Newsletter
OSU NROTC Alumni Group

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A Message from the CO



CAPT Warren E. Sisson, III
Commanding Officer

Greetings from the OSU campus as we continue our 2019-2020 academic year in the Beaver Battalion. In this update, I have news about our future Surface Warfare Officers, arrival of an exciting virtual technology, a great leadership opportunity for midshipmen, the recent Beaver Battalion change of command, and an important update on the move to Cascade Hall.

Five future Surface Warfare Officers (SWOs) selected their first ships 26-28 February. See their assignments and watch a replay of this exciting NFL draft-like event at the time stamps below: www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyMYg_QuFQs

Officer Candidate (OC) Samuel Klein – USS Milius (DDG 65); Yokosuka, Japan (Day 1, 0:08:14)

OC Cameron Ott-Bales – USS San Antonio (LPD 17); Hampton Roads, VA (Day 1, 2:56:00)

MIDN 1/C Carter Lynn – USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115); San Diego, CA (Day 1, 4:08:00)

MIDN 1/C Christopher Hoskins – USS Ashland (LSD 48); Sasebo, Japan (Day 2, 3:59:35)

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News from Dawn (Robertson) Cutler



OSU NROTC Class of '89, USN

Never Ever Did I Ever… think I'd make the Navy a career. I never intended to stay in the Navy after my four-year commitment. I was going to use my Oregon State business degree to become a marketing executive, wear red power suits, make a lot of money and have big hair. It WAS the 1980s!

When I reported to my very first duty station at Naval Air Station North Island, I approached a guy who was wearing rank I didn't recognize. As I learned at the Beaver Battalion, when in doubt, SALUTE! I thought I did the right thing. Not so much. That "guy" was a chief warrant officer, who let me know that I did not do the right thing. I can't repeat exactly what he said, but the public affairs version would sound something like this: What the warrant MEANT to say was "Ensign, please do not ever do that again. Clearly, you're training is deficient. Please see me when your head is back on your shoulders.

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From the Editor

CAPT Sisson brings you up to date on everything that is happening at Beaver Battalion including the move to Cascade Hall (yes, it is really happening). He also tells us the unit has a new training device for those on track to becoming surface warfare officers. The Conning Officer Virtual Environment (COVE) was installed in January and looks impressive. It also looks like it would be fun to use.

We are honored to feature the story of retired RDML Dawn (Robertson) Cutler, OSU NROTC class of '89. This is the first time we have published a story from one of our female alumni and we thank retired RDML Cutler for breaking the ice and being the first female to claim her rightful place in this newsletter. We look to other female alumni to follow her lead. We want to hear from all of our fellow alumni including each of our brothers and sisters.

The class of '89 is well represented in this edition. Rob LaGrone has another sea story for us and I know you will find it interesting. His stories focus on some of the everyday events unique to naval aviation.

Niels Reimers, OSU NROTC class of '56, tells us about his experiences as a surface warfare officer and how his civilian career evolved after he left the Navy.

We featured a story last June about Jim Carnahan, OSU NROTC class of '74, USMC. Shortly thereafter, Jim's story popped up in the OSU School of Engineering newsletter. You never know where your story will show up.

If you have thought about telling us your story, but haven't quite gotten around to it, I encourage you to action. I think most of our contributors find it a rewarding experience. Your story makes this newsletter possible, and this newsletter is the vehicle we use to show our support for the young men and women who have chosen to serve our country. Let us hear from you. It is easier than you might imagine.

Rodger G. Bekooy
Class of '65 OSU NROTC (USN)
Newsletter Editor

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Tell Us Your Story

Tell us your story. Why OSU? Why NROTC? Did you make the military a career or did you move on to something else? Where did you grow up? What were the milestones in your life? Tell us a sea story. Did you have some adventures? Were there turning points? Do you have a story about a classmate (that is fit to print)? What are you doing now? Family? Hobbies?...You get the idea.

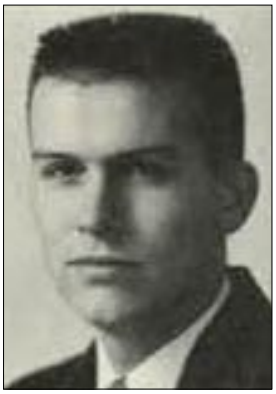
E-mail your stories to me, the newsletter editor. My contact info is at the left. I will edit your story for readability and length. Be sure to send copies of pictures. Pictures add so much. Digital images in JPEG format are best, but I can work with other formats, too. This is the newsletter schedule.

Article Deadlines	Publication Dates
15 JAN	1 MAR
15 APR	1 JUN
15 JUL	1 SEP
15 OCT	1 DEC

Newsletter production and the scheduling of my time around my business responsibilities necessitate the early deadlines. I can accommodate some deadline flexibility for breaking news. Please, let me hear from you. Tell us your story.

News from Niels Reimers

OSU NROTC Class of '56, USN



After reading about Ken Noteboom, OSU NROTC Class of '59, USMC, I became motivated to tell my own story.

While at OSU (then OSC), I was on the NROTC rifle team, but not an especially accurate rifle shooter. I also was on the OSU golf team and graduated in Mechanical Engineering and was commissioned an Ensign in June of 1956.

I then reported to the USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA 31) at Hunter's Point Shipyard in San Francisco. Shortly after that, the canted deck and hurricane bow modifications were completed and we sailed west to Asia. My first assignment was as Assistant Radio Officer along with collateral responsibilities for the ship's post office and newspaper. Having enjoyed a new comic strip called "Peanuts," I contacted the *San Francisco Chronicle* and amazingly was given advance cels of the comic strip which were included in our newspaper throughout our 6-month voyage. My colleagues jokingly called me the "Man who brought Peanuts to the Seventh Fleet." We also distributed our newspaper to oilers that fueled us and to destroyers and other small ships that we, in turn, fueled.

I then became Radio Officer, which included responsibility for the crypto room and its work. When a top secret message came in, crypto personnel had to leave the room because only the Radio Officer was allowed to decrypt top secret messages. It was an interesting and rewarding assignment, but I always wanted to become an Officer of the Deck. That opportunity came when the First Division officer was transferred, and I was delighted when my request to take that position was approved. I later qualified to be an OOD. Being an OOD was a great responsibility and a challenging assignment, especially on an aircraft carrier.

After 3+ years in the Navy, all aboard the "Bonnie Dick," I left active duty. I worked in manufacturing at Ampex Corporation in Redwood City and then in engineering scheduling at Philco Western Development Laboratories (WDL) in Palo Alto. I then became a Contract Administrator, from which position I was promoted to the Director of Contract Administration at Ford Aeronautics in Newport Beach. Ford had by this time purchased WDL.

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A Story from Rob LaGrone

OSU NROTC Class of '89, USN



Pockets

I love the smell of Nomex in the morning! If you've never heard that name, I'll fill you in: it's a fire-retardant nylon material used for clothing worn by professionals who may be exposed to fire. In my case, the garment made of this wondrous material was … my flight suit.

The first flight suit I ever put on was frayed, faded by repeated exposure to chlorine, and one size too big – but I loved it. I was on the "Aviation Field Trip" during my first year of NROTC training in college, a pilgrimage that many students hoped to repeat after graduation and commissioning. The destination was Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida, "The Cradle of Naval Aviation." The midshipmen donned soggy old flight suits and boots to partake in a sample of the Water Survival phase of flight school training. Later we donned dry ones for helicopter flights, but we were so enamored of the potential futures in front of us that we hated to take off even the waterlogged flight suits. Later, during my flying tour, the distinct scent of a Nomex flight suit – either wet or dry – always reminded me of that trip.

The appeal of these garments stemmed not only from the mystique of the profession they represented but also from their utilitarian design. Besides having a single zippered opening in the front, like many other types of coveralls, they were adorned all over with pockets. Every aviator devises his own system for filling all these useful compartments with needed items. Here was my system:

Right lower leg: like most other aviators, I kept my garrison cap in this pocket, outboard of the calf muscle. The garrison cap, affectionately known as a "piss-cutter" in naval lingo, is flat until spread open with a flick of the hand and placed atop the wearer's head, with the longitudinal axis running fore-and-

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A Message from the CO

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MIDN Lynn practices on the new COVE trainer with guidance from LT Rumments.

MIDN 1/C Caleb Thompson – USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76); Yokosuka, Japan (Day 3, 1:16:17)

After commissioning, these future SWOs will remain at OSU until their class date at Basic Division Officer Course (BDOC). BDOC focuses on practical exercises and simulation to hone newly minted ensigns' skills and fully prepare them for operational duty at sea.

Speaking of preparing midshipmen for sea duty, OSU NROTC accepted delivery of a Conning Officer Virtual Environment (COVE) trainer in January. Developed by the Office of Naval Research (ONR), this virtual technology is designed to instruct students in high-fidelity ship-driving tasks. COVE will help us significantly increase the quality and effectiveness of our Naval Science instruction for future Navy officers.

In leadership development news, MIDN 2/C Seth Brannan, 2/C Cameron Joseph, 3/C Justin Shuman, and 4/C Reese Clifford attended the Notre Dame NROTC Naval Leadership Weekend, 31 January – 1 February. More than 170 midshipmen and instructors from 46 universities across the nation attended the event. Seminar speakers included junior officers from each major warfare specialty. The keynote speaker was Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Robert P. Burke. He told the midshipmen, "Our Sailors have always been the real strength of the U.S. Navy. Keeping our competitive warfighting edge in this era of Great Power Competition will require good

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OSU midshipmen pose with the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Robert P. Burke: MIDN Shuman, Brannan, Joseph, and Clifford (from left to right).

A Message from the CO

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MIDN 1/C Hansen (right) relieves MIDN 1/C Thompson (left) as BnCO.

leadership of our Sailors." This tremendous professional development opportunity was made possible by the generous support provided by our alumni!

On 11 February 2020, the battalion held its mid-year change of command. In a ceremony held in Langton Hall, Midshipman 1/C Caleb Thompson was relieved by Midshipman 1/C Daniel Hansen as Battalion Commanding Officer. Thompson is a Navy option midshipman studying Chemical Engineering. He skillfully oversaw New Student Orientation, the Beaver Battalion Foxhole and Fantail Alumni Muster, the Armed Services Blood Drive, Fall Ball, USMC Birthday Cake Cut, the LaPine High School NJROTC Drill Competition judging, and the OSU Food Drive. MIDN Thompson also increased the battalion's focus on small unit leadership during labs and physical training, increased the midshipmen's professional knowledge, and oversaw the start of a successful liaison officer program with Army and Air Force ROTC. His relief, MIDN Hansen, is a Marine option studying Animal Science. He will guide the Beaver Battalion through Senior Mess Night, the Northwest Navy competition, Joint Service Review, Spring Awards, Spring Ball, and Commissioning.

The Beaver Battalion's time in the Quonset hut (Naval ROTC Armory) will end after completion of the 2019-2020 school year. Last spring, funding was approved for the Cascade Hall renovation project. That work is currently ongoing, with a target for completion in June 2020. We expect to start moving into Cascade Hall shortly after the school year ends. Removal of the Quonset hut is necessary for the expansion of SW Washington Way. Details on the Washington Way reconstruction project are available at the following website: fa.oregonstate.edu/project-delivery/washington-way-reconstruction-project.

OSU NROTC has been in the current Quonset hut for more than 68 years! It is no wonder that so many of our alumni have a strong attachment to the building. Fortunately, Oregon State is committed to helping preserve the historic Quonset hut in digital format. This repository will include building locations, blueprints, photos, modifications, and hopefully stories about how our alumni influenced the building itself. If you were involved in relocation, renovation, modification, or even painting of murals, we would love to share your stories with OSU so that nothing will be lost when the physical building is gone. Please send your stories and/or photos to Lauri Morris at state.sec@oregonstate.edu by 15 April 2020.

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A Message from the CO

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2019 photo of the Quonset hut.

If you would like to say a final farewell to the building in person, I invite you to attend our commissioning ceremony on 12 June 2020. The ceremony will take place at 1000 in the Student Experience Center (SEC) Plaza (on the east side of the MU). Afterwards, we will have a brief ceremony in the Naval ROTC Armory to commemorate the last commissioning class in the Quonset hut. Please RSVP to Lauri Morris at state.sec@oregonstate.edu or (541) 737-9298/6289. We'll see everyone in Cascade Hall for the Beaver Battalion Foxhole and Fantail Alumni Muster next fall!

Once again, thank you for your enduring support to the mission of Oregon State University NROTC and to the future junior officers of the Navy and Marine Corps! For the latest on OSU NROTC, follow the Beaver Battalion on our website, nrotc.oregonstate.edu, on Facebook, facebook.com/OregonStateNROTC, and on our Instagram page, instagram.com/oregonstatenavalrotc. As always, please do not hesitate to visit us when you are in the area. We strive to be one of the most respected institutions on campus and in our community, and we always welcome alumni, family, and friends of the unit.

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News from Dawn (Robertson) Cutler '89

(Continued from page 1)

I thought, this guy has a Myers Briggs Personality Type indicator of J-E-R-K. I'll just minimize time spent around him. I've got 3 years, 11 months and 29 days left and, then I'm done with HIM and this Navy thing. Well, he and I have been married 27 years and I retired after 28 years of service.

Never Ever Did I Ever… think I'd be a public affairs officer.

During an early tour, I served as the base public affairs and protocol officer at Naval Security Group Activity, Edzell, Scotland. I was not a designated Public Affairs Officer (PAO) and had no training. When a tabloid published a photo of the naked backside of a man with a clearly identifiable tattoo and incorrectly identified him as one of our US servicemen, I attempted to get a correction. We knew he was not one of ours. The "correction" sounded like I personally inspected the bare backside of every male servicemember at our base. Which, by the way, I did not. Thank-

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News from Dawn (Robertson) Cutler '89

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fully my CO understood the tabloid nature of the publication, but I thought I was going to be fired and could not understand why anyone would ever want to be a career PAO.

Two years later, I wasn't ready to leave the Navy, the combat exclusion law was repealed, and I knew I didn't want to do strictly administrative work, so I changed my career path to public affairs.

Never Ever Did I Ever… think I'd become a flag officer.

My early PAO jobs at TRICARE Region 9, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (SURFPAC) and the Navy News Desk provided exciting and challenging experiences. I truly enjoyed telling stories about the amazing work of the US Navy and our Sailors. After 10 years of service and putting on LCDR rank, I knew I was in for 20, but that was it! I had my first child and could retire when she was 12. That was the plan.

My tour on the Pentagon's Navy News Desk from 2000-2003 deepened my passion for shaping stories that impacted national security. That was certainly not a boring period of time: I had twin girls, the USS Greenville collided with a Japanese fishing vessel, an EP-3 was forced to land in China, the USS Cole was attacked, and 9/11 happened. Working those issues at the seat of government level was incredibly challenging yet rewarding. OK, I'll stick around and see if I get selected for O6.



Cutler getting briefed on P8 from VP-5 Mad Foxes. The P8 is operated in anti-submarine, anti-surface, and shipping interdiction roles.

I was the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Information (CHINFO) when I got orders to Naval Forces Europe/Africa.

One of my former senior mentors told me not to take that job, that I needed to go to Central Command (CENTCOM) in Tampa. "It's where the action is." Conflicted, I sought counsel from my boss, and he said, "Well, if you want to sit in my chair, you should go to CENTCOM.

I replied, "sir, I sit in your chair EVERY DAY when you're at meetings and I'm checking your emails. I don't want to sit in your chair. I don't want to be CHINFO." So, I went to Naples, Italy. That was not the "wine and cheese" tour so many people imagined. I ended up being the Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn PAO for operations in Libya. By the way, I had nothing to do with the name of the operation!



Meeting Mrs. Delbert Black, the widow of the first ever master chief petty officer of the Navy (MCPON) at the ship naming ceremony honoring her late husband.

I returned to the Pentagon as the deputy CHINFO for what I believed was my final tour. After six months, the CHINFO himself was unexpectedly sent to be the press secretary for the Secretary of Defense, leaving me as the acting CHINFO. I figured I could handle 60-90 days in that role. After nine months in the "acting" role, I was promoted to RDML and spent nearly four years as the Navy's Chief of Information advising the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations and managing 2,500 active, reserve and civilian Navy public affairs officers.

Never Ever Did I Ever… imagine that the foundational education, training and experience that started at

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News from Dawn (Robertson) Cutler '89

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the Quonset hut known as the Beaver Battalion would have led to the incredible and blessed Navy career that it did: 27 years of marriage to the warrant, three wonderful daughters, 28 years of telling the Navy story and leading the best team of DoD communicators. Thanks, Beaver Battalion!

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Editor's Note 1: Retired RDML Cutler is currently serving as the Vice President, Chief Development and Communications Officer for the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in Arlington, VA. She can be contacted at: dawn.Cutler@nmcrs.org. Her twin daughters are following the ROTC path; Danielle is a midshipman at University of South Carolina and Shannon is an Air Force cadet at University of Virginia.

Editor's Note 2: One of the illustrations on the previous page makes reference to the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON). If you are not familiar with that title, then you may wish to know more. The MCPON is the most senior enlisted member of the U.S. Navy and is appointed by the Chief of Naval Operations. He/She serves as the spokesperson to the highest positions of authority in the Navy for issues related to Navy enlisted personnel. While the MCPON is a non-commissioned officer, this rank is protocoled higher than all rear admirals and equivalent to a vice admiral in billet, seating, transportation, and parking. The USS Delbert D. Black (DDG-119) is named after the first MCPON.

Editor's Note 3: Retired RDML Cutler points out that alumni of the OSU NROTC program played significant roles in the public affairs program of the U.S. Navy. 1990 graduate CAPT Greg Hicks was Acting CHINFO for two years after RDML Cutler retired. It turns out the person who got selected for flag rank and designated to relieve RDML Cutler decided to retire and not take the job. It took nearly two years to designate a flag officer as CHINFO. Greg was a helicopter pilot and then became a PAO. Prior to Greg becoming Acting CHINFO, he was PAO for Gen Dunford, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

1996 graduate CDR Kathy (Sandoz) Kesler served as RDML Cutler's executive assistant while RDML Cutler was CHINFO. Thus, three OSU NROTC graduates served as PAOs in the Pentagon at the same time.

News from Niels Reimers '56

(Continued from page 3)

At Aeronautics, I uncovered a fraud. At that point I determined I wanted to apply my background in the administration of contracts in a university setting. Research funding at US universities was growing significantly. Both Stanford and OSU were ready to hire. However, OSU had to seek approval for this position from the Oregon universities management office in Salem. I was told it likely would be two weeks before even a response was received but was implored to not take a position elsewhere and be patient. However, Stanford made an immediate offer and I took it.

I soon learned that managing research contracts in a university setting was very different from managing contracts in private industry. It wasn't nearly as interesting. If a professor submitted a research funding proposal for, say, $400,000, and the National Science Foundation (or another research sponsor) said only $250,000 was available, the professor would take the $250K and scale down his/her project. Contract documentation in the university setting was minimal, so there wasn't much for our research office to work with. Compare that to private industry contracts where there were detailed contracts, manufacturing plans, specifications, and profit to negotiate. The private industry setting was much more complex and challenging.

However, certain findings we made led me to propose to Stanford management a year-long pilot program in what I called "Technology Licensing." The 1969-70 pilot year was successful and an Office of Technology Licensing (OTL) was formally approved by Stanford management, including Stanford's Board of Trustees. I became the OTL's Director and very much enjoyed my job. Gross cumulative income to date is around $2 billion and licensees include many start-up companies such as Google. I retired from Stanford in 1991 and consulted for around 10-15 years and now am fully retired.

I now live in my hometown of Carmel, California with my wonderful wife, Jan (Janet Nelson, OSU 1959). We have three children and they have produced ten grandchildren. I guess I have to note our daughter is married to a U of O professor and they live in Eugene and root for the teams of that university. Sigh!

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A Story from Rob LaGrone '89

(Continued from page 3)

aft. The length of the leg pocket made it ideally suited for the quick access needed for frequent donning and doffing of the cap as its wearer exited and entered buildings on the air base.

Left chest: This was where I kept my wallet. Smaller than the leg pocket, the chest pocket was the perfect size, and it provided easy access to the wallet for trips to the commissary. It also was flat enough not to interfere with my harness straps when I flew.

Right chest: Here I kept my sunglasses. 'Nough said? An aviator always needs a place for these, and on the right side they weren't bothered by my car's safety belt. The system required some adjustment when I was stationed in Japan, where cars' steering wheels are on the right.

Inner left thigh: This narrow pocket had a snap closure and was intended as a holder of a piece of survival gear, the "parachute cutter." The cutter is a safety knife with a covered blade, designed for quick slicing through the shroud lines of a parachute in the event of an ejection and entanglement of an unfortunate aviator in his parachute upon landing. Since one of these cutters was stowed in the emergency kit under the ejection seat, almost no one carried another one around in his pocket. I chose a more broadly useful piece of survival gear: my Swiss Army knife, tied to the snap closure with a length of nylon cord. In a survival situation you never want to lose a piece of gear – and besides, the knife was a childhood gift from my grandparents.

Left upper arm: Finally, this small pocket consisted of two slots for cheap black government-issue ballpoint pens. True, it could hold expensive pens, too, but aviators tend to have other priorities for their spending money. It also had a zippered pocket just big enough for a cigarette pack. Like most bombardiers bent on their own survival, I instead used this pocket for… Pilot Treats.

Whereas a certain cartoon dog received a "Scooby snack" for good deeds, a pilot could be rewarded with his favorite candy or gum for a good deed such as landing safely on the aircraft carrier without killing both himself and his bombardier. In one letter home, I distinctly remember describing the incentive with the words, "Nice approach, good boy!"

These treats actually work, you know. One day in the middle of the North Pacific, the ship managed to sail into the middle of a rainstorm just before aircraft recovery time, and my pilot Eric and I had to land in some serious goo. On final approach, the carrier's superstructure (the "island") loomed out of the mist just five seconds before we reached the ship, and we were headed right for it. After adding full power and climbing back to the 1,200 foot landing pattern altitude, Eric asked, "Got a piece of gum?"



Oh, crap! The bad news was he was nervous. The good news was he wasn't actually asking whether I had a piece; he knew perfectly well that I had one. When you've got a jumpy pilot responsible for your safety, you don't want to be caught unprepared, and the wise bombardier keeps a supply of treats appropriate to the man with whom he's flying. After I handed him a stick of Doublemint, he thanked me and returned to the task at hand. I like to think it was my rock-steady copilot skills that helped get us onboard in one piece, but some credit must be given to the Pilot Treat – and the pocket that brought it along.

You Never Know Where Your Story Might Show Up

Jim Carnahan, OSU NROTC Class of '74, USMC, was featured in the June 2019, issue of this newsletter. His story then popped up last fall in the School of Engineering's newsletter. Gee, they never asked our permission, but we are generous folks (and don't have a copyright) and we are happy to see our alumni's stories reach an even wider readership. Jim's story in the School of Engineering's newsletter is reprinted below by permission (they have copyright protection). But let it be known we were first! Hey, we are products of the Beaver Battalion and competition was a key element of our training!

MENTOR MATCH

JAMES C. (JIM) CARNAHAN

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

BRIDGES AND DAMS ENGINEER

GREGG KLEINER



Jim Carnahan ('74 B.S., Civil Engineering) grew up on a cattle ranch outside Richland, Oregon, a town of less than 200 people 10 miles from where the Snake River forms the border with Idaho. His parents encouraged their three children to attend college, because, they said, ranching was a tough way to make a living. Carnahan's two older sisters attended Oregon State University, so he had heard it had a premier engineering program. He decided to study civil engineering because of the combination of "dirt and math."

"I was a ranch kid, so I knew about dirt, and I knew civil engineering involved dirt and math, and I was pretty good at math," Carnahan said. "I also knew civil engineering included building roads and bridges, and that the world needed those, so I thought I could help make the world a better place as a civil engineer."

His parents had limited means to help Carnahan with college expenses, so he applied for the Naval ROTC program at Oregon State, which paid his tuition and fees and provided a monthly stipend in exchange for four years of military service following graduation. During a summer ROTC training on a ship in the Pacific, Carnahan quickly learned he wasn't comfortable at sea and decided to be commissioned into the Marine Corps instead of the Navy.

"For me, it was just creepy to be on a ship 1,000 miles away from land, and with miles of water underneath me," he said.

It was his childhood love of land and the wide open spaces of Eastern Oregon that would steer his career. After fulfilling his commitment to the Marines, he worked in Bend, Oregon, for 31 years, first for CH2M HILL and Century West Engineering, then for David Evans and Associates for more than 20 years. Although Bend was a great place to live and was closer to the landscape Carnahan loved, it never felt quite rural enough.

When the 2008 recession hit, he was laid off and unemployed for five months. That "turned out to be a blessing," he said, because he found his dream job not far from where he'd grown up. For the past 10 years, Carnahan has worked for the U.S. Forest Service out of Baker City, Oregon, as a bridges and dams engineer. He is responsible for inspecting 160 road bridges and 270 trail bridges in three national forests in Northeast Oregon and Southeast Washington, often accessing the bridges on horseback or by hiking.

"This fall will mark 50 years since I started classes at Oregon State, and I never dreamed I could do what I do now as an engineer," he said. "A true dream job."

Looking back, he wishes someone had told him to explore career opportunities in a wider range than just the corporate world, including the U.S. Forest Service. That's because his current job is not only his dream job, but it also landed him back into the landscape he so loves.

"I'm not implying anything negative about other parts of my career, but this job with the Forest Service is absolutely incredible," he said. "I work outside most of the summer, traveling around some of the most beautiful and uncrowded parts of Oregon and Washington, and doing work that is both intellectually and physically challenging."

What advice would he give to engineering students just starting out today?

"Do what you like to do, follow your heart, and be open to opportunities," he said. "Don't be afraid to walk through new doors, and see what's offered. You might just be surprised."

JOHN HOLLENBEAK

How to make a Donation to the OSU NROTC Program

The Alumni Group encourages alumni of the OSU NROTC program to provide financial support to the midshipmen. The Taffrail Fund helps finance events and program expenses that promote midshipmen development. The Scholarship Fund provides dollar awards presented at the Spring Award ceremony. Both funds help the midshipmen.

NROTC scholarships cover tuition and fees and they provide a small monthly stipend. However, the stipend does not cover food, housing, and other living expenses. Many of the midshipmen struggle financially and you can help.

It is easy to make a contribution. Donations to the Taffrail Fund and to the Naval ROTC Alumni Scholarship Fund are processed through the OSU Foundation via their secure website.

If you would like to make a donation to the Taffrail Fund, click this link Taffrail Fund Donation. If you would like to make a donation to the Naval ROTC Alumni Scholarship Fund, click this link NROTC Scholarship Fund Donation. In either case the correct fund will already be selected for you, so you don't have to enter anything for "Direct my gift to a specific OSU College or Campus" nor do you have to enter anything under "Don't see the area you'd like to support?".

Both these links will take you directly into the secure OSU Foundation website were you can complete your tax free donation.

The OSU NROTC Alumni Group thanks you for your support of the midshipmen.

Help Us Add Navy and Marine Corps Tradition to the New Beaver Battalion Home

By Stan Smith—Alumni Group Coordinator—OSU NROTC Class of '72, USMC

The Beaver Battalion will move this summer to new quarters. As previously reported, the University is allocating dollars for remodeling the new space for our NROTC Unit. But that is where the financial support ends. The Unit will move into this generic space and will have the equipment and other necessities for operation. What they will lack is the "character" of a NROTC Unit. The Navy will not pay for the items that make the new space "home" and helps project a feeling of caring to our visitors and prospective new students/midshipmen. The Marine Corps is even more frugal. Of course some things like the nautical trim and furnishings are coming over, but many items need to be retired.

I am asking you to "pay it forward" to assist in making the new Battalion headquarters a "home." For those of you who have already made a contribution, I extend my thanks. If you haven't made a contribution yet, there is still time.

Send your checks to:

OSU Foundation
4238 SW Research Way
Corvallis, OR 97333

Write "NROTC Remodel Costs" on your check.

If you would like to contribute via the internet using a credit card, click on this link. Taffrail Fund.

Fill in "Remodel Costs" on the online form.

Give what you can...and thank you.

Recently Found Alumni — Welcome Back!

Name	Year	Service
Doug Rhodes	1981	USN
Greg Hicks	1990	USN

Name	Year	Service
Kathy (Sandoz) Kesler	1996	USN