



Quedette Quarterly

Marquette | UW-Milwaukee | MSOE | Concordia | UW-Parkside

The Official Alumni Newsletter of the Golden Eagle Battalion

Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program hosted at Marquette University

Veterans Day Ceremony

Please join us this Veterans Day on 11 November 2015 at 0730 in the Old Gym as we honor the leadership and sacrifice of past leaders; induct COL DeMeulenaere (MU Class of 1985 Graduate) to the Wall of Honor; recognize the dedication and commitment of future leaders as we contract new Cadets within the Golden Eagle Battalion.

Attention Parents!

The Family Action Network (FAN) Club is a great way to stay informed and get involved in the Battalion. The Fan Club is a network of Cadet parents and family committed to enriching their son's or daughter's experience with ROTC. The FAN Club fundraises, provides meals during training events and so much more! Be sure to check out the FAN Club Website (below) or contact FAN Club President, Dave Davel at davidadavel@gmail.com for more information.

Be Sure to Check Out

[Marquette University Army ROTC Website](#)

[Golden Eagle Battalion Facebook Page](#)

[Marquette University Army ROTC Twitter Feed](#)

[FAN Club Website](#)

[Shutterfly \(Cadet Photos\)](#)

Welcome Class of 2019!



IN THIS ISSUE:

From the PMS	2
New Cadet Leadership	3
New 2nd Lieutenants	4
Welcome New Cadets	5
Fall Activities	6
9/11 Ceremony	7
Cadet Summer Training	8
CLC	9
CTLT	10-11
NSTP	12-13
Airborne and Air Assault	14
CDQC	15
CULP	16-17
Project GO	18
Contacts and Donations	19



“Leadership is lifting a person's vision to higher sights, the raising of a person's performance to a higher standard, the building of a personality beyond its normal limitations.”

-Peter F. Drucker

From the Professor of Military Science

Alumni, Family, Friends and Cadets of the Golden Eagle Battalion (GEB),

Welcome back to my last and unfortunately final academic year with the GEB. We are already a month and a half in to this awesome year and I don't know where it went! We've done a lot so far and will continue to do more great and adventure filled activities as this year continues.

Before I begin with an overview of our amazing Summer, I must thank the Golden Eagle Battalion Alumni and Family Action Network (FAN) for their continued incredible contributions. Without the leadership and efforts of our alumni and parents our program would definitely not be as strong as it is today. We are very thankful for your time and donations that greatly benefit your Cadets! Your gracious gifts and donations enabled us to purchase an awesome Woodway Treadmill, send them on many adventures, add other various weight equipment to our gym, and provide a great meal to our Cadets following our Fall LDX; which by the way is better than any post deployment celebration I have ever been a part of! We would like to put a call out to gain more donations to install a rappel anchor system on top of the Memorial Library and enable four Golden Eagles to again rappel on Campus. We started the legwork and have met with contractors; we will likely need a few thousand more dollars to get this installed, still awaiting estimates.

We are extremely proud of our Cadet leaders and all they have accomplished since our last newsletter. We commissioned nineteen brand new 2nd Lieutenants in May, which rounds the GEB out with a total of 20 commissionees for the 2014 academic year!

It is essential to report to you that our program continues to grow, standing tall at 127 Cadets, and has had the most summer opportunities in years.

This year we had 53 Cadets participate in 67 summer training and leader development events where they led, learned, and gained amazing leadership insights and experiences:

We had nine Cadets travel on cultural immersion missions to Barbados, El Salvador, Hungary, Kosovo, Malawi, Moldova, Senegal, Slovakia, and Tanzania. Furthermore, two Cadets travelled abroad as part of Project Global Officer to study Arabic in Amman, Jordan and to study Russian in Manas, Kyrgyzstan for eight weeks each. You'll have an opportunity to read about many their experiences in this and future editions of the Quedette Quarterly. These were truly experiences of a lifetime and amazing venues for our Cadets to develop a deeper appreciation for other cultures – helping to build the adaptable, flexible leaders we require for the 21st century.

We had an amazing badge producing summer with three Cadets completing Courses. The first was the extremely challenging Combat Diver Qualification Course (CDQC) where Cadet Paikowski earned the coveted Dive “Bubble!” Cadet Karaffa earned the Parachutists Badge and Cadet McCallops earned the Air Assault Badge! GELTW!!!

Our five senior nurses excelled at the Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP) all receiving practical, hands-on medical training at Army hospitals across the globe.

Six Cadets participated in Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) and performed duties as Assistant Platoon Leaders across the U.S.

Eleven Cadets participated in a CTLT like ten day event at Ft. McCoy shadowing lieutenants from various branches of the USAR and ARNG learning about the many specialties of our Army and Reserve Component units.

One Cadet participated in an Internship with the US Army Corps of Engineers in Chicago.

Four Cadets gained amazing experience and initial military indoctrination and experience at Fort Knox through the Cadet Initial Entry Training.

Finally, we sent 27 Cadets to the Cadet Leaders Course at Fort Knox, where they exhibited professionalism and exceptional leadership, we had an overall phenomenal performance!

This summer, in conjunction with the Marquette Reunion, we hosted an open house in the unit where 10 alumni rekindled their memories and friendships, and told numerous stories to our Enrollment Officer and Gold Bar Recruiter.

As the school year began, we brought in 48 outstanding freshmen (34), sophomores (12), and juniors (2) and welcomed 34 of them to the GEB during the Incoming Cadet Orientation. They all hit the ground running executing multiple weekly laboratories, physical fitness, and excited for our first Leader Development Exercise (LDX) a few weeks ago.

Looking forward, we are extremely excited about the upcoming Veterans Day/Wall of Honor/Contracting ceremony on 11 November 2015 at 0730. We are honored to induct COL Christopher DeMeulenaere, MU 1985 and Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy graduate, onto the Wall of Honor. Additionally, we will conclude by formally contracting 35 of our newest Cadets. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

The end of the Fall Semester has many more exciting times in store for us with Task Force Ranger Challenge, a Battalion Dining-in and commissioning ceremony for five more Lieutenants. We start off the New Year with a Military Ball, Notre Dame Basketball, Combined LDX, Spring LDX, German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge Challenge, and Ranger Buddy Challenge, and many more service projects and activities.

Your Golden Eagle Cadets are leaders and so excited to lead America's Sons and Daughters to victory! Thank you once again for the opportunity to lead these exceptional young men and women!





From The Cadet Battalion Commander



I was honored to be selected as the Cadet Battalion Commander (BC) for this fall semester of 2015. Being BC, my duties and responsibilities include overall responsibility of the Golden Eagle Battalion (GEB) and their training, performance, and staff. When things go well and when things go wrong, it all comes back to me. I work very closely with my Executive Officer (XO) and my S-3, in charge of overall operations, who are my two right hand staff members. Be-

tween the three of us, the GEB will either succeed or fail. This fall we have some very exciting events planned and we have a very strong and large senior class running the battalion, all 28 of us. I had a lot of help preparing for this leadership position as BC. This past summer I went to the Cadet Leaders Course (CLC) at Fort Knox, Kentucky to practice my Officership skills. We learned a wide variety of skills from platoon level tactical operations to evaluating a casualty. We were also taught how to effectively manage our salary, taxes, and school debt. All these skills prepared me as a future 2nd Lieutenant, but also to lead and teach the underclassmen at the GEB. I'm excited for this year and ready to take on this role.

-CDT David McCallops





New 2nd Lieutenants: Summer 2015 Commissioning

The Golden Eagle Battalion is proud to announce the commissioning of 2nd Lieutenant Robert Holt and 2nd Lieutenant Tyler Krysiak. The new Lieutenants were commissioned this August during the welcome brief at this year's Incoming Cadet Orientation.

The Lieutenants and their families agreed to share this special occasion with the new freshmen Cadets as a way of showing the “finished product” in the leadership development process of ROTC. Good luck to the both of you in your future careers as Army Officers!

2nd Lieutenant Holt is a MSOE graduate and commissioned as a Medical Service Officer in the Army National Guard. 2nd Lieutenant Krysiak is a UWM graduate and commissioned as a Quartermaster Officer in the Army National Guard.



2LT Holt (left) and 2LT Krysiak (right) hold up their commissioning certificates and are welcomed into the Army by LTC Gibson (center).





Welcome New Cadets!

On 23AUG15, the Golden Eagle Battalion (GEB) welcomed 34 new Cadets during the annual Incoming Cadet Orientation (ICO). At this three day event, new Cadets are not only welcomed into the GEB, but are introduced to the new college and ROTC environment as well.

On day one, the incoming Cadets and their parents were welcomed by upperclassmen and Cadre. After an initial briefing on the days' upcoming events from LTC Gibson, Cadets and their loved ones had the chance to ask questions and mingle at a BBQ on the South Lawn of the Old Gym. New Cadets later said good bye to their parents as they were issued uniforms and equipment while receiving classes on the basics of military customs and courtesies.

Day two started early for the Cadets as they received an introduction to Army Physical Training (PT) and the requirements for the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT). After breakfast, the Cadets were given an opportunity to use creative and critical thinking skills as they led and coached each other through a Leader's Reaction Course (LRC). After conducting the challenging obstacle course, Cadets were given an introduction to Land Navigation at Veteran's Park.

On day three, the Cadets woke up early once again as they conducted the APFT. Cadets then received instruction on the M16 rifle in order to familiarize themselves with the weapon and the fundamentals of marksmanship. Cadets were also exposed to classes on Drill and Ceremony which consisted of basic marching movements and commands. The three day event was finished with lunch at Sobelmen's as Cadets were later dismissed to their dorms and reunited with their parents.





Fall Activities

While Marquette University offers Cadets many extra curricular activities, the GEB offers clubs and events specifically for developing Cadets as leaders while still having fun!

Color Guard

The Color Guard supports and promotes pride in our Nation by presenting the national colors at both civilian and military events, within the community and on Marquette and UW-Milwaukee campuses. The Color Guard also acts as a way for Cadets to enhance their understanding of Drill and Ceremony while also gaining the confidence necessary to give commands.

Army 10-miler

The Army 10-miler is an annual event in which Cadets join thousands of others from all areas of the military in Washington D.C. The GEB sends several Cadets to this event to not only promote the GEB, but to show support and camaraderie for those serving in the military. Cadets train for weeks in order to be prepared for this physically and mentally demanding task.

Ranger Challenge

Battalions across the 3rd Brigade send teams of Cadets to participate in a grueling weekend long competition at Ft McCoy. This competition consists of several events that tests the Cadets' tactical and technical knowledge of numerous military skills. Cadets are also challenged physically- the competition consists of a ruck march and APFT. Training for this competition encourages team building as well as mental physical and personal strength.

Cadet Rangers

This Cadet led club offers Cadets the chance to receive extra practice in order to increase their knowledge of Army skills and gain confidence with the content of the ROTC curriculum. The club also organizes outing such as trap shooting and paintball.

Cadet Choir

The Cadet Choir sings the National Anthem at military and sporting events, and also provides the GEB with a multitude of patriotic performances at its social functions throughout the year. They are always seeking Cadets who are interested in representing the GEB at events at Marquette, UW-Milwaukee, and across the community.



9/11 Ceremony

Thank you to those of us who joined us for our 9/11 ceremony this year. On this somber yet important day, Cadets from the Golden Eagle Battalion gathered outside the Marquette University Library to perform a flag lowering ceremony to honor those who had fallen in this tragic event fourteen years ago. As time passes, our nation begins to heal but we will never forget.



Cadets wear their Army Service Uniforms at this formal ceremony outside the Marquette University Library.

The Golden Eagle Battalion is eternally grateful to all those guest speakers, past, present, and future, who have taken the time out of their schedules to speak to the young Cadets who will one day take their places as officers in the Army.



CDT Greidanus (second from left) stands at attention in remembrance of those who lost their lives during 9/11.

Many of the Golden Eagle Battalion Cadets volunteered their time to become a part of this memorable tribute as flag was lowered to half staff. It was a moving experience for everyone involved and reminded us that our nation is stronger at its core than any other organization. We stand united on this day of tragedy.



Each year, an honorary guest speaker shares somber thoughts regarding our country's pride and freedom on this tragic day.



Cadet Summer Training 2015

This summer, the Golden Eagle Battalion sent Cadets to various summer training to include Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT), Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP), Airborne School, Air Assault School, Combat Diver Qualification Course (CDQC), Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP), and Project Global Officers (Project GO).

Cadet	Training	Location
Jacob Arnquist	CTLT	Fort Campbell
Brandon Konnow	CTLT	Fort Benning
Alexander Lech	CTLT	Fort Hood
Jordan Lemens	CTLT	Fort Carson
Brett Tobin	CTLT	Fort Bliss
Jennifer Babula	NSTP	Fort Carson
Matthew Brune	NSTP	Tripler Army Medical Center
Rachael DeMeulenaere	NSTP	Fort Gordon
Alannah Schultz	NSTP	Walter Reed
Theresa Morris	NSTP	Fort Stewart
Nikolas Karaffa	ABN	Fort Benning
David McCallops	AAS	Fort Campbell
Vincent Paikowski	CDQC	Special Forces Underwa- ter Operations School
John Clancy	CULP	Barbados
Hannah Fouks	CULP	Hungary
Joseph Kennedy	CULP	Tanzania
Madeline Lopez	CULP	El Salvador
Paige Robins	CULP	Kosovo
Christopher Smith	CULP	Senegal
Tyler Teichmann	CULP	Moldova
Hayden Theis	CULP	Malawi
Michael Wegrzyn	CULP	Slovakia
Wynter Novak	Project GO	Kyrgyzstan
Kevin Vanneman	Project GO	Jordan





CLC

Cadet Leaders Course

Every Summer, MSIII (Junior level) Cadets entering their Senior MSIV year go to the CLC where their leadership skills and technical proficiency are put to the test in a month long training and assessment environment at Ft. Knox ,Kentucky. One GEB Cadet recalls some of the training opportunities she received as well as the challenges she experienced.



Third regiment CLC Cadet Rachel Demeulenaere, left, of Marquette University, waits in line as she makes her way through Cadet Summer Training in-processing at the Copple Center.



Cadet Patrick Kading of UW-Madison walks with Cadet Rachael Demeulenaere of MU to check in after claiming their luggage.

“The CLC is held annually at Fort Knox, Kentucky. CLC is the U.S. Army's largest training exercise; CLC is the U.S. Army Cadet Command's capstone training event. The purpose of the course is to train U.S. Army ROTC Cadets to Army standards, to develop their leadership skills, and to evaluate their officer potential. Most Army Cadets attend CLC between their junior and senior undergraduate years after having contracted to join the Army. Successful completion of CLC is a prerequisite to becoming an Army officer through ROTC. The 29-day course starts with individual training and leads to collective training, building from simple to complex tasks. This building-block approach permits integration of previously learned skills into follow-on training. Some of the training we accomplished at CLC was Land Navigation, Confidence Training, Field Leaders Reaction Course, Weapons Familiarization, Cultural Awareness, First Aid Training, Rappelling, and Patrolling Tactics. CLC prepared me as a future leader of cadets and 2LT by allowing me to practice and fine-tune all my leadership skills throughout multiple scenarios over the course of CLC. I felt extremely prepared for all training while at CLC due to the great high quality realistic training I had received from the GEB the past three years.”

-CDT Rachael DeMeulenaere





CTLT

Cadet Troop Leader Training

Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) is an opportunity for Cadets throughout the country to shadow current Lieutenants in the U.S. Army and participate in the daily activities of their platoons. This year, the GEB sent five members to this amazing experience.



“During CTLT I had the privilege of shadowing ILT Tyler Johnson of the 1/506 Infantry. ILT Johnson had been in the Army for 11 years, reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant before going to school to make the switch to become an officer. It was a great experience to be able to shadow a ILT with the experience that he had under his belt. I was able to participate in several training missions using blanks, miles gear, simulation rounds, and even live fire. Getting immersed into an Infantry unit for one month and seeing how they operate was without a doubt the most valuable training experience I have had in ROTC.” - CDT Jacob Arnquist

CDT Arnquist participates in a medical training lane at Fort Campbell.

“I was assigned to E CO, I-50 IN, 198th IN BDE at Fort Benning, GA. I was tasked to shadow the company XO, ILT Troxell. The first week at Benning, all the Cadets assigned to the United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence were gathered and taken to various units stationed at the fort, including the 3BN/75 IN, 4RTB, and USAMU. In the second week I was integrated with my unit which was an Infantry OSUT company. Once there I had the opportunity to observe staff duties of my XO host. I had the flexibility and trust of the company commander to jump in and assume the PL position of any of the four platoons. I attached myself to 4th PLT and conducted various training including Night Infiltration course, my personal favorite; Land-Navigation; Night Live Fires; Buddy, Fire-Team, and Squad Live Fires; and MOUT. I was responsible to prepare an OPORD and brief it to the CO. The best part of the experience was talking to the privates, receiving mentorship from the drill sergeants, and the 10-mile ruck march completed just hours before my plane departed Columbus Airport. It was a life changing experience.” - CDT Brandon Konnow



CDT Konnow (right) practices live fire exercises while at CTLT at Fort Benning.





CTLT

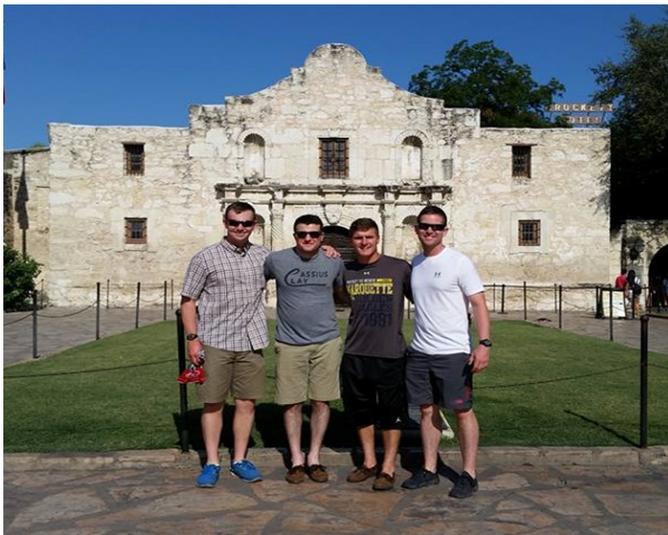
Cadet Troop Leader Training

“My CTLT experience took place with I-82 Field Artillery Charlie Battery in Fort Hood, TX. I gained experience in a variety of roles including Platoon Leader, Fire Direction Officer and additional duties such as unit armorer. In addition to the day to day operations, I was also tasked as the OIC for Charlie Battery’s M4 Zero/Qualification Range. This included briefing the Battalion Commander the plan and ensuring range operations were performed safely. I attended numerous training meetings in addition to various social functions within the battalion. Overall I gained important insight into the actual duties and responsibilities of a junior officer, which will help me in my last year to prepare for my first role as a 2LT when I commission.” - CDT Alexander Lech



CDT Lemens (second from right) joins other Cadets at CTLT for helicopter training exercises.

“I attended CTLT at Fort Carson, CO. There I was able to have two very unique experiences. For the first half of my training, I shadowed ILT Harrison, a Quartermaster by trade and a distribution Platoon Leader for Fox Company. This company was part of the 2-77 FA Battalion led by LTC Snyder. Under ILT Harrison’s guidance and with the help of her PSG, I learned how to conduct sling load operations, dispatch vehicles properly, PMCS the platoon’s vehicles, and many other important tasks. The second half of my training was spent with ILT Silver. He was a Blackhawk pilot for the A 4-3 assault battalion. There, I learned all about the aircraft and flew on a few range missions. I also was educated all about warrant officers and the important role they play in aviation. Overall my experience with “the mighty 4th division” was positive and very eye opening to the branches I was able to observe. I loved how I was able to see firsthand how each branch interacts with one another.” - CDT Jordan Lemens



CDT Lech (second from right) enjoys sight-seeing during his time off at CTLT at Fort Hood.





NSTP

Nurse Summer Training Program

The Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP) invites nursing Cadets to shadow instructors in clinical settings at Army hospitals throughout the country.



CDT Schultz bonds with patients at Walter Reed in Washington, D.C.

“I spent four weeks this summer in Bethesda at Walter Reed Military Medical Hospital on the Surgical ICU floor. I worked whenever my preceptor worked during her 12 hours shifts. I learned a significant amount about being an active duty Army Nurse, about my potential career path, and everything about the ICU and high acuity cardiac patients. On my days off, I was able to explore Washington DC, visit all of the main monuments, work the last WWII Honor Flight, volunteered to clean the Vietnam Wall Memorial, and visited 5 out of the 19 Smithsonian museums. My experience was extremely rewarding and positive. I am confident in saying I want to be an ICU Army Nursing in my future.”

- CDT Alannah Schultz

“Winn Community Hospital at Ft. Stewart, Georgia was an excellent introduction to the challenging and rewarding field of Army Nursing. During my stay, I worked in Family Care, Same Day Surgery, OR, Post Anesthesia Care, Labor & Delivery and the Emergency Department. Over the course of 160 plus hours spent on the floor I was exposed to a wide variety of processes and procedures that complimented my clinical training at Marquette. I’ve greatly expanded my knowledge of medications, enhanced patient care and was given the latitude to work with a wide range of medical conditions. I particularly enjoyed working in Pre-Op and becoming IV certified. Overall, I would rate my experience at Ft. Stewart, GA as exemplary, providing training that greatly enhanced my nursing skills while providing an authentic feel for life working as an Army Nurse.” - CDT Theresa Morris



CDT Morris (right) scrubs into the operating room at Winn Community Hospital.





NSTP

Nursing Summer Training Program

“This summer, I shadowed an amazing preceptor (an alumni of Marquette) at Evans Army Community Hospital in Fort Carson, Colorado. We worked the night shift on the Intensive Care Unit. Although the ICU was a smaller step-down unit with only seven beds, I learned a lot about patient care, communication, and refining my nursing skills. I participated in numerous blood draws, IV starts, head to toe assessments, and general interaction with patients as well as the health care team. I was also able to float to the Emergency Room to perform focused assessments and carry out discharge instructions that the doctors prepared. Additionally, outside the hospital, the other Cadets and I were able to go to the top of Pike's Peak, hike up the Manitou Incline, visit Garden of the Gods, and spend a weekend in Denver for a music festival. Overall, it was a very rewarding experience and I am grateful to have been chosen for the opportunity.”

- CDT Jennifer Babula



CDT Babula (right) and her preceptor in the ICU at Fort Carson.

“This summer I had the opportunity to participate in NSTP at Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. During this program, I worked side by side with a 1LT nurse who worked in the ICU at TAMC. I learned more about medicine during this experience than during any other clinical experience to date. Moreover, it gave me much needed insight into the operation of AMEDD and the Nurse Corps in a clinical setting. I also got to explore the breathtaking island of Oahu and all it has to offer to include beaches, tropical mountain hiking trails, luaus, and the fun city of Honolulu.”

- CDT Matthew Brune



CDT Brune (right) and friends on the Hawaiian island while at NSTP.



CDT DeMeuleanaere (far left) displays her certificate of completion at Fort Gordon.

“During my time at Fort Gordon Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center (DDEAMC) I had the opportunity to work on a psychiatric substance abuse unit, Medical/Surgical unit, and the Emergency Department. My preceptor who I worked alongside most of the time was a 2LT, but I also had the privilege to work with a few Captains and Majors. During NSTP I worked independently under my 2LT Nurse who ensured safe nursing practice at all times. During NSTP I was able to successfully chart, create Nursing Care Plans, admit and discharge patients, as well as practice my basic nursing skills such as placing NG tubes and Foley catheters, insertion of IV's, blood draws, tube feedings, and conduct ECG readings. At the completion of NSTP I had acquired over 150 patient contact clinical hours.”

- CDT Rachael DeMeuleanaere





Airborne School



CDT Karaffa (right) on completion of Airborne School

“This summer I was given the opportunity to attend the Basic Airborne Course in addition to the Cadet Leaders Course (CLC). These courses have shaped how I want to lead and the type of Army officer I want to become. While at the Basic Airborne Course I had the privilege of being able to meet current active duty officers and NCOs. During the three week course, I gained some useful insight into how the Army functions and what it takes to be successful. Following Airborne School, CLC allowed me to understand just how well Marquette AROTC has prepared me to become an officer. My advice to the underclassmen, have a good attitude and always be willing to learn and you might be surprised how well prepared you are as well.” - CDT Nikolas Karaffa

Air Assault School

“This past summer I had the opportunity to attend the United States Army Air Assault School at the Warrior Training Center at Fort Benning, Georgia. Air Assault consists of three phases: Aircraft orientation, sling load operations, and rappelling. Physical tests included a timed 2 mile run, 6 mile ruck march, and a 12 mile ruck march with approximately 50lbs. A typical day at air assault starts with first formation at 0500 and a tough PT session until 0700. Classes in the morning and the afternoon with physical training mixed in throughout. The day would end around 2200 and we would have to study and memorize the material learned that day in preparation for the following days instruction and exams. I would highly recommend Air Assault school to anyone who wants a physical challenge but also a mental challenge. After all, Air Assault is called “The 10 Toughest Days in The Army.” AIR ASSAULT!!!” - CDT David McCallops



CDT McCallops (left) puts on a serious face for AAS training.





CDQC

Combat Diver Qualification Course



CDT Paikowski in scuba gear completing one of the toughest schools known to the Army.

“The CDQC is one of the toughest courses in the Army. It is a course dedicated to amphibious infiltration. Modeled closely after Phase II of Buds, CDQC focuses on taking confident operators and testing their limits in the most stressful environment there is, the ocean. The first four weeks we were constantly deprived of oxygen, ensuring we would not panic. Time out of the pool was equally stressful with thousands of

flutter kicks a day compounded by extreme heat and humidity one quickly became exhausted. Regardless you learned to work together with your dive team to accomplish tasks from retrieving a body, to infiltrating a beach at night from 1500 meters out at sea against strong currents. CDQC taught me that there is no option other than mission completion, and that mission completion hinges on individuals being dedicated to seeing it through. My time there undoubtedly molded me into a stronger Cadet and Soldier. I hope to eventually go through Special Forces selection and use my skills as an asset on an ODA. CDQC was only the beginning of a long journey to becoming the mentally and physically strongest leader possible in order to inspire my [soldiers] to greater heights.”

- CDT Vincent Paikowski



CDT Paikowski proudly stands beside the SF Underwater Operations School entrance.





CULP

Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency

The CULP program allows Cadets to participate in humanitarian efforts, military to military practice, teach English, and learn actively about cultural awareness and differences by travelling to various countries around the world.



CDT Robins participates in humanitarian relief efforts in Kosovo.

“This summer I had the opportunity to participate in an English teaching and humanitarian mission located in Kosovo. I worked alongside 24 Cadets and 4 Cadre members from universities across the United States. Our main mission was to teach 50 members of the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) how to speak, read, and write in English. In order to accomplish this, each Cadet was assigned 2 KSF members and formed small discussion groups with other Cadets and their students. Each day a Cadet presented on a popular topic (sports, entertainment, etc.), led small group discussions, and helped teach a grammar lesson. Afterwards we headed outside for sports, coffee, and cultural exchange. Each activity gave KSF members the opportunity to practice and enhance their English skills, and Cadets the opportunity to learn the importance of cultural sensitivity and adaptive leadership.” - CDT Paige Robins

“I was given the opportunity to experience Senegal through the CULP program. This mission was my first time traveling out of the country, so it was my first time being a part of a different culture. The biggest cultural difference that I had to acclimate to was the Senegalese sense of time. While Americans stick to a relatively strict time schedule, the Senegalese follow a more lax schedule. Adjusting to their perception of time made me a more patient person. I realized how Americans are usually in a hurry while the Senegalese are usually enjoying their time. The natives’ happy lifestyle also made me understand that family and friends, not material objects, are all one needs to have a great life. I came back to America with more patience and a greater appreciation for my family and friends.” - CDT Christopher Smith



CDT Smith interacts with the wildlife, creating a unique experience in Senegal.





CULP

Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency

“I was in country from June until July along with the other five Cadets on my team. We conducted training with the Malawian officer Cadets Monday through Friday which included PT at 0430 and a mix of classroom and field training sessions. We learned about map reading, how to

write and deliver an OPORD, different call signs and radio procedures, as well as weapons instruction and squad and



platoon level exercises. On the weekends we did culture visits which included going to a crocodile farm, touring a local village and meeting the elderly, and going to a nature reserve. A lesson could be learned from every experience while there....It was a very beneficial experience that has aided in my development in becoming an Army officer.”

- CDT Hayden Theis

“My time on the CULP mission to Slovakia was an unforgettable experience. It increased my understanding of the U.S. Army, NATO, and how to interact with those from other cultures. I trained with the Slovak Special Forces



CDT Wegrzyn hikes up beautiful Slovakian mountains.

who are on par with their United States counterparts. During my time with the Slovak Cadets I realized just how similar Cadets are regardless of what country they are from. The CULP mission seriously impacted my future in the United States Army.” - CDT Michael Wegrzyn



CDT Teichmann (center) makes lifelong friends with Moldovan soldiers.

“For three weeks from May to June myself and 17 other Cadets spent time in a small Eastern European country called Moldova. For the first week we stayed in the barracks of their military academy, Academia Militară "Alexandru cel Bun", which was located in the capital, Chisinau (Keesh-now). During this week we learned the history of the country, the language, and the culture while spending time with their Cadets. One thing we did that was extremely interesting was spending

time in the US embassy and speaking with our ambassador about the country. The second week we spent traveling to two other cities called Balti (Belts) and Soroaca, and did some community service for schools. For the final week we went back to the military to go to a range and fire some of their weapons, as well as visit some popular tourist attractions around the city.” - CDT Tyler Teichmann



Project GO

“I had a wonderful experience in Kyrgyzstan. I remember my professor warning me of culture shock and I realized the first second I arrived in Bishkek that culture shock would be an obstacle for me. However, it was much easier to get over than I expected, especially when I was surrounded by the beautiful mountains Kyrgyzstan holds. My Russian classes were a constant challenge, but they were well worth it when I realized that my Russian grammar, reading, and conversation was greatly improving. Nevertheless, like any other student my favorite part wasn't going to class, but going on excursions and enjoying the beautiful nightlife. A few hours outside of Bishkek fellow students and myself were able to experience the stunning lakes and waterfalls in Issyk Kul. We were also exposed to a more traditional Kyrgyz lifestyle after visiting Manas' grave (a mythical Kyrgyz hero) and having folk stories sung to us in Talas, Kyrgyzstan. Aside from meeting brilliant and kind people, my favorite part about my excursion was my ability to navigate around my new city without getting lost and if I did become turned around I was able to ask, in Russian, direction to my desired destination. I was able to explore the city with my new friends and try foods that I would never imagine eating in America. I will forever cherish this opportunity I had to live and learn in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.” - CDT Wynter Novak



CDT Novak enjoys serenity in the mountains of Kyrgyzstan



CDT Vanneman enjoys sight-seeing in Jordan.

“This past summer I studied abroad in Amman, Jordan for two months. I spent five days a week studying the Arabic language with 15 other ROTC students. The weekends were spent traveling the country and immersing myself in the Arabic culture. Some places I travelled to were the Dead Sea, the Red Sea, one of the seven wonders of the world-Petra, the desert of Wadi Rum and the ancient Roman ruins of Jerash. During the two months, I lived with a host family. The standards of living are very different in Amman compared the United States. One example is there is a shortage of water in Jordan. Everything involving water around the house was limited and used only if necessary. While there was a small percentage of Jordanians who spoke

English, I had to speak Arabic all the time in order to communicate. Studying abroad in the Middle East is a once in a life time opportunity and I would highly recommend any Cadet interested in studying Arabic to apply to Project GO.” - CDT Kevin Vanneman



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