

# The Alumni Anchor

Academic Year 2014-2015

July 2014



## NROTC Unit

- CAPT Richard Wood (NFO)
- CDR Brandon Christensen (Submariner)
- CPT Jeff Price, USMC
- LT Ben Kyler (SWO)
- LT Kevin Fuller (Submariner)
- LT Andrew Gaynor (Pilot)
- MSgt Jon Rich, USMC
- HR Tech Tim Hagey
- Supply Officer TBD
- State Sec Sue Plagmann



## Inside this Issue:

Report from the Captain	1
Events	2
Social Media & Website	2
We Need Your Help	3
Thank You Alumni and Friends	3

## Report from the Captain

Greetings from the Oregon State University Naval ROTC Unit

I am pleased to report that so far this year the Oregon State University (OSU) Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Unit commissioned 16 ensigns and three second lieutenants with two ensigns and one second lieutenant expected to receive their commissions in September for a total of 22 new junior officers heading to the fleet this fiscal year. As alumni, you can be confident that these young officers will represent the unit well and be proud of the NROTC and OSU partnership that is so successful in producing junior officers for the fleet.



This summer 39 midshipmen are participating in a summer cruise which includes four weeks of CORTRAMID for 14 rising third class midshipmen and assignments to various ships, submarines, and squadrons in the fleet for 25 rising first and second class midshipmen. The CORTRAMID training provides four weeks of introductory training in aviation, submarines, surface vessels, and Marine Corps operations to our most junior midshipmen and is conducted in Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Camp Lejeune, and Kings Bay. Our more senior midshipmen on cruise are traveling to a wide variety of places including Hawaii, Japan, the Philippines, San Diego, and Guam in the Pacific as well as Lisbon and Sicily in the Mediterranean. Not a bad way to spend part of the summer.

While many of our midshipmen are participating in summer training or here in Corvallis attending summer school, the incoming freshman class is taking shape. We are expecting 30-35 new midshipmen to join the unit this fall including ten who will be on scholarship and another 20-25 who hope to earn a scholarship leading to a commission. Our new student orientation will take place 19-26 September with classes and a new school year starting on 29 September. We are looking forward to another great year.

Finally, one of my goals since joining the unit in the summer of 2012 is to improve our outreach to our alumni to include improving our email database and our online presence, welcoming alumni back to the unit for reunions and social events, and helping alumni connect or reconnect with each other. We have been assisted by one of your fellow alumni, Stan Smith, USMC '72 who is doing a wonderful job of collecting alumni contact information and historical information. My hope is that this effort will allow us to keep you informed and make you feel welcome at the Naval Armory as well as provide an opportunity for you to reconnect with the NROTC Unit and your former classmates. More information is provided inside this issue.

CAPT Rich Wood, Commanding Officer and Professor Naval Science

# Alumni Involvement

## Events

This year the OSU NROTC Unit would like to invite you to a number of events at the unit and we hope that you will join us.

### Please save the dates:

- **11 October 2014** - OSU NROTC Unit Fall Ball and Navy Birthday Ceremony at the Memorial Union Ballroom. This event is open to all alumni and friends of the unit. We hope you will enjoy the birthday celebration with the battalion.
- **1 November 2014** - OSU NROTC Second Annual Foxhole and Fantail Alumni Muster at the Naval Armory. This is our annual "All Class" Alumni Reunion and will be held in conjunction with the OSU Homecoming and the home football game against Cal. RSVP and information is posted on the website on the [Alumni Relations tab under Alumni Events](#).
- **6 November 2014** - OSU NROTC Unit USMC Birthday Cake Cutting Celebration at the Naval Armory. This event is open to all alumni and all USMC veterans. Pass the word to your fellow Marines - Semper Fi!
- **1 May 2015** - OSU ROTC Joint Service Review on the Memorial Union Quad.

In addition to the Alumni Muster Reunion on 1 November, we will also have an informal tailgate before the other football games during the school year including the games against Utah, WSU, and Arizona State which is Military Appreciation Day. Please join us before the game.

We will be sending out separate invitations to everyone on our email list and posting invitations on the website and other social medias. More information will be provided as the details firm up, but for now - just save the dates!

## Social Media and Website

As part of our effort to improve our outreach to our alumni and friends the unit is looking for ways to improve our virtual presence. We have a new website and the ability to post information to *Facebook* and *LinkedIn*.

To follow the Beaver Battalion online, please follow the links below. We have a lot of work to do to improve our use of these different ways of communicating with you. Please help us with your feedback.

How can we make these websites more interesting and useful to you?



## Unit Digital Information

US Navy NROTC Website  
<http://www.nrotc.navy.mil/>

OSU NROTC Website  
<http://nrotc.oregonstate.edu/>

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com> Group:  
Oregon State NROTC Alumni

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/> Group:  
Oregon State NROTC

**Email:** [state.sec@oregonstate.edu](mailto:state.sec@oregonstate.edu) for  
Sue Plagmann, our OSU State Secretary

[co@oregonstate.edu](mailto:co@oregonstate.edu) for CAPT Wood

[srsmith772@gmail.com](mailto:srsmith772@gmail.com) for Stan Smith

# We Need Your Help

*We have four goals to improve our outreach efforts:*

- 1) Compile a database with contact information of past graduates, staff members, and friends of the unit that will enable us to keep alumni and friends up to date on the status of the NROTC Unit.
- 2) Provide opportunities for alumni and friends to reconnect with classmates and former instructors; either at our annual events, or via phone, email, or postal mail.
- 3) Provide online access to historical documents and publications such as the Albatross, Riptide, Harpoon, and the Beaver yearbook, as well as a members pages where alumni can share their stories and update us on their lives and careers.
- 4) Publish articles to honor those who have distinguished themselves in their military or civilian service and those who gave their lives in the service of our country.

*In order to reach our goals we need your help:*

- Provide updated your contact information.
- Contact your classmates and former staff members and encourage them to contact the unit.
- Volunteer to help locate lost classmates.
- Search your old NROTC and OSU memorabilia and send us copies of documents that you have including programs from events, publications, and anything else that might be of interest to others.
- Send us an update on where you live now, family updates, and good memories of your time at OSU or serving in the Navy and Marine Corps.
- Give us your feedback - what do you want as an alumnus and how can we improve? This includes feedback on events, newsletters, website and webpages, and any other ideas for improving the relationship and communication between the NROTC Unit and our alumni, former staff, and friends of the unit.

If you can help please contact Stan Smith at [srsmith772@gmail.com](mailto:srsmith772@gmail.com) or (503)784-9068 or Sue Plagmann at [state.sec@oregonstate.edu](mailto:state.sec@oregonstate.edu) or 541-737-6289 (NAVY)

## Thank You Alumni and Friends

Thanks to all the NROTC alumni and friends who donated money to the NROTC student organization fund. Your donations helped defray the out of pocket travel and lodging expenses incurred by battalion members who travel to regional NROTC events as well as supported scholarships and unit activities. For example, this year we would not have been able to maintain the Obstacle Course or attend Northwest Navy without support of the Taffrail Fund.

It is easy to donate online...

- Go to our website at <http://nrotc.oregonstate.edu>

- Look for this box on our webpage



- Click on the fund you wish to support (Taffrail or Alumni Scholarship) from the drop down list.

- A new page will open with directions to make a "one-time" gift or a "pledge payment."



From there, follow the directions and that's all there is to it.

The donation page is administered by the OSU Foundation and you should receive a receipt from the foundation.

You may also donate by mail. Please make checks payable to "NROTC Taffrail Fund" or "NROTC Alumni Scholarship Fund" and mail to:

ATTN State Secretary  
Naval Science Department  
104 Naval ROTC Armory  
Corvallis, OR 97331-5401