

I would like to call your attention to two of our latest success stories. The first photo (marching in khaki) is Ryan Nonnenmacher who enrolled in Liberty (AGTR5) Division on 01-Jan-04. Just this summer he graduated High School and was accepted into the Merchant Marine Academy. He was advanced to the grade of PO1 on 14-Nov-08.



The second picture is that of Steven Anderson who came to us on 01-Nov-04 when he was just a little guy, skinny as a pole. Steven was accepted into the US Naval Academy where he reported on day after graduating High School. Steven excelled to the grade of PO1 on 15-Nov-08 and served as the Division Leading Petty Officer before departing this summer.



Both of these young men are examples of our finest.

They are both Long Island Residents and they join the ranks of others from Liberty (AGTR5) Division who have taken the challenge, did their finest and were rewarded with bright careers for their efforts. These others include:

- Christopher Hayes currently an upperclassman at the SUNY Maritime Academy who should be graduating this year upon which he will accept a commission as an Ensign in the Navy Reserve. He wants to go on to be a naval aviator. Chris joined Liberty (AGTR5) on 01-Apr-02 and was the first Chief Petty Officer in the unit.

- Robert Litts who came to us on 04-May-04. He was advanced to Chief Petty Officer on 13-Sep-08 and upon graduation this summer accepted an appointment at the US Coast Guard Academy. Upon graduation Robert will receive a commission as an Ensign in the US Coast Guard.

- Erich Stumpel enrolled on 30-Sep-07 and is now attending the US Naval Academy Preparatory course.
- Kevin Candiotti joined the Division on 01-Sep-05 attaining the grade of PO2 on 10-Jul-08. Kevin is one of two recipients of a \$180,000.00 scholarship from the US Navy last year. Kevin is attending SUNY Maritime Academy and upon graduation will be commissioned an Ensign in the Navy Reserve.
- The second recipient of the \$180,000.00 scholarship is Ryan Marshall who is currently attending VMI working toward a commission in the US Navy.

There have been many more over the past few years from Liberty (AGTR5) Division along; when multiplied over some 300 plus US Naval Sea Cadet Units across the United States one is broadsided by the unequivocal fact: the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a success story in building character, perseverance and citizenship and doing more than its part in making America strong.

Each one of the Naval Sea Cadet officers and staff at the mentors that hold this program together and help make these success stories happen. Each of you should be proud of the hours of volunteer time you put into this program. Look at these leaders of tomorrow and know that this is why we do what we do.

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