

BADGER SHIPMATE

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Happy Summertime UW-NROTC Alumni!

Since I assumed the responsibilities of Board President last October, I have had the opportunity to meet the seniors from their respective fall/spring commissioning classes, and was blown away by their demeanor, confidence, and military bearing. I can assure you that the young men and women walking out the door of the Naval Amory represent the brightest young leaders in the armed forces, and that your legacy as a Wisconsin NROTC Alumni is secure. Captain Murdoch and his staff are doing an exceptional job of preparing our newest leaders for the challenges they will surely meet in the volatile world they are about to enter.

As school winds down and we prepare for summer, I wanted to update you on the status of your Association and what has happened over the course of the past year. First and foremost, your Board of Directors has made great strides toward making our Association financially stable, more agile, and electronically networked. Here are some notable accomplishments over the course of the past year:

- Revision of Association By-Laws (approved by association membership)
- Creation of two Association sponsored College Program Leadership Scholarships
- Development of Association Website
- Sponsored an Association Reunion

The past year was also a transitional year for the Association Board of Directors. LCDR (Ret) Ron Scott (55) and Mr. Stuart Brandes left board service after dedicating many years of service to our Alumni Association. Their leadership and insight have been instrumental in the development of virtually all of our current Association Business and Midshipman support programs. To fill Stu's vacant seat, CDR (Ret) Dean Hekel was recalled to Board service. Thank you for stepping up once again Dean. Col (Ret) Steve Dinauer (86), CDR Jeff Barta (88), and Mary Jo Driscoll (88) became our newest Association Directors, and CAPT Chris Murdoch replaced CAPT Russ Haas as the PNS following Russ's retirement from active service. Russ's exceptional leadership during his tenure as the PNS and an Association Director will have a lasting impact on our organization for years to come. Thank you Russ for your dedication to excellence. Finally, I replaced CAPT (Ret) Joe Abel (64) as your Association President.

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Your Board of Directors also developed an Association Mission Statement that will provide the current, and future Boards a compass to use when managing Association funds and conducting Association Business.

The mission of the UW NROTC Alumni Association is to support the NROTC Unit and its students, promote the NROTC through direct engagement with University and community stakeholders, and strengthen the bonds of military heritage and service among Association members.

To *strengthen the bonds of military heritage and service among Association members*, the Board sponsored an Association Reunion last fall and appropriated funds for the development of an Association website. The reunion was centered on a Badger football game and offered multiple venues throughout the weekend for Alumni to meet and catch-up with old shipmates. Per Association By-Laws, the annual meeting of the Association was conducted prior to the pre-game tailgate at the Naval Armory on Saturday morning. During that meeting annual elections were held for three of the nine elected Director positions.

Our Association website is fully functional and provides a multitude of information to UW NROTC Alumni Association members. Thanks to the pro-bono efforts of Mary Jo Driscoll (Elliot '88), website development costs were held to proprietary expenses only. Please take a moment to visit the site (uwnrotcalumni.org) and provide feedback using our email address. Thanks again Mary Jo!

To *promote the NROTC through direct engagement with University and community stakeholders*, the Board is exploring the possibility of utilizing the UW Foundation as a means of establishing a more permanent business relationship with our Association. A significant advantage of this business relationship with the University would be access to Foundation Development Officers and their extensive network with all UW Alumni.

To *support the NROTC Unit and its students*, our Association directly sponsors Midshipman Scholarships, supports Battalion events promoting unit camaraderie, and provides a nexus to unit officer candidates from third party donors that sponsor individual awards and/or scholarships throughout the academic year. As annotated in the Treasurers report, our Awards Trust fund is on solid footing and is largely funded through recurrent membership dues.

After assuming the role of Association President last fall, I established two goals for the Board of Directors in 2015.

1. Increasing Association membership by 25%
2. Increasing the Awards Trust Fund by 20%

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To that end, I have asked Jeff Barta to chair a Membership Committee charged with increasing Association membership. As Deputy, Museums Systems Division-Naval History and Heritage Command, Jeff provides valuable insight with regard to membership and fundraising activities. While Jeff has great ideas, increasing Association membership is an “all hands” effort, so I’m asking each of you to reach out to your classmates and encourage them to join our Association. Direct them to our website, and they will see first hand what our Association offers both NROTC Alumni and unit Midshipmen. If you’re interested in serving on this committee or have experience in this area, please contact us via the Association email address listed on the website.

Due to funding cuts in scholarship officer candidate programs, privately funded scholarships, like our Association provides deserving Midshipmen, are becoming game changers for non-scholarship NROTC students pursuing commissions as Naval or Marine Corps officers. These cuts also pose considerable risk to the UW NROTC program, due to reduced student participation. While increasing Association membership will slowly increase our Awards Trust fund, I am asking each of you to please consider a tax deductible donation of \$120 for 2015. Through our Association website, you can make that donation on either a recurring (\$10 per month) or lump sum basis.

Please keep an eye on the website for information regarding future events, Board meetings and Association activities for 2015. Reunion 2015 will be held the first weekend of October, so mark your calendars and book your tickets. More information will be provided later in the summer and can always be found on our website. As a reminder, you’re always welcome to attend Association Board meetings, so if you’re in the area, your participation is welcome.

On behalf of the Association Board of Directors, I want to thank our active members, and new life members for your support this past year. I am confident we have charted a course for success in the future, and honored to be at your service. *ON WISCONSIN*

Pat

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

At the last board meeting, Jeff Barta presented a proposal to offer all new NROTC commissionees a complimentary 3 year membership during which time the Association would actively recruit them to remain members once their initial membership expired. Dean Hekel moved to approve the proposal, which was seconded and carried by unanimous vote. Along those lines, outreach to graduating seniors and commissionees has begun. Pat went to the unit and spoke to the seniors to discuss our vision with them and asked them to stay connected through the Association once they completed their warfare training. He also told them that they should consider the Association an internal Linkdin of sorts for mentoring and guidance.

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NEWS AND EVENTS

FALL 2015 REUNION:

We are in the beginning phases of planning this year's alumni reunion and membership meeting for the WI vs IA game on 03 October. Check the Association Webpage and Facebook page for details as they are developed.

SPRING 2015 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Bravo Zulu to the following Midshipmen:

WI NROTC PNS FRESHMAN SPIRIT AWARD:

MIDN 4/C Allison Zeman, from Burlington, WI. She is a biomedical engineering major with a 3.706 cumulative GPA and is undecided on which path she wants to take in the Navy.

LCDR JOHN S. LYMAN MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS:

MIDN 1/C Aaron Holbeck from Two Harbors, MN. He is a four-year College Program student, majoring in Drama with a 3.161 GPA.

MIDN 3/C Christopher Poellinger from Coon Valley, WI. He is a College Program Electrical Engineering major with a 3.872 GPA.

MIDN 4/C Mark Hanson, from Hayward, WI. He is a College Program International Relations major with a 3.733 GPA.

MIDN 4/C Leland Raymond, from Menasha, WI. He is a College Program International Relations major with a 3.156 GPA.

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CDR WILLIAM ARNOLD MEMORIAL AWARD:

MIDN 1/C John Peterson, from Brookefield, WI. He is an Electrical and Computer Engineering major with a 3.518 GPA. Graduating this past May, he was selected to enter the Naval Aviator training pipeline.

CAPTAIN DAVID J. LUEDER MERIT SCHOLARSHIP:

MIDN 1/C Zarkis Zenobian, from Excelsior, MN. He is a Mechanical Engineering major with a 3.104 GPA.

MIDN 1/C Lauren Monge, from Chesapeake, VA. She is a Nursing major with a 3.420 GPA.

16 MAY 2015 COMMISSIONEES

2LT Chavira, Darian	TBS
ENS Dillon, Sara	SWO
ENS Goldstein, Daniel	NSW
2Lt Hoffman, Steven	TBS
ENS Hoffmann, Riley	Subs
ENS Holbeck, Aaron	NFO
ENS Metcalf, Jesse	Subs
ENS Monge, Lauren	Nurse Corps
2LT Moore, Avery	TBS
ENS Summer, Richard	Subs

Peterson, John To be commissioned this summer. Slated for NFO.

Klewicki, Brandon To be commissioned upon completion of OCS.

CONGRATS!!!

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BRAVO ZULU

CDR Derek Adametz ('96) completed a successful command tour with the Fighting Tigers of VP-8.

LCDR Frank Gasperetti ('00) selected for CDR

MIDN 1/C Burke ('16) was selected as the next Bucky Battalion BNCO

