

# GOLDEN KNIGHT

## A FEW WORDS FROM THE

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Friends and Family of the Golden Knight Battalion, As this academic year winds down I could not be more proud of the Cadets of our Battalion. The junior class has come together and is completing their training to be successful at LDAC which will take place this summer at Ft. Lewis, Washington, where they will spend twenty eight days with Cadets from across the nation. The sophomores have been placed in leadership positions and are fully prepared to take on their junior year and the freshmen are continuing to work on their basic Soldier skills. Also this summer, there are Cadets that will have the opportunity to attend Airborne and Air Assault schools, as well as Army internships. The senior class is turning into the home stretch before their commissioning in May. After commissioning they will serve as Cadre at LDAC or LTC, or they will head straight to their Officer Basic Course. On behalf of the senior class we would like to thank Shirley Mousaw and Dilys Heinssen who have helped us all countless times and keep our Battalion running. It has been an honor to serve as the Cadet Battalion Commander and I will take all of the wonderful memories with me as I prepare to serve as an Armor Officer in the United States Army.



*CDT/LTC Rugg*

## AIR LAB

### CDT MCGREEVY

The Army ROTC Air Lab was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I wasn't very nervous until we were standing in formation and getting assigned flight numbers for either helicopter. I was assigned the second flight on the first helicopter, but instead of impatiently waiting for the first flights to return we learned about the helicopters and their role in the military. Take off was interesting because you didn't really feel anything, I just looked out the open back of the helicopter and we were moving, forward and up. Being a local of the Potsdam area, I recognized most of the local area including Norwood Norfolk High School and the Barrett's quarry. Even though it was very cold during the flight, I really liked the lab; I would do it again in a heartbeat and I can't wait for next year.



*Air lab; photo taken by CDT*

### CDT O'DONNELL

When I found out in the beginning of the semester that we would be riding in the UH-60 Blackhawk or the CH-47 Chinook for one of our labs, it was by far one of my most anticipated activities for the semester. The Golden Knight Battalion was able to secure two CH-47 Chinooks for the lab, and this was to be my very first helicopter ride, I was very excited about it. I was lucky enough to be sitting by a window for a nice view of the underlying town of Potsdam and countryside. We were even able to have the back door opened for a better view. After we had landed, we ran out the back door of the Chinook as the propellers were still running and it was great. The Air Lab, by far, has been one of the most exciting labs to date, and I can't wait to do it again next year.



*Air lab; Chinook*

## DINING OUT: CDT PHILLIPS, J.

On February 26, 2011 the Army ROTC Golden Knight Battalion held its annual Dining Out event on the campus of SUNY Potsdam. There were over 270 people that attended the ceremony. The event included a social hour where Cadets and their guests had the chance to mingle. The ceremony of the grog involved combining unusual ingredients that were symbolic of the time spent in the North Country. Following the dinner, Cadets used the free time to show their guests the photographs of the semester's training and awards that they earned. The evening was highlighted by the guest speaker, CPT Frank Remillard, who delivered a wonderful speech about his experience in the Army as a young officer. We also took time to recognize Cadets of the Ranger Challenge Team, the Army Ten Miler Team, and those who have also recently joined the Battalion. Our Battalion's training events were highlighted through a video that was shown, in addition to being given to every Cadet. As the Cadet in charge of planning the entire Dining Out event, I would like to thank everyone who had a role in helping and those who attended.



*Dining Out; Mixing of the grog*

## GETTING TO KNOW AN M16 AND M4

*CDT SMITH, M.*

With the current state of our country, the need for quality soldiers has never been more important for protecting our great nation. In Army ROTC we take Cadets to the next level; creating warrior leaders capable of meeting the challenges faced by our democracy. One of the ways we do this is by training in basic rifle marksmanship. Today's soldier must be able to meet the enemy on the battlefield with superior training and the ability to fight effectively and with precision. The Army has developed impressive training events to develop these skills. Recently, GKB participated in such a training event. Our goal was to instill the confidence and rifle marksmanship skills our dynamic Army demands. Any casual observer would instantly be impressed by the leadership that all the Cadets displayed. This was an event primarily planned, coordinated, and executed by Cadets for Cadets and it was a complete success. Not only did all of the Cadets get a chance to qualify with their M-16 or M-4 rifle but they were able to lead and inspire each other with an impressive showing of their marksmanship abilities. The Cadets started out by training at Fort Drum, NY, at the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) 2000. The system models multiple small arms and provides initial and sustainment marksmanship training. The following day we used our marksmanship skills to qualify at one of Ft. Drums pop-up target ranges. This type of training develops not only the fundamentals of marksmanship but simulates a constantly changing battlefield. I myself was able to successfully earn the rating of marksman and couldn't be happier with the level of proficiency that everyone displayed. Being an infantryman and combat veteran, I have had the pleasure of working with some truly outstanding soldiers and leaders. The Cadets of Clarkson ROTC will be filling those ranks shortly and I'm proud to count myself among their formation.



*Cadet shooting pop-up targets at the range*

*"The pop up range was definitely my favorite part. I shot 33 out of 40, so all in all, I'd say this was a great training event".*

*-CDT Robishaw*

*CDT*

The best part of the range was the heavy weapons room, where I was able to fire an M249, M240 Bravo, MK 19 Grenade launchers, and 50 caliber heavy machine guns. The weapons were all hooked to gas hoses, allowing them to have kickback and really feel like you were firing. This experience was not only a lot of fun, but it also provided us with knowledge about the weapons used by the Army.

## THANK YOU ALUMNI!

The Golden Knight Battalion would like to thank all of our contributors to our "Drop and Give me 20 Bucks" program. Each year Clarkson alumni generously donate to this program that enables us to send care packages to our deployed alumni. Since its creation, we have seen our list of donors grow, showing their appreciation to our military and supporting their fellow alumni. Due to the upcoming deployment of our alumni, we will be doing another box run in May. During this time last year, we were able to send 35 boxes total. We cannot thank our alumni enough for helping us to continue this worthwhile program. The responses we get from those who receive the boxes truly value the showing of appreciation for their dedication to our country. Not only do our alumni notice the amount of appreciation, but even their fellow officers who envy a program like Clarkson's. Our gratitude goes out to all of the individuals who have helped to make this a tremendous success!



## SKI TRIP: CDT

The annual GKB ski trip to Titus Mountain kicked off with a beautiful February day in the North Country. The event was coordinated by Cadet Jimmy Wheeler and all of the Cadets who attended got a great day of skiing and snowboarding. All was well on the mountain until late in the day when Cadet Risewick called out the forever bad omen of: "Last Run". For those of you who are not skiers and snowboarders it is really bad luck to call out the last run of the day. Come to find out we got off the lift and realized Cadet Simpson injured his shoulder on the so called "Last Run" of the day. After the injury we were all feeling kind of down and tired as some of the older Cadets took Simpson off to the emergency room. To cheer us up Major Toth led the way to the Malone Taco Bell/KFC combo restaurant where we ate without our fallen comrade, Cadet Simpson, who was a champ throughout the injury. This was definitely an event that I look forward to in the future!



*Cadet skiing*

