



NROTC Alumni League Change of Command

On April 6, 2023, during the Spring Board of Directors meetings, officer elections were held and CAPT Paul Alwine, '62 USN was able to “retire” from his position as the League President. After serving faithfully and honorably for the past 17 years, he was relieved of his command by Col Jim “JC” Hull '82, USMCR. Paul will now serve as President Emeritus and provide institutional knowledge and guidance to the League.

On July 6, 2023, the board held a luncheon to celebrate Paul’s achievements and to thank him for his many, many years of service.



Paul Alwine receiving a “Tommy Trojan” statuette from Jim Hull, as a token of the League’s appreciation.



“Thank you for all your leadership and dedication to the League for these many years! Thank you also for continuing to serve as President Emeritus. Our Trojan family owes you a great debt of gratitude for all your service.”

Jim Hull '82



Binnie and Paul Alwine at the luncheon held at the University Club in their honor.

Calendar of Events

TBD AUG 2023
Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom

16 AUG 2023
Swearing In Class of 2027
USC Campus
*Contact NROTC Unit
for time and location*

6 OCT 2023
Board of Directors Meeting
USC Campus/Zoom

6 OCT 2023
Casual get together/dinner after
Board Meeting- *all are invited!*
Contact Jim Hull
(hulljamesc@gmail.com)
for details

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***Fair Winds and Following Seas!
Thank you Paul for all your years of Service!***

FROM THE BRIDGE

Paul R. Alwine (Class of 1962)

CAPT, SC, USN (Ret)

President – USC NROTC Alumni League

Change of Command – for the past 17 years, it has been my honor and privilege to serve as the President of our USC NROTC Alumni League! When I was first elected back in 2006, I expected to serve for a couple of years, but I kept getting re-elected. Who knew? But now the time has come to pass the baton to our next President – **Col Jim “JC” Hull, USMCR (Ret), Class of 1982**. “JC” has been serving as our VP Finance for a number of years and is an active United Airlines pilot. He will do a great job as President and will keep our Alumni League growing and moving forward in support of the Trojan Battalion and our NROTC alumni.

Looking back during my term, we have had reunions for the 70th, 75th, and 80th+ anniversaries of the USC NROTC program, since it started in 1940; we made annual presentations of officer swords to outstanding midshipmen each year; had a number of Alumni League luncheons; provided a personal computer and software for a battalion Flight Simulator; had underway “Distinguished Visitor” trips aboard the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 71) and USS RONALD REAGAN (CVN 76); doubled the Fall & Spring scholarship awards from \$1,000 to \$2,000 each; started a Glider Pilot scholarship program (JC’s idea) for prospective Naval Aviators; participated in midshipmen Spring Balls and Birthday Balls; provided annual briefings to the Trojan Battalion about the Alumni League; and attended Swearing-In and Commissioning ceremonies. It was quite an amazing run !!!

As mentioned, we recently had a very successful 80th+ reunion weekend, starting with a Welcome Reception on Friday afternoon, 31 March, in the Wardroom and CO’s office. On Saturday morning, 1 April, we had a fantastic in-person presentation by **LtCol Carlos Noriega, USMC (Ret)**, Class of 1981, about his time as a NASA astronaut and making several Space Shuttle flights to the International Space Station. In the afternoon many of us took a walking tour of the campus and the USC Village, conducted by some of the midshipmen. Lots of new stuff



on campus, along with the old favorites from our time as students. That evening we had a combination Spring Ball/80th+ Anniversary Banquet at the USC Hotel. We honored all the classes of NROTC alumni in attendance, along with special kudos to the USC NROTC Class of 2023 that graduated and commissioned on 13 May. The Chief of Naval Operations also sent us a special letter of congratulations for our 80th+ anniversary. We were also fortunate to have **RADM Ron MacLaren, Supply Corps, USN (Ret)**, Class of 1979, with us as Guest Speaker for the evening event. The banquet was a big success, and all the midshipmen looked very spiffy in their “choker whites!”

As I move on, my wife and I are relocating this fall to a retirement community in Rancho Bernardo (northern San Diego) to enjoy the coming years. I plan to continue on the Alumni League Board of Directors as “President Emeritus.”

I know that all of you will continue supporting the Alumni League and the midshipmen of the Trojan Battalion through your very generous donations – **keep those checks a comin’!** Thank you, thank you, thank you!

All the best to President “JC” Hull and other officers of the Alumni League in the coming years. *“I stand re-lieved...request permission to go ashore...”*

Fight On!

Paul



COMMANDING OFFICER'S UPDATE

Col G. D. Juarez, USMC

**Commanding Officer & Professor of Naval Science
University of Southern California**

Greetings League!

First and foremost, the League represents selfless service and nothing personifies this more than the tireless dedication of Paul Alwine as League President. Paul's commitment to the League and to the students over 17 years has been immeasurable. As we COs rotate in and out, Paul has been a guiding hand, a great teammate, and a good friend to all, so on behalf of all the COs, a sincere thank you to Paul. I personally wish Paul and Binnie all the best. Thank you Paul!

Some amazing things happened in AY 22-23, and League support was the critical enabler. Below are just some highlights: Scholarships, Glider program, the 80-plus League anniversary and Spring Ball, 1/C Pearl Harbor and Battle of Nu'uuanu Battlestudy and Leadership experience in Hawaii, Student-led JROTC Leadership Symposium – life, leadership, and college skills training with 76 high school students, an experiential trip to Washington D.C. with the Sol Price School, and student-inspired and student-led reading & mentorship program at North Valley Military Institute in Los Angeles.

Of course, all of this was accomplished on top of regular academics, NROTC requirements, and college life. I am confident that my team's goal of enabling each graduate to be the number one Ensign or Sec-

ond Lieutenant at their future commands is happening. We could do more with less, but your support is allowing our students to take on real leadership challenges, to gain real skills, and to make a real leadership impact in the community. I am grateful for the League and what it continues to do for our students.

I also want to say thank you to our students. The Navy and Marine Corps face tremendous challenges and our students' abilities, talents, and character will be depended on to lead us through the future. Our NROTC students work hard, are wicked smart, and most importantly, are people of great character and integrity. I thank you for doing the hard things, and the right things. You humble me every day!

Last but not least, we welcome and are eager to work with our new League President, Col Jim Hull USMCR (ret) and our new BNCO MIDN 1/C William Durban. We also welcome our new submarine officer instructor, LT Krishna Peri. We also say farewell to LT Andrew Bates. Andrew is leaving the Navy, and is earning his MBA at USC. He and his bride, Kelsey, will eventually make the transition to the Seattle area and we wish him "Fair Winds and Following Seas."

As we move forward, the staff and student leadership will continue to build on our successes, identify new opportunities, and continue to be the premier NROTC Unit and Alumni League "team" in the Nation.

*Semper Fortis, Semper, Fidelis,
Forever Grateful,*

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 send an email to nrotc.log.editor@gmail.com with your changes. Hopefully soon, you will be able to update your information on-line through our website, but for now, please use snail mail or email.

DON'T FORGET!! 2023 Membership Dues are due NOW!

Please complete the form on the back page, write your **tax-deductible** check and send it to the Treasurer, Edward 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 Directors 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 Jim Hull: Cell (310) 902-3860 or hulljamesc@gmail.com. The next board meeting will be held on Friday, Oct 6 at 10:00 a.m. on the USC Campus or via Zoom.

NROTC Alumni Scholarship Endowment

Our NROTC Alumni League Scholarship Endowment at USC is over **\$280,000**. The Midshipmen of the Trojan Battalion truly appreciate your support with their school expenses. Any questions regarding the Scholarship Endowment and our scholarship program, contact Jerry Vieau at: jerryvieau@yahoo.com

From the Ship's Store

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

Alumni League Items: Tote Bag - \$25, Alumni League Challenge Coins - \$12, Bottle Openers (made from 50 Caliber Bullets - \$42. To Order: email nrotc.log.editor@gmail.com

All proceeds go towards the support of the Trojan Battalion

2023 NROTC ALUMNI LEAGUE OFFICERS**PRESIDENT***Col Jim "JC" Hull, USMCR (Ret), '82***SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/SPECIAL EVENTS***CAPT Bob Brockmeier, USN (Ret), '63***VICE PRESIDENTS:****COMMUNICATIONS//THE LOG EDITOR***LtCol Frances Shannon Annarella, USMCR (Ret), '81***FINANCE***CDR Bob Bennett USN (Ret) '79***SOCIAL MEDIA***CDR Lee Pasaraba USN (Ret), '93***SCHOLARSHIP & ENDOWMENTS***Jerry Vieau '68***SECRETARY***CDR Maureen "Alex" Alexander Wright, USN (Ret) '81***TREASURER***Ed Tannenbaum '62***PRESIDENT EMERITUS***CAPT Paul Alwine,, USN (Ret) '62*

Current Openings: Membership, History & Heritage, and Institutional Advancement. If interested in any of these positions, please contact Jim Hull (hulljamesc@gmail.com)

***A message from the
new League President***

**Col Jim "JC" Hull '82
USMCR(Ret)
(310) 902-3860
hulljamesc@gmail.com**

My first duty from the Bridge is to salute outgoing President Captain Paul Alwine for his many years of devoted service to the League, the Trojan Battalion and the USC Trojan family. Paul has led the League for 17 years and we are grateful for his outstanding service. He routinely travelled to Campus from his home in Orange County for commissioning ceremonies, swearing ins, directors' meetings and USC veterans events to represent the Alumni League to the Trojan community. Paul has planned many league events including our recent 80+ Anniversary Celebration, which was a terrific success. We've enjoyed ship visits in San Diego, luncheons and other outings throughout Southern California. We could not have asked for a better Trojan alumnus than CAPT Alwine to lead our League and help mold the next generation of Navy and Marine Corps officers.

I look forward to my turn at the helm in continuing to move our League forward. My background is in Naval Aviation, beginning 40 years ago this month when I reported to Pensacola after graduating from USC in late 1982. I was winged 2 years later and joined the USMC helicopter community flying the CH-46E "Sea Knight". I have had two great West Pac deployments; one in 1987, aboard the USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10), the other in 1990, aboard the USS PELELIU (LHA 5). After a tour with the infantry during Operation Desert Storm, I went back to the Naval Air Training Command as a primary instructor from 1991-1995. I flew for several years in the USMC Reserve and retired in 2012 after concluding a reserve staff tour with Marine Forces Pacific. Currently, I am a first officer at United Airlines based in San Francisco. I fly the Boeing 777 on international routes.

I look forward to meeting you at a future League event. Our alumni support is unique among NROTC units around the country. The League offers each of us an outstanding way to give back and stay connected to our Trojan roots and the best of our heritage in the U.S. Naval Service. Your ideas and comments are always welcome.



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://uscrotc.org>

The Passing of a Trojan Legend



James “Jim” Arnold Eddy, USC NROTC Class of 1952 passed away on April 12, 2023, at the age of 92. Jim was born in Los Angeles in 1930, and his father – Arnold Eddy – worked at USC for many years and established the USC Alumni Association. Jim was born into the Trojan Family, as his birth announcement showed him arriving in a Trojan blanket. At age six, he first attended a USC football game and by age nine he was pulling the kettle drum on the Coliseum floor as the USC Trojan Marching Band Mascot, complete with uniform. As a child, he served as water boy for the Trojan Football Team. He was also the ball boy for the Basketball Team, and stick boy for the USC National Champion Ice Hockey Team.

Jim became a Trojan in his own right as an undergraduate in 1948. He was a Trojan Squire, Trojan Knight, and a member of the Skull & Dagger Honor Society and he was active in the NROTC battalion.

After graduating with a BS in Business Administration, and commissioning in 1952, Ensign Eddy served as a navigator on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific during the Korean War. Following his Navy service, Jim began a nearly 40-year career with California Federal Savings, rising to become Regional Vice President for 28 offices before retiring in 1989.

Jim was involved with numerous USC Organizations. He was founding Treasurer for USC Oceanographic Associates and was a past president of the Trojan Shrine Club. He was a Life Member of the Howard Jones Memorial Foundation and USC Associates. Jim served on the Advisory Board of the USC Sailing Team. He served two terms as President of the Half Century Trojans, and a term on the General Alumni Association Board of Governors. For many years, Jim was the President of the David X.

Marks Foundation which underwrites several academic-athletic scholarships for the University. He received the Half Century Trojans “Distinguished Service Award” in 2006. Jim was one of the original members of the USC NROTC Alumni League, served on the Board of Directors for many years, and most recently was the League’s Vice President of Membership.

When not participating in a USC activity, you could usually find Jim on or around a boat. He was the proud owner and skipper of his iconic Cal-40 sailboat – the “Callisto.” Jim crewed several sailboat races to Mexico, made six crossings to Honolulu on the Transpacific Yacht Race, and skippered his own Cal-40 in Transpac ’05. He has been Commodore of the Los Angeles Yacht Club and the Transpacific Yacht Club and often took children and adults with disabilities sailing through a program at the Long Beach Sailing Center.

While at USC, he met the love of his life – Janet, and they were married for almost 70 years! They take pride that their four children joined them as graduates and supporters of the University. They also have ten grandchildren, one of whom followed in Jim’s footsteps, and graduated from the USC NROTC Program - Capt Park Eddy, Jr ’16, USMCR!

Jim was a great Trojan who made an indelible impact on those whose lives he touched, and he made the world a better place for many. He will be missed...

A Change to our Fall Board Meeting

Our fall Board meetings have always been held on a Thursday in September, but this year we are trying something new. . . For planning, the fall 2023 Alumni League Board of Directors meeting will be held on **Friday, 6 October**, starting at 1000 hrs in the usual room (SKS-302) on Campus. We want to hold fall meetings on a Friday in conjunction with a home football game to attract some of our out of town directors and members. USC is playing Arizona on Saturday, time TBD. So if you are coming into town for the game, perhaps you can join us at our board meeting and find out what we are planning.

For those coming in and spending Friday night in LA, we can consider something like an outing at Top Golf in El Segundo or a casual dinner in the area. Contact Jim Hull (310) 902-3860 or hulljamesc@gmail.com.

Alumni League Scholarships for the Spring Semester 2023

After reviewing Unit staff recommendations for the Spring Alumni League Scholarships, the Scholarship Operating Committee selected five Midshipmen to receive this semester's scholarships. Paul Alwine and Jerry Vieau presented letters of award to the recipients at the 23 March 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. The scholarship committee members are duly impressed by the high caliber of academic achievement, unit participation and leadership development embraced by these midshipmen with many having to work part time jobs to make ends meet and achieve their academic goals.

This Spring semesters recipients are:

MIDN 1/C Gabriel Kott, Navy Option majoring in Biomedical Engineering. He served as Platoon Commander during the Spring semester last year and this year is serving as a mentor and role model for underclassmen while volunteering for various Battalion sponsored events. He is in charge of coordinating high school students interested in USC NROTC so that they can learn about the program as well as coordinating with JROTC units in local high schools to motivate interest in USC NROTC. He is a member of the USC Triathlon team and competes in several races per semester. MIDN Kott works for the Office of the USC President and the Office of Military & Veterans initiatives on projects such as the USC Veteran & ROTC dinner and the ongoing USC military history project.

MIDN 2/C Grant Addington, Navy Option majoring in Astronautical Engineering. This semester he is the acting Public Affairs Officer with responsibilities for community engagement and outreach. He also is acting as 4th squad leader of the Communications Platoon and last semester volunteered for the color guard. He is an active member of the USC Rocket Propulsion Lab and works 12-15 hours per week. MIDN Addington will start taking masters degree courses in Astronautical Engineering next semester and plans to complete his masters degree with a 9th semester. He will be re-

sponsible for the costs of tuition and living expenses for this 9th semester so the Alumni scholarship will help to offset these costs.

MIDN 1/C Hanna Persky, Marine Option majoring in East Asian Languages and Cultures; Korean Language Emphasis. Her Battalion activities include Spring 2022 Command Sergeant Major, Spring 2021 Squad Leader, Fall 2021 Platoon Sergeant and Fall 2020 Squad Leader. She is working 30 hours a week in addition to being a member of the Tri Delta Sorority. Her Alumni scholarship of last semester was used for a LSAT tutor which apparently paid off, since she has been accepted to four law schools with generous scholarships - one an unconditional full-ride scholarship. She will be applying for the USMC LAW contract in hopes of becoming a JAG.

MIDN 2/C Tyler Hwangbo, Navy Option majoring in Industrial and Systems Engineering. His current battalion activities are JROTC Liason and co-producer of the monthly battalion newsletter. Past billets include: Mustering Petty Officer, Academics Officer, Squad Leader and Battalion Webmaster. He is currently involved with the Kristos Campus Missions club. MIDN Hwangbo has always dreamed of being a pilot. He has worked on his private pilots license in high school and recently committed to his passion of flying by opting to get the very expensive process of LASIK corrective eye surgery to qualify for naval aviation. This took a major portion of his savings and the scholarship will help him offset these costs.

MIDN 4/C Pierre Briand, Navy Option majoring in Aerospace Engineering. As a 4/C Midshipmen he is not eligible for any billets but has volunteered his time to numerous activities such as color guard events, bookstore volunteer at football games and battalion work parties. He is also a reading mentor for middle school students at North Valley Military Institute in Sun Valley, Los Angeles. He plans to involve himself in either the USC Rocket Propulsion Lab or the Aero Design Team. Midshipman Briand plans to use his scholarship money to take additional courses in his chosen field, specifically to complete his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering and an M.S. in Astronautical Engineering in a reduced timeframe similar to MIDN Addington.

Congratulations to this semester's recipients!

WARRIORS OF THE SEA STAFF RIDE: Oahu, HI. February 17-20, 2023

by Col Gil Juarez

USC and UCLA NROTC seniors, scheduled to commission in the Spring of 2023, participated in an immersive education experience on Oahu, HI in February 2023. The trip included service component headquarters briefs from Pacific Fleet and Marine Forces Pacific on the INDOPACOM area of responsibility and two **staff rides** or what is known as a **battle study of historic naval campaigns** that took place in Hawaii. A staff ride or battle study is simply the study of a historic event just like a business case study, but students actually walk the ground where battles took place to better appreciate the cultural, environmental, military, leadership, and political forces that shaped decisions and their outcomes.

The aim was to put 4 years of Naval Science Curriculum in context by examining the strategic, operational, tactical, and doctrinal underpinnings of Naval Service through the lens of past, current, and future Naval operations in the Pacific. Preparations began with studying WWII in the Pacific, the attack on Pearl Harbor as part of a broader Naval Campaign, and the strategy and naval operations of King Kamehameha to unify the Hawaiian Islands. It also included a review of Navy and Marine Corps doctrine as the lenses by which students can put the historical and current events in context while reflecting on and evaluating the implications for Naval officers to be better warriors of the sea.

My thanks to LtCol Loomis, Future Operations Officer, Headquarters, Marine Forces Pacific; and CAPT “Disco” Bennett (RET) - Executive Director, Outreach and Government Affairs, Headquarters Pacific Fleet. These gentlemen were the first stop on NROTC Los Angeles’ inaugural trip. The briefs on service component activities, challenges, the pacing threat, and naval integration and joint efforts in the Pacific allowed our seniors to put their future role as Navy and Marine Corps Officers in context. CAPT Bennett’s historical tour of Pearl Harbor also set the conditions for day two’s events.

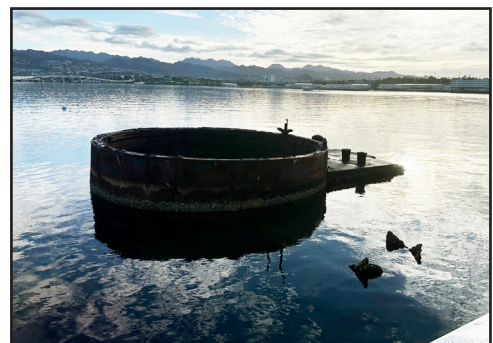
On day two, the students arrived at Pearl Harbor shortly after sunrise, where David Hodge, Community Re-

lations Manager, Joint Base Pearl Harbor provided a historical overview of actions on December 7th, 1941. The students were then transported to the USS ARIZONA Memorial and were present for eight o’clock colors, and a reading by students, of select Medal of Honor citations earned on that “day of infamy.” The day ended with a guided tour of the USS MISSOURI by Neal Yamamoto, a Japanese American and Hawaii native son. Neal gave us the history of the “Big MO” and put his Japanese family’s story in context thus placing the human dimension of war front and center. Neal’s American and Japanese family members both fought in the war, and resolved to be a family after the war. His Japanese family’s hometown, Hiroshima, was destroyed by the atomic bomb and his American family was initially denied the ability to serve their country, were placed in internment camps, and petitioned to serve their country. His and other Japanese family members would go on to serve in the famed 442d Regiment through the campaigns of Europe.

Day three started with a sunrise hike of Diamond Head where students discussed King Kamehameha’s strategy and plan to unify the Hawaiian Islands, and his amphibious operation to seize Oahu. Professor Brenden Bliss of Hawaii Pacific University graciously took our students on a staff ride from the landing beaches, to the Punchbowl (National Cemetery), and up the Nu’uanu valley to the Pali overlook, the scene of the climactic end of the battle of Nu’uanu. Students were able to make connections from Navy and Marine Corps leadership doctrine, strategy and operations, the nature of war, and the implications for Naval Professionals at Arms. Professor Bliss also gave an overview of the National Cemetery and students were able to walk through the long rows of grave markers, thus walking away with a renewed respect for our Greatest Generation and the cost of war.

Besides those already named, we are grateful to a great many persons for this incredible opportunity. This trip was made possible for our UCLA students by the American Legion Post 283 and the UCLA College of Social Sciences. Our USC students were supported by the USC NROTC Alumni League, the Price School of Public Policy, and especially by the generosity of Lieutenant Benner USN (ret) ’45. Upon his death, LT

Benner established an endowment at USC to support such educational efforts and we are honored to have made his wish a reality. Also critical to our success was the gracious support of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Marine Air Group 24, University of Hawaii NROTC, and Commander Steve Jensen Retired more affectionately known as “Chaps.” I thank everyone for a fantastic experience, one I hope each of our students creates for their own Marines and Sailors in the future. Of course I am most indebted to the fantastic work of my staff and students who made it all happen and who patiently listened to me beat the drum of doctrine and leadership in the context of naval combat, warfare, and war.





CLASS of 2023 Marine Corps Second Lieutenants and Navy Ensigns

Oath of Office:

I solemnly swear (or affirm)

That I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States

Against all enemies, foreign and domestic;

That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same;

That I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion;

That I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.

So help me God.

Congratulations to our newest officers commissioned on May 13, 2023

Welcome to the Alumni League!

ENS Bryce Alexander, USN

Hometown: Norfolk, VA

Degree: BS in Industrial and Systems Engineering

First Duty Station: EOD Training, Panama City, FL

ENS Sophia Clements, USN

Hometown: Fenton, MI

Degree: BS in Astronautical Engineering

First Duty Station: Surface Warfare Qualifications, Mayport, FL
followed by Nuclear Power School

ENS Sho Flores, USN

Hometown: Tokyo, Japan

Degree: BS in Health Promotions and Disease Prevention

First Duty Station: Basic Division Officer Course, San Diego, CA
followed by USS MILLIUS (DDG 69), Yokosuka, Japan

2nd Lt Hector Flores, USMC

Hometown: San Diego, CA

Degree: BS in Public Policy and Law

First Duty Station: The Basic School, Quantico, VA

****SEMPER FORTIS**SEMPER FIDELIS**FIGHT ON!******ENS Nicholas Imig, USN***Hometown:* Ventura, CA*Degree:* BS in Industrial and Systems Engineering*First Duty Station:* Student Naval Flight Officer, Pensacola, FL**ENS John Lochtefeld, USN***Hometown:* Darien, CT*Degree:* BS in Gerontology; Human Development and Aging*First Duty Station:* Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, Goose Creek, SC**2nd Lt Michael Luce, USMC***Hometown:* Pittsburgh, PA*Degree:* BA in Intelligence and Cyber Operations*First Duty Station:* The Basic School, Quantico, VA**ENS Nicolas Messina, USN***Hometown:* South Florida*Degree:* BA in International Relations and the Global Economy*First Duty Station:* USS RUSSELL (DDG 59), San Diego, CA**2nd Lt Hanna Persky, USMC***Hometown:* San Francisco, CA*Degree:* BA in East Asian Languages and Culture*First Duty Station:* University of California, Hastings School of Law,
will attend The Basic School after earning J.D.**ENS Jack Saville, USN***Degree:* BS in Pharmacology and Drug Development*First Duty Station:* Basic Division Officer Course, San Diego, CA
followed by USS PEARL HARBOR (LSD 52), San Diego, CA**ENS Jason Zilberfarb, USN***Hometown:* Frelinghuysen, NJ*Degree:* BS in Industrial and Systems Engineering*First Duty Station:* USS OSCAR AUSTIN (DDG 79), Norfolk, VA

Celebrating the 80th Plus Anniversary – Finally!

In 1940, the Naval ROTC unit was established at USC, and since then thousands of young men and women have been a part of the Trojan battalion and served as Navy and Marine Corps officers. In 2019, plans were developed to celebrate the 80th anniversary in the spring of 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic shot down those plans, and things were put on hold until restrictions eased. It was not until this year, that things were normal enough to *finally* celebrate the 80th, even if it was 3 years late! The headquarters for our weekend was the USC Hotel, across from campus on Figueroa Street.

We kicked off the weekend on Friday, 31 March, with a Welcome Reception in the P.E. building, including the Wardroom, CO's office, and hallway. Many midshipmen assisted and greeted NROTC alumni and guests. An open bar and lite bites added to the great gathering in the familiar spaces that we all knew from our time as midshipmen.

Saturday morning, 1 April, saw many of us mustering in the hotel lobby, then walking onto campus to the Price School of Public Policy. In a classroom we had a fantastic presentation by one of our NROTC alums – LtCol Carlos Noriega, USMC (Ret). Carlos talked about his time as a Marine Corps helicopter pilot and then how he became a NASA astronaut. With some great photo slides, he gave us a firsthand look into his two Space Shuttle flights to the International Space Station. What a fantastic career that he had! Originally, we had planned to visit the California Science Center in Exposition Park to see up close, the “Endeavour” Space Shuttle on which Carlos flew, but the exhibit was closed that day.

Saturday afternoon, saw groups of us taking a walking tour of the campus and USC Village, escorted by several midshipmen. Some of us saw buildings and campus areas that we had not seen for many, many years! Plus, many new buildings that were not there when we were students!

On Saturday evening, we gathered in the Ballroom of the USC Hotel for our combination Midshipman Spring Ball and 80th Plus Anniversary banquet. After the cocktail reception, over 200 of us filled the banquet room – alumni from many decades, and midshipmen

of the Trojan battalion, decked out in their “choker whites!” The colors were marched on, and the members of the NROTC Class of 2023 were introduced and honored. The Chief of Naval Operations – ADM Mike Gilday – sent a congratulatory letter, which was read to the audience, honoring the history and service of USC NROTC graduates over the 80 plus years. After an outstanding dinner, we were fortunate to hear from our guest speaker – RADM Ron MacLaren, Supply Corps, USN (Ret), USC NROTC Class of 1979. The evening wrapped up and the 80 Plus years of the USC NROTC unit were finally celebrated!



USC Professor of Naval Science - Past and Present: Col C.J. Horn, Col Gil Jauraez, Col Sean McBride and Frank Zerunyan, Director and University Liaison to USC ROTC

Women's Hair Regs with Dinner Dress

A few observant alums noticed that women midshipmen had their hair down while in uniform and asked about the regs, so here it is:

United States Navy Uniform Regulations
NAVPERS 15665J

2201.1.j (2) Relaxed Hair Requirement with Dinner Dress Uniforms. Female Sailors are authorized to wear their hair below the lower edge of the collar of the blouse, jacket, or coat of the dinner dress uniform being worn. All other navy grooming requirements will remain in effect per the guidance promulgated by this instruction.



Jeff Subko '78 in front of the NROTC display in the lobby of the P.E. Building



Carlos Noriega '81 sharing his Marine Corps and Astronaut experiences with the alums



Congratulations to the Class of 2023!



Back at the Battalion

Battalion Commander (BNCO) Profiles

* MIDN 1/C Nicolas “Nick” Messina, USNR

Nick Messina grew up in Boca Raton, Florida, and ever since the 8th grade he wanted to be in the Navy. While at Boca Raton High School he was a member of the JNROTC, graduating in 2019. Not able to attend the Naval Academy, he was proud to have been awarded an NROTC scholarship. For a while he considered going to Florida State University but was drawn west to attend USC. Good choice!

Nick’s major at USC was International Relations, and he has been very active in the Trojan battalion. He served as the 4/C Training Officer and Drill Team Commander, before being selected as the Battalion Commander for the Fall 2022 semester. Additionally, Nick is a member of the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity.

Covid-19 cancelled his summer CORTRAMID training in 2020, but in 2021 he had a summer cruise on the USS CHAFFEE (DDG 90), operating out of Pearl Harbor. In the summer of 2022, he attended “SOAS” – SEAL Officer Assessment & Selection training in Coronado.

After his commissioning in May 2023, Ensign Messina will become a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO), reporting for duty on the guided missile destroyer USS RUSSELL (DDG 59) in San Diego, after completing “BDOC” – Basic Division Officer Course.



* MIDN 1/C Sho Flores, USNR

Sho Flores was born and raised in Tokyo, Japan. His interest in the Navy began as his father, a retired Army Major, was a contractor working for the Navy on the Ballistic Missile Defense program in Japan. While in high school, Sho visited southern California (where his dad was from) and was impressed by his visit to USC. Earning an NROTC scholarship, he came to USC after graduating from high school in 2019.

While at USC, Sho majored in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, with a Minor in East Asian Languages & Culture. Additionally, he was a member of the USC Underwater (diving) Club and worked in the Dean’s office at the Price School of Public Policy.

In the Trojan Battalion he was a Mustering Petty Officer, a “virtual” Color Guard member (during COVID), War Gaming Lab Officer, and Battalion Commander. For Summer Cruises, there was no CORTRAMID due to COVID for his 3/C summer; for his 2/C summer he served aboard the USS CHAFFEE (DDG 90) in Hawaii; and for his 1/C summer he did a Foreign Exchange tour with the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force.

After commissioning, Ensign Flores will attend the Basic Division Officer Course in San Diego, before reporting to his ship – the USS MILLIUS (DDG 69) in Yokosuka, Japan.

Glider Flight Program Update

One of our newly commissioned officers, ENS Robert Nyul, earned the FAA Private Pilot Glider rating by passing his FAA check flight on 17 March 2023 at the Southern California Soaring Academy in Llano, CA. After soloing last year and riding out a very wet Southern California winter, ENS Nyul resumed training after graduating with a degree in Industrial Systems Engineering and commissioning at USC in December 2022.

ENS Nyul was “stashed” for 5 months at the NROTC Unit from January through May 2023 while awaiting orders to Pensacola. For his post-solo training, ENS Nyul flew 7 weekends from mid-January through mid-March. He flew 32 flights, passed a written examination, prepared for an oral and practical examination, then passed the 17 March check flight administered by a FAA designated pilot examiner (see SCSA newsletter excerpt below). The staff at the Southern California Soaring Academy had high praise for ENS Nyul, saying he was a model student who worked hard and flew well.

Post-solo flight training costs for ENS Nyul at SCSA came in at just over \$5,000, slightly above his pre-solo

training expenses. The League reimbursed ENS Nyul an additional \$2,500 after he passed his FAA check flight. This is a program increase of \$1,500 for post solo training voted by the League’s Board of Directors as an additional incentive. Pre-solo and post-solo training incentives are now both \$2,500.

The League’s glider program is partly based on the U.S. Air Force Academy’s cadet glider training program. We estimate ENS Nyul’s achievement puts him at an experience level greater than 85% of USAFA cadets, second only to Cadet glider instructors. Our program is financed solely by donations from USC NROTC alumni.

Congratulations to ENS Nyul on earning his USC degree, U.S. Navy commission and the FAA Private Pilot Glider rating. He’s off to a great start in the Navy and Naval Aviation.

ENS Nyul has also accepted a position on our alumni board of directors to serve as liaison to midshipmen interested in the League’s glider program. Midshipmen will be able to receive information on the glider program from a recent graduate who’s earning his wings and progressing through the Naval Aviation pipeline.



Congratulations to Robert Nyal for passing his check-ride last weekend!

Robert will be off to the Navy soon, where he has slot at Pensacola with Naval Air. He'll be arriving with a private pilot license in gliders. Congratulations from all of us Robert, well done! We can't wait to see what you get to fly.

Pictured here with DPE Joe Scarcella

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: nrotc.log.editor@gmail.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

Nothing to Report

1950's

Don Maher III '55: I made it to 90, even with pancreatic cancer for over a year! Still staying active. Retired from Navy/Naval Reserve; have five successful kids and ten successful grand kids (all with at least one degree); retired from Aerospace, active in church; traveled to 52 countries. What else could I wish for? Oh yes, bachelor's and master's from USC. Thank God.

Ted A. Blanke '57: After graduation, my first assignment was to go to Supply School in Athens, GA. Upon graduation, I was ordered to report to the USS KERSARGE (CV33), Aircraft Carrier to replace the Disbursing Officer. The ship was in Japan. Soon after I arrived on board and took over the office, the ship was out to sea and headed for Hong Kong. In route, we formed for a special pay day for the crew to have money for our time in Hong Kong. I had two other officers who also had money trays to help. When we were about to begin, the Sargent at Arms had a nice line up and I had a .45 pistol on the table, we were on the Mess Deck. A hatch opened and a gust of wind came into the area, which took all the money up and out of the three trays. I grabbed the .45, chambered a round and raised my arm saying “Nobody move” - then the lights went out. When the lights came on, we dismissed everyone, swept up the money and took it back to the office to count. Not one dollar was lost.

1960's

John Gobbell '60: New novel released in April 2022 - “Somewhere in the South Pacific”

Bob Mahan '61: Marty and I celebrated our 60th anniversary recently. I was in the Navy for 6 years on Nuclear Subs. Afterwards, in Property and Casualty Insurance for many years before retiring. Now living full time in Palm Desert - enjoying cruising, playing bridge and golf.

John LaFrano '63: My son, Michael, is doing bio-research at the University of Illinois. He is now the director of their Metabolomics Center.

Mike McDevitt '63: In Oct, 2020, the Naval Institute Press published my book “China as a Twenty First Century Naval Power.” I was pleased to learn that last spring, the CNO added my book to his recommended reading list. It is now available in paperback and on “audio” on the USNI website and on Amazon.

Dale Synnes '66: Now retired from civil service as an engineer for the Naval Facilities Command, Port Hueneme, CA. Total of 40 years service on active duty (USMC) and Navy Civil Engineer. Still work part time as a science instructor at Ventura Community College.

Val Daigle '69: Our travels during 2022 were limited. This year (2023) will bring a Hell's Canyon jet boat trip! Great football season last year - what a first year for Coach Riley! Had to get blood pressure meds for the last two games! Not many USC Alumni in SW Idaho, but two is a party. Fight On!

1970's

Gene Talmadge '70: In 2022, completed term as Planning Commissioner, City of Camarillo, CA.

Don Davis '71: Retired for 20+ years. Where does the time go? Enjoying staying connected to USC where my wife is a professor of Education. I re-

DECADES DOINGS

cently digitized the 1969 - 1971 Seahorse books. Anyone wanting a .pdf copy, please email me: dda-vis90064@gmail.com.

Mike Hedin '72: My wife, Dorinda, and I are enjoying retirement in the Denver area. We have one daughter, husband and grand dogs in Boulder. The other daughter, husband and grandson live in Savannah, GA. I am in contact with Willie Baltazar and Steve Case; and of course, my brother Dick - he graduated with the unit in January 1969. Frank Mease and I represented our class at the unit's 75th anniversary Reunion. I am so bad at golf - I do not keep score. I still have fun though. Semper Fi!

Steve Kennedy '73: Taps for CAPT Ron Kennedy '52), holder of US Navy record for Straight Deck Night Carrier Traps (landings), which will presumably never be broken. He passed in March 2022, a month short of his 92nd birthday. My dad made his first angle deck carrier landing (USS CORAL SEA) in 1964 saying "I knew the challenge of carrier aviation was gone forever."

1980's

Frances Annarella '81: My husband, Dan, and I finally made it to the Holy Land - something we've talked about for years! Going to Israel and seeing all the Biblical sites really strengthened our faith - It was truly an awe inspiring and life changing trip.

Jim Cooke '85: Robin and I have lived in Northern Virginia since 2002. We raised four boys, all of them out of the house. My youngest graduated from the USAF Academy in 2021 and is awaiting flight school. I am a 787 Captain for United with three years left until retirement. Fight On!

Steve (Randy) Hales '85: Living the dream with my wife Kim on our small ranch in east San Diego county surrounded by our chickens, goats, dogs and whatever other animals come around. I used the G.I. bill to attend Law School online during the pandemic, graduating last summer with highest honors. Currently serving as San Diego Chapter President of the

Reserve Organization of America (ROA), formerly known as the Reserve Officers' Association.

Todd Porter '87: After retiring from active duty (Naval Flight Officer), with 21.5 years of service, currently supporting Naval Aviation Systems Command (NavAir) as the Logistics Manager for Combat Electronics. If in the NAS Patuxent River area, give me a shout if you want to go sailing on the Chesapeake bay - portertodda@gmail.com

1990's thru 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 when their passing is brought to our attention.

Jim Eddy '52	April 12, 2023
Ronald W. Kennedy'52	March 2022
William C. Green '52	Dec 1, 2022
Thomas R. Murray '57	May 24, 2022
John W. Witt '60	Nov 2018
Jason Pilalas '63	July 3, 2023
Donald K. Bullard '73	Jul 11, 2023
Idenne Leslie Whetsel '80	May 12, 2015
John Latas '82	Jan 8, 2023

Fight On Forever!



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 items 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:

\$ 25.00 Associate Member Dues Donation for 2023

\$ _____ Additional contributions for special programs supporting the Trojan Battaliom

\$ _____ Extra Donation for the NROTC Alumni League Scholarship Endowment

\$ _____ TOTAL

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email 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 NROTC Alumni League and the Trojan Midshipmen Battalion

TAX DEDUCTIBLE (Note: You will receive a donation receipt from the University)

\$ 25.00 Member Dues Donation for 2023

\$ _____ Additional contributions for special programs supporting the Trojan Battaliom

\$ _____ Extra Donation for the NROTC Alumni League Scholarship Endowment

[_____] My company will match my gift. Contact your Company HR Dept for form and assistance

\$ _____ TOTAL

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**

[] Please update my record

Name: _____ Date of Commision: _____

Address: _____ Year & School of Degree: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Email address (please print in CAPITAL letters):

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**



*Alumni League Board Members with President Emeritus,
CAPT Paul Alwine (top row, second from left) at his “retirement” luncheon July 6, 2023.*