



TAR HEEL NAVY ALUMNI NEWS

June 2016

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2016!

Your new Board of Directors is in place, and is working towards expanding our effort in support of alumni relations and support to the battalion. The current Board is comprised of first time Directors and Directors who have previously served. We all look forward to bringing the membership together more often through social media and in person on reunion weekends.

Board Sets New Direction for 2016

The new Board of Directors held its initial meeting of 2016 in Chapel Hill on March 5th with 12 Directors in attendance. The Board discussed the mission and purpose of our Association, to include keeping members informed as to the activities of the alumni and the Unit, promoting comradery among the members and alumni, and providing support to the Unit, through endowing awards and funding scholarships.

The Board also spent time discussing the fact that the website has not been updated for quite some time, and overall communications with the organization have been lacking. Efforts to correct this are underway.

Here are some of the items the Board noted:

Annual Membership in steep decline. While the Association has maintained ~180 living Life Members over the past several years, the number of annual dues paying members has plummeted from ~150 in the decade 2000-2009, down to 28 members in 2015 and 13 members in 2016 to date. The biggest drop occurred between 2012 (86 members) and 2013 (31 members). The drop closely correlates with the abandonment of the Association's website as a primary communications and information resource.

Board Direction continued...

One third of the Association's endowment depleted. Since the creation of restricted endowed funds in the mid-1990s (Life Dues Fund, Connor Award Fund, Dawson Library Fund), the Association has collected \$101,600 in contributions, not including interest, dividends and capital gains. The total assets of the corporation as of March of this year were \$67,129. So at least \$34,471 or ~34% of the endowment is depleted. Some of this happened in the crash of 2008, but much of it has resulted from spending down the endowment for annual operating income. Please note this is perfectly legal, but in the judgment of the current board, unsustainable if we wish to keep the memorials ongoing, and keep an income stream from the life dues account.

Scholarship funds in deficit. The scholarship program since its creation has been pay-as-you-go, rather than endowed. Since 2001 the Association has awarded \$21,500 in scholarships, but only raised a corresponding \$9,386 over the same period, running a deficit of \$12,144.

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Paid your 2016 dues yet?

**You can pay online at the website just
click below**

JOIN NOW

Staff Profile - Unit Commanding Officer

Captain Gillespie, of Jacksonville, Florida, graduated from the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science in 1987. He attended Catholic University receiving a Master of Engineering degree in Engineering Management in



June 1999 and attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces earning a Master of National Resource Strategy in June 2011.

Captain Gillespie assumed command of the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps, North Carolina Piedmont Consortium in December 2014. He serves as a Professor and the Chair for the Department of Naval Science at Duke University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University.

Captain Gillespie has served in numerous commands over his 28-year career. His first assignment following nuclear propulsion training and submarine school was on USS LOUISVILLE (SSN-724) home ported in San Diego, California. During this tour, he deployed two times to the Western Pacific, including support of Operation Desert Storm. The ship was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for its historic role in the first successful submerged launch of Tomahawk missiles during conflict.

Subsequent sea tours include Weapons Officer, USS SALT LAKE CITY (SSN-716), and Executive Officer, USS GEORGIA (SSBN- 729) (GOLD). Captain Gillespie took command of USS RHODE ISLAND (SSBN 740)(GOLD) in July 2005. During his command tour the ship obtained the Fleet Forces Command Retention Excellence Award for three consecutive years, and was awarded the 2005 and 2007 Battle Efficiency "E" for operational excellence. Following USS RHODE ISLAND, Captain Gillespie served as Deputy Commander Submarine Squadron 16/20; Commanding Officer USS WEST VIRGINIA (SSBN

736)(GOLD); and Commander, Submarine Squadron 16. His staff tours include duty as Material Officer for Commander Submarine Development Group One; Action Officer in the Fleet Readiness and Logistics Division, Chief of Naval Operations Staff; and Strategy Officer in the Policy, Resources and Requirements Directorate of United States Strategic Command.

Captain Gillespie's personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and various campaign and unit awards.

Janis Carter - Admin Assistant

Janis began her career at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in October 1997. At the registrar's office, her primary duties were processing transcript orders, entering grades and processing grade changes, graduation organization, and ordering diplomas for 5000+ graduates.

In September 2003, Janis began working for the Department of Naval Science/NROTC as Department Manager. Janis is the liaison rep and point of contact for all things UNC. Janis likes working



with the staff and students at the unit. Janis' most recent accomplishment was winning a game of Cribbage with the Captain!

Janis enjoys spending time with family and friends, volunteering with Little Pink Houses of Hope, shopping, traveling, and UNC basketball and football. Go Heels!

Upcoming Events

- **Saturday 25 June Board Meeting Chapel Hill**
- **Saturday 8 October Annual Meeting and Reunion Chapel Hill Naval Armory**

Spending on direct Midshipman Support in deficit.

Paid ~\$17,000 in direct support to the Midshipman Battalion since 2007 while raising a corresponding income stream of ~\$900, if one were to include all contributions to the general fund.

Operating income strained by declining membership.

As envisioned when the funds were established, operating income is derived from three sources: annual dues, income generated from life dues and member gifts to the general fund. With annual dues paying members diminished and life dues endowment significantly depleted, the operating income stream is not sufficient to operate the Association effectively.

So what are we doing about it?

We are recruiting! The Association is looking for new and renewed annual members and inviting annual members to upgrade to life membership. Please join us and help us create a fresh start for the Association.

We are open for business! The Association is updating the website and will use it in conjunction with other social media (Facebook for now, perhaps Twitter and others soon) to provide members with one-stop shopping for up-to-date information. Creating this will take some investment, so once again *please become, renew or upgrade your membership*

Tightening the belt! The Association has adopted a new set of business rules and budget controls to improve our business practices, preserve and grow our endowed funds. The funds we need for Scholarships, we will raise and properly endow. (See related Scholarship article later in this newsletter). The funds needed for Midshipman support will be raised for that purpose. Funds raised for a restricted purpose, will only be spent for that purpose.

Want to know all the detail? Members who wish to review the financial condition, new business rules and the March Board meeting minutes can find them on the website.

It is imperative that the Association is returned to a positive cash flow mode of operation, not only the restricted funds, but also the overall direction of the Alumni Association, in accordance with our mandates from the beginning as a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Encourage fellowship among the graduates of the university and members of the association, through the periodic publication of a newsletter, and other projects which the board may from time to time prescribe.
2. Assist the NROTC Unit recruiting effort by providing current and prospective students with information about opportunities offered through the NROTC program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
3. Research, promote, and physically display the rich Naval tradition shared by the university and the U.S. Naval Service.
4. Establish a speaker's bureau and information resource to other organizations, as required.
5. Endow awards, scholarships, and other activities in furtherance of educational objectives of the NROTC program, which the board may from time to time establish.

And all this is why WE NEED YOUR help. We are planning an exciting reunion-filled Annual Meeting on 8 October and want you to attend. Please make your plans now to join us as we make this our biggest annual meeting ever. And keep reading... we have created an outstanding memorial scholarship opportunity to re-engage with the Alumni Association in accomplishing our mission of supporting our beloved UNC NROTC Unit in Chapel Hill through a new memorial scholarship program! Contact your classmates and plan to see them in the Fall!



Awards Nominations Needed Act Now!

The UNC NROTC Alumni Association Awards Committee (Butch Bracknell '92, Chair, Pat Riordan '87 and Dave Jackson '87) is soliciting nominations for the Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Distinguished Service Award.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is a graduate of the UNC NROTC program who has distinguished himself or herself in contributions to our nation, the armed services, industry or business, the arts, philanthropy, or other social contributions. This is not a "distinguished member of the military" award, and the individuals need not have been career members of the armed forces. The board will consider the achievements of a non-military professional with an NROTC pedigree on equal footing with a career officer. The Committee will receive nominations and vote out a recommended candidate to the full Board of Directors, though the Directors may accept or reject this nomination in favor of a different candidate.

The Distinguished Service Award is a graduate (or former staff member) who has distinguished himself or herself in contributions to the NROTC Alumni Association. This criteria is intentionally nonspecific, and can include any manner of contributions to the efforts of the NROTC Alumni Association. Current Directors are ineligible for nomination.

Nominations should be forwarded as a narrative describing how the nominee meets the criteria for the award nominated, including supporting documentation such as a CV, published articles or noteworthy judicial opinions, newspaper articles about the nominee, Nobel certificates, Navy Cross citations, or photos of the nominee holding the Claret Jug. There is no prescribed format; please just provide enough detail to allow the Committee to make an informed recommendation, and the Board to make an informed decision.

Both awards will be awarded at the annual meeting October 8, 2016. Please submit nominations by Friday, July 29 to permit time for Committee/Board action, procurement and engraving of awards, and ceremony preparation. The awardees will be encouraged to attend, but in the past, where that has been impossible, the presentations have been made in absentia.

Conner Award Given

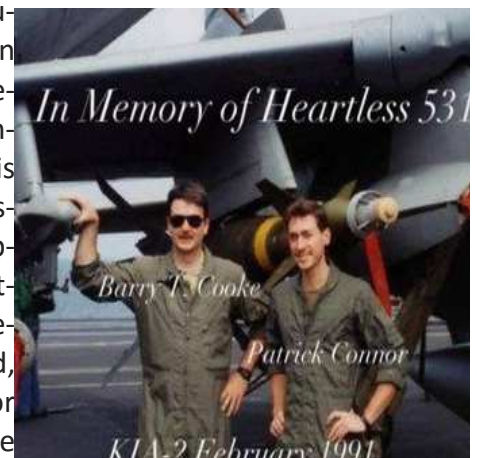
On Thursday, April 21, the UNC NROTC Alumni Association presented, on behalf of the family of LT Pat Connor, USN (UNC '87), the Patrick Connor Memorial award to ENS SALVATORE J. SAVARESE, USN (UNC '16). ENS Savarese is from Apex, NC. He completed the Naval ROTC program as an Advanced Standing student, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies and Peace, War, and Defense in May 2016. At UNC, ENS Savarese held the billets of Squad Leader, Platoon Commander, Battalion Executive Officer, and Battalion Commanding Officer. He received multiple battalion awards for leadership, physical fitness, and academic excellence.

Throughout his years at UNC, ENS Savarese devoted

his time to volunteering regularly in many areas of the community - establishing the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and volunteering with Building Tomorrow. ENS Savarese received his commission May 7, 2016 and reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL on May 20 to begin training as a Naval Aviator.

LT Pat Connor, UNC NROTC Class of 1987, was an A-6 B/N who gave his life in the service of his nation on February 2, 1991, in Operation Desert Storm. Endowed by his family, classmates and shipmates the Patrick Connor Memorial award, an aviator watch, to be presented to

the graduating midshipman from UNC NROTC with the highest GPA, selected for Naval Aviation.



Scholarship Program Update

In 2001, The UNC NROTC Alumni Association established the scholarship program as a key element of charitable support for the UNC NROTC Alumni Association. From 2001-2015 the Association has conferred 26 scholarships totaling \$21,500 to Midshipmen in the program. For a list of scholarship recipients, please go [here](#)

As currently structured, the Association presents up to three \$1,000 scholarships to selected Midshipman Third Class (sophomore) recipients. The recipients are selected by a committee, two members of which are appointed by the Commanding Officer of the NROTC Consortium, and one member of that committee will be either the chairman of the UNC NROTC Alumni Association's Scholarship Committee or a designee. The award is customarily presented at the UNC NROTC Alumni Association Annual Meeting, held each fall, usually on a home football game weekend. Payments are made directly to the recipient, and are without restriction.

The Board of Directors remains in steadfast support of this program and intends to preserve and strengthen it. In its current structure, the scholarships are not endowed but rather "pay-as-you go." In reality, the \$21,500 payout in scholarships has only been funded with \$9,386 in charitable contributions, which means the remaining \$12,114 was funded from funding streams designated for other purposes. Your Board of Directors feels there is a better way to manage this process in keeping with one of the stated purposes in this Association's Articles of Incorporation: "to endow scholarships."

To that end, the Association has embarked on a program to fully endow the scholarship program, and raise sufficient principal in order to achieve a derived income stream of \$3,000 annually (three \$1,000 scholarships) to preclude having to go back to the donor pool each year for additional and sizable contributions. Each of the three scholarships will require a minimum of \$20,000 to generate that level of income (or more depending on the level of investment risk deemed acceptable); a 5% return would yield the necessary \$1,000 per year. So the first of several

fundraising goals is to raise \$23,000 in 2016. The first \$3,000 will be paid out at the Annual Meeting in the fall, and the remaining \$20,000 will be invested to derive out-year income for annual payouts to future recipients. If this effort is successful, once the first scholarship is endowed, our intention would be to endow a second and a third scholarship, until a secure funding stream is established for the current established level of award. This effort is expected to take 3-4 years to accomplish.

Has any money been raised for this effort yet this year?

YES! Board members have pledged or contributed a total of \$3375 to date.

How can I contribute?

Go [here](#) and contribute via the PayPal link, select the Scholarship Fund, or make your checks payable to the UNC NROTC Alumni Association and mail them to the Treasurer:

UNC NROTC Alumni Association

Attn: Willard Stubbs, Treasurer

1723 Potomac Greens Drive

Alexandria, VA 22314

Will there be an opportunity to name an endowed Scholarship?

YES, great idea! We are pleased to announce the first of the endowed scholarships will be named in honor and memory of Captain Alfred M. Koster, IV, USN (Ret.). Captain Koster served as the Commanding Officer of the Naval ROTC Unit and Professor of Naval Science from 1981-1985. To see a related article about the Captain Al Koster Scholarship, see article on page 6.

After the first endowed scholarship is funded, the Board will entertain naming proposals for the follow on scholarships. If you have suggestions for the naming of an endowed scholarship, please contact any member of the Scholarship Committee with your recommendation. Your Scholarship Committee is: Debra L. Davis '83, chair; Steven Matts and Timothy Nichols.

The first UNC NROTC Alumni Association endowed Memorial Scholarship to be named in honor of Captain Alfred M. Koster, IV, USN (Ret.)

Captain Al Koster served as Commanding Officer of the Naval ROTC Unit and Professor of Naval Science at the University of North Carolina from 1981-1985.

A native of Vermillion, South Dakota, and 1957 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy, Captain Koster started his sea-going career on the destroyer USS CHAVALIER before joining the Submarine Service in 1959. He



served in USS TENCH, USS SALMON and USS REMORA before commanding USS TUSK in 1971. In addition to commanding the submarine TUSK and the Naval ROTC Unit, his final assignment was to serve as Commander, Recruit Training Center, Orlando, FL, from which assignment he retired in 1987. Post Navy retirement, Captain Koster joined Sonalyst, Inc. and worked there until his final retirement in 1998. When the UNC NROTC Alumni Association was formed in 1990, Captain Koster gave his enthusiastic support and became life member #59 shortly after the life membership status was created in 1996. Captain Koster died in 2007 and is survived by his wife Agnes ("Aggie") his daughters Cris Sawyer and Susan Koster-Hunter and five grandchildren. Captain Koster was known for stressing scholarship to his Midshipman over all other attributes during his four-year command tour. Mrs. Koster and her daughters were thrilled to learn of the proposal to name a scholarship in Captain Koster's honor and have given their full support to the effort.

Reunion October 8th

We're going back to the future! Come join your classmates and fellow Tar Heel Navy Alumni at the Annual Meeting and Reunion. This year's gathering will be **Saturday, October 8, 2016** in Chapel Hill when our gridiron gang will take on the Hokies of Virginia Tech. The Annual Meeting and Reunion festivities will be take place around the football schedule at a time to be announced. Our goal for the weekend is to restore the event to the reunion of classmates it once was. To that end, each year we will pay tribute to specific classes on their milestone anniversaries. This fall, we especially encourage the classes of 1965/66 (50th), 1975/76 (40th), 1985/86 (30th), 1995/96(20th), 2005/06 (10th), to attend. In addition, the Class of 1985 will have a big 30th +1 party. Each class celebrating a milestone anniversary will be recognized at the general meeting.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

What do we do for today's unit?

Your NROTC Alumni Association is involved in many ways with the Chapel Hill Unit. Over the last 25 years the Midshipman Battalion has decreased in size as the need for officers has declined. That does not mean that the function of the Unit and its Midshipmen has diminished.

Today, our support includes providing technical resources to the Midshipmen, providing educational and professional development resources through the Dawson Library and USNI memberships for 1/C Midshipmen, recognizing superior performance with the Connor Award, and providing scholarships to cover educational costs.

Moving forward, the intent is to increase our level of support through mentor and resource programs.

While the number of ships in the U.S. Navy has declined, good officers remain in demand. Those of us who have served can continue to contribute to the development of those preparing for Service.