



ROTC ALUMNI

Chapter Newsletter

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Jacksonville, Alabama

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President's Remarks



**Anthony Whitley,
Chapter President**

Greetings to my fellow Gamecock Battalion alumni. My name is Anthony Whitley, and I will be following COL Chuck Buxton as the next president of the ROTC Alumni Chapter. Please join me in extending a much deserved "thank you" to COL Buxton for his leadership and guidance of the chapter over his tenure as president. I believe the chapter to be in a very strong position, due to COL Buxton's care and concern as president, to continue to excel in the coming years. I know I have very big shoes to fill, and I am looking forward to working with each one of you during the journey!

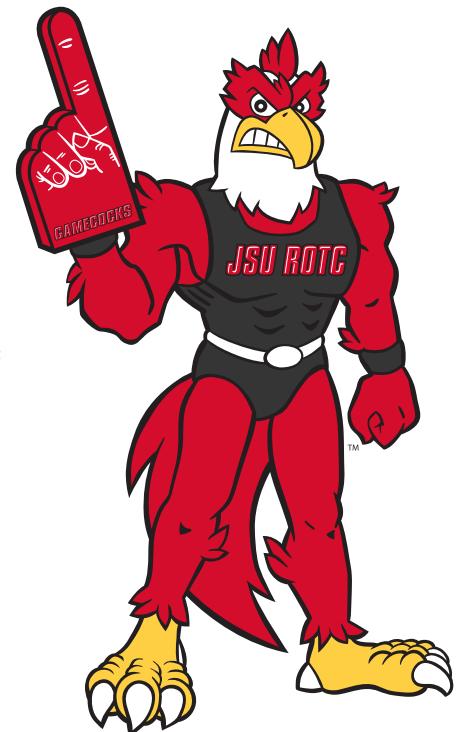
I received my commission from JSU ROTC in December 1992, into the Quartermaster Corps. I attended Officer Basic Course at Ft. Lee, VA and Transportation Officer Advanced Course at Ft., Eustis, VA. My first reserve unit was the 357th Corps Support BN in Athens, GA. I subsequently served in the 802d Ordnance CO in Gainesville, GA; Detachment 1, 287th TC CO in Anniston, AL; the 3rd Transportation Movement Control Agency (TMCA) also in Anniston; and finally in the 9th BDE ROTC, 108th DIV (IT), where I taught Military Science I courses at Gadsden State Community College. In 2003, I was deployed with the 3rd TMCA in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as the HHC Commander. I left active reserve service in 2005 as a Captain.

Professionally, I am the Division Human Resources Manager for Tyler Union, a division of McWane, Inc. We are a ductile iron foundry located in Anniston manufacturing pipefittings for the water works industry. I have worked in human resources for 20 years. I am

married to the former Pamela Tidmore from Ft. Payne, AL (1993 JSU graduate) and have two sons Ethan (18) and Ryan (14). Both attend school in the Oxford City School system.

I am honored to continue the legacy of this great alumni chapter. My desire during my tenure as president is to increase awareness of the chapter to many different year groups in an effort to increase participation in chapter activities, most notably the alumni banquet. I have already started making contacts with alumni who were in year groups after me that are either retired, nearing retirement, or are working in industry. I believe the key to the long-term success of the chapter will be building relationships that span across all year groups and tapping in to the military and professional networks of fellow ROTC alumni. Those of us who went through the program and received commissions, regardless of how long we served, understand the positive impact ROTC had on our lives. My desire is to share those experiences with both current and future cadets for the years to come. I ask that you join me in this journey of giving so much of what you have learned to the future leaders of our military, businesses, and industries.

I look forward to serving you and the JSU ROTC program. I want to thank in advance those that will be serving with me. Without you, no leader is successful. If at any time you want to contact me, please do so at anthony.whitley36@yahoo.com or at 256-453-2334. Go Gamecocks!





Meet our new PMS, MAJ Cory Roberts

Major Cory Roberts commissioned as an Infantry Officer in April 2002 through US Army Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, GA following eight years of enlisted service as an Infantryman. MAJ Roberts later graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Baccalaureate Degree in Criminal Justice from Columbus State University in Columbus, GA. MAJ Roberts continued his education by receiving his Master's in Leadership and Management from Webster University in St. Louis, MO and graduating from the US Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS. During his 23yrs of Military Service, MAJ Roberts has served in leadership positions from the Platoon through the Battalion and Squadron level. Most recently, he was the Operations Officer for the US Army's Joint

Rotc Updates

The program currently has 70 cadets. We have just completed our Record APFT for the fall semester. All cadets made marked improvement over their September APFT. The spring semester will focus on functional fitness, improved APFT test scores, and introduction to the new Army Combat Readiness 6 Event PT test, which will become the standard in October 2018. Our Ranger Challenge team placed 8th in the State Competition held at Oak Mountain in October. The Cadets performed well at the Fall FTX on Pelham Range in mid-October. They executed tactical tasks and land navigation following an ALNG supported Helicopter insertion to the training area.

With the recently improved curriculum, military science courseware is more battle focused and designed to educate cadets to pass the Advanced Camp requirements. We are including a common thread linkage in the delivery of lessons to integrate the Maneuver School's "Expanded Troop Leading Procedures" into all aspects of Gamecock Battalion Training and Education. Although most of our cadets will not be maneuverists, it is my belief that the more they understand how to think, speak, and perform like a maneuverist, the more successful they will be as they progress in their career.

The ROTC department is receiving superb support from the JSU Administration. We have recently received and installed an ice machine and the mechanical engineering department completed repairs to the rappel tower. Following load test and certification, the tower will reopen for training. Administrators are looking to

Modernization Command Training and Evaluation Division at Fort Bliss, TX where his team focused on developing systems and tactics for the Army 2025 and beyond concepts.

Some of MAJ Roberts' assignments include: 4th Infantry Division, 2nd Infantry Division, 3rd Infantry Division, 101st Airborne Division, 1st Infantry Division, and the 1st Cavalry Division. MAJ Roberts also served at an instructor at the US Army Engineer Captain's Career Course, curriculum and faculty development at the School of Advanced Leadership and Tactics, and Operations for the Joint Modernization Command. He has had 3 combat rotations to Operation Iraqi Freedom and multiple operational assignments to Kuwait, Kosovo, and Korea.

MAJ Roberts' award and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), ARCOM (8th Oak Leaf Cluster), and Army Achievement Medal (6th Oak Leaf Cluster). MAJ Roberts also earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Pathfinder Badge.

MAJ Roberts is married to Captain (Retired) Kaycee Roberts. He has three children: Payton, Logan, and Cayden.

add a university funded secretary to our staff to provide support to budget, scheduling, and clerical operations.

In December, we will commission four Cadets who have completed all requirements for commissioning and are set to graduate.

During events in FALL 2018, we will celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Gamecock Battalion.



Rappel Tower

**OFFICERS COMMISSIONED SINCE
(DECEMBER 14, 2017)**

SAVANAH BOOKER

Army NG
Nurse Corps

JALA HARRIS

Active Duty
Quartermaster

SCOTT SUGGS

Army NG
Medical Service Corps

RACHEL WHITE

Army NG
Signal Corps



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 14 December..... | Commissioning |
| 15 December..... | JSU Commencement |
| 9 January..... | Classes Begin |
| 10 February..... | Military Ball |
| 23-25 February..... | Spring FTX |
| 19-23 March..... | Spring Break |
| 30 March..... | Scholarship Board (Tentative) |
| 20 April..... | Spring Awards Ceremony |
| 23-27 April..... | Final Exams |
| 3 May..... | Commissioning |
| 4 May..... | JSU Commencement |
| 21 August..... | Classes Begin |
| 11 September..... | Jacksonville 9/11 Ceremony |

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION NEEDED

As printing costs continue to rise, we plan to distribute information electronically in the future. Although we have good e-mail addresses for a large number of our members, we do not have e-mail addresses for everyone. For our members who are still serving and have provided a .mil e-mail address, we have experienced issues with spam filters and filters that strip e-mail attachments; if you have an alternate e-mail and are willing to share, please send your updated or alternate e-mail address to alumni@jsu.edu.

