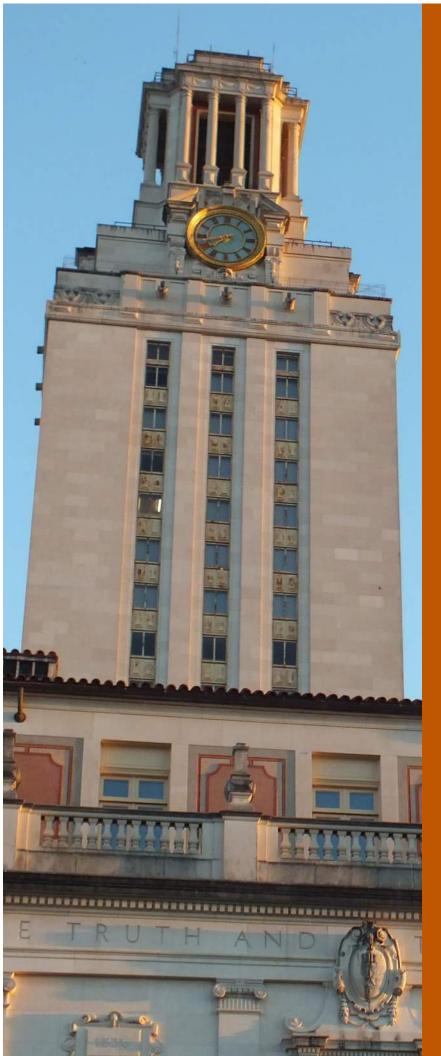


## The University of Texas at Austin Naval ROTC





The Longhorn Log 18-19



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# 11 September 1940

The University of Texas at Austin created the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps in order to develop young men and women, both mentally and physically, for the rigors of service in the Navy and Marine Corps while instilling them with the core values of honor, courage, and commitment.

The program enables each member of the unit to build a foundation with the hopes that it will allow them to be successful throughout their career. This foundation consists of military knowledge, skills, and tactics that are learned throughout the various training environments developed to challenge and grow the capabilities of each midshipman.

The battalion attempts to be as self-sufficient as possible through their service to the several sports teams around campus. This funds annual battalion events such as the Birthday Ball and Mess Night along with several other small events and ensures we can continue to carry on our naval traditions that have been passed down from the generations before us. Events like these and others consisting of the Run to Dallas, President's Cup, and Colorado Drill Meet provide memorable experiences for everyone in the battalion and also shine light on the unit to allow the community know that we are here.

Throughout the year the battalion has stayed true to its roots and developed each midshipman through drill, lead lab, and PT sessions. Not only do these training opportunities allow for self-improvement, but having everyone together enables the members of the battalion to build camaraderie amongst one another and grow the relationships that help make our unit strong.

For many midshipman, the unit is a home away from home as it is the first time that many of them have been separated from their families. Being indoctrinated into military service provides them with a support system that will commend them for their good work and encourage them to get back on track when they have gone wayward.

Naval service is not for the light-hearted and requires unwavering dedication from each individual. UTNROTC is judged by the quality of officers that it commissions each semester, we are confident that every member of our battalion embodies the core values of honor, courage, and commitment and will continue to set a high standard for every Sailor and Marine. Hook 'em horns!

Introduction 3



## Captain David Koss

Captain David E. Koss was commissioned in May 1991 upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy after receiving his Bachelor of Science in Ocean Physics. Following a year "stashed" at Strike Fighter Weapons School Atlantic, he reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida in May of 1992. Upon completion of initial flight training in VT-2, he reported to NAS Meridian Mississippi to fly the T-2 Buckeye and TA-4 Skyhawk with VT-19 and VT-7. He received his wings of gold in March of 1995.

Following completion of the FA-18C Fleet Replacement Squadron training with VMFAT-101 at MCAS El Toro, California, Captain Koss reported to The Golden Warriors of VFA-87 at NAS Cecil Field in Jacksonville, Florida. During his 3-year tour, he completed a Summer Med/Adriatic Sea deployment participating in operations over Iraq and Bosnia-Herzegovina while embarked in USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67).

In February of 1999, Captain Koss reported to Fallon, Nevada for training at TOPGUN. Upon completion, he reported to the VFA-106 Gladiators for a 2-year tour as A Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor and Fleet Replacement Squadron Instructor Pilot. In July of 2001, Captain Koss re-joined VFA-87, embarked in USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65), in the Arabian Gulf. As the Training Officer, he flew missions in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. A year later, he "fleeted up" to Department Head with the Golden Warriors, went back to sea embarked in USS ROOSEVELT (CVN 71), and flew missions in support Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

In December of 2004, Captain Koss reported as Air and Maritime Planner to Standing Joint Force Headquarters, U.S. Pacific Command at Camp Smith Hawaii. He completed a 2-year tour at SJFHQ, participating in numerous Multi-National exercises within the Pacific Theater. In November of 2007, Captain Koss reported to VFA-122 to conduct training in the FA-18E. Upon completion, he reported In July of 2007 to VFA-14 as Executive Officer.

In November of 2008, Captain Koss assumed Command of the Tophatters and completed an 8-month deployment embarked in USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) supporting Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. In May of 2010, Captain Koss turned over command of the Tophatters and reported to VFA-125 to retrain in the FA-18C. In September of 2010, he reported to the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels. In May of 2011, he left the Blue Angels and reported as Executive Assistant to the Director of Air Warfare in the Pentagon. Following a year in the Pentagon, he reported to the National War College where he was awarded a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies.

In August 2013, CAPT Koss reported to Strike Fighter Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet as Deputy Commodore and subsequently assumed command of the largest Type Wing in the U.S. Navy in December 2014. After serving 18 months as the Commodore, he reported to the Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific staff as the Readiness Officer (N40). Following a two year tour focusing on manning, training and equipping challenges within Naval Aviation he reported to his current position serving as Professor of Naval Science and Commanding Officer of the ROTC unit at the University of Texas.



## Commander George Floyd

Commander George Allen Floyd hails Southeast Texas. Immediately following high school graduation, CDR Floyd began undergraduate studies in biology pre-medicine at the University of Texas in Austin. After four years of undergraduate studies, he joined the Navy in May of 1989, attending boot camp in Orlando, Florida as a Machinist's Mate.

Following boot camp, CDR Floyd attended and completed Nuclear Field A School and Nuclear Power School, also in Orlando. He then qualified Mechanical Operator at the S1C prototype in Windsor, CT. He was awarded a four-year NROTC scholarship to attend Prairie View A&M University where he earned a Bachelor's of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1994. He earned a Masters in Epidemiology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2001.

His sea tours include assignment as Communications / CMS Custodian / Assistant Safety Officer aboard USS THORN (DD 988), followed by assignment as Reactor Mechanical Division Officer / Repair 7 Locker Officer aboard USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN69) from November 1997 to May 2000. He was next detailed as the Operations Officer aboard USS GARY (FFG-51) homeported in Yokosuka, Japan as a member of 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet Forward Deployed Naval Forces where he completed qualification as TAO from August 2002 to March 2004. He next transferred to USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) as the Reactor Training Assistant, Surface Warfare Officer program coordinator and Senior Watch Officer Coordinator for Reactor Department, and Professional Nuclear Engineering (PNEO) program coordinator from April 2004 until December 2007. He then served as Executive Office for USS KIDD (DDG-100). Following his tour aboard KIDD, he then transferred to USS NIMITZ (CVN68) where he served as Assistant Reactor Officer from March 2011 until December 2013.

His shore assignments include Naval Nuclear Power School in Orlando, FL, where he completed the Officer Program for the Naval Nuclear training program. He next attended and completed the prerequisite prototype training in Ballston Spa, New York at the MARF prototype facility. He next reported to the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command Cruise Missile Support Activity as the Automated Data Processing Center Division Officer. While stationed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, he also completed his Master's Degree in Public Health (Epidemiology). On his transfer from the Cruise Missile Support Activity, he attended the Surface Warfare Officer's School Department Head Course in Newport, Rhode Island. While attached to USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN, he completed a 10 month IA assignment to IRAQ ISO the counter RCIED effort. His next shore assignment was to Commander Naval Air Forces (CNAF) staff for Carrier Maintenance (N43) where he served as Maintenance Coordinator for USS CARL VINSON (CVN70). He completed Senior Course 124 at the NATO DEFENSE College in Rome from Jan-Jul 2014. He served as Director of Surface Operations for Military Sealift Command Europe and Africa / Combined Task Force 63 from August 2014-June 2017. He is currently serving as the Executive Officer / Associate Professor of Naval Science at the University of Texas (Austin) NROTC program.

CDR Floyd has been married to his wife Jennifer since 2004, and they share three beautiful daughters.



## Captain Anthony Gantt

Captain Anthony Gantt was born and raised in Florida. After graduating from Miami Coral Park Senior in June of 1998 he attended Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU). In September of 1999, Captain Gantt enlisted in the **Selective Marine Corps Reserve and completed** Marine Corps Recruit training in Beaufort, South Carolina in January of 2000. Immediately following recruit training he completed Marine **Corps Combat Training in Jacksonville, North** Carolina and later would complete the basic M1A1 Tank Crewman course in Fort Knox, Kentucky. After serving as a reservist for two years Captain **Gantt reenlisted onto active duty in April of 2003** and reported to 2nd Tank Battalion, Camp LeJeune, North Carolina.

Captain Gantt served as an enlisted Marine for ten years and obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant. During that time he served as M1A1 Tank Commander, Platoon Sergeant, Martial Arts instructor, and Command Financial Specialist Instructor.

In 2005 Captain Gantt was selected for the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program. As such, he returned to Tallahassee, Florida and received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Florida A&M University in April 2010.

Captain Gantt received his commission post-graduation and reported to The Basic School (TBS) in Quantico, Virginia. Captain Gantt graduated from TBS April of 2011 and reported to Air Support Control Officer Course. Captain Gantt's assignments were with Marine Air Support Squadron 3, Marine Air Control Group 18, Marine Air Support Squadron 2, and Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262 (Reinforced). He has served as a Company Executive Officer, Squadron Assistant Operations Officer, Company Commander, Group Assistant Future Operations Officer, and Detachment Commander for the Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262 (REIN) in support of the 31ST Marine Expeditionary Unit 2016-2017 deployment.

He has been married to Novia for seventeen years and together they have six beautiful children.



## Lieutenant Jonathan Hemler

Lieutenant Jonathan J. Hemler, a native of Central Pennsylvania, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science.

After commissioning, LT Hemler reported to NAS Pensacola, FL for initial flight training in 2012 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 2013. He reported to Norfolk, VA and completed flight training in the MH-60S with the "Fleet Angels" of HSC-2 in 2014.

In April of 2014, LT Hemler became a proud member of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 28 (HSC-28) in Norfolk, VA. As a "Dragon Whale" he deployed in support of the 24th MEU to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations onboard the USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7).

LT Hemler deployed once again in 2015 with a shore-based detachment to NSA Naples, Italy and served onboard USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) supporting U.S. 6th Fleet operations in the Baltic Sea. He concluded his tour at HSC-28 serving as Assistant Operations Officer until April 2017.

LT Hemler reported to the University of Texas NROTC in May 2017 as an Assistant Professor of Naval Science and air officer. He is married to Elise Hemler.



# 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).



## Lieutenant John Bolchoz

Lieutenant John R. Bolchoz, III, a native of Columbia, SC, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Weapons and Systems Engineering.

He reported to Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC) in Charleston, South Carolina to begin training for Submarine duty. LT Bolchoz graduated from NNPTC in May 2014. Following completion at NNPTC, LT Bolchoz attended Prototype training at

NPTU Charleston. In January 2015, following completion at NPTU Charleston, LT Bolchoz transferred to Submarine Officer Basic Course (SOBC) in Groton, CT.

LT Bolchoz reported to USS North Dakota (SSN 784) in March 2015. During his tour, he served as the Main Propulsion Assistant, Reactor Controls Assistant, Quality Assurance Officer, and Assistant Operations Officer. He completed one Mediterranean deployment as well as Post-Shakedown Availability at Electric Boat shipyard. Following three years on the USS North Dakota, LT Bolchoz transferred to the PCU South Dakota (SSN 790) in February 2018. He completed the new construction process, sea trials, and commissioning in February 2019.



## Gunnery Sergeant Samuel Linares

Samuel J. Linares was born and raised in Yuma, Arizona.

He enlisted on September 11, 2006 and underwent recruit training at Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California.

In February 2007, Private First Class Linares completed Marine Combat Training at Camp Pendleton, CA. In March 2007, Private First Class Linares completed Enlisted Supply Basic School at Camp Johnson, NC. He was ordered to 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, Twentynine Palms, CA, for duty where he completed two combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in the Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Lance

Corporal Linares was "Combat Meritoriously" promoted to the rank of Corporal while deployed. He served in a variety of billets from Fiscal Clerk to Unit Movement Coordination Chief.

Corporal Linares was promoted to the rank of Sergeant February 1, 2010. Sergeant Linares was transferred in February 2010 to Logistics Policy Division, Training and Education Command, Quantico, VA. Outside of his primary duties as a Table of Organization and Equipment Change Request Clerk, he was assigned numerous duties to include; Commanding General Inspection Program for supply, TECOM Color Sergeant, and Training NCO.

In September 2012, Sergeant Linares received orders to Drill Instructor School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC. Upon completion of Drill Instructor School, he was assigned to Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, as a Drill Instructor, Senior Drill Instructor, and Chief Drill Instructor. During Sgt Linares tour on Parris Island he served as an Academics Instructor, Physical Training Instructor, and Academics Testing SNCOIC for Instructional Training Company, Support Battalion. Sergeant Linares was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant on December 1, 2014. Staff Sergeant Linares completed his B.A. In Transportation and Logistics Management from the American Military University on December 12, 2014.

Staff Sergeant Linares was transferred in December 2015 to 1st Tank Battalion to serve as the Supply Section Chief. During SSgt Linares' tour with 1st Tank Battalion he served as the battalion supply chief and was subject to multiple inspections by Field Supply and Maintenance Analysis Office (FSMAO) and Logistics Readiness Evaluation (LRE) receiving above the 90th percentile with no findings on all occasions. Staff Sergeant Linares was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant on February 1, 2018.

Gunnery Sergeant Linares was transferred in March 2018 to the University of Texas at Austin to serve as the Assistant Marine Officer Instructor for the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps.

# Unit Staff

2018-2019







XO



**AIRO** 



MOI



**SUBO** 



**SUBO** 



**AMOI** 



# Fall 2018

## Battalion









### **Battalion Commanding Officer Battalion Executive Officer**

**Company Commander** 

**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 Ravichandran

1/C Bayliss

1/C Rogelstad

1/C Wagner

2/C Staton

2/C Steele

1/C Penwell

2/C Wright

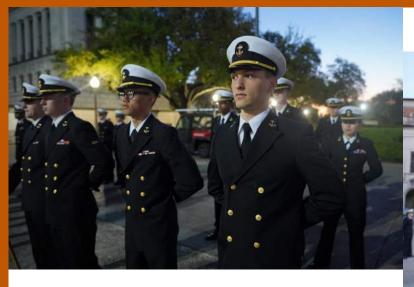
1/C Thompson

**OC** Largent

1/C Quach

2/C Ward

1/C Casey





# Spring 2019

## Battalion







### **Battalion Commanding Officer Battalion Executive Officer**

**Company Commander** 

**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 Thompson

1/C Penwell

2/C Mauk

1/C Quach

2/C Ward

SSgt Kellogg

2/C Staton

SSgt Mascorro

2/C Wilson

SSgt Gonzalez

2/C Hicks

2/C Wright

2/C Burds

### 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.

#### Spring 2019

#### MIDN 1/C Chandler Casey

Hometown

Floresville, TX

Major

**Political Science** 

**Reporting To** 

The Basic School





#### GySgt Cesar Gonzalez

Hometown

Edwards, CO

Major

Mexican American studies and history

**Reporting To** 

The Basic School

#### SSgt Duane Kampa

Hometown

St. Paul, MN

Major

History and philosophy

**Reporting To** 

The Basic School



#### Spring 2019



#### MIDN 1/C Trevor Penwell

Hometown

Westport, CT

Major

Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian studies

**Reporting To** 

USS MUSTIN (DDG 89)

#### MIDN 1/C Samuel Quach

**Hometown** 

Sugar Land, TX

Major

Biology

**Reporting To** 

USS New Orleans (LPD 18)



#### MIDN 1/C Jagannathan Ravichandran

**Hometown** 

Chennai, India

Major

Mathematics

**Reporting To** 

NAS Pensacola





#### MIDN 1/C Megan Rogelstad

Hometown

Seoul, South Korea

Major

Biochemistry

**Reporting To** 

USS WINSTON S. CHURCHILL (DDG 81)

#### MIDN 1/C Alex Thompson

Hometown

Gulf Breeze, FL

Major

Mechanical Engineering
Reporting To
NAS Pensacola



#### Summer 2019

#### SSgt Hector Gonzalez

Hometown

El Paso, TX

Major

Psychology Reporting To

The Basic School



# Midshipmen and MECEPs

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.

2<sub>/C</sub>

Jeffrey **Burds** Robert **Hicks** 





Steven **Keenan**OC Tyrone **Johnson** 





Ryan **Mauk** Brendan **Nash** Joshua **Staton** 







Robert Steele Elias Terrazas Colin Ward Matias Wilson









OC Cara **Wallace** Ashley **Wright** 





2/C MIDN 23





Jazzlyn **Birk-Cockburn** Bailey **Blackwell** 







OC Christopher **Bowling** Hunter **Carman** 







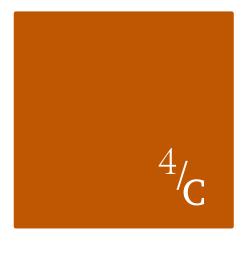
Zachary **Cartwright**Dalton **Draeger**Adam **Hostak** 





Joseph **Mpande** Peter **Walker** 





Nicolas **Bahier** Abigail **Gammon** 





Noah **Gildersleeve** Reed **Herzog** 





Kelly **Jackson**Margaret **Kadlec**Chase **Lowe** 







Joseph Martinez Jack Roberts Joseph Sharpee Eli Skop









Patrick **Smith** Niklaus **Zora** 





4/C MIDN 25





SSgt Jesse Adkins SSgt Anthony Biggs





**SSgt** Samuel **Kellogg SSgt** Marc **Mascorro** 







SSgt Christopher Merrill Sgt Caleb Miller



Sgt Mitchell Rice



## Alumni Awards

#### Crawford and Hattie Jackson

SSgt Mascorro, 2/c Mauk, 1/C Quach, 1/C Rogelstad

#### **FADM Nimitz**

1/C Thompson, 1/C Wagner FADM
King

2/C Staton, 2/C Steele

W. Robert and Jody R. Brown
3/C Walker

LtGen Gray, MajGen Haynes 1/C Casey

Crow's Nest Co-Op Former Residents

1/C Bayliss

1st Lt James A. Burns

1/C Bayliss

Keys A. Curry, Jr.

**OC Largent** 

#### **CAPT Max K. Miller**

SSgt Kellogg, 1/C Ravichandran, OC Wallace

RADM Clay W. G. Fulcher

2/C Burds, 2/C Terrazas

**Four Chaplains** 

3/C Cartwright

**RADM J. Weldon and Nancy Koenig** 

3/C Hostak

**LtCol Armstrong** 

1/C Bayliss

**CAPT Rodney and Mary Koenig** 2/

C Staton

Jesse M. Adkins, M.D.

Sgt Biggs

**CAPT Jack and Mary Ritter** 

2/C Steele

John and Sandra Hitchcock

3/C Blackwell







Kenneth J. Leo

OC Johnson

**Kenneth and Majorie Moore** 

1/C Rogelstad

Wayne E. Miers

GySgt Gonzalez, 1/C Penwell

**CAPT H. Malcolm MacDonald** 

3/C Carman

**James and Miriam Mulva** 

SSgt Adkins, 3/C Blackwell, 2/c Hicks, 2/C Keenan, 3/C Mpande, 1/C Ravichandran, 2/C Rerrazas, 1/C Thompson, 2/C Wilson, 2/C Wright

**CDR Edwin and Terry Mergele** 

3/C Kampa

**RADM Robert M. Moore** 

SSgt Kampa

LtGen D'Wayne Gray

1/C Casey

**ADM John Alvis** 

1/C Thompson

**UT Naval ROTC Alumni** 

OC Bowling, 2/C Burds, 1/C Casey, SSgt Gonzalez, 2/C Keenan, OC Largent, 2/C Ward, 2/C Wilson, SSgt Wiseman

John W. Wildenthal

1/C Penwell

Col. Kengla and Col. LaGrone

1/C Ravichandran

John "Rusty" Allman

1/C Quach

**CDR Tom Williams** 

1/C Penwell

Navy League 1/C Ravichandran

USAA Spirit Award
SSgt Gonzales , 1/C Penwell

Veterans of Foreign Wars
OC Bowling

American Legion Award 4/C Herzog, 2/C Mauk, 3/C Walker, 4/C Zora

#### Martin Dies Jr.

SSgt Adkins, SSgt Mascorro, 2/C terrazas, 2/C Wilson

Military Order of the Purple Heart

3/C Draeger

**Patman** 

OC Johnson, OC Wallace







Society of the War of 1812 3/C Blackwell

> Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) 3/C Steele

Daughters of the American
Revolution (DAR)

2/C Wright

Son of the Republic of Texas

1/C Bayliss

Graduate

1/C Thompson

Military Officers
Association of America
2/C Burds

# Battalion Member Mofthe Month

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!



MIDN 4/C Reed Herzog September



MIDN 3/C Bailey Blackwell October



MIDN 2/C Elias Terrazas November



MIDN 2/C Steve Keenan February



MIDN 3/C Zachary Cartwright March



MIDN 4/C Kelly Jackson April

Fall 2018

#### **NSO**

Over the course of four days, new midshipmen were introduced to the unit through an orientation program led by current midshipmen. They went through classes, drill, and physical events to test their abilities and prepare them for life in the battalion as future Navy and Marine Corps Officer. They completed an initial strength test, obstacle course, culminating event, swim qualification, platoon commander inspection, and a motivating campus run. On the last day, the new midshipmen took the oath in front of their families and ended the event with a unit wide barbecue.







August 2018



#### **Run to Dallas**

For over 30 years, the battalion has been running the Red River Rivalry game ball to the steps of the Cotton Bowl from the UT Tower. This event tests the toughness of our battalion while building camaraderie over the course of three days. Our midshipmen began running at the end of the Texas Fight Rally and ran through the night into the next day, combing a total of over 500 miles. Our midshipmen met up with the Oklahoma battalion at the Cotton Bowl for a run into the Texas State Fair to deliver the game ball. Afterwards, the two battalions competed in a few friendly games of soccer, tug-o-war, a medley relay, and the traditional flag football game.







#### **Service Selection**

Every year during the fall semester, the senior class is selected for what community they will join after commissioning. It is the culmination of three years of hard work and dedication in academics, physical fitness, and leadership training.



October 2018 36

# **Birthday Ball**

On October 27th, UT NROTC celebrated the 243rd birthday of the Navy and Marine Corps. Held in the Texas Union Ballroom, members of the battalion and their dates enjoyed the ceremony to commemorate our service, traditions, and all those who have volunteered their service, past and present. The battalion had the privilege of listening to a speech given by RADM Daniel L. Cheever, Commander Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center. Happy 243rd Birthday to the Navy and Marine Corps!





37 October 2018





October 2018 38



### **Alumni Weekend**

Alumni Weekend is a time where current battalion members get the chance to interact with many of our alumni and gain insight in leadership. Our alumni support the battalion in many ways. During the fall, the battalion kicked off Alumni Weekend with an Awards Ceremony that recognized many battalion members for their outstanding hard work and dedication to the program. After the ceremony was a traditional barbecue where good food and stories were shared between current and past battalion members. Afterwards, many headed off to the Veteran's Day football game.





# Spring 2019

# **SWO Ship Selection**

From February 20th to the 22nd, the battalion was buzzing as we were experiencing Ship Selection. Ship Selection is the first step a Surface Warfare Officer takes in their career as they decide where their first duty station will be. MIDN 1/C Penwell, MIDN 1/C, and MIDN 1/C Rogelstad welcomed the support of their peers and friends as they made their biggest decision to date. Luckily each one of them received one of their top choices and were ecstatic as they came a little closer to commissioning.

MIDN 1/C Penwell will be reporting to the USS Mustin, MIDN 1/C will be reporting to the USS New Orleans, and MIDN 1/C Rogelstad will be reporting to the USS Winston S. Churchill.



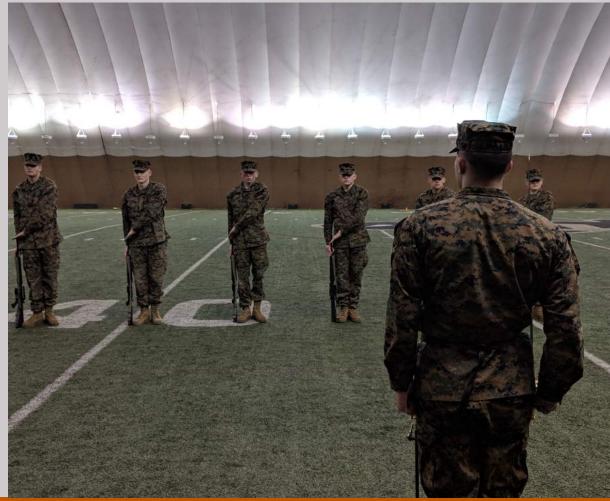


February 2019 41



## **Colorado Drill Meet**

The Colorado drill meet is one of the biggest events for the battalion. This meet serves as the opportunity for the unit to test its capabilities against other NROTC units around the country. Our members train from months out in order to compete against other units in squad drill, an endurance race, and marksmanship.



42 March 2019

### **INSPECTIONS**

Throughout March, the battalion prepared for two inspections. We conducted the BNCO inspection first, where the Midshipman Battalion Commander inspected those under his charge to ensure that they would be ready for the PNS inspection. During the PNS inspection, the BNCO presented the unit to the Commanding Officer as he thoroughly examined each uniform and questioned members of the unit to confirm the unit was heading in the right direction under the BNCO's charge.







March 2019 43



44 March 2019







Throughout the semester, we hold a battalion lead lab. These weekly sessions are aimed towards educating the battalion in the multiple topics consisting of military training, drill, and decision making tools. Lead lab provides members of the battalion with the opportunity to brief their peers and leadership in order to gain confidence. Being in front of others helps develop the professionalism needed in order to communicate with their subordinates once they take on leadership positions of their own after commissioning.

During lead lab we also had the privilege of having visits from ADM Grady and ADM McRaven that offered unique perspectives on military life and the complexities of being a leader.



March 2018 45

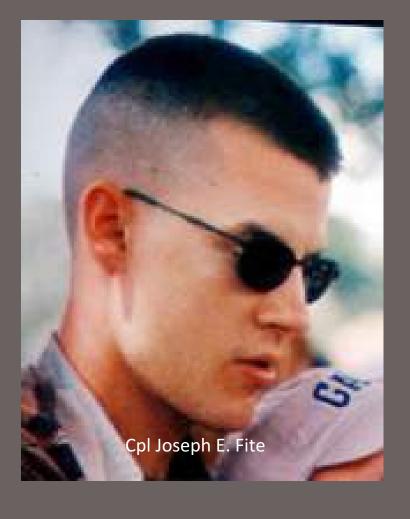
### **SPRING FEX**

On April 12th, the Leatherneck Platoon had the opportunity of conducting a Joint Field Training Exercise with the UT Army ROTC at Camp Swift. The Marine options have a different path for their career that requires them to be more tactically proficient. As future Marine Corps Officers they will be the head of the spear and will be required to lead their troops into combat. Officer Candidate School (OCS) is where they will be evaluated and screened on whether or not they possess the capabilities to fulfill their desired roles. Throughout the weekend, the midshipmen were trained in tactics, marksmanship, and other areas intended to prepare them for OCS and build upon the foundations needed to be successful throughout their careers.





46 April 2019





### **MESS NIGHT**

Mess Night is a tradition that was birthed by the Knights of the Round Table and that was introduced to the Marine Corps by the British Royal Marines in 1953. While for many Mess Night is a time to let loose and socialize in our finest uniform with our brothers and sisters in arms, the purpose is to recognize all those that laid the path before us and paid the ultimate sacrifice. Throughout the evening we toast and celebrate in their memory.

It was requested that no photos be taken of this event in order to preserve the atmosphere of the tradition. I chose to honor those that were alumni of our unit and that have passed from unfortunate mishaps and also from their involvement in our most recent conflicts.



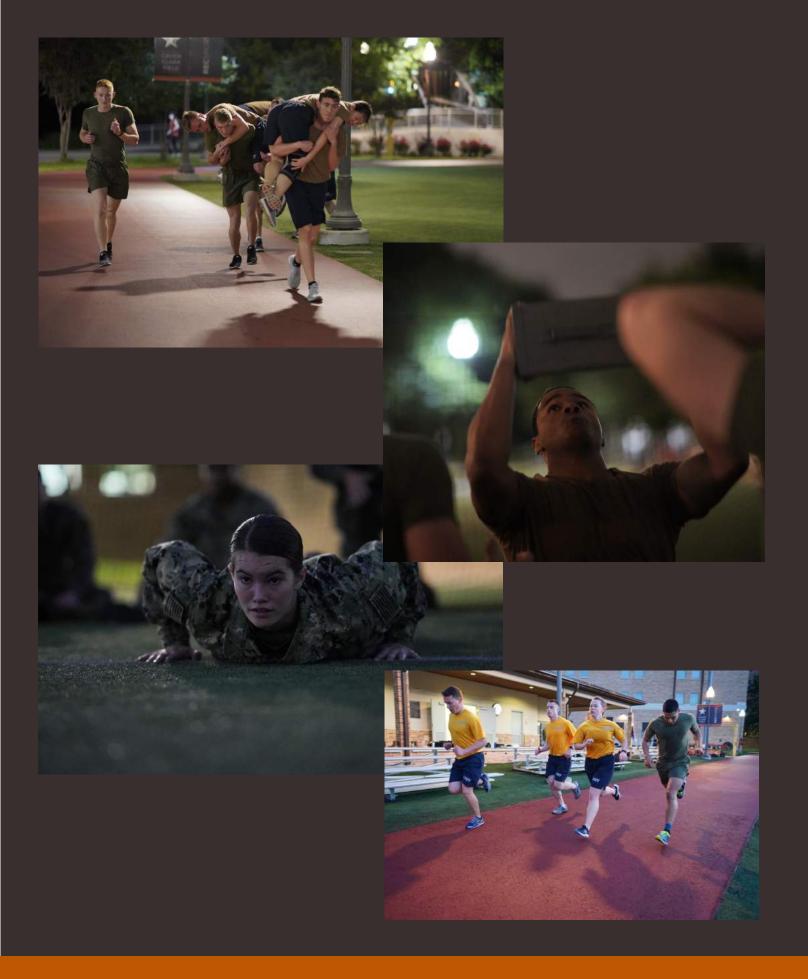
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### **PRESIDENT'S CUP**

The President's Cup is the battalion's opportunity to prove itself as the top dog around campus. Throughout the three-day competition, we compete against the Air Force and the Army ROTCs to determine who has bragging rights until the next year. We competed in events such as tire flips, tug-of-war, murph, crossfit relay, 4 x 400 relay, combat fitness test, and the Mogadishu Mile. While everyone competed fiercely, we did not come out on top this time around, but we did have the opportunity to build upon our camaraderie and bring our battalion closer together. Everyone has something to be proud of and we will continue to work to finish on top next year!





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# **Change of Command**

MIDN 1/C Thompson successfully led the battalion throughout the events during the Spring semester and served as an example to others. MIDN 2/C Terrazas was selected as the new Battalion Commander and received the guidon from his predecessor. This action signifies that he has been entrusted with the confidence that he will lead the battalion by inspiring those under his charge through his leadership and work ethic.



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# **Spring Commissioning**

Throughout their time at UT, the knowledge, leadership, and training that each individual has received has brought them to this moment.

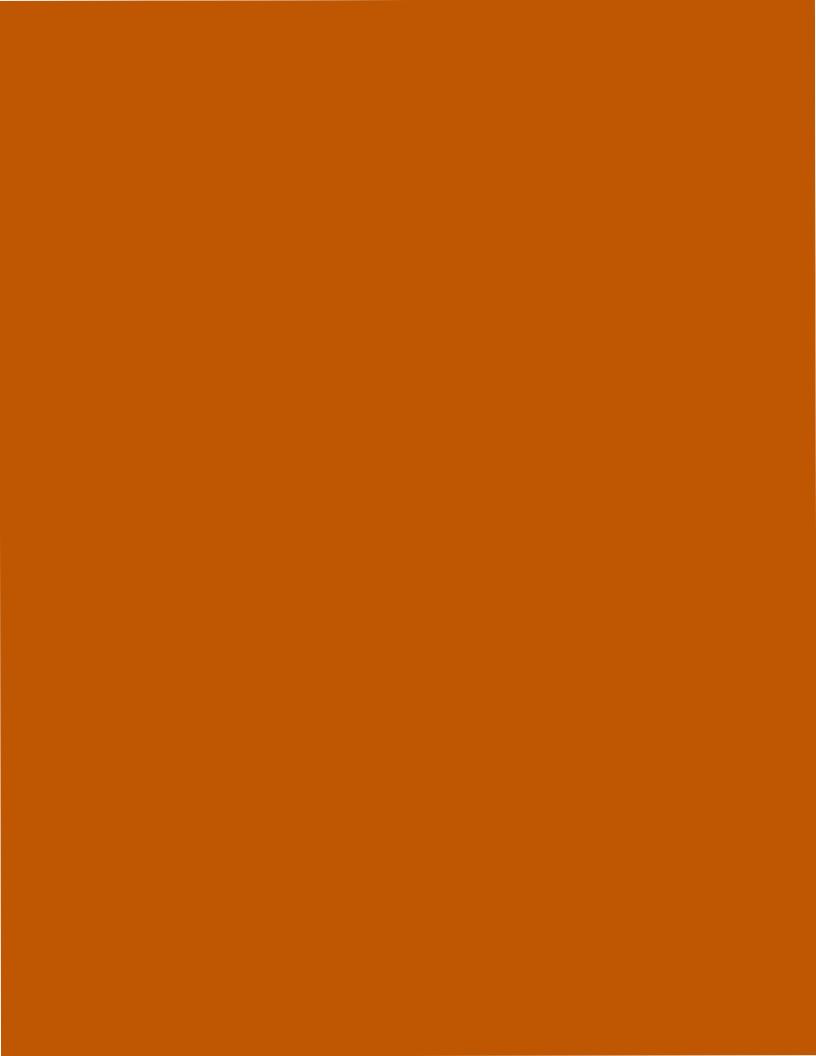
Commissioning is the moment that everyone works for when they are finally able to wear those gold bars. At this time, all the hard work finally seems worth it, but it is just the beginning. Every one of the commissionees is now recommitting to be part of something bigger than themselves and be an example to those that will be looking to them for guidance.



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