

# NROTC Alumni Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3

MIDSHIPMANS Foundation

August - October 1997

## Foundation Officers

Max Miller, 1957  
*President*  
(H) 512-345-0793

Bruce Byron, 1970  
*Vice-President*

Robert Gartner, 1965  
*Treasurer*

Gary Schoen, 1966  
*Secretary*

William Docekal, 1965  
*Assistant Treasurer*

## Board of Directors

James Adkins, 1955

Bruce Byron, 1970

Keys Curry, 1958

William Docekal, 1965

Kenneth Fletcher, 1963

Clay Fulcher, 1955

Robert Gartner, 1965

John Hitchcock, 1965

J. Weldon Koenig, 1958

Rodney Koenig, 1962

Gary Schoen, 1966

Max Miller, 1957

## Ex Officio Members

COL John Cipparone,  
USMC

(Professor of Naval Science)

Clint Coneway, 1966

(Alumni Contributions)

James Broaddus, 1970

(NROTC Unit Liaison)

Jack Ritter, 1955

(Navy League Liaison)

Louis De Cuir, 1979

(Reunion)

## Regional Directors

Robert Gartner, 1965

Austin (H) 512-331-0976

Ray Adams, 1980

DFW (H) 214-596-7188

Ben Krause, 1965

East (H) 804-486-3721

Robert Hancock, 1967

West (H) 619-586-0036

## UT Midshipman

### Foundation Trustees

Kirk Cansler, 1945

J. Weldon Koenig, 1958

Will McCann, 1961

CAPT Bill Graner, USN

## Eleventh Annual Alumni Reunion Scheduled for 25 October 1997

The 1997 UT NROTC Alumni Foundation will hold its annual reunion this year on **October 25th**, and it will consist of a full day of fun and informative activities. For early arrivals a short campus tour is planned for the afternoon of the **24th of October** and an early breakfast can be had with a few die hards who want to continue at Cisco's on the morning of **26th of October**. All NROTC alumni and their families or guests, or any other interested persons are welcome at all the events. This year, the reunion will include the following:

**A morning business meeting** with coffee and doughnuts on the third deck of Russell A. Steindam Hall (RAS)(old ROTC Building), where alumni and their guests will get a chance to socialize and learn about the current status of the Alumni Foundation, the UT Midshipmen Foundation (Trust) and the NROTC unit. Current Directors of the Alumni Foundation will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Midshipmen Wardroom to elect officers for the upcoming year. The business meeting *will commence at 10:00 a.m.* and will include presentations by Max Miller, 1957, President of the Alumni Foundation; and COL John Cipparone, USMC, Professor of Naval Science, UT NROTC Unit. Members present will select new or renew Directors for three year terms from recommendations of the Nominating Committee. We hope that parking can be arranged in the lot adjacent to RAS for persons registering in advance.

Attendance at the **UT vs. Colorado football game** for interested persons. The NROTC unit has reserved a block of fifty ball game tickets, which will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve tickets, please contact LT Steve Powell (NROTC Unit Alumni Foundation liaison) at 512/471-7649 or by e-mail at [nrotc@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu](mailto:nrotc@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu), or indicate the number of tickets you wish to reserve on the registration form below and *mail it in as soon as possible, preferably no later than Sept 30th to the Foundation address*. Payment for football tickets can be made the day of the reunion. The time of the game is tentatively set for a 2:30p.m. kickoff per internet sources.

An evening (if the game is as scheduled for the afternoon) **social gathering** at the American Legion Hall. It will include a catered barbecue dinner (brisket, sausage, chicken, potato salad, etc.) and beverages (beer, wine, liquor, soft drinks, etc.). Everyone will have chances to meet old friends and classmates, to form new acquaintances, and to meet senior midshipmen, officer candidates and

members of the UT NROTC staff. The gathering will begin with a social period at 6:00 p.m. with the meal to follow about 7:30 p.m. If the game is in the evening,

*"See Reunion" (Continued on page 2)*

## Calendar of Events

Board of Directors' Meeting	13 September 1997
Short Tour UT Campus, assemble outside RAS, ROTC Bldg	24 October 1997 4:00pm .
Board of Directors' Meeting to Select New Officer's, RAS ROTC, Bldg, NROTC Wardroom	25 October 1997 9:30am
Alumni Reunion Business Meeting & Election of Directors, RAS ROTC, Bldg, 3rd Floor	25 October 1997 10:00am
UT vs. Colorado Football Game	25 October 1997 2:30pm Kickoff
Reunion & Dinner, American Legion Hall, Town Lake	25 October 1997 6:30pm
Die Hards Breakfast at Cisco's on East 6th Street	26 October 1997 8:30am

## Operating Fund Summary UT NROTC Alumni Foundation

Beginning Balance 5/97	\$1,982.87
Income	
Interest	\$6.39
Contributions	\$75.00
Expenses	
PO Box & Other	\$157.00
Florist (Dr. M.)	\$102.84
Stone Engraving	\$117.00
Bank Service Charge	\$36.00
Ending Balance 7/26/97	\$1,612.42

## President's Corner

This summer several newly graduated Ensigns from the U. S. Naval Academy and NROTC units who were assigned temporarily to the NROTC unit at The University of Texas spent about a month helping the NROTC Alumni Association search for information on missing Alumni. Their effort was a tremendous help to us. They were able to locate approximately 130 names and addresses from our files of missing information concerning our Alumni. This will help eliminate returned mail and enable us to contact some missing Alumni. They were instrumental in helping with the last mailing of the newsletter as well as following up on returned mail.

Two key persons helping us were Ensign Adam Martin and Ensign Ben Brandt, both recent graduates from the Naval Academy. They are beginning two years at UT where they will study Computer Science. They are 2 of about 25 new graduates from the Naval Academy who are attending graduate school prior to their first duty assignment. They will attend submarine school after 2 years at UT.

Also helping us was Ensign Matt Glenn from Cornell. He will report to Pensacola for Naval Flight Officers' school in October. Ensign David Murray, one of UT's May graduates, also helped us and will likewise report for Naval Flight Officers' school. Ensign Todd Zenner, a Naval Academy graduate, is here for 2 years working on a Computer Science degree. His duty assignment will be Navy surface nuclear.

In addition to searching Internet for names, addresses, etc., they were able to establish a Web page for the Alumni Association. It may be accessed at <http://navy.rotc.utexas.edu> and then clicking on "Alumni Foundation Database Entry" choice, or go to it directly at <http://navy.rotc.utexas.edu/alumni.htm>. It is designed for use for information, address changes, and obtaining general information. When one submits an address change, that information automatically goes to the keeper of the database, John Hitchcock, at his email address.

Our thanks go to Captain Graner for helping make this effort possible, and to all the Ensigns who helped us.

*Max Miller*, 1957  
President

## Updating the Master Data Base of NROTC Alumni

As the Newsletter editor, I have taken on the responsibility to keep the data base of NROTC alumni current. This data base contains, among other things, each alum's current or last known address. It is from this data base that all mailings to alumni gets the address information. If a mailing, such as this Newsletter, is returned, with no forwarding information, the data base is annotated and no further mailings are made to that alumnus until a current listing is found or sent to us.

Although we try our best to maintain the addresses so all alumni receive the Newsletter and other mailings, we are generally dependent upon alumni supplying new addresses to us. Many times a mailing is forwarded and the alumnus will take the time to send a change of address to us. We also pay the post office to send us change of address info if a card is on file. However, that costs the Foundation twice as much as the mailing did initially.

During this past summer, the PNS provided two newly commissioned Ensigns, who were assigned to the unit awaiting entry into graduate school, to search the internet for addresses of alumni

(See "Data Base" on page 3)

"Reunion" (Continued from page 1)

times for the social and meal will be given at the business meeting. Please be flexible in case the times are changed. The American Legion Hall is located west of downtown Austin on Lake Austin Blvd, near Mopac. There is a map on page 6 of the newsletter.

For spouses/guests and alumni arriving in Austin early, a **special Friday afternoon/evening program** will be included. The program will consist of a guided tour of the UT campus, followed by beer and socializing at Schultz's. Schultz's is located near the corner of San Jacinto and 15th St. Details of the campus tour are being worked out by Jim Broadus, but interested persons should meet at the RAS Bldg. at 4:00 p.m. on Friday October 24th.

Bob Gartner, 1965, has arranged for a **table at Cisco's** on East 6th Street at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast. Everyone who can is invited to attend and partake of Mexican food to start the trip home. Please give him the number in your party that will be attending. The cost of the reunion will be \$30 per person, which includes all food and drinks and admission to the American Legion Hall. Additionally, an annual voluntary donation to the Alumni Foundation operating fund is suggested at either the \$25, \$50, or \$75 level. To register, please fill out and complete the enclosed form, place it and a check in an envelope, and mail by October 3th to MIDSHIPMANS Foundation, UT NROTC Alumni, PO Box 143562, Austin, TX, 78714-3562. Please register in advance so we can get a reliable head count. We can then ensure sufficient meals for everyone. We will order a few extra meals if you find you are unable to register in advance. If you would like to reserve tickets for the football game, sending in your registration in by Sept 30th is suggested. For more information about the reunion, contact Lou DeCuir, 1979, at 512/477-7936 or Bruce Byron, 1970, at 512/502-0607.

*Lou DeCuir*, 1979  
Ex Officio Member (Reunion)

## Treasurer's Report on the Alumni Operating Fund Status for 1997

Bob Gartner, 1965, submitted the following Treasurer's Report to the Board of Directors at the July Board meeting:

Beginning Balance, May 3, 1997		\$1,982.87
Income		
Interest (3 Months on Checking Acct)	\$6.39	
Member Checks/Cash Contributions	75.00	
Total Income		<u>\$81.39</u>
Total Operating Fund		\$2,064.26
Expenses		
Postal Service (Return Postage)	\$117.00	
Postal Service (P.O. Box Renewal)	40.00	
Strasstone, Inc. (Stone Engraving)	156.00	
Freytag Florist (Dr. Macdonald)	102.84	
Service Charge	36.00	
Total Expenses		<u>\$451.84</u>
Ending Balance, July 26, 1997		<u>\$1,612.42</u>

*Bob Gartner, 1965*  
Treasurer

## Current Value of the UT Midshipman Foundation Trust Fund

The Board received the following report from the Trustees of the current value of the University of Texas Midshipman Foundation (UTMF) trust fund at the July meeting:

The Bond Fund of America	2,126.718 shs @ 13.440	\$29,433.67
Prudential Securities Account		3,096.00
John Hancock Fund	1,551.995 shs @ 14.59	22,643.61
Bank One Account		522.31
UT NROTC Scholarship Fund Account		<u>3,050.00</u>
Total Value		<u>\$63,999.76</u>

*Weldon Koenig, 1958*  
Secretary, University of Texas Midshipman Foundation

**Thought for the Day!!!**

**“Restoring our innovative soul requires leaders who have the moral courage to carry their service through the cyclical turbulence of peace and war.”**

Frank J. Gaffney, Jr., “Restoring the Navy’s Soul,” *The Washington Times*—National Weekly Edition, 2 June 1996 p. 31.

“Data Base” (Continued from page 2)

for whom we did not have current addresses. There are a few more than 1,450 alumni on the data base and approximately 800 had current addresses. ENS Ben Brandt and ENS Adam Martin have tentatively identified about 300 lost alumni and these will hopefully receive this Newsletter if I can update the list with the new information before this mailing must go out.

As you can see from the Treasurer’s reports, our Operating Fund, which funds all mailings and the Newsletter printing, is going down. It is therefore imperative that we make mailings only to those alumni who have current addresses on file in the data base.

One way to send information to the Foundation (to me) is to log onto the internet and go to the unit’s homepage at <http://navy.rotc.utexas.edu> and then click on the “Alumni Foundation Database Entry” choice. Or you can go direct by going to <http://navy.rotc.utexas.edu/alumni.htm>.

This will bring up an “Alumni Foundation Registration” which you can fill out and be assured of keeping the data base updated. This information is e-mailed to me at my own e-mail address ([jwhitchcock@austintx.net](mailto:jwhitchcock@austintx.net)) automatically and not maintained on any hard drive by the unit or university. ENS Brandt prepared this for us and it works well. Please use it if you have access to the internet. At some point, we may even post the Newsletters on the page too!

Another way is to send update info when you register for the reunion. Although the form is shorter with less info, the info will get to us. If you are not coming to the reunion, you can send the info, along with a check for the operating fund if you so desire, to MIDSHIPMANS Foundation, UT NROTC Alumni, P.O. Box 143562, Austin, Texas 78714-3562.

One nice thing among several on this web page is access to Navy Online (BuPers) and other Navy pages full of info. As a retired reservist, I liked being able to print the latest pay scales and read some “All Hands” magazines.

If you know an alumus who is not getting the Newsletter, please forward the current address of the alum to me at the P.O. Box or to my e-mail address. If you are aware of the death of an alumus, please send that info to me.

*See “Data Base” (Continued on page 4)*

## COL CIPPARONE relieves CAPT Graner



During ceremonies held at Bass Lecture Hall in the LBJ School of Public Affairs, COL John S. Cipparone, USMC relieved CAPT William R. Graner, USN at 1000 on 15 August 1997 as the Professor of Naval Science, University of Texas, NROTC Unit, Austin, Texas. Dr. Hans Mark, Ph.D., former Secretary of the Air Force, former Chancellor of the University of Texas

System and current Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics, UT, was the keynote speaker. In his speech, Dr. Mark reminded everyone of the responsibility of the unit to prepare young men and women to succeed earlier graduates and to assume the responsibilities placed on the military by ever changing world events.

The change of command was attended by numerous Board members and friends and relatives of COL Cipparone and CAPT Graner.

COL Cipparone entered the Marine Corps on 14 February 1971 and was commissioned in May 1971. Following his designation as a Naval Aviator in December 1972 he reported to HMT-204. Following his first assignment he has served in numerous billets in HMH squadrons, battalion, air group and wing staffs, HQMC, attended the Amphibious Warfare School, Quantico, Command and Staff College, Quantico, Naval War College and served as faculty at the National War College. He has served as Executive Officer and later as Commanding Officer of HMH-361 beginning in August 1987. COL Cipparone's last assignment before coming to UT was as Commanding Officer, Security; Battalion. He has served in posts of duty from the East, West Coast to Hawaii, and even a time aboard USS Hancock.

COL Cipparone graduated from LeMoyne College, Syracuse, NY and holds an M.A. Degree from the University of Northern Colorado. Personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal with combat "V" and the Navy Commendation Medal.

COL Cipparone is married to the former Sue Pudney of Syracuse, NY. They have four children, Cristine, Kelly, Chad and Valerie.

*"Welcome Aboard Colonel Cipparone"—ed.*

*"Data Base" (Continued from page 3)*

This data base will provide the current information to be included when the Board decides to provide the next Roster of Alumni to all current donors to the Operating Fund. I will vote to provide that to all donors who give in the current year as we have done this past year. But we have to have funds to produce it. I don't like to always be talking donations, but we have to have them to do everything. One of the staffers is a request from the president for funds, please consider a donation.

*John Hitchcock,* 1965  
Director & Editor

## CAPT Bill Graner Retires

Following the Change of Command, CAPT William (Bill) R. Graner, USN, received his orders effective 1 November 1997, transferring him to the ranks of fellow retirees after 27 1/2 years of service. He received numerous letters of appreciation, plaques and the Meritorious Service Medal. The last received for providing the guidance and support for the midshipmen and officer candidates to raise their grade point overall average above 3.0 and maintain it there during his entire tour at UT. CAPT Graner was PNS from July 1993 - 15 August 1997 and often said how proud he was of the midshipmen's and officer candidate's efforts to have good grades. He retires to his "ranch" in Georgetown, Texas and will shortly assume duties as a Project Director with Dell Computer Corporation.

CAPT Graner is married to Arla Strasser of Davis, California.

Following his retirement ceremonies attend by numerous friends, relatives, staff and faculty, and members of the Board of Directors, Bill and Arla hosted a barbecue dinner at the ranch.

*"Bill and Arla, we will miss you! Fair winds and following seas forever" - ed.*



At the "Ranch"!

l-r. Ken Fletcher, 1963, Bill Graner (retired), Weldon Koenig, 1958 & John Hitchcock, 1965

## Summary of Board of Directors Meeting—3 May 1997

**Financial Report:** Bob Gartner reviewed the Financial Statement (*detailed in last newsletter-ed.*) noting that there had been only one \$25.00 donation to the operating fund this year.

**Trust Fund:** Weldon Koenig presented the financial report for the Trust (*detailed in the last newsletter-ed.*). He also presented a Resolution modifying Article VI and Article VII of the Midshipman's Foundation Trust Agreement for Board consideration. *Motion Approved. Additional investment options were given to the Trustees.*

**Discussion:** John Hitchcock agreed to prepare the Newsletter through the end of 1997. He stated he had received several articles from the Directors and solicited any letters from alumni be sent to him for possible inclusion in upcoming publications. John receive several kudos from Board members on the quality of the most recent Newsletter. Ken Fletcher volunteered to contact the various Regional Directors for input for raising the donations from alumni for both the operating and trust funds. Ken will be the Board Director liaison with the Regional Directors on all items in the future. There was much discussion on how to improve attendance at the reunion and to increase donor levels. Will McCann pointed out there was no membership in the MIDSHPMAN'S Foundation only donors. This was a legal/tax requirement. Also, it was pointed out that most graduates do not become associated with the Foundation until their active duty careers are over. CAPT Graner volunteered to furnish the names of all graduates for the past ten years, and to try to locate them to update the mailing data base. John Hitchcock will prepare a "data base" article for the next newsletter. Much discussion ensued concerning the need and how to keep the data base updated. Lou DeCuir gave an update report on the Fall reunion and how the preparations were proceeding. CAPT Graner expressed his thanks to the five Board members who attended the NROTC Spring Formal. He, also, expressed his thanks to the foundation for the \$4,000 in scholarship awards to midshipmen that had been given recently. He said 65 new midshipmen were expected in the Fall. The unit is working on getting 50 football tickets to the Colorado game for reunion attendees. COL John Cipparone will be CAPT Graner's relief and will report about 11 August. Midshipmen grades are remaining at better than 3.0 on the average and only a few have been lost due to grades.

*Gary Schoen,* 1966

Secretary

*From the Editor:*

***See you at the Reunion!***

*John Hitchcock,* Editor/Director

## In Memoriam

**H. Malcolm Macdonald,** July 5, 1997

**Captain H. Malcolm Macdonald,** USNR (ret), Ph.D.

Emeritus Professor of Government, UT Austin

Born San Francisco, 1914

Son of George C. Macdonald and Helena Zaun

A.B., University of San Francisco, 1935

M.A., Harvard, 1937

Ph.D., Harvard; instructor UT, 1939

Naval Officer, 1941-71

Instructor Naval Academy, 1946

Full Professor UT, 1952

Chairman Government Dept. 1953-66; 71-75

Presidential Citation from UT, 1994

UT ROTC Liaison officer 1945-94

"Black Mac"

Friend and protector of Naval ROTC

Friend and Mentor of countless Midshipmen and Cadets

Appropriately, the day after our nation's 221<sup>st</sup> birthday, Captain Macdonald slipped his moorings to this earthly existence and set sail for life eternal with our heavenly Father. Dr. Macdonald was a friend to many and a supporter to all soldiers and sailors at UT. During the dark days of Vietnam, when most of UT would have liked to see the military banished from campus, Captain Macdonald was known as "Black Mac" by his pre-law, "A" grade students whom he graded on a "bell-curve". But as demanding as he was on his students, he was more demanding on himself. Macdonald was at the same time the "thin red line" between the military and the anti-war hysteria that gripped the campus in the late 60's. Captain Macdonald was the one person who got me and countless others though school and into the Navy. He was the one faculty who really cared about students that came his way.

Upon his retirement from teaching, the NROTC Alumni Foundation at the University of Texas created the H. Malcolm Macdonald award for achievement. Each year the Foundation awards a sword in his honor to an outstanding Midshipman selected by the unit Commanding Officer. In addition, the Foundation selects, on occasion, Alumni who have made an outstanding contribution to the unit and award them a plaque in Dr. Macdonald's name.

On July 10, a celebration service was held in honor of Captain Macdonald's life. It was well attended by University dignitaries, including the Chancellor, and by Alumni members. And as was said in the service composed by Captain Macdonald himself from the best of Anglican Church tradition: "Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance..." AMEN

*Bruce Byron,* 1970

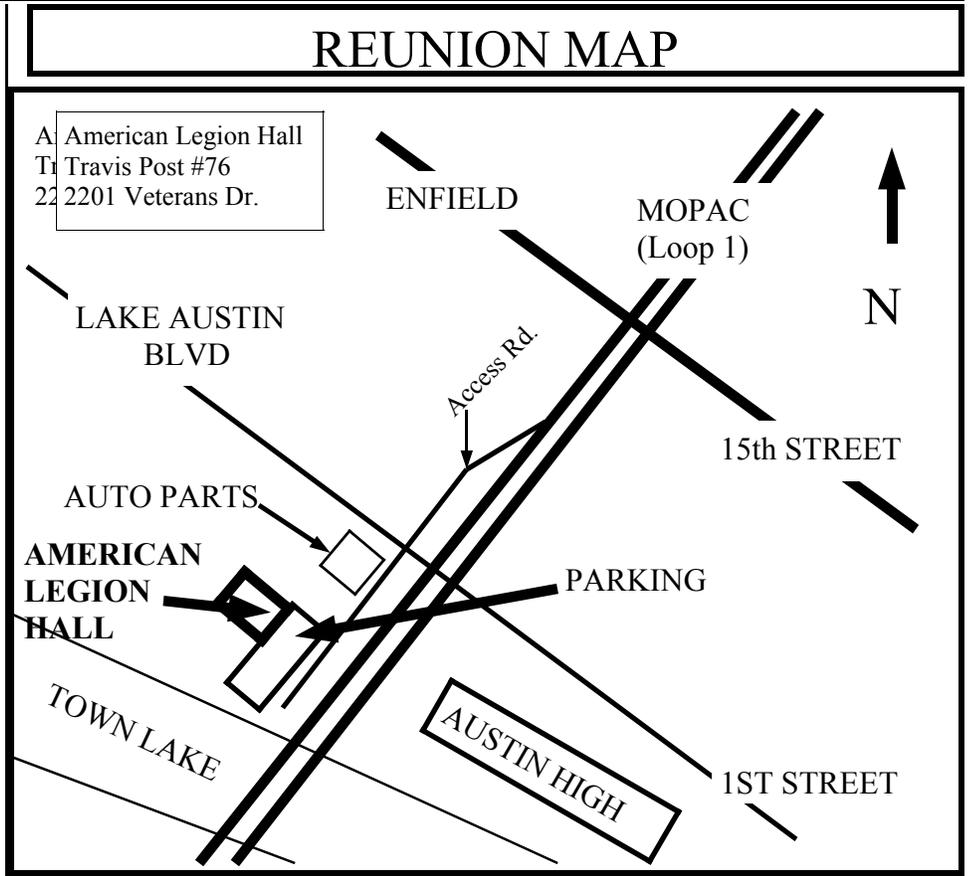
Director

*Things to Come in the Next Issue  
of the NROTC Newsletter*

—Review of the Eleventh NROTC Alumni  
Foundation Reunion—new photos and a  
few oldies!

—Status of the Operating Fund and the  
Scholarship Trust Fund

—New and Old Officers and Directors  
elected at the Reunion Business Meeting



*Pre Reunion Issue!  
COL Cippone new PNS!  
CAPT Graner retires!  
Alumni Data Base & Updating!  
Mom, Pop send money!*

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 143562  
Austin, Texas 78714-3562

UT NROTC ALUMNI

**MIDSHIPMANS Foundation**

**NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTIN, TX**