



# PATRIOT PRIDE

## November 2008



### Professor of Military Science

The fall semester is already drawing to a close and it seems like we just started classes. The semester has been a busy one, and I have been very impressed with the quality and dedication of our Cadets in the Patriot Battalion. Each one of them balances unique demands on their time and energies. Most of them carry a heavy class load and many have part-time jobs, varsity athletics, community or volunteer service, family obligations, and any number of events that compete for the same time. On top of those demands that many of their peers outside of ROTC face, our Cadets also dedicate countless hours to developing themselves into leaders of character. As a professional Officer, I am proud to know that these Officers-in-training dedicate themselves so tirelessly to becoming better leaders that will soon take charge of America's sons and daughters throughout the Army.

This time of year is certainly a hectic one for most, with the holidays approaching, travel plans to coordinate, and for our Cadets, completing finals and papers before classes let out for the December break. And for many of our alumni, this time is bittersweet, as many are deployed away from their families and will have to depend on e-mails, phone calls and packages to celebrate the holidays from a distance. And for those of us who have spent so many holidays away from our families in service to this great Nation, we are grateful for the times when we're home. I would ask all of us to remember our Soldiers during this time. It is often the toughest time of a deployment, especially for our young Soldiers. And every little message of support from home makes a difference, so if you have the opportunity, please take the time to send a card or contribute to a package going to our deployed Soldiers. You may never hear back from those who receive your good wishes and support, but you can guarantee that you made a difference to at least one of them.

For those of us here at home, please take the time to celebrate the holidays, enjoy the time away from school work and training, and re-charge for another great semester in the spring. With the talent and energy of this fine Corps of Cadets, our opportunities for success are unlimited. Happy Holidays from the Patriot Battalion!!

Train to Fight. Fight to Win.

Matthew R. McKinley, "Patriot 6"  
Lieutenant Colonel, Field Artillery  
Professor of Military Science



### Senior Military Instructor

Hello Patriot Battalion! I want to start this month by congratulating you all on a job well done. I can see the fire building in your eyes as you train and get more confident in your leadership abilities and Army skills. I watch you as you conduct physical readiness training and see the improvements that you are making. The initial nervousness of actually being in charge is wearing off.

The time spent with family over the Thanksgiving break I hope helped to recharge you and get you focused back on school and the Army. Over the past month the battalion has increased the number of contracted Cadets by three. Congratulations to Cadet Ensby, Cadet Dearborn, and Cadet Fernandez. You have all made a major commitment to not only your future but the future of the Nation and Army.

We have had several leadership labs that you all excelled at, I think that the one that was most enjoyed was the last with the enter/clear a room and TCP training. I hope that you all learned from every event, and can keep that knowledge in your minds to apply it to future training. Everything we do builds on the next step. We only add to the tasks, conditions, and standards making you better leaders and eventually Officers. If you don't have the basic knowledge that your Soldiers have you will be at a disadvantage to them and not be able to concentrate on what they really look to you for--leadership.

Go into the holidays with safety on your minds. Shake off the stress from the final exams and from a stressful semester. Spend time with friends and family, but do it safely and come back to the team in the next semester. We will hit the ground running. We are changing the class/lab concept. When you get back we will have a block of extended classes then the following week have an extended lab. You will be getting training more specialized to you and build skills slowly to be excellent leaders.

Be safe; let us know if you need any help over the Holidays! See you in 2009, ready to train to fight and fight to win!

SMI  
David Alan Bowman  
MSG, USA

## *WHAT HAVE THE CADETS BEEN UP TO?*

IN NOVEMBER, WE WRAPPED UP A SEMESTER OF HARDWORK, AND TOOK A LOOK BACK ON OUR PROGRESS. ON 7 NOV WE CONDUCTED OUR RECORD PT TEST FOR THE SEMESTER, BOASTING IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS THE BOARD IN ALL CLASSES PHYSICAL FITNESS SCORES. WE ARE ENCOURAGING CADETS TO KEEP UP THAT MOTIVATION OVER THE EXTENDED CHRISTMAS BREAK.

OUR CWST LAB WAS A SUCCESS AND CADETS FELT AS THOUGH THEY HAD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER TRAINING. IT IS AN IMPORTANT LAB FOR OUR BATTALION SINCE CWST IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE WARRIOR FORGE STANDARDS THAT EACH CADET IS REQUIRED TO PASS.

ADDITIONALLY, WE HONORED ALL VETERANS IN OUR ANNUAL CEREMONY AT THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE GROTTO ON 12 NOV. WE WERE PLEASED TO HAVE CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAMS AS WELL AS NUMEROUS MEMBERS OF THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY IN ATTENDANCE.

PER BATTALION TRADITION, OUR ANNUAL TURKEY BOWL TOOK PLACE THE MONDAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING, GIVING THIS YEARS SENIORS A CHANCE TO SHINE ONCE AGAIN AS THEY DOMINATED ALL OTHER MS CLASSES AND CADRE. THE SHUTOUT WAS NOTHING LESS THAN EXPECTED BY THE STELLAR MSIV'S.

WE ENDED THE SEMESTER WITH THE ARMY/NAVY RUN AT BRYANT WHERE WE ALWAYS THOROUGHLY ENJOY WAKING UP THE PRESIDENT OF BRYANT, A NAVAL ACADEMY ALUM. FORTUNATELY, ARMY'S FOOTBALL TEAM ELICITS MORE SKILL IN THE CLASSROOM AND OFF THE FIELD, MAKING UP FOR THEIR TRAGIC PERFORMANCE.

ULTIMATELY. WE HAD A TERRIFIC SEMESTER AND WE ARE PLEASED WITH ALL OF THE EFFORTS AND IMPROVEMENTS OF THE CADETS. THE BATTALION IS CONTINUING TO MOVE UPWARD AND ONWARD IN OUR TRAINING OF THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARMY OFFICERS. WE ARE PROUD OF ALL THE CADETS.

WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND RELAXING HOLIDAY WHEREVER YOU ARE, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MANY OF YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!

## **Cadet Spotlight: ACTO Ryan Allen**

Over this past summer, some of our senior Cadets participated in a program tailored to shadowing specific training units throughout the United States. Ryan Allen successfully completed the CLT program in Schweinfurt, Germany.

Cadet Troop Leadership Training (CTLT) is a four week training program allowing cadets to travel to a regular Army unit and shadow a Platoon Leader. The intent of CTLT is to see and experience firsthand what an active duty Platoon Leader does on a daily basis, and also to see how an active duty unit functions. My CTLT experience brought me to Schweinfurt, Germany. I was attached to the Scout Platoon, HHC, 1-2 IN from the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. Compared to other CTLT cadet participants, my experience was unique. When I first showed up to my Battalion in Schweinfurt, the PL that I was supposed to shadow was back in the U.S., at Pathfinder School. I then served as the acting PL for the next four weeks. My experience was also unique in that the Brigade that I was with was prepping for an upcoming deployment. The four weeks were spent in the field at Grafenwoher, Germany for their gunnery cycle. During my time in Germany, I planned and executed all of the training that the Scout Platoon Leader would have been conducting. For example, PRT was conducted daily, broken down into section size elements. I also had an opportunity to plan and execute numerous marksmanship ranges to include shoot-houses, Cav Tables, sniper ranges, .50 caliber range, as well as m-4 and m-9 ranges. Furthermore, there was a lot of time in between ranges; so much of our training that occurred was "hip-pocket-training." These activities included: land navigation (mounted and dismounted), drivers' training (off-road, day and night), first-aid, and vehicle recovery drills. While in Germany, I learned a lot of intangible aspects of being a PL through my CTLT experience. These aspects included, fostering relationships between officers and NCOs, and between the PL, CO and BC. Most importantly, I learned how to go into a new unit and earn the respect from the platoon. Overall, I earned an Outstanding Performance OER, a Certificate of Achievement, and the Army Achievement Medal. Ultimately, I am incredibly thankful for my opportunity to travel to Germany and act as a PL. I definitely feel more comfortable now leading a platoon after I commission than if I did not have this opportunity at all.

-Ryan Allen

## **Outside ROTC:**

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES EXPERIENCED BY MS IV CADET ANDY LETARTE**

Joining ROTC has been one of the most rewarding decisions that I have ever made in my life. On top of being a program which enables me to develop my leadership skills and capabilities, I also have the opportunity to be commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the United States Army, and serve the people of America. Growing up I always enjoyed playing team sports. I realized that there were other opportunities aside from sports in which I could play the role as a member of a team as well as a leader. Similarly, ROTC has given me that team environment away from lacing up the skates.

I always enjoyed getting on the ice and playing hockey with my friends when I was younger. At the age of 6, I laced up my first pair of skates and hit the pond in my backyard assuring my father that I would be the next Cam Neely. When I turned 10 I started on my first hockey team, and progress was moving slowly for me. I could not skate backwards or even hold a stick for that matter. However, it was okay because this is how the great Cam Neely used to be, so I've been told. As time went on, I picked up the game and went on to play high school hockey at St. John's Prep in Danvers, Massachusetts. My senior year, I was captain of the Varsity hockey team and was sure that I would end up playing in college. My dreams did not go as planned and I ended up deciding to go to school for education and not for hockey. I could have gone to an academically less challenging school to play hockey or go to Providence College where academics were much better, I chose Providence. Even though I was not going to be playing hockey in college, I was determined to find a way to get back on the ice. The opportunity arose for me to help out with the Providence College women's ice hockey team, and I could not pass it up. I was told I would get full equipment, be able to skate as much as 10 hours a week and get to play against female hockey players. The first day of practice with the girls came up quick and I was sure that it was going to be a cake walk; I was in for a surprise. As soon as I stepped out onto the ice, Coach Bob Deraney treated me as if I was a player of the actual team. I was doing every drill that the players were doing and when they got too many penalties in a game, I was there skating it off with them. I have now been skating and helping with the women's ice hockey team for 4 years. It has truly been a great experience and definitely has an effect on my ROTC life. I get extra physical training in five days a week and still get to do what I love, play hockey. ROTC compliments my ability with the ice hockey team because when the other practice assistants are taking a break on the bench, I am still out there skating around.

### **COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING - CWST**

**ON NOVEMBER 19TH THE PATRIOT BATTALION ROTC CADETS CONDUCTED COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING (CWST), IN THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE 25 METER SWIMMING POOL. THE COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING IS PART OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL SECTION OF THE ROTC PROGRAM KNOWN AS LLAB. CADETS MUST LEARN THE APPROPRIATE CWST SKILLS THAT WILL BE REQUIRED OF THEM, WHEN THEY ATTEND THE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT COURSE AT FT. LEWIS WASHINGTON.**

**DURING THIS LLAB CADETS WERE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE FOUR PRACTICAL EXERCISES, WHILE WEARING THEIR UNIFORM. THEY FIRST STARTED OFF WITH A 25 METER FREESTYLE SWIM. AFTER COMPLETING THIS EXERCISE THEY PROCEEDED TO THE 15 METER SWIM WHILE WEARING THEIR LBE, AND RIFLE. AFTER COMPLETING THIS STATION, THE CADETS THEN MADE A ONE METER JUMP OFF THE POOLS DIVING BOARD WEARING THEIR LBE, AND RIFLE WHILE BEING BLINDFOLDED. THE CADETS THEN COMPLETED THEIR CWST TRAINING WITH A EQUIPMENT DROP WHILE UNDER WATER. AFTER COMPLETING THESE NECESSARY TASKS, THE CADETS THEN LEARNED HOW TO MAKE A FLOATION DEVICE OUT OF THERE UNIFORM PANTS.**

# Veteran's Day Ceremony

On 12 Nov, Cadets, Cadre and members of the local PC community joined together to honor those who have sacrificed so much in their service of their country. Chief Justice Frank Williams was the guest of honor and spoke of his gratitude to the young cadets for their eagerness and willingness to serve. He commended PC and Dominican Order for their longstanding commitment to the ROTC program, and for allowing the doors to remain open during the Vietnam War. A day prior to the annual PC ceremony, Brown University celebrated Veteran's Day in a way that was symbolic not only of the gratitude expressed on behalf of the community toward those who made the ultimate sacrifice to their country, but also of a nation's continuing commitment to members of the armed forces in a time of war. Amidst political friction and economic uncertainty, we reside squarely amidst the unknown. We continue to pay for our freedom with money, with time, and with our lives. The day we fail to recognize those who give everything they have to defending our country is the day that our cause will be lost. A speech was given during the ceremony that credited fallen soldiers for defending the American flag. What a funny thought – defending a flag. What they defended is an ideal – a belief that all men should be free men, that we have a right to have rights and that we should be free from subjugation, suppression, abuse and exploitation. Those men and women defended an ideal that is symbolized by our flag and embodied in the Constitution. It is an ideal worth living for and it is an ideal worth dying for. That is why we train and that is why we fight. For some of us, that is why we die.

## January Training Highlights

January 21 Reception/Patrolling Lab

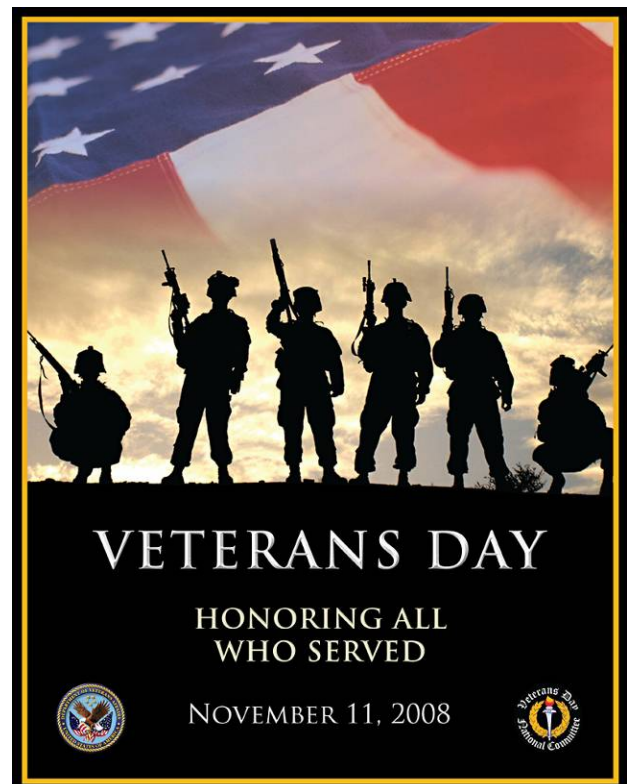
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The Patriot Battalion welcomes all contributions and ideas for future editions of the Patriot Pride Newsletter. To submit material, please contact Sara Stowell [stowell@providence.edu](mailto:stowell@providence.edu)

The NEW Patriot Battalion Website can be referenced at:

<http://armyrotc.com/edu/providence/index.htm> As we continue to develop the website, we are seeking Alumni information and updates from *all* of our partnership schools. Please let us know where you are and what you are doing if you would like to be included on our website.



# PATRIOT BATTALION - FALL 2008

