

USC NAVAL ROTC NEWSLETTER



May 2024

Edited by: MIDN Hof

An Unforgettable Milestone: MIDN 1/C Class Commissions!

By: MIDN Hof



MIDN 1/C at the start of the ceremony

On the morning of 11 May, the 1/C Midshipmen (MIDN) class was promoted into Ensigns (ENS) of the U.S. Navy and 2nd Lieutenants (2ndLt) of the Marine Corps. This resonant ceremony marked the end of their collegiate studies and participation in the University of Southern California's Naval Reserve Officer Training Program (NROTC) but started the beginning of their selfless service to our country. As guests took their seats in the auditorium, the ceremony commenced with heartfelt and impactful speeches by Professor Frank Zerunyan and Colonel Juarez. Their advice touched the hearts and minds of all attendees, solidifying the impact these powerful leaders will have on all those commissioning and their families. The Oath of Office was delivered next. All MIDN took the oath, either by a mentor service member or Colonel Juarez, free of mental reservation and to reaffirm their commitment to the prosperity of our country. Following the Oath of Office, MIDN family members joined their respective graduate in the ceremony in a deeply moving moment to assist in the insignia change and the changing of cover insignia from the NROTC Midshipman emblem to that of a U.S. Naval Officer's or U.S. Marine Corp Officer's. As tears started flowing among attendees, the first salute emerged as a standout moment, symbolizing not only the guidance received from officers but also the influence of those led within the unit.

The first salute is an old tradition for all US Service Branches in which newly commissioned officers give a silver dollar to the person from whom they receive the very first salute of their career. The ceremony ended with Colonel Hull (USMC Retired), the President of the USC's NROTC Alumni League, welcoming all newly commissioned leaders as new members. The USC NROTC community eagerly awaits the contributions of these newly commissioned officers as they embark on their journey in service to the United States Navy and Marine Corps. We are eternely grateful for your contribution to our unit and look forward to what you will accomplish in the future. Congratulations, Ladies and Gentlemen!



*2ndLt Cava (Top Left) taking the Oath of Office
ENS O'Brien sharing his first salute with MIDN Merone (Top Right)
Commissioning class (Bottom) taking the Oath of Office delivered by
Colonel Juarez*

Where are They Headed?

Surface Warfare Officers

- ENS William Durban: DDG 117 Paul Ignatius; Rota, Spain
- ENS Blake Harrison (SWON): DDG 79 USS Oscar Austin; Rota, Spain
- ENS Karl Kammereck (SWON): DDG 75 USS Donald Cook; Mayport, FL
- ENS Lindsey Crowe: DDG 123 USS Lenah Sutcliffe Higbee; San Diego, CA
- ENS Kelvin Cao (SWON): LPD 23 USS Anchorage; San Diego, CA
- ENS Marco Chan: LPD 25 USS Somerset; San Diego, CA
- ENS Isabella Sanchez: LHD 4 USS Boxer; San Diego, CA
- ENS William Mun: LHD 2 USS Essex; San Diego, CA
- ENS Declan Cooper: LHA 6 USS America; Sasebo, Japan

Submarine Officers

- ENS Grant Addington
- ENS Kellen Cheung
- ENS Ty Benjamin Majam
- ENS Tyler Hwangbo
- ENS Henry Piper

Navy Pilot

- ENS Shea O'Brien
- ENS Anne Whelan
- ENS Andrew Larratt
- ENS Max Jenson

Marine Corps Officers

- 2ndLt Michael Cava
- 2ndLt Sean Katzmann
- 2ndLt Salvador Rodriguez
- 2ndLt John Trodden
- 2ndLt John Whidden



ENS Cheung and ENS Chan



ENS O'Brien, 2ndLt Trodden, and ENS Harrison



ENS Larratt, ENS Durban, and ENS Harrison



Semesterly Change of Command

The Trojan Battalion Welcomes In its Fall Semester Chain of Command

By: MIDN Hof



**Battalion
Commanding
Officer (BNCO) -
Midshipman Paradis**



**Battalion Executive
Officer (BNXO) -
Midshipman
Schweizer**



**Command Master
Chief (CMC) -
Midshipman Walsh**

Fall Chain of Command



**Operations Platoon
Commanding
Officer -
Midshipman
Giorgetta**



**Training Platoon
Commanding
Officer -
Midshipman Salva**



**Communications
Platoon Commanding
Officer -
Midshipman Hebert**



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