

SU
SELU**REDSTICK REVIEW**LSU
BRCC**CO's Call**

Greetings! It has been a busy and productive semester, and I could not be more pleased with the Unit's performance. In addition to the rigors of college academia and our physical fitness program, the Midshipmen of the Redstick Battalion never missed an opportunity to involve themselves on and off campus. From high school visits, to stadium clean-ups and campus ceremonies, there were events happening nearly every week and weekend of the semester. Exceptional efforts were made to strengthen our relationships with the local NJROTC programs as well as the Baton Rouge Sea Cadets. Additionally, we had two fantastic visits from flag officers who came to share their experiences and knowledge. The Unit performed well during LSU Salutes and Oak Grove Memorial rededication ceremony, both a great way to commemorate those who have gone before us in service of the nation. The annual Bayou Classic was a very exciting event, during which our Midshipmen showed their support for the Jags by presenting the game ball and performing the color guard-- truly one of the highlights of the semester. We have much to be proud of.

As we look ahead to next semester, it will be just as busy as we prepare for events such as the Annual Area 8 NJROTC Drill Meet, the spring field exercise, and more interactions with the community. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

All the best!
CAPT Dean Rawls

**Upcoming
Events****JANUARY**

9 JAN - LSU RETURNS
16 JAN - SU RETURNS

MARCH

1 MAR - MARDI GRAS DRILL
MEET
4-5 MAR - MARDI GRAS
16 MAR - AREA 8 NJROTC
DRILL MEET

APRIL

5-7 APR - SPRING FIELD
EXERCISE
11 APR - LSU PRESIDENT'S
DAY PARADE &
MIDN AWARDS
CEREMONY
12 APR - JOINT MILITARY
BALL
13-21 APR - SPRING BREAK

MAY

9 MAY - COMMISSIONING
10-11 MAY - LSU / SU
COMMENCEMENT

BNCO's Corner

The Midshipmen of the Redstick Battalion have shown unmatched dedication to the program this semester. The energy displayed by all has truly helped bring about a great deal of positive change. It is incredible just how many events we have participated in! We participated in ticket scanning, sword arches, joint color guards, and even greeting honored guests in Tiger Stadium during halftime at football games. During LSU Salutes, I felt privileged to be a part of such a committed group of individuals as we recognized those who came and served before us. On several occasions, the Unit was able to hear directly from veterans of different specialties in one-on-one conversations, which is invaluable as we prepare to fill the ranks ourselves in the near future. Thank you for supporting us as we continue on our journey to grow as individuals and as a unit. I hope you enjoy reading about our experiences as much as we enjoyed the moments themselves, and Happy Holidays!

MIDN CAPT Renée Hill

A Midshipman Thanksgiving



On Friday, November 16th the Redstick Battalion gathered together for Thanksgiving dinner at Golden Corral. The Midshipmen enjoyed a private dining room at the buffet and a night of comradery as the event launched the Redstick Battalion into Thanksgiving week. As winter break nears and everyone begins to gear up for finals, there is time for reflection and much to be thankful for as another great semester comes to a close and a new semester gets ready to launch.

- MIDN 1/C Nguyen

243 Never Looked So Good

Saturday, November 10th marked the 243rd USMC Birthday, a proud day for all past, present, and future Marines. We celebrated the Marine Corps' birthday on Thursday, November 15th with the traditional cake cutting by GySgt Williams and MIDN Bergeron. Like all good Marines, we earned our cake through PT, 243 burpees to be exact. We recognize the happiness of remembering our history, honoring the storied legacy of our brothers and sisters, and furthering the traditions of our beloved Marine Corps. Happy 243rd Birthday, Marines!

- MIDN 2/C Mooney



Lest We Forget

On Sunday, November 11th, the LSU Corps of Cadets took part in the Rededication of LSU's Memorial Oak Grove, which stands in memoriam of the thirty LSU alumni and faculty that died in World War I. Cadets and Midshipmen represented the fallen heroes during a march onto the Memorial Oak Grove as a silent roll call was given for each veteran. The Long Purple Line runs deep through our LSU Corps of Cadets and this event honored those who have gone before us.



- MIDN 1/C Holl

Spending Time in the Tree Line

The Marine Options Fall field exercise (FEX) was an amazing leadership experience for all. Hosted at the Baton Rouge Armed Forces Reserve Center, our Midshipmen were joined by Tulane NROTC and the Baton Rouge Officer Selection Team Candidates for a rigorous weekend full of learning and challenges. The Midshipmen learned more than they expected in their classes, which ranged from land navigation to the study of the ins and outs of the M16A4. The Midshipmen's leadership skills were especially tested during our Small Unit Leadership Evaluation practice. This training, known to most as SULE, requires a Midshipman to develop and deliver a five paragraph operations order and lead a squad through a patrol over wooden terrain in order to accomplish a given task. It is the most important leadership evaluation a Marine Option Midshipman is faced with at Officer Candidates School, and one that requires a great deal of preparation. Our Midshipmen will get the chance to enhance their skills further in the spring at their next FEX, which will be hosted by Tulane NROTC and held at Camp Shelby, MS.



- MIDN 2/C Mooney

Flag Officer Visits

On November 2nd, The Redstick Battalion was paid a visit by Rear Admiral Craig A. Clapperton, Deputy Director for Future Operations, U.S. Cyber Command. Rear Admiral Clapperton delivered the keynote address during the Commandant's Luncheon as a part of LSU Salutes, an event honoring distinguished veterans with ties to LSU. He also took time to meet with members of the Corps of Cadets, during which he discussed the future of cyber warfare along with leadership lessons he has learned throughout his career in the Navy. Members of the Corps asked insightful questions which sparked great conversation regarding the dangers of social media and how members of the military can guard against cyber terrorists.

The Redstick battalion was also fortunate to be visited from Rear Admiral Cedric Pringle, Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 3. RDML Pringle joined the battalion at Southern University on Thursday, Nov 15th. Along with cadets from the NJROTC programs of St. Amant, West Feliciana, and Dutchtown, our Midshipmen had the privilege to listen to RDML Pringle as he discussed the many benefits of naval service.

- MIDN 1/C Cadoret



RDML Clapperton delivers the keynote address at the LSU Salutes Commandant's Luncheon.

Seniors, Leaders, and Senior Leaders

Senior Symposium is a capstone experience offered to all Midshipmen and Cadets in their final year. This year long process is dedicated to broaden the perspective of soon-to-be officers and inspire the minds of the future military leadership. The Cadets of the Ole War Skule sponsors discussions with experienced military leaders, each one selected to convey a different scope of expertise. In the beginning of the semester, Midshipmen and Cadets, with the help of Dr. Brookie Allphin, learned to recognize different communication techniques. The seniors left knowing a leader must be able to effectively communicate, both as the listener and the speaker. Each person's style drastically differs among personality types, which is important to remember in a diverse a community like the military. LtCol (Ret) Kurt Strange, a former Marine One pilot, taught the seniors ways to work successfully in joint military operations and how important it is to rely on each other. The seniors also had the opportunity to speak with a military strategy planner, Maj Eric Mehrtens, USAF. He encouraged the seniors to be life-long learners. He emphasized the importance of reading about great leaders and learning from how they looked at problems, not just the answers they came up with. The first half of Senior Symposium has been incredibly insightful and the seniors have grown a tremendous amount. All of us are looking forward to the discussions which still lie ahead next semester. With only one semester left until commissioning, we are eager to learn as much as we can to lead our future Solders, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen. A special thanks to Dr. Randy Gurie and the Cadets of the Old War Skule for making senior symposium a phenomenal experience.

-MIDN 1/C Hill



The Redstick Battalion has some exciting new products that will soon be made available for purchase. Purchase forms will be sent out soon so please consider an item below to show your support and unit pride!



Unit Coin (front)



Unit Coin (back)

<u>PRICES</u>
SUNROTC Challenge Coin \$10
SUNROTC POLO \$35
SUNROTC Ball Cap \$20

Unit Ball Cap



Unit Polo



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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FALL COMMISSIONEES!

MIDN 1/C Zackary Robert commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy on December 13th and graduated from Southern University on December 14th with a degree in Criminal Justice. ENS Blackburn will serve as a Surface Warfare Officer and is headed to USS Gridley (DDG 101) homeported in Everett, WA.



MIDN 1/C Daniel Minh Nguyen commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy on December 13th and graduated from Southern University on December 14th with a degree in Computer Science. ENS Nguyen will serve as a Surface Warfare Officer and is headed to USS Anchorage (LPD 23) homeported in San Diego, CA.



MIDN 4/C Meaux receiving his annual flu shot.



SUNROTC at LSU Salutes



MIDN 2/C Mooney participates in a Field Exercise with others from Tulane ROTC and OST Baton Rouge.



MIDN 1/C Blackburn & MIDN 1/C Hill with Navy F/A 18 pilots in Tiger Stadium after a fly over.