

ROTC Alumni Chapter Newsletter

Volume 12, Number 1

Jacksonville, Alabama

September 2009

Message from the President Mark Pentecost, '75



1. Please join us for our 14th annual banquet on Friday, 23 October at the Gamecock Center. Submit your reservations to the ROTC Department not later than Friday, 16 October.

2. Congratulations to COL Deb Broughton Grays on her selection as this year's Military Alumna of the Year (MAY) by

the Chapter officers and directors. She will be our guest speaker at the banquet.

3. The list of officers and directors is included in this newsletter. My thanks for their work and support this year. Special thanks to Therman Greene for his continuing, dedicated work for the scholarships and to Cliff Lanham, our Past President for two years, for his invaluable advice. Please contact any one of us about your questions or concerns.

4. We're looking for more grads from the '80s and '90s to step up and play key roles in the future for the ROTC Alumni Chapter. With all respect to them, the older gang of the '50s and '60s knows it's time for them to move on! We need to keep the Chapter viable so that support of the ROTC program continues. Can you play a role? Will you step forward now? If you would like to be an officer or director of the chapter, contact me.

5. Year Group Coordinators were first appointed in 2003 for the years 1951-2002. Coordinators are to contact members and maintain mailing and email lists of the Year Group members; attempt to locate "missing" alumni from their year; and encourage their year group to attend the annual banquet and share a table. I encourage your efforts as Coordinators. Let me know if you need a list of ROTC graduates for your Year Group.

6. While the 'named' scholarships continue to do well, last year the Chapter established the ROTC

Scholarship Endowment to provide scholarships to ROTC students for the long term. \$25,000 is needed within three years to establish a base endowment and we remain significantly short of that goal. The second phase will be to build the Endowment to more than \$100,000 for it to be a viable fund using only the earnings for scholarships. Please help us spread the word about the Endowment.

7. We encourage you to make a separate donation to the ROTC Scholarship Endowment, or to the ROTC Alumni Chapter, c/o the JSU Foundation. Mark your check "ROTC Scholarship Endowment" or "ROTC Alumni Chapter" on the "For" line of the check.

8. Speakers, supporters, and donors are always needed for the events and ceremonies of the Gamecock Battalion. Subject Matter Experts are needed for ROTC training classes, FTXs, and Labs (e.g., Terrorism, Call for Fire, etc.). See the Calendar for events and dates. The ROTC Department also welcomes you to mentor a Cadet and to take a Cadet out for dinner or lunch. Contact the PMS and volunteer or sponsor in any capacity! Share the Experience!

9. Because of the budget cuts at the University, this could well be the last mailed hard copy of the newsletter. In fact, those alumni who have an email address on file with the Alumni Office will only receive this newsletter via that means. That's about 460 names out of about 1150. Even many of the 460 are bound to be incorrect, since emails continually change. So — please provide your email address to the Alumni Office and keep it updated! Newsletters are posted on the ROTC Alumni page and in the future we will probably post the new ones on the website and notify you via email that it is available. Year Group Coordinators can greatly help out in this effort.

10. We continue to maintain our website. Also look for the Chapter now on Facebook. Search for "Jacksonville State University ROTC Alumni."

Chapter Officers and Directors

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LTC (Ret) Bruce Pickette, '68
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Year Group Coordinators

1951	Winston	Williams	Gadsden	AL
1952	David	Pearson	Jacksonville	AL
1953	Roy	Smith	Gadsden	AL
1954	Buford	Brooks	Jacksonville	AL
1955	Wesley	Brown	Athens	AL
1956	Albert	Wester	Centre	AL
1957	Fred	Casey	Jacksonville	AL
1958	Sherman	Baggett	Rainbow City	AL
1959	Therman	Greene	Oxford	AL
1960	Ernest	Estes	Ozark	AL
1961	Lenton	Williams	Wattsville	AL
1962	Mitchell	McKay	Jacksonville	AL
1963	Jerry	Heard	Hokes Buff	AL
1964	Herb	Griffin	Oxford	AL
1965	Winston	Hay	Anniston	AL
1966	Thomas	Smith	Jacksonville	AL
1967	Al	Hethcox, Jr	Montgomery	AL
1968	Bruce	Pickette	Montgomery	AL
1969	John	Shelton	Marietta	GA
1970	Charles	Herb, Jr.	Southside	AL
1971	Cary	Foster	Jacksonville	AL
1972	Kenneth	Howell	Anniston	AL
1973	Ralph	Rogers, Jr.	Jacksonville	AL
1974	David	McPherson	Jacksonville	AL
1975	Mark	Pentecost	Piedmont	AL
1976	James	Phipps	Huntsville	AL
1977	Robert	Gentry	Jacksonville	AL
1978	Brian	McElwee	Gadsden	AL
1979	John	Woody	Anniston	AL
1980	Anna	Osborne	Alexandria	AL
1981	Kenneth	Beers	Helena	AL
1982	Earl	Hicks, Jr.	Pinson	AL
1983	Steven	Dotson	Anniston	AL
1984	William	Craun	Jacksonville	AL
1985	Roy	Manners	Jacksonville	AL
1986	Terry	Sumner	Oxford	AL
1987	Randy	Durian	Oxford	AL
1988	James	Moran	Anniston	AL
1989	Scott	Powell	Cedartown	GA
1990	Neal	Mulkey, Jr.	Anniston	AL
1991	Kevin	Finch	Jacksonville	AL
1992	Mack	Whitley	Oxford	AL
1993	Stephen	Goff	Hattiesburg	MS

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Professor of Military Science Update

JSU ROTC has continued to uphold its high standards and exceptional performance this year. As the PMS, I could not be more proud of this battalion. Maintaining its excellence, JSU ROTC's cadet rankings are once again above Cadet Command's average, and we commissioned eighteen highly qualified Lieutenants into the United States Army this year. Currently, we have 86 cadets enrolled in the program and 36 of those are contracted. Of course, recruiting is ongoing and we already have several recruits returning from Basic and AIT who will be joining us for the Spring semester.



The number of cadets we send to training and specialty schools is ever increasing. This past summer, we sent fourteen cadets to LDAC (Leader Development and Assessment Course) at Fort Lewis, Washington, where five of our cadets achieved an 'E' (Excellent) evaluation, which is more than most ROTC programs can boast. We also sent 5 cadets to LTC (Leader's Training Course) at Fort Knox, KY where they received a crash course to prepare them for life as an Army officer. A total of 1810 cadets attended LTC from across the country, a record breaking number for this past decade. More impressive, two of our five attendees will be going into the Army Nursing field. For specialty schools, we sent 2 cadets (CDT Antione Williams and CDT Bobby Hill) to the US Army Basic Airborne Course. These slots are highly competitive to obtain and we commend these cadets for completing the rigorous training selection program to acquire them.

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**2009 Military Alumna of the Year
COL Deborah Broughton Grays, '84**

Deborah (Deb) Broughton Grays is the Garrison Commander for Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem in the Atlanta metropolitan area. She is responsible for managing the installations' functions and services dealing with everything from facilities and infrastructure to air space. She graduated from JSU in 1984 where she received her commission as a second lieutenant in the Military Police Corps. She is married to COL Chris Grays. They have one son, Airman Marcus Broughton, age 20, serving in the USAF and currently deployed to Kuwait.



**Cadets Commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants
School Year 2008-2009**

Congratulations to those alumni listed below as newly commissioned officers. 1436 have been commissioned since the beginning of the ROTC Program in 1950.

Commissioned on December 19, 2008:

Deven O'Day, Transportation Corps, National Guard
Tiffany Whiteside, Army Nurse Corps, Active Duty

Commissioned on May 1, 2009:

Saquindra Buck, Medical Service Corps, Reserve Duty
Charles Davis, Ordnance Corps, Active Duty
Michael Dickinson, Quartermaster Corps, Active Duty
Kenneth Hammond, Medical Services Corps, Active Duty

Taylor Harrington, Chemical Corps, Active Duty
Carrea Johnson, Quartermaster Corps, Active Duty
Dustin Mobley, Quartermaster Corps, Reserve Duty
Ebony Ortiz, Medical Service Corps, Reserve Duty
Yolanda Prince, Medical Service Corps, Active Duty
Derrick Smith, Ordnance Corps, Active Duty
Emily Thomas, Military Police Corps, Reserve Duty

Commissioned on June 12, 2009:

Kyle Sherman, Signal Corps, Active Duty

Commissioned on July 10, 2009:

Tanrea Johnson, Quartermaster Corps, Active Duty

Commissioned on August 7, 2009:

Valisa Hadley, Quartermaster Corps, Active Duty
Kyle May, Quartermaster Corps, Active Duty
Lindsay Wilson, Medical Service Corps, Reserve Duty

Year Group Coordinator (con't.)

1994	Jeffrey Maddox	Alexandria	AL
1995	Anthony Diaz	Anniston	AL
1996	Chadrick Russell	Anniston	AL
1997	John Jones, II	Sylacauga	AL
1998	Laren Fleming	Anniston	AL
1999	Demetrius McClellan	Anniston	AL
2000	David Godfrey	Hokes Bluff	AL
2001	Stephen Armstrong	Anniston	AL
2002	Jeffrey Buckner	Jacksonville	AL

Professor of Military Science Update (con't.)

We have two new additions to JSU ROTC this year. The first is the Study Hall Program which was implemented last year by our 2008-2009 MS-IVs. This program was developed for cadets to increase their GPAs and further overall academic success, especially for the cadets' accessions packets. So far, it has been a success! We hope to have 100% of our cadets above a 3.3 GPA by 2010. The second and most noticeable addition is the establishment of the battalion Military Library. It enables cadets to access volumes of military history reference material. Any alumni donations of military history books or reference materials are welcome.

In addition to the four feeder JROTC programs we already had established, (Anniston High School, Talladega High School, Etowah High School and Gadsden City High School) Albertville High School will make our fifth JROTC feeder school. We have reactivated Gadsden State Community College as our feeder community college as well. This will broaden our scope and facilitate the recruitment of more exceptional officers. Along with the additional feeder schools, we have expanded our cadre to include the new Senior Military Instructor, MSG Jerry Laitinen, the new Operations NCO, SFC Kenneth Mercer, and returning to our cadre is the new Operations Officer, CPT Paul Painter.

Looking to the new year, I am proud to introduce to you our new cadet commander, CDT LTC Bobby Hill. CDT LTC Mike W. Schreckenbach relinquished command of the Gamecock Battalion to CDT LTC Bobby Hill during the Change of Command Ceremony, which took place on 3 September 2009 on the lawn of Bibb Graves.

I want to thank all of the alumni of this program for your dedication and support of this battalion. Without you, we would not have the foundation that we do, nor the high standards to maintain. Our cadets are more than grateful for your generous contributions to the Alumni and Memorial Scholarships. To show our appreciation and keep you involved in the program, we welcome each and every one of you to our upcoming events.

LTC Richard E. White

ROTC Alumni Chapter Scholarship Program

This is the 7th year for the Scholarship Program. For School Year 2009-2010, twenty scholarships will be awarded at the Fall Awards Ceremony on 19 November. Worth noting this year is the fact that all qualified applicants (20 of 24) will receive a scholarship. This is a first and is something all who support the program can be proud of... there are 20 scholarships and 20 recipients! The Chapter appreciates the contributions of all the sponsors. The JSU Alumni Association continues to match the sponsor contributions. The cumulative donation for scholarships, with the Association's matching, since the beginning of the program is \$104,000. Colonel (Ret) Therman Greene, Scholarship Chair for the ROTC Alumni Chapter, sat on the ROTC Department's selection board, along with the PMS LTC White, and others. All Cadets will receive a \$1000 Scholarship. The named scholarships are:

Dewey E. Tate ROTC Scholarships (5 each)
Loy Scott Lee Memorial Scholarship
Jerry W. McNabb Memorial Scholarship
Joseph C. Jones, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
Jerry Savage Memorial Scholarship
CPT Donnie Belser Memorial Scholarship
Major Dwayne Williams Memorial. Scholarship (2 each)

Grady E. McBride III Memorial Scholarship
Major James P. Rogan Memorial Scholarship
Elite Letterman's Club Scholarship
James and Ethel Boozer Scholarship
MOAA Scholarship
Fort McClellan Credit Union Scholarship
ROTC Alumni Chapter Scholarship (2 each)

ROTC Scholarship Endowment Established!!

In a bold and strategic move, the JSU ROTC Alumni Chapter in January 2009 mapped out a long-term scholarship program on behalf of the ROTC Department. The scholarship committee of the ROTC Alumni Chapter has found that more and more ROTC graduates are looking for ways to contribute to the ROTC Department because of the wonderful experiences they had while at JSU. Fortunately, we have a number of dedicated individuals and organizations to continue the annual program in the short term to provide scholarships. Coupled with the generous support of the university that has been matching these annual donations, the Chapter will be able to support 10 to 15 cadets with small scholarships for the next three years. In January 2009, the Chapter established the formation of the ROTC Scholarship Endowment in concert with the University. To ensure a viable scholarship program, the Endowment must accumulate \$25,000 within three years. As of now the Endowment has about \$7000 and some \$3000 pledged toward the fund. Considering the nation's economic condition, the Chapter is very pleased with the results so far! It is the goal of the Chapter to start using this fund in the year 2015 for cadets that need assistance while attending JSU. Looking in the wish mirror, JSU has commissioned some 1500 Cadets since 1950. If each graduate of the ROTC program donated just \$100, this Endowment could have a nice balance of \$150,000 plus in short order! Where is that dream mirror? The ROTC Alumni Chapter is seeking any and all graduates that would like to participate in the Endowment or the present annual matching scholarship program. Like all other donations to the University, the donations are tax deductible. You can send your donations to: JSU Foundation, Inc., 700 Pelham Rd N, Jacksonville, AL 36265. Please make the check payable to JSU Foundation, Inc. You can enclose a small note or put in the description line of the check the name of the scholarship fund to get credited with your donation. For further information concerning the JSU ROTC scholarship programs please contact COL (Ret) Therman Greene.

ROTC Department Military Ball

The Military Ball was held on 20 February 2009 and was well attended by cadre, cadets, university employees, and Chapter directors MG (Ret.) Larry Lee, COL (Ret) Therman Greene, and LTC (Ret) Cliff Lanham. ROTC alumni are welcome to attend the ROTC Department's Military Ball; make plans to dress up next year!



COL Therman Greene
and date Johnnie
Gardner



Two of our greatest supporters!
Melanie and Joe Delap



MG Lee and wife, Nancy,
talk with Bill and Beth
Meehan

JSU ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER
Jacksonville State University
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Share the Experience!

Homecoming Activities 2009

Friday, 23 October 2009

***ROTC Alumni Chapter Homecoming Banquet—
 Gamecock Center (west end of Stephenson Hall),
 for ROTC alumni, spouses, and guests***

1800-1830 Social
 1830-2100

- Remarks by JSU President
- Welcome & Introductions
- Dinner
- Guest Speaker: Colonel Deb Broughton Grays
 (2009 Military Alumna of the Year)
- Recognitions

Dress: Casual (no tie)
 Reservations: (256) 782-5601 or e-mail:
 rotc@jsu.edu
 NLT 16 October
 Cost: \$20.00 per person

Saturday, 24 October 2009

0900 Alumni House Open
 1000 Homecoming Parade
 1100 – 1200 JSU President’s Open House and De-
 partmental Open Houses
 1100-1230 Food and entertainment - Stadium
 1300 Kickoff
 Halftime Alumni of Year Awards & HC Queen

Calendar of Events

9-11 Oct	Fall FTX
23 Oct 09	ROTC Alumni Banquet
6-8 Nov 09	Fall CPX—Rowe Hall (Alumni Coaches & Mentors Needed!)
11 Nov 09	Veterans Day Lunch—Rowe Hall
19 Nov 09	Fall Awards Ceremony
18 Dec 09	Fall Commissioning Ceremony

Are you a member?

Your contributions to the Chapter to help fund Chapter programs and scholarships are appreciated. But it’s your separate alumni dues that confer automatic membership in the ROTC Alumni Chapter and allow the Alumni Association to assist in JSU’s advancement. Annual single membership is \$25. Send check payable to “JSU Alumni” to Alumni Relations or, to pay by credit card, email alumni@jsu.edu or call 877-JSU-ALUM or 256-782-5404. Go online to <http://www.jsu.edu/alumni/getinvolved.html>.

**Chapter Website: <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/rotc/>
 Click on Alumni on left side**