



We Salute Your Service, Honor, and Dedication

NROTC

ALUMNI LOG

The official message board of the University of Texas NROTC Alumni Foundation



Volume 11, Issue 1

May 2006

NROTC Alumni Foundation Board Meeting

January 2006

Call to Order

The January meeting was held at the Russell A. Steindam Hall, on the University of Texas campus in Austin. President Bob Collins called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Attendees

Those in attendance were John Allman, Jr., James Brotherton, Bob Brown, Bob Collins, President; John Engstrom, Bob Gartner, Treasurer; Glenn Looney, Bob Looney, Secretary/Editor; Ed Mergele, Fred Moon, Vice-President; Dennis Olson, David Wells, Jack Ritter, Max Miller, John Hitchcock, Clay Fulcher, CAPT. Don Inbody, Unit Commanding Officer, and CDR Karl Hilberg, Unit Executive Officer.

General Announcements

Following the opening of the meeting, the minutes of the last meeting were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Slate of New Officeholders

The following office holders (both new and re-elected) were announced and presented : Bob Collins, President; Fred Moon, Vice-President; Bob Gartner, Treasurer; and Bob Looney, Secretary and Editor. Additional board members who were nominated and approved at the annual meeting in October 2005, are Mike Waldron, Ed Mergele, David Wells, and James Brotherton.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Gartner

Bob Gartner presented his treasurer's report on the Alumni Operating Fund. There is currently \$7359.25 in the fund, as of 21 January 2006. The total income was \$1909.37, and expenses were \$2468.25. See the Treasurer's report for income and expenditure details.

Newsletter and Website

It was agreed that there will be a minimum of three newsletters published each year. Some time ago, Bob Brown instigated a contest to rename the "newsletter." After much discussion over a lengthy period of time, a new name for the

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 19	Battalion Graduation Ceremony
July 29	NROTC Alumni Foundation Meeting
August 24	CAPT Inbody's Retirement Ceremony
October 14	NROTC Alumni Foundation Reunion

Corner Quote

"The Navy has both a tradition and a future, and we look with pride and confidence in both directions."



– ADM George Anderson, CNO
August 1961

Alumni Foundation Officers

Robert "Bob" Collins (1968)
President

Fred Moon (1970)
Vice-President

Robert "Bob" Gartner (1965)
Treasurer

Robert W. "Bob" Looney (1962)
Secretary/Editor

Board of Directors

James D. Brotherton (1968)

W. Robert "Bob" Brown (1952)

Robert "Bob" Collins (1968)

John Engstrom (1966)

Robert "Bob" Gartner (1965)

R. Glenn Looney (1961)

Robert W. "Bob" Looney (1962)

Edwin W. "Ed" Mergelle (1975)

Fred Moon (1970)

Dennis Olson (1969)

David Wells (1969)

Ex-Officio Members

CAPT Don Inbody, USN

Professor of Naval Science

Jack Ritter (1955)

Navy League Liaison

Regional Directors

Ray Adams (1980)

DFW (H) 972-596-7188

Keys Curry (1958)

Houston (H) 713-783-8185

Robert Hancock (1967)

West (H) 619-586-0036

K.J. Moore (1964)

Eastern (H) 703-759-3327

Rudy Kruger (1963)

Central (H) 402-331-6557

Henry Harper (1965)

Mountain (H) 208-522-7776

Midshipman Foundation Directors

J. Weldon Koenig (1958)

Max Miller (1957)

Clay W.G. Fulcher (1955)

Robert L. Gartner (1965)

John Hitchcock (1965)

Committee Gifts Chairman

W. Robert Brown (1952)

**Printing of the
UT NROTC
Alumni Log
generously donated
by Raytheon Company
McKinney, Texas**

NROTC Alumni Foundation Board Meeting

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the Alumni Newsletter was adopted by the vote of those in attendance. NROTC Alumni Newsletter has now been renamed NROTC Alumni Log! Glenn Looney proposed the new title, and it was well received. Let the old newspaper rest in peace; long live the new Log! Additionally, Bob Looney was announced as the new editor of the Log, succeeding David Wells.

Following the adoption of the new newsletter title, President Bob Collins announced his plans to overhaul and update the website in the very near future.

Midshipmans Foundation – John Hitchcock

John Hitchcock, Secretary and past Treasurer of the Midshipman's Foundation, announced that Jack Ritter's two separate challenges have been met; one for \$5,000 and one for \$10,000. There is currently \$473,000 in the treasury fund. In the past year, \$18,476 was awarded in various midshipman scholarships. Over \$82,000 in contributions and pledges were received during 2005, the most ever received in one year.

John Hitchcock reported there are presently three \$25,000 donors. The overall value of our organization is currently \$500,000; this includes numerous pledges. Lifetime pledges were also noted as being acceptable. There are currently \$20,000 in pledges that have not yet been met. Our foundation tax return will be submitted in the March-April time frame. John indicated that the foundation now has the capability to accept funds by electronic fund transfer. This will be especially useful for those who wish to make a recurring monthly contribution.

John also announced that a new silver and gold Midshipmans Foundation coin has been created. These coins will be sold to raise funds for the foundation. If you wish to obtain one of these beautiful classic coins, contact W. Robert Brown, Chariman, Gifts Committee, Midshipmans Foundation. In addition to the new coin, some very attractive embossed ink pens will also be made available to donors.

PNS Unit Report – CAPT Inbody

CAPT Inbody made his PNS Unit Report; 2006 will be his last year to serve as PNS. He will be retiring on 24 August 2006, and alumni are invited to attend his retirement ceremony on campus, as well as the following celebration at his home in Buda, Texas.

CAPT Inbody will be replaced by CAPT Gabe Salazar, a UT graduate from the Class of '79. He will be the first ever Texas Ex to head up the UT NROTC organization.

CAPT Inbody noted that the annual Battalion Awards Ceremony will be held on 4 May 2006, and that the graduation ceremony on 19 May this year will be the largest commissioning class in many years. There will be 12 Navy and 2 marine Corps officers commissioned. The number of NROTC applicants, nationally, has dropped from 1,200 to approximately 1,000. Although the quantity has dropped, the quality of the applicants has continued to rise.

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Vice President's Corner

Fred Moon (1970)



Needed! Database Update to Help Our NROTC Unit

Is yours or your classmate's address, phone number, spouse's name correct in the Directory? Have you updated us with that information? While we enjoy the camaraderie of membership in our alumni organization, the primary purpose of our Alumni Foundation is to assist the program that enabled us to be successful in life. The main way our Association is able to do that is through providing scholarship support to the NROTC Unit's members. Not just maintaining, but expanding our lines of communication is vital to accomplishing our mission. The newsletter is published a minimum of three times a year to keep our members better informed, and to help update our member database through automatic forwarding so that our members will be reminded to update the database with their new address/telephone number via the Update Form on our website at utnrotcalum.org. Be sure to keep us informed of your current address and telephone number. Just go the website and select Update Forms. You can also help by sending in any address/elephone number updates for other members, particularly for those lost members you are able to find. It would be better in these cases to send an e-mail with the details of your find to Fred Moon at lunarock@sbcglobal.net. Please, also pass on information to me about the loss of any of our shipmates.

Help Your Classmates Keep in Contact

We are still attempting to revitalize an effort that in the past has helped you to keep in contact with your classmates – by keeping the member database current to get newsletters to all of our membership and the directory to contributors. This has been possible principally by having Class Representatives to be a focal point for each Class by maintaining contact with Class members and proactively finding lost Classmates. Class Representative are also instrumental in organizing their class to plan for significant anniversaries, such as the 30th, 40th, and 50th year reunions held in conjunction with the Alumni Foundation's Annual Reunion held in the fall. We need former Class Representatives, Regional Directors, and new volunteers to participate again or for the first time in this capacity. Should anyone be able to volunteer to either be a Class Representative, Assistant, or simply assist the Representative in some capacity, please, contact Fred Moon at lunarock@sbcglobal.net.

New NROTC Alumni Directories

Ed Mergele has announced that the new directory has been mailed and you should all receive them soon! Copies will be mailed out to all those who have contributed to the Midshipman's Foundation Scholarship fund (at any time) or the Alumni Association Operating Fund, in the past year. If you have not donated to either group, you may still contribute to either or both funds (using the forms in the newsletter or online) and we'll send you a directory.

Meet the Challenge, Ladies!

We recently received a wonderful surprise when we received a note from a good friend of some Crows Nesters of the late '60s era, Suzie Bass Van Horn. Recalling fond memories from our time at UT, she wrote: "I read the newsletter from time to time and enjoy reading about everything and everyone. I would like to make a challenge donation to the Jim Burns Scholarship Fund. I will donate \$250 to the fund. I challenge other of your female supporters to match that. If they do, I'll donate another \$250."

Suzie has continued her close association with the Naval service as a Navy Mom – her youngest son recently served on the flight deck of the U.S.S. Carl Vinson during the War on Terrorism, including two extended deployments to the area of hostile operations. She went on to say, "I was so proud to be a Navy mom, adopted nine sailors on his ship who had no one to send stuff to them, adopted his shop on-board, and went to both homecomings in San Diego. I am blessed that he came home safe and sound. I had been thinking of making a donation to the Midshipman's Fund, but when I read about the Scholarship for Jim, I thought I would rather do that."

So, ladies, the challenge has been issued! Let's see who will meet it! And here's hoping to see a good friend at the next

New Semester Events

CDR Karl Hilberg, USN
Associate Professor of Naval Science and XO, UT NROTC

Once again, it is the start of a new semester here at the University of Texas. The NROTC currently has about 100 midshipmen, including our OCs and MESEPs. This semester we are looking forward to some exciting events.

- Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, GEN Richard Meyers spoke to the BN on 2 March at Bass Lecture Hall.
- Spring Formal, was held 25 March, at the Radisson Hotel from 1800 to 2400. The guest speaker was RADM Marsha Evans.
- Annual UT NROTC Sailing Regatta, was held Saturday 8 April at Lake Travis.
- Annual UT NROTC Ironman Competition, was held Saturday 22 April at Town Lake.
- The Spring Semester Awards Ceremony and Change of Command will be on Thursday 4 May from 1400 to 1600.
- The Joint Commissioning and Graduation ceremony will be held on Friday, 19 May. The location and the guest speaker are TBD. At this ceremony, 12 Ensigns will be commissioned in the USN, and one 2nd Lt. will be commissioned in the USMC.

As is the custom, there will be an open invitation to the Navy League/Alumni Association members to attend these events. This past December, we commissioned three Ensigns: ENS Lesley Ainsworth, Surface Warfare; ENS Marcus Foster, Nurse Corps; and ENS Amanda Peek, Nurse Corps.

Midshipmans Foundation Scholarships

Your support in 2005 has substantially enhanced the ability of your scholarship foundation to financially support our Midshipmen and Officer Candidates as they work for their degrees and commissions.

The year 2005 was the most successful that the Foundation has ever enjoyed. You contributed or pledged to the Foundation over \$85,000. Thank you for your generosity. It was also a record year for scholarship funds distributed to deserving members of the Battalion. Four scholarships of \$2,000 each and twelve scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to Battalion members. That's \$20,000 in scholarships in one year, far exceeding prior efforts. You should be proud of the work your scholarship foundation is doing.

If you are already a supporter, please include the Foundation in your plans for giving this year. If you have not yet joined the Alumni group, whose contributions are making this happen, please consider sending a contribution now to the Midshipmans Foundation, c/o John Hitchcock, Assistant Treasurer, 508 Bulian Lane, Auustin, TX 78746-5423. It is tax deductible and you will receive a receipt.

New NROTC Alumni Directory

Ed Mergele has announced that the new directory has been mailed and you should all receive them soon! (For more details, please refer to Fred Moon's article on page 3.)



Midshipmans Foundation Gold and Silver Coin

A beautiful new silver and gold Midshipman's Foundation coin has recently been created. The purpose of these new coins, as in the past, is to help raise funds for the Midshipman's Foundation. If you wish to obtain one of these new coins, please contact W. Robert Brown, Chairman, Gift Committee. There is no fixed price, but a generous donation is requested in exchange for this new coin. (Please note that the black portion of the coins above is actually high-gloss silver. It is so bright and reflective, it is difficult to photograph and print.)

President's Corner

Bob Collins (1968)



Based on the comments I have heard, the 2005 Reunion was a terrific gathering. We addressed all the formal objectives a reunion should address, had a lot of fun, and saw one of the 13 victories the 2005 Horns posted in their National Championship season. Getting to see Vince was a real treat by itself.

But the biggest treat was the scholarship ceremony. As anticipated, we provided more scholarships than ever before. The folks who attended must have been impressed, because we also raised more money than at any other reunion, bringing the alumni donations to an all-time high. Some of the credit for that accomplishment goes to the Foundation Leadership who have focused our attention on our purpose – support of the midshipmen. The rest of the credit goes to the generous folks who have opened their checkbooks or made pledges. Jack Ritter and Bob Brown are two leaders and shipmates that come to mind, but many others made contributions as well. That means we have over \$500,000 in our Foundation, permitting us to provide \$20,000 in grants to the unit each year. Remember how that would have helped back in the old days? It helps today as well.

Plans are already forming for next year's gathering. We look forward to a big turnout of the Class of 1956, but we also hope the Class of 1966, 1976, 1986 and other years will get the itch and organize a party. We have a new newsletter editor and new newsletter name. The website is due a facelift when I find time, and we are looking for new directors. By fall, we will have a new legal structure for the Alumni Association in place. Your Alumni Foundation and Midshipmans Foundation are in great shape, and we want you to be part of that.

Now is the time to start planning to attend the 2006 Reunion in October. You can also start thinking about your involvement. At least two officers and several directors are slated to leave the board this fall. If you have a yen to serve and have time to invest, let me or any director know. We have a role for you. I look forward to seeing you all in October.

Treasurer's Report

Alumni Operating Fund
Income and Expense Statement (as of January 21, 2006)
Bob Gartner – Treasurer

Beginning Balance (10/15/05)	\$7,918.13
Income	
Interest (3 months)	\$4.37
Member checks, hat/coin sales	\$1,905.00
Total Income	\$1,909.37
Expenses	
Pok-e-Jo's Barbeque (Reunion)	\$1,619.25
H. Hamilton/R. Kissman (Football ticket refunds)	\$220.00
David Wells (Newsletter Postage)	\$629.00
Total Expenses	\$2,468.25
Current Balance	\$7,359.25