

**NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY
NROTC**



**THE CROW'S NEST
FALL 2021**

Edited by: MIDN 3/C Knippel

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NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE

CAPTAIN KLASZKY



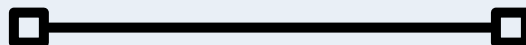
Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a chance to unwind, relax, and spend time with family and friends during the holiday season. I am excited to see what 2022 brings and I am hopeful that we will get the COVID-19 pandemic under control with the advent and distribution of vaccines. Unfortunately, we are now seeing an extreme increase in the number of cases with the latest Omicron variant and will have to start off the new term in remote operations for a minimum of two weeks. We will continue to monitor and follow public health guidance and hopefully we will return to in-person operations in the coming weeks.

I'd like to welcome aboard SSgt Aranda as our new Assistant Marine Officer Instructor. GySgt Davis will be heading out to the USMC's Warrant Officer Basic Course and will be joining the Warrant Officer ranks. Congratulations and we wish him and his family nothing but continued success as he takes his leadership skills to the next level within the U.S. Marine Corps.

As we start the new quarter, please continue to make academic performance and personal physical fitness your top priorities. Your success in these areas will open the doors to your officer career path desires in the Navy and Marine Corps. If you are struggling, do not hesitate to talk with your Class Advisor. It is not lost on me that remote learning can be very difficult for some of you, coupled with the doldrums that many experience in the cold winter months after the holidays. Open and transparent communication from you up the chain of command is key. We want you to succeed and cannot help you if we don't know about the challenges you are facing.

In closing, I am extremely proud of how well each and every one of you continue to navigate through these challenging and unprecedented times. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and support to one another. Continue to do your best academically, remain active, and stay in shape! I look forward to seeing you, whether via Zoom or in person!

-R. A. KLASZKY



BATTALION COMMANDER REFLECTION

MIDN 1/C TREVINO



The Northwestern NROTC consists of 16 Midshipmen, of which 12 are MIDN 3/C and MIDN 4/C experiencing on-campus activities for the first time. The return to in-person operations was both a challenge and an opportunity for our unit. With more than half of our Midshipmen having never experienced in-person NROTC activities, this meant that every experience for the underclassmen was a new one, and for the upperclassmen, specifically the senior Midshipmen staff, this meant we could introduce changes to the old “normal” and foster an experience that lent itself to a productive training environment.

By embracing the necessity for change, remaining flexible, and embracing feedback from our advisors, I feel that by the end of this quarter we have all settled into a routine that is bringing our underclassmen up to speed quickly and achieving the mission of NROTC: developing our Midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically.

The old normal was something that many of us struggled to remember. The last time I saw a MIDN Battalion Commander operate in person was the winter of my 3/C year so there was a significant learning curve for the senior Midshipmen staff as well as the underclassmen. Trying to evaluate how we led while changing the operations of the unit, I feel, made us come together as leaders and support one another as we navigated the fall quarter.

The fall quarter activities provided the opportunity to showcase the NROTC unit. We competed in the Wisconsin Drill Meet, which provided an excellent learning and bonding opportunity for the underclassmen. Later in the quarter, members of the unit and the greater consortium participated in the Chicago Bears Salute to Service Half-Time Flag Football Game. As the fall quarter and my time as Battalion Commander comes to a close, it is important to me to consider the experience and the leadership lessons it brought. I hope every member of the unit takes the time to reflect, as well; we should all consider the successes of this quarter as well as the challenges, take time to enjoy the holidays, and come back in the new year ready to get back to work.



FOURTH CLASS REFLECTION

MIDN 4/C SHIN

“So, is NROTC worth it?”

That’s a question I was asked a lot when I was home for Winter Break. I got asked by old teachers, old coaches, friends, friends of friends, and family friends. If you’d let my family answer for me, their answer would’ve been a resounding “no.” None of them seem to understand why I insist on staying in the program; they only see the negative side of it.

Is NROTC tough? Sure it is, especially the first semester; the 0500 wakeups are difficult to get used to, academics become even more stressful, finding time to pursue other interests isn’t easy, and maintaining a social life outside of the program often feels pointless. Unfortunately, this is the only aspect of the program that outsiders tend to focus on. They only see a mindless, sleep-deprived zombie, working themselves to the bone and constantly worrying that they aren’t doing the best job they can possibly do.

But what they don’t see is how excited I am when I wake up, no matter how much sleep I got the night before, because for me, those early-morning unit activities are the highlight of my day. They don’t see how accomplished I feel after crushing a CFT and then immediately going on a hike with a fifty-pound pack while everyone else is sleeping.

They don't see the pride I feel, nor the sense of self-worth I get, knowing that I'm already doing something important with my life and am part of something greater than myself. They don't know that for the first time in my life, I have found something that I am deeply and truly passionate about. Nor do they understand the camaraderie I feel, and the strong bonds I have already formed with my fellow 4/C. They didn't see us having a blast at the Rutgers Homecoming football game, nor at the Purdue game at Wrigley Field. They certainly didn't see all six of us grabbing dinner together at the Bulldog Ale House celebrating the survival of our first quarter/semester.

Northwestern NROTC isn't easy, but in my opinion, it is 100% worth it, and I can't wait to see where else the program takes me.



SUMMER CRUISE

NURSING CRUISE

MIDN 1/C PACIS



For about a month this past summer, I had the privilege of having my 4/C Cruise in San Diego at Naval Hospital Balboa. It was an incredible experience to learn about nursing from the military perspective. All of the officers and medical corpsmen I met were very friendly and inviting. I was able to work clinicals at Balboa's ICU, Emergency Department, Medical-Surgical, Neonatal ICU, Postpartum, Labor and Delivery, Operation Room, and Dialysis Unit. I also was able to participate in a BioSkills Lab where students could work with cadavers and practice medical skills.

I feel so incredibly fortunate to have learned from so many different units at the hospital because I normally would not experience these things at my regular University. I got a broad scope of the opportunities military nursing offers and that nurses aren't confined to just one area. I was able to observe that nurses are leaders, teachers, caregivers, and so much more. For instance, I learned that Nurses in the Navy get to be a charge nurse fairly quickly in comparison to the civilian world. I was also able to meet up with my running mate from ROTC, ENS Tomaschko. She beamed with energy and enthusiasm when talking about her job as a med-surg nurse at Balboa, even after working her 12-hour night shift!

My respect for the medical corpsmen grew, as well, and I was able to interact and learn about the different roles they took up. I trained with them at the Naval Base on Coronado Island in an Emergency Preparedness course for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear events. I learned how to put on the proper protective gear, how to set up a washing station, and how to use nuclear detecting devices. It was a great experience being one of the few MIDN training with HNs in disaster prevention.

After my cruise in San Diego, my appreciation and admiration for the Nursing and Medical Corps rose and I am just so grateful that I will soon be a part of such an amazing organization.



SUMMER CRUISE

CORTRAMID MIDN 3/C CRASS



Summer training programs offered through the Navy ROTC scholarship provide remarkable experiences for Midshipmen all over the country. This past summer, I was fortunate enough to attend CORTRAMID West in San Diego, CA – a summer training program for rising 3/C Midshipmen. CORTRAMID gives Midshipmen the opportunity to be exposed to all communities of the Navy. I thoroughly enjoyed receiving hands-on training from the aviation, surface warfare, and submarine communities. I went beyond my comfort zone to try new things that no one else my age typically has the opportunity to do. I was able to fly in multiple Navy aircraft, fly in flight simulators, and tour numerous navy vessels, including underways on a destroyer and a ballistic missile submarine.

Additionally, I was able to tour SEABEES units, amphibious units, and expeditionary units. Likewise, training was given on real life scenarios seen in the fleet through training in damage control simulators, swim qualifications, and other training. I spent a whole month at CORTAMID, and I would do anything to experience it again for the first time. It is truly an unbelievable experience. Summer training programs also gave me the opportunity to meet other Midshipmen from various programs throughout the country. I made friendships that will last a lifetime. Being able to spend every day with motivated people with similar goals and aspirations made my CORTAMID experience that much better. Also, spending half of my summer in San Diego wasn't so bad either.



SUMMER CRUISE

MARINE MONTH MIDN 3/C LOZOVNOY



Due to Covid-19, many of the current Third Class Midshipmen have not had any summer cruise experience, let alone any in-person ROTC instruction. This last summer, the Naval ROTC program tried a new summer cruise “Marine Month”, splitting Marine Corps Option Midshipmen between the East and West coasts. I had the opportunity to attend Marine Month East, stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina for three weeks. Going into this summer cruise, I was both nervous and excited; excited for the opportunity to learn and experience what it was like to be part of the Marine Corps. I was nervous because I had never put on my uniform, did not know much about this new cruise, and I was worried that I was far behind some of my peers that were attending.

On my first day, I learned how to wear the uniform, march in formation, and greet officers and enlisted Marines, all while meeting new friends. Although it was obvious that a lot of the members of my platoon had previous in-person NROTC experience, I saw that I was partially at an advantage because I essentially started on a clean slate. I did not have to relearn anything, in fact, this helped a lot when it came to knowledge tests and preparing for the shooting range. We had two hikes, a three and six mile hike, and we stayed in the field overnight for approximately four nights. We experienced the hot and humid heat when we toured outdoor aviation, communication, vehicle, and weapons displays. We practiced land navigation, this being one of my personal favorite events. We shot M-16's and M240's while learning weapon safety, cleaning weapons, and changing the barrel when it gets too hot. Marine Month challenged my physical capabilities with the O-Course, constant outdoor activities, and countless miles walked during our field days. This summer cruise provided me the opportunity to learn about the many MOS opportunities that the Marine Corps has to offer. After the three weeks, I still felt behind my peers in knowledge of the Marine Corps, since they had opportunities to train in person during the year that we did not have, but I was glad for the opportunity to experience the day-to-day life of a Marine. Marine Month is something I am very grateful for and will look back to when I attend Officer Candidate School in the summer of 2023.





SUMMER CRUISE



NEW STUDENT INDOCTRINATION

MIDN 4/C MORROW

Before they begin their freshman year, all Fourth Class Midshipmen attend New Student Indoctrination, or NSI, at Naval Station Great Lakes. The program was introduced in 2019 with the intent of providing incoming students at every NROTC unit with a standardized basic military training, rather than having each unit conduct its own orientation program. Essentially, New Student Indoctrination is a truncated version of Navy Boot Camp. Future Midshipmen, referred to as Candidates, are housed in recruit barracks at Naval Station Great Lakes and are instructed by upper-class Midshipmen as well as Marine Corps Drill Instructors and Navy Recruit Trainers. Candidates are taught military discipline and bearing, basic Navy and Marine Corps knowledge, and relevant skills such as firefighting and marksmanship.

New Student Indoctrination lasted a total of four weeks. Upon arrival, Candidates had their heads shaved and were issued uniforms before being transferred to the recruit barracks.

The experience was designed to be stressful, with Midshipman Instructors aggressively correcting any Candidates who stepped out of line or broke military bearing.

The first two weeks were spent in Restriction of Movement, or ROM, due to COVID-19. During this time, physical training was limited, and Candidates were instructed to learn basic knowledge like the Navy and Marine Corps rank structures and chains of command. Candidates also learned military discipline and bearing through the intense boot camp environment.

When the ROM period was complete, Candidates went through a variety of training evolutions similar to what recruits complete at Navy Boot camp, including physical training, firefighting, and seamanship. Candidates were taught the fundamentals of shipboard damage control, how to handle fire hoses, how to handle lines aboard a ship, and how to handle an M9 handgun. Candidates also underwent a series of ethics classes to prepare them for the mental and moral aspects of NROTC.

Personally, I found New Student Indoctrination to be a formative experience. The stressful military environment was unlike anything I had experienced before, and it helped prepare me for the challenges and responsibilities of being an NROTC Midshipman.





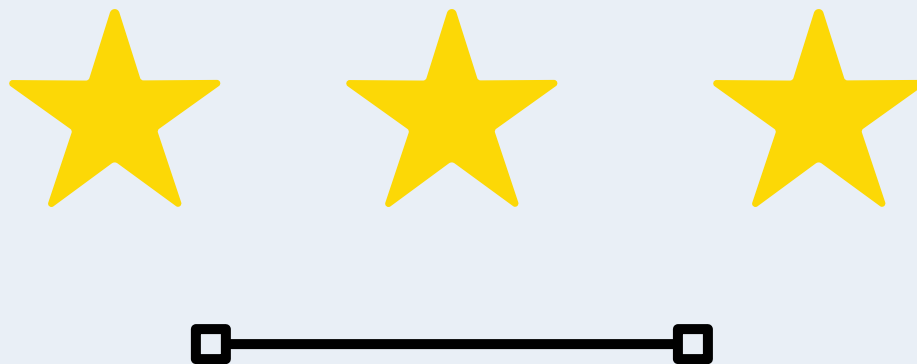
SUMMER CRUISE



NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION MIDN 4/C DAVOCK

On the afternoon of August 27th, 2021, 13 prospective Midshipmen gathered in the lobby of IIT Tower as they took their first step to becoming members of their respective NROTC units. The group of freshmen was eager to begin, although none of them knew what was to come that weekend. The thirteen were tested both mentally and physically, as they were taught to always move with a purpose, learn the basics of military customs and courtesies, and learn about different warfare communities of both the Navy and Marine Corps. Each day started with an early morning wakeup, physical training (otherwise known as PT), and then followed by chow (mealtime). Following chow time under the watchful eye of both staff and midshipman instructors, the group was put in a classroom, further expanding their knowledge of their revered branches of service. Near the conclusion of the training, the soon-to-be NROTC students had completed their initial physical fitness tests. After preparations were complete, it was time to take the Oath of Office.

Commanding Officer Captain Robert Klaszky had led the oath on Zoom. After the oath was recited, the group was congratulated and were officially recognized by the staff and the upperclassmen as midshipmen. In the following weeks, the new NROTC students reported to their units and began the school year on the right foot, starting the journey to become commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. While it might have been challenging, I personally enjoyed NSO. It was a great introduction to what the NROTC Program had in store for me for the next four years. I also learned that, more than ever, physical fitness is vital, outside and inside the NROTC program. Lastly, although I have held leadership positions in the past, I found it valuable to work with students my age as part of a team, as we all strive to become the finest officers in the Navy and Marine Corps to date.



MIDN AROUND CAMPUS

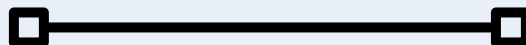
ARCH SOCIETY AND THE



BLACK PRE-LAW ASSOCIATION MIDN 3/C WHITE



As a student, I've tried to involve myself in several organizations/clubs outside of ROTC that I not only enjoy but will be able to fully participate in within the constraints of my schedule. Two clubs that fit these criteria are Arch Society and The Black Pre-Law Association. Arch Society is a club that works to strengthen the relationship between alumni, faculty, and students through the support of university activities and community-wide events. Members of the club are essentially student ambassadors for the Northwestern Alumni Association. I really enjoy being a part of this club because it gives me the opportunity to see up close and be a part of school events, such as Homecoming and senior events. Because I tend to get very immersed in my schoolwork and ROTC responsibilities, this club allows me to stay involved with my school and the community all while making helpful connections. The Black Pre-Law Association is a club I joined to make connections with and gain mentorship from other black law students and black lawyers who can help shape my future journey to law school.



MIDN AROUND CAMPUS

NORTHWESTERN POLITICAL UNION

MIDN 4/C SHAMAI

One benefit of NROTC at Northwestern is to be able to prepare for military service while in a civilian academic environment. In my experience as a midshipman, a great example of this has been my involvement in the Northwestern Political Union, a club where students can constructively engage each other on relevant issues every Monday evening. From the defense of Taiwan to the legitimacy of the Industrial Revolution, the organization does not face a shortage of matters to discuss. Each session begins with the debaters' opening arguments followed by questions from the audience and then open discussion among everyone. Closing arguments are made towards the end, followed by a final vote on which side won. Afterward, the club has a get-together for camaraderie and further discussion. Personally, Political Union has been amazing for me because I get to speak freely about interesting topics with like-minded people. Given that I follow a STEM-focused curriculum, NPU has been a great chance to balance my interests in humanities and in my intended major, Neuroscience. For this opportunity, I am grateful to be a part of Northwestern NROTC.



BATTALION EVENTS

UNLL 786 CLUB: LUNCHEON MIDN 3/C NKADI

This semester I was presented with the opportunity to attend a luncheon hosted by the ULCC 786 Club whose featured guest was Commodore Mel Smith. Commodore Smith is the Commander of Submarine Squadron One, which oversees five Virginia Class and two Los Angeles Class nuclear, fast attack submarines (including the USS ILLINOIS). During the luncheon, we were served with some of the most thoughtfully prepared meals I have ever had the pleasure to enjoy. Besides the eloquent food and glimpse into some of the declassified missions Commodore Smith commanded while attached to the USS JIMMY CARTER, we were given a look into what the core of the United States Navy is: the people. Although our technology is advanced and our history is vast, it is the people who make our fighting force as fierce as it is. Commodore Smith focused on how to treat your sailors and officers while working as a team, not just a hierarchy. Through his speech, we gained an understanding of how the well-being of those around you matters and why it's a distinct reflection of your role as a leader. Commodore Smith shared many important insights, not just on leadership, but how to uplift and maintain a functional and self-sustainable community. Commodore Smith provided exceptional advice backed with real-life stories and I certainly plan to take what I've learned during this luncheon to the fleet with me in the near future.

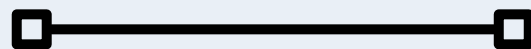


BATTALION EVENTS

ALUMNI TAILGATE

MIDN 2/C FOREMAN

Among all of Northwestern University's events during the academic school year, Northwestern's NROTC unit was proud and honored to host an annual Homecoming tailgate. Held on October 16th, 2021, current NROTC midshipmen were given the opportunity to gather for a meal with past members of the NROTC battalion for a proud and meaningful exchange of personal knowledge and stories. Through this event, Northwestern midshipmen were afforded the chance to engage in conversation with those who were in their very same shoes many years or decades ago. Flipping the script, graduated members of the NROTC program are given the chance to share in not only their years as a midshipman back in their university days, but also their years of service in both the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps. These rewarding exchanges between different classes and generations fortifies a strong sense of camaraderie throughout the battalion. This congregation of servicemen and women, alongside aspiring midshipman, truly is a dignified event that is held in high regard of the list of Northwestern NROTC traditions.



BATTALION EVENTS

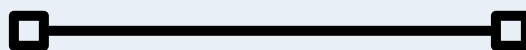
WISCONSIN DRILL MEET MIDN 2/C LINDSTROM

For the Northwestern and Loyola midshipman, a highly anticipated return to in-person operations culminated in a drill meet at the University of Wisconsin. Nearly all midshipmen participated in one of the several events: squad drill, color guard, platoon drill, endurance team, pull-up competition, trivia, and flag football.

Our drill and color guard teams were young and relatively inexperienced, but after several early morning drill practices led by SSgt Aranda and Drill Commander, Midn Seth, our unit put forth an impressive effort. Moreover, young midshipmen showcased in the trivia, pull up competition, and endurance team.



Northwestern NROTC's most memorable event, however, was flag football. Despite being a small unit, we put together two high-performing flag football teams. One of which, led by three IIT MECEP Marines, managed to upset Ohio State and Marquette en route to a tournament victory. Despite only winning one event, we're proud of the incredible effort put forth by our midshipmen and hope for an improved showing at Tulane this Spring!



BATTALION EVENTS

VETERANS DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

MIDN 3/C WILLIAMS



The Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony held at Northwestern brought the Illinois Institute of Technology's Naval ROTC and Northwestern's Naval ROTC units together in a moment of remembrance as we paid tribute to the Veterans we have lost. This timeless ceremony was filled with passion and tradition as we gave our respects to those who sacrificed so much for us. It seemed almost dreamlike how the beauty of the memorial, combined with the sun rising through a slight, early morning rain, gave a motivating feeling of hope as the flag was raised. The addition of veterans playing music brought a sense of unity to us all and was not only inspirational but inspiring. This was one of the first ceremonies that I participated in, despite being a sophomore, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of us fear getting sick or passing it to our loved ones who could be harmed. However, being able to come together with so many people from around the country through NROTC, and bond in this experience, is something I will hold on to. I am inspired by our veterans and I am proud to say that I was part of this tradition.



BATTALION EVENTS

NAVY/ARMY SALUTE TO SERVICE GAME MIDN 2/C LINDSTROM



I was horribly out of step. Sixty thousand cheers drowned out the cadence, and I lost track of Staff Sergeant Aranda’s “left, right, left”. After lining up at two arms interval across the front of the endzone, Staff Sergeant screams, “Preeeesent arms”. I snap into a nervously rigid salute, right hand hovering just in front of my combination cover. Then silence. Sixty thousand hard core Chicago Bears fans became sixty thousand quiet observers within the span of two seconds. As the anthem played, the crowd stood unwavering in their support. Then came the flyover.

Three magnificent helicopters. Soldier Field erupted as I maintained my position. Thank god I did. I had been on the jumbotron the whole time, my three ribbons visible to the entire nation.

Next came the flag football game. Huddling up in the locker room, the Chicago consortium made our game plan. We'd play a zone defense with a quick passing offense. This strategy won us the Wisconsin flag football tournament. Unfortunately, the Army cadets were well prepared. While we lost to Army, MIDN Trevino's touchdown catch was one to remember. Hopefully, the Chicago Bears will give us a chance to redeem ourselves in the coming years.



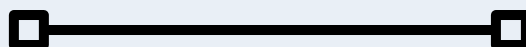
BATTALION EVENTS



HOLIDAY LAB MIDN 1/C PACIS



On the first of December, the active duty staff and MIDN all joined at Clarke's to have a Holiday Lab Breakfast. It was a wonderful and cheery way to share our last lab of the quarter, seeing everyone smile and eat delicious breakfast food. Organized by MIDN 4/C Dan and Morrow, they ensured that everyone had a great time, enjoyed their food, even got us to get special early eating time. We also played White Elephant, where each student selected a random gift to keep! Some memorable ones included a "Muppets In Space " DVD, A Nerf gun, a drone, and I personally got an Insomnia Cookies gift card! Having this Holiday Lab Breakfast meant so much because after such a difficult, busy quarter, we were all able to relax and enjoy each other's company and just lavish in good, holiday spirit.



INTERVIEW WITH SSGT ARANDA

MIDN 4/C DAN

How has your experience been at Northwestern so far?

Good, there's new challenges, obviously: adapting to a new format, new scheduling, understanding how you guys operate, understanding how IIT operates, how the north side and the south side both operate. So it's a learning curve but it's a challenge I take proudly, executing and ensuring my knowledge and experience can be transferred on to all of you-- that's the end goal-- is to make sure you guys are well equipped in your journey as you begin yours.

Are there any events that you look forward to for the next semester and school year?

For next year, the drill meets. I look forward to doing those drill meets. I also look forward to doing something that GySgt Davis wanted to do with you guys, which is hosting drill meets with high schools around the area and spreading knowledge about the NROTC. Not a lot of high school students are aware that there's a future in ROTC or there's a future in whatever program they decide to do, so for us to spread that knowledge to the young adults and teenagers in high school right now that think ROTC is just some elective (they don't realize that there's more to it), they could make a career out of it. Take for example, a kid from the south side of Chicago who does ROTC, probably doesn't know that he can start a career as an Officer in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or whatever the case may be. All they know is the ROTC is just an elective for high school.

Why did you decide to join the USMC?

I decided to join the United States Marine Corps honestly because I had nothing else going for me after high school. I was one of those ignorant kids that thought I knew what it was to be an adult. I soon found out, after stepping foot on the yellow footprints in San Diego, that I had no idea. As my career started advancing, I grew to understand that there's more than what people know in the country. They don't understand that when stepping outside of the United States and going to countries like Afghanistan and other places out in the Middle East, you begin to realize how fortunate we are as United States citizens. Overall, I just needed to get something going for my life when I felt I had nothing going for myself, so the Marine Corps was the best option for me.

What were some memorable experiences you had in the Marines?

Obviously boot camp was an experience that everybody shares. When you step off that bus, whether it be San Diego or Parris Island, or for you guys when you step off the bus in OCS/NSI and you start going through that transition from being a civilian to now being a part of the DOD, armed forces or whatever the case may be, it's a shellshock. You think you have all the answers, and you think you have an idea of what your path is, but you really don't, because you haven't been through it all. Boot camp was the foundation for my future growth and experience in the Marine Corps. I went from boot camp, to wanting to be like my drill instructors, to wanting to be a leader like the mentors that I had in the Marine Corps, to then deployments in Afghanistan and the 24th MEU that I was a part of. Seeing that working relationship between the Marines and the Navy, and then becoming a Drill Instructor was a huge milestone that I have achieved. Truth be told, I didn't even want to become a Drill Instructor. I was trying to be a recruiter, but the Marine Corps sometimes chooses what you need to do, so my mindset has always been if the Marine Corps wants me to be a Drill Instructor, or wants me to do certain parts of training, then all I can do as a person, as a man, is buckle up and be the best version of what they want me to be. Being authentic to myself, and authentic to my leadership -- that's what I have to offer. Being able to transform different kids from all walks of life. Being a Drill Instructor on Parris Island, was a huge eye-opener and experience I'll never forget. It was truly one of my favorite memories.

Do you have any advice for current or future Midshipmen to succeed in NROTC?

Swallow your pride sometimes. One way to hurt your career and your relationships is by having too much pride. It's not bad having pride in yourself, but you have to find a good balance of when to shut it off - when to shut your pride down and be humble. Humility is something that I learned quickly going into the military. You can be confident, you can be prideful, but at the end of the day, you have to humble yourself in certain occasions where you don't have the answers and you're being asked to figure it out. For instance, when I check into a new unit, it's not "I'm the Staff Sergeant in charge do-what-I-say" kind of thing. I'll watch, I'll listen, I'll learn, and if I have questions, I have no problem humbling myself, taking off the chevrons and talking to the Private First Class and asking that person how business is usually done here. I maintain an open mind knowing what they may be doing. Maybe I can tweak it, maybe I don't have to, but there's a learning experience that way. Always be humble and treat other people as you want to be treated-- that goes for being a follower and more importantly that goes for being a leader. You guys are trying to become officers, don't get too mixed up with the commissioning. You still got to remember that when you step into a leadership role, you're going to have junior Marines, junior Sailors, kids coming out of high school 19, 18 years old, with no real-life experience. You're going to have to put yourself, sometimes, in their position; humble yourself and get them to where they need to be. Enjoy the transition, take time to reflect on your accomplishments, but when it's done, it's back to the drawing board and back to the grind. You got to keep going and keep moving forward.

What are your goals/aspirations for the rest of your career in the USMC?

My goal is to retire at twenty years as a Gunnery Sergeant. I'd like to finish here and spend a total of four years finish here with you guys, at NROTC Chicago. Go do one more duty station as a reservist, and then retire. I'd like to then use all my knowledge and education certificates I've gained in the Marine Corps, as a starting point to transition over to the civilian world. Then one day, continue to mentor and mold younger individuals and get them out of the streets of Chicago or the inner cities and get them on the path that was so good for me.



Winter 2022

Naval R.O.T.C. Scholarship Fund, Inc.

By Chris Lillich, NU Class of '92

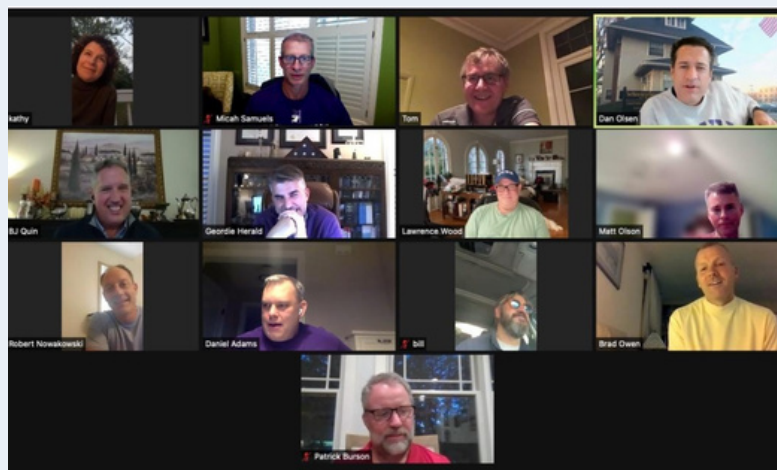
Greetings and happy new year from the Scholarship Fund Board! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season with friends and family, despite the ongoing pandemic. Throughout these challenging times the Scholarship Fund Board has continued to stay focused on our primary mission of providing financial support to the midshipmen of the Northwestern NROTC unit. We're pleased to report that your generous giving has helped us continue to deliver much needed financial assistance to our midshipmen. For 2021, your donations allowed us to award \$81,250 in grants to nine deserving midshipmen. Since awarding our first grant in 1989, the fund has awarded 147 scholarship grants totaling over \$850,000. We can all be very proud of the impact this fund has made over the past 32 years.

The Scholarship Fund Board has a secondary mission to serve as an informal alumni association to the graduates of the NU NROTC program. As part of that work, we strive to maintain an accurate record of alumni contact information. Through your updates and some painstaking internet research, we're proud that there are only 62 alums on our "Lost Souls" list. This means we have accurate contact information for 95% of the unit's living graduates. This is no easy feat when you consider the unit has been in continuous operation since 1926! THANK YOU for your ongoing help to keep our records accurate. Of course, we want that to continue so please remember to let us know if you move or have information about any of our alumni "Lost Souls" listed in this Crow's Nest.

Also remember that our alumni database is a good resource for all of us. If you are trying to track down a classmate, please reach out to Board member Bob Shaw (bshaw1057@gmail.com).

We also appreciate hearing news about our alumni and enjoy sharing updates through the Crow's Nest. It's been wonderful to see efforts some of our alums are making to re-connect with old classmates, especially when we're all feeling a little less connected due to the pandemic. One notable example is highlighted in the "Alumni News" section – a group of 13 NU NROTC alums from the early 1990s recently re-connected via Zoom (see picture nearby). While most of us are probably feeling a bit "Zoomed out" by now, we can probably all agree this is a fantastic use of the technology. Hopefully these "mini reunions" will continue well after the pandemic.

The Board will soon be reviewing midshipmen grant applications for the coming academic year. No doubt we will have another deserving group of applicants. While we don't use these updates to solicit donations, be on the lookout for our next semi-annual solicitation letter this Spring. We also accept tax-deductible donations anytime, online at www.nu-nrotc.org, or sent to the Scholarship Fund at 14197 Classique Way, San Diego, CA 92129-4333. The Scholarship Fund Board wishes you and your families a happy and healthy 2022!



ALUMNI NEWS

WINTER 2022

- Frank W. Broadbent - 1953: "Retired to Thornton Oaks in Brunswick, Maine" (07/21)
- Donald R. Fraser - 1956: "Great to be 87 and still showing up...Semper Fidelis." (06/21)
- Ben J. Mogni, Jr. - 1957: "Staying active, playing golf, bridge, still in contact with Robert Flinn ('57), Bob Abele ('57), Emmon Rodgers ('57). Still reside in Elmhurst, IL. Like reading undergrad news, just wish we had larger class." (12/21)
- Darse E. Crandall, Sr. - 1959: "Thanks for what you are doing for the NU Naval students." (11/21)
- Raymond M. Thomas - 1963: "Spend most of my time in Florida, but still have a warehouse and planes in Illinois. Getting a new engine for T-28B and hope to have it back in the air summer of 2022." (11/21)
- R. Lee Griffith - 1970: "Invited to the Sprint Triathlon National Championships in August in Milwaukee." (06/21)
- R. Lee Griffith - 1970: "Will be in the Sprint Triathlon National Championships for the fourth time." (11/21)
- David M. Gubanc - 1971: "Plan to attend my 50th Class Reunion in Evanston on October 15 – 16, 2021. Really looking forward to the NROTC Tailgate (breakfast) since the game is scheduled for 11:00 am on 16 October 2021. Always a great time to catch up." (06/21)
- David M. Gubanc - 1971: "Phyllis and I had a great time @ the Unit Breakfast on Saturday, October 16, 2021, and wish to thank Robert Shaw (1970) for his generosity and kindness to all the Unit members and alumni. We had a great visit." (11/21)
- Mark T. Brown - 1974: "Mark is a principal director at the Aerospace Corporation which supports the U.S. Space Force, NASA, and other space agencies of the U.S. Government." (11/21)
- William O. Glass, Jr. - 1976: "Retired and relocated full-time to South Yarmouth (Cape Cod) MA in June 2021. Would like to connect with any alums in the area: 33 Touraine Way, South Yarmouth, MA 02664-1957; 203-470-7295." (12/21)

- John H. Fenter - 1980: "Fully retired, enjoying driving fast cars and motorcycle riding, and working through the bucket list." (12/21)
- Kenneth T. Dickerson - 1981: "Attended the Northwestern Class of 1980 + 1981 Reunion held at Ravinia this past October. My wife, Nancy (also NU Class of 1981), and I both enjoyed seeing many of our classmates." (12/21)
- Brian J. Gegan - 1984: "Go Cats!" (11/21)
- Bartholomew Williams - 1987: "Bart Williams recently published a book of original poetry and how to write it: Poetic Possibilities by Bartholomew Williams. Mr. Williams is completing a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Liberty University. He co-founded the first Hillsdale College BCSI Program affiliated public classical charter school in Wisconsin." (06/21)
- Leigh L. Kojiro - 1987: "Congratulations to the Class of 2021!" (06/21)
- David J. Dietz - 1989: "I retired after 31 years from the Navy in April 2021! Serve as a Supply Chain Director at Sandia National Labs in Albuquerque, NM." (06/21)
- William B. Sanford - 1990: "We enjoyed meeting and were impressed by the Midshipmen we met at the Homecoming tailgate...but saddened by how small the Unit is." (12/21)
- Robert C. Nowakowski - 1992: "Thank you for keeping the program going strong. My Best!" (05/21)
- Asa ("Geordie") Herald - 1992: "A partner at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Geordie was appointed recently as the Office Managing Partner of the firm's Washington, DC offices – the largest of Morgan Lewis's 31 offices around the world. From Geordie: "I enjoyed "seeing" a number of our shipmates on a recent Zoom coordinated by Dan Olson, including Kathy Mueller, Micah Samuels, Tom LaRowe, Brian Quin, Lawrence Wood, Matt Olson, Robert Nowakowski, Dan Adams, Bill Farley, Brad Owen, Pat Burson, Dan Olson and Geordie Herald. Great to catch up, and please feel free to drop by if you're ever in DC." (11/21)
- LT Anna Hanson - 2013: "Reaching out from the class of 2013! Currently with the 22nd MEU out of Camp Lejeune and just got back from a deployment as an Enroute Care Nurse in support of crisis response in Northern Africa. Looking forward to a PCS this summer to Balboa! " (06/21)



LOST SOULS

We have lost track of the following NROTC Unit alumni. If you know the whereabouts of anyone listed here, or if you know that someone listed here is deceased, please pass that information to Bob Shaw at bshaw1057@gmail.com.

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1930-44: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1945: Mr Robert O Barkdoll, Mr Dean L Lindstrom

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1946: Mr. Robert C Stevens

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1947: Mr. Edward N Brown, II, Mr. John T. Snyder, Mr Gordon E Young

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1948: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1949: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1950: Mr Paul Colen

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1951: Mr William R Cress, Mr. Richard C Underwood

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1952: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1953: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1954: Mr. Paul R Scholl

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1955: Mr. Donald P Brown, Mr. Peter E Gilles, Mr Earl J Johnson

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1956: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1957: CDR Frank J Murphy

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1958: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1959: Mr Thomas L Foster, Mr. Lawrence H Melin JR, Mr. Gerald D Reed

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1960: None

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1961: Mr. Richard F Ingram, Mr David L Marks, Mr William J Bell Jr

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1962: Mr Robert E Calvert, Mr Kenneth H Kuehnie, Mr James R Michael, Mr Thayer D White

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1963: CAPT Timothy A Lamphier

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1964: Mr James R O Reilly
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1965: Mr James I Richard III, Mr Thomas H Meeker, Mr John A Schlanger
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1966: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1967: Mr Joseph C Davis, Mr Robert A Shearer
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1968: Mr Richard J Both, Mr James D Montgomery JR
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1969: Mr Walter N Gregory, Mr Robert W Thompson
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1970: Mr Tom E Mitchell, Mr Steven R Weisbrod, Mr Gary L Zambito, Mr. John F Bender
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1971: Mr Patrick B Briley
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1972: Mr Richard P Welch
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1973: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1974: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1975: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1976: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1977: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1978: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1979: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1980: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1981: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1982: Mr Todd L Nelson
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1983: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1984: Mr Christopher Hagen
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1985: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1986: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1987: Mr Peter Philips, LtCol Edward C Gardiner USMC(Ret)
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1988: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1989: Mr Jonathan H Holley, Mr Christopher S Crews

Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1990: Mr Sean P Kelly, Mr Jeffery T Koontz
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1991: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1992: Ms Judith S Sampson
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1993: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1994: Mr Ruben D Plaza JR
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1995: Ms Ellie L Burns
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1996: Mr Scott A Penland
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1997: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1998: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 1999: Mr Lake M Johnson, Mr Justin M Bachman
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2000: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2001: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2002: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2003: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2004: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2005: LCDR Susan J Park
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2006: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2007: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2008: Mr William J Wheatley
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2009: Ms Samantha M Greco
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2010: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2011: Ms Katherine McLean, MS Chelsie M Williams
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2012: Mr Jordan C Rivera-Klein
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2013: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2014: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2015: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2016: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2017: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2018: 1st LT Thomas M George
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2019: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2020: None
Lost Member(s) of the Class of 2021: None

