



SPRING 2014

Fighting Falcon Battalion NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 26, 2014
Memorial Day

June 21, 2014
Commissioning @ UNOH

August 19, 2014
Cadets Return for FBI Prep
Findlay Starts School

August 20-22, 2014
FBI Family Day/APFT

August 25, 2014
BGSU Starts School
Heidelberg Starts School
ONU Starts School
Tiffin University Starts School

September 15, 2014
UNOH Starts First Quarter for
Fall

September 19-21
Fall FTX

September 26-28
Cedar Point

October 10-12
Cedar Point

November 21, 2014
Military Ball

2014 Spring Awards Ceremony

Cadets gathered Friday night, 18 April 2014, to conduct the annual Spring Awards Banquet. Differentiating from the Military Ball held during the latter portion of the Fall Semester, the Spring Awards banquet brings together just the Army ROTC Cadets, families, friends and program supporters while the Military Ball also includes the Air Force ROTC program. At this banquet, awards are presented, friends and family of the Cadets are treated to a buffet, and an individual important to BGSU Army ROTC's past is inducted into the Army ROTC Hall of Fame. In addition there is the annual "gag" awards ceremony where Cadets compile a few awards for laughs for friends and family to share.

Though a good time is to be had and awards are to be won, the most important aspect of the Spring Awards banquet is that it rewards the Cadets' hard work. It allows their friends and family to see that they don't just attend classes and show up to PT every other morning, and to show that their hard work does not go unnoticed. When asked what he thought was important about this awards ceremony, Cadet Joshua Stagl had this to say:

"It encourages Cadets to come back to our program in the Fall and try harder, and to reward the Cadets for their hard work throughout the year."

This year's Spring Awards was also important as it said goodbye to one of our own as he heads off into the world of retirement. BGSU Army ROTC's Professor of Military Science, LTC Douglas Mohler, was recognized for his hard work and dedication to this program and its Cadets for the past three years. LTC Mohler was more than surprised at the arrival of his close family members and of the presentation of a saber enclosed in glass, highlighting his past achievements and serving as a hallmark for his time spent as an Army Officer.



(Far left) LTC Douglas Mohler starts the awards ceremony with a few opening remarks. (Left) Cadet Ethan Brown is presented one of his many awards during the evening's awards ceremony.



COL (Ret.) John Shay (Center) graduated from BGSU as a Distinguish Military Graduate in 1982. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Administration from Central Michigan and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. He served as an Armor Officer and was inducted into the BGSU ROTC Hall of Fame for the class of 2014.

New Cadre Added to BGSU ROTC

My name is Nathan Davis (Right), I am from Wellington, Ohio. I graduated from BGSU in 2008, with a BA in History and received a commission into the US Army Reserves as a MP. I served three years on Active duty following my Officer Basic. I have been a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, an assistant long range plans officer, area security/force protection officer and am currently assigned as commander of the 326th Military History Detachment. I was deployed to Iraq in 2009-2010 and Afghanistan in 2012-2013. I have been married for the past 6 years to my wife Leah and we have a 2 ½ year old daughter named Fiona. In what little free time I do have, I enjoy watching Hockey and participating in Living History events.



Hello Falcon Battalion, My Name is Mr. Adam Bockrath (Right). I am a new civilian contractor for the Falcons and I look forward to meeting everyone and helping out wherever I can. I am a First Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve, as a Military Intelligence Officer. For any of those Cadets who are looking to go MI, I have recently attended the course in 2012, and I am willing to share my experience. I graduated from University of Toledo and Commissioned in the May of 2012 with an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice. I recently completed a Master's degree program in Criminal Justice from the University of Toledo in fall of 2013. As much as it hurts me to say this coming from a rival school, "Go Falcons!"



George C. Marshall Award

CDT Jordan Miller (Right) was selected as this year's George C. Marshall award winner for the Fighting Falcon Battalion. This award is given to the top Army ROTC Cadets from each school as selected for their achievements in academics, leadership and physical fitness. The Marshall Award is in recognition of excellence in these areas as they reflect the qualities of integrity, selfless service, candor, commitment and courage that General Marshall exemplified during his stellar career. Over the course of the three day seminar, CDT Miller had the opportunity to interact with the top leaders of the United States Army during formal and informal discussion sessions. Guest speakers included GEN Raymond T. Odierno, Chief of Staff, US Army; GEN David Perkins, Commanding General, TRADOC; and LTG Patricia D. Horoho, Surgeon General of the Army; and BG Peggy Combs, Commanding General, Cadet Command. In addition, he participated in in-depth roundtable discussions regarding North Korea, China, and Cyber Warfare with subject matter experts, as well as a virtual staff ride of Operation Anaconda with General Richard Cody (Ret). This event takes place in Lexington, Virginia on the campus of the Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University, the alma mater of General Marshall. The selected Cadets that attended this event will benefit from the lessons learned for the duration of their professional careers.



Royal Greens

This past semester in Royal Greens, CDT Schubert took over the position as president from CDT Matukas. "I have been learning the ropes and getting good experience with planning community service events. So far this past semester between spring break and all of our FTX's, we have completed two highway trash pickups and went to Dance Marathon to spend time with kids from Children's Miracle Network and some of the dancers (the dancers stood for 32 hours straight). Also coming up we are helping a BGSU Alumni set up for Kiwanis Pancake Day."



From left to right Cadet Lane, Cadet Schubert, and Cadet Hicks

Pershing Rifles

This year Pershing Rifles Company I-1, at BGSU, participated in a number of events throughout the country. In the fall, Company I-1 manned the cannon in the end zone of all the home football games and did push-ups each time BGSU scored a touchdown. Also in the fall, Company I-1 trained 13 Cadets, in both Army and Air Force ROTC, in a process to become Pershing Riflemen. This process included learning what Pershing Rifles is and why it is important, conducting squad STX lanes, and other military tactics. These new members more than doubled the size of the company. Later in the year, Company I-1 traveled to Richmond, VA for the Pershing Rifles national convention, or NATCON. During this event, companies from all over the country compete in exhibitions, duets, and a number of other military movement competitions. This year, Cadets Rowlands and Crist placed 3rd in their duet.

Additional Summer Training

The Fighting Falcon Battalion is excited to send Cadets to Airborne School, Air Assault School, Cultural Understanding Language Program (CULP), Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT), and even an internship this summer. Cadet Croft will be attending Airborne School, while Cadet Bowman will be attending Air Assault School. Cadets Burgos, Forsyth, and Schubert will all be attending CULP in Greece for a month. Cadets Savage and Wadsworth will be attending CTLT and CULP respectively in Germany. Cadet Stagl will be attending CTLT at Fort Bliss, Texas and Cadet Wendel will be attending her internship at Rock Island, Illinois. The Fighting Falcon Battalion looks forward to hearing about their experiences which will be an added asset to all the Cadets.

Commissioning Ceremony Held at Tiffin University

Cadets Kyle Manzella, Tyler Todd and Jordan Miller all commissioned as 2LTs on 3 May 2014 at Tiffin University. 2LT Manzella graduated with a Bachelors of Criminal Justice in Law Enforcement and is branching Field Artillery in the Ohio National Guard. 2LT Todd graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Government and National Security, a Bachelor of Criminal Justice in Homeland Security and Terrorism, with two minors in Middle Eastern Studies and Military Science and is branching Ordnance as an active duty officer. 2LT Miller earned a Master a Business Administration degree and is branching Finance in the Army Reserves.



*(Left to Right)
2LT Kyle
Manzella,
2LT Tyler
Todd, 2LT
Jordan Miller*

Cadets learn from Spring JFTX

The MSIIIs of the Fighting Falcon Battalion made the long 3 hour trek to Fort Custer, MI the morning of Thursday, 10 April 2014, by bus as their MSI and MSII counterparts, from both the University of Toledo and BGSU, arrived at the University of Toledo to be surprised to find out that they will make their trip via CH-47 Chinooks. Cadets arrived at Ft. Custer ready to take on the long weekend with a plethora of beneficial training in store for them. The first day both Basic (MSIs and MSII) and Advanced (MSIIIs) course Cadets conducted day and night Land Navigation training. Cadets quickly discovered that the thorn bushes located in the bushes of Ft. Custer were to be their worst enemy this weekend as they attempted to locate all of their points during both portions of training.

The following day Basic and Advanced course Cadets split and went separate ways for the weekend training. Basic and Advanced course Cadets were broken down into platoons, equally spreading out both UT and BGSU Cadets amongst each platoon. Basic course Cadets conducted training exercises on the FLRC (Field Leadership Reaction Course), Hand Grenade Assault course where they were given training grenades to facilitate their training, and the IMT (Individual Movement) lanes, as well as given the opportunity to run through the Obstacle Course. Advanced course Cadets completed two days of patrolling operations. These lanes are meant to facilitate their training for LDAC and better prepare them for Platoon Operations. Advanced course Cadets conducted ambush, attack, reconnaissance, and raid operations.

On the third day, all Basic Course Cadets were given paint ball guns and conducted small Platoon operations of their own, by initiating ambush and attack missions and utilizing their knowledge of platoon ops. Cadets completed training with weapons maintenance and cleaning as well as ensuring that their barracks were ready for their departure the next morning.

Basic Course Cadet Brady Croft had this to say about the weekend's training and how he benefitted from it:

"We got to work on self-correcting land navigation course so it helped those that were weak in that area to get themselves back on track. We also got to throw grenade simulators that were more realistic than the ones we usually throw and assume leadership roles during the FLRC lanes. We also assumed more leadership roles during patrolling lanes which were beneficial for us younger (MSI and MSII) Cadets to be able to understand what happens at the higher spectrum of platoon level operations."

From the advanced course side of things Cadet Jacob Schall had this to say about their interactions with another school and their training that weekend:

"Interacting with other schools allowed us to see how other schools have different Standard Operating Procedures... working with other Cadets (from different schools) is good training for LDAC."

All MSIII Cadets will be attending LDAC at FT. Knox, KY this summer.



(From top to bottom) 1. Cadets Cameron Brown and Kyle Brenay pose for a picture as they wait to start Night Land Navigation. 2. Cadet Stribny looks on while navigating an obstacle during the FLRC Lanes. 3. Cadets attempt to cross over a "mine-field" with a ladder during one of their FLRC lanes.



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