

Vol 29 Issue 2 *** The University of Southern California NROTC Alumni League *** Fall/Winter 2022

Celebrating the "80th+" Anniversary of Naval ROTC at USC! FINALLY...

Since 1940, the USC NROTC program has commissioned thousands of Navy & Marine Corps officers that have served our country in the fleet and around the world. Next year, on MARCH 31 - APRIL 1, 2023, we will celebrate the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Naval ROTC program at the University of Southern California, plus 3 years, because of the worldwide pandemic, it was previously postponed to April 2020, November 2020, April 2021, November 2021 and April 2022. The NROTC Alumni League Board of Directors established that we could not properly celebrate until we did not have to wear masks or social distance! With classmates, friends, and family we will celebrate this anniversary in the spring of 2023, remember our time as Midshipmen in the Trojan battalion, and have some FUN!







RADM Ron MacLaren, SC, USN (Ret)

LtCol Carlos Noriega, USMC (Ret)

It will start on Friday, March 31st with a **Welcoming Reception** at the PE Building and Wardroom, and on Saturday morning, April 1st, we will walk to the California Science Center in Exposition Park for a special tour of the **Space Shuttle "Endeavour."** With us will be **LtCol Carlos Noriega, USMC (Ret)**, USC NROTC Class of 1981, and former NASA astronaut who flew in space aboard Endeavour! In the afternoon there will be a walking tour for those who want to see the old and new parts of the USC campus.

continued on page 6

Calendar of Events

9 MAR 2023
Executive Committee Meeting
Location TBD or via Zoom

31 MAR - 1 APR 2023 USC NROTC 80th+ Anniversary Celebration USC Campus

6 APR 2023 Board of Directors Meeting USC Campus

> 12-13 MAY 2023 USC Graduation and Commissioning USC Campus

In this Issue. . .

From the Bridge	page 2
CO's Update	page 3
Bulletin Board	page 4
Scholarships	page 5
Bob Wiedower Award	page 7
Glider Program	page 8
Navy Public Affairs	page 10
RDML Couture	page 12
Financials	page 12
USMC Scholarship Foundation	page 13
New ID Cards	page 13
Photo Gallery	page 14
80+ REGISTRATION	page 16
Back at the Battalion	page 19
Decades Doings	page 20
Taps	page 21
Associate Registration	page 22
Member Registration	page 23

FROM THE BRIDGE

Paul R. Alwine (Class of 1962)
CAPT, SC, USN (Ret)
President – USC NROTC Alumni League

Another year is rolling along with USC, the NROTC unit, and the NROTC Alumni League! In mid-August I had the opportunity to attend the Swearing-In of the new NROTC Class of 2026! (My, those numbers keep getting bigger and bigger)! This was a special event as the Commander, Naval Service Training Command – RDML Jennifer Couture, USN - was on hand visiting the USC NROTC unit, and gave the oath of office to the new midshipmen, as they began their USC NROTC adventure. RDML Couture, an NROTC grad herself, is responsible for all the NROTC units in the country, as well as the Naval Training Command in Great Lakes, IL. She was very impressed with the Trojan battalion, the USC campus, and our NROTC Alumni League!

Well, here we go again...the USC NROTC 80th + Anniversary weekend is being planned once again, to happen next spring – 2023! The pandemic scrubbed the event in 2020, 2021, and 2022, so next year it will happen. We will start with a Welcome Reception at the good old PE Building on Friday afternoon, March 31st. On Saturday morning, April 1st we will tour the Space Shuttle "Endeavour" at the California Science Center, with one of our USC NROTC astronauts who flew on that shuttle. In the afternoon there will be an optional walking tour of the USC campus and USC Village. That evening we will have a combined event – the Midshipmen Spring Ball, along with our Alumni League 80th+ Anniversary Banquet. RADM Ron MacLaren, SC, USN (Ret), NROTC Class of 1979, will be our guest speaker.

Later in this issue you will find the specific registration info for the hotel and the banquet event. If you are coming from out of town, please **book your USC Hotel reservations early** as we only have a limited number of rooms blocked for our group. Our committee



has been working hard to keep the cost of the weekend event as close as possible to our 2020 pricing, despite the increasing inflation that we all feel. We are going to have a dynamite 80th+ anniversary celebration, and I look forward to seeing many of you next Spring! Send in your reservation soon to be a part of this great event!

The Navy & Marine Corps Birthday Ball this year was a joint event with "the other school," and the 247th birthday was held in Westwood. Both the Trojan and Bruin Battalions came together peacefully to celebrate!

This fall, I was honored again to present our Alumni League \$2,000 scholarships to five deserving midshipmen! These midshipmen represent the very best in our future Navy & Marine Corps officers, and it is terrific that we can offer them a bit of financial help! And of course, this is only possible because of your generosity to keep improving our Scholarship Endowment Fund. Your Alumni League continues to strongly support the young men and women of the Trojan battalion, and this all happens because of YOU and your contributions – keep 'em coming! Thank you, thank you...

Still Fighting On. . .





Commanding Officer's Update

Col G. D. Juarez, USMC
Commanding Officer & Professor of Naval Science
University of Southern California

Greetings Alumni League!

The Trojan Battalion is back in full swing after exciting Summer Cruises, New Student Indoctrination, and Commencement. As always, we appreciate the League's support along every step of the way. This year we welcome 15 new MIDN to the family. We have already been blessed by a unit visit by RDML Richard Brophy, Chief of Naval Air Training; VADM Collin Green, Deputy Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; a small group engagement with ADM Michael Mullen, Former Chairman, Joint Chief of Staff; and a Marine Corps Scholarship Dinner with MajGen Charles Bolden, Astronaut and former Administrator of NASA.

We have begun a new Command and Leadership Training (CALT) program that aims to increase the leadership opportunities each student gets through their time in the battalion, all with the aim of making them prepared trainers, and leaders for our Nation's 21st century challenges! In that vein, the students have begun to take on the challenge of preparing all 4C MIDN for a Spring Field Exercise (FEX) where each 4C will be evaluated in several individual and team leader skills. To support this training we are looking to acquire marksmanship trainers, and conduct a Fall FEX allowing upperclassmen to learn the skills to train the 4Cs. For the 1Cs we intend to conduct a Spring Battle Study as a capstone event. We

hope to make our inaugural trip to Hawaii where we can study Pearl Harbor, the Punch Bowl, and the Battle of Nu'Uanu, and visit various Marine and Navy commands of the Pacific. Other focus areas this year are the Alumni League Spring Ball/Reunion, increasing our JROTC engagement, getting a team to a NROTC Drill Meet, and the Blood Bowl held at the UCLA/USC game.

In summary, things are busy but great, the students are as smart and capable as ever, and the staff is top notch, and fully engaged to deliver quality teaching, coaching, and mentoring. Please keep in mind that recruiting is a challenge across the services, if you have an organization that can benefit from a Naval ROTC brief, or you know a young person with questions, please steer them our way. Please remember, you always have an open invitation to visit us. The Staff and I remain focused on the main effort, the needs of our future Navy and Marine Corps, and we look forward to meeting those challenges as always with the support of the League.

Semper Fortis and Semper Fidelis,

G. D. Juarez

* * * Bulletin Board ** BULLETIN BOARD ** Bulletin Board * * *

How to Contact Us:

USC Naval ROTC Alumni League Department of Naval Science University of Southern California 3560 Watt Way, PED Room 101 Los Angeles, CA 90089-0654

NROTC Office Phone Number: (213) 740-2663

Our NROTC Alumni League members are scattered all over the world and it is always fun trying to keep up with all your moves and changes. One way that we can keep up, is for you to complete the "Update My Information" section of the Return Slip of The LOG when you send in your tax-deductible dues and contributions. Another way is to access the USC Alumni Association website http://alumni.usc.edu/benefits/online.html to update your profile, e-mail or mailing address. Whenever you move, get promoted, change your email address, go online to the USC Alumni site and pop in the current info. We don't want you to become LOST...

Don't FORGET!! 2022 Membership Dues are due NOW!

Please complete the form on the back page, write your **tax-deductible** check and send it to the Treasurer, Ed Tannenbaum, using the self-addressed envelope or to the NROTC Unit - Attention: Alumni League, at the address listed under "How to Contact Us"

Board of Director's Meetings

All NROTC Alumni League Members are invited to attend the Spring and Fall Board Meetings as non-voting attendees. Reservations can be made with Paul Alwine: Home (949) 559-8659 or cell (949) 636-0603. The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, 6 April 2023 at 10:00 on the USC Campus.

NROTC Alumni Scholarship Endowment

As of 31 July 2022, the balance in the NROTC Scholarship Endowment was over \$280,000. We awarded \$10,000 from the spendable account for Fall 2022 and Spring 2022 scholarships. If there are any questions regarding the Scholarship Endowment and our scholarship program, please contact Jerry Vieau '68 at jerryvieau@yahoo.com

From the Ship's Store

<u>Trojan Battalion Items:</u> USC NROTC Polo Shirts -\$40, and USC NROTC Challenge Coins - \$10 each. To Order: Contact NROTC Office listed above -"How to Contact Us".

<u>Alumni League Items:</u> Tote Bag - \$20, Alumni League Challenge Coins - \$10, Bottle Openers (made from 50 Caliber Bullets - \$42. To Order: email nrotc.log.editor@gmail.com

All proceeds go toward the support of the Trojan Battalion

2022 NROTC ALUMNI LEAGUE OFFICERS

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THE Log is a semi-annual publication of the USC NROTC Alumni League. The USC NROTC Alumni League is a non-profit service organization committed to promote, support, and strengthen ongoing ties among NROTC alumni, the Midshipmen of the Trojan Battalion, U.S. Naval Forces, and the University of Southern California. All Navy and Marine Corps alumni of the USC NROTC program (currently over 2,000 officers) are automatically members of the Alumni League upon commissioning.

Send comments to:

Frances Annarella '81

e-mail: nrotc.log.editor@gmail.com
mail: See address under Bulletin Board
"How to Contact Us"

Our website: http://uscnrotc.org

Facebook.com/USCNROTCAlumni - like us on facebook

Alumni League Awards Five \$2,000 Scholarships

Letters of award for the five \$2,000 scholarships provided by the Alumni League to midshipmen for the Fall semester were presented by Paul Alwine and Jerry Vieau at the 3 November Naval Science Lab. These Spring and Fall semester scholarships total \$20,000 per school year and are funded by generous contributions by our NROTC League members to the Scholarship Endowment Fund.

This Fall semesters recipients are:

MIDN 2/C Grant Addington, a Navy Option majoring in Astronautical Engineering. He is currently serving as the speaker of the assembly for the Military Affliated Student Assembly (MASA) in addition to holding a seat on MASA's executive board. He is also an active member of the USC Rocket Propulsion Lab and will be applying for the Progressive Degree Program where he will take master's level classes concurrently with his undergraduate degree.

MIDN 3/C Brice Brown, a Navy Option majoring in Computer Engineering Computer Science. His battalion activities this semester include assisting the Communications Officer in sending out emails, organizing a majority of the ribbon ceremony by creating a form, spreadsheet and script. This past spring he was captain of the soccer intermural team and co-founded the Underwater Torpedo Club Sport. He is a member of the USC Club Track and Distance team for Fall of 2022.

MIDN 1/C Jordan Frantz, a Navy Option majoring in Aerospace Engineering. In past years he has served the battalion as Executive Officer, Athletics Officer, squad leader, assistant Fundraising Officer and drill team member for two years, in addition to participating in multiple color guard events. He continues to mentor 4/C midshipmen through the Sea Family program and has been a past captain on the USC Aero Design Team and a member of USC's Rocket Propulsion Lab.

MIDN 1/C Jacob Gamez Mendoza, a Marine Option majoring in Mechanical Engineering. His past battalion activities include Color Guard Commander responsible for the teams performing at football games and various professional sports, formal campus and Navy/Marine Corps events. He has also served as Platoon Sergeant, Plans Officer, Communications Officer and the Marine

continued on page 13

continued from page 1

80+ Anniversary Celebration March 31st and April 1st, 2023

The reunion highlight will be the joint **Midshipmen Spring Ball and "80th +" Anniversary Banquet** on Saturday evening. Our guest speaker will be **RADM Ron MacLaren, SC, USN (Ret)**, USC Class of 1979. We will celebrate the occasion in style, saluting each of the Decades and honoring our Distinguished NROTC Alumni. We will also celebrate the anniversaries of the NROTC Classes of 1953, 1963, 1973, 1983, 1993, 2003, and 2013. And we will be honoring the **Class of 2023** who will be commissioned in May and take their place in the fleet. The rest of the Trojan battalion will also be in attendance so you can meet the current Midshipmen - the future leaders of our Navy and Marine Corps.

Our reunion headquarters will be the *USC Hotel* (formerly the Radisson Hotel), located at 3540 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007 (right across the street from campus on Figueroa, near Exposition Boulevard).

Invitation and registration details are found later in this issue starting on page 16. Information will also be available on our website - www.uscnrotc.org.

Hope to see you in the spring!

Another Successful Class(es) Reunion

The Classes of 1981 and 1982 held a joint reunion on September 16 and 17, 2022. It started on Friday afternoon, September 16th with a tour of the Coliseum, a visit to the wardroom, then on to dinner at Rock and Reilly's at the USC Village. On Saturday, the group met up for a tailgate hosted by the Trojan battalion, in front of the PE Building. The alums enjoyed getting a chance to meet and chat with some of our future leaders. After the tailgate, it was off to the Coliseum for the USC- Fresno State game, where USC won 45-17!

A few take aways from the reunion: The alums enjoyed having a joint reunion and would recommend other classes to do the same. Next time, this group would like to open it up to include the class of 1980 and 1983. Prior to the reunion, each attendee filled out a "fact sheet" about themselves that was put into individual binders ("Seahorse - Reunion edition") which helped the alums get reacquainted with each other. Also, after the reunion, a shareble album was created so attendees could post pictures from the event.

Kudos to the Reunion Committee for planning and executing a wonderful event! Bravo Zulu - Jim Hull, Dave Thompson, Don Biedermann and Frances Annarella

Robert Wiedower '79 inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame

On 14 October 2022, Robert (Bob) Wiedower '79 was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame for exemplary military career and significant volunteer contributions for service on a local, state, and national level. Bob served in the US Marine Corps for 22 years, commanding an EA-6B Prowler squadron prior to his retirement in 2001. His civilian career spanned 18 years with financial services companies which included developing award-winning veteran hiring and support programs. Bob's service to the community is extensive; his more than **7,000** volunteer hours includes 25 years on 9 non-profit councils and boards such as the American Red Cross, Fighter Country Foundation, Gabriel's Angels, and the USO. Bob continues to help veterans by assisting with networking, job search strategies, and resume writing as a mentor for American Corporate Partners and Marine for Life Network.

The **Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame** (AVHOF) is a program initiated in 2001 by the Unified Arizona Veterans (UAV) to recognize Arizona veterans who have served honorably in our armed forces. Those that continue to serve their communities and fellow veterans after their service in the military, are considered for induction into the AVHOF by way of nominations. Through a vigorous selection process the UAV annually submits twenty plus recommended inductees to the Governor for approval. This year, 14 were approved. Previous inductees include Arizona's Medal of Honor Recipients, John McCain, Pat Tillman, and William Rehnquist among others. With over 500,000 veterans in Arizona, and only 484 awardees (only 269 of which are living), that represents less than 1/10 of one percent who receive this honor.

Congratulations Bob. . .thank you for your continuing service



Bob Wiedower (center) with State Representative Richard Andrade and Colonel Wanda Wright, USAF (Ret), Director, Arizona Department of Veterans' Ser-



Bob with his daughter Erin, and wife Diana. His son (Major Brandon Wiedower, USMC) couldn't make it to the ceremony due to deployment. Brandon is the OIC of the F-35B Detachment aboard the USS Tripoli currently in the South China Sea.



At the USC – Cal football game on 5 November, our own Col Gil Juarez (Commanding Officer of the Los Angeles NROTC Consortium) was honored on the field as the "Superhero of the Game" !!! Col Juarez was presented with a medal from Mike Bohn, USC Athletic Director, and given a standing ovation from

the Coliseum crowd! He was honored for his distinguished service to our country, the university, and the USC NROTC program.



Col Juarez being congratulated by Frank Zerunyan (Director and Liaison to USC ROTC Programs) and Athletic Director Mike Bohn.

Glider Flight Program Fall 2022 Update

Our Glider Flight Program is going strong and flying high! MIDN 1/C Robert Nyul soloed the ASK-21 sail-plane on 26 June at the Southern California Soaring Academy in the high desert north of Los Angeles. This achievement, by one of our future Naval Aviators, concluded a busy month of studying and flying for MIDN Nyul during the early part of the summer. MIDN Nyul began the League's Glider Flight Program level two training on 27 May and then flew 29 flights during the next 5 weekends. The day of his solo, he flew 5 training flights prior to being signed off as safe for flight without an instructor. The solo flight consisted of an aero-tow to 2000' above the airport, practice air-work, landing pattern entry, and then a smooth, safe touch down (video captured by his instructor observing from the ground). MIDN Nyul's level two training expenses leading to solo were just under \$4,800. The League reimbursed MIDN Nyul \$2,500 as part of its level two matching program for advanced glider training. MIDN 1/C Nyul is an Industrial Systems Engineering major due to graduate in December 2022.

MIDN 2/C Kaisa Liljenwall completed day two of introductory glider training on 2 September at Mountain Valley Airport in Tehachapi, CA with 3 flights in the ASK-21. MIDN 2/C Karl Kammereck completed day one training on 3 September with 3 flights in the SGS 2-33, followed by MIDN 2/C Declan Cooper on 4 September. MIDN 2/C Luke Miramadi began level one introductory training on 9 October. We have four midshipmen in the Glider Flight Program's 5th season which is now underway during USC's 2022-2023 academic year.

In September, the League received another big donation of \$8000 for the glider program from Eddie Tannenbaum '62. Eddie has been our biggest donor and key to the program's success. League member Mike Frische '86, a former US Navy F/A-18 pilot, donated \$1000 in support of the glider program and our future Naval Aviators. The League appreciates all donations received for its various programs supporting USC NROTC Midshipmen—Bravo Zulu!

MIDN 1/C Robert Nyul on his Solo Experience:

After my two days of flying in Tehachapi, I was presented the opportunity to attempt a solo rating at the Southern California Soaring Academy during the summer of 2022. With Alumni League support, I was able to work out logistics for three lessons a weekend for over a month. It was a blast. The flight instructors had many different backgrounds in aviation from FAA helicopter instructors to Air Force test pilots. Every weekend held a new challenge as I worked to build competency in key flight objectives including safety procedures, maneuvers, ground school, and radio calls. By the end, before my solo, I had flown 35 flights. When the day came to take the plane into the air by myself, I felt confident and excited.

Moving into the fall, I had to take the ASTB (Aviation Selection Test Battery) for my service selection. My experience in the glider program undoubtedly helped my performance and added an extra edge for my application. Without this opportunity that the Alumni League helped support, I am not sure I would have been able to secure a slot in Naval Aviation. I am exceedingly grateful for Col Hull, Mr. Tannenbaum, and the whole Alumni League for helping make this happen, and I'm excited to see future articles of MIDN glider pilots in alumni letters after I graduate.



MIDN 2/C Declan Cooper



MIDN 2/C Karl Kammereck

2022 Glider Students



The soloist - MIDN1/C Robert Nyul (on the right)



MIDN 2/C Kaisa Liljenwall



MIDN 2/C Luke Miramadi

Navy Public Affairs - An Awesome Career in Communication and Creativity

By CAPT Ed "Disco" Buclatin, USN (Ret), '88

So, you're a junior officer who recently completed your first sea tour, earned your warfare pin, and you ask yourself, "What's next?" Why not consider a lateral transfer to Navy Public Affairs?

Public Affairs Officer (PAO, 1650 designator) is a restricted line Naval officer with a community of 300 active duty officers. A career in the PA community offers unique opportunities as a trusted communication counsel as a junior staff officer at Echelon 3+ commands. In addition, it opens up post-military opportunities in federal service and the corporate world.

PAOs typically lead a team of enlisted Mass Communication Specialists (MCs) to tell the unit's story to internal and external audiences. They use multiple channels to communicate information, including internal email newsletters, social media, and traditional media. In addition, PAOs often assist with entertainment media such as motion pictures, celebrity visits, major sporting events, and special events.

Junior officers with a warfare pin who complete their first sea tour are the best candidates for a lateral transfer to PAO. Officers with fleet operational experience make the most credible spokespersons, especially when engaging the media and the general public. Most PAOs have an undergraduate education in liberal arts.

My interest in Public Affairs started in high school in San Diego in the early '80s, where I was active in the school's television production department and spun up the school's first monthly TV news magazine program. While at 'SC from 1984-1988, I wanted to do something similar in the Navy, not yet knowing much about Public Affairs. But like all NROTC midshipmen, I had to select an operational warfare specialty. So, I chose to pursue Naval Flight Officer after watching the original Top Gun in 1986 and because I didn't have 20/20 vision.

In the early '90s, I was a collateral duty PAO during my first sea tour with the VAW-112 Golden Hawks, an E-2C+ Hawkeye squadron based at NAS Miramar. While taking award photos, writing articles for the base newspaper, and creating squadron videos, I also learned more about the PA officers and enlisted professionals who produced these products for a living and started my quest for the lateral transfer.

I worked on my lateral transfer package during my follow-on shore tour at Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) at NAS North Island in San Diego. It took me two attempts at a lateral transfer since I was a senior O-3 with seven years of service. To convince the transfer board I was serious about the change in careers, and not just looking at doing something different in the Navy, I had to change my strategy for my second attempt. I reached out to an O-5 PA mentor for guidance, assisted other uniform and civilian PAOs in San Diego with small projects, and volunteered as an Assistant PAO at US Third Fleet to really understand what I was getting into and to "fatten" my transfer package. My effort paid off, and I was selected in 1996 for a lateral transfer at the eight-year mark with my first official PA assignment at the headquarters of Navy Public Affairs in the Pentagon.

The following 18 years consisted of several Navy/joint staff and operational PA leadership assignments:

- 1996-1997: Media Services action officer at Navy Chief of Information (CHINFO) in Washington, DC. In addition to "marketing" CVN-77 and the F/A-18 Super Hornet, based on my carrier aviation experience, I was the project officer for the 200th anniversary sailing of USS Constitution in 1997. The commander of the task force for the sailing was RDML Mike Mullen, who later became the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- 1997-1999: Battle Group PAO for USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) and Carrier Group Eight (CCG-8), NAVSTA Norfolk, VA. While on deployment in support of Operation Allied Force in 1999, in the Ionian Sea, we hosted the NBC Today Show's first live two-hour broadcast from an aircraft carrier at sea.
- 2000-2002: PA Plans and Operations Officer, US Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), Miami, FL. I assisted with setting

up the joint media operations center at Camp X-Ray in NAVSTA Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for the arrival of the first wave of detainees from Afghanistan.

- 2002-2005: PA Director, Naval Air Force, US Pacific Fleet (AIRPAC), San Diego, CA. Led the coverage of USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) homecoming in 2003 with President Bush embarking after the ship's 10-month deployment in the Arabian Gulf (aka "Mission Accomplished" message to the nation) and coordinated a day-long event to celebrate the home porting of USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) in San Diego in 2004.
- 2005-2007: PA Director, Navy Reserve Forces Command (CNRFC), New Orleans, LA. I sustained force communications following the headquarters' four-month relocation to Memphis during Hurricane Katrina in 2005.
- 2007-2008: Night Chief, Media Operations Center, Multi-National Force-Iraq (MNF-I), Baghdad, Iraq. I provided US and coalition force information updates to Pan-Arab and international news media during "The Surge" under the command of GEN David Petraeus, US Army.
- 2008-2012: PA Director at US European Command (EUCOM), Stuttgart, Germany. Supported ADM Jim Stavridis, the first Navy four-star to serve as the EUCOM commander, and spun up the use of dynamic public websites and social media at an Echelon 1 command.
- 2012-2014: PA Director at Navy Installations Command (CNIC), Washington, DC. I was at the HQ during the Washington Navy Yard shooting and was involved in the PA response and recovery soon after.

Following retirement from active duty in 2014 as an O-6 in San Diego, I went on to my first government civilian role as the PA Director at Edwards Air Force Base in the Mojave Desert from 2016-2022. I oversaw the filming of scenes for the movie "Captain Marvel" and led the planning of the base's first air show in 13 years in Oct. 2022; side note - it took a Navy guy to tell the Air Force they needed to bring an airshow back. While at Edwards, I used my 9/11 GI Bill to obtain my MBA at the Graziadio School of Business and Management, Pepperdine University in Malibu. In June 2022, I returned to the Navy and currently serve as the Acting PA Director at Navy Information Warfare Systems Command (NAVWAR) in San Diego and lead an enterprise team of 40 PA professionals.

Navy Public Affairs is an exciting and dynamic career field that I am proud and blessed to still be a part of today after 32 years of combined uniform and civilian service. It is one of the few careers in the DoD that embraces the flow of communication, creativity, and building relationships with the workforce and the American public.

If you're interested in a future career as a Navy PAO, please feel free to reach out to me at: edgar.d.buclatin.civ@us.navy.mil or visit https://www.navy.com/careers/public-affairs-officer.

LT Ed Buclatin with legendary news anchor Walter Cronkite 1997 CAPT Ed Buclatin (second from the left) with his night shift team at the MNF-I Media Operations Center, Baghdad Iraq in 2007.

CDR Ed Buclatin with actor Gary Sinise aboard USS John C. Stennis (CVN 75) at NAS North Island in 2004.

Commander, NSTC Visits USC

On Thursday, 18 August 2022, the Trojan Battalion was honored to have a visit from RDML Jennifer Couture, USN, Commander of the Naval Service Training Command (NSTC). Based at Great Lakes, IL, NSTC oversees Recruit Training Command, Officer Training Command, Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps and Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps. The mission of the Naval Service Training Command is to transform volunteers into Naval Service Professionals.

During her visit she toured the USC campus and the NROTC unit and met the staff and midshipmen of the Trojan Battalion. She then had the pleasure to swear in the new NROTC Class of 2026! Afterwards at a luncheon meeting she was briefed on role and mission of our NROTC Alumni League and was very impressed.

RDML Couture is a native of Vineland, New Jersey. She commissioned through the NROTC program at George Washington University in 1995 and she received a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations. She holds a master's degree in International Studies from Old Dominion University, and she completed her Joint Professional Military Education as a student of the U.S. Naval War College and the Joint Forces Staff College.

At sea, Couture served onboard USS Wasp (LHD 1), USS Saipan (LHA 2) USS Elrod (FFG 55), USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55), and USS Porter (DDG 78). She commanded USS Kauffman (FFG 59) and Destroyer Squadron 28, where she deployed twice as the Sea Combat commander with Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group. She has deployed in support of Operations Joint Endeavor, Active Endeavor, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and Inherent Resolve.

Ashore, Couture served as current surface operations officer for Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; flag secretary to Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic; contingency plans officer, U.S. Joint Forces

Command; and assistant chief of staff for Manning, Manpower, and Personnel (N1) for Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic. Couture also served as a federal executive fellow at the Center for a New American Security and as special assistant for legislative matters to the Chief of Naval Personnel.

Alumni League Financial Report

The balances of the Alumni League's financial accounts are as follows:

 Scholarship Endowment:
 \$280,297.00

 Scholarship Spendable:
 \$44,342.51

 2021-2022 Payout:
 \$18,188.13

Alumni League Fund: \$75,143.12

Parker Endowment: \$25,000.00 Parker Spendable: \$6,503.64 2021-2022 Payout: \$3,254.73

Benner Endowment

Spendable: \$4,900.00

Payout is received each year and deposited in the League's spendable accounts. It is an annually declared percentage of the balance of each endowment account.

Your individual donations mailed to the League have been meticulously tracked by Edward Tannenbaum '62 for many years. The League is indebted to Eddie for all his work in monthly compilation of check data and tracking the accounts to which you have directed your money. Checks are received at Eddie's home and forwarded to USC.

USC, for the past year, has gone through a restructuring of the financial accounts maintained by the Sol Price School of Public Policy. The flow of financial information from the University detailing deposits and League expenditures has been disrupted. We expect bugs in the system to be worked out in the coming months.



Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation

On October 28, 2022, the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation held their West Coast Campaign and Celebratory dinner at Towne and Gown on the USC Campus. The Guest of Honor was the Honoraable Charles F. Bolden, Jr, 12th NASA Administrator and Major General, USMC (Ret). MajGen Bolden is also a USC Alum (Masters in Systems Management) and is a USC Trustee and a Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation Director.

A few of the Midshipmen, along with, the NROTC Unit CO, Col Gil Juarez and the XO, CDR Josh Ragadio and a couple members of the Alumni League attended this event to recognize the scholarship recipients.

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation has been honoring Marines by educating their children for more than half a century. The Scholarship Foundation was started in 1962 and is the nation's oldest and largest provider of need-based scholarships to military children. Since 1962, they have awarded over 50,000 scholarships, worth nearly \$185 million to children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen. This year in California, they've awarded more than \$1,114,500 in scholarships to 226 students attending 77 different in-state colleges, universities, and career/technical education programs.

From the front lines of freedom to units right here in California, Marines make legendary sacrifices. Sending their children to school shouldn't be one of them. For more information, please visit:

mcsf.org/westcoast

continued from page 5

Fall Scholarship Recipients

Athletics Officer. In Spring of 2022 he served as Midshipman In-Charge/ Master of Ceremonies for the Spring Commissioning for the graduating class, where he planned, coordinated and executed the Spring Commissioning Ceremony for the graduating class.

MIDN 2/C Hanna Persky, a Marine Option majoring in East Asian Languages and Cultures, Korean Language Emphasis. Her past battalion activities include Spring 2022 Command Sergeant Major, Fall 2021 Platoon Sergeant, Spring 2021 Squad Leader and Fall 2020 Squad Leader. She is on the Break On 2 Dance Fusion Competitive Team, a member of the TriDelta Sorority, the Flight Club, The Women's Network and Pre Law organization.

Congratulations to the Fall scholarship recipients!

From Military.com 14 Jul 2022

New ID Cards for Retirees

Retirees and military family members who have identification cards with no expiration date must upgrade to the new Next Generation Uniform Services Identification, or USID, cards by 2026. The next-generation IDs, are more durable and have enhanced security features. After 2026, only the new USID will be accepted for installation and benefits access.

Cards with expiration dates are required to be replaced within 90 days of elapsing. The Defense Department began the effort to update all those IDs to the new format in July 2020, but delays were caused by the pandemic.

The USID format for military retirees and dependents represents the first change to those identification cards in nearly 30 years; the last update was in 1993. The new design closely resembles the Common Access Card, or CAC, format issued to active duty troops and department civilians.

To get a new ID card, go to the ID Card Office Online (https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/) and use the office locator to find a site that issues the new cards and book an appointment

The Photo Gallery



Group Photos from the Classes of 1981 and 1982 Reunion Sept 16 and 17, 2022:

Top: In front of the PE Building

Center: "Running" out of the tunnel at the Coliseum

Bottom: Hanging out in the Wardroom









RDML Jennifer Couture (3rd from left) with Vice Provost Mark Todd, Frank Zerunyan, Director of ROTC Programs, Col Gil Juarez, and Frances Annarella '81 and Paul Alwine '62 from the Alumni League

No campus visit would be complete without a photo with Tommy Trojan! RDML Couture with her husband, Richard and Col Juarez





Marine Corps Foundation Scholarship Dinner Guest of Honor, Astronaut MajGen Charles Bolden (3rd from right) with our NROTC Midshipmen, CO, Col Gil Juarez and XO, CDR Josh Ragadio







USC NROTC 80th+Anniversary Reunion

Dear USC NROTC Alum...November 2022

This next year we will finally celebrate the **80th anniversary** of the establishment of the Naval ROTC program at the University of Southern California. This will be 3 years later than originally planned due to the COVID pandemic. On **March 31 & April 1, 2023**, we will gather in Los Angeles for our **80th+ Anniversary Reunion**. With classmates, friends, and family we will celebrate this occasion, remember our time as Midshipmen in the Trojan battalion, and have some *FUN!*

The reunion begins with a Welcome Reception on Friday, March 31st. Events on Saturday, April 1st, include an optional visit to the California Science Center to see the Space Shuttle "Endeavour" exhibit with one of our USC Astronaut alums, followed by an optional afternoon walking tour of the USC campus and USC Village. The reunion highlight will be the joint Midshipmen Spring Ball and 80th + Anniversary Banquet on Saturday evening. We will celebrate the occasion in style, saluting each of the Decades and honoring our Distinguished NROTC Alumni. We will also be honoring the Class of 2023 that will be commissioned on May 13th and take their place in the fleet. The rest of the Trojan battalion will also be in attendance so you can meet the current Midshipmen, the future leaders of the Navy and Marine Corps. Our guest speaker will be RADM Ron MacLaren, SC, USN (Ret), USC NROTC Class of 1979.

*** Hotel Information ***

Our reunion headquarters will be the USC Hotel (formerly the Radisson Hotel), located at 3540 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007 (right across the street from campus on Figueroa, near Exposition Boulevard). The special group room rate that we negotiated is \$189 plus tax, per night, based on single or double occupancy. Parking is \$28 per night for hotel guests, with in and out privileges.

You may make reservations through the USC Hotel central reservations by calling **213.748.4141**. Please <u>make your hotel reservations NOW!</u> We have a limited block of rooms reserved, so "First Come, First Served..." Mention that you are with the <u>"USC NROTC 80th+Anniversary Weekend"</u> to assure you are associated with our group. You may request specific room types when you call to make your reservations (handicap accessible room, etc.). The hotel check-in time is 3:00pm. Make your reservations early; you can cancel up to 48 hours prior to arrival without penalty. The last day to make reservations under the group discounted rate is **March 03**, **2023**. Don't delay!

For those of us who choose to arrive early or stay late, the same room rate is available 2 days before and 2 days after the official reunion dates, based on availability. If you want to stay a day or two earlier or after, please make reservations through the hotel directly at 213.748.4141.

*** Welcome Reception ***

Friday, March 31st (4:00pm-7:00pm at the USC PE Building – Wardroom & Atrium)

Join us for a casual **Welcome Reception** in the **NROTC spaces of the PE building**. Don't miss this first opportunity to catch up with classmates and acquaintances. Remember your time as a midshipman as you visit the Wardroom, the CO's office and even the Computer Gaming Lab on the 3rd deck! Wine, beer, and soft drinks will be served, along with many "light bites." There is a **\$30** charge per person to attend the reception, and please indicate on your registration form if you plan to attend. On-campus parking will cost \$20 if driving to campus. It's an easy walk across campus from the USC Hotel, if you are staying there. Following the reception, dinner is

on your own, there are several restaurants within walking distance. Attire is California Casual (Slacks and collared shirt, sports coat optional).

*** California Science Center/Space Shuttle Tour ***
Saturday, April 1st (9:30am – 12:00pm)

Tour the California Science Center in nearby Exposition Park. We will walk as a group from the USC Hotel at **0930** to the Science Center. Admission to the Science Center is FREE. The highlight will be a tour of the Space Shuttle "Endeavour" exhibit and a talk by one of our own USC NROTC grads – LtCol Carlos Noriega, USMC (Ret), Class of 1981. Carlos flew on 2 Shuttle missions, logging 461 hours in space, and 19 hours EVA on 3 space walks. He will share his experiences as an astronaut with us. Wear comfortable shoes for walking! After the tour have lunch (on your own) in their cafeteria or back at the USC Hotel.

*** Campus Walking Tour ***
Saturday, April 1st (1:30 pm – 3:00 pm)

Check out the many new (and old) buildings on the USC campus with this afternoon walking tour. We will leave from the lobby of the USC Hotel at 1:30 pm, with several midshipmen acting as tour guides. If you haven't been on campus for a while, there are lots of new sights to see, including the new USC Village! Wear comfortable walking shoes.

*** 80th+Anniversary Banquet ***
Saturday, April 1st (5:00pm-10:00pm)

Join your friends, classmates, and current Midshipmen for the joint **Midshipmen Spring Ball & 80th+ Anniversary Banquet** at the **USC Hotel Grand Ballroom**. Campus & USC Hotel event parking will be available for\$20. Cocktails will be available from the cash bar at 5:00 pm; the program and dinner will start at 6:00 pm. As this is a military function, uniforms are encouraged and the dress for the banquet is as follows:

- Navy: Active/Reserve/Retired Dinner Dress White Jacket, Dinner Dress White or Dinner Dress Blue.
- Marine Corps: Active/Reserve/Retired Dress Blue Alpha for Company Grade and Mess Dress for field grade.
- Civilians/Retirees (men): Tuxedo or Dark Suit & Tie (with miniature medals on both if desired)
- Civilians/Retirees (ladies): Cocktail attire (with miniature medals if desired)

*** Reunion Registration ***

Complete the enclosed form and mail it along with a check to Bob Brockmeier at the address listed on the registration form no later than March 10th. Space is limited for the banquet, so book early!

For those that registered and made a deposit in 2020, we have a list and the amount paid. When you submit your 2023 Registration Form you will have to pay the incremental difference from 2020.

If you have questions, either email me (alwine@cox.net) or call me at (949) 636-0603. I look forward to seeing you and other Trojan NROTC alums at the 80th+ Anniversary Reunion!" Travel safely...

Fight On,

Paul

Paul Alwine CAPT, SC, USN (Ret) President, USC NROTC Alumni League







<u>USC NROTC</u> 80th+Anniversary Reunion *** REGISTRATION FORM ***

Please complete the information and return this form, along with your check made out to the "USC NROTC Alumni League" to **Bob Brockmeier**, VP Special Events, at the below address.

Name: _	e:USC C			lass:
Spouse/C	Guest:		USC C	lass:
Address:				
City:				
Phone:				
Email Ad	ldress:			
******** DATE	**************************************	**************************************	QTY	**************************************
Fri, 3/31	Welcome Reception — PE Building (4-7 pm)	\$30/person		
Sat, 4/1	Science Center/Shuttle Walking Tour – USC F	Hotel Lobby (9:30am – 12pm)		<u>\$0</u>
Sat, 4/1	4/1 Campus Walking Tour- USC Hotel Lobby (1:30 pm – 3:00pm)			\$0
Sat 4/1	80th+Anniversary Banquet – USC Hotel Reception (5-6 pm), Dinner (6-10 pm)	\$80/person		
	>>Select Dinner Menu Options<<		QTY	
		CHICKEN		
		SALMON		
		VEGETARIAN		
Grand '	Total:		9	\$

Send form and check payable to USC NROTC Alumni League to:

Bob Brockmeier 9352 Brewer Way Villa Park, CA 92861

Questions? Contact Paul Alwine, (949) 636-0603 or alwine@cox.net

Back at the Battalion

Welcome Class of 2026!

Liliana Aragon - San Diego, California

Alani Barajas - Chicago, Illinois

Pierre Briand - Westport, Connecticut

Brnaden Choi - San Jose, California

Xander Fessler - Denver, Colorado

Gretchen Hof - St. Louis, Missouri

Lucien McKernan - Fairfax, Virginia

Andy Owusu - Norfolk, Virginia

Jared Park - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Phoebe Turner - New York, New York

Andrew Villena - San Diego, California

Caroline Waiwaiole - Austin, Texas

Nolan Walsh - Boston, Massachusetts

Freshmen Swearing-in Ceremony August 2022

The Freshmen Swearing In ceremony was held in front of the PE Building on Thursday, August 18, 2022. The oath of office was administered by RDML Jennifer Couture, USN. RDML Couture is the Commander of the Naval Service Training Command which oversees all the NROTC Programs.

DECADES DOINGS

This section of The Log is to share brief "happenings" or news items with our NROTC Alumni League members. It is organized by decades of your commissioning date for ease in finding info about your 'SC classmates. Submissions can be sent via e-mail to Frances Annarella at: log_editor@yahoo.com or on the return slip along with your annual dues. Please keep it brief and please PRINT clearly. Note: If you e-mail us, please include your commissioning year.

1940's

Charles Repp '44: Still boating - and ALIVE!

1950's

William Green '52: Still in Coronado. Able to visit with classmate Jim Eddy on occasion. Still love our Navy!

Buck Buchanan '54: Commanding Officer: HS-2, HS-4, Helicopter Sea Control Wing ONE, USS MOBILE (LKA-115), and USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11).

Fredrick Hoeptner '55: One of the more eccentric pursuits of my idiosyncratic lifetime has been ragtime music. On June 4 at the Scott Joplin ragtime Festival in Sedalia, MO, I received the Outstanding Achievement award for exceptional contributions in advancing the ragtime genre. The award ceremony is available on line via my Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/fred.hoeptner.

1960's

Mike Morrison '61: I very much enjoyed the "Rebuilding the Fabric of the Trojan Battalion" article by Midn 1/C Robert Nyul '22. It must have been a tough 4 years for many students at USC; as it was for our own grand kids starting high school and college on-line.

Paul Alwine '62: Had a great trip to Iceland - touring the whole country. Great glaciers, volcanoes, lava, icebergs, food and people! Excited about new

coach, Lincoln Riley as I celebrate my 64th year of watching USC football! "Make Trojan Football Great Again!"

Chapman Cox '62: I am proud to report that my sons are carrying on the family tradition of Naval Service which was initiated by my uncle's service aboard the USS Hornet during WWII. My son Charles served as UVA NROTC battalion commander in 1991 and as a Marine Corps pilot on active duty for 23 years, including deployments in Somalia, Kuwait and Iraq. He now serves as a civilian on the senior staff of the Commanding General, US Northern Command. My son Andrew began his service as a civilian executive at the Naval Space Warfare Command in 1994 and is now Deputy Chief of Staff of the US Space Force.

1970's

Kevin "Bear" Kramer '70: Moved north from Santa Barbara to the coast of Oregon. Nelscott Reef, Lincoln City, Oregon. Located 20 miles north of Newport, Oregon. . . but still on the beach. Currently retired from flying, but active as aviation merit badge counselor. Clearing out storage unit in Santa Barbara, found my Naval Aviator log books and my father's Naval Aviator log book. He finished WWII flying F6F "Hellcats." Fight On and Check Six!

Stephen Troutman '71: I continue as an active volunteer in Rochester, MN. I am taking on the chapter chair role of the Southeast Minnesota SCORE Chapter. SCORE provides free mentoring to entrepreneurs and existing small businesses. SCORE has 10,000 volunteer mentors in the U.S. (you could be one!). I also volunteer at LIFE (Learning is Forever.

continued on page 21

continued from page 20

DECADES DOINGS

net) which provides over 50 two hour adult enrichment lectures each semester, on-line via Zoom! I am both on the volunteer board and an occasional presenter. I was awarded the Rochester Mayor's "Medal of Honor" for support to seniors last year.

Jeff Stearn '72: With my wife's approval, I am playing more golf this summer and joined a weekly golf league. In order to play better, my backyard has morphed into a small practice range for my short game. Must be working as my score has been consistently lower.

Robert Crawford '75: Investment advisor since 1996: BobC@USWealthManagement.com

1980's

Bob Cowing '80: Enjoying retirement by traveling in a '65 vintage trailer, overhauling bicycles for the needy of the Jacksonville area, working at a collection of group homes for children removed from their families. Been tinkering on our 1967 Mustang when the Florida weather permits. Been rebuilding and training for future adventures.

Brad Kratovil '82: Paige (USC '83) and I are still in Oro Valley, AZ. We get to an SC Football game at least once a year. Enjoyed the NROTC '81/'82 Reunion in September. Fight On!

Grant Graessle '87: I live in Patuxent River, MD, working for Naval Air Systems Command as an Ops Research analyst. I am the Legacy Aircraft Operations and Support Subject Matter Expert for Cost Department. Tough to imagine that I graduated over 30 years ago and I am getting close to retirement. What did I do on Election Day? I was an Election Judge. Must be a "leadership" thing or as my wife puts it.... "Pillar of the community." And what did I wear?

Yes, I wore my USC NROTC shirt. Several other judges used me as a landmark... "See that tall guy in the cardinal shirt? Go to him."

Ed Buclatin '88: In June 2022, I returned to the Navy and started my new job as the Acting Director of Public Affairs for Naval Information Warfare Systems Command (NAVWAR) in San Diego, CA. Prior to this role, I served six years as the Public Affairs Director for Edwards Air Force Base, CA. FYI, Keith Shinohara and I are planning our next mini class reunion in Fall 2023.

1990's - 2020's

Nothing to Report



TAPS



Farewell and bon voyage to our departed shipmates.

A donation has been made to the USC NROTC Alumni League Scholarship Endowment in the name of each officer listed below.

Richard. W. Vivian '47	Dec 2018
James C. Frampton, Jr. '54	Aug 2022
Thomas R. Murray '57	May 2022
Charles P Johnson '63	July 2019
Scott Herman '74	June 2022

Note: All names are published and donations are made to the Alumni League Scholarship Fund in their honor when their passing is brought to our attention.

USC NROTC Alumni League ASSOCIATE Membership

The USC Naval ROTC Alumni League is an all-volunteer organization of the university whose mission is to provide the Midshipmen of the Trojan Battalion with things such as supplemental scholarships, achievement recognition, an alumni-funded computer lab, and Drill Team funding assistance. We provide mentoring and an "alumni connection" for current Midshipmen when and where possible. **Associate membership is available to families and those interested in the USC NROTC unit**, to provide additional much needed financial contributions. All Associate members receive the semi-annual newsletter - "The LOG" as well as invitations to Alumni League Events.

	Family Membership: In Support of Midshipman:				
	Anticipated Commissioning Year:				
	Associate Membership: Affiliation (e.g., Staff, former Midshipman)				
Here is my contribution for the USC NROTC Alumni League and Trojan Midshipmen Battalion:					
\$ 2	\$ <u>25.00</u> Associate Member Dues Donation for 2022				
\$_	\$ Additional contributions for Special Events (e.g., Drill Team, Computer Lab, etc.)				
\$_	Extra Donation for the NROTC Alumni League Scholarship Endowment				
\$_	TOTAL				
	. – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – –				
Name:					
Addres	s:				
City:	State: Zip Code:				
Email A	Address (please print in all CAPITAL letters):				
Phone:					

Please Return this page in the envelope provided.

Make checks payable to: USC NROTC Alumni League

Mail to: Edward Tannenbaum, Treasurer

12812 Bristol Cir

Los Angeles, CA 90049

USC NROTC Alumni League REGULAR Membership

All Graduates of the USC NROTC Program are REGULAR members of the Alumni League.

Please use this form for donations and updates.

Name:	Commission Year:		
Here's my support for the USC NROT	C Alumni League and the Trojan Midshipmen Battalion		
TAX DEDUCTIBLE (Note: You will n	receive a donation receipt from the University)		
\$ <u>25.00</u> Member Dues Donation for 2	022		
\$ Additional contributions for S	Special Events (e.g., Drill Team, Computer Lab, etc.)		
\$ Extra Donation for the NROT	ne NROTC Alumni League Scholarship Endowment atch my gift. Contact your Company HR Dept for form and assistance		
[] My company will match my g			
\$ TOTAL			
Make checks payab	his page in the envelope provided. ble to: USC NROTC Alumni League reasurer, 12812 Bristol Cir., Los Angeles, CA 90049		
[] Please update my record			
Name:	Date of Commission:		
Address:	Year & School of Degree:		
Email address (please print in CAPITAL lett			
Phone:	Spouse Name:		
For "DECADES DOINGS" Name:	Commission Year:		



USC NAVAL ROTC ALUMNI LEAGUE Department of Naval Science University of Southern California 3560 Watt Way, PED Room 101 Los Angeles, CA 90089-0654



USC Naval ROTC 80th + Anniversary Celebration

It has been EIGHTY *plus* years since the Trojan Battalion was founded! A lot of history, memories and heroes have graced us with their presence over the years. It's time to reconnect with our brothers and sisters in arms and celebrate our achievements. Please join us on **March 31 and April 1, 2023!**

Information and Registration form can be found in this newsletter (pages 16-18). Please complete and mail by **March 10, 2023!** Space is limited for the Saturday banquest, so please register early! Registration form will also be available at www.uscnrotc.org.

For more information, please contact:

Paul Alwine at alwine@cox.net or Bob Brockmeier at bnbbrock@gmail.com