

NROTC Alumni Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 1

MIDSHIPMANS Foundation

January - April 1997

Foundation Officers

Max Miller, 1957
President
(H) 512-345-0793

Bruce Byron, 1970
Vice-President

Robert Gartner, 1965
Treasurer

Gary Schoen, 1966
Secretary

William Docekal, 1965
Assistant Treasurer

Board of Directors

James Adkins, 1955

Bruce Byron, 1970

Keys Curry, 1958

William Docekal, 1965

Kenneth Fletcher, 1963

Clay Fulcher, 1955

Robert Gartner, 1965

John Hitchcock, 1965

J. Weldon Koenig, 1958

Rodney Koenig, 1962

Gary Schoen, 1966

Max Miller, 1957

Ex Officio Members

CAPT Bill Graner, USN
(Professor of Naval Science)

Ray Adams, 1980
(Membership)

James Broaddus, 1970 (NROTC
Unit Liaison)

Jack Ritter, 1955
(Navy League Liaison)

Louis De Cuir, 1979
(Reunion)

Regional Directors

Robert Gartner, 1965
Austin (H) 512-331-0976

Ray Adams, 1980
DFW (H) 214-596-7188

Ben Krause, 1965
East (H) 804-486-3721

Robert Hancock, 1967
West (H) 619-586-0036

UT Midshipman's Foundation Trust Board of Directors

Kirk Cansler, 1945
J. Weldon Koenig, 1958
Will McCann, 1961

Tenth Annual Reunion a Great Success

The Alumni Reunion was held on Saturday, October 5, 1996. The day began with a Board of Director's meeting in the NROTC Midshipman Wardroom followed immediately by a business meeting and social hour. Due to an early televised game, the afternoon social period at the American Legion Hall on Town Lake began at 1300 and was followed by a fajita dinner. Those who wanted to attend the game departed in a light drizzle while the more hearty souls stayed indoors to watch the game and to guard the beer and other assorted remaining drinks.

As usual, the hall was crowded with alumni renewing old friendships and spinning new and old sea stories.

See "Reunion" (Continued on page 4)

Midshipmans Foundation Board of Director's meet in the NROTC Wardroom prior to the business meeting to elect new officers and recommend Directors.

Alumni Elect Board Directors

Alumni attending the 10th Annual Reunion business meeting and tailgate social elected Ken Fletcher, 1963, of Duncanville, Tx, as a new director of the MIDSHIPMANS Foundation (DBA-NROTC Alumni Foundation at the University of Texas). Reelected for another three year term were RADM Clay Fulcher, 1955, Nausau Bay, Tx, RADM Weldon Koenig, 1958, Austin, Tx, and John Hitchcock, 1965, Austin, Tx.

Outgoing director Jim Broaddus, 1970, Austin, Tx, was appointed by the Board of Directors in executive session as Ex Officio Member of the Board for NROTC Unit Liaison. Jack Ritter, 1955, Austin, Tx, former director, was reappointed as Ex Officio Member of the Board for "Navy League Liaison". Also, appointed were Ray Adams, 1980, Plano, Tx, and Lou De Cuir, 1979, Austin, Tx, both former directors, as Ex Officio Members of the Board for "Membership" and "Reunion" coordination respectively.

The Board of Directors is staffed at the approved level of 12 directors serving staggered three year terms. Ex Officio Members and Regional Directors are appointed by the Board to fulfill needed liaison duties for the

See "Elections" (Continued on page 2)

Calendar of Events

Board of Director's Meeting	26 April 1997
Midshipman Spring Formal Ball	2 May 1997
President's Review	
Board of Director's Meeting	26 July 1997
Spring Commissioning	
Board of Director's Meeting	13 September 1997
Board of Director's Meeting to Select New Officer's	25 October 1997
Alumni Reunion/Election of Directors	25 October 1997

Operating Fund Summary

Beginning Balance 9/96	\$1,065.92.
Income	
Interest/Contributions	\$3,061.10
Transfers	2,000.00
Reunion	2,925.00
Expenses	
Reunion	\$3,100.93
Mailings, Engraving	369.98
PNS Discretionary	1,500.00
Ending Balance 2/97	\$4,086.11

President's Corner

I want to say "Thanks" to Keys Curry, his officers and to all the Board members who worked so hard these last two years for all the Alumni. The Foundation has been fortunate to have had excellent leadership and a willingness on the part of everyone to put forth extraordinary efforts to ensure the viability of our organization. I am looking forward to working with CAPT Graner, the Board of Directors, and all of the other Alumni during the next two years.

The annual reunion was again a real success. I am always pleased that old classmates surface who have never attended this event. For information, the reunion for this year is scheduled for Saturday, 25 Oct 1997. That is the Colorado game in Austin. The time has yet to be announced as it will surely be televised. For those of you who would like to go come to the reunion and to the game, we will be getting approximately 50 to 60 game tickets. Although we will not put out reunion info until later, you can send in \$30 for each ticket and \$25 for the reunion now to the treasurer. We have established the reunion cost the same as last year and hope the tickets will be approximately \$30. However, if they are more, we will let you know.

Also, CAPT Graner has announced his retirement effective early June. His replacement will be a Marine and officially announced later. Bill has been a dynamic PNS for the NROTC and it has been a real pleasure to work with him. We wish him the best.

Let us hear from you and keep those contributions coming in.

P.S.—Here are a few places to visit on the World Wide Web:

- UT NROTC Web Page: [NAVY.ROTC.UTEXAS.EDU](http://www.navy.mil/UTEXAS.EDU)
- Bureau of Naval Personnel Home Page: [http://www.navy.mil/home pages/bupers](http://www.navy.mil/home%20pages/bupers)
- Navy Online Home Page: <http://www.navy.mil/>
- Navy Historical Center: <http://www.history.navy.mil/>

Max Miller, 1957

President

"Elections" (Continued from page 1)

Board in their areas of expertise and to organize and to provide leadership for local area support chapters. Although non-voting members, Ex Officio and Regional Directors can, and do, attend meetings and participate in all discussions. The PNS is always an Ex Officio Member.

The Board elected the following directors to serve as its officers for the year 1997.

- President - Max Miller, 1957, Austin
- Vice-President - Bruce Byron, 1970, Austin
- Secretary - Gary Schoen, 1966, Austin
- Treasurer - Bob Gartner, 1965, Austin
- Assistant Treasurer - Bill Docekal, 1965, McKinney

Ed. Anyone desiring to be considered for Board service should contact Max Miller, President, and make their interest known.

The University of Texas Midshipman Foundation Trust Fund Financial Report

The "Trust Fund", that we so often refer to, is actually the **University of Texas Midshipman Foundation** [UTMF for short]. A little background: UTMF was established by the Board of Directors, MIDSHIPMANS Foundation, to receive and administer gifts from Alumni with the express purpose to provide scholarship assistance to midshipmen at UT. The goal of UTMF is to reach a \$100,000 corpus and to give deserving scholarship grants/awards while working to that goal. UTMF directors are appointed by the Board of Directors for a three year term. The current directors are as follows:

Kirk Cansler, 1945 - Chairman

Will McCann, 1961 - Vice Chairman

Weldon Koenig, 1962 - Secretary

UTMF directors may only expend funds other than scholarship/awards for necessary expenses to administer the fund and to request contributions. This is done through the Board of Directors' Treasurer with reimbursement to the Board by UTMF (i.e. mailing costs, award purchase). The Board, with operating funds, provides for plaque purchase and engraving when donors reach specific levels. That preserves the corpus. If you

See "UTMF" (Continued on page 3)

Excerpts from Letters of 1996 Alumni Scholarship Recipient Midshipmen

"Because of the financial trouble I was in, I was contemplating ...returning to active duty and forfeiting the chance of obtaining a degree and a commission....However, because of the scholarship fund that the alumni established,.., I was able to stay and continue my education at the University...I hope to return as an alumni member and give something back in order to help someone else continue their education here"

— *Omar Jacobo*, Midn. 3/c

"I write this letter filled with gratitude and admiration. Your scholarship was greatly appreciated. The road towards a commission is a long and often hard one, but with your help that road seems much more friendly, and my goal more attainable. I assure you the money will be put to good use as I further my education. Your generosity was a comforting boost...Your kindness will always be remembered..."

— *Ruben Galvan*, Midn. 3/c

"I'm writing to thank you [Keys Curry, as President] and all the alumni who made your generous scholarship available for me. ...I took some CLEP exams to place out of two classes required for my degree...These exams and the week long prep courses ...are not covered by the Navy...it is through the Alumni scholarship that I was able to afford this. ...I received an 'A' and 'B', for psychology and government. ...Thanks again for your tireless efforts and generosity.

— *Manuel K. Tatabak*, Midn. 3/c

Treasurer's Report on the Alumni Operating Fund Status for 1996

1996 was a good year for the Operating Fund, but not a great year. We received contributions from only eighty-six (86) of the more than nine hundred (900) individuals on the mailing list of graduates from the UT NROTC commissioning programs. Many of these were very generous, which raised the average contribution to over \$43.00 per contributor. Total contributions were \$3,730.00. Unfortunately, this was not enough to cover the yearly expenses from current contributions.

1996 Actual Expenditures:

PNS Discretionary Fund	\$2,000.00
Cost of Mailings (Printing and Postage)	1,825.00
Cost of Banking	35.00
Navy Sword Award	367.00
Austin Military Ball Table Sponsorship for Midshipmen	500.00
Engraving of Donor Stones (for Trust)	147.00
Reunion (Net Loss)	<u>(176.00)</u>

Total Expenditures from Fund for 1996 \$5,050.00

Your generosity to the operating fund is appreciated by the UT Midshipmen, the Professor of Naval Science and the Board. These funds provide the assistance to the unit for items other than scholarships, and they provide the funds necessary to publish the newsletter, directory and other board approved items necessary for continued operations of the alumni foundation.

Every alumni (over 900) receives the Newsletter. However, expenses have increased for the directory publishing and mailing. Therefore, the directory is sent only to those alumni giving currently to the Operating Fund and to the scholarship trust.

If you have not previously contributed to the Operating Fund, please consider doing so. If you are currently contributing, how about taking it up a notch to the next level of support? Current suggested levels are \$25 Regular, \$50 Sustaining and \$75, or more, Patron. Gifts to the Operating Fund may be sent to me throughout the year at the Newsletter return address.

Lastly, the Board tries to transfer some portion of surplus moneys in the fund at the end of the year into the scholarship trust. We were not able to transfer any moneys this past year.

Bob Gartner, 1965
Treasurer

"UTMF" (Continued from page 2)

are in the NROTC building on campus, look in the trophy room, 3rd floor, outside the Wardroom for names of donors. Lastly in the way of background, the Board of Directors at the end of each year (beginning of the Fall semester) transfer about half of the remaining operating funds to the UTMF for the corpus.

The value of the fund as presented to the Board of Directors on 15 Feb 1997 was:

Bond of Fund of America	\$28,254
Prudential Securities	10,000
John Hancock Fund	21,526
Bank One	204
UT NROTC Scholarship Fund @ UT (Matching)	<u>4,550</u>
Total	<u>\$64,534</u>

Ed. I asked the UTMF directors for a list of what has been given to midshipmen from the fund. I received the following from RADM Koenig. You will note that the fund has already increased from the above report.

"Letter to the Editor..."

Once again, we the Trustees of the

See "UTMF" (Continued on page 6)

Alumni Letter to the Editor

"I enjoy reading the Newsletter, and especially seeing the names I remember from my days at UT. Keys Curry hasn't changed a bit from what I remember. Wish I could say the same! I was a member of the drill team...do you still have one? One of the highlights of that experience was on a trip to march in the Battle of Flowers, when I had a blind date with the lady with whom I recently had a 38th wedding anniversary dinner in Storminess.

Other highlights of my navy career include the middle cruise in USS Des Moines to Quebec. (Recently saw the 'Daisy May' in mothballs in Seattle, still a beauty!), a Med cruise in Suribachi, AE21, still 'hauling a ... (ammo)' in the Pacific, I understand, and pulling Shore Patrol duty on New Year's Eve in Palma, Majorca. And being recalled for a year of Berlin Crisis duty on USS Darby, DE218, out of Baltimore, where we distinguished ourselves by creating a leak in our own hull during depth charge exercises at GITMO! And finally making Captain, of my own 22 foot cruiser, Blue Highways, on the Pamlico River and Sound.

So many other great experiences that stood me in good stead during my civilian career. Truly, in retrospect...the experience was, and continues to be, invaluable!"

—John Leslie, 1958
Washington, NC

Ed. The NROTC Unit has recently reestablished the drill team. They recently competed with other drill teams during Madi Gras in New Orleans, LA. The Professor of Naval Science, CAPT Bill Graner, USN, used part of the discretionary funds given by the Board to him to send the drill and pistol teams. These funds come from yearly contributions to the foundation operating funds by our Alumni.

"Reunion" (Continued from page 1)

Although, the morning social hour was attended by a smaller than previous year's crowd, the afternoon social really packed the hall. UT even won the football game which made for a great finish to the 10th Reunion.

Bruce Byon, 1970, Vice-President, held the morning All Hands meeting in the NROTC spaces in the ROTC building on campus. Keys Curry, 1958, outgoing President, was holding a meeting as Chairman of his Engineering School Alumni Committee and unable to attend the morning meeting. Our alumni stay very active in all phases of support for UT as well as the NROTC. Bruce introduced new officers and held the election of Directors. Financial reports were made by the operating fund Treasurer, Bob Gartner, 1965, and for the Trust, Weldon Koenig, 1958, Secretary. Everyone was particularly pleased with the progress made to establish a viable scholarship fund for midshipmen at UT.

Bruce Byron holds the "All Hands" business meeting while Alumni wait for him to get to the socializing!

New president, Max Miller, 1957, addressed the group and encouraged everyone to become active members by volunteering for committee support, establishing and participating in local chapters, and providing input to the Directors on topics of interest or by writing to the Newsletter editor.

CAPT Bill Graner, USN, Professor of Naval Science, updated everyone on the unit status. (I am happy that I graduated way back when . . . as I would not be able to maintain the high GPA the midshipmen have today, averaging above 3.5.-Ed.) Also, the unit is viable and not in danger, he said, of being eliminated in any downsizing. In fact, the number of NROTC units around the country have probably reached the lowest point for the foreseeable future. CAPT Graner thanked the alumni for their steadfast support they had given him and the unit. He has always bragged about the UT NROTC alum's and the Foundation when talking to his fellow PNS's. He showed the bronze plaque honoring World War II alumni purchased by those alumni for presentation to UT. It will be displayed in the new veterans memorial park plaza at the remodeled Darrell Royal, "Memorial" Stadium. He said the plaque would be presented to the UT President by the WWII

John Hitchcock receives a plaque as the Alumnus of the Year.

In Memoriam

Edwin M. Gale, 1944 - October 17, 1996

Leslie A. Sanders, 1958 - May 21, 1995

Edwin M. Gale, 1944, was a long time member and supporter of the MIDSHIPMANS Foundation. He was a \$2,500 level donor to the scholarship trust fund and established many educational chairs at the University. Edwin was commissioned Ensign in 1944 and served in the D Day invasion of Europe during WW II. He was especially proud of his naval service and his many life long friends he had made in the Navy. In 1976 he was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of the College of Business Administration and in 1979 he was named to the Development Board at UTMB. He was owner of the Warren Refrigerator Company in Beaumont, Texas. Edwin is survived by his wife, Becky, daughters, granddaughters and many friends.

CDR Leslie A. Sanders, USN

Retired, 1958, was a career naval aviator, who had flown over 250 combat missions in Vietnam. He was said to be the most highly decorated Vietnam era pilot in the seven county area around his home town of Seadrift, Texas. Among his awards was the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was the commanding officer of a jet attack squadron and the deputy director of the only fighter aircraft/helicopter test pilot school in the US. His duties included the training of future space shuttle commanders. Upon retirement, he returned to Seadrift and was active in local civic activities. He was nominated to serve on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission and Wildlife Seafood Advisory Committee. He was later employed as an engineer by Formosa. Leslie is survived by his wife, Dollie, daughters, sons, granddaughter, brothers and sisters.

Ed. It is the desire of the editorial staff to include in each issue news of the passing of our fellow alumni. If you have information of the recent death of of an alumnus, please send that information to the editor.

"Reunion" (Continued from page 4)
alumni on the field just before the game would start.

Out going Director, Jim Broaddus, 1970, was given a Letter of Appreciation from the Board, and Director, John Hitchcock, was honored as the Alumnus of the Year with a very nice plaque from the Unit.

The alumni regrouped in the early afternoon at the American Legion Hall and was most pleased that no one had anymore speeches to make. The drinks, fajitas dinner, and major socializing made for a great time.

I remember many new faces at the reunion. I hesitate to name them for fear of forgetting someone. Those new attendees enjoyed themselves and several commented that they had not realized what they had missed and promised to be at the next reunion. If you were not able to attend, please plan to come this year. The reunion will be October 25th, the day of the Colorado game. A separate newsletter will give all the particulars.

CAPT Bill Graner tells LT Steve Powell, Alumni Liaison Officer, he has only one more event, then this meeting is history, and the LT can "Stand Easy"!-Ed.

"Middie" Makes Good! Joins Elite Group of Alumni

After 30 years away from UT, Don Tortorice, 1964, returned to the campus for the first time to attend the reunion. Don is now a successful lawyer in Pennsylvania. While at UT, he was Battalion Commander the Spring Semester of his senior year. After visiting with old friends and classmates, Don returned home and shortly thereafter shared his success with the scholarship trust fund. He joined the \$5,000 donor level with his generous donation. Some Director had an appropriate photo of Don from days of old which I will share with you - - I think Don knew then he had the power to make good!

Don Tortorice, Big Man about Campus!

Don joins fellow alumni at the \$5,000 donation or pledge level to the scholarship trust fund. They are - -

James M. Adkins, 1955
Clay W. G. Fulcher, 1955
John Weldon Koenig, 1958
Kenneth J. Moore, 1964
and
Donald A. Tortorice, 1964

From the "Acting" Editor for this issue - - - - -

I apologize for misspellings, lapses in memory, poorly reproduced, and too many, photos of the class of '65!

Things to Come in the Next Issue of the NROTC Newsletter

— Many of you have given to the trust fund and have or have wanted to utilize a matching gift from your employer/company. However, some of us do not understand the procedure to give the gift or what happens to the gift. Explanations have been prepared by Bill Docekal and Weldon Koenig which I will be including in the next issue.

— Speaking of the trust fund, the next issue will be devoted primarily to the fund and seeking your help in reaching the \$100,000 corpus to sustain scholarships to deserving midshipmen.

— Letters to the Editor from Alumni. Please send any letter to "Attn: Editor" at the Newsletter return address.

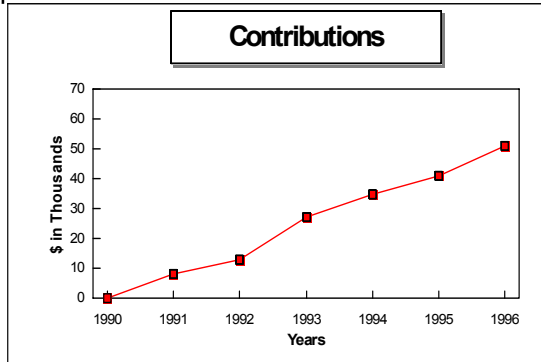
— NROTC Unit update from the PNS.

— Sophisticated photos of Alumni during years at UT. Laser scanned for better clarity, if I learn how and can borrow the equipment.

Editor

"UTMF" (Continued from page 3)

University of Texas Midshipman Foundation are pleased to inform you that we are continuing toward our goal of having \$100,000 in the corpus of our fund. Generous donors are assisting us annually and today we are at \$65,735.84 (which includes income and Alumni organization transfers) and growing. As you can see from the graph, the contributions are moving along at a good pace. We continue to need your



help and hope that you will join the ranks of the alumni that have made an impact on our young men and women.

We began awarding scholarships in 1996. In the Spring of 1996 we awarded \$500 scholarships to Midshipman 2/c Roquemore, Midshipman 1/c Holguin, and Midshipman 1/c Kai. In the fall of 1996 we awarded \$500 scholarships to Midshipman 3/c Galvan, Midshipman 3/c Jacobo, and Midshipman 3/c

Tatavak."

Weldon Koenig, 1958

Secretary, University of Texas Midshipman Foundation (Trust Fund-Ed.)

Ed. See the Letters from the most recent recipients on page 2.

MIDSHIPMANS Foundation

UT NROTC ALUMNI

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Post Reunion and Events Issue

*Reunion Wrap Up
1997 Events Schedule
Financial Review
Letters from Alumni*