

# The Fighting Eagle Battalion WSLETTE

SY 2011-2012



# BC'sCorner by CDT Robert D.Clark



Welcome, Fighting Eagle Cadets, to a new year of exciting and challenging events!

As your Cadet Battalion Commander, I am honored to serve as your leader at EWU ROTC. I intend to focus on the basics of Army Values and the Soldier's Creed, as I believe that instilling these values and following the creed will help each Cadet become more successful in making decisions, living as a better citizen and becoming an effective officer. I treat all Fighting Eagle Cadets as I would my family, and I would like everyone to embrace that same concept in order to work better as a team. As a prior-service soldier, I have seen the positive

effects of teamwork in a combat environment.

I would like to welcome our new MS I (freshmen) to our ROTC program. If you are unsure of staying in our program, I ask you to stick it out for the quarter and see how it goes. The experience will give you the opportunity to enjoy our team-building activities, such as whitewater rafting, and to learn a variety of military skills, such as land navigation, drill and ceremony and individual movement techniques. For our returning MS II, III, and IV Cadets, I am glad to see all of you again! I have high expectations of all of you and will be counting on you to help each other out, especially with assisting our new MS I class. I challenge everyone to achieve these goals for this quarter:

- Achieve at least a 3.0 GPA
- Pass the APFT with a minimum score of 270
- Prepare MS III's for Warrior Forge 2012

During the first week of Fall Quarter some of our EWU ROTC Distinguished Alumni returned for the dedication and opening of our air rifle range. Retired MG Kenneth Privratsky and many other alumni have been very generous with their time and money and it is this generosity that has helped make our battalion so great. The idea of taking care of the Battalion that helped them become successful is like taking care of their own family.

While at the range dedication, I looked at our "Wall of Fame" and realized that EWU ROTC has produced six generals! I hope that each of our Cadets, male and female alike, will strive to be as great in their own military achievements. While at the range dedication that weekend, we also dedicated our Howitzer cannon emplacement, "Ft. Warrior Eagle," at Roos field, which will be and has been, shot after every score made by the EWU football team during home games. Our alumni were very proud of our new landmark, and enjoyed meeting and talking with our Cadets.

Before I end my statement, I want you to ask yourself, "Why am I participating in ROTC?" Is it only for the money, glory or as a way to pay for school? Or is it to serve our nation to protect the ones we love and to uphold the culture and values that make Am, erica unique and great. As past generations look upon us to step up to the plate to serve and protect this nation, let us continue the honorable tradition of US Army self-less service.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE? Send us an e-mail at: ROTC@ewu.edu

Visit our EWU ROTC website at: www.ewu.edu/rotc



# FROM THE PMS

By LTC Michael G. Kirkland



Well, it is hard to believe that it has been nearly three years since I first arrived at Eastern Washington University. My time as the Professor of Military Science at EWU is coming to a close, and I must say that it was a very enjoyable assignment. I believe that the EWU ROTC program is as strong as it ever was, with great Cadets that will become superb officers for the United States Army, Army Reserve and National Guard.

Thanks to all the supportive ROTC Alumnus...your continued support of the EWU ROTC program has provided the means to accentuate the training of our future Army officers, making it more realistic and fun! The Airsoft rifles used for tactical training events make the need for COVER as well as concealment a real necessity.

The Staff and Faculty at EWU cannot be thanked enough for their continued support of our program. Many thanks to Dr. Arèvelo and the EWU administration – you have greatly supported the Army ROTC program, and I personally thank you for your continued support. Dr. Vickie Shields and all the CSBSSW faculty and staff have supported the ROTC program without qualm or question, again many thanks!

We have accomplished a great deal here at EWU during my sojourn, and all will make EWU a better program. I think it would be appropriate to reiterate two of the most significant here – and acknowledge those who assisted in making it happen. Greatest of thanks goes to all who supported the re-establishment of the Rifle Range and Marksmanship program, especially to MG (R) Privratsky. LTC (R) Dave Millet – you were greatly instrumental and I could not have accomplished this without your coordination, support, and expertise. I know this will be an invaluable asset to the program as it continues to grow in the coming years.

The Bachelor's Degree in Military Science and Leadership that been revamped and upgraded as a viable stand-alone degree, which makes EWU distinctive among the 270+ ROTC programs across the country. It truly is a great academic program, and I believe it will create great future officers, as well as provide graduates from the Military Junior Colleges a great avenue to complete their Bachelor's Degrees. This would not have been accomplished without key individuals at EWU such as Dr. David May, Mr. Mark Baldwin, Dr. Jeffrey Stafford, and Mrs. Helen Bergland. I know there are many others who assisted, and that I could not have successfully navigated the murky waters of academia and successfully completed this curriculum change without their assistance!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the fantastic staff and cadre here – those who have left and those who are here currently. It is easy to succeed when you have great support staff who share the same goals and commitments to excellence. Mr. Robert Riedel has been here throughtout my entire assignment and has been a superb sounding board and great right-hand man – truly an asset to the Department of Military Science. Mr. Hood and Dyanna Flores have also been here throughout my tour, many thanks for your great support – Dyanna has been integral to the success of the program

by ensuring I accomplished all my duties as the Department Chair of Military Science. To all the remaining cadre, past and current: thank you for your service, you have provided an invaluable service to the United States Army and EWU. Those Cadets who have successfully commissioned, as well as those who will in the next few years, owe you a debt of gratitude for your instruction, mentorship and dedication.

The incoming PMS, MAJ Jason Pape, is an excellent choice and comes with great credentials. I know he will be a great asset to the EWU ROTC program! My greatest congratulations to your selection, this is a rewarding, fun, and enlightening assignment.

To all the Cadets that I have had the opportunity to train, mentor and commission – it's a small world and I hope that we meet again. I know you will make excellent officers and serve the Army with distinction. My next assignment takes me to Fort Campbell, Ky., and the 101st Airborne (AASLT) Division Staff. I know that I will reconnect with several of you there in the future!

God Speed and Best Wishes

## **EAGLE STRONG!!!**

### **Fall 2011 Contracting Ceremony**



<u>L to R</u>: Cadet Chelsea Siedel, Cadet Jennifer McKinney, Cadet Barth, Cadet Willliam Grant, Cadet James Sercey, Cadet Aubry Blad, and Cadet Colin Tait.



# **Airborne School**

By Cadet Kelly Joiner

Between arriving at hot and humid Ft. Benning, Ga., for in-processing and getting blood wings from my father at the Airborne graduation ceremony, I learned some of the most important lessons for my Military career. The flight into nearby Columbus was full of other Cadets going through the same experience. We exchanged questions and our ideas on what we were expecting. Once we landed, we packed into a bus for the ride to the base. The first few days consisted of paperwork, lines and getting acclimated to the Georgia heat.

The Fourth of July fell on Monday, the day our training was supposed to start. We got the chance to watch Ft. Benning's annual fireworks show, but went right to work the next day. We started training at 0330, beginning with a PT test that was designed for maximum efficiency. There was a white board on the ground that our hands could not spread any wider than, for the pushups. Our dog tags had to clink on the board and we were kicked out after reaching our minimum requirement. There was a great amount of

competition during the two-mile run because Soldiers of all ranks were eager to prove themselves.

During the next two weeks, we mixed ground training with jumping out of the 34-foot and 250-foot towers. We conducted thousands of Parachute Landing Falls (PLF's) and we were taught to rely on our gear and how to exit the plane properly. This knowledge made for safe landings and successful completion of the training. The knowledge that I took away, however, was that of working hard and interacting with soldiers who had a great amount of experience. I proved to myself that I could accomplish tasks far outside of my comfort zone and outside of others' expectations.

Airborne School instilled a great amount of confidence in me. When it came to making the jumps from the C-130s and C-17s at 1,250 feet, I trusted my gear and battle-buddies, as well as my strength and knowledge. This opportunity will mean a great deal to me for many years to come. It is an invaluable experience that I am extremely thankful for.

# **Branch Results**

**CDT Beau Bailey** 

Military Intelligence

**CDT Jacob Brewer** 

Transportation Corps

**CDT Quinton K. Brooks** 

Signal Corps

**CDT Robert D. Clark** 

Armor

**CDT Rosalba Covos** 

Quartermaster Corps

**CDT Jacob T. Dutton** 

Ordinance (EOD)

**CDT James Lee** 

Military Intelligence

CDT Kaileb A. Monk

Engineer

# CDT Kevin J. Schweiger

Armor

**CDT Jayme E. Watts** 

Military Intelligence

**CDT Paul V. Weber** 

Armor

# **Leadership Training Course (LTC)**By Cadet Colin Tait

For four weeks this summer, I sweated constantly in the hot and humid weather of Kentucky's Fort Knox. I was yelled at and "smoked" by Drill Sergeants, and received less sleep in a month's time than in my whole life. However, that is the Army, and it was a fantastic and fun experience which I will never forget. Just starting my MS III year, and just starting ROTC, it was a great way to learn the basics of ROTC life and get a big jump into my MS III year. The Leadership Training Course taught us land navigation, STX lanes, which incorporated squad movements and individual movement techniques (with paintball guns, simulated grenades and AT4's), learning about and giving OPORDS, team-building exercises and leadership opportunities similar to LDAC. In addition to this, you make friends and you form a family

with your platoon and squad, who come from all over the US. I learned about hard work and discipline through Drill and Ceremony, Physical Readiness Training, Basic Rifle Marksmanship and more. The most important thing I learned was that in the Army you are part of a team. I am a husband and father, and had never been away from my wife and son for more than a week. Four weeks with minimal contact with loved ones was the hardest part for me, as well as others. It may have been too hard for some of us, if we were to go through our time there alone. But at LTC we worked as a team and lived as a team. I made lasting friendships and learned how much you can accomplish when you work with others effectively. LTC was a blast and I encourage anyone who is looking for a fun and challenging way to prepare for future leadership and LDAC to go.

# Culture and Language Program (CULP) By Cadet Amanda Reich

This past June, 25 Cadets from around the country came together on an eye-opening journey and experienced a new culture, way of life and outlook on the world. I spent a month with these other Cadets working in Moshi, Tanzania, on the east coast of Africa. This Culture and Language Program (CULP) trip was the experience of a lifetime, and a great opportunity for learning as a Cadet.

During my month in Tanzania, I worked at Faraja Orphan School teaching math and English to children ages 3 to 11. This work not only allowed us to experience the different education system and the challenges that children face, but also to play an active role in helping these children in the best way we could. Because of the structure of the education system in Tanzania, one of the most important roles for us, as volunteers, was exposing the children to the English language in order to assist with the transition from Swahili to English that occurs in secondary school.

In addition to our work in various assignments around the town of Moshi, we also were able to go on two safaris and see the wildlife of Africa. We visited Ngorongoro crater and traveled through the Serengeti, seeing all of the "big five animals": lion, rhinoceros, leopard, elephant and buffalo, as well as many others. While on these safaris we visited local tribes, including the Maasai with their infamous warriors (*see photo above*), participated in cultural song and dance, visited the villages and learned some of the history of the tribes.

CULP is an important program for exposing Cadets to unfamiliar cultures and preparing them for adaptation and understanding of people from a different worldview, as well as developing interests in other parts of the world to encourage further exploration and opportunities to specialize in a particular region of the world.



Cadet Reich is wearing Masaai neck wear and is surrounded by young warriors. The young man on the right has just earned warrior status. Spears are used to protect cattle herds from lions.



Cadet Reich and Masaai children.



Cadet Reich's class dancing



Airport for Killimanjaro Area

	3-4 March	Winter Qtr FTX	18-19 May	Spring Qtr FTX
<b>UPCOMING</b>	9 March	ROTC Military Ball	24 May	National Awards Ceremony
EVENTS	23 March	Winter Qtr Commissioning	15 June	ROTC Commissioning
	20-21 April	EWU/WSU Joint FTX	16 June	EWU Commencement



# **Summer Internship**

By Cadet Jayme Watts

Summer 2011 was the first time that the Military Intelligence branch offered an internship to ROTC Cadets. It was designed for Cadets to see the different areas that the field entails and I was one of nine selected to attend. Each Cadet was given a top-secret clearance, if they didn't have one, which was a gift of its own. The internship lasted four weeks and was located at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

I had never been to the Washington D.C. area before, which made me even more excited for this opportunity. The internship was attached to HHQ INSCOM. The U.S. Army INSCOM conducts intelligence, security and information operations for military commanders and national decision makers with Major General Legere in command. The cadets were fortunate to have lunch with her and several other officers and enlisted soldiers.

The internship was a lot different than I thought it was going to be. Each cadet was assigned to a different position. I worked with enlisted soldiers and warrant officers. The commander set aside a few days a week for us to go and meet different officers and go on tours of the different units in the D.C. area. My favorite visit was at the National Ground Intelligence Center. We received demonstrations from many specialists who worked there, including one on IEDs. It was amazing to see the different services that are now available for use that many units are unaware of.

The best lessons that I took away from this experience was the advice that I received from every officer. They taught us how to develop our careers and what it takes to be successful in the MI branch. We also learned little things about administrative tasks that you usually have to learn yourself on the job.

I would recommend that every Cadet apply for one of these internships. And if they receive one, show up eager to learn and take in everything that is offered, because you won't ever get a chance like it again.



We now have 6 General Officers from EWU including...

Brigadier General Gary Volesky (1976)



LTC Douglas J. Bell (1986).

Assumed command of the Army Field Support Battalion-Hood (AFSBn-Hood), at Fort Hood Texas on 7 October, 2010. The battalion provides command and control of Army Material Command (AMC) capabilities across Fort Hood, Fort Sill and Joint Base San Antonio.

# **ALUMNI UPDATE**

Rifle Range Dedication — Sept 23, 2011



Reunion Photo Names, September 23, 2011

Standing (L-R): Bob Wilkinson ('65), Jerry Mellick ('67), Neal Sealock ('74), Darrell Irvin ('72-'74 ROTC PMS), Jim Hamilton ('67), Kirk Suess ('69), Reed Reavis ('65), Bob Short ('61), Ken Privratsky ('69), Mick Heacox ('65), Bill Pearson ('68) Kneeling (L-R): Warren Walker ('76), Mark Lisi '80), Rick Moore ('69), LTC Mike Kirkland (Current ROTC PMS), Chazz Kawabori ('61), Al Watson ('68).



<u>Front L-R</u>: Bob Wilkinson (1965), COL (R) Darrell Irvin (1972 -1974, PMS), LTC (R) Millet (2005-2009, PMS), BG (R) Neal Sealock (1974), Reed Reavis (1965) <u>Background L-R</u>: Al Watson (1968); LTC (R) Jerry Mellick (1967); LTC (R) Mick Heacox (1965)

# The Cadets and Cadre of the EWU Fighting Eagle Battalion cordially invite you to attend our

2012 Military Ball Guest Speaker: MG (R) Kenneth Privratsky ('69)

Friday, the Ninth Day of March, Two Thousand Twelve
Eastern Washington University
Hargreaves Hall Reading Room
Cheney, Washington

Photos and Reception: Five O'Clock PM Receiving Line and Seating: Five-Thirty PM Dinner: Seven O'Clock PM

## **MENU**

Roasted Prime Rib w/red potatoes and seasonal vegetables or Chicken Breast Parmigiana w/marinara sauce served on spaghetti or Tuscan Ragu-grilled polenta topped w/cannellini beans, sautéed garden vegetables & a rustic classic tomato ragu. (Includes tossed green salad, fresh bread, dessert, coffee & water)

\$25.00/meal

Please RSVP w/meal choice and payment by 24 February 2012

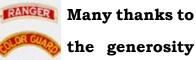
# **Guest Speaker Mil Ball 2012**



Call dyanna @ 509-359-2386 for reservations & more information

### **OUT WITH THE OLD--**







### IN WITH THE NEW!





of our Alumni and to EWU Facilities for their support in making the EWU ROTC AirSoft Rifle Range a reality for training our Cadets to become first-class Officers and Leaders in the U.S. Army.