



The Old Salt

Newsletter

September 2006

Volume 17, Issue 1

Heads Up!

- **Fall Meeting / Reunion is 28 Oct. General meeting will be three hours before game time.**
- **Expanded events promise to make this year's event even more memorable!**
- **Our block of tickets for the UNC-Wake Forest football game is available now. Contact Dan Rabil for info on ordering directly.**
- **Details inside.**

Little heel in a big [tar] pond by Dan Rabil '86

Dear fellow alum:

At work one recent morning, I was speaking on the phone to a supplier from Pennsylvania I've known at least a year. He was from Pennsylvania and had a "Yankee" accent, so I was surprised when he mentioned that he had gone to UNC-Chapel Hill (class of '75; the goalie for the soccer team). Of course, this prompted a long chat about our shared experiences at UNC, including living in Ehringhaus dorm. Since he had not visited

Chapel Hill in about 15 years, I updated him with my recent impressions, emphasizing all of the construction that has changed the face of much of the campus.

Uniform interests

We both lamented the loss of open space, and I naturally mentioned the planned loss of the Armory. This "biggering" of everything (as Dr. Seuss would say) is the nature of modern universities. "They

have to turn them into cities, don't they?" he said.

I volunteered that I wasn't fond of the dehumanizing effect of cramming large rectangular buildings together but conceded that at least Silent Sam's domain between the Old Well and Franklin Street has been largely unsoiled by the beavers of Progress. I plan to give him a detailed update following my trip down for our NROTC reunion next month.

(Continued on page 2)

Unit update by LT Brian Hamel, NROTC OIC

The unit welcomed the class of 2010 at orientation this year. We had eleven new freshmen. The total unit number is 41. We're expecting to commission nine Ensigns and 2nd Lieutenants from this year's class.

On Sep 11th, we participated in an ROTC battalion run on campus. All three units at UNC ran the campus, in formation, the morning of the

11th in recognition of the fifth anniversary.

The unit is participating in the Wake County Veterans Day parade this year.

We are undergoing a major staff transition. New to the unit are the following:

CO: Captain Stephen Matts, a Submarine Warfare Officer

XO: Lt Col Timothy Nichols

Marine Officer Instructor:

Captain Mick Fleming

Aviation Officer: LT Brian Lubitz, a P-3 Plot

Submarine Officer: LT Ian Hildreth

The new battalion CO is MIDN Murphy,

pamurphy@email.unc.edu.

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Scuttlebutt

Ed McGinnis '66 has published a new book, "The Gospel in Poetic Form", composed of 56 poems. Go to <http://www.lulu.com/dmmcginnis> to learn more.

Jim Bailer '85 is a Senior Vice President in the Corporate Treasury division at Bank of America in Charlotte. He is active in church, enjoys a weekly golf game and attending his kids' various activities. He and Caroline recently celebrated their 20th anniversary. They have three children; a son 17, a daughter 14, and a daughter 10.

Maj. Rob "Butch" Bracknell '92 recently completed a Masters of Law degree at Harvard and is currently assigned as the Aide de Camp, Commander, USMC Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia. He and Rebecca now have three children, Reagan (7), Jackson (5), and Quinn (2).

† In Memoriam †

Don Bullard '57 passed away in May. He was a retired USMC major living in Hampstead NC.

Visit our website:

www.uncnrotcaa.org

If you haven't received your member password to access our alumni database and other deluxe features, send an e-mail to webmaster@uncnrotcaa.org.

Board elections scheduled

The Association holds **elections** every two years for board members. At this fall's general meeting we will replace five retiring board members, including the president.

Please submit your nominations to Dick or Dan, or let us know if you are interested in serving on the board yourself.

Little heel (cont'd from p 1)

Then, two days later, I received an e-mail from the General Alumni Association announcing plans for the class of 1986's 20th reunion. While I am always curious to see what people look like after twenty years, a reunion for a class with something like 3,000 students doesn't really sound that enjoyable.

After all, aside from a brief e-mail exchange with my roommate from freshman-sophomore years, I haven't been in contact with any non-NROTC college friends since a year or two after graduation. I'm sure it's different for those NROTC alumni who were in a fraternity or lived on campus all four years, but for me the combination of training and doing unit activities with a small cadre of midshipmen, followed by the immediate rocket launch from

Chapel Hill to the military tended to limit my social circles. While I have since enjoyed a local Carolina Club, that is more of a networking venue, and I have never bumped into any old classmates at those events.

This is all a roundabout way of saying that our NROTC Alumni Association is a special group and a great way to keep in touch with old friends and fellow veterans, as well as UNC itself. We are a fortunate band. I've enjoyed working with the Association and getting to know alumni from different eras. The group will continue to prosper and develop, and we thank you for your support.

Semper Fi,

Dan

Football Tickets!

Buy tickets from our block of seats directly on-line (\$25/each). Contact Dan Rabil for easy instructions and password.

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Reunion Schedule*

Friday 27 Oct 2006

1700 - *Board of Directors Meeting*

1800 - *Cocktail party for alumni & guests at Dick Cashwell's house*

Saturday, 28 Oct 2006

Three hours before game* - *General Meeting/Awards*

Two hours before game - *Barbecue lunch/brunch (catered)*

Post-Game - *Carolina Brewery –RSVP / \$20/each covers beer & big snacks.*

**Game time announced two weeks prior.*

NEW Hotel Arrangements

We have a new hotel this year.

Twenty rooms have been set aside for our members at the Courtyard Durham-RTP for 27-29 Oct at the low rate of \$69/night. The hotel is at I-40 exit 278 in Durham (near intersection of Hwys 54 and 55).

For reservations, call the hotel at 919-484-2900 or 800-228-9290. Mention "UNC NROTC Alumni" to get the \$69 rate.

2006 UNC NROTC Fall Reunion Barbecue Registration Form

October 28, 2006

NAME/CLASS: _____

ADULT (ages 13 and up) \$15/each X _____ = \$ _____

CHILD (12 and under)* \$5/each X _____ = \$ _____

*If you have a very small child who will be eating from a parent's plate, there is no charge.

2006 NROTC Alumni Association Directory (\$15 ea) \$ _____

Post-game party at Carolina Brewery (\$20 ea adult) \$ _____

Donations (specify: NROTC Battalion/Scholarship/Connor/Dawson Fund) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please provide us with information for your preferred means to be notified of event start times.:

Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Make checks payable to "UNC NROTC Alumni Association"

Please send your payment & registration form by 13 Oct to :

Ed McGinnis

PO Box 1609

Pittsboro NC 27312

D. Rabil, UNC NROTC Alumni Assn
2737 Strawberry Lane
Port Huron MI 48060

Tell your fellow alumni what you're doing!



Fill in and mail along with reunion registration form on the reverse side, or e-mail your news to drabil@comcast.net.
