San Diego Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps
Spring 2014
Greetings. I am very happy to be writing this note after taking the helm as Commanding Officer of the San Diego NROTC Consortium. Prior to my arrival as the Commanding Office, I learned about the fantastic reputation of the San Diego NROTC Consortium. However, through my experience of having family members attend and graduate from these fine schools, I didn’t need to research very hard to know our students were some of the best in the nation and chose some of the finest schools in the world! Our host schools, which include the beautiful campuses of the University of San Diego and San Diego State University, are the hub for most of our activities. These host Universities provide an opportunity for our students from our cross town Universities, which include Point Loma Nazarene, California State University at San Marcos, and University of California San Diego, to participate in the NROTC program.

The summer has been very busy, while we prepare for the arrival of our Midshipman in the fall. Our Officer Instructors and Staff have taken the Summer months to modify, adjust and improve our classes and schedules in an effort to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our program. Meanwhile, our Officer Candidate (Seaman to Admiral Program) and Marine Corp Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) students were very busy throughout the summer months as they continue as full time students to earn a commission in the U.S. Navy or Marine Corp, respectively. Finally, our Midshipman students participated in a very successful Summer Cruise Program, as well as many of our staff members who organized and implemented these opportunities for our Midshipman to experience the Fleet first hand.

As we start the Fall semester, we are reminded of our mission here at the San Diego NROTC Consortium. Namely, the San Diego NROTC Program was established to develop Midshipmen, Officer Candidates and MECEP students mentally, morally and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, and loyalty, and with the core values of honor, courage and commitment in order to commission college graduates as Naval Ensigns and Marine Corp Second Lieutenants who possess a basic professional background, are motivated toward careers in the service, and have a potential for future development in mind and character so as to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government.

We are all very excited to start the Fall semester and look forward to an outstanding academic year!
Executive Officer

Now is a great time to reflect the closing of the Academic 2013-2014 year. As the new Executive Officer, I'm amazed at all the Battalion has accomplished, from the accession of ten new nuclear officers, to the Pass-in-Review/Change of Command, to the graduation and Commissioning of 35 Officers into the Naval Sea Service. Being one of the top five units with respect to size has helped us have a large impact on the community at large. Our latest Stockdale Symposium was one of the best on record and has inspired us to reach for greater influence. I am excited about the upcoming year and our New Student Orientation, which for the second year will be held on the University of San Diego campus. Molding college students into leaders is exciting, and we look forward to each opportunity.
Let me begin by saying welcome back. I hope you all enjoyed your summer vacation. Over the summer, the Top 3, along with every member of the Battalion Staff, has been hard at work preparing for the Fall. There will be some changes to the way things have been done in the past. I only ask that you remain open-minded and flexible. The Battalion is in a period of transition. Along with a new Student Chain of Command, there is also a new CO and XO. This semester is a trial run of sorts and its success, or lack thereof, depends on how well we communicate and work together. There are also several events on the calendar to look forward to. The March On, the Stockdale Symposium, and the Navy-Marine Corps Birthday Ball all take place during the Fall semester. Max participation and collaboration will be needed to make these events a success. Overall, I have no doubts as to the capabilities of the personnel within this Battalion. I am excited for the challenges that await and I look forward to working with all of you. Semper Fidelis.

Sgt Harris
Student Bn CO

I look forward to working with you as the Battalion Executive Officer for the fall semester of 2014. We, the incoming Top 3, will work to ensure the battalion runs like a well-oiled machine. I'm sure this billet will be both a challenge and a rewarding experience by working with our Staff, the time-tested Active Duty Marines and Sailors, as well as, the motivated Midshipmen that want to be the future leaders of the Marine Corps and Navy. I wish all the graduates from Spring 2014 the best of luck in the next phase of their careers and encourage everyone still in school to keep their sights set on the goal: earning their commission in the United States Marine Corps or Navy. Semper Fi.

SSgt. Casey Littesy
Student Bn XO
Welcome back Battalion. I am looking forward to being the Battalion Command Master Chief for this upcoming semester and gaining many valuable lessons and experiences by working with all of you. I am positive this semester will prove to be beneficial to all of us as we work towards our goal of becoming commissioned officers in either the United States Navy or Marine Corps. Throughout the summer, the Battalion Top 3 and Staff have been planning a semester that should be efficient and effective in helping all of us obtain this goal. During the semester, I urge all of you to be as active in the unit as possible to further your professional development and develop valuable relationships with the other members of our Battalion. Good luck with this upcoming semester and your pursuits of earning a commission.

MIDN 1/C Lockbaum
Battalion Command Master Chief
SAN DIEGO NROTC CLUBS
Special Warfare Club

The Special Warfare Club was very successful this semester. We held regular group workouts during the week, as well as most weekends. In addition to pushing and improving the physical condition of our club members, we also participated in many events that helped our members to learn more about the special warfare and special operations communities. These events included:

- PST and Lunch Social
  - Conducted a PST and had a barbecue in Coronado
- Visits to multiple EOD mobile units and training units.
  - We toured the units and listened to capabilities-briefs from EOD officers
- Volunteered at the SuperSeal Triathlon
  - Helped with setup and tear-down for the event
  - Assisted with racer timing and transition
- Volunteered for Team Hoytt in the San Diego Half Marathon
  - Helped push the Team Hoytt members in wheelchair up the final hill
- Rock Climbing
  - Practiced rock climbing in Old Town

All of the events that we have held or participated have been with the help and guidance of the EOD and SEAL team members within our battalion, thus giving us tremendous advice and insight into leadership within these communities. Our future events will be very similar as we hope to maintain relationships with active duty personnel, encourage involvement within the community, and maintain a high level of physical fitness.
Aviation Club

The Aviation Club is committed to increasing the interest and overall knowledge of Naval Aviation for its members. This is done through squadron tours, social events, and question and answer sessions with naval aviators. This semester was a busy one for us.

We attended a C-2 tour, an F-18 tour, HSC-23 tour, and a BBQ at Breaker’s Beach.

C-2 Squadron Tour
- Had the opportunity to see C-2 aircraft and learn more about the community
- Had an informational brief/casual Q&A with C-2 crews

F-18 Tour
- 2 F-18 Aircraft from VX-9 flew out to NASNI
- Had the opportunity to tour the aircraft
- Went to the I-bar with the pilots
- Casual Q&A at the I-bar

HSC-23 Squadron Tour
- Helicopter tour at NASNI
- Informational brief/casual Q&A with Helicopter pilots

Breaker’s Beach BBQ
- Aviation club members came out to meet with some pilots and talk over BBQ
- Had the opportunity to learn about various different aircraft taking off out of NASNI
- Relaxed Beach day

Next semester, club member have a lot to look forward to. The incoming aviation club president is expected to set up even more tours and wow all members. One last note: remember to hold on to a copy of your Water Survival Training and Up-chit paperwork from summer cruise – next semester will involve some flying for those with their paperwork!
Submarine Club

Our mission as a Submarine club is to hold events that are both fun and informative. We offer submarine tours and the chance to speak with real submariners. Our events look to emphasize the advanced technology of our submarines and express the great responsibility and excitement of being a submarine officer. This year we featured the classic film: Das Boot, toured an SSGN, toured an SSN, visited the Maritime Museum and ended with the exciting Submarine Birthday Ball.

- Das Boot: movie and pizza night featuring the award-winning film credited with accurately portraying submarine life in WWII.

- SSGN: versatile platform converted from a vessel capable of launching nuclear weapons to one that can hold a variety of conventional strike packages and Spec-War transport systems.

- SSN: The famous fast attack vessel responsible for the main workforce of our undersea Navy and deployment cycles that allow more frequent port visits.

- Maritime Museum: a step into the past through the cramped quarters of the B-39 Soviet Era Submarine and the US Navy's last diesel-electric submarine

- Submarine Birthday Ball: The celebration of the 114th birthday of our submarine force.

This upcoming semester look for more tours, more museum visits and events focused on submarine history. Discover how the advanced and ever-expanding submarine force can broaden your career horizons with the Navy.
Surface Warfare Club

The Surface Warfare Club primarily aims to benefit all aspiring surface officers but is also a way to give insight to those who are still undecided on their preferred community. This club is a great way to gain exposure to actual ships, sailors, and the officers who lead them. With several events in the works every semester, there are plenty of opportunities for anyone, at any level from the battalion to learn something or better yet, teach something.

For the Spring 2014 semester, the SWO club held a total of four successful events; meet and greet with the USS Benfold on their SPAWAR visit, ship tours aboard the USS Gridley and USS John Paul Jones, and SWO Jeopardy.

- SPAWAR visit- The primary goal of this visit was for sailors aboard the USS Benfold to work with the scientist and engineers of SPAWAR so that these technical experts can get feedback from the warriors in the effectiveness and efficiency of the technology SPAWAR developed for the ship.

- Ship tour(s) - These tours are interactive, educational, and real. The junior officers on board serve as tour guides and not only explain the ins and outs of the ship but also give insightful advice for future SWO officers.

- SWO Jeopardy- Club members competed against one another in teams to test their knowledge of different SWO topics such as ship platforms, classes, missions, weapons, and so on.

Next semester events will continue to be coordinating that are interactive, insightful, and ultimately, beneficial to club members as future officers. There will be plenty opportunity to attend the various events that will be scheduled for next semester which will all be geared towards serving and benefitting club members.
Semper Fi Club

The Semper Fi Club is composed of Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) students and Marine-option Midshipmen. The Semper Fi Club stresses physical fitness, esprit de corps, and camaraderie based on the ethos of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. The primary focus of the club is to prepare our Marine-Option Midshipmen for Officer’s Candidate School (OCS) which takes place the summer following the student’s junior year.

In addition to weekly physical training sessions, the Semper Fi club conducted several events throughout the spring 2014 semester to include:

- Small Unit Leadership Exercise (SULE) Field Exercise (FEX) at Marine Base Camp Pendleton
- Two conditioning hikes on the University of San Diego
- Marine Military Occupational Specialty information mixer with over twenty junior officers stationed in the San Diego Area
- Marine Senior Enlisted Panel lead by two Sergeants Major from local commands
- Various volunteer activities supporting the San Diego community
- Weekly Professional Laboratory (PROLAB) training for our OCS bound Marines which includes classroom work, field training and physical fitness training
University of San Diego, Calif. - On May 23, 2014, nine Marines and 18 Sailors commissioned to become the newest officers in the strongest military force in the world. The commissioning ceremony was held at the Jenny Craig Pavilion where families, friends and fellow service members watched as their friends and loved ones’ hard work and dedication to their studies and their country finally paid off.

To recognize and commission the Marines and Sailors, Vice Admiral Thomas Copeman, the commander of Naval Surface Forces U.S. Pacific Fleet and guest speaker for the event had a few words of wisdom to pass on during the ceremony.

“We will depend upon you greatly,” he said to the Marines and Sailors. “The more senior you get and the more experience you build the more we will depend on you. Take hard jobs and do them well. Be committed to being really, really good at your job and don’t be afraid to be an active listener. You can be a leader and still learn from those that work for you.”

The Marines and Sailors marched from their place on stage and moved into position to swear their Oath of Allegiance to the Constitution and accept their commission as officers. Once their oaths were given by Vice Admiral Copeman, families and friends moved to their new officers to give first salutes, pin new rank and congratulate them on their noteworthy achievement.

The newly commissioned officers will move on to ships, stations and additional schools around the world but they will remember the day they commissioned for the rest of their lives. The Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Staff and students would like to wish them all a tough but rewarding career and fair winds and following seas.

![Image of commissioned officers]
COMMISSIONEES

USN
ENS Christopher Abbott  USS Bunker Hill
ENS Brian Benedicks  Naval Nuclear Power Training Command
ENS Justin Hittleman  Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training
ENS Niles Li  USS Chancellorsville
ENS Koda Lozano  USS Princeton
ENS Samantha Kilday  Walter Reed Naval Medical Center
ENS Elanie Mamaril  Portsmouth Naval Medical Center
ENS Bryan Marden  Aviation Preflight Indoctrination
ENS William Matthews  USS Lake Champlain
ENS Joseph Molina  Seal TEAM THREE
ENS Bryan Mueller  Edward Hebert School of Medicine
ENS Andrea Olachia  USS Rushmore
ENS Ruvalcaba Palacios  USS Harpers Ferry
ENS Christoper Pence  Aviation Preflight Indoctrination
ENS Ivan Reyes  USS Lake Champlain
ENS Roxanne Sumanga  USS Stout
ENS Christian Tan  USS Decatur
ENS Taryn Voller  Aviation Preflight Indoctrination
ENS Joseph Weir  Aviation Preflight Indoctrination

USMC
2ndLt Christopher Anderson
2ndLt Jose Gutierrez
2ndLt Christopher Leahy
2ndLt Steven Lundin
2ndLt Jason Sampson
2ndLt Angel Sandi
2ndLt Sean Spinney
2ndLt Christopher Willis
2ndLt Amanda Wolfe

All Marine 2ndLt will report to The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia following commissioning.
PASS IN REVIEW

On April 25, 2014 NROTC San Diego conducted its annual Pass-in-Review on the campus of University of San Diego. 24 students were recognized by several community leaders for their achievements in academics and leadership. The full Battalion displayed their marching prowess as they rendered honors to the reviewing party which including the Commanding officer of NRTOC San Diego and representative from each of the five schools on the San Diego NROTC consortium.
On April 25, 2014 NROTC San Diego conducted its Change of Command/Retirement Ceremony. Captain Patrick Rabun was relieved of command by Captain Mark Johnson. This marked the end of a 30 year career for Captain Rabun and his family. RDML David Woods (retired) served as the guest speaker in the ceremony.