The Navy and Marine Corps’ best are trained here

In this issue of Anchors Aweigh

Battalion Commander’s Intent.........................2
4/C Experience at Sea Trials...........................3
Consortium Fall Ball.....................................4
Introduction to the new 4/C...............................5
Highlights at Lab...........................................6
Recent Battalion Events.................................7
Battalion Family and Friends,

My name is MIDN 1/C Nancy Smith and I am currently serving as the Battalion Commander of the UNC NROTC Battalion. Spring 2016 has gotten off a wonderful start, and I am proud to introduce the first Anchors Aweigh publication of the semester. Anchors Aweigh Editor was my first billet in the Battalion, so it is always fun to return as a writer and be a part of the creative process. A well-deserved bravo zulu to MIDN 4/C Parker Simpson, our current AA Editor, and MIDN 2/C Stuart Lyster, the administrative officer and his supervisor.

My intent for our Battalion this semester rests on three main ideas: personal accountability, flexible and invasive leadership, and teamwork. Not only are my midshipmen officers working to cultivate these tenants in our unit culture, but we are also enacting policies to motivate such mentalities.

So far this semester we have completed some fantastic leadership labs, put together by our operations department under MIDN 2/C Isaiah Leiva. Our midshipmen briefs have ranged on topics from unit history to current events and maintaining academics. Our speakers have included Commander Landis, a CO from the submarine community and LT Portzer, a former surface warfare officer who has laterally transferred into the Judge Advocate General Corps.

Our physical fitness regimen, conducted by the PT officer, MIDN 3/C Alexander Stephenson, has been both challenging and fun. One Battalion favorite, Ultimate Frisbee, has brought not only about fierce competition, but also a spot-on rendition of Cam Newton’s “The Dab” by our Consortium Commanding Officer, Captain Gillespie.

Other Battalion events have included a visit to Duke University to hear a EA-18 Growler pilot speak and see his plane, a movie and pizza night at the Armory, and a leadership conference at the United States Naval Academy. As a member of the North Carolina Piedmont Region Consortium’s delegation to the conference, I had the privilege of listening to some accomplished individuals from the public and private sectors, including the USNA Superintendent, Vice Admiral Carter, and Alexandra Wrage, a prior advisor to FIFA who now runs an organization fighting for better ethics in the corporate world. I learned a tremendous amount about leadership and morality, which I hope to incorporate during my time as Battalion CO as well as in the fleet.

So please enjoy what our publication has to tell you about our Battalion and day-to-day lives. Non sibi sed patriae and semper fi.
On November 7th, the morning of Sea Trials, the rest of the 4th class and I were all pretty nervous. Throughout the entire semester we had been practicing drill, studying our knowledge and preparing for PT. Today was the day we got to show how hard we had worked in a friendly competition against NC State and Duke. Throughout the day we competed in drill, PT, PQS knowledge and leadership reaction courses. In every single event we scored in the top three of eight squads. In the PQS section we upheld the UNC tradition of taking first place. Overall, I was very proud of our results of the Sea trials, but unfortunately, we did not come in first place. We ended up coming in a close second after the tiebreaker placed us behind one of the NC State’s squads. However, we did beat Duke. Which at the end of the day, is what is most important.
On the night of November 20th, we had our annual Fall Ball, and it was a blast. In previous years 1/C females have been required to wear SDBs like the other midshipmen, but this year were permitted to wear formal gowns. While this would not happen in the fleet, I think the senior females appreciated it because they got to stand out. They also had a soul train line for introducing the graduating class that was much more interactive than the walks of past years. I think both of these changes made the Ball more interactive and fun for the midshipmen attending. Brigadier General Charles Chiarotti was the guest of honor. He gave a very eloquent speech on what it means to be a leader and an officer in the military. It was a privilege to hear from him because of his successful career and his relationship to some of our consortium’s own Marine Officers. He has led the Marine Corps with both LtCol Shellabarger and Major Merles. I think that the Fall Ball this year was a very fun and successful one.
Hello all. My name is Samir Patel, and I am a sophomore math major from Raleigh, NC. Ever since I was little, I have had dreams of becoming a pilot and have always been interested in aviation. But for some reason, coming into college, I was encouraged by myself and others to pursue a more conventional business/IT/desk job. Over the course of my sophomore Fall semester, however, I felt like I was selling myself short of my original dreams and decided that I would never forgive myself if I didn’t try my hardest to achieve them. Reaching this conclusion led me to the joining NROTC. Initially I was nervous, but everyone has been incredibly supportive and helpful. I am incredibly proud and honored to be a part of this Battalion and look forward to serving alongside some great people.

My name is John Canipe, and I am a twenty year old second year student at UNC. However, this is more like the beginning of my second year as I had to medically withdrawal from spring semester of my first year due to a concussion. Currently I am on the Business Administration Major track, although I am very interested in Economics as well and will likely get a minor in that. Originally I was born in Kentucky, though I have lived in my current town of Salisbury, North Carolina since 2001. As far as hobbies go, I enjoy watching and playing sports, especially soccer and basketball. I am a huge batman nerd and love his graphic novels. I joined NROTC for the purpose of challenging myself. I have dreams of being a SEAL, however, that results from my desire to be challenged. I must admit that I have not fully thought of other options in the Navy, so I am gladly learning and absorbing all information about other communities. Regardless, I am excited to be a part of NROTC at UNC and the challenges, companions, and opportunities it presents.
**Highlights at Lab**

MIDN 4/C Ford receiving an award for going above and beyond expectations in his billet as Drill Chief.

CDR Landis joined us at lab to discuss his experiences in the submarine community.

MIDN 1/C Savarese being awarded the Mr. Hudson Scholarship for his hard work and excellent leadership in the Battalion.
Battalion Updates

MIDN 1/C Smith (left) and MIDN 1/C Martin (right) receiving their ship selection.
MIDN Smith will be on the DDG-62 USS Fitzgerald based out of Yokosuka Japan
MIDN Martin will be on the MCM-4 Champion based out of San Diego

MIDN 4/C Patel and MIDN 2/C Smith had the special opportunity to see a P-8 Poseidon aircraft at RDU
Anchors Aweigh
Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps
101 Naval Armory
Campus Box 3325
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3325

Upcoming Events

- Field and Drill Meet, April 9th
- End of Year Exercise, April 14th and 16th
- Carrie Shoemaker 5k, April 17th
- Commissioning Ceremony, May 7th
- Junior and Senior Dining In, April 15th

Visit us on our Facebook and Website
https://nrotc.sites.unc.edu/
&
https://www.facebook.com/UNC.NROTC

Anchors Aweigh Staff

Editors:
MIDN 4/C Parker Simpson

Contributors:
MIDN 1/C Smith
MIDN 4/C Smith
MIDN 2/C Lyster
MIDN 4/C Patel
MIDN 4/C Canipe

Photographer:
MIDN 4/C Parker Simpson