



# United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

3 February 1999

## **MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL OFFICERS/DIRECTORS**

Subj: 1999 NSCC OFFICER/CADETS OF THE YEAR SELECTIONS

Encl: (1) Officer of the Year Biographical Profile  
(2) NSCC Cadet of the Year Biographical Profile  
(3) NLCC Cadet of the Year Biographical Profile

1. A selection board, presided over by Mr. Nicholas Brango, former NSCC National Chairman, met in closed session to select the 1999 Officer and NSCC/NLCC Cadets of the Year. I am pleased to approve the recommendations of the board and to announce the honored selectees as follows:

### **NICHOLAS BRANGO AWARD FOR INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

LCDR Barbara J. LaVoie, NSCC  
Commanding Officer, FRA CONSTITUTION Division  
Lawrence, Massachusetts, sponsored by FRA Branch 31 and NERA Constitution Chapter

### **WILLIS E. REED NSCC CADET OF THE YEAR**

Cadet CPO Jason T. Harris, NSCC  
VALLEY FORGE Squadron  
MCAS El Toro, California, sponsored by the Orange County Council, NLUS

### **KEITH T. WEAVER NLCC CADET OF THE YEAR**

Cadet LC5 Sean J. Boyle  
FRA CONSTITUTION Division  
Lawrence, Massachusetts, sponsored by FRA Branch 31 and NERA Constitution Chapter

2. Lieutenant Commander LaVoie and Cadet CPO Harris will be invited to attend the Navy League Convention in Chicago, Illinois, from 21 to 25 July 1999, as guests of the Navy League and the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Cadet Boyle will be honored at an appropriate ceremony in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

3. Biographical sketches of Lieutenant Commander LaVoie, Cadet CPO Rhodes, and Cadet Boyle are enclosed for your information.

*B B Smith*  
B. B. Smith

Copy to:  
Nicholas Brango  
Mrs. Willis E. Reed  
Keith T. Weaver  
NSCC Field Representatives  
NSCC Regional/Associate Regional Directors  
NSCC/NLCC Commanding Officers

## **NICHOLAS BRANGO AWARD FOR INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Nicholas Brango has exemplified the Navy League of the United States' commitment to the education and training of American youth in his various positions of leadership in both the Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Navy League. In his honor, this award is made annually to that NSCC officer who has excelled in all phases of NSCC/NLCC training, and whose leadership has made a significant contribution to attaining Navy League goals in training and education of our youth. The 1999 recipient of this award goes to:

**LCDR Barbara J. LaVoie, NSCC  
Commanding Officer  
FRA CONSTITUTION Division,  
Lawrence, Massachusetts**

LCDR LaVoie first affiliated with the Naval Sea Cadet Corps in June 1985, being appointed an ensign in the Sea Cadet Corps. Since her first years in the Sea Cadet Program she has been a heavy and consistent contributor to the program in a myriad of ways. She immediately contributed her time and energy by assisting as an escort at summer training duties, as well as being active in the local commands. She was first appointed Commanding Officer of FRA CONSTITUTION in November 1992. Since her appointment as commanding officer, she has served with distinction, having produced superior results in all phases of her unit's recruiting, training, and administration. LCDR LaVoie has consistently provided strong leadership, meaningful direction, and interesting training for her unit. The FRA CONSTITUTION Division has ranked as one of the top ten units in the country for the past five years and continues to get better each year. FRA CONSTITUTION'S consistent performance, and strong national rankings are tribute to LCDR LaVoie's command skills and management ability.

LCDR LaVoie is a true professional and the consummate commanding officer. Since assuming command, she has led this unit to new standards of excellence. FRA CONSTITUTION Division has grown and excelled under her command, showing marked increases in the manning levels of NSCC and NLCC cadets, with all demonstrating individual achievement and personal growth. A compassionate commanding officer, she is known for putting the needs of the cadets before her own. She works exceptionally hard to ensure her cadets attend recruit training, and that they take follow-on advanced training to get promoted. She also works to make the program better for all of Region One. For several years she has hosted the semi-annual NSCC Cadet Rifle Qualification event at the Massachusetts National Guard home site. This is a major event in which all of Region One participates, with well over 75 cadets participating in each of the rifle matches. In addition to these events, LCDR LaVoie is a judge and escort at the annual NSCC New England Swim Meet held at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

For the past twelve summers, LCDR LaVoie has been an escort for the New England Recruit Training Camp. For most of these training duties she has performed as the RTC's Administrative Officer. Her vast knowledge has helped to insure Region One's recruit training is run efficiently and smoothly. LCDR LaVoie cultivates good working relationships with all with whom she comes into contact. Her manner and enthusiasm has helped her to maintain a close relationship with the USS CONSTITUTION, resulting in her unit being allowed to conduct training evolutions on "Old Ironsides."

LCDR LaVoie has been Region One's Officer of the Year for four of the past five years. In addition to this distinction, LCDR LaVoie is authorized to wear the Meritorious Recognition Ribbon and the Distinguished Service Ribbon. LCDR LaVoie's dedication to the NSCC program and inspirational leadership provide an example to which all should aspire. She is most worthy of receiving the Nicholas Brango Award for Inspirational Leadership for 1999.

## **WILLIS E. REED NSCC CADET OF THE YEAR AWARD**

This award honors and serves as a memorial to past National Chairman, Willis E. Reed, and recognizes annually the Naval Sea Cadet who has excelled in all phases of NSCC training, and whose achievements mark him or her as the Cadet of the Year. In tribute to one whose participation in the program has been marked by excellence and accomplishment, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps makes this award for 1999 to:

**Cadet CPO Jason T. Harris, NSCC  
VALLEY FORGE Squadron  
Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California**

Cadet Chief Petty Officer Harris has been a member of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps Program for over four years. He became a member of the VALLEY FORGE Squadron on 17 November 1995. He attended NSCC recruit training at Naval Air Station, Miramar, California, where he was a member of the Honor Company, graduating 6 July 1996. Cadet CPO Harris immediately went on to complete an advanced training period (TWT) at Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California, having finished training duty in August 1996. During Christmas Holidays 1996, he completed an additional training duty of eleven days by working with the Marines in collecting "Toys for Tots." Cadet CPO Harris was next selected to participate in the Canadian Exchange at HMCS Quadra, Vancouver, British Columbia. His next assignment was at the Pacific Southwest Recruit Training Camp serving as a staff cadet. This was followed by a shipboard training duty on the USS ESSEX during an underway period. His last training was at the Petty Officers Leadership Academy, Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, California, where he was selected as the Outstanding Cadet. In each one of these training duties he received the highest of performance marks possible. He has served over 65 days on advanced training, providing him a well-rounded view of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps at work. In addition to this training duty, he has participated in every annual Pacific Southwest Flagship Competition since joining the NSCC. At the last flagship competition, Cadet Harris was selected as the most outstanding Leading Petty Officer for Flagship 98. Cadet CPO Harris has been awarded three Perfect Attendance Awards, having attended all drills, flagship practices, and special events of his unit since his enrollment. Cadet CPO Harris was promoted to his present rate in November 1998.

Cadet CPO Harris is a senior at El Dorado High School in Placentia, California, where he excels academically, ranking 40th in his class of 445 with a 3.83 grade point average. Cadet CPO Harris is identified as a gifted student with multiple talents. His academic work in school includes a rigorous schedule of advanced placement courses in math and science, including calculus and chemistry. He has achieved various academic honors throughout his high school career and is a member of the National Honor Society. Cadet CPO Harris is a member of several other academic clubs including the following: California Scholarship Club, Physics/Chemistry Club, and Math Club. Cadet CPO Harris is also on the school newspaper staff. An excellent athlete, Cadet Harris is a member of the El Dorado High School Track and Field Team, lettering as a cross country runner. Separately, he has also received the National Physical Fitness Award.

Cadet CPO Harris has exhibited outstanding leadership skills through the Naval Sea Cadet Corps and as a high school student. He shows a high degree of maturity and enthusiasm, and takes a common sense approach in dealing with peers and subordinates. He consistently wears his uniform in a manner that reflects pride in himself and the NSCC. Cadet CPO Harris is authorized to wear the following awards: Meritorious Recognition (3 awards), Unit Commendation (3 awards), Cadet Citation (2 awards), Staff Cadet and Recruiting Ribbon. CPO Harris' positive attitude, initiative, military bearing, and deportment exemplify the highest traditions of the United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Navy League. It is fitting that he be recognized for his achievements, which mark him as the 1999 NSCC Cadet of the Year and recipient of the Willis E. Reed Award.

## **KEITH T. WEAVER NLCC CADET OF THE YEAR AWARD**

This award honors the past NSCC National Chairman and Executive Director, Keith T. Weaver, and recognizes annually the Naval League Cadet who has excelled in all phases of NLCC training, and whose achievements mark him or her as the Cadet of the Year. In tribute to one whose participation in the program has been marked by excellence and accomplishment, the Naval Sea and League Cadet Corps makes this award for 1999 to:

**Cadet LC5 Sean J. Boyle, NLCC  
FRA CONSTITUTION Division  
Lawrence, Massachusetts**

Cadet Sean Boyle has been a member of the Navy League Cadet Corp Program for almost two years. He became a member of the FRA CONSTITUTION Division in February 1997. He attended NLCC orientation training on board the USS CONSTITUTION in April 1997. Since completing orientation training, Cadet Boyle has completed thirteen additional weekend training duties encompassing 38 days of various Navy and nautical instruction. Training received included survival training, small arms training, cadet staff duty, leadership training, Flagship competition, and damage control training. In each of these evolutions Cadet Boyle excelled, having been a model for others to emulate.

An active and willing individual, Cadet Boyle is a standout in whatever the tasking or mission assigned. Cadet Boyle has served in numerous color guards for his unit and has provided direct support for the Navy Recruit Induction ceremonies onboard the USS CONSTITUTION, the Navy's oldest commissioned ship. Further, Cadet Boyle has participated in the New England Swim Meets. In each of these endeavors he has excelled. Cadet Boyle has maintained an excellent attendance record at his home unit. He willingly fulfills all requests for assistance and frequently volunteers to take on more responsibility. Cadet Boyle's other activities include attainment of First Class Scout, Order of the Arrow (a service-oriented wing of the BSA), Scout National Honor Society, and service as an altar boy for five years.

Cadet Boyle exhibits outstanding leadership skills throughout the Naval League Cadet Corps. He shows a high degree of maturity and enthusiasm. He consistently wears his uniform in a manner that reflects pride in himself and the NLCC. Cadet Boyle is authorized to wear the unit commendation, color guard, and year ribbons. Cadet Boyle's positive attitude, initiative, military bearing, and deportment exemplify the highest traditions of the United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, the Naval League Cadet Corps and the Navy League. It is fitting that he be recognized for his achievements, which mark him as the very first NLCC Cadet of the Year and recipient of the Keith T. Weaver Award in 1999.