



ROTC ALUMNI

Chapter Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 1

Jacksonville, Alabama

March 2014

President's Remarks



Greetings fellow Gamecock Battalion alumni. I hope that all is well with you and your family. Since our last newsletter, great things happened for a couple of our alumni board members. LTC (R) John Hopson ('88) safely returned from a year-long tour in Kuwait and Sandy Hunter ('04) was promoted to major—congratulations to both of them. We

would love to hear from all of our alumni regarding the great things happening with each of you so that we can share the information with all members of our chapter.

We also learned that MAJ Paul Thiessen ('02) will be leaving Jacksonville State University in the next few weeks en route to his next duty assignment at Ft. Bragg. We appreciate Paul's achievements while serving as PMS and wish him and his family the very best in all of their future endeavors.

I had the pleasure of participating in the JSU Alumni Association meeting on March 8, 2014. After listening to the updates provided by the other chapters, there is no other chapter providing the same level of support to their students. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Updated contact information needed

As printing costs continue to rise, we plan to distribute information electronically in the future. Although we have good e-mail addresses for a large number of our members, we do not have e-mail addresses for everyone. For our members who are still serving and have provided a .mil e-mail address, we have experienced issues with spam filters and filters that strip e-mail attachments; if you have an alternate e-mail and are willing to share, please send your updated or alternate e-mail address to alumni@jsu.edu.

Chapter Operating Fund

Unlike the endowment, which exists only to support scholarships, the chapter operating fund provides the alumni board with the resources to pay for the annual alumni banquet deposit, printing and postage costs, and to provide support to chapter requests for assistance.

Recently, the chapter requested assistance totaling \$3,000 to support Ranger Challenge team needs. Based on a thorough review of the current fund total and projected needs for the remainder of the year, the board determined that we could safely provide \$1,000 to support the chapter's request. A portion of these funds comes from the JSU telephone campaign, where the university removes a small percentage of the donated amount as a service fee. Checks made out to the JSU Foundation with "for fund 4510" written at the bottom allow one hundred percent of the donated amount to reach the chapter operating fund.

JSU Foundation, Rock House
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Silent auction items needed

In an effort to increase our chapter operating fund, we are considering holding a silent auction at the annual banquet. To be successful, we need your help. If you have a relationship with a company willing to donate items for our silent auction or have items that may be of interest, please let me know. During a recent discussion, items such as hotel free-night vouchers, foursomes at golf courses (such as Robert Trent Jones), access to a timeshare property that would otherwise go unused, all came up as items that may be of interest to our members and could generate bids during the auction.



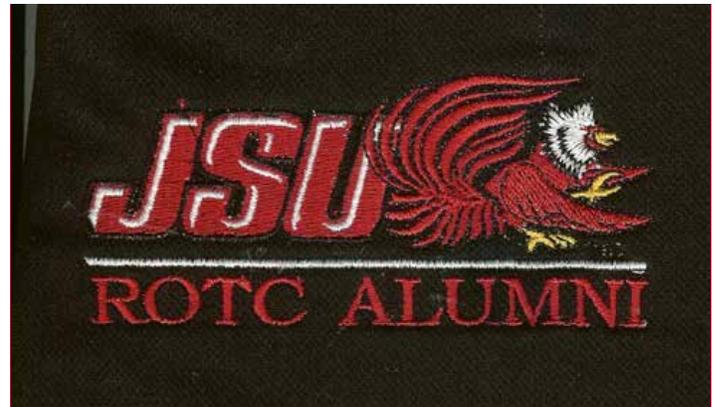
Update from Major Paul J. Thiessen

We are really looking forward to this summer and our MSIII's performance at camp. For those not aware, the Leadership Assessment and Development Course (LDAC) is moving this summer from Joint Base Lewis- McChord, Washington to Fort Knox, Kentucky. Our MSIII's are ready due in no small part to the high participation rates of our MSIII's in Ranger Challenge and a rigorous PT program; we have seen the class APFT average raise from the 260s to the 280s. This is just one example showcasing the great leadership our MSIV's, CPT Sawdy and MSG Corley have provided to get us ready for success over the summer.

With three retirements and one PCS occurring all over the summer months you will see a significant transition of cadre. The good news is that we already have our replacements' names and we are in constant dialogue with them to ensure a smooth transition. We will say goodbye to CPT Carroll, MSG Corley and SFC Clanton who are all retiring. I am PCSing to Fort Bragg to serve as the 82nd division deputy provost marshal. On behalf of the entire cadre who are moving, we would like to say that this assignment was extremely rewarding. The patriotism, support and encouragement we received from the cadets, alumni, university and the entire Jacksonville community is unmatched. We all thank you for making our time here so enjoyable and rewarding. We know that you will show the new cadre the same quality support.

As always, on behalf of the cadets and staff, thanks for all of your support - it is truly making a difference in improving the program. If you are in the area stop by Rowe Hall. We would love to see you and if you have any questions, please contact us. We are here to help. For updates make sure you friend us on Facebook @Gamecock Battalion3. Have a wonderful summer!

Our team is well postured to compete at Camp Blanding, Florida in late January. They are conducting miles of foot marches, building proficiency with their newly purchased zodiac boat, the one-rope bridge, trauma lane, basic rifle marksmanship and more. We expect impressive results and will keep you posted on their future achievements.



ROTC ALUMNI SHIRTS

Thanks to Joe Serviss ('69) and his coordination with Get Personalized, we now have ROTC alumni shirt ordering information available on the JSU ROTC website. Here are the details:

The ROTC Alumni Chapter has made arrangements with Get Personalized, an embroidery company in Jacksonville, to provide soft collar polo shirts with JSU ROTC Alumni logos. Get Personalized is located at 213 Pelham Road S. They are located just north of the square between the Gamecock Pawn Shop and Armstrong Florists. You can also find them on Facebook at Get Personalized (www.facebook.com/getpersonalized1) or you can call them at 256-782-1122.

Two styles of shirts are available, a 100% Polyester Willow Pointe with WillowTec Moisture Management technology, and a 100% Preshrunk Cotton Pique fabric shirt. Additional information is listed below.

100% Polyester Willow Point (Short Sleeve)

Available in both men's and ladies (men's have three buttons and ladies have no buttons)

Colors: Red, White, Black, & Grey

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, & XXL

Price: \$40.00

Postage: \$5.00

100% Preshrunk Cotton Pique fabric (Short Sleeve)

Only available in men's sizes

Colors: Red, White, & Black

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, & XXL

Price: \$30.00

Postage: \$5.00

Mentors Still Needed

Company grade officers willing to serve as mentors should send their contact information, branch (or branches) that they can mentor and their component (active, guard, or reserve) to Sandy Hunter '04 at sandy.wilson12@gmail.com.

Field grade officers willing to serve as mentors should send their contact information, branch (or branches) that they can mentor and their component (active, guard, or reserve) to David Crenshaw '91 at david.e.crenshaw.mil@mail.mil.



*Spring
Awards
Ceremony*

*The Spring Awards Ceremony
will be held on
April 17, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.
in Rowe Hall.*

*All alumni in the area are welcome
and encouraged to attend.*



The Annual ROTC Alumni Banquet will be held on October 31, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Houston Cole Library. More Homecoming activities will take place Saturday, November 1, 2014. Please mark your calendars – we would love to see you at the banquet. More details will be provided in our next newsletter.

We still are looking for silent auction items!

JSU Military Ball

LTC Richard White (former JSU PMS) and I had an opportunity to attend this year's military ball held at the Classic Too in Anniston on February 8, 2014. The cadets put on a solid program with the highlight being a grog ceremony in which the ingredients all were associated with chapter members who died in the line of duty. If you have not been to one of these events, I encourage you to attend.

ROTC ENDOWMENT FUND

The endowment fund has grown to \$33,107, up from \$31,000. If you are interested in making a donation to the fund which will be used to fund scholarships in the future, please make your check payable to the JSU Foundation with "for ROTC Endowment" written at the bottom of the check. Please send checks to:

JSU Foundation, Rock House
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265



