



The University of Texas at Austin  
**Naval ROTC**



The  
**Longhorn**  
Log '17

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# 11 September 1940

On that day, then Acting Secretary of the Navy, James V. Forrestal, authorized the creation of a Naval ROTC unit on the campus of The University of Texas. UT would be

one of eight NROTC units in the country at that time and would go on to produce thousands of Navy and Marine Corps officers. The original goal of NROTC was to produce well-educated junior officers for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Reserve. Military skills and knowledge have been passed down to midshipman inside and outside the classroom. Sixty-seven years later the unit is now commissioning young men and women as active duty war fighters. The leadership skills that our midshipman gain during their short tenure here creates a foundation for success in the Navy and Marine Corps. Many of the midshipman arriving at UT are thrust into a completely new environment.

For many it is their first time living away from home, they may not know anyone, or may not have their career choices planned out. NROTC provides guidance to every one of these volunteer individuals, along with lasting friendships, and the skills needed to begin their military careers. This past year we have seen our young midshipman grow immensely. They have begun to learn the importance of followership, have found their niche in the college environment, and are now understanding how to manage this new demanding environment. Our upperclassmen have also come a long way as they complete their final year of preparation in becoming commissioned officers. We all have come together through many activities this year. Platoon integrity was built at battalion drill sessions and at early morning PT. A sense of pride and accomplishment are felt while running in formation and while marching on the drill field. The hours of practice on the drill field play greatly into building the confidence and leadership capacity of the platoon leaders.

Stadium clean-ups and support from our generous alumni, provided the battalion with funds to make activities possible. Our first major event and age old tradition, inspired by the UT vs. OU football game is Run To Dallas. Where MIDN run the ball all the way to Dallas. Intramural sports bring camaraderie to our midshipman as well. Sport competitions provide much needed stress relief to those who participate. This year, the Buccaneer Drill Team attended the Tulane Drill Competition in New Orleans. The team's hard work paid off. Midshipmen that attended were awarded by getting to enjoy the Mardi Gras celebrations afterwards!! Other UT NROTC traditions that lived on this year were the biannual President's Cup and Captain's Cup competitions. President's Cup is a tri-service competition between all three ROTC units, where each compete in sports and physical fitness events for the President's Trophy. Captain's Cup, similar to the President's Cup, is hosted within our battalion. Platoons compete in tests of physical fitness, drill, and academics for the title of "Honor Platoon."

The battalion comes together to celebrate the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday each Fall. This allows the battalion to show off its military pride and tradition. Our upperclassmen participate in a traditional mess night. The mess night served as a great way to build camaraderie between the upperclassmen and gave the midshipmen an understanding of how to interact with senior officers in a social environment. These formal events are precursors to the decorum and ceremonies of the fleet. They also give us the chance to prove that we look good in uniform. We also come together to celebrate the end of the school year at our annual Spring Social.

The Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps' is measured by each newly commissioned officer it releases to the fleet. Honor, courage and commitment are the cornerstones of every sailor and marine, but accountability and command authority come with gold bars.

# Captain Brian Teets



CAPT Brian Teets, a native of Urbana, OH received his commission in March of 1990 through the Navy ROTC program at Ohio State University where he earned a BSBA in Production and Operations Management.

His first tour was with the "Swampfoxes" of HSL-44 at NAS Mayport, FL, flying the SH-60B helicopter. Serving three years with HSL-44, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf embarked in USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG-58) and in USS VICKSBURG (CG-69) to the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas.

CAPT Teets' first shore tour in 1995 was as Aide to the Commander, Naval Training Center Great Lakes, IL, and then to the Chief of Naval Education and Training in Pensacola, FL, dual-

hatted as the Director of Navy Training, CNO (N7).

He reported aboard the Norfolk, VA-based USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) in 1997 as the Operations Administration Officer where he qualified as Officer of the Deck and deployed in 1998 to the Arabian Gulf taking part in Operation DESERT FOX.

In 2000 CAPT Teets joined the HSL-45 "Wolfpack" stationed at NAS North Island, CA. Embarked in USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61) he deployed to the Indian Ocean/Arabian Gulf with the CARL VINSON Battle Group in 2001 for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Completing his tour as squadron Operations Officer, he detached in 2002 and reported to the Officer Plans and Promotions office on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (N1).

CAPT Teets next reported to the National War College for the 2005/2006 academic year graduating with a MS in National Security Strategy. Concurrently, he earned a MA in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in 2006. He reported as Executive Officer of the HSL-37 "Easyriders" aboard MCBH at Kaneohe Bay, HI in February 2007 and assumed command in May 2008. In August 2009 he completed his command tour and reported to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J-5) where he specialized in International Security Cooperation and Foreign Military Sales policy.

Following his tour as Executive Officer, CAPT Teets assumed command of the amphibious assault ship USS WASP (LHD-1) in July 2013 and conducted at-sea testing trials for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, and executed a \$250M ship modernization overhaul.

In June 2015 he assumed command of the Naval ROTC Unit at the University of Texas at Austin.

# Commander Brian Fitzpatrick



Commander Fitzpatrick was commissioned in 1996 from the United States Naval Academy with a degree in Marine Engineering. He has served in four warships.

Upon completion of the Division Officer's Course in Newport, Rhode Island, he reported onboard USS UNDERWOOD (FFG-36), home ported in Mayport, Florida, where he served as Electrical Officer, Combat Information Center Officer and Training Officer. In 1999, he reported onboard USS JOHN S. MCCAIN (DDG 56), home ported in Yokosuka, Japan and served as the Fire Control Officer.

Commander Fitzpatrick completed his Department Head tours in USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG 57), home ported in San Diego, California as the Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer. He recently completed a tour as Executive Officer in USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG 62). He has deployed six times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Southern Watch, Operation TOMODACHI and two RIMPAC's. He also supported Surge Operations in 2007. He recently completed a two year tour as the Future Operations Officer/Readiness & Training Officer for CTF 70 embarked in USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) homeported in Yokosuka, Japan.

Ashore, Commander Fitzpatrick was a Ballistic Missile Defense Joint Planner in the European Command's Plans Division. Additionally, Brian served as the 30th Company Officer at the United States Naval Academy from 2001-2003. From 2009-2010, he served as an action officer on the Chief of Naval Operations' Executive Panel.

Commander Fitzpatrick earned a Master's degree in Leadership, Education and Development from the Naval Post Graduate School. He also earned a Master's degree in Military Operations and Planning from the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama.

His personal awards include a two Meritorious Service Medals, a Joint Commendation Medal, four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals. However, he is most proud of the two Battle Efficiency Awards he earned while serving in JOHN S. MCCAIN and in LAKE CHAMPLAIN. He is married to the former Miss Jessica Goulet and is father to Aisling Elizabeth.

# Captain Jonathan Grubb



Captain Jonathan J. Grubb, a New Jersey native, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in October 2000. After earning a B.S. in Workforce Education and Curriculum Development from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Captain Grubb was selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program and commissioned through Officer Candidate School in December 2010. After commissioning, Second Lieutenant Grubb reported to The Basic School (TBS) in Quantico, Virginia, and graduated in July 2011. Upon graduation from TBS, Second Lieutenant Grubb reported to Aviation Maintenance Officer Course in Milton, Florida.

In October 2011, Second Lieutenant Grubb reported to Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH) 361 in San Diego, California. In July 2012, he deployed to Afghanistan as part of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. There, he served as the Maintenance Material Control Officer and was promoted to First Lieutenant in December 2012.

In March 2013, First Lieutenant Grubb reported to Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (MALS) 16 in San Diego, California, and was assigned as the Power Plants Division Officer as well as AIRSpeed Division Officer. In June 2013, he participated in Operation DAWN BLITZ, serving as the Aviation Combat Element Aircraft Maintenance Officer aboard the USNS Curtiss.

In July 2014, First Lieutenant Grubb reported to MALS-49 in Newburgh, New York, for service as the Assistant Aircraft Maintenance Officer and Operations Officer. In September 2014, he was frocked to the rank of Captain and assumed the role and responsibilities of Marine Aircraft Group 49 Aircraft Maintenance Officer. During this tour, Captain Grubb applied for the Marine Officer Instructor (MOI) selection board and was selected for duty as the MOI for the University of Texas in Austin. He reported to his current assignment in July 2016.

Captain Grubb is a graduate of Expeditionary Warfare School, Quantico, Virginia. His personal decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (x2), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (x3), and numerous other personal and unit decorations.



# Lieutenant Ryan Edwards



Lieutenant Ryan Edwards, a Chicago suburb native, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May 2009 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance, Investments, and Banking.

He reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida for Flight School and completed Introductory Flight School (IFS), Aviation Pre-Flight Indoctrination (API), and Primary flight training with VT-10. LT Edwards then reported to VP-30 in NAS Jacksonville, Florida in

December 2010 to join the Maritime Patrol community. He was winged a Naval Flight Officer in July 2011 and reported to the Patrol Squadron FIVE (VP-5) "Mad Foxes" also in Jacksonville.

As a "Mad Fox," LT Edwards progressed through the P-3C Orion syllabus and deployed to Kadena AB on Okinawa, Japan in 2012. Following a successful 7th fleet deployment and qualification as a P-3C Tactical Coordinator (TACCO), LT Edwards and the Mad Foxes transitioned to the Navy's newest aircraft, the P-8 Poseidon.

At the conclusion of the aircraft transition, LT Edwards took the TACCO position on Combat Aircrew ELEVEN and completed the Inter Deployment Readiness Cycle (IDRC). He subsequently qualified as a P-8 Instructor TACCO and Mission Commander before deploying for a second time to Okinawa, Japan.

LT Edwards reported to the University of Texas NROTC in December 2014 as an Assistant Professor of Naval Science. He currently teaches Introduction to Naval Science, Sea Power and Maritime Affairs, and Naval Ship Systems II. LT Edwards is married to Grace Edwards and is also attending the University of Texas Evening MBA program (class of 2017).

# Lieutenant Tyler Arp



Lieutenant Tyler Arp, a native of Central Texas, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.

He reported to Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC) in Charleston, South Carolina to begin training for Submarine duty. LT Arp graduated from NNPTC in February 2012 and transferred

to Submarine Officer Basic Course (SOBC). Following completion of SOBC in June 2012, LT Arp attended Prototype training at NPTU Ballston Spa.

LT Arp reported to USS Hampton (SSN 767) in February 2013. During his tour, he served as the Damage Control Assistant, Assistant Engineer, Chemistry-Radiological Assistant, and Strike Officer. He completed two deployments to the 7th Fleet Area of Responsibility and two deployments to the Arctic Ocean in support of ICEX 2014 and ICEX 2016.

LT Arp reported to NROTC University of Texas in April 2016 for duty as an Assistant Professor of Naval Science. LT Arp's personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards).

# Gunnery Sergeant Gilberto T. Rosas



Gilberto T. Rosas was born and raised in Brownsville, Texas. After graduating from Hanna High School, he enlisted in the Marine Corps on June 15th, 1998 and underwent recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California.

In October of 1998, Private Rosas completed the Basic Field Wireman Course at Marine Corps Communication Electronics School in Twentynine Palms, California. He received orders to Marine Air Control Squadron-1 Yuma, Arizona where he was assigned as a Field Wireman to Wire Platoon. While with MACS-1 he participated in Weapons and Tactics Instruction exercises (WTI), as well as

Combined Arms Exercises (CAX). In December 1998 he was promoted to the rank of Private First Class. Lance Corporal Rosas was transferred in November 2000 to 7th Communication Battalion aboard Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan and was promoted to the rank of Corporal.

In June 2001, he was assigned to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit in support of the Joint Task Force Enabler. In July 2003, he was promoted to Sergeant. In November 2003, Sergeant Rosas received orders to 9th Communications Battalion in Camp Pendleton, California. From 2004 to 2008, he would be deployed to Fallujah, Iraq and Ramadi in support of Operation Enduring Freedom on three separate occasions serving in billets such as Section Non-Commissioned Officer, Platoon Chief, and Company Gunnery Sergeant as a Staff Sergeant. During his last deployment he would receive orders to Drill Instructor School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California where he served as a Drill Instructor for five cycles, a Senior Drill Instructor for two cycles, and a Chief Drill Instructor for two cycles.

In December 2011, upon his successful tour on the Drill Field, Gunnery Sergeant Rosas reported to Combat Logistics Regiment-37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, Camp Kinser, Okinawa, Japan. He was assigned as the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge of Wire Platoon. In April 2013, he was assigned as the Company Gunnery Sergeant of Communications Company.

In January 2015 he was selected as Assistant Marine Officer Instructor for the University of Texas at Austin where he currently serves. Gunnery Sergeant Rosas is married to Misato Rosas, and has three daughters, Mona, Mia, and Mae.



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**Battalion Commanding Officer**

**Battalion Executive Officer**

Battalion Operations Officer

Assistant Operations Officer

Adjutant

Supply Officer

Public Affairs Officer

Training Officer

Physical Training Instructor

1st Platoon Commander

2nd Platoon Commander

Leatherneck Platoon Commander

**1/C Beavers**

**1/C Martin**

1/C Brock

2/C Summers

2/C Douglas

1/C E barguen

2/C Barragan

1/C Murickan

2/C Cerf

1/C Lewis

1/C Bishop

1/C Guerra

# Fall 2016

## Battalion Staff



*I am thrilled to welcome you to the Naval ROTC Battalion here at The University of Texas.*

*I am Midshipman First Class Cecilia Beavers and I have the honor of being the Battalion Commanding Officer for the 2016 Fall Semester. Our program continues in a 241 year tradition of military excellence that is our Navy and Marine Corps. Take pride in being a part of such a rich organization.*



*This semester I challenge the members of the battalion to apply 100% effort 100% of the time. Our profession of arms begins here. On the path to becoming Naval and Marine Corps Officers, the battalion will push you to develop morally, mentally, and physically in preparation for the challenges of leadership that lie ahead.*



*The few years we all spend as Midshipmen at The University of Texas will fly by. The memories and friendships that are formed while at the university will last a life time. Remember to look up every now and again to enjoy the people and things around you.*

*Finally, I want to say that I expect your very best because our Nation needs your best. Your friends, family, fellow Midshipmen, and advisors are here to help. We are starting this semester with a blank slate, so let's make our mark.*

*Hook'em!  
MIDN 1/C Cecilia Beavers*

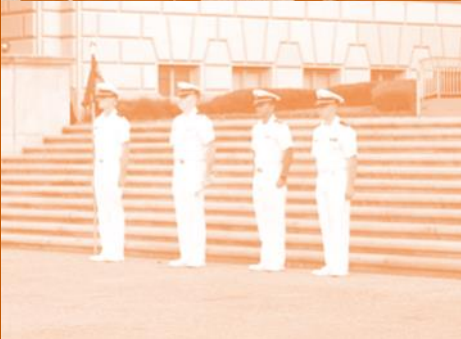


# Spring 2017

## Battalion Staff



*Welcome to the University of Texas Naval ROTC Battalion and congratulations on taking the first steps towards becoming a Naval Officer. I am Midshipman First Class Jobin Murickan, and I have the distinct privilege and honor of serving as the Spring 2017 Battalion Commanding Officer for this unit.*



*Since 1940, this Battalion has produced some of the finest men and women to ever serve in uniform. The likes of Navy SEALs and astronauts have gone through this program, all starting out as ambitious Midshipmen who sought to do great things not only for themselves but for their country as well.*



*To the current members of this Battalion: I urge you to look to those who came before you and realize the potential impact you can have on the world. Use their experiences as guidance and motivation as you go through this program. To those who are considering joining this program: Take the leap. Through the Navy or Marine Corps, you will discover the best version of yourself. You will do things that you never thought you were capable of doing. Personally, it's changed my life completely, and I'm never looking back.*



*The United States Navy and Marine Corps consist of the greatest warfighters in the world. To lead those Sailors and Marines requires a standard of excellence which we aim to uphold in this program. This program will test your physicality, your intelligence, and your sanity. But if you stick with it, you'll leave as a one of the few who can call themselves United States Naval Officers.*

*Thank you and welcome to your Spring semester.  
Hook'em!*



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**Battalion Commanding Officer**

**Battalion Executive Officer**

Battalion Operations Officer

Assistant Operations Officer

Adjutant

Supply Officer

Public Affairs Officer

Training Officer

Physical Training Instructor

Drill Officer

Recruiting Officer

1st Platoon Commander

2nd Platoon Commander

Leatherneck Platoon Commander

**1/C Murickan**

**1/C Bishop**

1/C Lewis

1/C Guerra

2/C Ryan

2/C Marks

2/C Pagio

1/C Sanchez

2/C Camacho

2/C Rost

2/C Bohannon

2/C Corey

2/C Carr

1/C E barguen

# Commissioning Seniors



Congratulations to the following midshipmen and enlisted Marines for overcoming the rigors of college and ROTC to become commissioned officers in our armed forces!

Four years of hard work and perseverance have prepared these newly commissioned officers for their earliest forays in the fleet, as future division officers, student aviators, student NFOs, and platoon commanders.

We wish them the best as they begin their thrilling journey.



## 1/C Gretchen Ledesma

**Hometown**

San Antonio, TX

**Reporting To**

San Diego, CA

**Outlook for the Future**

I'm incredibly excited and honored to join my ship. I have a few more months of school with the Navy to include BDOC and the Strike Officer course. I can't imagine anything much cooler than that.



## SSgt Christopher Grieg

**Hometown**

Los Altos Hills, CA

**Reporting To**

Los Altos Hills, CA

**Outlook for the Future**

My first choice MOS out of TBS is Infantry. Ideally I would like to do one tour as a platoon commander for a rifle platoon and as a company executive officer. Then, I plan on re-evaluating where I am in my career. If I am still enjoying the challenges of leadership, I would like to do a B-billet, preferably at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, CA.

## SSgt Veronica Ortega

**Hometown**

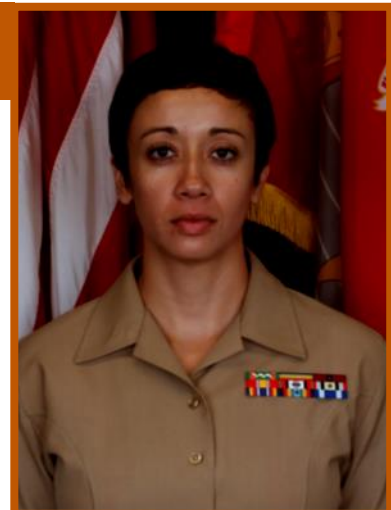
Stratford, TX

**Reporting To**

The Basic School, Quantico, VA

**Outlook for the Future**

I plan to continue and complete my 20 years of service to the Corps either as an Air Traffic Control Officer or Logistics officer. After the Corps I plan to hopefully travel for a little while with my husband and complete graduate school in either occupational or physical therapy. I would like to then work with and help wounded veterans on their path of recovery.





## SSgt Cruz Ashe

**Hometown**

Frederick, MD

**Major**

Health Promotion

**Reporting To**

The Basic School, Quantico, VA and once complete, NAS Pensacola, FL for flight school

**Advice to other MIDN**

I would recommend that MIDN focus on their academics more than anything else. College alone offers plenty of distractions - pair that with living in a city like Austin and it takes responsibility to focus on what is important to complete ROTC requirements and classes while remaining in good standing.

## 1/C Cecilia Beavers

**Hometown**

San Antonio, TX

**Major**

Civil Engineering

**Reporting To**

NAS Pensacola, FL

**Advice to other MIDN**

They say college is the best time of your life, but you gotta make it that way. Enjoy every second, our time here is so precious and it flies by. It may seem to drag on every now and again, and you'll wish you could commission already, but when it's all said and done you'll be blown away by how fast it has gone by. You will learn so much over this short time, but the most important thing that you will take away is an understanding of yourself. It's not easy and you already know that so don't give up and you'll make it through!



## 1/C Jacob Bishop

### Hometown

Frisco, TX

### Major

Aerospace Engineering

### Reporting To

NAS Pensacola, FL

### Advice to other MIDN

As an underclassman without a leadership position, making a name for yourself may be tough. The best way to set yourself up for success is to make it clear that you are competent and motivated. Show up before muster, volunteer for extra events, ask billet holders if you can help them out, and let your chain of command know that you are hungry for responsibility. As upperclassmen, your billet responsibilities will be numerous and time-consuming; delegation is crucial to succeeding as a leader. Understand your position, trust (and verify with) your people, and over-communicate to ensure that all parties are engaged.



## 1/C Rene Ebarguen

### Hometown

El Paso, TX

### Major

Biology

### Reporting To

The Basic School, Quantico, VA and once complete, NAS Pensacola, FL for flight school

### Advice to other MIDN

Don't lose sight of why you are in this program. It is not an easy program to get through, but remember what motivated you to become a Naval officer in the first place and keep moving forward. Life will get hectic and difficult but turn to your friends and family for support. Remember that you were chosen to be in this program because someone saw leadership potential within you!

## 1/C Chris Guerra

### Hometown

San Angelo, TX

### Major

Criminal Justice

### Reporting To

The Basic School, Quantico, VA

### Advice to other MIDN

Do not be afraid to fail. Your time in NROTC is the perfect place to learn from your mistakes before you hit the fleet, so take advantage of every opportunity you can. You need to constantly work on forming and strengthening your relationships with your peers. They are there when you need them and keep you motivated during hard times.



## 1/C Conor Martin

### Hometown

Canyon Lake, TX

### Major

Biology

### Reporting To

NAS Pensacola, FL

### Advice to other MIDN

Get up and talk in front of people as much as possible. As an officer you will be briefing your wardroom or division often, so get GOOD at it as a midshipman. If the opportunity presents itself, take a speech class or get a job where you must give presentations to a large number of individuals. Finally, if none of those opportunities are available, go to Austin City Hall and give a public testimony at a council meeting. Speaking to your friends is easy, but speaking to a room of public officials and strangers while on public broadcast is not!



## 1/C Jobin Murickan

**Hometown**

Houston, TX

**Major**

Computer Science

**Reporting To**

NAS Pensacola, FL

**Advice to other MIDN**

You can be anyone you want to be. As cliché as that may sound, it is true. Don't let your past failures and successes dictate the type of person you are going to be in the future. If you're bad at public speaking, don't just accept that as fact and live your life as if you're just always going to be a bad public speaker. Realize that all that matters is the work that you put into becoming a better person.



## SSgt Kevin Rodriguez

**Hometown**

San Antonio, TX

**Major**

Sociology

**Reporting To**

The Basic School, Quantico, VA

**Advice to other MIDN**

Throughout my time in the Marine Corps, I have faced many new and difficult challenges, both physical and mental. I may not have been able to control the situation, but I was able to control my own attitude. No matter how challenging a moment may seem, even the most burdensome instances will eventually become a memory and a thing of the past. These difficult times should always be perceived as beneficial lessons in life.

## 1/C Joshua Ruiz

**Hometown**

Hampton, VA

**Major**

Nursing

**Reporting To**

U.S. Naval Hospital, Guam

**Advice to other MIDN**

Bring a date or friend to NROTC events like Birthday Ball and Spring Social! Joking aside, make the most of your time in the battalion by attending events, even when they are voluntary, because they help build camaraderie with your wardroom.



## SSgt Sanchez

**Hometown**

Frisco, TX

**Major**

Aerospace Engineering

**Reporting To**

NAS Pensacola, FL

**Advice to other MIDN**

As an underclassman without a leadership position, making a name for yourself may be tough. The best way to set yourself up for success is to make it clear that you are competent and motivated. Show up before muster, volunteer for extra events, ask billet holders if you can help them out, and let your chain of command know that you are hungry for responsibility. As upperclassmen, your billet responsibilities will be numerous and time-consuming; delegation is crucial to succeeding as a leader. Understand your position, trust (and verify with) your people, and over-communicate to ensure that all parties are engaged.

## 1/C Luis Sanchez

**Hometown**

Austin, TX

**Major**

Chemistry

**Reporting To**

USS Bulkeley in Norfolk, VA

**Advice to other MIDN**

Get to know a few things about everyone around you and don't hesitate to speak your mind (albeit, tactfully). You should actively pursue the billets you desire by proving you are ready for them. Finally, strive to excel in all that you do and have fun at the same time!



**Congratulations to UT's newest Ensigns  
and 2nd Lieutenants**

# Midshipmen and MECEPs

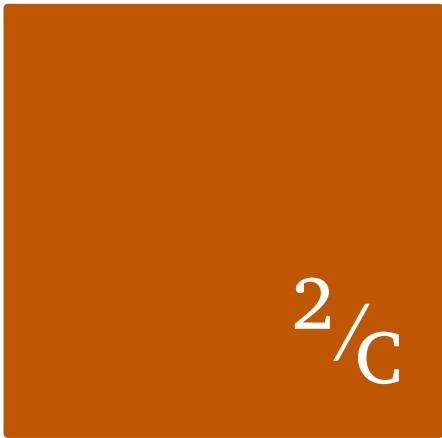
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Whether they're from the big city or a small town, from the fleet or the Corps, each member of our Longhorn Battalion is valued for their unique character and leadership ability.

At the University of Texas Naval ROTC, each of our members are given the chance to excel through various leadership opportunities afforded by our program.

Our close-knit organization exemplifies the qualities of selflessness, cooperation, and camaraderie.





Eric **Barragan**  
Garrett **Bohannon**



Sebastian **Camacho**  
Ryan **Carr**



Jeremy **Cerf**  
Matthew **Corey**  
Austin **Douglas**



Joshua **Marks**  
Rachel **Pagio**  
Parker **Rost**  
Priscilla  
**Rubalcaba**



Charles **Ryan**  
Benjamin  
**Summers**  
Matthew  
**Waddingham**



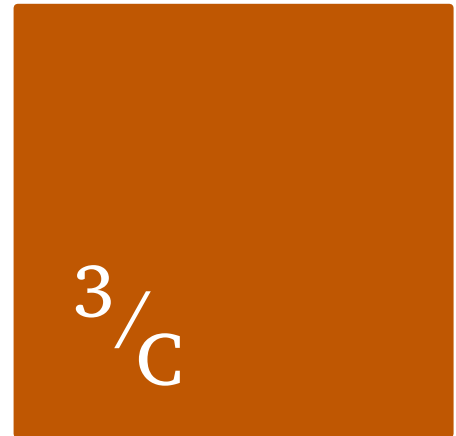
*"[My favorite aspect of NROTC] is the shared goal to develop as leaders and officers. This is has always been the biggest draw for me, and I have never been disappointed."*

*MIDN 2/C Benjamin Summers*





Stuart **Bayliss**  
Chandler **Casey**



Cameron **Delman**  
Hannah **Field**



Casey **Packard**  
Trevor **Penwell**  
Samuel **Quach**



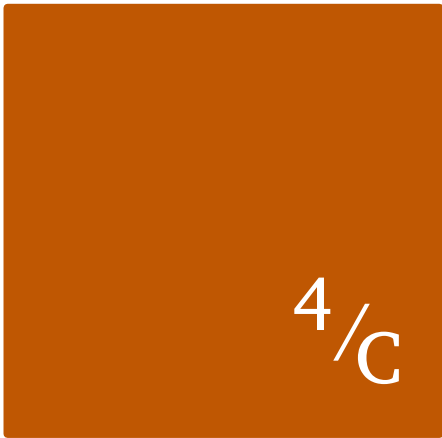
Jaganathan **Ravichandran**  
Megan **Rogelstad**  
Alex **Thompson**

*"I enjoy being in an organization where everyone has the same dreams and aspirations."*

*MIDN 3/C Chandler Casey*



Tori **Wagner**



Kyle **Bean**  
Jeffrey **Burds**



Mikah **Campbell**  
Levi **Couillard**



Miriam **Escareno**  
Robert **Hicks**  
Ryan **Mauk**



Brendan **Nash**  
Jonathan **Rusnak**  
Joshua **Staton**  
Robert **Steele**



Elias **Terrazas**  
Colin **Ward**  
Ashley **Wright**



*"[My favorite part of NROTC is] the upfront and direct attitude. It really helps you fix yourself and fast."*

*MIDN 4/C Brendan Nash*





**Sgt Hector Gonzalez**  
**SSgt Cesar Gonzalez**



**Sgt Duane Kampa**  
**Sgt Samuel Kellogg**



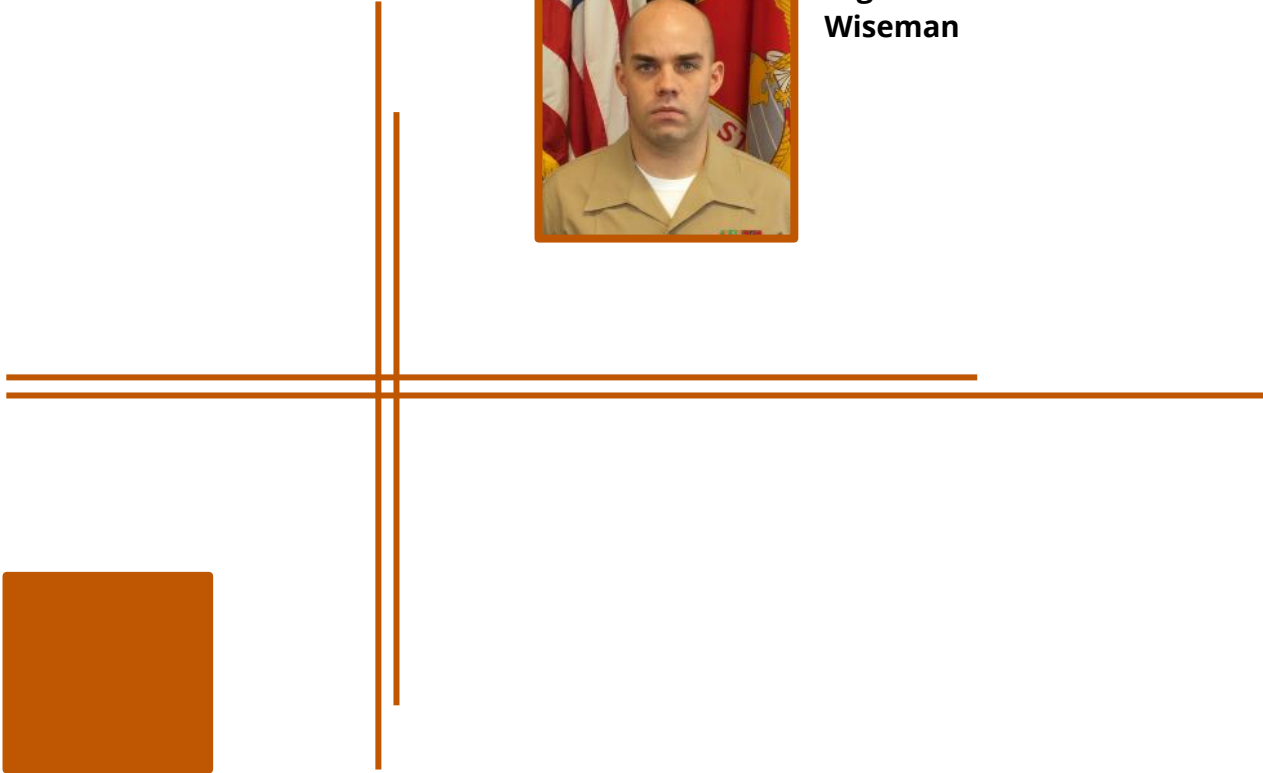
**Sgt Marc Mascorro**  
**SSgt Corey McGuire**  
**SSgt Mallory VanderSchans**



**SSgt Offie Wiseman**



**MECEPs**



# Alumni Awards



# Fall 2016 Awards

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## **Crawford and Hattie Jackson**

1/C Beavers, 1/C Bishop, 2/C Corey,  
2/C Barragan

## **FADM Nimitz**

1/C Martin, 2/C Bohannon

## **FADM King**

1/C Murickan, 2/C Cerf

## **Robert Brown**

2/C Ryan

## **LtGen D'Wayne Gray**

1/C E barguen, 2/C Rost

## **Crow's Nest**

3/C Bayliss

## **Lt James A. Burns**

1/C Ruiz

## **Keys A. Curry**

3/C Field

## **CAPT Max Miller**

2/C Cerf

## **RADM Clay Fulcher**

2/C Camacho, 3/C Wagner

## **Four Chaplains**

2/C Summers

## **RADM J. Weldon Koenig**

2/C Marks

## **LtCol Armstrong**

1/C Guerra

## **CAPT Rodney Koenig**

3/C Ravichandran

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**Kenneth J. Leo**

2/C Douglas

**Kenneth Moore**

2/C Corey

**Wayne E. Meyers**

2/C Marks, 2/C Waddingham

**CAPT MacDonald**

1/C Beavers

**James Mulva**

1/C Lewis, 1/C Martin

2/C Gray, 2/C Rost

2/C Summers

2/C Waddingham

3/C Casey, 3/C Thompson

**CDR Mergele**

2/C Ryan

**RADM Moore**

1/C Bishop

**LtGen D'Wayne Gray**

1/C E barguen

**ADM John Alvis**

1/C Beavers

**Orton Foundation**

2/C Carr, 3/C Bayliss

3/C Evans, 3/C Penwell

3/C Rogelstad

**Wildenthal**

2/C Douglas

**Bill Patman**

1/C Murickan, 2/C Camacho

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# Spring 2017 Awards



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## **Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal**

LT Ryan Edwards

## **Navy League**

MIDN 1/C Murickan

## **USAA**

MIDN 2/C Summers

## **Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)**

MIDN 2/C Carr, MIDN 2/C Rost

## **Veterans of Foreign Wars**

MIDN 3/C Ravichandran

## **American Legion Award**

MIDN 2/C Douglas

MIDN 2/C Carr

MIDN 2/C Corey

MIDN 2/C Cerf

MIDN 2/C Thompson

MIDN 2/C Field

## **Order of Daedalians**

MIDN 2/C Carr

## **Military Order of the Purple Heart**

MIDN 3/C Wagner

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**ATT Leadership Award**

MIDN 1/C Guerra

MIDN 1/C Waddingham

**Society of the War of 1812**

MIDN 2/C Marks

**Sons of the American  
Revolution (SAR)**

MIDN 1/C E barguen

**Daughters of the American  
Revolution (DAR)**

MIDN 1/C Lewis

**Patriotism Award**

MIDN 3/C Wagner

**AFCEA Educational Foundation**

MIDN 2/C Douglas

**Son of the Republic of Texas**

MIDN 1/C Martin

**CNO Distinguished Graduate**

MIDN 1/C Beavers

**American Veterans (AMVETS)**

MIDN 2/C Rubalcaba

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# Battalion Member of the Month

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Every month, the battalion recognizes a midshipman for their excellent performance in the program and the university. A careful assessment of their combined achievements and an interview by a selection board takes place to determine who, among several midshipmen, will be the recipient of the award. The following midshipmen stood out among the best of their peers and reflect the standard that our organization maintains at all times. Congratulations to this academic year's recipients!



**Joshua Marks**  
September



**Hannah Field**  
October



**Garrett Bohannon**  
November



**Parker Rost**  
February



**Tori Wagner**  
March



**Jagan Ravichandran**  
April



Fall  
2016

## New Student Orientation

MIDN 2/C Eric Barragan

From the 17th of August to the 21st, incoming freshmen participated in an orientation program designed by our Naval ROTC to evaluate their abilities and prepare them for the rigors of college and our organization.

Starting early in the morning, they took part in physical fitness evaluations, obstacle courses, informational briefings, and marching in formation. Along with these events, they also took part in swimming qualifications and shooting range exercises that allowed them to apply what they had learned in the classroom.

After four days of rigorous orientation, the new students were able to apply their newfound knowledge in a soon-to-be familiar setting - the inspection and drill formations. Having completed the orientation program, these new students, with friends and family as witnesses, were sworn in to our Naval ROTC and garnered the title of midshipmen.





## C-130J Static Display

In collaboration with a U.S. Air Force crew, the officers of UT's ROTC programs, including our own LT Ryan Edwards, were able to coordinate a C-130J static display for our midshipmen at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. That weekend, that same aircraft performed a flyover at the beginning of the incredible game between UT Austin and Notre Dame. It's just one of the many incredible opportunities available to our midshipmen.



## Book fair

In September, we held a book fair to share a bit of our naval knowledge with our peers across campus. The event was a great success, drawing us closer to our diverse student body and helping them understand what we represent.



## Torchlight Parade

The Torchlight Parade is a tradition that began in 1919 where student organizations gather and form a parade that leads them to the Main Mall in front of the Tower. The parade is held every year before the Texas vs. OU game. Midshipmen march in their summer whites to the tower. Once there, the current BNCO receives the game ball from the University President. Immediately after the ceremony finishes, the first Run to Dallas run shift departs from campus.



## Wings Over Houston Airshow

On 23 October, the Air Warfare Club, a group of midshipmen with an enthusiasm for the aviation community, enjoyed a spectacular airshow and various static displays of state-of-the-art technology. This is another example of how midshipmen can take initiative towards learning about their future careers.





## Run to Dallas

MIDN 2/C Priscilla Rubacalba

Excitement filled the air as our Battalion prepared for our annual Run to Dallas in October. Starting at the Torch Light Parade, the moment coach Charlie Strong handed our battalion commanding officer, MIDN 1/C Beavers, the ball, we were off. Five groups of runners, running across three run shifts, made their way to Dallas on Thursday. On Friday, after a mile run with OU's NROTC, we took care of business and beat their flag football team for the second year in a row, 19-6.

On Saturday, the game ball was delivered back to Coach Strong by MIDN 1/C Beavers, concluding Run to Dallas. The Battalion looks forward to next year in continuing this





# October PNS Inspection

Midshipmen donned their summer whites, well inspected and prepared according to navy regulations, for the PNS Inspection conducted by the battalion's Commanding Officer.

Battalion inspections test the professional knowledge and military bearing of every midshipman. They quizzed over Navy and Marine Corps history, national chain of command structure, and uniform regulations. Dressed in sharp summer whites, these midshipmen are a distinct sight in the early morning outside the UT Tower.





# Service Assignment

## MIDN 1/C Cecilia Beavers

One of the most significant steps for MIDN working towards a commission is service assignment. After three years of hard work and dedication to ROTC and to school we learn what community we'll join once commissioned. All of the 1/C MIDN submit a preference list in late August. The Navy looks at many different factors, including our grades, aptitude scores, major, and ASTB scores for those interested in aviation.

While it was an anxious wait, we were relieved to have been able to get into the community we wanted. It was incredibly motivating to see what our hard work was for. This moment defines the next chapter in each of our lives. I can't wait to commission with these incredible men and women by my side! It has been a long time coming. Congrats to all of them!

The seniors' assignments are as follows:

Surface Warfare Officer:	Dylan Brock, Luis Sanchez, Gretchen Ledesma
Naval Flight Officer:	Destiny Lewis
Navy Pilot:	Jobin Murickan Cecilia Beavers Connor Martin Jacob Bishop
Navy Nurse Corps:	Joshua Ruiz



# Birthday Ball

## MIDN 2/C Joshua Marks

On 5 November 2016, the University of Texas Naval ROTC held their annual Birthday Ball in celebration of the 241st birthday of the United States Navy and Marine Corps. After weeks of preparation for the event was a huge success and a night to remember. The Guest of Honor, Major General Cucolo, United States Army, Retired, delivered a motivating speech to inspire the battalion about their future careers, particularly focusing on those soon to commission. After the ceremonies and a fine meal, the midshipmen and their guests danced the night away. It was a lasting experience for the Fourth Class who celebrated their first ball and the First Class who celebrated their final ball as midshipmen. To commemorate the experience each guest received a souvenir glass adorned with a UT NROTC logo to remind them of the occasion.





## President's Cup MIDN 1/C Jacob Bishop

The bi-annual President's Cup is a tri-service competition between the three of the University of Texas at Austin's Reserve Officer Training Corps branches. During the fall semester, the services compete on three consecutive mornings: outdoor sports, calisthenics, and indoor sports. This event has been a tradition for several years, and it is crucial in building camaraderie in the fall semester between the new, junior midshipmen and the returning, senior midshipmen. The President's Cup fosters some healthy inter-service rivalry and allows Texas Navy to display their skills in a great environment.

# Alumni Weekend

MIDN 3/C Hannah Field

Alumni Weekend brought together former Longhorn midshipmen back to the University of Texas. The current midshipmen of the University of Texas Naval ROTC Battalion had the chance to interact with these valued alumni through multiple events. In the morning before the alumni football game, midshipmen were presented with scholarships from the midshipman Foundation and the CLA.

Following the game, the midshipmen had a BBQ with the alumni. The opportunity to interact with alumni is a privilege and it is one of the most important experiences as we learn from those that have fought for our country before us. We can learn so much from our alumni and I know that I will take what I have learned from my conversations with them, out to the fleet.





## Fall FEX

MIDN 1/C Chris Guerra

This semester I had the honor of being the Leatherneck Platoon commander and the OIC for the Fall Field Exercise. This event is put on each semester to further develop the Marine Option midshipmen, and to evaluate their performance before heading to Officer Candidate School (OCS). It was rewarding to see how this evolution benefits the platoon, especially our 2/C midshipmen who head to OCS this summer.



This event would not have been possible without the help of our MECEPs who spent a lot of their time putting together the several events necessary to make up the field exercise, such as night land navigation, a physical training competition, the nine-mile hike, and the Small Unit Leadership Exercises (SULEs), which are all used to prepare our midshipmen for success at OCS. I am confident that our Marine option juniors will execute their OCS training with precision and accuracy.



## Fall Change of Command

As the semester comes to a close, the midshipmen observe the passing of the battalion commanding officer's duties from the current billet holder to the next. Congratulations to MIDN 1/C Cecilia Beavers for her excellent leadership throughout all of our successful events this semester. We welcome MIDN 1/C Jobin Murickan into command; he now takes on the responsibilities of the battalion commanding officer. We expect great work this coming semester. Recognition also goes to the midshipmen for their hard work throughout the semester!





## Commissioning

ENS Gretchen Ledesma  
2ND LT Christopher Grieg  
2ND LT Veronica Ortega

After years of hard work and training, these three members of our unit, surrounded by friends, family, and acquaintances in the Lee Hage Jamail Academic Room, received their commission to be come unrestricted line officers in the US Navy and Marine Corps. "I'm incredibly excited and honored to join my ship," said ENS Ledesma prior to her commissioning. 2NDLT Grieg plans to "do one tour as a platoon commander for a rifle platoon as a company executive officer." 2NDLT Ortega plans "to continue and complete my 20 years of service to the Corps either as an Air Traffic Control Officer or Logistics officer." Congratulations to these three officers as they begin their journeys in their respective careers!







Spring  
2017



## USNA Leadership Conference

MIDN 2/C Marks

The 2017 United States Naval Academy (USNA) Leadership Conference was a profoundly enriching experience with lessons that will serve me well during my time in the battalion, my ensuing naval career, and throughout my life. The main themes of the conference were establishing trust and building teams. Distinguished speakers and panelists found unique ways to refer back to each theme. General Amos, the 35th Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, spoke to this at the conference saying, "Combat is not an individual sport" and "success on the battlefield depends on teamwork". The most impactful panel was held on the third day, in which a few Marines and Special Operators spoke of the importance of the trust that they had formed with their respective teams before they went into combat. They shared that this trust helped them restore their humanity once they left the battlefield and helped them recover from mental health struggles. These were days that were filled with incredible personal narratives and illuminating discussions that I will not soon forget.

# SCONA

MIDN 3/C Wagner

The 62<sup>nd</sup> annual Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA), held at Texas A&M University, was an unforgettable experience in which we were able to learn directly from the world's innovators and decision-makers. The theme of the conference was securing the homeland against all enemies foreign and domestic. Students were divided into roundtables with topics ranging from weapons of mass destruction, securing America's critical infrastructure, and mitigating economic warfare.

Each group developed a policy proposal over the course of the conference and presented it at the conclusion of the conference. In addition to developing a policy proposal, we had the privilege to hear from speakers such as Admiral Rogers, director of National Security Agency, General Robert B. Neller, the 34<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the USMC, and Dr. Tawfik Hamid, an Islamic scholar. We were also able to form relationships with other delegates and facilitators. Looking back on this conference we were able to learn about challenges that face our nation and the possible solutions to confront these issues which are lessons we will take to the fleet.



# Notre Dame Leadership Conference

MIDN 2/C Waddingham

Notre Dame's 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Naval Leadership Weekend (NLW) was full of opportunities to learn from some of our Navy and Marine Corps' most remarkable leaders. NLW gave MIDN an opportunity to step into an environment outside the classroom that continues their education and training as leaders. This was accomplished by promoting a critical examination of leadership. Speakers such as Admiral Richardson, Admiral Rogers, General Neller, Vice Admiral Grady, Vice Admiral Rowden, and Rear Admiral Evans delved deep into the intricacies of military leadership and proficiency. During the conference, there were also opportunities to speak one-on-one with Junior Officers from the surface, submarine, aviation, Marine Corps, and SEAL communities. With representation from nearly half of the nation's NROTC units, NLW offered an incredible opportunity to network with our future shipmates. After examining different viewpoints and leadership philosophies during the day, we were encouraged to explore the beautiful Notre Dame campus and surrounding attractions. The combination of memorable experiences and the expansion of our familiarity with those who we will fight beside made for a weekend we'll certainly never forget.



# Tulane University Drill Competition

MIDN 2/C Barragan

This February, we had the opportunity to participate in both the color guard and drill team events for the annual drill competition at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. After months of practice, the squad, drill, and color guard teams were ready to compete against major universities and service academies across the nation. We performed with great effort, sharpness and intensity. Our efforts paid-off; we placed second in regulation drill and saw great performances from color guard and squad drill.

After the competition, we had the chance to explore vibrant New Orleans during Mardi Gras. We visited some famous locales and had a thrilling time. I can surely say we all had a great experience, and we'll be sure to have an even better showing next year!





# Hatton-Summers Leadership Conference

The 2017 Hatton-Summers Leadership Conference, hosted on campus, gives students opportunities to network with both civilian and military leaders. This semester the Battalion sponsored three midshipmen for the conference. Leadership exercises such as team building, ethical decision making, and case study discussion on cross-cultural leadership were included in the conference along with several speeches by distinguished leaders.



MIDN 3/C Eckstrom was one of the attendees; here are some of his thoughts on the conference. "This conference broadened my understanding of leadership tools, and how to properly implement them to achieve my goals."

## Explore UT

Local students from elementary to high school come visit the University of Texas for Explore UT. This is an annual event by the university, that aims to inform and motivate young students towards perusing higher education after high school. Several MIDN volunteer for shifts at Explore UT to introduce young students to NROTC. Our midshipmen volunteer to help annually by hosting a rock climbing wall for aspiring college students to challenge themselves both mentally and physically.



# Spring PNS Inspection

The Professor of Naval Science (PNS) Inspection is conducted by the Commanding Officer, Captain Teets. The PNS inspects every MIDN once every semester. Midshipmen donned their Service Dress Blues, well inspected and prepared according to navy regulations, for this inspection.

Battalion inspections tests the professional knowledge and military bearing of every midshipman. They are quizzed over Navy and Marine Corps history, national chain of command structure, and uniform regulations. Dressed in sharp summer whites, these midshipmen are a distinct sight in the early morning outside the UT Tower.

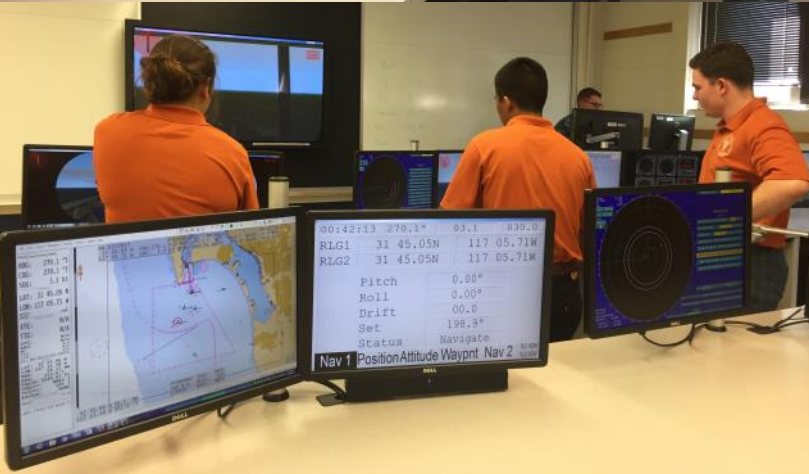




# Surface Warfare Club Ship Simulator Field Trip

The Surface Warfare Club president, MIDN 3/C Trevor Penwell and vice president, MIDN 3/C Hannah Field coordinated with the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University to take a field trip to their campus to see their ship simulator. Six midshipmen traveled to college station with our executive officer, CMDR Brian FitzPatrick, to spend the day using the simulators and getting a taste of what it is like on the bridge of a naval vessel.

These SWO-tivated midshipman practiced and honed their maneuvering and navigation skills on the simulators. They worked together navigate out of the port of San Diego. This required a combined use of visual navigation and the use maneuvering boards to identify hazards and safely get the ship out to sea. They will one day find themselves out in the fleet and think back to this valuable training.





# Navy Field Exercise

MIDN 2/C Carr

The Navy Field Exercise (FEX), hosted by the MECEPs and Marine option MIDN, gave Navy MIDN an introduction to the life of a marine option. The FEX consisted of patrols, confidence courses and delicious MREs. The day started off with the Camp Bullis Confidence Course where MIDN had the opportunity to overcome obstacles, both mentally and physically. Although difficult, the MIDN had the opportunity to push themselves to the next level and to encourage their shipments through various hardships.

After chowing down on MREs, the MIDN learned brief navigation skills, patrolling tactics and formations. We learned that each of these aspects of patrolling are necessary for combating opposing forces. We learned how to approach contacts, attack combatants, and maneuver a fire team. The MIDN then put these new skills to work by going on a patrol. During the patrol, MIDN worked as squads and fire teams to carry out objectives while facing informants, random citizens, and even combatants.

This event, although challenging, allowed for MIDN to gain leadership experience and knowledge and develop their overall aptitude for military service.





**Midshipman's Foundation Breakfast**  
MIDN 2/C Summers

Here are photos from our semi-annual Midshipman's Foundation Breakfast. This event allows 1/C & 2/C Midshipmen as well as graduating MECEPs to enjoy the company of some of the distinguished members of the Midshipman's Foundation including Bob Collins, Max Miller, Jack Ritter, George Blume, and Adm. Weldon Koenig, USN (Ret.). I love events like this because we get to fellowship with people that were formerly in our shoes, not to mention that there always seems to be a vast wealth of leadership experience and great sea stories to hear and learn from as we approach our respective careers. I'm certain that all of the MIDN that attended really appreciate this opportunity to enjoy the conversations and the contributions of the Midshipman's Foundation that allows this event to happen. I look forward to participating again next semester!

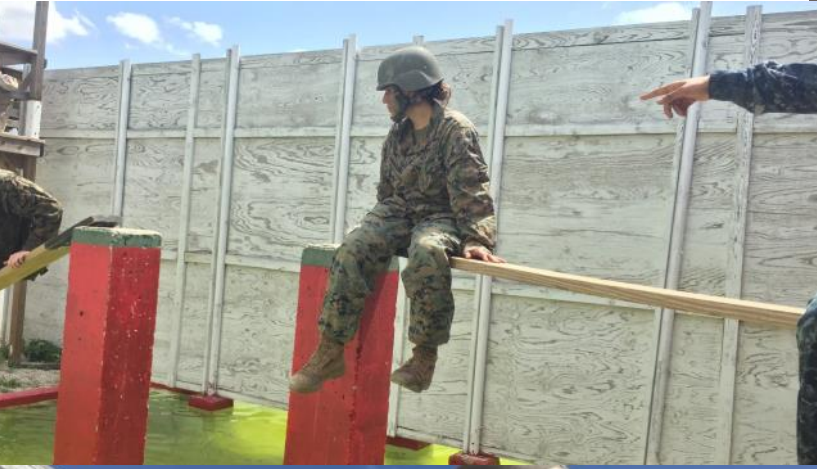


# Yale Leadership Conference

MIDN 2/C Corey

MIDN Carr, Summers, and I attended the 2017 Yale University NROTC Leadership Conference in New Haven, CT. We received some motivating words from now-retired General McCrystal on the importance of understanding an organization's leadership and backbone and how to empower your people to move the organization forward. The following events consisted of South China Sea aggressor simulations in which the attendants analyzed the aggressor and strategized using US forces while considering multiple geo-political perspectives. This is a truly great opportunity to discuss present day issues with other MIDN and guests with diverse backgrounds, and we look forward to making this an annual event.





## Marine Corps FEX

MIDN 1/C Rene Ebarquen

Each semester the Leatherneck Platoon holds a Field Exercise (FEX) in order to train marine option MIDN in preparation for Officer Candidate School (OCS). Their success at OCS determines if they're fit to commission as Marine Corps Officers. The training was conducted at Fort Hood. The FEX was planned and made possible thanks to the work of the upper class Marine option MIDN, who have already passed OCS, and the MECEPs. A select group of Navy option MIDN also volunteer to participate in the FEX to act as opposing forces during the evolution. Overall, it made for some extended training time, but also a great opportunity to engage leadership skills in a time-sensitive environment.



# Final Physical Readiness Test

The final physical readiness test is very important for each midshipman. Those going on cruise must achieve a set score to be allowed to attend. Commissioning seniors must also meet certain requirements to be able to commission. Physical readiness is one of the many factors that makes the US Navy the strongest fighting force in the world. This test challenges the midshipman in three categories; curl-ups, push ups, and a mile and a half run.

PRTs are conducted three times a semester. With each cycle the midshipmen challenge themselves to run faster and push themselves harder. The battalion recognizes its top performers in each category:

Curl-ups: MIDN 1/C Cecilia Beavers, 127

Push-ups: MIDN 1/C Jobin Murickan, 105

1.5 mi run: MIDN 4/C Colin Ward, 9:00

Overall: MIDN 2/C Ryan Carr &  
MIDN 4/C Colin Ward





# Spring Social

MIDN 1/C Cecilia Beavers

As one of our last Battalion events, we enjoyed an evening of dining and leisure upon Lake Austin. To mark the end of another successful year we soaked up the beautiful weather, delicious food and even better company. It was a bitter sweet close to my last semester. It was a peaceful night spent reminiscing about the last four years with some of my closest friends.

The theme of the night was senior sendoff and with commissioning right around the corner it was nice to say some goodbyes. We also recognized our departing Air Warfare Officer, LT Edwards. The incoming Battalion Commanding Officer (BNCO), MIDN 2/C Parker Rost, shared his intent for the coming Fall semester and beyond.

We also heard from the outgoing BNCO, MIDN 1/C Jobin Murickan and CAPT Teets. A Huge thanks goes out to the OIC, MIDN Pagio and her AOIC, MIDN Rogelstad, for organizing this event!



# Spring Commissioning

19 May, 2017

**Cruz Ashe**

Reporting to: The Basic School in Quantico, VA

**Alex Ebarguen**

Reporting to: The Basic School in Quantico, VA

**Christopher Guerra:**

Reporting to: The Basic School in Quantico, VA

**Kevin Rodriguez**

Reporting to : The Basic School in Quantico, VA

**Martin Sanchez Jr.**

Reporting to: The Basic School in Quantico, VA

**Cecilia Beavers:** Naval Aviation  
Reporting to: Pensacola, FL

**Jacob Bishop:** Naval Aviation  
Reporting to: Pensacola, FL

**Conor Martin:** Naval Aviation  
Reporting to: Pensacola, FL

**Jobin Murickan:** Naval Aviation  
Reporting to: Pensacola, FL

**Joshua Ruiz:** Nursing  
Reporting to: Naval Hospital in Guam

**Luis Sanchez:** Surface Warfare  
USS BULKELEY, in Norfolk Virginia









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The  
Longhorn  
Log '17