



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712-1184

7 August 1987

Dear Fellow NROTC Alums,

Colonel Steve Smith wrote you a brief letter on 4 June 1987 requesting your preference of available fall football dates in order to schedule our fall reunion. The response to his letter has been excellent. To date, the front runner has been the Texas Tech game on 31 October 1987 so we will use this date. Since our new coach, Dave McWilliams, just left Lubbock the scenario is set for a good contest which should add some spice to our gathering. Attached is a tentative/firm agenda for the reunion.

We had hoped to provide a newsletter sometime during the summer but that has been overcome by events, not the least of which was Colonel Smith, Commanding Officer, being bitten by a rattlesnake in early July. He had every possible complication and as a result it has taken him longer to recuperate than one might expect. He was bitten on the right index finger and has had three surgeries since the bite. He has one more to go (about mid-August) and hopefully all will be down hill from there. Like LBJ, he said he hoped to show all of you his scars in October.

Our reunion in May went well. We had close to fifty attendees. As most of you know the agenda included a business meeting at the Texas-Ex Center, attending the Spring NROTC Commissioning and a BBQ buffet at the American Legion Post. A variety of topics were covered at the business meeting and I was elected interim president of the organization. An interim advisory board was established for the Alumni Association (see attached). We also approved establishment of a formal alumni advisory board for the NROTC Crow's Nest organization that would be headed by George Haley (Class of '56 and former Crow's Nester). George will be supported by a number of other local alums who also were Nestors. Most importantly, perhaps, we established some general goals of the organization. I would like to list those goals here and elaborate where appropriate:

- Recruit quality young men and women for NROTC, University of Texas - we would hope that this program could be operated along the same lines as Navy Blue and Gold, the organization which recruits for the Naval Academy.
- Provide role models for current and future midshipmen. Successful NROTC Alums, civilians or military, can to a large degree provide clarity for the mids in terms of where and what they can be in five, ten, twenty, etc., years after having participated in NROTC and having served as a commissioned officer. This can be accomplished in a number of ways ranging from informal or social interaction to formal presentations to the Battalion during the school year.
- Advise and support the Crow's Nest Cooperative. As mentioned earlier we have established an advisory board. We are currently filing with the Secretary of State as a non-profit organization, negotiating a lease for a small (nice) apartment complex two blocks from campus that will accommodate twenty-six mids and provide a central dining area and, lastly, have twenty-six mids committed as well as ten more on the waiting list. The longer term intent in support of this goal is to obtain a suitable facility owned and operated by the Co-op. The current effort as well as the longer term intent provides concrete, visible support to the youngsters and can be highly beneficial to

them in terms of cost. We would also establish a Crow's Nest scholarship fund to subsidize those youngsters who have the integrity and capability to be outstanding officers but struggle financially.

- Provide a source of history and tradition for NROTC, University of Texas. Alumni are the "roots" of the organization and "holders" of tradition for this program. We are the only source available to "fill the gaps" and give meaning to the transitions of the organization since its beginnings. This particular goal goes hand in hand with the role model goal previously discussed and provides manna for communication among all alumni, as well as "roots" for current and future midshipmen.
- Provide financial assistance to midshipmen in need. Through your donations a general fund would be established, controlled by the Alumni advisory board and maintained by a CPA. The fund would be used to support individual midshipmen of quality who are financially strapped, provide assistance to the Crow's Nest and support Alumni organization operating expenses. After completion of our registration as an educational, non-profit organization our donations would be tax deductible. In view of the projected increases in costs for education, this may be our most valuable contribution to the young men and women in the program.

I have provided a summary of what has generally been agreed on as our purpose(s) and expanded somewhat in lieu of the newsletter previously discussed. In the future we would hope to publish a semi-annual newsletter to cover ongoing activities to focus on items that would be of interest to you. It would also serve to record the history and tradition previously discussed. As part of this effort we want to provide each of you a complete directory of alums by year group. We've made a lot of progress in this regard, but still haven't located a large number. Hopefully as we progress you can assist us in this endeavor, as many of you already have.

Many alums previously have voluntarily made contributions to the unit to serve various needs. These funds have been exhausted through assistance to midshipmen, NROTC support functions and to cover some expenses in getting our organization rolling. Bottom line is that we need some financial assistance now. By this letter I am committing \$50.00 to get the ball rolling. Some of the unit officers have also made contributions to our fund and we will consider them honorary alums. To provide a seed fund I would like to ask each of you for a \$50.00 contribution. I understand that some can give more and some less, but that seems a reasonable goal to start. It will be used primarily to help get the Crow's Nest Co-op solidly on its feet and to cover some of the upfront costs for our reunion. At the reunion business meeting in the fall we will also discuss what our yearly "basic" dues should be. Please send your monies to:

Commanding Officer
Naval ROTC Unit
RAS 104, University of Texas
Austin, TX 78712-1184

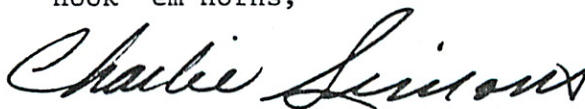
Make checks payable to:
NROTC Alumni Fund

On the enclosed form we would also like for you to indicate your participation in the Fall '87 reunion. We predict we can cover costs for about \$30 couple/\$20.00 single. If you plan to come we would like to have a separate check for that amount when you send in your commitment form.

This brings you up to date. I look forward to discussing all of these items with you in October, as well as providing you with a progress report for the interim period. We need your support, both fiscally and more importantly through your

participation to make the organization viable. I know we can look forward to both. Most of the alums I have talked with feel the Navy gave them something which has been beneficial throughout their lives. The U.T. NROTC Alumni Association is the perfect vehicle to give something back while at the same time ensuring a pool of quality officers for the Navy and Marine Corps. See you in October.

Hook 'em Horns,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles W. Simons". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

CHARLES W. SIMONS

AGENDA FOR NROTC UT ALUMNI

REUNION 31 OCT 1987

0930-1100 ALUMNI BUSINESS MEETING, RUSSELL A. STEINDAM HALL (RAS)
(Coffee and doughnuts)

1100-1230 (about) TAIL GATE PARTY, RAS/COLD CUT BUFFET

1300 ATTEND UT/TEXAS TECH GAME

1730-1900 COCKTAILS, AMERICAN LEGION POST

1900-2100 BUFFET DINNER

2100-? COCKTAILS/SOCIALIZE

INTERIM NROTC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ADVISORY BOARD

Charles Simons	1963
Jack Ritter	1955
Paul Jones	1956
Will McCann	1961
Rex Stallings	1956
George Haley	1956
Glenn Looney	1961

INTERIM CROW'S NEST COOP

ADVISORY BOARD

George Haley	1956
Rex Stallings	1956
Paul Jones	1956
Kirk Cansler CPA	1945