



Fighting Falcon Battalion NEWS

December of 2014

Happy Holidays from Fighting Falcon Battalion



Another semester is over and Fighting Falcon Battalion can enjoy a few weeks off before it is time to head back to school. We had a great fall full of events including the Leaders Training Exercise at Ft. Custer, the Joint Military Ball, the Bold Warrior Challenge Competition and several Royal Greens and Pershing Rifles events.

We wish everyone a restful and safe holiday season and we look forward to another great semester of training.

67th Annual Joint Army and Air Force Military Ball

On November 21st, 2014 the Army and Air Force conducted the 67th annual joint military ball in the Bowling Green State University ball room. The evening's activities included a POW/MIA ceremony honored by Pershing Rifles, live music from The Sweet Tea Band featuring ROTC alumni, CPT Nathan Anderson, and a key note speech. Speaking at the event, was Christopher Kingston, the BGSU Athletic Director and retired Army Officer. He spoke on his experiences in the military and encouraged Cadets to always be caring leaders stating that, "no one will care what you know until they know that you care."



Alumni Story: CPT Sowecke

CPT Jeff Sowecke commissioned as a Transportation Officer in 2007. He completed Transportation Officer basic Course at Ft. Eustis, VA and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Ft. Campbell, KY. He served as a Distribution Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Battalion Logistics Officer (S4) and deployed twice, once in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and a second time in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After completing the Combined Logistics Career Course at Ft. Lee, VA, he was selected to serve as a Forward Support Company Commander within the 3rd Infantry Division. *(story continued on next page)*



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This unique position offered him the opportunity to lead 110 Soldiers while simultaneously serving as the senior Logistician for a Light Armored Reconnaissance Squadron deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom. After serving in this position for two years, he was selected to serve as a Company Commander for the Surface Deployment Distribution Command (SDDC) in Bremerhaven, Germany. This experience has been unique and is truly a “Broadening Experience”. No longer is he leading Soldiers, but rather managing two NCOs, one DA Civilian, and 34 German Local Nationals with an area of responsibility covering all of northern Europe. He works alongside all Department of Defense agencies, NATO, and multiple civilian corporations such as the Maersk Group. He is truly experiencing the “Business” side of the Army.

Veterans Day Events

This year, BGSU Army ROTC participated in several Veterans Day events in the local community. LTC Hopingardner spoke to a crowd of students, veterans and community members at a Veterans Day Assembly at Bowling Green High School. Pershing Rifles also served as the color guard at the assembly.

Several Cadets also attended a ceremony held by the BGSU Veterans Club in which a wreath was laid and a poem was read in Memorial Hall at 11:11am to honor those who have served.



LTC Hopingardner, Cadets and members of the Student Veterans Club pose together after laying a wreath in Memorial Hall on Veterans Day.

Bold Warrior Challenge Competition

On November 8, Cadets competed in the Bold Warrior Challenge Competition. This year, the competition was held at each of the battalion's schools and the scores were individually sent in to be tallied. Cadets had 8 hours to complete 8 events. Events included activities such as, 1000 ruck-ups as a team, timed weapons assembly and disassembly, one rope bridge and a 10 mile road march.



Cadet Leygraaf (center) completes ruck-ups during the Bold Warrior Challenge Competition.

Upcoming Events:

- 12 January - Spring Semester Classes start
- 15 January - APFT
- 22 January - CWST
- 7-15 March - Spring Break
- 27-29 March - LTX
- 24 April - Spring Awards



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