## University of South Florida 2015 i 2016 Buccaneer Battalion NROTC

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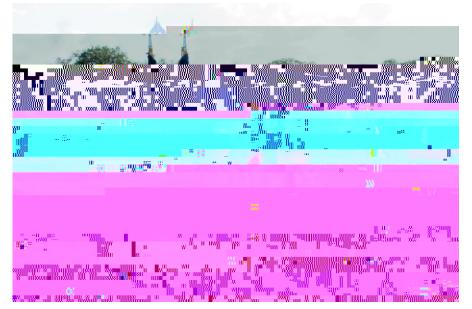
USF CLASS OF 2015-2016 BATTALION PHOTOGRAPH

In this edition of the Buccaneer Battalion newsletter, our unit has the honor of announcing many events and accomplishments that have occurred during the spring semester. The vision statement, established by the upper level battalion staff, was a nod to the popular work hard, play hard. Our midshipmen have accomplished this motto with excellence. Ten seniors are on track to commission, the annual Battle of the Bulls meet went without a hitch, and midshipmen earned exceptional physical readiness/fitness scores.

The mission of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) is to develop future officers. Focusing on mental, moral and physical strength, the mission is to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty and loyalty, and with the core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Ultimately, NROTC commissions college graduates as naval officers who possess a basic professional background, are motivated toward careers in the naval service, and have a potential for future development in mind and character so as to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship, and government.

The University of South Florida is one of 150+ officer commissioning sources. The Buccaneer Battalion strives to inspire

### **Color Guard Events**



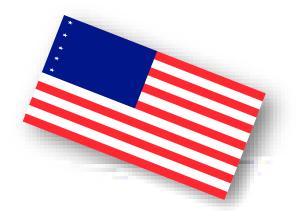
New this semester, weekly color guard practices were held in the mornings. Many motivated midshipmen, especially our fourth class, attended these practices. Here, they learned additional commands that were not included in the standard drill practices.

Drill Officer, Sgt. Ryan Collette (pictured left), was the primary coordinator of all color guard and drilling events.



The color guard featured, to the left, is a prestigious military appreciation dinner at the Chamber of Commerce.

The team included (from left to right) MIDN 3/C Apearre Ao, MIDN 2/C Stacy Campos, MIDN 4/C Kenneth Stephens, GySgt Joshua Wilson (AMOI), MIDN 3/C Ryan Peeling, MIDN 4/C Nathaniel Barthelemy, MIDN 2/C Ashly Sboray.



# University of South Florida University of Connecticut



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MIDN 3/C Stacy Campos, MIDN 4/C Alex Walker, MIDN 4/C Michael Thomason, MIDN 4/C Justin Lambeth and MIDN 4/C Theodore Sandoval were selected as the color guard detail to present colors for the Softball Military Appreciation Game. Then, during the game, MIDN 1/C Mary Bennett Hinson was recognized on the score board as the representative for the graduating Naval ROTC senior class.



# Battle of the Bulls

Buccaneer Battalion hosted another successful Battle of the Bulls drill event for high school Junior ROTC cadets from several different schools in the south Florida area. The unique experience offered by this meet takes advantage of the mentorship our midshipman can offer, while providing the opportunity for JROTC students to competitively show case their abilities in athletics, academics, military drill and overall spirit. While this event is professional, there was plenty of fun to be had as midshipmen and cadets were able to share experiences and make lasting memories!

#### Physical Competition

An important part of any high school drill meet is the physical competition. Similar to

there is a push-up and sit-up portion of athletic score. A

steady cadence is played and cadets mimic the pace as our midshipman keep score and cheer them on.

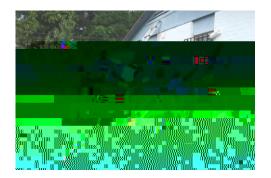
#### Personal Inspection and Drill

The Personal Inspection (PI) portion is incredibly important in providing an opportunity for midshipmen in interact directly with cadets. Uniform care and appearance is the first aspect of PI to be reviewed. During this segment, our midshipmen point out the aspects of a c

professional appearance expected while in uniform. Any detail areas that are lacking can also be addressed and corrected at this time. This evaluation is followed with several basic knowledge questions about the US Navy and their participation JROTC. The brief conversations that are sparked from these questions are, above all, a demonstration and practice in

## Community Service and Fundraising

The spring semester of 2016 was one filled with service to the community and our battalion. Our brilliant community service officer, MIDN 3/C Sandy Lall, and the fundraising officer, MIDN 3/C Joshua Kilmer, took initiative in their billets and prepared events where our midshipmen shined as leaders in the Tampa Bay area. During most weekends and many week days you could find midshipmen selflessly lending their time, from serving food at local kitchens to painting homes in low-income communities. In the fundraising area, Buccaneer Battalion participated in several events and gave a



#### Paint Your Heart Out

The Paint Your Heart Out event coordinator worked with our fundraising officer and the day was expected to begin at 0800 and end by noon, however, Buccaneer Battalion midshipmen were able to complete the task of painting two full coats of paint in the time it took most groups to simply apply one. The finished product looked crisp and lifted the overall appearance and value of the neighborhood.

# **Battalion Activities**





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