

Command Master Chief Message

Dear Sea Cadet,

First, let me tell you how both proud and honored I am to serve as your Command Master Chief. While there are many roles of a Command Master Chief, primarily as the senior enlisted advisor to our commanding officer, the one I always take most to heart is being responsible for the general morale and welfare of the Sailors under my charge. For you, that means my job is to make sure you are both happy and successful in this program. It is my intention to find out what that "happy and successful" looks like for each and every one of you. And, then I will make it my mission to help you get there.

Lucky for you, I am not alone in this endeavor. The time, energy, and hard work that I have already witnessed by the adult volunteers that serve this Battalion is remarkable. We are even luckier to have ENS Robert Giodarno as our Commanding Officer. Besides being really, really smart and full of energy, he is dedicated to ensuring YOU have the absolute best experience possible. His message to me has been clear: "I want the cadets to learn something worthwhile, and have fun every single drill." I know we have an annual inspection coming from Regional Headquarters that we have to prepare for, but after that, we are out of the classroom and into the world (a night on the USS Slater; outdoor navigation training, weapons training, Black Hawk Helicopters, and MORE)! Before we know it, it will be summer, and hopefully you will be off for a week or two to Rhode Island to work with lawyers, or Pensacola to work with pilots, any number of exciting opportunities to learn cool stuff and make new friends!!

However, before we can do any of that, we have to get in shape! And, if you were at the last drill, you know I mean WE. Due to an injury a year or so ago, I have not exercised in almost two years. And, in the Navy, we lead from the front, so I will complete this training and test with you. The key is not waiting until drill day to start the process. You will receive an email soon from our Training Department with a recommended training program to begin. It will build you up gradually to get you where you need to be. If you have not been exercising regularly, the challenge will be to start - but please do so. I promise there are many benefits to this.

More importantly, you cannot get promoted or go to those outstanding training opportunities, until we pass this test. So, now all drill periods going forward will include a run portion. We will all do this, and we will do it together. This Sea Cadet program simply has too much to offer to let one stinking mile get in the way of getting a job done. That's simply not how Sailors operate.

Again, I am honored to serve this Battalion and look forward to your future success!

Dennis Bye
Master Chief
United State Navy (Ret)