

BADGER SHIPMATE

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From the Captain's Chair

Happy New Year!

If you're shaking your head wondering how it's possible another year has gone by, join the crowd! I hope you all had a great holiday season and that this Newsletter finds you and yours in good health.

2015 was a great year for our Association. Our Awards Trust Fund is on solid ground and as a result of Alumni generosity, over five thousand dollars was awarded to Midshipman competing for Association scholarships in 2015. These scholarships become more important every year due to a paradigm shift from four-year NROTC scholarships, to two or three year scholarships.

Membership is increasing, but not at a pace I am content with, so please reach out to your classmates to get them involved with our Association.

Last October, the Association hosted its annual reunion coinciding with a home football game. Unfortunately, the Badgers lost the game, but a good time was had by all during the reception Friday night and at the tailgate following our annual meeting at the Naval Armory Saturday morning. CAPT Scott Singer (87) was elected as your newest Association Director, and CAPT Joe Abel (64) was re-elected as an Association Director during the annual meeting. Thank you Scott and Joe for stepping forward to help lead our organization. Planning is already under way for the 2016 reunion, which will be held the weekend of October 15th (Ohio State).

Last week I represented you during the December commissioning ceremony, where a Naval/Marine Corps heritage book was presented to each of the five newly minted officers on behalf of our Association. Following the ceremony, all five officers expressed their sincere gratitude for what the Association has done for them during their tenure at Wisconsin. You make that possible, so thank you again for supporting our Alumni Association.

May 2016 bring you good health, fair winds, and following seas!

On Wisconsin!

Pat Volk '88

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Fall 2015 Reunion
Fluno Center Sky Bar, Madison



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The Sea Bag: CAPT Scott Singer, USN '87

I graduated from Madison in 1987 with a meteorology degree and orders to flight school. But, too many people had the same idea and I found myself in San Diego at Surface Warfare Officers School. As a SWO (surface warfare officer) on an LPD, we headed to Alaska to clean up the Exxon Valdez spill and then to the Persian Gulf for over 10 months. After leaving active duty I joined the reserves and I have had some great jobs that have taken me all over the world. However, my latest job is back home in my adopted state of MN. Don't worry, I am a Packer owner and Badger football season ticket holder. My current job is the NEPLO for MN where I drill with the MN National Guard. I am the only person on the drill deck in "blue berries".

Navy emergency preparedness liaison officers (NEPLOs) are Navy Reservists with special training in domestic emergency response and typically have familiarity with the affected area. During an emergency, they are called to active duty to assist in civil emergency planning and coordination. They provide liaison to state and federal authorities and other DOD agencies to plan, prepare for, coordinate and execute Department of the Navy DSCA (Defense Support of Civil Authorities).

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NEPLOs provide guidance and advice to the DCO (Defense Coordinating Officer) on issues relative to Navy assistance required for the disaster response in their State or Region and may be assigned to a joint field office or other location to support the response.

Each state has a reserve Army Colonel, Air Force Colonel, and a Navy Captain as liaisons between the state National Guard, FEMA, and the military. A real world example is where Navy divers were asked to help support recovery efforts when the I35 bridge collapsed in Minneapolis. When a disaster strikes we report to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). As you can see, I had to learn a whole new set of acronyms. Currently, two former Badgers are state NEPLOs, CAPT Darin Englehart is Wisconsin's and I am Minnesota's.



Got a story or update you'd like to share? Email us!

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Winter Commissioning State Capitol, 23 Dec 2015

CONGRATS AND WELCOME TO THE FLEET:

ENS Kyle Burke - 23, Inver Grove, MN, Submarine Warfare Community, will report to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, SC

ENS Colin Gallaher - 22, Edina, MN, Submarine Warfare Community, will report to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, SC

ENS Brendan Page - 22, Rockbridge, OH, Submarine Warfare Community, will report to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, SC

ENS Thomas Goodwin - 22, Coronado, CA, Naval Aviation Community, will report to Naval Aviation Schools Command in Pensacola, FL

2nd Lt Sarkis Zenobian - 22, from Excelsior, MN, USMC, will report to The Basic School in Quantico, VA



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Badger Battalion in the News (Courtesy of UW's *The Weekly* 02 Dec 2015)

Meet Raider, UW's Other Adorable Animal Mascot -Devin Lowe

Bucky Badger is not the only fuzzy, friendly mascot on campus. UW-Madison's Naval ROTC unit has its own furry companion, carrying on a decades-long Marine Corps tradition.

Raider is a one-and-a-half-year-old English bulldog and the pet of Staff Sgt. Francisco Olivas, the unit's Assistant Marine Officer Instructor.



Soon after joining the battalion in August of last year, Olivas started bringing Raider into the unit, where he spent most of his time playing, napping and looking for treats. "He just runs around," Olivas says. "He goes from office to office. He goes into whoever's office he gets fed in, probably."

It didn't take long for Raider to become beloved by the midshipmen, so much so that True Kaddatz, a sophomore in the 68-member unit, suggested that the Battalion adopt Raider as a mascot.

"Raider would be the highlight of almost everyone's day," Kaddatz says. "He just became a part of the Badger Battalion family. The Marine Corps have a mascot; the Navy has one. Why not the Badger Battalion? It's our personal piece of the military culture."

With approval from Capt. Christopher Murdoch, professor of naval science, and a quick trip to the nearest National Guard unit for an official military portrait, Raider's status as battalion mascot was confirmed.

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Badger Battalion in the News (Continued)

Raider is just one in a long line of English bulldogs that have been Marine Corps mascots over the years, Olivas says.



The first was Jiggs (seen here), born in 1919 and owned by the legendary Maj. Gen. Smedley Butler. Over the course of his life, Jiggs was promoted several times, attaining the rank of Sgt. Maj. before his much-mourned death.

The Marines' current official mascot is Cpl. Chesty XIV, who took over for his predecessor, Sgt. Chesty XIII, in 2013. The original Chesty, named after Lt. Gen. Lewis "Chesty" Puller, served in the late 1950s during the Eisenhower administration.

Raider's duties are sparse, as he typically spends only one day per week at the unit. Still, he gives his absolute best effort along with the rest of the battalion on PT (physical training) days.

"He gets tired after like 15 minutes of playing," Olivas says. "English bulldogs... they go hard. They go 100 percent."

Raider loves attention and chasing his lacrosse ball — the only toy he hasn't yet destroyed. After he tires out, he typically curls up in his bed in Olivas's office and naps in preparation for more play. Sleeping, according to Olivas, is his favorite activity.

Contrary to his intimidating appearance, Raider is a bit skittish and leery of unfamiliar noises. Even the thudding of a basketball being bounced or the swish of a garbage bag is enough to make him cower.

While Raider might not be the toughest Marine, he's great at boosting morale and giving the hard-working students opportunities to relax.

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Membership

Membership is available to all UWNROTC Alumni as well as Wisconsin NROTC Program participants and Unit staff members.

Memberships are based on the calendar year and are not prorated. Membership Dues:

Annual Membership	\$25
5-Year Membership	\$100
Lifetime Membership	\$300

Membership dues are used to fund Association operations, Midshipman Battalion events, alumni reunion support, and a portion of each payment is placed in the enduring Award Trust Fund that was established over 25 years ago.

All 5-Year and Lifetime members are recognized by name in the Badger Shipmate. Dues can be mailed to:

UW NROTC Alumni Association
PO Box 5205
Madison, WI 53705-0205

OR:

Payments can be made on-line via PayPal via the Alumni Webpage:
<http://uwnrotcalumni.org>

Contact us via email: (include your new contact information) at:
uwnrotcalum@gmail.com

Have a classmate that isn't a member?
Please send them the gouge!