

2024 Edition, Volume
FOUR of the
Wolverine
Maritime Battalion
Alumni Newsletter



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Note from Captain Day

Happy Winter Wolverine Battalion Alumni, Parents, Families and Friends!

I hope that this newsletter finds everyone well and energized! This past fall the Battalion has been a hub of activity and the winter semester is on track to be just as amazing.

MIDN Ong, our fall semester Midshipman Battalion Commander, and his team put together an excellent lineup of leadership development training events that emphasize our strong commitment to our professions of arms and service before self. The winter semester Midshipman Battalion Commander, MIDN Muha, has put together a great schedule.

In my first semester 5 months here, I've enjoyed getting to know our Midshipmen, and it continues to be my honor and pleasure to watch them develop into the promising leaders of the future, ready to assume increasing responsibilities and serve our nation as warrior-citizens. Best regards and Go Blue!

CAPT Day

Alumni Spotlight

Captain Robert Spratto

UMNROTC Class of 1986

Tim Spratto is Vice President and General Manager of BAE Systems Jacksonville Ship Repair.

He is responsible for managing the organization that provides ship maintenance and modernization services to the U.S. Navy at Mayport Naval Station, as well as providing military and commercial ship repair services through the company's shipyard in Jacksonville, Florida. Additionally, BAE Systems Jacksonville Ship Repair is a fabrication provider to the submarine industrial base. He assumed the role in 2020.

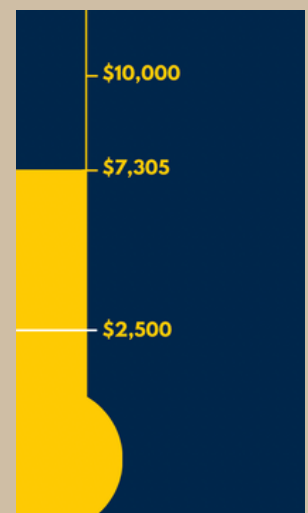
A 1986 graduate of the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources, Spratto served more than 30 years in the U.S. Navy. As a nuclear-trained Surface Warfare Officer, he served his Division Officer and Department Head sea tours on the nuclear cruisers USS CALIFORNIA (CGN 36) and USS MISSISSIPPI (CGN 40) and on the aircraft carrier ENTERPRISE (CVN 65). Following a shore tour at the Naval War College, he served as Executive Officer of USS PORTER (DDG 78) and then commanded the USS FORD (FFG 54). Follow on command tours at sea included Commander Amphibious Squadrons 2 and 6. Shore tours included NROTC Instructor at Norwich University, Instructor duty at Command Leadership School, Director Capabilities Solutions Group JFCOM, and assistant chief of staff, material readiness and assessments for Naval Surface Forces Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia. He retired with the rank of captain in 2016.

He is married to Brooke Spratto. The two have three children, three children grandchildren, and currently reside on Amelia Island in northeast Florida.



Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday helps the Wolverine Maritime Battalion immensely in its mission to prepare midshipmen for service in the Navy and Marine Corps. This year's donations will be used for an educational trip to Normandy, France, where midshipmen will have the opportunity to explore D-Day battlegrounds, deepen their historical knowledge of WWII, and enhance their leadership skills and camaraderie. This Giving Tuesday was a success! 59 donations contributed to a total of \$7305, surpassing the goal of \$2500 by a landslide. The Wolverine Maritime Battalion would like to give a heartfelt thank you to all those who contributed to the Battalion's mission by donating. A special thanks to Ron Fialk and Neal & Nancy Stephenson for their extremely generous donations of \$500. Your generosity goes a long way in supporting our midshipmen!



Winter Semester Change of Command

The Wolverine Maritime Battalion welcomes in its spring semester Chain of Command



Fall Battalion Commanding Officer
MIDN 1/C Ong



Fall Battalion Executive Officer
MIDN 1/C Likens



Fall Battalion Operations Officer
MIDN 1/C Wright



Spring Battalion Commanding Officer
MIDN 1/C Muha



Spring Battalion Executive Officer
SSgt Jutila



Spring Battalion Operations Officer
MIDN 1/C Wys



Fall Semester Unit Events

As always, the Midshipmen were busy working hard both in the classroom and in the unit in the fall semester, organizing various events that strengthened the Wolverine Maritime Battalion physically, mentally, and morally. Below is a summary of the variety of activities the unit dedicated their time to.

New Student Orientation (NSO)

Before the commencement of the semester, the incoming 4/C Midshipmen built upon the introduction the naval service they received in the summer in New Student Indoctrination. Led by OIC, MIDN 1/C Krajniak, and OIC, MIDN 1/C Reindollar, the newest members of the Battalion underwent four days of rigorous physical training, classroom instruction, and an introduction to the Battalion, concluding with the oath of office. The OIC and AOIC were aided in their duties by numerous other Midshipmen, including troop handlers who led the incoming class through day to day activities, and instilled discipline in them. Congratulations to our 4/C Midshipmen!



The Wolverine Maritime Battalion at the Birthday Run (below)

Guest speaker Rear Admiral Lance Thompson at LINS symposium (below)

Guest speaker Captain Lance Thompson at LINS symposium (below)

The oath of office, concluding NSO (above)



Navy and Marine Corps Birthday

To honor and celebrate 249 years of Navy and Marine Corps excellence, the Wolverine Battalion continued its annual tradition of the Birthday Run and the Birthday Ball.

The Birthday Run took place on October 9th and 10th. Midshipmen and staff, two at a time, ran continuously around the Diag from 0900 on the 9th until 0600 on the 10th for a collective 249 miles. The Birthday Ball took place a month later, joined by the guest of honor, Vice Admiral Richard Cheeseman. The Ball included the traditional cake cutting of the youngest Navy and Marine-option in the unit, delicious food, and fun all around.

Both of these events served as a reminder of the rich history of war fighting excellence of the two services.



Veterans Day

On Veterans Day, the Wolverine Maritime Battalion, in collaboration with the Army and Air Force unit, honored all veterans, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice. This is one of many tri-service events that the unit participates in every year, building and strengthening relationships between the services.

If you know of alumni that would like to receive the newsletter, scan the QR code and fill out the form:



Leaders in Naval Service Symposium

On October 13th and 14th, the Wolverine Maritime Battalion had the honor of hosting NROTC units from across the country, and ten esteemed guest speakers at the Leaders in Naval Service (LINS) symposium. Each speaker shared their breadth of invaluable knowledge and experience in leadership with the attending Midshipmen.

To learn more about the warfare communities in the Navy and Marine Corps, there were dedicated breakout rooms where Midshipmen asked the guest speakers and other officers present questions in a classroom environment. The event was a great success, thanks in large part due to the dedication of LINS OIC MIDN 1/C Reindollar. The Wolverine Maritime Battalion looks forward to hosting LINS symposium again in 2025!

Alumni Tailgate

This year's Wolverine Maritime Battalion Alumni Tailgate was another great success. On September 14th, prior to the Arkansas game, Midshipmen had the opportunity to meet alumni of the unit. There was food, fun, and most importantly the Wolverine Maritime Battalion family. The Wolverine Maritime Battalion would like to thank all who attended. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

