



EWU ARMY ROTC

FIGHTING EAGLES BATTALION

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

SY 2012-2013



Cadet Battalion Commander's Corner

by Amanda Reich

It has certainly been a fantastic year here at EWU Army ROTC. Our cadets have made significant strides over the year and have left a lasting impact on the program. I'd especially like to acknowledge our Basic Course Cadets and the achievements they have made this year.

Unlike years past, our freshman and sophomore Cadets have taken on significant responsibility; MSIs have stepped up to lead regular PT sessions each week this quarter, and an MSI even asked for the additional responsibility of leading a session. They are taking charge of the additional PT sessions to continue the intensity of our physical fitness program in the years to come. MSIs are also now performing as squad leaders, allowing the MSIIIs to take up company-level positions, platoon leadership, and perform counseling and mentorship roles for the underclassmen. To wrap up this quarter, the freshman class is taking on a comprehensive final covering not only the skills they have learned in the class, but also a thorough understanding of the structure of the Army and the chain of command above them, and a drill and ceremony competition for which they have been practicing consistently all quarter. These Cadets will go on to do fantastic things here at EWU and beyond in their careers.

You may have noticed that the EWU Alumni Foundation did not call in the annual ROTC fund campaign; however, we still do want to stay in touch with our alumni. As we transition to making more outreach through Facebook and other social media, as well as newsletters like this one, we hope that you will help us to maintain that connection. We know many of our alumni have gone on to do great things in the Army and certainly have a lot to teach our Cadets. There are many ways to contact us to share your stories, whether you are in the area or not. We welcome campus visits and would be happy to reserve time for you to visit with the Cadets, as well as letters by mail or by email. We would also like to publish more status updates in our newsletters for important events in your careers, so feel free to let us know how you are doing!

As we continue to work on our virtual photo gallery (you may have seen it on the Facebook page w/ Google+ links) we welcome any photos you may have from your time as a Cadet or as an officer if you would like to share them. For now we will collect any photo submissions by email or snail mail until we have a way for alumni to upload directly to the albums. Our ultimate goal is to collect and share photos in a way that allows all Cadets, former and current, to access photos from their time at EWU and see what their cohort is doing today. With our Cadets stepping up to new levels of leadership, we look forward to hearing your stories to inspire them to continue with the hard work that has been put in this year. They will certainly continue to take EWU Army ROTC above and beyond expectations and leave lasting improvements on this battalion.

As for our graduating class, we are honored to have been a part of such a fantastic year, so proud to see what excellence the classes following us have achieved, and inspired by what our alumni have accomplished. We look forward to hearing more of your stories, more advice from your career experience, and joining you as future Army Officers soon.

To send in your updates, advice, stories, and photos contact us at: rotc@ewu.edu or

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U.S. ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS FIGHTING EAGLES BATTALION NEWSLETTER

Professor of Military Science Corner

by LTC Jason M. Pape



Greetings family, friends, alumni, community partners & supporters to EWU's Army ROTC – the "Fighting Eagles!" First, let me apologize for how long it's been since you received one of our newsletters. It seems we've been so busy doing stuff this year that we struggled to find time to write about all that we're doing. Actually, that's not true. We've been sharing some pretty terrific stories throughout the year on Facebook. If you're on FB, I encourage you to visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/ewurotc> and click "Like" to stay informed about all of the things that our Cadets are accomplishing. If you're already engaged on Facebook, some of the stories in this newsletter should seem familiar. But we want to share them with folks who may not be social-media savvy. So many things have happened this year, but we have to make a cut on this newsletter at some point. Hopefully these few stories motivate you to go back in our timeline on Facebook and see what else you might have missed, and to visit regularly from here on out.

I'm coming up on the one year mark as the PMS at Eastern. What a year it's been! I cannot overstate how honored I am to be part of this program or how impressed I am with the progress our Cadets have made this year. There are many exciting things being discussed in Cadet Command right now: changes to the Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC), as it morphs into what would better be described as the Cadet Leader Course; initiatives to front-load some of our Cadets' basic skills training, thereby allowing us more time to work on adaptive leadership and critical/creative thinking during the school year. Well, here at EWU, we say "why wait for Cadet Command to make it happen?" Our Cadets have done a superb job, throughout the year, raising the bar on training and promoting excellence throughout the program. As a result, MS Is & IIs (first and second-year Cadets) are stepping up and taking on more leadership responsibilities than anyone would expect in ROTC. Cadets are organizing their own extra fitness sessions, doing workouts you simply would not believe, and when we tell them they can take a day off of PT because they've done so well or been so busy – they respond with "we don't want a day off; we want to get even stronger." Cadets no longer talk about minimum standards, or what they must do to get by in the program. Instead, they seek out challenging opportunities and give everything they've got. My wife Tamara watched the Fighting Eagles team compete in a recent Spartan Race in Bigfork, Montana; she was so impressed by the way that OTHER spectators, throughout the course, noted the team dynamic – the camaraderie, motivation, strength and stamina – that they saw in our team ("The Red Team," they called us). The same drive carries over to the classroom as well. Cadets are pursuing ever-more challenging academic majors and are doing really well in their courses. You can see it in everything they do; these Cadets want to be the best they can be! There's plenty of room for friends, family, and alumni (young and old) to take part in this as well. Our Cadets are always looking for mentorship from the field – from those who can tell us what it's like being an Officer in the Army or who might have advice on things they would have done differently, looking back. We'd love to hear more from Alumni, so we can share their stories with our Cadets, to appreciate the prestige of this program's graduates and show what's possible as future Army leaders.



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Summer CULP Experience

by Kelly Joiner

This summer, I was given the incredible opportunity to travel to Costa Rica to participate in the Army's Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP) Program. The purpose of this program was to develop culturally astute leaders, capable of functioning in an unfamiliar operational environment where they can build upon a base of cross-cultural competence. This experience more than accomplished its purpose; it helped me increase my communication skills, build lasting friendships with Cadets from all over the United States, grow in my cultural awareness and Spanish speaking ability, and increase my leadership abilities.



My time in Costa Rica was unforgettable. During our first two weeks in country, we worked in an elderly care facility, building a patio and taking care of the residents. The residents were thankful, kind, and genuinely enjoyed our company. Listening to their stories and spending time with them was incredibly rewarding, regardless



of the language barrier. We worked at an orphanage our last week in Costa Rica; this was my favorite part of the trip. The children had been through a great deal of suffering in their short years, but maintained very positive attitudes. Many of them couldn't contain their excitement when we came to visit them. They looked up to us and made us feel that our time there was genuinely needed. I encourage every Cadet to apply for CULP; it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that is worth every second of your time.

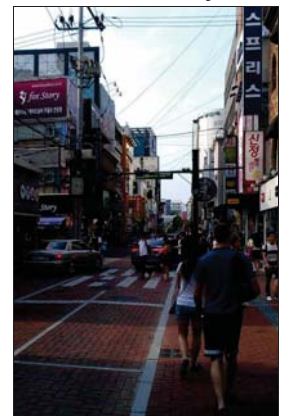


Summer CTLT Experience

by Colin Tait

Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) was and is a great opportunity and provides experience and confidence to future US Army leaders before they ever don the golden bar, the rank of a 2nd Lieutenant. I was able to go to Waegwan, South Korea at Camp Carroll for my CTLT and learned a great deal about platoon leadership, planning and training, and a first-hand look at the everyday life of our Soldiers. My experience lasted for one month in which other Cadets and I were tasked with "shadowing" a platoon leader and then, when possible – which should be a majority of that month – you will really be and do the things the platoon leader does. I was assigned to the 35th ADA Brigade. I spent most days working with the platoon sergeant overseeing and executing training. I was able to see how a platoon leader creates and issues plans and then the platoon sergeant executes them. I oversaw inventory of the platoon, worked with Soldiers and learned some of their skills and duties, working with vehicles and the sophisticated technology used by ADA.

I was also able to attend company training meetings and view the working relationships between officers, warrant officers and NCOs. CTLT usually takes place in the summer, so it provides insight to how difficult training and day-to-day affairs can be with Soldiers being transferred and many taking leave. Being in Korea or another country has its perks since you receive generally the same hours as the platoon you are assigned to and this gives you time to see a different part of the world, experience a new culture and cuisine and understand how the Army works with other countries and their governments. Overall, it was an experience I would recommend to any Cadet, but especially those with less military experience and understanding. In my opinion, it is the best opportunity outside of prior military experience to see what life is like as an US Army Officer.



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Annual Military Ball

This year's Military Ball was a huge success! For the first time in several years, we held the event off campus – at the Lincoln Center in Spokane. We were honored to have Rear Admiral (Retired) Lotzenhiser as our speaker. It's not often that you see an Admiral as the guest of honor at an Army ROTC event, but George Lotzenhiser represents several things that make our program special. He's a Spokane native. He originally enlisted in the Navy to play trombone, rose through the enlisted ranks, then officer, and retired as a RADM in the Navy Reserves (we have several SMP / prior service Cadets). He served in three wars: WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. He also served as the Dean of the Fine Arts Department at EWU for decades. His wife (now deceased) was the first Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) to enlist from Tacoma (we have a large proportion of female Cadets, many of them challenging the norms of what women can do in the Army). When they met, SHE out-ranked HIM in the Navy. We'd like to wish the Admiral a happy birthday! He's turning 90 this year. He's still sharp though; uses email and moves around like he's half his age. It was a pleasure...



Accessions (Branch) Results

Every year, Cadet Command conducts a very deliberate accessions process to determine what component of the Army our Cadets will serve, and in what branch. For many Cadets, this is one of the most significant times in ROTC, as it determines to a large degree what they might do in their Army career. This year's MS IVs (Seniors) had a relatively good run through the accessions process, with most of them getting their top choices for branch. We invite alumni from these branches to reach out to these very promising future officers and offer any advice / mentorship they see fit. In addition to those below, Catherine (Huston) Monroe will be an end-of-camp commissionee this summer and will (almost certainly) commission as an Army Nurse immediately after.

Liam Barnett Active Duty <i>Infantry</i>	Matthew Harris Active Duty <i>Medical Service Corps, Aviation Option</i>	Colin Tait Active Duty <i>Transportation Corps</i>
Benjamin Burbank WA Army National Guard <i>Military Intelligence</i>	Amanda Reich Army Reserves <i>Military Intelligence</i>	Michael Wilhelm Active Duty <i>Armor</i>



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Military Appreciation Football Game

Eastern Washington University hosted a special event during one of their football games to show its appreciation for those currently serving in the military, veterans, and future military leaders here at EWU. Several local veterans groups and EWU alumni showed up in force to take part. During the playing of the national anthem, EWU Army ROTC Cadets and veteran students and alumni joined one another in presenting the Colors. Just one more reason why Eastern continues to find itself ranked one of the most military-friendly college campuses in the United States.



EWU Army ROTC Cadets, Alumni, and Veterans present the Colors while Cadet Michael Wilhelm (Company Commander) sings the National Anthem, at the 2012 Military Appreciation Football Game.



WSU College of Nursing Agreement

Professors of Military Science from Washington State, Eastern Washington, and Gonzaga met with the administration of WSU's College of Nursing at Riverpoint Campus to renew a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that reserves five slots annually for qualified ROTC Cadets in the College's Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. Gaining admission to a certified nursing program is often the toughest part of becoming a nurse. This agreement provides much more certainty to our prospective nurses; as long as they meet the admissions requirements, they will not be denied admission through a competitive process.



LTC Todd Plotner (WSU), Dr. Patricia Butterfield (WSU College of Nursing Dean), LTC Jason Pape (EWU) and LTC Dave Bingham (Gonzaga)

A recent graduate of EWU Army ROTC and the WSU College of Nursing, 2LT Adam Busby coordinated a terrific ceremony to highlight the formal signing of the agreement. Serving as a Gold-Bar Recruiter for our program at the time, he also gave a terrific speech about what it means to be an Army Nurse. You can view a transcript of his speech at the following web address:



<http://cougartraks.com/2012/11/30/what-it-means-to-be-a-cougar-rotc-nurse/>



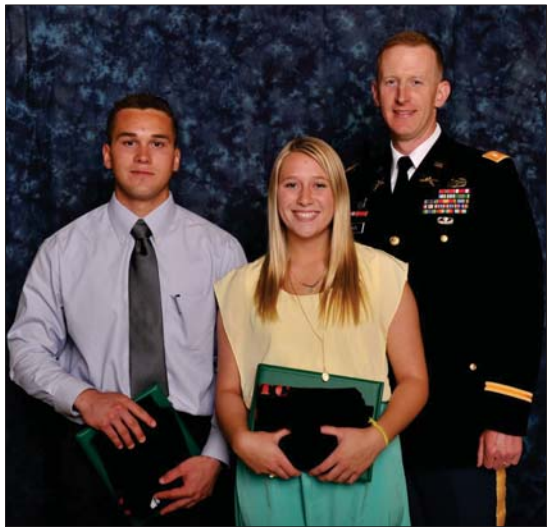
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Army ROTC Scholarship Winners

Every year, Army ROTC awards thousands of scholarships to graduating high school students in a competitive national selection process. In addition, we award several campus-based scholarships to Cadets who are already participating in ROTC here at Eastern. We're very excited about the unique and talented prospects we presented with scholarships this year. Two of them are part of the Running Start program; so while they are technically just graduating from high school, they'll have the equivalent of an associate's degree already, when they join us in the fall. Two of them are coming from the same high school: West Valley HS in Spokane Valley. Congratulations to Richmond Landoe, Kaylee Tate, Ashley Wright, and Noble Huffaker; can't wait to see you in the Fall. We still need to get a photo with Noble Huffaker; hopefully this summer, when we're on the west side of the state for LDAC.



Richmond Landoe & Kaylee Tate, from West Valley High School (& EWU where Little Landoe is in Running Start and already famous in ROTC)

We'd also like to congratulate Anthony Fleck, Spencer Fox, Zane Kenndy, Brian Trabun, Cody Moen, and Cody Fuller on their campus-based scholarships that will cover the next few years of school for them. For more information on Army ROTC Scholarships, particularly for high school juniors, visit:

<http://www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships.html>



Ashley Wright, from Eastmont HS (& Wenatchee Valley College, where she is in Running Start)

Spartan Race

Cadet Battalion Commander Amanda Reich inspired several Cadets recently to form a team and compete in a Spartan Race in Bigfork, Montana. What a great team-building event! We had a couple of Cadets compete for time in one of the "elite" heats, while the rest of us stuck it out as a group, the whole way through. Many of us are hooked and will be competing in other races in the area later this summer/fall. If you'd like to see more photos of the event, click here: <http://tinyurl.com/pwvbogl>



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Special Projects

In addition to the “routines” of ROTC, we always have some special projects in the works. Right now, the two areas we are most engaged with are the ongoing Vietnam Commemoration and our efforts to build a functional fitness center at Cadet Hall. The functional fitness center is, in many ways, an extension of the indoor range project that so many alumni contributed to over the past few years. These projects would not be possible without support from outside the program. Most of the time, we can only thank you with feedback on the opportunities that your contributions bring to our Cadets, building the overall prestige of the program. But once in a while, as is the case with the Vietnam Commemoration, your contributions allow us to honor YOU.

Vietnam Commemoration

Along with many other groups, EWU’s Army ROTC program is participating in the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration from May 28, 2012 – November 11, 2025. As part of the commemoration, there will be many activities at the various levels of government and within the different organizations supporting the cause. But there are things each of us can do, on a personal level as well. This isn't just a day, or a month of observance. We're making up for many years in which we forgot to say "thank you" and pay our respects. Encourage your friends, family, and organizations to take part as well! <http://youtu.be/XKJ-kfsDMPY> We're looking forward to planning events over the coming years to honor Vietnam Veterans, highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War, and pay tribute to the contributions made by those who



supported our military throughout the conflict. Given the number of distinguished EWU Alumni who served during this era, this is something we're privileged to take part in. Keep an eye out for commemorative materials around Cadet Hall and take the time to find out more about this era and our Alumni's role in it. We invite our Alumni to share their stories, photos, or mementos from this period – that we could showcase in a commemorative display we are constructing now in Cadet Hall. For more information on how you can “be part” of building our commemorative display, contact Dyanna Flores at ROTC@ewu.edu. And for more information about the commemoration itself: <http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/about/>

COL (R) Don Nelson & LTC (R) Jerry Mellick checking out the American Huey369 display at the 2013 HAI Helicopter Expo in Las Vegas; both EWU Alumni, helicopter pilots in Vietnam, and buddies to this day. Notice the EWU Alumni magazine between them!



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Promoting Excellence within the Fighting Eagles Battalion

EWU's ROTC program has a long and proud heritage of producing capable commissioned officers for the United States Army. Whether they commissioned from Eastern Washington College of Education, Eastern Washington State College, or Eastern Washington University, we consider them all Fighting Eagles Alumni! As our current Cadets try to live up to the legacy of those who came before them, and in an effort to meet the challenges of today's operating environment, our Cadets are pushing themselves well beyond the traditional ROTC requirements and pursuing opportunities to make themselves (and the program) as good as possible.

Functional Fitness & Team Endurance Events

One of the areas where our Cadets have really expressed an aspiration for excellence is functional fitness. The Ranger Regiment calls their version of fitness Ranger-Athlete-Warrior (RAW). At places like Fort Carson and Fort Drum, units have embraced a similar Mountain Functional Fitness emphasis. Civilians would recognize a lot of it as "CrossFit." In all of these programs, the emphasis is on building functional strength and endurance, not just building muscles. Unlike traditional gyms, where most of the space is consumed by machines that exercise only one muscle (group), functional fitness gyms are mostly open space with lots of equipment that can be easily moved and used for a variety of exercises. To see examples of what this looks like, click here: <http://youtu.be/wwH7GxrbJCw> or here: <http://youtu.be/guyBKtDU7yU>

Our Cadets have done away with what was once a "lounge" area downstairs, adjacent to the indoor range. They have cobbled together enough equipment to get the program started. However, much of the equipment is borrowed and, frankly, it's not enough to accommodate the number of Cadets who have become regular participants in the extra PT sessions. Ultimately, we want to give them space inside the building (for inclement weather) and an area outside with some of the apparatus you see in the photo to the right, plus space to do the same things they do inside. They can use most of the equipment in either location. We also hope to send some of our Cadets who show a serious interest/aptitude for this level of fitness to training/certification courses like the ones offered at MilitaryAthlete in Jackson, WY.



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Fighting Eagles Foundation Fund

We continue to use the Fighting Eagles Foundation fund to manage donations that ultimately serve to maintain the program's memorabilia (things like the 1951 M38A1 Willys Jeep, aka "Eagle 1") and to resource special projects like the indoor rifle range renovation and marksmanship program.

<http://issuu.com/ewueagles/docs/emagwinter2012/26?e=0>

We have continued to build upon the range project, most recently with efforts to integrate a computerized / virtual-reality system that replicates the same kind of training that the Army now uses to augment traditional marksmanship training. We would like to expand the scope of this fund even further, to include things like the functional fitness center and perhaps even assisting Cadets with the expenses involved in attending competitive events that are aligned with ROTC training objectives. However, we respect the fact that many supporters want a say in what we do with their contributions. If you have a particular project that you would like to support more than the others, we invite you to tell us when you make a contribution and we will honor your intentions. For more information on the foundation fund, feel free to contact Dyanna Flores at rotc@ewu.edu. If you have specific questions about proposed projects like the functional fitness center, contact LTC Pape at jpape@ewu.edu.

Fighting Eagles Foundation Scholarship

Many of our supporter's charitable contributions come with specific instructions that we should use the monies to support scholarships for promising ROTC students and/or prospective students. These resources have been instrumental in our recent efforts to attract talent, even pulling them away from programs that have traditionally been considered more prestigious. Because federal ROTC scholarship funds are being spread more evenly between 4-year, 3-year, and 2-year pools, we are using these funds to demonstrate our confidence in strong SALs (scholar-athlete-leader prospects) until they can be considered for federal scholarships later on. We look forward to sharing stories of these Cadets' progress in the future, as we begin to see the fruits of our investment bloom in these incoming Cadets.

Alumni Update

Congratulations to Major General (Retired) Privratsky on his recent recognition with the 2013 EWU Exceptional Military Service Award. An infantryman, a logistician, a historian and writer, an Army (SAMS) Jedi, and an avid fan of the Iditarod – he epitomizes the qualities of the many great leaders who've come out of our ROTC program over the years. It was a pleasure to see him and his wife Kathy again at the awards gala. To see the video produced about MG (R) Privratsky for this event, click here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMQJ4JQIPNE&feature=share&list=PLB63R1Myzw0IVIo5W0BikTYxIcKU-VnUA>

From left to right, LTC (R) Jerry Mellick (Class of '67), MG (R) Ken Privratsky (Class of '69), LTC (R) Dave Millet (Former PMS @ EWU), and LTC Jason Pape (Current PMS @ EWU)



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Congratulations to Brigadier General (Promotable) Gary Volesky on his recent nomination to the rank of Major General. BG (P) Volesky is an EWU Army ROTC Alumnus from the Class of '83. He currently serves as the Army Chief of Public Affairs, a position the Army often uses to groom its best and brightest general officers for further promotion. He was last year's recipient of EWU's Exceptional Military Service Award.

<http://www.army.mil/info/institution/publicAffairs/chief/>
<http://sites.ewu.edu/pillars/2012/05/2012-exceptional-military-service-brigadier-general-gary-volesky/>



Bill Dick (far left), Bruce Peters (4th from right), Larry Heuple (2nd from right), and Jerry Stanley (far right) join several other classmates from the Class of 1962 this past October at EWU for their 50 year reunion. All four of these gentlemen commissioned through the ROTC program at (then) Eastern Washington State College.

LTC Jerome Duffy, Class of '88, currently the 10th Regional Support Group S3 in Okinawa, is soon headed to Kuwait and then to Fort Hood. Rare these days, but more common in the early days of ROTC at EWSC/EWU, LTC Duffy also played football for the Eagles (formerly Savages) while he was in ROTC. We need to get him back here soon to see the RED Roos Field.



1LT Jonathan Abshire, Class of 2010, is currently serving with B Company, 1/327 IN, part of 1BCT 101 ABN, in the Nangarhar province of eastern Afghanistan, advising and assisting the 4th ANA BDE (a brand new unit).

We know there are more Alumni out there who we should be in touch with. We've shared a few stories here, just to capture a few highlights from the many eras' worth of officers who came out of our program. Please, pass this along to others you know from your ROTC years and encourage them to get in touch with us, share some of their photos/memories from ROTC, and let us know if/how we can keep in touch. And, if they are interested in following our Cadets from now on, as they endeavor to follow in your footsteps, advise them to find us on Facebook and "Like" our page to stay abreast. You can always send us an update at rotc@ewu.edu.



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