

Jacksonville State University

ROTC ALUMNI

Chapter Newsletter

2007
Volume 10, Issue 1

President's Remarks



This newsletter, and my comments, is intended to bring all readers up-to-date on some ongoing events and programs within your chapter. Many of the accomplishments of the Gamecock ROTC Battalion are also included.

The next two major events for the chapter members and guests will be the annual Alumni Banquet and the awarding of the Military Alumnus of the Year (MAY).

Please mark the date of October 19, 2007, on your calendar for the Alumni Banquet. The banquet will be held in the Gamecock Center, Stephenson Hall at 1800 hrs. (6:00 p.m.). The dress is casual (no ties). Come and enjoy the fellowship and the reunion of classmates and friends. Reservations can be made by calling the ROTC Department at 256-782-5601 or by emailing rotc@jsu.edu. The JSU Homecoming football game will be on October 20, with kickoff at 4:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Col. Stephen West on being chosen JSU's Military Alumnus of the Year. Continue to read this newsletter for more information on Col. West. His forthcoming retirement and new career with Homeland Security in Anniston, Alabama will be a new adventure for him and his family.

We welcome a new director to the chapter: Billy Ray Arnold, class of 1961. You may read his biography within this newsletter. There are currently two vacant director

positions. If you are interested in volunteering for one of these positions, please contact one of the current directors. If you are not familiar with the ROTC Web site, then check it out by following the Military Science link under Departments at www.jsu.edu. On the left side of this page, you will find the link to the Alumni section. Or you may view the Alumni Chapter main page by simply going to www.jsu.edu/alumni/rotcalumni.

The scholarship program is one of which all of you can be very proud. Resounding thanks goes to Larry Lee and Therman Greene for their committee work to have twenty funded scholarships for 2008. The Chapter wants to thank all of the sponsors and donors that have made this program a success. Details of this outstanding program can be found within this newsletter. We also want to thank Dr. William A. Meehan, JSU President, and the university for providing matching funds to support and enrich the scholarship program.

The lost Alumni list is again within this letter in hopes that some of these alumni can be found and renewed contact can be made. If you are interested in the Class Coordinator's Program, please check the Alumni link under Military Science Department at www.jsu.edu.

A special thanks goes to Therman Greene, Second Vice President, who stood in for me while I was working in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, for four months. His coordination skills were the glue that kept everyone on track. THANKS Therman!

Finally, I want to thank all the officers and directors of our chapter who have admirably assisted me this year. I look forward to seeing all of you at the ROTC Banquet.

-Cliff Lanham

ROTC UPDATE FROM THE PMS



JSU ROTC continues to be a leading producer of Army Officers in the Southeast United States. For the second year in a row, we will commission more lieutenants than any other four-year college or university in Alabama, Mississippi or Louisiana. We are currently on track to commission eighteen Officers this year, exceeding the Army's assigned mission for JSU of sixteen.

In gratitude to the university, the Army has increased our commission mission to nineteen Officers in 2008 and 2009. This will be a challenge but it is a direct reflection of the continued confidence the Army has in the university's ability to produce Army Officers. As the Army works to increase its authorized end strength, it will lean harder on productive universities like JSU.

I want to thank the ROTC alumni who support our Cadets every year with generous contributions for alumni and memorial scholarships. Next year, we will be able to award twenty-two \$1,000 scholarships to ROTC Cadets, funded largely by contributions from ROTC alumni. More than once, these scholarships have made the difference in retaining quality Ca-

dets who may otherwise have struggled financially. They help pay for expenses beyond what is provided by the ROTC scholarship or via tuition assistance from the National Guard or U.S. Army Reserve.

As alumni, please continue to help me market JSU as "A Premier Officer Training Environment." The four-year scholarship application window is now open for high school seniors until January 10, 2008, and Cadet Command has more scholarship money than they can give away. If you know of a Soldier who has potential to become an Army Officer, tell them to consider the Army's Green to Gold Program at JSU. You can find information on both options on our Web site, www.rotc.jsu.edu. Thanks for all you do to support our Cadets!

Very Respectfully,

LTC Chip Hester

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ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

During the past year, the Chapter and other sponsors doubled the number of scholarships available to deserving Cadets. Sponsors contributed \$500, which again, was matched by the JSU Alumni Association to bring the value to \$1000 for each recipient. One sponsored scholarship was not used this year, but will be doubled and awarded to two recipients for the 2008-2009 school year.

New scholarship sponsors are:

1. Mrs. Pearl Williams

Mother of Major Dwayne Williams, who was killed in the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. She is sponsoring two scholarships.

2. ROTC Class 2001

ROTC classmates of CPT Donnie Belser, who was killed on February 10, 2007 while serving in Iraq, are sponsoring one scholarship.

3. Dewey E. Tate

Dewey was commissioned with the JSU ROTC Class 1962. He is sponsoring five scholarships.

4. James and Ethel Boozer

James was commissioned with the ROTC Class 1958. They are sponsoring one scholarship.

5. Elite Lettermen's Club (ELC)

The ELC is a "Band of Brothers" from the ROTC Classes 1979-1983. They are supporting one scholarship.

Cumulative donations for ROTC Scholarships (sponsors and JSU National Alumni Association) since the inception of the program are:

School Year	Donation
2003-2004	\$8,500
2004-2005	\$8,000
2005-2006	\$9,500
2006-2007	\$10,000
2007-2008	\$19,000
TOTAL	\$55,000

Following are the Cadets who will receive Scholarships for the 2007-2008 school year:

Kyle May—Jerry McNabb Memorial Scholarship

Larry Lowrance—Loy Scott Lee Memorial Scholarship

Christopher Payne—Jerry Savage Memorial Scholarship

Lindsay Wilson—Joseph C. Jones Memorial Scholarship

Jerome Stokes—Major James P. Rogan Memorial Scholarship

Christopher Bunt—Grady McBride, III Memorial Scholarship

Kyle Sherman—CPT Donnie Belser Memorial Scholarship

Jacob Eggleton—Major Dwayne Williams Memorial Scholarship

Dustin Mobley—Major Dwayne Williams Memorial Scholarship

Kenneth Hammond—Military Officers Association of America Scholarship

Robert Brooks—Fort McClellan Credit Union Scholarship

Taylor Harrington—James & Ethel Boozer Scholarship

Valissa Hadley—Dewey E. Tate Scholarship

Kevin Sudsberry—Dewey E. Tate Scholarship

Tiffany Whiteside—Dewey E. Tate Scholarship

Michael Dickinson—Dewey E. Tate Scholarship

Charles Knowlton—Dewey E. Tate Scholarship

Ebony Ortiz—ROTC Alumni Chapter Scholarship

Michael Schreckenbach—ROTC Alumni Chapter Scholarship

Not used [will double in 2008–2009]—Elite Lettermen's Club Leadership Scholarship



OUR MOST RECENTLY COMMISSIONED MILITARY FOR 2006 AND 2007

Congratulations to the second lieutenants who joined the ranks of Gamecock Officers during the past year. A total of 1,413 students have now been commissioned at JSU/ROTC since the first Class of 1950.

COMMISSIONED on December 15, 2006 (fall)

Kyle A Comfort, Field Artillery, active duty
Christopher D Nolan, Signal Corps, active duty
William E Tveten, Quartermaster Corps, active duty

COMMISSIONED on April 27, 2007 (spring)

Timothy R Davis, Quartermaster Corps, active duty
Jonathan I Dickson, Medical Service Corps, active duty
Dustin P Chasse, Military Intelligence, reserve duty
Kelsey C Kendrick, Quartermaster Corps, active duty
Joshua C Matthews, Field Artillery, active duty
Michael A Miller, Quartermaster Corps, active duty
Richard A Pugh, Transportation Corps, reserve duty

COMMISSIONED on May 8, 2007 (spring)

Clifton R Palmore, Aviation, active duty

COMMISSIONED on June 4, 2007 (summer)

Justin R. Maroney, Military Police Corps, reserve duty
Reginald H. Stewart, Military Intelligence, active duty

COMMISSIONED on August 3, 2007 (summer)

Derrick C Foster, Medical Service Corps, reserve duty
Michael Johnson, Corps and Service, TBD
Landon B Maroney, Military Police Corps, reserve duty
Thomas C Price, Transportation Corps, reserve duty

COMMISSIONED on August 17, 2007 (summer)

William M. Penn, unassigned, TBD



JOIN THE JSU NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND THE ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER

(Membership in the National Association conveys membership in the Chapter)

DUES

Annual: \$25 single, \$40 husband and wife
Life: \$250 single, \$450 husband and wife

Send your dues to: JSU Alumni Affairs, 700 Pelham Rd. N, Jacksonville, AL 36265

Make checks payable to JSU Alumni Association

(To pay by credit card, contact the Alumni Affairs Office by dialing 800-231-5291, ext. 0 and ask for the Alumni Office)

NEW DIRECTOR FOR CHAPTER



Billy Ray Arnold graduated from JSU in 1961 with a degree in mathematics/physics and was commissioned to the Artillery. His first assignment was to an Air Defense site in the Norfolk, Virginia, area. After six months on site, he attended the field artillery basic course; then on to Ranger and Airborne at Fort Benning, Georgia. After schooling, he returned to

Norfolk for about 18 months. Billy served in Germany with a German air defense unit, returned and deployed to Vietnam with a "Duster/Quad .50" unit in support of the 3rd Marine Division. After returning from Vietnam, he attended graduate school and taught at the U.S. Military Academy before going to the 2d Infantry Division in Korea. From Korea, it was on to the Washington, DC area, where he conducted special studies. His last assignment was as the professor of military science at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

After retiring in 1984, he taught mathematics at McNeese for one year. Billy then accepted a position with CAS, Inc. in Huntsville, Alabama, where he still works part time.

TIDBITS FROM ALUMNI

Dr. Gordon Sumner, (LTC Ret, class of 75) accepted a Presidential Appointment and is now the Executive Director, National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and the Reserves (NCESGR)(www.esgr.org). NCESGR's mission is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and the women of the National Guard and the Reserves. Dr. Sumner's senior executive grade level is equivalent to a three-star general.

Major General Carlos Pair, class of 70, is heading an agency to transform the business operations of the Department of Defense (DOD), including changes such as cutting cost and spending taxpayers' dollars wisely. The Business Transformation Agency (BTA) was formed less than two years ago and MG Pair assumed his duties as the Defense Business Systems Acquisition Executive (DBSAE) in December 2005. The agency is located in Washington, DC at the Pentagon. The mission of the agency is to guide

the transformation of business operations throughout the DOD and to deliver enterprise-level capabilities aligning to soldiers needs.

Broughton W. Rogers, class of 71, has had an interesting and successful career in the Army over the past 36 years. He served as an officer and enlisted and continues to serve in the Alabama Guard. At the age of 55, he served his country in a one-year tour in Iraq. He has been awarded the Combat Action Badge and Army Commendation Medal. Broughton presently teaches in the Linden City School System, is a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church and is an entrepreneur in the scrap metal business.

Obituary for Major General (Judge) William A. Jackson, died June 19, 2007, in Birmingham, Alabama. Maj. Gen. Jackson had a distinguished career in both the military and in civilian life. Maj. Gen. Jackson served on active duty and in the Alabama Guard in the 20th Special Forces. In his legal capacities, he served as legal advisor for Governor Wallace and as Circuit Judge in Birmingham. His wife, Lynn B. Jackson, continues to reside in Birmingham.

LTC Derrick B. Bryant, class of 88, is serving a tour in Iraq and in the U.S. Embassy, in Bagdad. He is currently serving as a deputy chief for Intelligence Operations, responsible for providing political and military (POL/MIL) insights and reflections to the U.S. Ambassador and his staff. He has many exciting experiences including: working with Zalmay Khalilzad, first Ambassador to Iraq, Current Ambassador, Ryan Crocker, Dr. C. Rice, Secretary of State, and of course General David Petraeus, Commanding General of Multi-National Forces of Iraq. His day starts early, (5:15 in the morning), and some days continue into the dark hours of the night. He will be returning stateside in early May 2008.



LTC Derrick Bryant and other embassy support staff on top of the U.S. Embassy Baghdad, Iraq (March 23, 2007).

COLONEL WEST



Colonel Stephen K. West was born at Fort McClellan, Alabama, on 25 September 1956. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate of Jacksonville State University and commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery in 1978. Colonel West has held a variety of troop and staff positions both in the

United States and overseas. In 1979, he was assigned to G Battery, 29th Field Artillery, 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas, where he served as a Radar Platoon Leader. In 1980, Colonel West was assigned to 1st Battalion, 78th Field Artillery, 2d Armored Division. He served as a FIST Team Chief, B Battery Executive Officer, and Brigade Fire Support Officer.

In 1984, Colonel West was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 333rd Field Artillery, 42nd Field Artillery Brigade in the Federal Republic of Germany. He served as the Battalion Adjutant and Commander of A Battery until his departure to V Corps Artillery in February 1988. As a member of the V Corps Artillery Staff, he served as a Target Analyst and Aide-de-Camp to the V Corps Artillery Commanding General. In 1989, he assumed duties as the Field Artillery Branch Representative at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He served as Chief of Rocket Missile Division Gunnery Department for 7 months before departing Fort Sill for the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, 1991.

Following Command and General Staff College, Colonel West was assigned to 3d Battalion, 41st Field Artillery, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart, Georgia. He served as Battalion Operations Office and deployed with Task Force I-64 to Somalia or Operation Provide Hope. Colonel West then transferred to Operations Group, Fire Support Trainers, Fort Irwin, California, where he served as a Reinforcing Battalion Trainer and 53 Combat Trainers from 1994 through 1996.

Colonel West then served with the Red Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas as the Division Artillery

Executive Officer. He also served as the Battalion Commander for 3d Battalion, 82d Field Artillery, Fort Hood, Texas. After command he was assigned to Headquarters Company III Corps as Chief, Tactical Operations Officer. In 2000, COL West attended the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

In 2001, Colonel West was assigned to United States Army Europe ULCC, Incirlik, Turkey, where he assumed the duties as the Chief of Staff/Deputy Commander of Operation Northern Watch. While serving as Chief of Staff/Deputy Commander of Combined Task Force/Operation Northern Watch, COL West molded a diverse combined and joint staff into a cohesive taskforce. Under his leadership, his taskforce successfully enforced a no-fly zone over hostile airspace of northern Iraq while under continuous combat conditions. Col West's ceaseless drive, mission, focus and organizational skills were the driving force to the drawdown of Operation Northern Watch. His exemplary leadership and steadfast rapport with coalition partners played a pivotal role as Operation Northern Watch reorganized to support the Combined Air Forces-North mission during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM

In 2003, COL West assumed command of the 4th Brigade, Eastern Region, United States Army Cadet Command. During his time as Brigade Commander he trained and directed 160 Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers' (NCO) and civilian staff of the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC) Program across 19 battalions that prepared over 2400 cadets at 54 colleges and universities in North Carolina and Virginia and commissioned over 1400 in the three years as commander. In 2006, COL West returned to the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama to assume duties as an Instructor for Department of International Security Studies.

COL West's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with two oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster and the Global War on Terrorism Service.

COL West is married to former Melissa Godbee of Weaver, Alabama. They have one son, a captain in the Army in Iraq, and one daughter in college. The West family will be residing in Jacksonville, Alabama.

HONORARY & ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Honorary Members

Title/Position at time of Award

1996

Ms. Linda Bright, *Military Personnel Tech., JSU ROTC*
Ms. Ellen Hartsaw, *Military Personnel Tech, JSU ROTC*
All former/current professor(s) of military science

1997

Dr. Harold McGee, *President, JSU*
Ms. Connie Edge, *Director of Alumni Affairs, JSU*

1998

Mr. William Meehan, *Acting V.P. of Institutional Advancement, JSU*
Mr. Dale Henry, *Former Administrative Specialist, JSU ROTC*
Ms. Jan Hindman, *Former Military Personnel Clerk, JSU ROTC*

1999

Dr. Rebecca Turner, *Associate V.P. for Academic and Student Affairs, JSU*

2000

Dr. Theron Montgomery, *President Emeritus, JSU*

2001

Dr. W. David Watts, *V.P. for Academic and Student Affairs, JSU*

2002

None

2003

Dr. Joseph Delap, *Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs, JSU*
Ms. Kaci Beatty, *Director of Alumni Affairs, JSU*
Ms. Karen Gregg, *Certification Advisor, College of Arts & Sciences, JSU*

2004

LTC (Ret.) Linda Buckner, *Reserve Officer, JSU ROTC*
LTC (Ret.) Victor Vallo, *Reserve Officer, JSU ROTC*
Mr. Jim McLaughlin, *Instructor, Dept. of Health, Physical Ed. & Rec, JSU*
Ms. Nancy Turner, *Administrative Assistant, Alumni Affairs, JSU*

2005

Mr. Alan Renfro, *Assistant Alumni Director, Alumni Affairs, JSU*

2006

Ms. Melanie Delap, *Director of Development Services, Institutional Advancement, JSU*

2007

None

Associate Members

2003

MAJ Gregory Pass, *Assistant PMS, JSU ROTC*
MAJ John Nolan, *Assistant PMS, JSU ROTC*
CPT Dean Shackelford, *Assistant PMS, JSU ROTC*
MSG Gerald Walker, *Cadre Member, JSU ROTC*
SFC Harold Young, *Cadre Member, JSU ROTC*

2007

MAJ John Reynolds, *Assistant PMS, JSU ROTC*
CPT Jerry Mize, *Assistant PMS, JSU ROTC*
MSG Arnett Dove, *Cadre Member, JSU ROTC*
MSG Gregory Jackson, *Cadre Member, JSU ROTC*



TRIBUTE TO CPT. DONNIE BELSER

On February 10, 2007, Captain Donnie Ray Belser, Jr., age 28, became the first officer commissioned from JSU Army ROTC to be killed in action since the Vietnam War. He died from wounds suffered during combat operations in Baqubah, Iraq, when enemy forces attacked his unit with small arms fire. Captain Belser was an advisor assigned to the 524th Transition Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, and was serving his second tour in Iraq. He was Alabama's 52nd soldier killed while serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. This was his third deployment in support of the nation's Global War on Terrorism.

Donnie Belser Jr. graduated with honors from Saks High School in 1997, where he was an outstanding member of the wrestling team, winning a state championship in the 130-pound division his senior year. He was also a talented tenor saxophone player in his high school marching band. In the fall of 1997, as a beginning college freshman at JSU, Belser enrolled in Army ROTC and began to work toward his goal of becoming an Army officer. The following semester, he was awarded a three-year Army ROTC scholarship.

While in ROTC, Cadet Belser excelled as a member of the Color Guard, Ranger Challenge Team, and Scabbard and Blade Honor Society. In the summer of 1999, between his sophomore and junior year, he graduated from Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. His ROTC awards included: ROTC Honors, Society of the War of 1812 Award, Color Guard Ribbon, Scabbard and Blade MS III of the Year, Cadet Honors, Sharpshooter, and Leader Stakes Honor Platoon Award. On April 27, 2001, Cadet Belser was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps and received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

JSU ROTC human resources assistants Linda Bright and Ellen Hartsaw remember Donnie as a cadet who always did the right thing, had a positive attitude, a pleasant personality and a big smile. They were deeply saddened by his death.

Former JSU professor of Military Science, retired Lieutenant Colonel Dave Merriss, remembers Belser as a dedicated, quiet leader. Merriss said, "When we commissioned him, I knew he would be an outstanding officer."

After completion of the Ordnance Officer Basic Course at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, he returned to JSU for two weeks of temporary duty under the Hometown Recruiting Program. He then left for Schweinfurt, Germany, where he was assigned as a platoon leader to Bravo Company, 299th Forward Support Battalion. He deployed with his platoon for six months in support of Task Force Falcon in Kosovo. Captain Belser then served as the Maintenance Control Officer for the 2d Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. He again deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, in Tikrit, Iraq.

His next duty position was as the Bravo Company executive officer in Balad, Iraq. Captain Belser then served as the Support Operations maintenance officer and deployed out of

sector to Mosul, Iraq as the officer in charge of the Logistics Task Force. Upon re-deployment, Captain Belser was instrumental in resetting the 2d Brigade Combat Team's combat power in preparation for their deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom IV. Captain Belser returned to the United States and attended the Combined Logistics Officers Advanced Course at Fort Lee, Virginia. In April 2006, he arrived at Fort Riley, Kansas, and was assigned to the 610th Brigade Support Battalion, serving as the Support Operations maintenance officer. Captain Belser was reassigned and again deployed to Iraq where he served as the logistics trainer on the 524th Transition Team.

A memorial service and celebration of his life was held February 19, 2007 at New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church in Birmingham, and he was laid to rest at Jefferson Memorial Gardens in Trussville.

Captain Belser's funeral was a fitting tribute to a genuine American hero," says LTC Chip Hester, current professor of Military Science at Jacksonville State University. "He touched the lives of so many people and his service was a true celebration of his life by those whom he touched."

While a student at JSU, Belser met and married Marshawn Fields, a member of the JSU Fastbreakers. He and Marshawn had a daughter, Morgan, and a son, Myles. Captain Belser was killed on his son's first birthday; he had called home the day before to sing "Happy Birthday" to him.

In addition to his wife and children, Captain Belser is survived by his parents, Donnie Sr. and Phoebe Belser, brother Brandan, grandmothers Effie Primous and Gertrude Belser, grandfather Office Hayes, and a host of other relatives, friends and military family.

Captain Belser was posthumously honored with the Combat Action Badge, Purple Heart and Bronze Star. His other awards and decorations include: Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Ribbon (one oak leaf cluster), the NATO Medal, and the Parachutist Badge. On February 15, 2007, the U.S. House of Representatives recognized Captain Belser for his heroic service to his country. The Honorable Mike Rogers stated, "Captain Belser died serving the United States and the entire cause of liberty, on a mission to bring stability to a troubled region and liberty to a formerly oppressed people. Captain Belser was a true patriot indeed. We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice, and that of his family, as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve."

HOMEcoming

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2007 GAMECOCK CENTER STEPHENSON HALL

THE ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER HOMECOMING BANQUET IS FOR ROTC ALUMNI, SPOUSES, FRIENDS, AND GUESTS. MAKE US A PART OF YOUR HOMECOMING.

1800 - 1830
1830 - 2030

DRESS:
RESERVATIONS:

COST:

SOCIAL
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
DINNER
PROGRAM
CASUAL (NO TIE)
256-782-5601 OR
EMAIL: ROTC@JSU.EDU
NLT MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2007
\$20.00 PER PERSON

CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY SCIENCE, JSU
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VISIT THE CHAPTER WEB PAGE:
WWW.JSU.EDU/ALULMNI/ROTCALUMNI/

ALL WHO
SERVED

WANTED

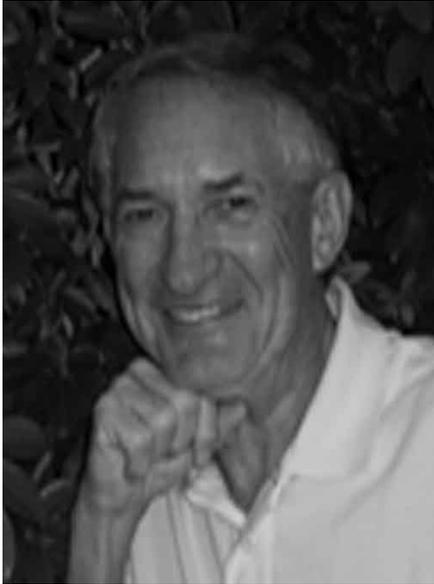
MISSING ROTC ALUMNI

The following, who completed ROTC, are still missing.

If you have any information about their location or status, please contact one of the Chapter Officers/Directors listed on the back side of this newsletter.

Aug 73	Knight, Johnny Carl	May 61	Pruitt, Robert P.
1972	Coleman, Gary Lynn	Jan 61	Mulvanity, Thomas A.
Dec 72	Jolly, John William	Jan 61	Sims III, George J.
Jul 72	Murphy, Ralph Allen	May 60	Leonard, Theodore J.
1972	Mayfield, Walter Richard	May 60	Morris, Jimmy R.
Jun 71	Casey, John L.	Jan 60	Davidson, James D.
Jun 71	Whitlock, James M.	Jan 60	Hancock, Donald L.
Dec 70	Carrington, John R.	Jul 59	Shaw, Walter B.
May 70	Campbell, Mickey J.	May 59	Nicholson, Thomas L.
Jul 68	Abercrombie, Robert	Jan 59	Jones, Billy B.
May 68	Walker, David R.	May 58	Jones, Jr., Samuel F.
Jan 68	Crowe, Harold W.	Jan 57	Barnett, Robert A.
Jan 68	Moore, Tony	Jan 57	Glenn, Jack B.
Aug 67	Hampton, Thomas L.	May 56	Moore, James A.
May 67	Henderson, Billy R.	May 56	Smith, Calvin L.
May 67	Mills, William F.	Sep 55	Parson, Joe L.
Jan 67	Henderson, Donald R.	May 55	Lowery, John A.
Jul 66	Street, Bernard L.	May 55	Roberts, Kenneth C.
May 66	Boyd, Jr., James T.	Apr 55	Lee, Curtis B.
Oct 64	Williamson, Wallace L.	Jan 55	Royal, James R.
May 64	Davis, Larry J.	Jul 54	Smith, James J.
May 64	Priest, James H.	Jun 52	Hardy, Jr., George
Jul 63	Gates, Eugene L.	Jun 52	Morris, James E.
Jul 62	Hail, James H.	May 51	Rice, Charles H.
Jul 61	Brooks, Joseph H.	1950	Heath, Jollie J.
Jul 61	Rowe, Harry L.		

CIVILIAN EXCELLENCE



Dewey E. Tate is a 1962 graduate of Jacksonville State and was commissioned as a second lieutenant from the ROTC program at that time.

He was commissioned as an Artillery officer upon graduation, and after basic training at Fort Sill, was assigned to the 2nd Armored at Fort Hood, Texas. In his two years of ac-

tive duty he was stationed in Oklahoma, Texas, Germany, California and Virginia. His first trip to Germany was part of Operation Big Lift, an exercise to prove a heavy armored division could be airlifted to Germany and put into the field ready for combat in 48 to 72 hours. It was completed successfully; probably much to the Russians' chagrin. The second trip to Germany was as a reinforced artillery battalion in support of the Cavalry on the East/West German border. His battalion had 3 batteries of 105 mms, one battery of 155 mms, and one battery of 8-inch. He was fire direction officer (FDO) for one of the 105 mm batteries. The battalion immediately went into the field to determine if they were "combat ready". They were declared non-combat ready and the FDO, a captain, was relieved. Dewey, while still a 2nd lieutenant, was placed into the job and given one week to get ready to return to the field and be retested. Had the battalion failed again, the battalion commander would have been relieved. The battalion did not fail, but Dewey says it was the most pressure he was under in his entire work career. Artillery fire direction is complex, but is nothing compared to the complexity of providing fire direction to the three types of weapons under simulated combat conditions, and knowing a good man could have his career ended

if an inexperienced FDO screwed up. Dewey was given a commendation, and later offered a regular commission as a result of his performance. It is one of the things in his life that he says he is most proud.

Dewey had gone on active duty as a newlywed, and hardly saw his wife in these two years, knowing that if he accepted the regular commission, his next tour would be a short tour, thirteen months in Korea or Vietnam. It came down to wife or military. He chose to leave the military, which he has never regretted, but he looks back on his active duty with pride.

He has been very fortunate since leaving JSU. He found the harder he worked, the more fortunate he became. He has always given the Army, and DuPont, the first company he worked for, the credit for the comfortable life he and his wife now live. However, the leadership skills he was taught in the military are without a doubt the major factor.

Dewey ended his career as an owner of a very successful company where the firm pioneered a product technology for reinforced earthwork structures used today in places where soils are too weak to support roads or other structures. Dewey and his wife Brenda live a satisfying life on the southwest coast of Florida – a very long way from growing up as a sharecropper's son, in a shack, in rural Alabama.

Recently, he received a newspaper from Jacksonville in which the ROTC program was highlighted, including a scholarship program for ROTC participants. After reading the newspaper article he realized he could repay, in a small way, what was given to him in the form of scholarship assistance.

Had Dewey not had financial assistance, he would not have been able to attend Jacksonville State. He earned his assistance by washing dishes, mopping floors, bussing tables, etc., in old Hammond Hall, the dining hall in the years during his tenure at JSU. Realizing that form of assistance is no longer an option for present day students, he knew that some students still need help, and intends to aid some of those who plan to pursue a career in the military after JSU.

Congratulations

SHARE THE EXPERIENCE!

Address Service Requested

JSU ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER
Jacksonville State University
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Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602



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