



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION



ROTC Alumni Chapter

February 2022 Newsletter

President's Corner

Greetings Gamecock Battalion Alumni!

Now that the holidays are over, I hope your new year is off to a great start. The students are back, and the Spring semester has started, and we are thankful for that. COVID-19 cases have been on the rise with the onset Omicron variant and masking is now required in all University buildings, but in-person classes are continuing this semester.

If you were able to attend the Alumni Banquet this past year, thank you for your attendance. We recognized COL David E. Crenshaw as the 2021 Military Alumnus of the Year; we presented scholarships to eight deserving Cadets and MSG Randy Serna provided an update from the ROTC department. It was great to see the interaction between the Alumni and Cadets in attendance, and this is one area where I would like to see more participation. We will see what we can do to facilitate that at the next banquet. Speaking of, I want to personally thank the Alumni who attend this banquet each year for the support. If you have never attended or it has been a while since you have attended, I encourage you to make plans for this year. And speaking of Homecoming, the upcoming football season should be exciting with new coach Rich Rodriguez and JSU's pending move to Conference USA!

Along with this newsletter, I am including a newsletter from LTC Travis Easterling, Gamecock Battalion PMS, providing a recap of the year that was 2021. Of special note was the Fall commissioning of 2LT Shametria Braggs and 2LT Savannah Ervin into the Military Intelligence Corps. Please offer your congratulations to these new lieutenants and their addition to the JSU ROTC Alumni Chapter.

Lastly, we are always looking for volunteers to serve on the Alumni Board. If you are interested or even want to inquire, please call, text, or drop me an email. My contact information is below.

Anthony Whitley
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Update from LTC Travis Easterling, Gamecock Battalion Professor of Military Science

The Gamecock Battalion,

We started the semester at a full run. Partnering with the Softball team during Softball Bootcamp was amazing. The Cadets, Cadre, and players loved it, and we are planning to do it again in the fall. Our Cadets excelled at Advanced Camp last summer, and our cadet population almost doubled this year. Last year we had 64 Cadets in the program. We started this semester off with 118 Cadets. Three of our Cadets earned the RECONDO badge at Advanced Camp. The last time we had a Cadet earn the RECONDO badge was in 2013, and in that year, we only had one

earn the badge. I truly appreciate all the support we receive from the Alumni. Our success would not be possible without you.

Click [here](#) to view the full newsletter.

LTC Travis J. Easterling
26th Professor of Military Science

ROTC Banquet



Mark your calendars for the 27th Annual ROTC Alumni Banquet!

Friday, October 21st

Details will be announced at a later date.

Scholarship Giving

I would like for the focus this year to be on our scholarship giving. You may recall last year the University participated in a Day of Giving event. At that time, we asked for your participation in designating gifts to the ROTC Alumni Chapter so money could be moved to those scholarships established in memory of our classmates killed in action (KIA) to help move these to an endowed status to preserve these scholarships well into the future. Again, this year, we are asking you to consider donating to the ROTC Alumni Chapter. From there, contributions

will be moved to the KIA scholarships to grow them to an endowed status. Online donations can be made by visiting www.jsu.edu/givejsu. Click on “Donate Today!” in the top right-hand corner and select the drop-down menu under “Designate your Gift”. Scroll down until you find “ROTC Alumni Chapter”. If donating by check, please mail them to the JSU Foundation, 700 Pelham Road N, Jacksonville, AL 36265 and note on the check that it is for the ROTC Alumni Chapter, fund #4510. We encourage you and your classmates to participate in this effort throughout the year.

Military Alumnus of the Year

Nominations are open for the 2022 Military Alumnus of the Year.

The criteria for consideration as the Military Alumnus of the Year are:

- Must be a graduate of JSU
- Must be an officer on active duty or active in the National Guard or Reserves, ● Must join or be a member of the JSU Alumni Association
- Must play an active role in promoting the university
- Must have shown outstanding military achievement
- Must be able to attend Homecoming to receive the award.

Nominations for Military Alumnus of the Year award may be submitted from any source but are due by 1 April 2022 and must be accompanied by a written biographical sketch and photo. The individual is selected by consensus of the Chapter's Board, and the President will notify the individual of the selection. The President also notifies the JSU National Alumni Association. Nominations should be submitted to either the Alumni Affairs office or to Anthony Whitley at anthony.whitley36@yahoo.com.

Chapter Communications

Please remember our main sources of communication with fellow Alumni are through this newsletter, the [Jacksonville State University ROTC Alumni Facebook page](#), and on [Instagram at jsurotcalumni](#). If you have not done so, please “Like” our Facebook page and encourage your classmates to do the same. Once you do, you will receive information and communications posted on our page.

Go Gamecocks!