FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings from Westwood and Northridge and our respective Mighty Bruin and Matador cadets! Not sure where summer came and went but over the last three months our cadets have been pretty busy doing some great training.

The highlight for our summer, and technically our “Super Bowl,” were the 23 cadets we sent this summer to the Leadership Development Accession’s Course (LDAC) at Ft. Lewis, Washington, to train with every other cadet in the United States (over 5000 total ROTC cadets). This was the largest ROTC class we’ve sent in the past 20 years to LDAC. Great effort by all of them as they trained very hard over 32 days highlighted by successfully completing infantry squad tactics training during a 10-day field training event, land navigation and physical fitness testing, all the while dodging ant hills 6ft high and mosquitoes the size of quarters! Our cadets that successfully passed LDAC will now be accessed into the Army as either Active Duty or Reservists (includes National Guard) and their respective branches will be assigned to them by mid-October. We’ll highlight these results in our next newsletter.

In addition, this summer we sent Cadets Bridgette Tuquero (MS III), Jason Kim (MS IV), and Colin Hensley (MS IV) to Airborne School, Cadet Jason Henke (MS IV) to Air Assault School, and Cadet Amanda Coyle (MS III) to the Mountain Northern Warfare School. I’m happy to report that all our cadets successfully passed these tough schools and represented our program in the highest traditions! Great job by all five of them!

Finally, for summer training we sent seven cadets to the Leadership Training Course at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. This 30-day training course is designed to provide older cadets (already in a junior level status in College) the opportunity to receive ROTC basic course credit (e.g MS I and MS II) training and then start our program as MS IIs. Successfully completing this summer’s training were: Matt Collom, Andrew Mozeleski, Scott Peoples, Robles, Richmond Ruta, Kelly Tseng, and Andrew Wheeler. Congratulations and we look forward to you joining the battalion.

I hope to see you all this fall during our Alumni ROTC tailgate during the Veteran’s Day weekend activities (9-10 NOV) as the Bruins play Arizona State. Let us know you’re coming so we can reserve tickets for you. In addition, I fully expect to have the UCLA ROTC Memorial unveiled on 09 NOV. A proposal for the site location and memorial plaque has been sent to the new Chancellor for final approval (see page 11).

Again, I’m excited to be a part of this great battalion and look forward to the upcoming school year. It looks like we’ll have about 90 cadets to start this school year (we had approximately 54 to start last year). We continue to work hard every day in our efforts to give the cadets world class training in preparation for their eventual commission as the future leaders of our Army. Go Mighty Bruins and Matadors...champions made here!

Christopher P. Talcott
Lieutenant Colonel, United States Army
Professor and Chair

On our cover: Second Lieutenant Katharine Alexander receives her first salute as an officer from Sergeant First Class Keith Gasaway at this year’s Spring Commissioning Ceremony.
On 17 June 2007, UCLA proudly saluted its newest Second Lieutenants at the 83rd annual Spring Commissioning Ceremony.

The ceremony began with the presentation of the first annual Mark J. Daily Selfless Service Award, an award named in honor of 2005 alumnus Second Lieutenant Mark Daily, who was killed earlier this year in Iraq. Mark embodied the key Army value of Selfless Service. He inspired his fellow classmates and soldiers with his commitment. This award honors Mark’s memory by recognizing a Bruin Battalion senior who demonstrates the kind of dedication that burned so bright in Mark. This year’s recipient, Daniel Nelson, was selected for this award by his peers.

The commissioning ceremony speaker this year was Major General Paul E. Mock of the 63rd Regional Readiness Command. MG Mock’s address can be viewed online at the Alumni Association’s website. Go to www.uclalumni.net/NewsLinks/home.cfm.

The highlight of the day’s ceremony was the commissioning of nine UCLA seniors into the U.S. Army, as well as the recognition of five seniors who commissioned this summer or will commission in the fall. Read on to learn more about these extraordinary young officers:

**SECOND LIEUTENANT JOHN BISHOY SAM ABRAHAM**
2LT Abraham will serve in Armor as an active duty officer. He will train at Fort Knox, KY, before being stationed at Schofield Barracks, HI. 2LT Abraham is a graduate of UCLA with a Master’s in Science in Physics.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT KATHARINE ALEXANDER**
2LT Alexander will serve in the Army Nurse Corps as an active duty officer. She will train at Fort Sam Houston, TX, before being stationed at Tripler Army Medical Center, HI. 2LT Alexander is Mount Saint Mary’s College graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT JOHNNY RAY ANDERSON**
2LT Anderson will serve in Field Artillery as an Active Duty officer. He will train at Fort Sill, OK, before being stationed at Fort Hood, TX. 2LT Anderson is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT ANA MIRIAM BAEZ**
2LT Baez will serve in the Quartermaster Corps as an Active Duty officer. She will train at Fort Lee, VA, before being stationed at Wiesbaden, Germany. 2LT Baez is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in International Development Studies.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT GERICSON AQUINO CARPO**
2LT Carpo will serve in the Corps of Engineers as a California Army National Guard officer. He will train at Fort Leonard, MO, before being stationed with the National Guard Engineer Battalion in Oxnard, CA. 2LT Carpo is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Asian American Studies.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT JENNIFER CORBIN**
2LT Corbin will serve in Military Intelligence as a California Army National Guard officer. She will train at Fort Huachuca, AZ, before being stationed with the 416th Civil Affairs in San Diego, CA. 2LT Corbin is a CSUN graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in English.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER LOUIS FIELDS**
2LT Fields will serve in Ordinance as an Active Duty officer. He will train at Fort Lee, VA, before being stationed in Fort
Carson, CO. 2LT Fields is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy.

SECOND LIEUTENANT JACQUELIN NINETT MARRERO
2LT Marrero will serve in Transportation as an Active Duty officer. She will train at Fort Eustis, VA, before being stationed at Fort Sill, OK. 2LT Marrero is a CSUN graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology/Child and Adolescent Development.

SECOND LIEUTENANT DANIEL OLIVER NELSON
2LT Nelson will serve in Infantry as an Active Duty officer. He will train at Fort Benning, GA. His permanent duty station is TBD. 2LT Nelson is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in History.

SECOND LIEUTENANT MICHAEL JOHN STAHLKE
2LT Stahlke will serve in Armor as an Active Duty officer. He will train at Fort Knox, KY, before being stationed at Fort Lewis, WA. 2LT Stahlke is a Pepperdine University graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

SECOND LIEUTENANT KEVIN RUDOLF SYKORA
2LT Sykora will serve in the Quartermaster Corps as a California Army National Guard officer. He will train at Fort Lee, VA, before being stationed with the 185th Quartermaster Battalion in San Francisco, CA. 2LT Sykora is a CSUN graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

SECOND LIEUTENANT SANDY VITHAYANONTH
2LT Vithayanonth will serve in Field Artillery as an Active Duty officer. He will train at Fort Sill, OK, before being stationed at Fort Hood, TX. 2LT Vithayanonth is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

SECOND LIEUTENANT ROY CHOONG-RYOL YOO
2LT Yoo will serve in the Signal Corps as a California Army National Guard officer. He will train at Fort Gordon, GA, before being stationed with the 416th Civil Affairs in San Diego, CA. 2LT Yoo is a UCLA graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in History.

Commissioning after the fall quarter will be CDT Ed Cruz, CDT Austin Liu and CDT Bryce Matson.
Cheers Bruins!

We’ve been getting news from Bruin Battalion alumni all over. Take a look at what some of your fellow Army ROTC classmates and instructors have been up to …

HOOAH! Check out the Ranger tabs on 2LT Jason Park ’06, 2LT Michael Cummings ’06 and 2LT Ruben Costa ’06! All three graduated from Ranger school this summer.

CONGRATULATIONS to MAJ Ariel Axelrod (APMS, 2003-2006) and Robyn Axelrod on the June birth of their beautiful baby boy, Noah Samuel!

BEST WISHES to COL Gabe Leyva ’79 who retired from the Army in August. COL Leyva is pictured here at his retirement ceremony with his son, 2LT Andrew Leyva.

A big HELLO to CPT Marc Lee Yim, currently serving in Iraq, for showing everyone his true blue and gold UCLA pride. Go Bruins!

Congratulations also to Dr. Jonpatrick Anderson ’79 who was recently recognized with a Freedom Team Salute Commendation for service to the U.S. Army.
Above: Cadets David Wood, James Wolf and Ariel Alcaide at the CSUN detachment orientation are feeling MIGHTY as they start off a new school year!

Left: The Bruin Battalion welcomes two new cadets as Kelly Tseng and Scott Peoples are sworn in by LTC Chris Talcott.

ROTC History Wanted!

We are working with the UCLA Archives to collect and properly store items that document the history of the Bruin Battalion. If you have cadet newsletters, photos, programs (especially for pre-1966 events) or other items from Army ROTC activities that you no longer wish to keep or that you would be willing to provide copies of, please send them to:

UCLA Army ROTC Archives
c/o Victoria Sanelli
220 Westwood Plaza
Box 951609
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1609

Memorial Plaque Update #2

After receiving approval from the Chancellor’s Office to place a public memorial on the Student Activities Center (formerly called the Men’s Gym) to remember fallen ROTC alumni, we began working with UCLA Administration to plan the memorial. It was decided that this memorial should be extended to honor faculty and staff who have also sacrificed their lives for our freedom. We are now working on finalizing the verbiage for the plaque. The goal is to have the plaque ready for unveiling by this Veteran’s Day. If all stays on schedule, we will organize an event on campus to commemorate this long deserved memorial. Please stay tuned for further developments!
**Memorial Day Tribute**

On May 26, 2007, Lt. Colonel Christopher Talcott, representing UCLA Army ROTC, continued a yearly tradition by presenting a U.S. flag, donated by the Jimmy Yokoyama Foundation, for use in the Memorial Court at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Los Angeles. UCLA Army ROTC alumnus, Hitoshi Yonemura’s name is among those inscribed.

Last year for the Memorial Day Service, Dr. Roy Machida, president of the Americans of Japanese Ancestry World War II Memorial Alliance, received the U.S. flag presented by UCLA Army ROTC. This year, members from the Japanese American Korean War Veterans received the U.S. flag. The U.S. flag is a tribute and dedication to those who gave their all.

Memorial Court and The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center are located at 244 South San Pedro Street (between 2nd and 3rd Streets) in the Little Tokyo area of Los Angeles.

---

**Show Your Bruin Battalion Pride with a PT T-Shirt!**

As the Bruin Battalion cadets march across campus, other students eye their athletic prowess and their obvious physical fitness. What’s their secret? Some say it’s early morning PT, but we know it’s really the t-shirt. Now you too can own an official Bruin Battalion PT t-shirt! The cadets are pleased to offer the exact t-shirt they work out in, exclusively to alumni and friends of the Bruin Battalion. Funds raised will be used for the cadets’ student group activities.

T-shirts are $20 each. Send your check made out to Bruin Battalion, to Attn: T-Shirt Fundraiser, 120S Student Activities Center, Box 951609, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1609. Please specify size (S-M-L-XL) and if you would like the classic UCLA version or the new CSUN detachment version.

---

**That’s a Wrap!**

Special thanks to UCLA’s International Language and Video Exchange (ILVE) and Carl Wakamoto for their work documenting UCLA Army ROTC with video interviews and putting together a great online TV (Bruin Battalion TV) presentation for viewing the videos. To view interviews with Judge Vincent Okamoto ’67, 2LT Ana Baez ’07, 2LT Dan Nelson ’07, CDT Bridgette Tuquero, LTC Christopher Talcott, LTC Shawn Buck, MAJ Michael Berry and more, visit the UCLA Army ROTC site and look for the single row of rectangular buttons at: www.army.ucla.edu — select and click, and you can enjoy Bruin Battalion TV!
Upcoming Events

UCLA Orientation 25-27 September
Fall FTX (Camp Hunter Liggett) 26-28 October
Alumni Tailgate (Rose Bowl) 10 November
Holiday Party 30 November
Blood Bowl vs. USC AROTC 1 December

*****

Veterans and Armed Forces Appreciation Days

All year long, UCLA shows its thanks to our military with free admission to selected athletic events. Simply arrive on the day of the event in uniform or show your military/veteran ID for free admission for you plus 3 guests. Alumni, if you do not have military or veteran ID, contact Victoria Sanelli at the Military Science office for assistance. Currently scheduled appreciation days are:

Women's Soccer vs. San Francisco - Drake Stadium Sunday, 09 September at 1:30 p.m.

Women's Volleyball vs. Cal - Pauley Pavilion Thursday, 12 October at 7:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. Cal - Drake Stadium Sunday, 14 October at 2:30 p.m.

*****

Viet Nam-Era Alumni - 40th Reunion

If you are interested in attending this reunion on September 29, 2007, contact Joe Hall at rama@cruzio.com. Visit www.UCLAROTCA alum.org for a great online trip down memory lane.

*****

Alumni Stories: A Very Small Piece of The Battle of the Bulge, Part 4 (by Tom Boyd)

This is the fourth installment of Bruin Battalion alumnus and World War II veteran, Thomas D. Boyd III's account of his experience in the famous Battle of the Bulge. Fellow alumnus Bob O'Neill, shared this interesting bit of history with us and we are now pleased to share it with the rest of the Bruin Battalion family. We hope it will inspire you to write us and share your own stories of being a cadet or soldier.

We take up the story as Lieutenant Boyd learns that his regiment is cut off, surrounded by Germans and plans to surrender. Not ready throw in the towel so early, our intrepid lieutenant has decided to make a break for it and link up with American forces at the town of Setz.

*****

We watched the frustrated Colonel Deschenes get up and go back into the log shelter. I felt sorry for him. His regiment was scattered, no longer an effective force. He had only his HQ, some stragglers, one rifle platoon intact, and the wounded.

In retrospect it was very much a scene from a Greek tragedy. The colonel could have organized an escape party, but he’d have had to leave behind the wounded in that improvised aid station. They couldn’t spend the cold night out there. He had no fire power to counter the Kraut artillery tanks and flak guns. Communications were unreliable at best unless everybody was on hilltops, and the Krauts were set to come in shooting. He had no alternative except to sacrifice his command pointlessly. So, it was all over the 422nd.

Nobody wanted to come with us. Capt. Kulzer said, “I think I’d better stay with the men.” (Neither one of us realized at the time that the officers and enlisted men would immediately be separated.) I wondered if that’s what I should do? But then I had no men, except the four in my detail, and I was sure we could all get out together if they wanted to try. No, it was not time for me to surrender. Sgt. Ed Fauerbach, the headquarters Communications Sergeant, said he and some others wanted to break out, but they would wait — it wouldn’t do for too many to go in a group.

Also, in retrospect, perhaps some of these men believed they were under orders. The regimental exec had told them to prepare to surrender. And if individuals or groups had decided
on their own to resist, the Krauts would have opened up on everybody. Still we were going to take a chance on getting away before any Krauts detected us, so that we wouldn’t jeopardize the others.

We left our steel helmets and liners on the ground — they’d make too much noise if we were crawling through the woods — and I started up to the north side of the clearing where I’d left my four guys, hollering “Kozcak, Calahan, Garcia.” They weren’t where I’d left them. I went around the little clearing, calling their names. A major I didn’t know stopped me. “Shut up, Lieutenant. Don’t you know there’s a war on?” I went back past the Regimental Command Post and Colonel Matthews again said we’d better get going — the colonel had sent a surrender party down toward Schonberg and the Krauts would be coming soon.

So we took off, down the muddy path past the aid station. We’d left helmets and heavy equipment behind, but I still had my small pack. The fire fight was still going on in spurts down the hill to our left, and stray bullets were rattling in the trees above us.

Schonberg was in the middle of a saucer-shaped valley and we were on the rim in the southeast quadrant. Facing the town, we moved off to our right, counterclockwise around the rim, in order to go around the town to the north and then head west for Belgium. The valley was full of Kraut ack-ack positions and troops.

We stopped inside the edge of our woods and reconnoitered as much of the area as we could see before crossing the clearing to the next patch. We had to cross an open field about a hundred yards wide and it sloped down into the valley all the way to the town without obstruction. It took quite a mental push to saunter out of the cover and stroll across this field, but we had to get used to the idea of taking chances. We would not make it if we were too timid and afraid to commit ourselves, and once we had crossed this field we would be committed and it would be too late turn back. We thought we could get away with more if we appeared casual and did not run. Anyway, we crossed and nothing happened. So far so good.

The next woods was narrow and we crossed through it and a small clearing beyond it into a third. This followed a ridge that ran into the valley from the rim like the spoke of a wheel, and we went down to the lower end of it to take a look at the town and the valley. As we reached the tip of the woods we almost stepped out and shook hands with a Kraut patrol that was coming up from the valley. I don’t know why they didn’t see us, we could hear them breathing heavily as they came along the outside of the trees. We froze until they passed, then we took off without further ado, needless to say at top speed. We crashed through branches, hurdles two barbed-wire fences and beat it back across the field into the second woods. We pulled up inside them and hit the ground, crawling under the thickest branches we could find. No sound came behind us. We were in the lower point of the narrow woods, and could see out both edges.

We were just about to get up and move on in further when we heard a swishing noise coming towards us from deeper in the woods uphill. We froze there on the ground as this regular swish, swish came closer, and looking up the avenue beneath the branches I could see a pair of boots coming slowly towards us, while the pine branches swished off his upper clothing. They looked like GI combat boots, but the Krauts also had something similar. We lay there pointed up the hill and sweated it out. The boots disappeared behind a tree, and the swishing finally moved up the hill away from us again. We lay there for about a half hour, just long enough for the Kraut patrol or another the same size to almost flush us out again.

They came up the edge of the woods to our right, and I guess they were very quiet and we were so intent on the other thing that we didn’t notice them. As they got abreast of us they burst out laughing and talking, and we froze again. Then we broke out of the woods on the other side from the Krauts, and ran along the edge up toward the ridge, and ducked into another patch of woods which ran down into a ravine. I think it’s the one in which I’d left my platoon.

In here was a group of about fifteen Yanks with a captain, and they had a couple of heavy machine guns. The captain asked if the outfit was surrendering, as he had heard someone up the hill yelling to cease fire. We told him about the events, and the patrol, and he decided to surrender to them and
try to break away from the column of prisoners later. We told him he could easily knock out the patrol with his machine guns, but he thought it better not to. About half a dozen of his men wanted to come with us, but we persuaded them to break into smaller groups as they would be too many together. We waited until the ones surrendering had moved out of the woods downhill toward the patrol with their hands up, then we moved uphill.

The captain had told us that we couldn’t possibly make it, that there were tanks along the ridge in the direction we were headed and a machine gun up on the ridge behind him that had driven him down into these woods. We decided to go up toward the crest of the ridge and the machine gun, as the lesser of the available evils. We walked out with our hands up in case there was a gun there, and if they called out to us we could duck and beat it. There was a large haystack on the crest and we made it our first objective.

It must have been there that the Kraut machine gun had been emplaced, for we saw empty brass shells here and there, but no machine gun. Looking back down the slope we could see the surrendering group still walking down the field toward the valley, with their hands up, and as yet no sign of the Krauts. We never saw the patrol again. The top of the ridge was all open fields, with a road along the center, and cut by barbed-wire fences. There was no sign of life anywhere. The fire fight was still going on spasmodically behind us, and there was nothing in the world to stop us, so we dropped our hands and just walked.

Up here the war seemed a thousand miles away. The sun was shining, birds were singing everywhere, and it was just like any late afternoon in the country. It seemed inconceivable that a big battle had been fought within a few hundred yards. We had left the hill position about three thirty, and twilight was beginning to dim out the distant mountains. We were now about directly east of town, having walked about a mile around the rim of the valley.

**NEXT INSTALLMENT: On the run! How will our Lieutenant get past the Germans to the safety of Allied lines? Tune in next issue to find out.**