New Student Orientation

A week before school began, the NC State Naval ROTC unit began preparing a fresh batch of future Naval and Marine Corps officers for the next four years of their life. Jam-packed with an introduction to college life, physical fitness, the all-important academics, and the ways of the battalion, New Student Orientation (NSO) was a week of briefs, sweat, and success. Run quite differently from past NSOs, squad leaders and battalion midshipmen assisted the new midshipmen in learning customs and courtesies, basic drill, uniform wear, and PQS knowledge. Armed with books and wrinkled uniforms, the incoming fourth-class (4/C) were engaged in many activities to build teamwork and camaraderie. From swim qualifications to learning how to iron a uniform, NSO helps teach midshipmen how to transfer from the student mentality to the all-encompassing midshipman mentality. Unlike most incoming freshmen, 4/C will juggle early morning workouts, difficult curricula, PQS boards, and an overwhelming flow of information this first semester. When asked about his NSO experience, incoming 4/C Mendelow said that NSO was an intense transition from civilian life to that of a midshipman where he formed strong bonds with his fellow 4/C. He also said that the battalion came off as professional and disciplined, making him more eager to meet the rest of the battalion.

At the conclusion of the week, you could see that the squad leaders had done an outstanding job preparing these midshipmen, as they crushed the UNC Tar Heels’ incoming 4/C in mock Sea Trials. The Sea Trials consisted of several team-building exercises followed by a fast-paced PQS knowledge knockout game. MIDN 3/C Buschmann, a squad leader at NSO, noted that it is key to be the example. “If you show up wanting to impart that knowledge, they will catch on to your motivation,” she said when asked about the mock trials. The winning squad gave a pumped and excited air to the 4/C as they closed up NSO; you could tell that everyone was extremely excited for the semester to begin.

Academic Excellence
Awarded to Midshipmen with a GPA in the top 20% of the Battalion.

Futreal
Bushchmann
Glynn
Radzinski
DeOre, A
DeOre, R
Powell
Coleman
Crump
Cumbo
Curtis
Kloecker
On August 20th, 2014, the battalion had their first Naval Lab and wasted no time in getting back into the swing of things. Midshipman Crump began lab by introducing all of the fourth-class (4/C) to the battalion, as well as her staff. The fall semester’s staff is Commanding Officer Crump, Executive Officer Kloecker, Sergeant Major Pennington, Alpha Company Commander Klecker, Bravo Company Commander Trippe, Adjutant Curtis, Academics Officer Cumbo, Operations Officer Coleman, Logistics Officer Berlin, Supply Officer Foushee, Physical Training Officer Lynch, and Assistant Operations Officer Via. The introduction of the staff reminds the battalion that the “watch never stops”; someone is always in command.

Pressing on with customary practice, exceptional midshipmen of the battalion were recognized for the Academic and Physical Fitness awards. The academic awards include achieving the top 20 or 40 percent in the battalion while the Physical Fitness award consists of scoring 285 and higher or Outstanding on their Physical Fitness/Readiness Test. The list was extensive, a tradition and a point of pride for NC State’s NROTC. CAPT D.E. Wright reinforced this by reading off the grade point averages of each class and the overall battalion average, which was significantly higher than the University average.

Then the Academics Officer, MIDN Cumbo, gave the annual academics brief.

Midshipman Crump outdid herself with the icebreakers, a new addition to the usual introduction lab. The battalion broke into platoons to compete against each other in timed events. These events included a Personal Qualification Standards competition, quizzing the 4/C on their knowledge while refreshing the upperclassmen’s, and a race to sort by birthday, height, and alphabetically. Overall, Alpha 2 came out on top but it was a great way to interact with the fourth-class and reconnect with our peers.

-MIDN 3/C Ashley Satterwhite

From right to left: MIDN Radzinski, MIDN Crump, OC Futreal, MIDN Buschmann, MIDN Glynn, MIDN DeOre, A., MIDN DeOre, R., MIDN Endres, MIDN Lockhart, MIDN Spaeth.
On Wednesday, August 27th, the NCSU NROTC battalion congregated for the second lab for the new school year. It began as many labs do, forming up at the IM fields. This was only the second time the new billet holders and 4/C had formed up for lab, so there was some small confusion as to how everything operated. The upperclassman offered some advice on where to stand and the 4/C followed as the battalion was called to attention. After accountability was taken, the battalion fell out to Carmichael Gym to carry out the plan of the day.

The battalion crowded into Carmichael 104 for the first activity, summer cruise briefs. The briefs included each of the different types of cruises that midshipmen were able to attend. MIDN 1/C Noyes and MIDN 2/C Van Der Werff, Marine options, briefed the battalion on Officer Candidate School and Mountain Warfare School respectively. These cruises were action packed and tested the midshipmen physically and mentally. MIDN 3/C Satterwhite then briefed on the CORTRAMID cruise. This cruise had the most variety, as the 3/C were able to experience all the communities available to them upon commissioning. The 4/C seemed highly interested in this brief because most knew that this cruise was going to be their first. MIDN 1/C Curtis gave a very interesting brief about her cruise in the Mediterranean with the Greek Navy. There were many questions asked about this brief because it is rare for midshipman to be able to do a foreign exchange cruise. The final briefs were 1/C and 2/C Navy option briefs about aviation, submarine, surface, and surface nuke cruises given by MIDN 1/C Wallace, MIDN 1/C Howard, MIDN 2/C Foushee, and MIDN 2/C Ahlers respectively. Immediately following these briefs we moved on to the next event, the hazing GMT.

LT Meek briefed the battalion on the hazing and the Navy’s policies towards hazing. In summary, hazing is not tolerated nor encouraged by Navy. LT Meek asked for examples and questions, and many of the midshipmen gave personal examples that made the discussion more informative. After the brief we broke out by platoons and held discussions. CAPT Wright sat in on one of the discussions and gave valuable information regarding the subject, explaining that training had a purpose for the entire organization, while hazing was doing things with no higher purpose. After these discussions, the midshipmen were dismissed to carry on with their day.

-MIDN 3/C Elias
Joint PT

A strong inter-service relationship is crucial to mission success, and at NC State the relationship between each service continues to be strengthened through joint PT. This semester, the Naval ROTC Battalion conducted a joint PT with the Air Force ROTC battalion. The exercises were led by Midshipman First-Class Lynch, Midshipman First-Class Noyes, and Cadet Haigler. Each service was broken up according to class and integrated with the other. This was done to allow Midshipmen and Cadets to form bonds and learn how the other branch conducts PT. The evolution was physically challenging, and Midshipmen and Cadets walked away with new friendships and a greater appreciation for their sister service.

-MIDN 2/C Andrew Thompson

IM Pool Battleship

On 24 SEP, the IM Pool Battleship team faced off against other-university teams.

Pictured: MIDN Taylor, MIDN Lockhart, MIDN Feroce

Pictured above: MIDN 4/C and AFROTC Freshmen.
**3 SEP 14 Lab**

A Leadership Reaction course, or LRC, is a series of activities that test the ability for someone to lead a group through challenge. These courses are used to evaluate leadership styles and help promote good leadership habits as well as correcting bad habits. The activity could be something as simple as identifying items to something complex as moving objects without getting close to them. In one of the stations in the LRC we learned the Marine Corps Five Paragraph Order, which is one of the most effective strategies to explain a situation to subordinates and was used to aid everyone in the courses. At the end of each activity, we took time to debrief and talk about what went well and what did not. This year, many 4/C took charge and led their squads through the course. While they were not always successful, this provided a great learning opportunity for them and helped advance the entire squad in leadership techniques.

-MIDN 3/C Taylor

Pictured: (above) MIDN Lockhart leads Alpha 1-1, and Alpha 2-1 through a LRC (right) SSgt Browning leads Bravo Company through platoon drill

**10 SEP 14 Lab**

Lab’s platoon-led Tactical Decision Game (TDG) gave 4/C Midshipmen their first opportunity to observe the planning and critical thinking processes needed to conduct the End of Year Exercise (EOYE). Guided by platoon level leadership, each platoon worked through the provided scenario and designed an appropriate Course of Action (COA) which would achieve all the objectives efficiently and effectively. This will be an important skill when faced with the more complex scenario we will be tasked with at the end of the semester. The situation: an allied ship is grounded and in need of assistance while they conduct repairs. Situated in a littoral area, navigating through shallow channels between islands and through fishing areas is a navigation concern that must be taken into account. Furthermore, pirates have been known to operate near the grounded ship and must be accounted for. The mission and execution of the TDG: each platoon must make a COA to move your assets (1 DDG, 2

**IM Volleyball**

The IM Volleyball team is facing another IM team from the university.

Pictured: MIDN Farrow, MIDN Carr, MIDN Feroce

A HUGE thank you to our team members:

MIDN Farrow
MIDN Hack
MIDN Carlyon
MIDN Carr
MIDN Feroce
MIDN Hoople
MIDN Hoople
MIDN Mendelow
MIDN Taylor
Congratulations to Staff Sergeant Duke!

This semester, SSgt Duke was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, an award given to members of the Armed Forces for meritorious service, achievement, and performance.

SSgt’s award lists, among many other reasons, his successes in training more than 1,800 entry-level Marines, during nine classes, in two training companies while serving as a Combat Instructor and Platoon Sergeant at the Infantry Training Battalion, Training Command, Camp Lejeune. During his time as a machinegun section leader, his Marines achieved the highest overall average in the Battalion.

SSgt Duke’s initiative, perseverance, and dedication to his service is an inspiration to the Battalion, and we are grateful to have his mentorship.

17 SEP 14 Lab

The battalion was once again involved in a great lab on September 17 thanks to the hard work of our operations staff. Midshipmen gathered at the Schenck Memorial Forest to engage in leadership-building activities that were designed to test adaptability and build teamwork. Some of the activities included transporting water, transporting personnel, fitting personnel onto a small surface, and moving a midshipman through dangerous terrain. The facilitators gave each group a chance to elect a leader who would practice effectively leading a group to accomplish each goal. Midshipmen were able to take lessons learned there and apply them to “real world” situations. “The low ropes course was a positive experience as it forced people out of their comfort zones and allowed others to critique them and make them stronger leaders,” said MIDN 3/C Ashley Satterwhite. “Patience and communication were crucial in order to achieve success in each of the missions. In the fleet, we are faced with difficult and stressful situations where we need these skills,” she added.

4/C were strongly encouraged to take the lead on some activities. “The biggest challenge I faced was trying to maintain a leader presence. When people started having their own conversations... it was a challenge to bring them back under control,” said MIDN 4/C Miles Metz. He learned how to project his voice and maintain strong leader presence. The low ropes course was a great experience for all the midshipmen who attended. It broke up the routine of lab and led to effective and fun team building.

-MIDN 3/C Jasmin Alsaie

During the Naval ROTC lab on September 24th, Midshipmen Mills, Moffit, and Radzinski were in charge of a Jeopardy game. Midshipman Mills and Moffit presented the rules and began with Geography across the world. This was a great refresher for the upperclassmen who had not been exposed to said information in a while, while providing the 4/C a chance to show off their new knowledge. Despite a few hurdles, the score was tallied and the game continued to Double Jeopardy. With heightened stakes and harder categories, such as Chinese Military Platforms, teams were challenged to be diverse in their knowledge. “A lot of people are not familiar with our world’s basic geography, something I find quite troubling. The jeopardy games we do are extremely beneficial to enhance our knowledge and learn from our peers. I noticed that the levels of geographical knowledge were extremely diverse among the teams, which definitely proved to be an advantage for some. I know I learned a lot that day and believe the other midshipman did as well,” Midshipman 3/C Radzinski said when asked how she felt about the Jeopardy game. The winners were Alpha 1-1 paired with Bravo 1-1.

Pictured above: Bravo Company

Next, MIDN Caporali stepped up and began Personal Qualification Standards (PQS) quizzing. It became apparent how hard the freshman have been working, as the few midshipmen who lasted multiple rounds were mostly 4/C. Overall it was a success, further preparing the freshman for their PQS boards and Sea Trials. Both the PQS boards and Sea Trials are tests to ensure the North Carolina State freshman have learned basic military structure, customs, and courtesies.

Changing gears, the 1/C stepped up to lead their respective platoons in a Tactical Decision Game (TDG). The Marines broke off to talk to Major Merles, while the Navy options were challenged with a TDG which involved several moving parts. Each platoon was briefed on the mission by the Platoon Commander, and then broke off into communities: Surface, Aviation, and Submarines. The mission was to protect the ally country that had been damaged by a natural disaster from a fast approaching enemy. Whilst this was going on, the teams were informed that there were SEALs on a nearby island who were possibly in need of extraction. The desired result was keeping track of the big picture amidst all the details. “[The TDG] seemed to be more in depth in the concept of planning,” said MIDN 4/C Sharpe. Each community can easily make their own plan of attack, but how they approached the task at hand, whether or not they had thought through each possible scenario was the true test. Working together to paint a picture of what is happening from all angles leaves less chance of a surprise and eliminates tunnel vision in the future leaders of the Navy.

There was a common theme throughout the lab, building better and more informed leaders. The most influential leaders in history have all been grounded at home but had the foresight to consider how every move they made would affect the world around them. This is what NC State hopes to instill in each midshipman who goes through the NROTC program.

-MIDN 3/C Ashley Satterwhite

September: Midshipman of the Month

To receive the award, you have to be nominated by a fellow midshipman. The Battalion student staff then votes on all of the nominees. Winners received a gift card to Target to reward their outstanding achievement in all aspects of Battalion life.

On 01OCT14 MIDN 2/C Caporali, and MIDN 3/C Lockhart received this honored award. Both had displayed great commitment in the first part of the semester volunteering for many duties. They also did a great job leading the 4/C and helping them get their feet planted in this new environment.

Pictured Above: MIDN Caporali and MIDN Hack

Pictured: MIDN Farris, MIDN Crump, MIDN Caporali, & MIDN Lockhart
On Wednesday 01OCT14, the NCSU NROTC battalion assembled for its regular Naval lab at Carmichael Gym.

This Wednesday was special however, due to the award of Midshipman of the Month. On 01OCT14 MIDN 2/C Caporali, and MIDN 3/C Lockhart received this honored award. Both had displayed great commitment in the first part of the semester volunteering for many duties. They also did a great job leading the 4/C and helping them get their feet planted in this new environment.

The MIDN also received a Drug and Alcohol GMT. LT Yaeger presented the GMT and made the rules of US Navy and Marine Corps very clear; zero tolerance for drug use and responsible drinking. Details such as LOA for drinking minors, setting up a solid plan for avoiding drunk driving, and the effects and symptoms of drugs were discussed.

MIDN 4/C Hoople performed a current events brief on the current and build-up to the present situation in Ukraine. The brief went well with MIDN Hoople being very knowledgeable on the subject capable of answering some difficult questions and being able to explain the complicated foreign situation. MIDN Hoople also made certain to relate the situation to the US Navy and Marine Corps making the brief all the more relevant.

MIDN 4/C Zaetz also presented a current events brief covering the broad subject of the Islamic State. MIDN Zaetz had obviously spent an abundance of time researching her topic allowing her to delve into many of the specifics of IS, explaining them with ease. MIDN Zaetz briefed her subject very clearly, also relating it to the US Navy and Marine Corps. After both briefs MIDN Zaetz, and Hoople were given constructive criticism allowing them to learn from their mistakes as well as thrive on what they did well.

Meet MIDN 3/C Lockhart!
Major: History
Hometown: Hudson, NC
Desires to become a Marine Corps Infantry Officer
Favorite Quote:
“Fight with a happy heart and strong spirit”- General James Mattis

Meet MIDN 2/C Caporalli!
Major: Meteorology
Hometown: Fredericksburg, VA
Desires to be a part of the Global Force for Good for as long as they will allow him.
Favorite Quote:
“Be the change you want to see in the world” - Mahatma Ghandi

Also post brief discussions were lead discussing the possible future outcomes of both these situations.
8OCT14 Lab

Alpha 1 and Bravo 1 conducted squad competition drill. Each squad completed a set drill card, one squad at a time, as SSgt. Browning graded the movements of each squad. MIDN Rodriguez led Alpha squads and Bravo squads were led by MIDN Sutter. After each squad completed the card, they were debriefed by their company commanders and asked what they thought they did right and wrong. The points were tallied and Bravo 1-3 was claimed the winner. After that, the platoons formed and conducted the drill card as a platoon. Alpha was able to beat Bravo in this portion of the competition. Then, SSgt formed a squad of drill experts and showed everyone the proper way to do each movement on the drill card. He also highlighted the importance of drill and how it is a skill that if it is not practiced it will be lost. Lastly, we conducted MIDN time with our squad leaders.

-MIDN 3/C Mills

PQS Boards

The Personal Qualification Standards Board, or PQS, is something every MIDN 4/C has to go through at the end of their first fall semester, testing bearing, knowledge and confidence. This board is made up of a MIDN 2/C, MIDN 1/C, and Officer Candidate, and is intended to introduce midshipmen to a style of testing which will be used their entire naval career. Throughout the semester, upperclassmen help the 4/C develop in the aforementioned areas so that they can thrive in the combined college and military setting, and successfully complete the ROTC program. On 29 OCT, these boards were held as the final evaluation of these MIDN to gauge their growth and see if they were ready to be officially welcomed to the battalion, symbolized by the awarding of the battalion PT shirt. The majority of 4/C did pass their board, and those who did not pass worked hard to prepare for and pass re-boards. Whether they passed or failed their board, every 4/C learned valuable lessons about their weaknesses and strengths which will help them become better leaders, followers, and eventually naval officers.

-MIDN 3/C Taylor
Lab 15 OCT 14 & 22 OCT 14

During the Battalion’s lab on 15 OCT 14, the Midshipmen were separated and partaking in various activities throughout NC State’s two campuses. Alpha’s Navy options traveled to Centennial Campus to complete a Service Dress Blues uniform inspection in preparation for the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball, which is coming up on 7 NOV.

After the inspection was conducted, the Midshipmen conducted “Man Overboard Drills” led by LT Showanes. The Midshipmen learned two types of turns in a “Man Overboard” situation. The first is called an Anderson turn, which is usually used during the daytime, and the second, a Williamson turn, which is generally performed at night. The exercise was extremely beneficial as it allowed Alpha Company to command the ship and perform the Anderson and Williamson turns.

Bravo Company was split up at this week’s lab. Bravo 1/C and 4/C, and all Marine Options prepared for Sea Trials, which are on 1 NOV. The upperclassmen helped the 4/C with drill on the outdoor basketball courts. After, they performed mock PQS boards with every 4/C to ensure that they were knowledgeable for Sea Trials and the upcoming PQS Boards on 29 OCT. The 2/C and 3/C of Bravo Company attended a tour of the Cates Steam Plant. Bill Ferrell a Steam Plant engineer, and Paul Reynolds, the Central Utility Plant Operations Supervisor conducted the informational tour. The Midshipmen learned that in addition to the Cates Steam Plant, NC State also uses the Yarbrough Steam Plant to increase efficiency on Campus, and reduce greenhouse gas emission. Ferrell and Reynolds allowed the 2/C and 3/C to see how the machinery was operated and showed how the boiler, turbines, pumps, and heat exchangers all worked together to create power for the University.

After the Steam Plant tour and Sea Trial practice, Bravo Company and the Marine Options came together in the Carmichael classroom to receive a brief on Fitness and Wellness. The Battalion PTO, MIDN Lynch, presented the brief. MIDN 1/C Lynch went over general health and proper diets for Midshipmen as well as fitness by explaining what types of exercises are most beneficial to the body.

Lastly, MIDN Cumbo conducted an academics brief, going over what to do during the 2nd half of the semester. MIDN 1/C Cumbo, the Battalion’s Academics Officer, included important dates to keep in mind for the remainder of the semester, and explained how to prepare for finals. She also went through the process of how to enroll for the spring semester’s classes, and how to plan which classes to take on the Enrollment Wizard feature of MyPack Portal. Her brief was extremely informational and helped all underclassmen understand how to use their time in order to better themselves, and their grades.
Sea Trials

For the second year in a row, 4/C Midshipmen from the North Carolina Piedmont Region Consortium battled it out in Sea Trials, which took place on 1 NOV 14.

These MIDN were graded based on their drill performance, physical fitness ability, leadership reaction course teamwork, and basic naval science knowledge. Duke came out victorious for the second year in a row, followed by UNC in second place, and NCSU Squad 1 in third place.

This year, Sea Trials took place indoors in Carmichael Gym on the NCSU Campus due to unfortunate weather conditions that day. Small adjustments had to be made in order to accommodate for these conditions; however the event was still a success.

“I think Sea Trials went well as a whole and am happy with the energy all our 4/C put into the execution of the event. None of it could have been done without all of the volunteers we had and the mentorship the rest of the battalion put into preparing the event and the 4/C,” stated MIDN 2/C Via, the NCSU OIC for this event.

The first event of the competition was drill. Each squad had to form up for inspection and execute the drill card assigned. The performances were judged and scored by the Consortium’s AMOIs. Simultaneously, upperclassmen conducted the PQS knowledge portion. The PT event took place next, which included a .5-mile run around the basketball courts, squad squats, the build the house exercise, 25 fire team pushups, and 70 fire team sit-ups. Following PT, each squad tested their communication and teamwork skills in three Leadership Reaction Course stations. A knockout drill competition followed, where NCSU MIDN 4/C Sharpe came out on top. The formal part of Sea Trials concluded with a PQS knowledge knockout game.

The upperclassmen of the NCSU Battalion attended this event to show support and cheer on their fellow 4/C MIDN. The 4/C MIDN were able to show their peers all they have learned since the beginning of the semester, while it also gave the Battalion the opportunity to talk and get to know members from the Duke and UNC Battalions.

“It is good for the schools to get together to see how other units operate, and see the people who you will be working with in the Navy and Marine Corps,” said MIDN 2/C Kent, a member of the Duke Battalion.

Sea Trials ended with a Consortium wide social in Carmichael Gym where pizza and drinks were served and the MIDN could further bond with others.
Suicide Prevention & Effective Counseling

The Navy/Marine Corps team is a people business. The primary mission objective of any commander is to ensure the safety and the needs of his or her subordinates are met and how to build effective relationships with them. A problem within the Navy/Marine Corps is suicide. Since the beginning of 2014, forty-one Sailors have taken their lives. That problem dissolves team effectiveness and is costing lives. As a division officer some main points stressed during the GMT were to know your people. It is important to know when Sailors are showing signs that could lead to suicide.

Many factors in sailors/Marines lives can lead to depression and a sense of hopelessness. Initially sailors/Marines vulnerable to suicide will reach out by making suicide gestures. They may begin making more suicidal comments, closing themselves off to people, or any other lapses in their normal behaviors which are all signs to look into as a supervisor. As a potential suicide victim spirals into depression they may actually have a suicide attempt or successfully carry out a suicide. A suicide attempt occurs when a victim tries to carry out suicide but fails. During this time it is crucial to not beat around the bush when talking to a potential victim. Dig and ask questions that get straight to the point. Do not be afraid to ask a Sailor or Marine if they are thinking about harming themselves. Talking to them and gleaning that information from them can potentially save their lives. One of the last major points stressed during the suicide GMT was that if you suspect somebody is suicidal do not leave them alone. As a division officer it is your responsibility to stay with that Sailor or Marine until someone else more qualified can handle the situation. Suicide prevention begins with knowing and understanding the people under your command.

Knowing your people begins with effective counseling. These counseling situations can take on a vast array of different problems as demonstrated through the six different scenarios acted out during the counseling seminar during lab. The situations acted out included a distraught Sailor being forced out of the Navy, a platoon commander’s initial counseling with his staff sergeant, a squad leader’s meeting with a young Marine, and a Sailor talking to his chief about STA-21. The midshipmen who participated in the evolution had to prepare for the counseling and counsel another midshipmen or Major Merles who acted out the Sailor or Marine being counseled. The company and active duty present then gave feedback on counseling techniques and how to handle certain situations. Big takeaways from that evolution included: prepare well for counseling and know the proper resources to point your people in the right direction. The evolution highlighted that as officers, there are multitudes of problems they can face, and some of those problems require professional help.

-MIDN 3/C Mills

October: Midshipman of the Month

In October, Midshipman 4/C Sharpe and Officer Candidate Futreal were awarded Midshipman of the month due to their outstanding performance in both academic and military obligations.

Meet MIDN 4/C Sharpe!

Major: Mechanical Engineering Intent
Hometown: Virginia Beach, VA
Desires to become a Submarine Officer

Pictured: MIDN DeOre, R.
Halloween PT

Instead of conducting battalion PT on Monday the week of Halloween, it was done on the day of Halloween and every MIDN was allowed to dress in ap-

05 NOV 14 Lab

Special Agent Brent Underwood from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service visited North Carolina State University Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps to familiarize the battalion with the mission of NCIS in Navy ROTC lab on 5 NOV 2014. This Naval Lab was also accompanied by an overview of the Fall Birthday Ball and an effective counseling breakout.

Underwood discussed the four main missions of NCIS, which included combating terrorism, counterintelligence, cyber, and felony investigations. He summarized that the main goal of NCIS was to “watch our backs” so the Navy and Marine Corps can continue to do its job. It is important that the battalion thoroughly understand the broad mission of NCIS because “it might not be in criminal nature when we knock on your door,” said Underwood.

Underwood presented two examples of espionage; Bryan Martin and Benjamin Bishop. Not only did he discuss what the men were doing and how NCIS caught them, but also the warning signs that indicated that they might be disloyal to their country. Some of the indicators included odd hours at work, gathering information someone does not need to know, odd hours, and unexplained affluence.

Underwood was energetic, and carried a sense of humor to fully engage the battalion with his brief on NCIS. He included Counterintelligence Trivia, attention-grabbing vide-

os, anecdotes like the difficulty in opening to door to arrest Martin, and analogies. There were plenty of interesting questions to be answered by Underwood such as where NCIS falls in the chain of command and how similar the real NCIS is to the television show. He also used multiple midshipmen as examples for clarification.

As interesting and engaging as Underwood’s brief was, Officer Candidate Kuffold attempted to make the Fall Birthday Ball just as interesting. He clarified all the information concerning the ball such as the schedule of events and the dress code but not without providing examples of how to bow your head during the invocation and how to introduce yourself and your date to Rear Admiral Richard A. Brown and to Captain Douglas E. Wright. For this, OC Kuffold called upon MIDN Lynch as his date to display proper etiquette at the ball.

Navy Lab concluded with effective counseling scenarios. Each squad within two platoons was assigned a scenario in which one member was to be counseled and another would hold the counseling session. Before going through the scenarios, MIDN Mazaleski briefed Alpha 1 on how to effectively counsel. Then, the pair, or in some cases, trio, would hold the counseling session in front of the platoon. After the counseling was finished, the rest of the platoon and a member of the active duty staff would provide feedback.

This process continued through five scenarios and after each one, there
Fall Ball

On Friday, November 7, 2014, the North Carolina Piedmont Consortium held its annual Fall Ball in commemoration of the 239th Navy and Marine Corps Birthday. All hands from Duke University, UNC Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State University attended the ball which was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Cary, NC. A social hour where Midshipmen introduced their dates to the guest of honor, Rear Admiral Brown, started off the evening. After a call to seats, the ceremony began. The commissioning seniors from each school were recognized, and the birthday cake was presented. Captain Wright did the honors of cutting the cake and presented a piece to the guest of honor and the oldest and youngest Sailor and Marine in keeping with Navy and Marine Corps tradition. Next, those who could not be in attendance were honored. The symbolism surrounding the POW/MIA table was explained in honor and memory of Americans who became prisoners of war or missing in action. Videos of the birthday messages from Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, and Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Joseph Dunford, concluded the ceremony as dinner was served. As dinner concluded, Admiral Brown gave his speech in which he admonished the Midshipmen to uphold the core values of honor, courage, and commitment and to strive for a life of service to nation and community. The night ended with an open dance floor where anyone could show off their moves.

-MIDN 2/C Thompson
Military Appreciation Day Game

On 15 November, the Battalion met to attend the Military Appreciation Day football game. The Military Appreciation game is a great time for the Battalion to assist in honoring currently serving military and veterans in our Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard.

During this game, the Battalion took part in a few events aimed at honoring those veterans and active duty. During halftime, 50 Midshipmen and OC’s held a giant flag, creating an impressive display on the field. We held a pushup contest, and had a T-shirt cannon as well.

During the game, our Battalion received compliments and thank you’s from veterans who were touched by our actions. Days like these serve to remember that we should make efforts to honor those who served before us. We are following in their footsteps, and our actions should make them proud to see us.

The Military Appreciation game was a fun way to get the Battalion together and raise awareness for our group, and we appreciate everyone’s assistance in making this day wonderful.

- OC Bradford
The NC State battalion is very fortunate to have access to the most advanced Mariner Skill Simulator (MSS) in the nation. The Navy option midshipmen utilize the MSS, located at Hunt Library on NC State’s Centennial Campus, frequently throughout the semester.

The MSS allows NC State midshipmen to bring together their knowledge of navigation, weapon systems, and operations and utilized them in a realistic training experience. In addition to applying skills learned in the classroom, midshipmen are able to exercise their leadership through the different watch roles presented in the MSS.

The primary focus of the MSS training this semester was to introduce the fourth-class, third-class and second-class to how the software physically works, and the different watch roles present in the MSS. The second-class will soon be utilizing the MSS more frequently as they begin their navigation classes in the Spring. The first-class have used the MSS the most frequently this semester, as they are enrolled in naval operations, and preparing to commission into the fleet in the Spring.

During this semester, LT Showanes utilized man-overboard drills to train the NC State midshipmen in the MSS. Several rotations of watch teams were tasked, and the main purpose was to not only introduce the approaches to man-overboard, but to teach the midshipmen what is required of each watch role in the MSS. It also presented an opportunity for midshipmen placed in officer positions such as, officer of the deck (OOD) and conning officer, to improve their leadership abilities.

“Being conning officer in the man-overboard evolutions was a great opportunity to practice navigating in situations that we might actually see once we are out in the fleet.” – MIDN 2/C Christopher Hack

-MIDN 2/C Franceschina

Pictured: (Top) MIDN Detrick & MIDN Metz, (Middle) LT Showanes, MIDN Satterwhite, MIDN Creekmore, (Bottom) MIDN Rodriguez, MIDN Alston, & MIDN ______
Veterans Day Run

On November 11, the North Carolina State University Naval ROTC, along with Army and Air Force ROTC, held the annual Veteran’s Day run and ceremony at the memorial Bell Tower on NC State’s campus. The event began with a two mile run around campus as the sun was coming up. Part of this run was through the Court of the Carolinas, where flags had been placed in honor and memory of the nation’s veterans. This portion was especially memorable because all cadences ceased in reverence for the people those flags represented. The run finished up back at the bell tower, where the flags were presented and Retired Rear Admiral Benny Suggs spoke a few words. The ceremony concluded with the placement of a wreath from Raleigh’s sister city, Compiegne, at the base of the Bell Tower.

- Midshipman 1/C Mary Curtis

(Top) Wreath given by Raleigh’s sister city.
(Bottom) SSgt Duke, Rear Admiral Suggs (RET)
Naval science lab the week before the battalion change of command contained two fascinating guest speakers. The first guest speaker was Ursula Hairston from the Office for International Equality and Diversity. Her presentation gave insight to the midshipmen to some of the challenges of leading a group of diverse people. She emphasized the importance of understanding diversity and of including all members of the team. Within the Navy/Marine Corps team there is a multitude of ethnicities and religions, men and women, members of the LGBT communities, and people from different socio-economic backgrounds, etc.

“What we see isn’t always what you get”, Mrs. Hairston said in regards to people. She compared diversity to optical illusions. The pictures due to their orientation or shading played tricks on an observers mind hence the analogy. Everyone has their own prejudices and stereotypes of people but leaders must look past those prejudices and stereotypes.

Following her presentation, Dr. William Boettcher, assistant professor from the Department of Political Science gave a thorough lecture on the Ukraine Revolution. The crisis began a year ago when former Ukrainian President, Victor Yanukovich, abandoned trade negotiations with the European Union to seek closer ties with Russia. Since then violent protests have plagued Eastern Ukraine, Yanukovich fled to Russia, Crimea was annexed by Russia, civil disturbances began in Eastern Ukraine, and as of this writing Russian military equipment was observed crossing the Russian-Ukrainian border by NATO observers. Despite U.S. sanctions, Russian president Vladimir Putin continues to amass troops near the border and holds an upper hand with his control over Russia’s vast oil and natural gas resources. With winter fast approaching the fear within Europe is that Putin could use Russian natural resources to assert his dominance as Europeans heavily rely upon natural gas during the winter to heat their homes. Politicians and experts on the matter, question Mr. Putin’s motives. Despite the annexation of Crimea, Ukraine is not a valuable territorial acquisition even though it has boosted nationalism within Russia. Many who are well informed on the crisis believe that it has nothing to do with Ukraine at all, but rather with President Putin and domestic Russia. The Russian economy is in a decline and relies heavily upon its natural resources. The value of the Russian ruble has decreased by fifty percent according to Dr. Boettcher. With an economy heading downward and a president attempting to maintain his power over the country, the best way to keep the people happy is to distract them. Experts agree that Ukraine is not militarily significant, but a resurgent Cold War is a potential issue. As pro-Russian forces and pro-European forces fight within Ukraine and the threat of Putin placing sanctions on natural gas to Europe, the threat of a new Cold War could loom.

Congratulations to Midshipman 2/C Via: Midshipman of the Semester!

MIDN Via spent many hours this semester planning the execution of Sea Trials. During the fall semester, he showed foresight, flexibility and superior leadership ability. His dedication and detail-oriented planning led to the successful completion of Sea Trials.
Battalion Change of Command

On November 19 2014, the Fall semester change of command took place. At the end of every semester at NC State, the incumbent Midshipman Battalion Commander is relieved along with his/her staff. This exchange of command is instantaneous, which is unique to the Naval Service.

Due to the oncoming Battalion Commander, Midshipman 1/C Noyes, being ill that day, the actual Change of Command took place on 21 NOV14. Although Midshipman 1/C Noyes was absent, Midshipman 1/C Crump took the opportunity to speak about her successes and thank her staff for executing all of her plans she set in the beginning of the semester. This last speech is normally done to reflect upon the successes and faults made, and a final chance to speak to your people while still in command.

The new CO usually keeps his/her remarks short and lets their actions in the coming semester speak for themselves.

MIDN Noyes was selected as Battalion Commander in order to prepare the battalion for each respective classes Summer Cruise training and further develop them mentally, morally, and physically.

The battalion looks forward to what Midshipman Noyes and his staff has planned for the Spring semester.

- Midshipman 2/C Alan DeOre

Congratulations to Midshipman 3/C Buschmann: Midshipman of the Semester!

MIDN Buschmann went above and beyond in her position of Squad Leader this semester. During the semester, she took on New Student Orientation Squad Leader, Sea Trials Drill Commander, and Alpha 1-1 Squad Leader. Her dedication to her Squad made her a select for the Midshipman of the Semester award.

MIDN Buschmann exceeds the standard of personal conduct and commitment, and is an excellent role model for the Battalion. Her effort and accomplishment can truly be seen as motivation for the rest of the Battalion.
North Carolina Piedmont Region Consortium's Change of Command

On December 3, 2014, the Battalion came together at the McKimmon Center to honor and celebrate the dedication and hard work of Captain Wright’s career. On that afternoon, Captain Wright would be officially relieved by Captain Gillespie.

During the ceremony, Captain Wright spoke about his pride in the Battalion. He touched on the academic successes the Battalion has seen during his time, mentioning that there has not been a single failure on a nuclear interview in his four years at North Carolina Piedmont Region NROTC. He mentioned his pride in producing the largest number of female candidates for submarine service out of all NROTC units in the country. He also spoke about his pride that a culture of fitness has been instilled in both the staff and the midshipmen in the unit.

Captain Wright’s speech was followed by a short introduction of Captain Gillespie, and Captain Gillespie’s short words on his hopes for the upcoming tour he would spend at NC State’s NROTC unit. One of the main points of his speech was how excited he was to take over the NROTC unit, and hoped he could continue Captain Wright’s mentorship of the future officers from the unit.

The Battalion is excited to welcome Captain Gillespie, and we hope to maintain the high standards which we achieved under Captain Wright’s command and mentorship.

- OC Bradford

Meet 3/C Buschmann!
Major: Nuclear Engineering
Hometown: Deansboro, NY
Desires to become a submarine officer
Favorite Quote: “We must believe that we are gifted for something, and that this thing must be attained.” — Marie Curie

Meet 2/C Via!
Major: Civil Engineering
Hometown: Wilson, NC
Desires to become a Submarine Warfare Officer
What he’d like you to know:
“I am really happy to have had the chance to be so involved with this years 4/C. They did a great job preparing themselves for PQS boards and look forward to seeing how the boards and Sea Trials evolve as events.”
Congratulations to the graduating seniors of Fall Semester, 2014!

After years of hard work, these former Midshipmen’s effort, dedication, and commitment have paid off. Bravo Zulu to the graduating class of 2014.

Seniors - Future Plans

ENS Marcus D. Bunnell
Bachelor of Science in Biological Oceanography
He has been service assigned Naval Flight Officer, and has orders to report to Pensacola, FL for basic training.

ENS Katherine E. Barrett
Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry,
She has been service assigned Surface Warfare, and has orders to report to the USS Cole in Norfolk, VA

2NDLT Joshwa D. Hilton
Bachelor of Science in Human Biology
He has been service assigned United States Marine Corps, and has orders to report to Quantico, VA for The Basic School

(From top to bottom) Ensigns Barrett, Bunnell, and Hilton sign commissioning paperwork.