



May 2010 URI Army ROTC Alumni Chapter Newsletter

Welcome to the latest issue of your ROTC Alumni Chapter newsletter. It has been too long since the last issue! We are looking for a new “Newsletter” editor/author to replace LTC (Ret) Paul Helweg '70 who has been writing these newsletters since they began in 2002. It is time for a changing of the guard so let this serve as a call for a volunteer to pick up the baton and to continue with this important alumni communication. Please contact either the current chapter President (John Breguet '70 at: jbreguet@cox.net) or LTC (Ret) Paul Helweg '70 at: helweg1@cox.net) to discuss your participation in our chapter newsletter.

Lets begin this issue by introducing you to the 2010 URI Army ROTC Professional Cadre and Staff. This group of professionals continues to work diligently as teachers, mentors, advisers and leaders for our undergraduate cadets who aspire to become leaders in the army upon graduation:

LTC Deborah Wilson, Professor of Military Science
Major Troy Kennedy, Executive Officer
Master Sergeant David Pitts, Senior Military Instructor
Sergeant First Class (P) Kenneth Langdon
Captain Anselm Richards
Dayton Martin
Dorothy Cabral
Susan Mainella
Joanne LaChapelle

SPECIAL THANKS: We wish to thank those alumni and/or friends of the ROTC program who have made a very generous donation to help our seniors (MS IVs) with

the purchase of their dress blue uniforms. This program was begun many years ago and continues. Our new Lieutenants are also thankful and have presented their individual letters of appreciation. Some of the donors listed below have allowed their donations to go to our operating account, used only to support the cadet programs during the course of the year. We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for “giving back” to the ROTC program:

- General Leon LaPorte, '68
- J. Robert Schachner
- Inergy Propane LLC
- Colonel William Babcock, '68
- Lt. Nicholas Pelletier, '09
- Colonel Michael Patalano, '69
- Morton and Rita Sweeney
- Colonel Phil Saulnier, '62
- Raymond and Barbara Stillwell, '68
- Ms. Jane Stich, '62
- LTC Paul Helweg, '70
- Lieutenants Ryan and Sandy Andersen, '08/'09
- Peter Grimm, '62
- Dr. Clay Sink
- Major JC Glick, '92
- Captain Kurt Carlson, USCG, '70

CADET ALEXANDER MADDEN '10 RECOGNIZED WITH [GENERAL LEON LAPORTE AWARD](#):

The General Leon LaPorte Award was presented this past semester to Cadet Alexander Madden '10. This award was established by General (Retired) Leon LaPorte '68 to recognize the most outstanding Cramers Saber Battalion cadet completing the summer leadership lab (ROTC summer camp training) at Fort Lewis, Washington. Cadet Madden excelled in all training categories and was named the fall semester's Cadet Battalion Commander. Congratulations to Cadet Madden and a special thanks to General LaPorte for his continued support of this award.

2010 MOST IMPROVED CADET AWARD:

The award for the most improved Cadet coming out of the 2009 Leadership Camp (“summer camp” for MS IIIs...) goes to [Cadet Bryan Groves](#), URI class of 2010. Cadet Groves showed the most overall improvement in leadership, soldier skills, etc when compared with his 2009 pre-camp baseline metrics. This award is presented by [LTC Paul Helweg '70](#) each year in the fall semester to the deserving MS IV (senior) cadet. Best wishes to Cadet Groves and “congratulations”.

URI ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER ELECTS NEW OFFICERS/DIRECTORS:

At the 6 April 2010 quarterly meeting of the URI Army ROTC Alumni Chapter, the following members of the chapter were elected to new leadership positions:

COL William MacKinlay '69 President
COL Thomas Heaney '83 Director
COL Phil Saulnier '62 Director
COL Steve Falcone Director
LTC David Accetta Director
John Breguet '70 Director
Dick Smith H'97 Director
Paul Helweg '70 Director

COL William P. Babcock '68 continues in his three year term as chapter Treasurer.
LTC Paul McNamara continues in his three year term as chapter Secretary.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ROTC COMMISSIONING CLASS OF 2010

May 23rd was commissioning morning in front of Keaney Gym for the Class of 2010. Twelve new Second Lieutenants received their commissions and gold bars. Shown below is the group photo of the class taking their oaths as commissioned officers of the U.S. Army:



2Lts: Kelly Bennett, Alexandra Bianchi, Steven Dietrich, Nicholas DiSanto, Terence Donohue, Bryan Groves, Michael Haynes, Alexander Madden, Matthew Merola, Peter Murphy, Gregory Wholean



2Lt Ali Bianchi with Dad -LTC Bianchi '83. LTC Bianchi and his wife pinned on their daughter's gold bars! 2Lt Bianchi will attend law school prior to active duty as an officer in the JAG Corps

President David Dooley, Provost Don DeHayes, Dean Winnie Brownell and Dean Kenneth Osborne represented URI and Roger Williams University at this year's commissioning ceremonies. Our guest Speaker this year was URI alumnus and present instructor at the Newport Naval War College, LTC Michael Mahoney, '88.



Pictured l to r: BG Keihler, RIARNG, Dean Winnie Brownell, URI; COL William Babcock, '68; URI Provost Don DeHayes, Dean Ken Osborne, Roger Williams University; President David Dooley, URI; LTC Deborah Wilson, Professor of Military Science, LTC Michael Mahoney, '88 Guest Sp

Pictured below are URI President David Dooley and **Lieutenant Colonel Mike Mahoney, '88:**



URI President David Dooley and LTC Michael Mahoney '88



COL (R) Bill Babcock, '68 and LTC Bianchi, '84 gather following commissioning ceremonies.

NEW LOOK FOR URI ROTC ALIUMNI WEBSITE:

Thanks to the able assistance of *Cadet Jackie Kelley, '11* the ROTC alumni website will soon be updated. Please go to URL: www.uri-rotc-alum.org and catch up with the latest news from your alumni chapter.

Alumni Chapter President **COL Bill MacKinlay, '69** has set the date of September 7, 2010 for the next alumni chapter meeting – to be held at 1800 hrs in the main conference room of the Alumni Center on Upper College Road. All alumni and friends of the ROTC program are invited to attend.

COL Tom Heaney, '83, LTC Ted Higgins '71 and LTC Paul Helweg '70 have agreed to plan for our second alumni golf tournament to be held during the summer of 2011. They are looking for others to help out with this endeavor, a major fund raiser for the program and an event, which should be a lot of fun for many. Kindly contact any of these three if you can provide some time to help in the planning of this important event. Emails are: COL Heaney: Thomas.heaney@usnwc.edu
Ted Higgins: higginsted@hotmail.com Paul Helweg: helweg1@cox.net

ALUMNI NOTE: it is up to you to “find” us so we can make additions to the ever-popular “**Messages From the Field**” column to be continued with the next alumni newsletter in the fall of 2010. Messages and updates should be emailed to LTC Paul Helweg '70 at: helweg1@cox.net