted U.S. Citizenship. Were it not for everything Admiral Zumwalt did during his time as CNO of the Navy, my grandfather wouldn't have been able to continue serving in the Navy that he loved, he would have never been granted U.S. citizenship, and my mom and I would not be where we are today."

- PO2 Jeromy Fajardo
Fort McHenry Division



"The *Zumwalt* commissioning opened my eyes and gave me exposure to how things are done in the Navy and how military personnel operate. I am fortunate and very grateful for the experience and hope to get the rest of the unit with us another time. Thank you for the opportunity."

- PO2 Rich Clay, NSCC
Henry E. Mooberry Division

"I can personally say that I was there to witness the beginning of a new age in the United States Navy."

- SA Keoni Gibson, NSCC
Henry E. Mooberry Division

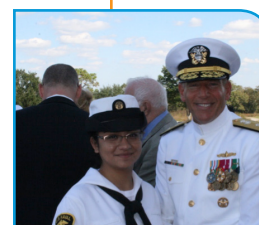


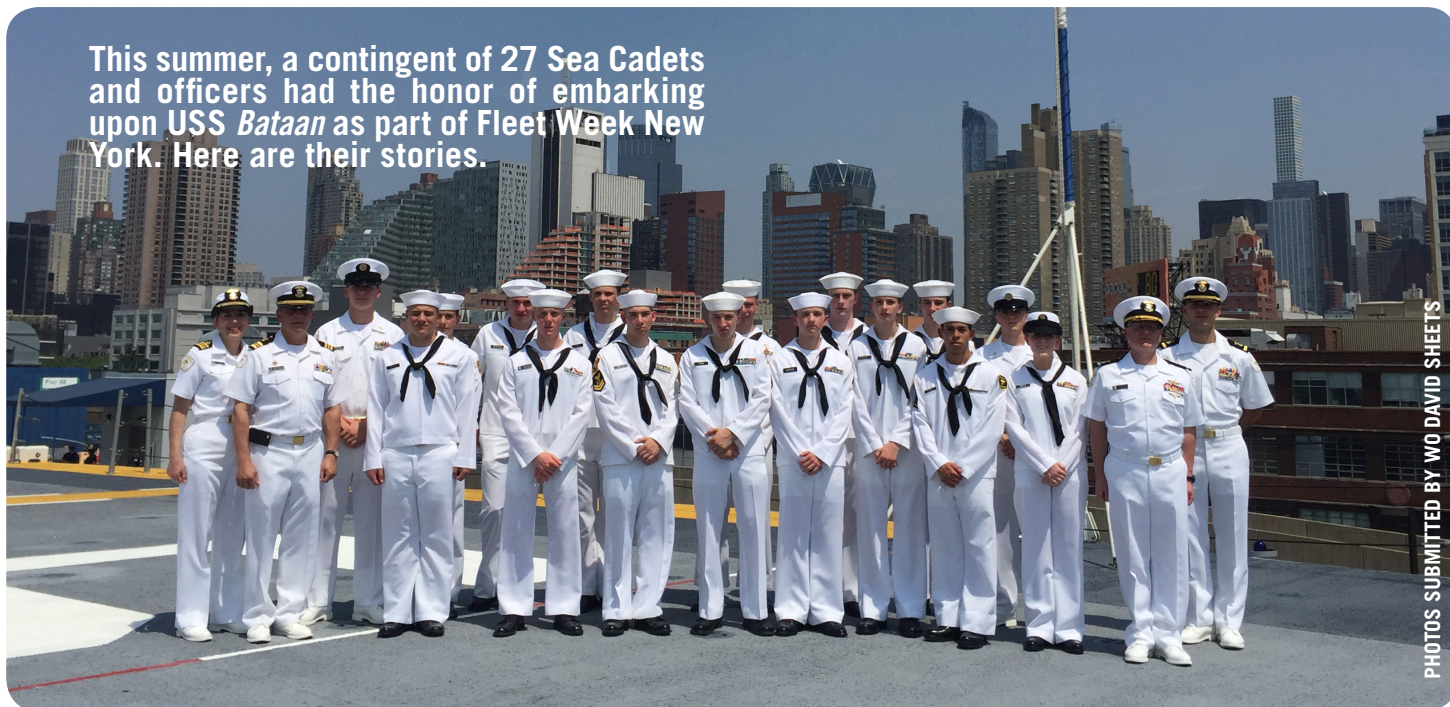
"Happy Birthday to the Navy! Two hundred and 41 years old! When the Navy Ball came around, my unit was asked to do the color guard presentation. ... Doing the color guard for the Navy Ball boosted my confidence in myself. I would recommend everyone learning to be a color guard."

- APC Samuel Lin, NLCC
Training Ship Stan Morris

"I am a Sea Cadet and I attend ceremonies all the time. Ceremonies are something that this division takes seriously. When Lt. Barlow sent an email to us about a retirement ceremony, I went to get my uniform ready days before the ceremony was going to happen. As I read the email again, I noticed that this ceremony was a retirement ceremony for Admiral Greene. I was so excited because this was going to be my chance to finally meet the important person everyone always talks about! ... I finally got the chance to meet the amazing man when the ceremony ended and he gave me a rare coin for being a side-boy and told me I did well. I was so happy when I received the coin and I will keep it along with the memory forever and try to achieve a level of greatness like him."

- SA Sara Chapa, NSCC
Houston Division





PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY WO DAVID SHEETS

This summer, a contingent of 27 Sea Cadets and officers had the honor of embarking upon USS *Bataan* as part of Fleet Week New York. Here are their stories.

Top 10 Things I Learned at Fleet Week New York

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Bedard, NSCC
John T. Dempster, Jr. Division, Lawrenceville, N.J.

- 10) Dramamine is love... Dramamine is life.
- 9) Don't eat the fish. Don't.
- 8) Hurry up and wait is an art form.
- 7) Sliding down ladders is a bad idea.
- 6) The fastest way to summon a Navy chief is to put your hands in your pockets.
- 5) Bring earplugs if you like sleep.
- 4) Neckerchiefs come undone in strong winds atop flight decks.
- 3) Going into the Navy with an undesignated MOS is risky.
- 2) Underway replenishment is cooler than sliced bread.
- 1) The Navy is where I want to be.

We had opportunities to observe most of the evolutions that the crew participated in while underway. We saw fire and attack dog demonstrations, three different helicopters landing on the flight deck, and an underway replenishment. We were also given tours by various members of the crew. These tours took Fleet Week visitors through the bridge, maintenance and propulsion compartments, the Combat Information Center (most was covered by curtains, too classified for us), the brig, and the MAA Shack. We also got to talk with a hovercraft operator on a hovercraft that came into the hold beneath the ship. As if that wasn't enough, we also got to participate in an obstacle course and watch a USO show.

But what made Fleet Week truly special was living side-by-side with the crew of *Bataan*. We waited in the same never-ending chow lines as they did and "got huge" in the ship's gym alongside active duty Navy and Marine Corps servicemembers. Many of them shared stories with us and made our time aboard the ship truly unique and genuine. I will never forget my time on *Bataan*, and I will use all the information that I soaked in to prepare for my future in the Navy, a future that I can't wait for!



Our cadets share some of their most memorable moments from time aboard USS *Bataan* during Fleet Week New York.



P03 Franklin Goldszer, NSCC George Washington (CVN-73) Division

As I prepared to graduate from the Sea Cadets this summer after four years spent in the program, I thought I would simply attend my last couple of drills before my time was up. So when I found out that I had been accepted along with 17 other cadets to go underway aboard USS *Bataan*, I was more than excited to cap off my Sea Cadet career with a meaningful training that would put together everything I have learned in the Sea Cadets.

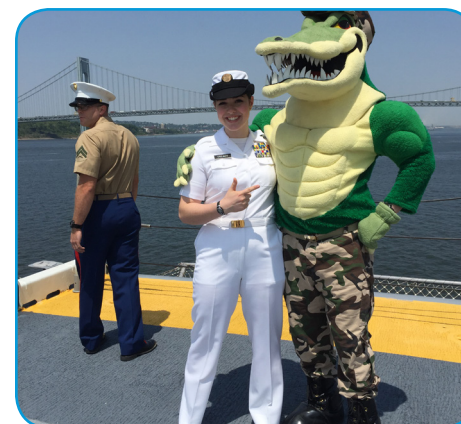


P02 Brian Sheets, NSCC John T. Dempster, Jr. Division

The underway replenishment was astonishing due to the amount of precision needed for the two ships to complete the task safely and accurately. Due to how close the two ships are to each other, suction is created between the two ships. This is quite dangerous because the ships are transferring several thousands of gallons of fuel between them, and this may cause a catastrophe if the task is not done correctly. However, the crews of both ships were highly proficient in their duties and they performed exquisitely.

CPO Peter Kraljic, NSCC New York (LPD-21) Division

As we walked down the pier, I kept thinking about the history of the harbor in Norfolk. I thought of all of the sailors that have walked these docks before me and all the different ships that have called this home. Going back to World War I, this base served in many different ways, however, what always remained the same were the sailors who passed through and worked there. Our uniforms may have changed a little over the years, but the Navy continues to do what it did then, go to sea, protect our shores and take our Marines and soldiers to places of conflict.



CPO Monica Treacy, NSCC John T. Dempster, Jr. Division

My favorite part of Fleet Week was living with the crew. Seeing how the Sailors worked together showed me how a well-functioning team should run. They should communicate, support each other, and be flexible. It also showed me that the Sailors are not always serious and hard core. In fact, a few Sailors created a game they used to have fun while on the job. As a leader, I will take my experiences and use them to better lead my people.

JOIN THE SEA CADETS — AND SEE THE WORLD

WO David Sheets John T. Dempster, Jr. Division

Fleet Week is "big time" for the cadets. They have to pull together all of the collected skills they have acquired over many years. They are living and working with thousands of Sailors and Marines. Their actions are being observed and evaluated by members of the ship's crew. They are representing the Sea Cadets. Their actions will determine future participation by the next generation of cadets. There is a lot is at stake.

Bringing a Ship to Life

By Seaman Victor DeLibera, NSCC
Wolverine Division, Monroe, Mich.

On Oct. 22, I took part in the commissioning of USS *Detroit* alongside the Detroit Riverwalk in downtown Detroit.

Our division helped the Navy and the commissioning committee prepare for this historic event. On that day, dressed smartly in our dress blue uniforms, we guided VIPs to their seats and distributed commissioning booklets to the guests.

As I reflect on that bitterly cold morning in October, I don't remember toughing out the morning cold as much anymore. Instead, I remember my excitement to be part of the commissioning of a new U.S. Navy ship. I remember the awe inspiring orders of Admiral Davidson as he commanded the crew of the *Detroit* to come to life.

I watched as the crew ran up the gangway and to their positions on the deck and the ship roared to life. All hands not on shore emerged from the depths of the ship to greet the public with a display only the Navy could show. All of the alarms, whistles, bells, and horns of the *Detroit* blared over the steely Detroit River. The four-inch guns mounted on the forecastle of the ship began to twist and turn on their mounts. I was awestruck. The whole event made me conscious of the incredible influence and power of our Navy.

After this phenomenal display I became inspired to want a life in the Navy. It wasn't just the Navy and its time honored traditions that called me but the country which so many sailors and soldiers alike have died for to protect the freedoms and liberties we hold dear at home.



Meeting a Hero

By Petty Officer 1st Class Maya Morales, NSCC
Fort Fisher Division, San Diego, Calif.

When given the choice to attend a good friend's birthday party or volunteer to help set up the Navy Birthday Ball, I hesitated for a bit but ultimately chose the ball. I never imagined I could be fortunate enough to meet a local hero, Mr. Stu Hedley. This of course was only possible because of my involvement in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps and Fort Fisher Division in San Diego. Our unit periodically is asked to support local events and every now and then we are in for a special experience. This event was just one example of what it's like to be in Sea Cadets.

Mr. Hedley is an inspiration to whoever crosses his path. I was no exception when I met him. Mr. Hedley has learned to live life to its fullest. He joined the Navy in 1940 and had a twenty-year career that spanned the attack on Pearl Harbor, where he served as a gun pointer on USS *West Virginia*. He continued to serve and later participated in the Korean War.

What does it mean to keep going? Mr. Hedley has experienced the highs and lows in life. He has had a loving marriage and has had to say goodbye to many friends and ultimately, his wife. Yet when you meet him, he's very upbeat. That evening, I watched him get on stage as the guest speaker and tell his life story with pride accompanied by a dash of humor. He was wearing his trademark colorful Hawaiian shirt, complemented by a genuine smile. He opened his speech by leading the "Happy Birthday" song for the Navy. Afterwards a group of Sea Cadets, including myself, introduced ourselves and he took the time to speak with us. It was then that I realized he was one of the remaining 18 living sailors to have survived Pearl Harbor. He showed me you can endure tragedy and still move on not with bitterness but with joy. With a willing and hopeful attitude, anyone can have the ability to achieve anything.



ENS SHANNON WARD, NSCC

Cadets Honor Fallen Pearl Harbor Hero

By Chief Petty Officer Patrick LaRoche, NSCC
Monadnock Squadron, Peterborough, N.H.

The brilliant blue sky of the New Hampshire fall day — Oct. 15 — belied the seriousness of the event. Monadnock Squadron, along with cadets from other New Hampshire units, mustered in Keene, to greet the remains of 19-year-old Petty Officer 3rd Class Edwin Hopkins, who was killed when his ship, USS *Oklahoma*, sunk at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

Cadets marched out to meet the Connecticut Air National Guard C-130 after it landed at Dillant-Hopkins Airport. We lined the tarmac as the Navy's honor guard carried the casket of Hopkins, one pace at a time, from the rear of the aircraft into the airport named in his honor. As the casket neared the terminal entrance, it was honored by six Sea Cadets acting as sideboys, while Lt. j.g. John Franklin, executive officer of the Monadnock Squadron, "piped the side."

Inside the airport, a service was held for Hopkins more

than 70 years after his death. A color guard composed of cadets from the Monadnock Squadron presented the colors during the funeral service. After the services at the airport, Hopkins' remains were brought to a local cemetery to be buried alongside his parents.

The scene was both somber and fulfilling as the sailor was laid to rest. The air smelled of gunpowder as the last notes of Taps faded on the fall breeze. Silence enveloped the cemetery as the six Sailors of the honor guard folded the flag that had draped the casket. The return brought closure to the relatives of Hopkins, after the arduous process of identifying the remains and returning them home.

The events of this day brought not only closure to the family, but understanding to the cadets present of the sacrifices made by military families, and the long journey some members of our armed forces undertake to come home.



Fair Winds and
Following Seas
P03 Edwin Hopkins
1922 – 1941



PHOTOS BY INSTRUCTOR LYNN MCLAUGHLIN

An Evening With Heroes

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Joshua Macalanda, NSCC
HMCM William R. Charette Division, Bethesda, Md.

This was my first experience attending a special event honoring dignitaries as a Sea Cadet. I was humbled to be selected to accompany our Executive Director Captain Henry Nyland, USN (Ret), along with Chief Petty Officer Santos-Silva, NSCC. On Sept. 14, we attended the Lone Sailor Dinner where Mr. Daniel D'aniello, former senator and astronaut John Glenn, and Admiral Robert H. Shumaker were all awarded the Lone Sailor Award, in recognition of their respective career achievements.

Before presenting the Lone Sailor Award, a brief film describing the individual's life was shown. The videos were inspiring because they showed the background of each of the awardees. Admiral Robert Shumaker, in his acceptance speech, described his time as a POW during the Vietnam conflict. When he talked about how his friends and family gave him the perseverance to survive, I was touched.

Mr. Daniel D'aniello discussed how he was first drafted and enlisted into the Navy, and how he took the teamwork and discipline he learned from his recruit training and applied it to his career as an officer.

Although former Senator John Glenn was not able to attend the dinner, a biographic film portraying his life was shown. The video highlighted his achievements such as being the oldest person to travel in space, becoming an Ohio senator for 24 years, and serving as the president of Royal Crown Cola. Even after leaving the military, Glenn applied the leadership he gained in the Marines Corps to lead an international company, represent a state, and travel into space multiple times. It was easy to be impressed with his adventures.

This was a memorable experience for me as a once-in-a-lifetime event. If you ever receive the opportunity to attend this event, I encourage you to accept it.

Looking Forward to Next Year AND LOOKING BACK ON 2016

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure." - Colin Powell

As I reflect on 2016, I am so proud of the thousands of cadets who followed this recipe for success over the past 12 months. Year after year, our volunteers and parents are the real heroes of our program. I am incredibly grateful for the devotion of your time and energy to our mission. You don't do it for rank or ribbons. You do it for the cadets. Thank you.

We wish all of our cadets, volunteers, parents, and supporters a joyous holiday season. We are excited to have you with us on our journey forward!

- CAPT Henry Nyland, USN (Ret)
Executive Director
U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps



ENS ELAINE TORRES, NSCC

01 We hit an all-time high in enrollment on Sept. 30 with 13,573 members. In 2017, we want to continue recruiting new cadets and adults, while also providing our current cadets with the kind of experience that makes them a longtime member and program advocate.

02 In 2016, a team from Centurion Battalion took home the first place trophy in the All-Service Division at this year's CyberPatriot National Competition. Fifty-one teams registered for this year's CyberPatriot program. We know they'll make us proud.

03 Training is what makes us unique. In 2016, we trained 5,734 cadets. But we won't rest on our laurels. We are planning to provide even more opportunities with continued focus on safety and standardization, delivering the best experience to our cadets.

04 Our caucus, the Military Youth Programs Caucus, kicked off in late 2015. In 2016, it really got its wings. Currently boasting 24 members from both parties, we look forward to growing advocacy on Capitol Hill in 2017.

05 We received great support from our benefactors this year. If you share our vision of empowering cadets to chart a successful course for their lives, please consider becoming a supporter in 2017. For more information, you can visit www.seacadets.org/donate.

This issue is dedicated to longtime volunteer, advocate, and member of our board of directors, W.L. "Babe" Crouch. An ardent and passionate supporter for many years, Babe passed away in November 2016. Fair Winds and Following Seas.



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