

BADGER SHIPMATE

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BADGER SHIPMATE

From the Captain's Chair

Greetings Shipmates!

Well it looks like summer has finally arrived, so hopefully this newsletter finds you in good health and able to enjoy the fruits of weathering another winter.

I have a few updates to share with you since my last letter to membership. First and foremost, the UW NROTC Wall of Honor has been completely revamped. A unit staff member completed the work gratis as a gift to the Association for its commitment to the Battalion. The display is the focal point for the unit's newly remodeled quarterdeck.

Last month at the spring awards ceremony, the Association awarded six thousand dollars to Midshipmen based upon merit and need. Association scholarships have become more important every year due to fiscal policy changes that have increased reliance on the non-scholarship (College Program) path to commissioning. Because of the ever-increasing importance of our scholarship program, the Association Board of Directors has decided that our primary push during the next year will be a fundraising effort to boost the Alumni Award Fund balance to a level that will provide continuing scholarship support into the foreseeable future. Expect to see more information regarding Alumni Award Fund planning soon. We will also be focusing on membership, so please reach out to your classmates to encourage involvement with our Association.

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From the Captain's Chair

Finally, seven Navy and three Marine officers recently received their commissions, and are off to their respective warfare schools. These six officers are an important part of our legacy, and will soon be at the tip of the spear in the continuing fight against terrorism around the globe. Each officer was presented with a Naval/Marine Corps heritage book as a gift from the Association. You make that possible, so thank you again for your continuing support.

Planning is underway for our annual reunion and membership meeting the weekend of October 15th (night game vs Ohio State), so I hope to see you this fall.

ON WISCONSIN!

Pat Volk '88

BADGER SHIPMATE

Annual Reunion October 14-15, 2016!

Save the date and make your travel plans now! Your association is having its annual reunion October 14-15, 2016 as the Badgers take the field against the Buckeyes. Please join us for the camaraderie, sharing experiences, and getting reacquainted with each other and the Unit! The Class of 1986 is also planning its 30th reunion in conjunction with the association's three events:

Friday, October 14: *Happy Hour Reception and Meet-up with Badger Battalion Seniors Union South's Industry Room (3rd floor)*

5:30-8:30pm

Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar

Cost: TBD

Saturday, October 15: *Alumni Association Business Meeting and Pre-Game Tailgate Party at the NROTC Unit*

3:00-3:30pm: Doors open, socialize

3:30-4:30pm: Annual Association Meeting

4:40-6:30pm: Pre-Game Tailgate Party/Cookout (Brats/Burgers/Refreshments)

Cost: TBD

The Badgers vs. Buckeyes – 7:00pm kickoff!

We intend to finalize the event costs by the end of June at which time we will have the registration information on the website, so keep checking back.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Dinauer ('86) at dinauer@uwnrotcalumni.org.

If you have any connections with businesses that might consider donating food or door prizes for the tailgate, please pass along the information to Steve.

Save the date and make your travel plans now! If you're reading this you're tasked with passing this information along to one other alum. Yes, just one!!

BADGER SHIPMATE

Spring Scholarships

15 April 2016

In 2015, the Association board authorized \$6000.00 for the annual scholarship cycle. The following Midshipmen were presented Association-funded scholarships at the Spring Ball last April:

Captain David J Leuder Merit Scholarship

MIDN 2nd Class Christopher Poellinger

MIDN 2nd Class Justin Silvis

MIDN 4th Class Derek Campbell

CDR William Arnold Memorial Award

MIDN 1st Class Edward Diamond

LCDR John S Lyman Award

MIDN 3rd Class Cole Kunsman

MIDN 1st Class Renee Whitehead

PNS Freshman Spirit Award

MIDN 4th Class John Tilstra

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Spring Commissioning 14 May 2016

CONGRATS AND WELCOME TO THE FLEET:

ENS Benjamin Fritz, Lakeville, MN, BS Nuclear Engineering. First ship: USS Green Bay (LPD 20), Sasebo, Japan.

ENS Sean Greene, Silver Spring, MD, BS, Mathematics, Physics and Astrophysics. First duty station: Naval Reactors HQ, Washington DC.

ENS Alexander Fox, Park Falls, WI, BS, Atmospheric and Ocean Science. First duty station: Nuke Power School, Charleston, SC.

ENS Edward Diamond, Fairfax, VA, BS, Biology. First duty station: Naval Aviation Schools Command, NAS Pensacola, FL.

2nd Lt Matthew Leszczynski, St. Cloud, MN, BS, Economics. First duty station: TBS, Quantico, VA.

ENS Asif Khan; Madison, WI, BS Physics. First duty station: Nuke Power School, Charleston, SC.

2nd Lt Daniel Tagliarini, Madison, CT, BA, History. First duty station: TBS, Quantico, VA.

2nd Lt Reece Whitehead, Albany, WI, BB, Administration in Operations and Technology. First duty station: TBS, Quantico, VA.

ENS Sofia Postiglione, Mendota Heights, MN, BS Zoology. First ship: USS BULKELEY (DDG 84), Norfolk, VA.

ENS Jackson Moore, Bloomington, IL, BS, Mathematics. First Ship: USS DECATUR (DDG 73), San Diego, CA.

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Spring Commissioning
14 May 2016

CONGRATS AND WELCOME TO THE FLEET:



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97 years later, UW corrects error, awards degree to WWI vet (Courtesy of Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 13, 2016)

Milton Pettit Griswold should have walked across a stage in his cap and gown with the rest of his classmates at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He should have gotten his diploma. He should have been able to call himself a UW grad.

But the world was at war and Milton Griswold was among the millions caught up in the conflict. When the young Navy aviator left UW after his junior year to teach Navy pilots to fly biplanes in the skies over Europe, he figured he would be awarded his bachelor's in mechanical engineering when the Great War was over and he returned home.

But he would be bitterly disappointed. University officials told him he had not earned a degree and despite his petitions to get his diploma, Milton Griswold never graduated.

It's never too late to do the right thing, though. Even for a World War I veteran who died in 1954.

And so, on Saturday afternoon, Milton Pettit Griswold's grandson will walk across the stage with engineering graduates at the Kohl Center and receive his grandfather's 1919 Regents' War Degree.

The crowd at the College of Engineering graduate recognition ceremony will hear a short speech explaining Milton Griswold's story, see photos of the handsome naval cadet and understand why Jack Griswold is picking up a degree that should have been awarded almost a century ago.

"It's only 97 years late, but nevertheless a Griswold will be there to receive his sheepskin," Jack Griswold, 66, an engineer in microelectronics, said in a phone interview from his California home.

None of this would have happened had it not been for Milton Griswold's granddaughter Lorelee Kendall, 65. While working on her master of liberal arts thesis at the University of North Carolina at Asheville about her grandparents' years at UW-Madison, she dived deep into the UW Archives and found her grandfather's college record.

She also learned that UW had pledged to issue "war credits" to men and women who served in the military during World War I. In December 1917, three months before Milton Griswold enlisted in the Navy as an aviator, UW regents stipulated that seniors who enlisted or were drafted would be granted their degrees at the next commencement. Seniors were defined as having 90 credits of regular academic work.

Milton Griswold had enough credits.



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WWI Aviator (continued)

"It was the Navy that said, 'Don't worry, we'll make sure you get your bachelor's in mechanical engineering,' but when he came back, the university said no," said Kendall, who received her master's last year. "He applied several times and was turned down, and I know he was heartbroken."

'This Could Really Happen'

Quiet and intelligent, Milton Griswold was a leader on campus. He joined the Wisconsin Engineer magazine staff, was elected to the military honor society Sword and Scabbard, pledged to Psi Upsilon fraternity and was invited to join the Iron Cross, one of UW's most prestigious honor societies. In his first semester on campus in 1915, he chose a course load of chemistry, two mechanical drawing classes, general lecture engineering, two shop classes and Spanish 2 as well as military drill and a required physical education class.

Griswold grew up in Wilmette, Ill., and lost his father when he was 14. His mother moved her sons to Wisconsin so they could take advantage of the free university education offered to residents. He joined the ROTC naval science program, became a captain of cadets and was chairman of finance for the Officers' Military Ball. After finishing his junior year at UW, he reported for duty as a naval ensign in May 1918 and helped train fighter pilots in Pensacola, Fla.

He remained on active duty until April 1919 and then in the naval reserves. He married Lucile Yates, whom he met on campus in 1915, and they moved to Kenosha. Later they relocated to Santa Monica, Calif., where they raised four children. Griswold worked as a successful petroleum engineer identifying possible oil fields. All of his children attended Stanford University, including two who earned engineering degrees.

Both Kendall and Jack Griswold remember sitting on their grandfather's lap when they were children. They remember a quiet, wise and gentle man. And they grew up hearing about his disappointment at not receiving his degree before he died of a heart attack at the age of 56.

Once Kendall realized her grandfather had actually earned his degree, she contacted UW officials last fall and provided the required documentation. She got a positive reaction from an official in the registrar's office. "And I thought, 'Wow, this could really happen.' I was thinking about my family and wishing any of his children were still alive, but my mom was the last to go."

Kendall can not attend Saturday's commencement, but she asked her cousin, the oldest son of Milton's Griswold's oldest son, to go. He's flying in from California and will be joined by his sister, who lives in Portland, Ore. After all her efforts to right a wrong, Kendall said she plans to frame her grandfather's diploma and hang it on her wall.

"It's not a posthumous degree, it's not an honorary degree, it's an actual degree," she said.

BADGER SHIPMATE

The Sea Bag: CDR Jeffrey Barta, USN '88

CDR Barta earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Wisconsin and his commission from UW NROTC in 1988, following it with a Master of Science in International Relations from Troy University in 1995. He is designated as an Unrestricted Naval Aviator and logged 3,513 flight hours and 1000 Small-Deck Shipboard Landings in the SH-2F and SH-60B LAMPS helicopters. He is a Joint Qualified Officer, having attended the Air Force Command and Staff College, Joint Forces Staff College and NATO School Oberammergau.

Upon completion of undergraduate flight training in 1990, CDR Barta's first assignment was as Assistant Operations Officer and Detachment 7 Operations Officer in HSL-35, NAS North Island CA, where he deployed numerous times to the Eastern and Central Pacific aboard USS LOCKWOOD (FF 1064), flying the SH-2F LAMPS MK I helicopter. Upon disestablishment of HSL-35 in 1992, he was assigned as a flight instructor in HT-8 in Milton Florida, where he was named Officer of the Year for 1995.

Completing transition training to the SH-60B LAMPS MK III helicopter in 1996, CDR Barta was assigned to HSL-47 at NAS North Island CA, where he deployed to the Eastern Pacific aboard USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG-62) and the Western Pacific/Arabian Gulf aboard USS OLDENDORF (DD-962) during OPERATION DESERT FOX.

CDR Barta's next assignment was at HSL-51, forward deployed to NAF Atsugi, Japan where he was the Detachment 4 Officer in Charge and Air Officer aboard USS CHANCELLORSVILLE (CG-62) for multiple Western and Southern Pacific deployments. Completing the sea duty portion of his tour, he was designated Squadron Maintenance Officer for HSL-51, during which time the squadron was awarded the Sikorsky Helicopter Corporation's "Golden Wrench" award for the best LAMPS III maintenance department, having completed major aircraft overhauls on nine SH-60B aircraft within 72 hours of the events of 9/11 in order to deploy six combat-ready detachments in support of contingency operations in the Western Pacific.

In April 2002, CDR Barta reported as the Assistant Deputy Director for Operations on Operations Team 4, National Military Command Center, The Joint Staff, where he served as CJCS' and SECDEF's global strike advisor. In 2005, he was selected to serve as the Secretary of the Joint Staff/Flag Secretary, Headquarters, US European Command (EUCOM), Stuttgart, Germany and then Chief, Nuclear Command and Control and Shared Early Warning Branch for EUCOM and NATO. In June 2009, he reported as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, Exercises and Force Management, and COOP Program Manager, COMNAVCENT/C5F/CMF in Manama, Bahrain.

CDR Barta's final assignment was at the Naval History and Heritage Command on the Washington Navy Yard, serving first as Chief of Staff, and then as Deputy Museum Systems Officer. He retired on 31 May 2016 and is the Deputy Director for the Museum Operations Division at NHHC, overseeing the daily operations of the Navy's ten official museums. He is a Smithsonian Institution Visiting Scholar and is certified by the American Alliance of Museums as a Peer Reviewer for Museum Organization and Operations, specifically military related museums nationwide. He is married with two children.





Become a Member Today!

Membership Dues are as follows:

- Annual Membership \$25
- 5-Year Membership \$100
- Lifetime Membership (*Best Value!*)\$300

Membership dues are used to fund Association operations, Midshipman Battalion events, and alumni reunion support. Additionally, a portion of each payment is placed in the enduring Award Trust Fund that was established over 25 years ago.

Payments can be made on-line via PayPal via the Alumni Webpage: <http://uwnrotcalumni.org> or via check. If paying by check, please enclose the bottom portion of this form with your payment and mail to:

UW NROTC Alumni Association
PO Box 5205
Madison, WI 53705-0205

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