

## Brent Martin

Ever since Brent was on a large ship when he was 6 years old, he has been fascinated with the ocean and navigating large ships. While on that cruise, he got to take a group tour of the bridge. After the officer's presentation, Brent asked what they had to study in school to get to do this. Every one of the officers said that they were ex-Navy.

After the cruise, Brent and his father were browsing the Navy website when they found out about the NLCC, and that there was a unit in Nashville. He was very interested but too young to join. Four days after his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday Brent visited LPD-13 and joined on the spot.

His first year was challenging since he was the youngest in the group and the only "Leaguer" in the unit!! He studied his material and learned that the Navy was something that he was interested in. When he was allowed, he participated with the older NSCC cadets and even got to attend some of their functions. It was intimidating at first but the older boys made him feel welcome and the things he learned were very interesting.

A little more than a year later, Brent had showed enough maturity and academic progress that the CO entered a waiver request to national headquarters for a promotion into the NSCC. It was approved and at the next awards ceremony Brent was made a proud Sea Cadet.

Today, Brent continues to learn leadership skills and is planning on applying to the Naval Academy. He also proudly wears his Navy League Service ribbon to this day.