

# The Lookout

Georgia Tech Naval ROTC



August 2017

# NSO and Consortium Picnic

MIDN 1/C Olson

With the arrival of a new semester, we continued our annual ritual of training and indoctrinating our new freshmen into the NROTC battalion. Aspiring freshmen reported to the O'Keefe building bright and early on a Tuesday morning for a quick in brief from the Commanding and Executive Officers, then immediately hit the ground running. New Student Orientation (NSO) continued for 4 days, all ran out of the O'Keefe building at Georgia Tech. Training days included events such as an initial PFA/PFT, swim PT at the CRC, and rifle and pistol familiarization training at the range at



The new 4/C receiving classroom instruction on customs and courtesies



4/C slinging lead downrange at Quickshot Buckhead

Quickshot Buckhead. The freshmen also received their new gear, were trained in basic close order drill, and were briefed on how to succeed in the NROTC battalion.

The training wasn't done after NSO finished, though. Everyone was sent back to their dorms to collect their gear and catch some sleep Friday night, but everyone was back for muster at 0500 on the next Saturday morning. The caravan left for Camp Westminster to meet up with freshmen from the Morehouse Battalion for the culmination of NSO known as "Operation Breaking Point". The freshmen of the Atlanta Consortium came together in squads to complete various physically and mentally demanding tasks from hard workouts to collaborative team-building exercises. After the

exercises, the 4/C had time to socialize with each other, followed by an enthusiastic moto run, and then OBP was mission complete.



With all of this serious training completed, the consortium arrived and we ran right into the yearly consortium picnic. Freshmen got to mingle with the other upperclassmen, shipmates got to see each other after summer training, and everyone got to enjoy the good food. The traditional tug-of-war competition was a blast, with different teams competing against each other for tug-of-war supremacy. The entire afternoon was devoted towards fellowship by bringing the whole consortium together to celebrate another year.



Our indoctrination period for our new freshmen has been busy to say the least. From the work of the upperclassman troop handlers to the behind-the-scenes work of the permanent staff members, it has truly been a group effort to deliver the best training we could with the time allotted. Their work has been very appreciated, and they were the people who made this year's NSO a resounding success. I look forward to seeing these new freshmen continue the Georgia Tech Battalion's tradition of excellence into the future as they continue to lead and become the new face of our nation's maritime services.



# Meet the 4/C!

MIDN 4/C Andrew Korn  
Hometown: Richmond Hill, GA  
Major: Chemistry  
Career Plan: Submarines  
Fun Fact: I am the 7th generation of my family to serve in the military.



MIDN 4/C Kenny Casimir  
Hometown: Stone Mountain, GA  
Major: Electrical Engineering  
Career Plan: Marine Corps Intelligence  
Fun Fact: I wrestle.

MIDN 4/C Pierce Burgin  
Hometown: Sewell, NJ  
Major: Materials Science and Engineering  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare  
Fun Fact: I used to play professional Scrabble.



MIDN 4/C Kyler Ward  
Hometown: Naples, Italy (Past 3 years)  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Career Plan: Aviation  
Fun Fact: I speak Italian.



MIDN 4/C Melanie Moenning  
Hometown: Punta Gorda, FL  
Major: Undecided Engineering  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare  
Fun Fact: I am the first in my family to join the military.

MIDN 4/C Liam Wilson  
Hometown: Queens, NY  
Major: Chemical & Biomolecular  
Engineering  
Career Plan: Special Warfare  
Fun Fact: Taught myself to read in  
Russian.



MIDN 4/C Kaylyn King  
Hometown: Shirley, NY  
Major: Sign Language Interpretation  
Career Plan: Marine Corps Intelligence  
Fun Fact: I am an identical twin.



MIDN 4/C Robert Kruszkeski  
Hometown, Southold, NY  
Major: Computer Science  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare  
Fun Fact: I like to jetski.

MIDN 4/C Donny Nguyen  
Hometown: Lawrenceville, GA  
Major: Physics  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare or  
Submarines  
Fun Fact: I've met the king of Sweden.



MIDN 4/C Catherine Farist  
Hometown: Ranger, GA  
Major: Undeclared Engineering  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare  
Fun Fact: I've ridden a camel in Morocco.



MIDN 4/C Joseph Crawford  
Hometown: Great Mills, MD  
Major: Computer Science  
Career Plan: Pilot  
Fun Fact: I can do a backflip.

MIDN 4/C John Pressly  
Hometown: Myersville, MD  
Major: Nuclear & Radiological Engineering  
Career Plan: Submarines  
Fun Fact: I can ride a unicycle.





MIDN 4/C Angel Maldonado  
Hometown: Acworth, GA  
Major: Economics  
Career Plan: Marine Corps Intelligence  
or Combat Engineering  
Fun Fact: I play 4 instruments.



MIDN 4/C Tu Tran  
Hometown: Savannah, GA  
Major: Undeclared Engineering  
Career Plan: Marine Corps Aviation  
Fun Fact: I've swam in a geothermal  
pool in Iceland.

MIDN 4/C Ian Kim  
Hometown: Fairfax, VA  
Major: Computer Engineering  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare or  
Submarines  
Fun Fact: I raised an albino ferret,  
named Snow, since birth.



MIDN 4/C Gabby Beck  
Hometown: Canton, GA  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Career Plan: Aviation NFO  
Fun Fact: My dog's name is Pancake!



MIDN 4/C Tyra Newton  
Hometown: Gainesville, GA  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare  
Fun Fact: I was on an all women's  
cricket team.

MIDN 4/C Julianna Snoeblen  
Hometown: Orlando, FL  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Career Plan: Surface Warfare  
Fun Fact: I was a competitive  
cheerleader for 6 years.



# Fall 2017 Billet Holders



**MIDN 1/C Samuel Sasser, BNCO**

**Hometown:** Milton, GA

**Major:** International Affairs

**Career Plan:** Marine Corps

**Goals for the Semester:** To lead from the front, by example, and by giving the midshipman staff the leeway they need to enact their visions for the betterment of the battalion.

**Advice for New MID's:** "Be ardent in your opinions, but always entertain dialogue. Be bold in your assertions, but never at the expense of others. Try with all your might, but know when to change course. Love with all your heart, but don't expect the same in return. And in the words of Teddy Roosevelt, strive for greatness so that ""if (you) fail, at least (you) fail while dating greatly, so that (your) place shall never been with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat""."

**Favorite Memory in ROTC:** A cold winter day (about 35 degrees) in Piedmont Park; it had just rained the night before, the field next to Park Tavern was flooded, and we spent an hour doing tactics, completely drenching ourselves. That was the coldest I've ever been, but it was the first time I really felt that I was on my way to being a Marine.

**Fun Fact:** I didn't run cross country in high school.



**MIDN 1/C Peter Nguyen, BN XO**

**Hometown:** Atlanta, GA

**Major:** Industrial Engineering

**Career Plan:** Special Warfare

**Goals for the Semester:** My goals are to increase the ability of the 4/c to step up and take on billets as well as raise the expectations of each MIDN in terms of billets.

Through this, I hope to avoid a culture of mediocrity.

**Advice for New MID's:** Pay attention to detail. Check, double check and triple check everything. Because doing it right once is far better than having to redo the same task over and over again. Mistakes happen but learn from them and don't let them weigh on you too heavily.

**Favorite Memory in ROTC:** My favorite memory would be wearing my uniform while swearing in with the CO because it represented a realization of my decision to be in the Navy.

**Fun Fact:** My real last name is Bui. While my family was escaping from Vietnam, they assumed the identities of another family that had left in order to enter a refugee camp and receive food. They kept the name and so we've been going by Nguyen since then.



**MIDN 1/C David Medrano, ADMINO**

**Hometown:** Savannah, GA

**Major:** Nuclear and Radiological Engineering

**Career Plan:** Surface Warfare

**Goals for the Semester:** One of my main objectives is to work on the counseling process that we currently have. I believe that in the past, the process has been pretty impersonal and done for the sole reason of being mandatory work. I believe that tweaking the FITREP process so that MIDN are more invested in the activities, goals, flaws and achievements of their shipmates will make for more thorough FITREPS and therefore better chances to succeed.

**Advice for New MID's:** Take advantage of all the opportunities here at GT and on your cruises. Want to learn how to salsa? Join the club. Rowing interests you? Give it a go. Want to ride the RHIB on your summer cruise? Ask.

**Favorite Memory in ROTC:** My favorite memory in NROTC was my entire time as MWRO last Fall. I made opportunities for MIDN to build camaraderie outside of a professional ROTC setting. I was also very fortunate to have a great division who were all motivated and willing to organize and execute these events. Leading such motivated performers is what made that division so successful. Also we won the division competition. Go MWR Fall 16'.

**Fun Fact:** I was the 6th best high school tuba player in the state of Georgia in 2014.



**MIDN 1/C Bridget Lee, OPSO**

**Hometown:** Melbourne, FL

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering

**Career Plan:** Naval Aviator

**Goals for the Semester:** I have a lot of goals for the semester, but my main goal is to maintain a level of transparency up and down the chain of command. I want all levels of leadership to communicate well and keep everyone involved. I also want to ensure that the 4/C are integrated successfully into the battalion and are mentored by the upperclass midshipmen.

**Advice for New MID's:** Stay focused and organized. There will be a lot going on when you first start out in NROTC, but you will catch on and grow to be an integral part of the battalion. Motivation is key!

**Favorite Memory in ROTC:** During my 2/C cruise, I was fortunate enough to be aboard the USS Benfold. I was underway in the South China Sea and was able to visit Yokosuka and Tokyo, Japan. I learned a ton and was able to come away from my cruise with new experiences and a new appreciation of the Navy.

**Fun Fact:** I used to competitively Irish dance.



**MIDN 1/C Max Tarasewicz, SUPPO**

**Hometown:** Lisle, IL

**Major:** Nuclear and Radiological Engineering

**Career Plan:** Pilot

**Goals for the Semester:** Run a fiscally sound Supply department while ensuring MWR gets enough funding for MID's to blow off steam.

**Advice for New MID's:** ROTC is a training evolution. Use it to better yourself as a future leader by making mistakes and learning from them.

**Favorite Memory in ROTC:** Driving a RHIB in Yokosuka and nearly throwing the other Midshipmen overboard.

**Fun Fact:** I bench pressed more than Midshipman 1/C Nguyen one time.



**MIDN 1/C Ryan O'Malley, TRAINO**

**Hometown:** Chesapeake, VA

**Major:** Aerospace Engineering

**Career Plan:** Pilot

**Goals for the Semester:** My goals for this semester are to bring in interesting and exciting guest speakers, knock out all of the GMTs and to service select with my fellow 1/c.

**Advice for New MID's:** Attack every job with enthusiasm.

**Favorite Memory in ROTC:** CORTRAMID West

**Fun Fact:** Winner of high school superlative "best flow"



# Summer 2017 Midshipman Cruises

## OCS, Quantico, VA

"OCS is going to suck regardless of what increment you go to, or who your sergeant instructors are. It is important to be mentally tough and persevere through the adversity. My favorite part about OCS was the EGA ceremony because that's when you finally become a Marine. You work so hard for three years and at that moment you realize it was all worth it.

Semper Fi." ~ Tevin Shaw

# Submarine Cruise, USS Scranton, San Diego, CA

"I had a great experience on cruise, because I could see the crew working as if they were on deployment because they were doing deployment workup exercises. My favorite part of cruise was being able to see some of the mock mission exercises and talk to the junior officers and enlisted crewmembers; So that I could gather as much information as I could to make my decision to whether I wanted to service select submarines."

~ Krishna Peri



# Aviation Cruise, HSM-71, San Diego, CA

"The highlight of my cruise was getting a total of six hours stick time in the cockpit with an instructor. I learned the basics of flying the helicopter, practiced some hovers and landings, attempted some search and rescue maneuvers, and flew the bay approach to North Island with the entire helicopter under my control. Flying to Vegas and back for lunch was pretty cool, too." ~ Dylan Chiodo



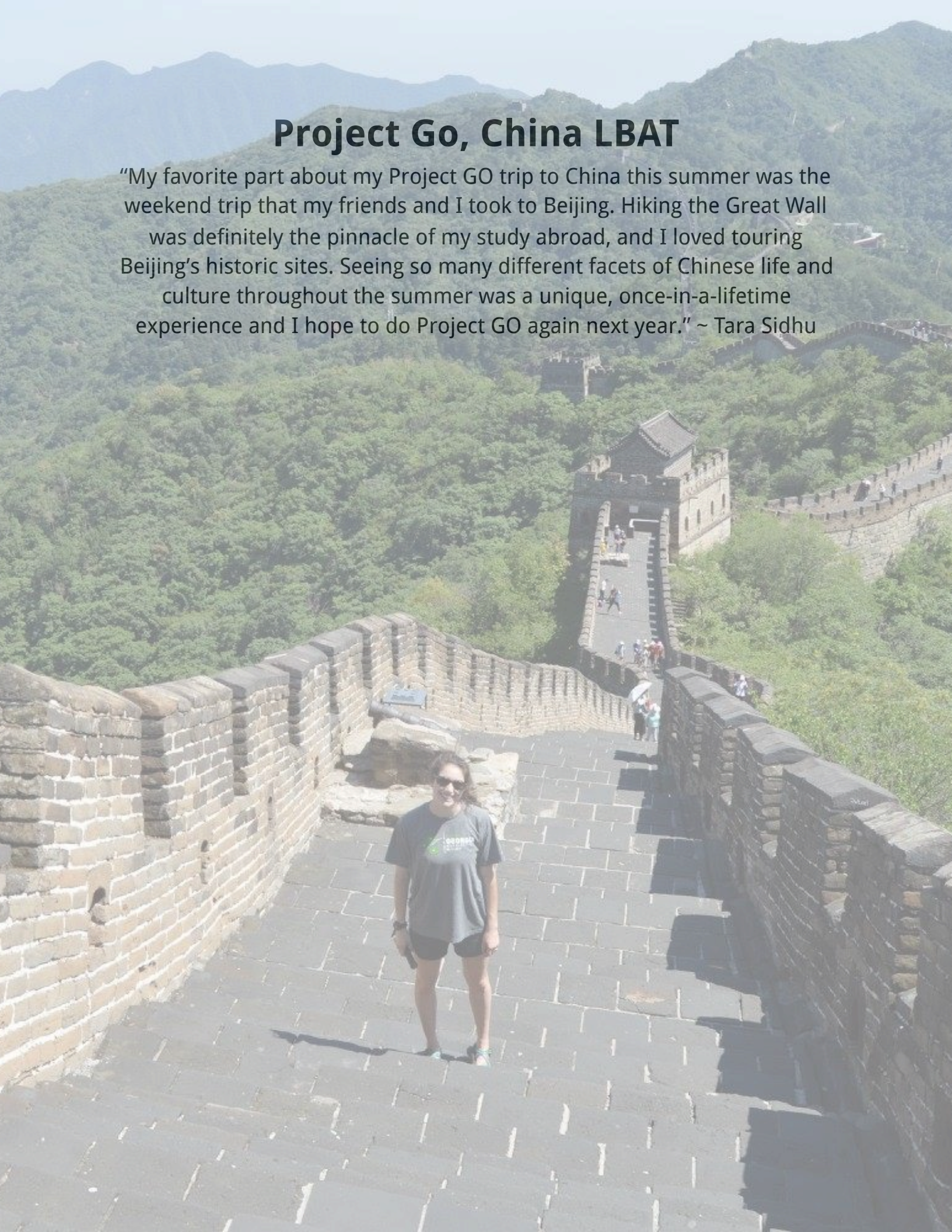
## **SWO Cruise, USS Sampson, Everett, WA**

“I was able to go underway during the ship's COMPTUEX for pre-deployment workups. Being able to see what a ship may have to do during deployment was an amazing experience. I was able to actively participate in things like conning during a RAS (replenishment at sea) to even helping out damage control by being a casualty in multiple General Quarter exercises. The most challenging part was being able to find time to sleep, because there was always something happening, that I wanted to be a part of!” ~ Madison Murvin



## Project Go, China LBAT

"My favorite part about my Project GO trip to China this summer was the weekend trip that my friends and I took to Beijing. Hiking the Great Wall was definitely the pinnacle of my study abroad, and I loved touring Beijing's historic sites. Seeing so many different facets of Chinese life and culture throughout the summer was a unique, once-in-a-lifetime experience and I hope to do Project GO again next year." ~ Tara Sidhu



# Mountain Warfare Training Bridgeport, CA

"My favorite part of this evolution was seeing future Marine Corps Officers come together from across the nation and tackling the missions as a single unit. The views of the Sierra-Nevada Mountains also provided great motivation and distraction from the task at hand." ~ Kristina Meyer



## GTL, Metz, France

"This summer, I studied abroad in Metz, France at Georgia Tech Lorraine for 3 months. The picture attached is from the top of the hike to the peak of Mt. Rigi, Switzerland (one of my favorite trips). It was incredible to be able to visit so many countries, places that I have only seen in pictures, and be able to experience the variety of cultures. The food was definitely my favorite part, it was all so amazing!" ~ Belle Lehmann



## **CORTRAMID East, Norfolk, VA**

“The best part, by far, about CORTRAMID was the people. Getting to meet midshipmen from all over the country made me excited to become part of the Navy family. Moreover, having the opportunity to spend time with active duty personnel reinforced what it is that I am working toward and put a tangible face on my efforts here at school.” ~ Robert Guild

