Scholarships Available to Prepare for a Career in Financial Services

Ted Digges
The Oakleaf

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More than thirteen hundred members and spouses respond to surveys

By CAPT Kurt Libby, SC, USN (Ret.), Vice Chairman, Foundation Board of Directors

Were you one of the more than thirteen hundred members, spouses and chapter presidents who took the Foundation member survey in November and December? If so, we thank you. You are playing a key role in helping the Foundation update its Three Year Strategic Plan.

I have been tasked by our new Board Chairman, RADM (Ret.) Linda Bird, to oversee this process, which is now well underway. We began with a review of the Foundation’s existing mission and vision statements and I am happy to report these important mileposts were revalidated by senior members of the Board early last fall.

Surveying our membership to get their thoughts on where to put our focus in the coming years was the next step and the survey period that ran from mid-November to mid-December 2015. Responses were received from 1,272 members, 69 spouses, and 15 Chapter Presidents. Happily, there were significant areas of agreement among the three groups. That is not to say that there weren’t some areas of difference that will require further examination before we can confidently embark on a course that reflects the desires of a significant majority of our members.

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SECNAV Retiree Council meets in DC

By CDR (Ret.) Mike Newell, SC, USN

Is there an issue that you, as a retiree or a someday retiree, would like to see the Secretary of the Navy address? If so, this may be your opportunity to get that issue to the front of the line.

As announced in several issues of The Oakleaf last year, I am serving a three year term on the Secretary of the Navy’s Retiree Council. The Retiree Council meets each August to discuss matters of importance to the Navy and Marine Corps retired community. They then formally submit issue papers to SECNAV so that they can be researched, addressed, and resolved at the appropriate levels of Navy and Marine Corps leadership. In addition, some issues are referred to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Veteran’s Administration, if necessary.

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Inside ...

Note new address!
Navy Supply Corps Foundation
3651 Mars Hill Road
Suite 200B
Watkinsville, Georgia 30677
www.usnscf.com

Scholarship Profile

Memories and shared sea stories
In Transition: Scholarships available to prepare for a career in financial services

By CAPT Ted Digges, SC, USN (Ret.)
Executive Director, The American College’s Penn Mutual Center for Veterans Affairs

The American College of Financial Services has reached a major milestone, surpassing the $1 million mark in total scholarships awarded since 2012. With 70 scholarships awarded in just the last 12 months – a 100 percent increase from the previous year – the program, which awards 100 percent scholarships to veterans and their spouses, leading to careers in the financial services industry, is experiencing unprecedented interest.

This well-funded program has not, however, taken hold in perhaps the community that could benefit the most: the Navy Supply Corps. Active duty, retired, former Supply Corps officers, and their spouses are all eligible for full scholarships covering online blackboard access, registration, textbooks, and the cost of examinations. While other communities, such as the Navy Helo community, have embraced this opportunity, only a very few have tapped into the free education from the Supply Corps ranks.

The irony, of course, is that former Supply Corps officers are perhaps the best fit to have a successful career in the financial services profession because of their financial and service background and culture. Those with a background in the Supply Corps or in a supply enlisted rating are particularly a good fit because of the culture they come from and the skills they develop while they serve. Their leadership, work ethic, integrity, and attention to detail are all traits that clients demand.

As a retired Supply Corps captain, there is no community I would rather support than my own. The funds and support are in place... and now, so is the challenge.

For more information, visit Veterans.TheAmericanCollege.edu or email Ted Digges at Ted.digges@theamericancollege.edu.

Supply Corps Foundation Leadership Award presented at NSCS graduation

At left, RADM Vincent Griffith and CAPT Kristen Fabry present ENS Jonathan Sessions with the Navy Supply Corps Foundation Leadership Award at the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS) Basic Qualification Course 4th Battalion, Class 15-040, graduation on November 20th. A student of Golf Company, ENS Sessions was selected by his instructors and other NSCS staff members to receive this award for his “unparalleled professionalism, superb leadership, and military bearing.”