

THE FIGHTING FALCON

BGSU ARMY ROTC ALUMNI SOCIETY
APRIL 2009

OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSIST BGSU ARMY ROTC



The ROTC Detachment is marketing memorial paving bricks for the monument and flagpoles next to Memorial Hall. You can have them inscribed with your name or that of a loved one along with a personal message. Two sizes are available, the larger facial bricks for a donation of \$100.00 (only a limited quantity are left), or a standard size paving brick for

\$75.00. Please contact the ROTC Department for further details.

Our Anniversary Challenge Coin is still available for a contribution to the BGSU Army ROTC Alumni Fund to provide operating funds, awards and assistance to the ROTC program. If you would like to obtain one of the challenge coins, please contact me at djride@wcnnet.org, evenings at (419) 352-5054 or by mail: 17070 Mercer Rd., Bowling Green, OH 43402.



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APRIL 2009

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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COMMISSIONING CEREMONIES SUMMER AND FALL 2008

IN MEMORIAM

OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSIST BGSU ARMY ROTC



Office of Alumni & Development
 Mileti Alumni Center
 Bowling Green State University
 Bowling Green, OH 43403-0053

Dear Fellow Alumni,

The 2008 Homecoming Celebration was a great success. Our tent was jointly sponsored with the ROTC Detachment and Cadets and the Ohio National Guard. Our tent had the greatest barbeque in Ohio thanks to LTC Steve Letzring's preparation and cooking skills. The Guard provided some current military vehicles and for the delight of future students, a climbing wall.



Alumnus MAJ Mitchell Gargac with Cadre XO, MAJ Mickie Skaggs

On a more somber note, I am sad to report the loss of one of our recent graduates, CPT Mike Medders, Jr., '05, who has made the supreme sacrifice for our country. To my knowledge, he is the only member of our ROTC Alumni to have lost his life in service to our country. I had heard rumors of others, but fortunately those rumors proved negative. If anyone has knowledge of any of our graduates who have lost their life in service to our country, I would like to know the details so the individuals can be honored by our society.

Do you have any news you would like to share with fellow alums? If so please contact me at djride@wcnnet.org, evenings at (419) 352-5054 or by mail: 17070 Mercer Rd., Bowling Green, OH 43402.



Cadre Chefs MAJ Daniel Potts, LTC Steven Letzring, and MSGT Robert Cook

Yours Sincerely,
David Ridenour
 BGSU Army ROTC Alumni President

ARMY ROTC CADET NEWS

LTC Steven Letzring is proud to announce that Bowling Green State University now recognizes Military Science as a minor. LTC Letzring's petition to the University was reviewed and accepted by the Curriculum Committee and will apply to future graduates being commissioned.

LTC Letzring also announced that six cadets were selected this school year as Distinguished Military Graduates. The six cadets receiving this honor are:

Jennifer Griggs | Concord, OH, ranked 80th, to be commissioned in May 2009 in Military Intelligence (Active Duty)

Kyle DeVerna | Troy, MI, rank 552nd, to be commissioned in May 2009 in Military Intelligence (Reserves)

Patrick Dehnart | Ottawa, OH, ranked 628th, to be commissioned in May 2009 in Armor (Active Duty)

Ryan Caligiuri | Findlay, OH, ranked 693rd, was commissioned December 2008 in Signal Corps (Reserves)

Jason Cross | Parma, OH, ranked 739th, to be commissioned in May 2009 in Medical Service (Active Duty)

Jonathan Luu | Strongsville, OH, ranked 854th, to be commissioned in May 2009 in Signal Corps (National Guard)

COMMISSIONING CEREMONIES SUMMER AND FALL 2008

The summer 2008 Commissioning Ceremony was held on August 8, 2008. The four cadets receiving their 2LT bars were:



2LTs: Anderson, Johnson, Toth & Martin

Nathan A. Anderson | Avon Lake, OH, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration specializing in General Business and commissioned as an Engineer Officer in the Ohio National Guard and will be attached to the 945th Engineer Support Company in Norwalk, OH

Floyd K. Johnson | Goldsboro, NC, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, his branch is currently unassigned

Michael Martin | Raleigh, NC, Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies and minors in Political Science and Sociology, branched in Field Artillery

Bridget Toth | Boardman, OH, Bachelor's Degree in Applied Health Science, her branch is currently unassigned.

Two cadets were commissioned during the fall of 2007 on December 19, 2008. Receiving their 2LT bars were:

Ryan T. Caligiuri | Van Buren, OH, Bachelor of Science in Business Education and commissioned in the Signal Corps

Matthew J. Swaney | Celina, OH, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and branched Infantry.

Congratulations to all our new BGSU Army ROTC Alumni Society members.



2LTs: Caligiuri & Swaney

IN MEMORIAM

MG (Ret) William E. Sweet

Class of 1953, passed away July 8, 2008 at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. MG Sweet was commissioned in Field Artillery and served two tours of duty in Vietnam, first as a Senior Military Advisor and the second tour as a Province Senior Advisor. He received a Master's Degree from Shippensburg University of PA and attended the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. General Sweet served in Europe as the Commanding General of the 56th Artillery Command (Pershing), commander of the 8th Infantry Division Artillery, and was Chief of Staff of the 8th Infantry Division and VII Corps. In Washington DC he was Operations Chief in the Office of Legislative Liaison and as Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense. Bill is survived by his wife of 56 years, Nedra Sweet. General Sweet is a member of the BGSU Army ROTC Hall of Fame.

Gregory A. Hendel

Class of 1969, passed away February 9, 2009. Greg lived in Perrysburg, OH and was a certified public accountant and financial planner with Hendel and Zuchowski, LLP. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree, cum laude, in Business Administration and his Master's Degree in Accounting in 1970. He was commissioned in the Finance Corp and served on active duty from 1970 to 1972. He was very active in many community organizations, Boy Scouts of America, and served as past chairman of the BGSU Foundation Board of Directors.

Captain Michael J. Medders, Jr.

Captain Medders, a 2005 graduate of Bowling Green State University and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and branched Military Intelligence with a branch detail in Armor. CPT Medders attended the Armor Officers Basic Course before being assigned to the 2nd Squad 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment based out of Ft. Hood, TX. He was on deployed in October 2007 for Operation Iraqi Freedom stationed at FOB Caldwell in Baquba, Iraq. In May of 2008, he suffered a concussion from a roadside bomb while on patrol. Mike received his promotion to Captain in July 2008. On September 24, 2008, CPT Medders died of wounds sustained in Jisr Naft, Iraq when a suicide bomber that Mike had detained subsequently detonated his vest. CPT Medders was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor and the Purple Heart, both post-humus. CPT Medders was buried on October 3, 2008 with full military honors in St. Joseph Cemetery, Avon, Ohio.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 24, 2009 | Spring Awards Banquet

May 8, 2009 | Spring Commissioning Ceremony

Please contact the Army ROTC Department at **(419) 372-2476** for further details.