

# Cleveland's Army ROTC Newsletter

January  
2020



## A note from our PMS, LTC Brian Ferguson

### Alumni, parents, friends and cadets of Cleveland's Army ROTC,

What an amazing semester we had this fall. For those who have been following us on social media, you know it's been busy. For those who haven't been, keep reading and checking out the pictures in this issue of the Wolfpack Newsletter. The last newsletter we published came out just after Army Night at Progressive Field. If you thought that was exciting, our cadets flew on a CH-47 this fall, spent a bone-chilling night in a patrol base, and competed in a rain-soaked brigade-wide Ranger Challenge competition. By the end of the semester we had a fun-filled Dining In and our first commissioning of Mission Set 20.

This October, cadets traveled to Washington, DC to run in the Army Ten Miler and to attend the Association of the United States Army's (AUSA) Annual Meeting. I would again like to thank GEN Ham (JCU '76) for sponsoring our visit to the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting is something of a family reunion as Soldiers come in from all around the world. Our cadets met senior leaders and heard about the future of the Army where they will serve as officers. In addition, the cadets visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, President Kennedy's grave and the experienced the enormity of our honored heroes that have gone before us at the Arlington Cemetery.

Next, we were off to Ranger Challenge followed by the fall FTX. This year for the first time in recent memory, Ranger Challenge was conducted at the brigade level. Your cadets competed against every university in our five-state brigade. With determination and grit they put up with seemingly never ending rain and sore feet to complete all of the tasks with a respectful finish. With a lot of the younger cadets on the team we have a deep bench that will continue to carry the proud tradition forward. At the FTX, we traded Ranger Challenge rain, for late fall lower temperatures. To all the light-fighters out there who have stood behind a tank to stay warm (me included), the same feeling can be had standing behind CH-47 turbines. That was probably the warmest part of the weekend. Despite the cold weather, we met all of our training objectives and every cadet learned many lessons in fieldcraft, patrolling, and what it truly means to persevere through obstacles.

This December, MSG Achterberg and I met with the President and Provost of John Carroll University to plot our course for the future. The department will begin to leverage university assets to help spread the word about the opportunities that service in the Army offers a college student both now and after graduation. Our 100% job placement at graduation, certified fitness trainers, worldwide office locations, and comprehensive medical plans are the best in the

industry. MSG and I thought the meeting was very productive. The university and ROTC goals align – to put servant leaders into the ranks of our Army.

The pictures in the newsletter tell a thousand words, but if you really want to know how it all went, ask your cadets. Their stories are much better than mine. The Dining In proved that. Hosted by the cadets from CWRU the annual event always seems to uncover a lot of humorous events from the organization.

In December, we commissioned 2LT Thomas Moesch into the Infantry. The ceremony was held on the campus of Baldwin Wallace University with their President and Provost attending as well as over 40 of 2LT Moesch's family and friends. Every 2LT should remember their commissioning and this ceremony created a lasting memory for all present.

As we look to the spring we have a new cadet chain of command in place and many opportunities lay ahead both in the field and as we prepare for Cadet Summer Training 2020. Commissioning in May is fast approaching. We are moving ahead on the indoor range simulator for the basement of the ROTC building to better prepare cadets for camp and beyond. While the costs are making a major impact to our annual operating budget, the reward of sending more capable cadets to camp and eventually to the Army is worth the sacrifice.

Lastly, I want to publicly recognize Cadet John Selep. CDT Selep was selected to represent our program at the George C. Marshall Conference this February at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The honor is unique because only the top cadet from each ROTC program in the nation attends this event. CDT Selep distinguished himself in classroom, as the Ranger Challenge Platoon Leader, and will graduate as one of only two Distinguished Military Graduates from our program this year. Join me in congratulating CDT Selep the next time you see him.

I was going to keep my comments short, but with so much going on, it is hard not to praise the hard work and effort shown by your cadets. Thank you all for your continued and unwavering support of our various programs and initiatives. I mean it when I say, this is your battalion and these are your cadets. They represent all of us today and in the future when they will lead America's sons and daughters. To our alumni, thank you for sending in your pictures, stories, and most importantly a desire to connect with us.



# Fall 2019 Events!

- **ARMY 10-MILER, ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY'S (AUSA)** Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.
- **RANGER CHALLENGE** - Brigade Level - Competing against all programs in our five-state Brigade in Fort Knox, Kentucky
- **FALL FTX**
- **DINING IN** on the campus of Case Western Reserve University
- **A DECEMBER COMMISSIONING** on the campus of Baldwin Wallace University
- **AND MORE!**



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **DINING OUT AWARDS DINNER**
- **COMMISSIONING CEREMONY**

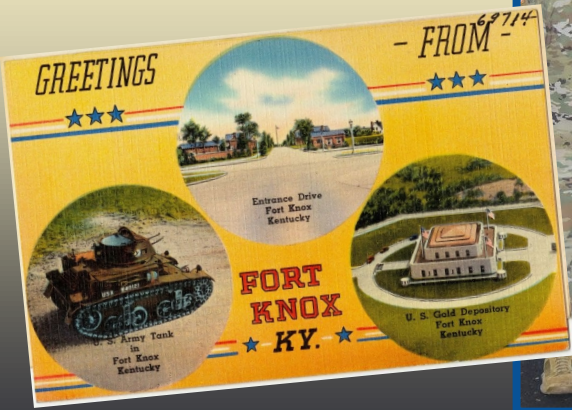


Thank you to our fall semester Gold Bar Recruiters! **2LTs Collin Brubaker and Yujie Hu!** Wishing you & your class ('19) all the best!





# BOLD WARRIOR CHALLENGE



*Pictured, top row left to right:*  
COL David Welch with Cadets: Bailey, Kullik, Espinosa, Morrissey (Connor), Reyes, Liu, Cook and CSM John Woodson

*Bottom row, left to right:*  
Cadets: Hollingsworth, Riley, Bauman, Selep and Meaux



Cleveland's Army ROTC Wolfpack team competed in the grueling, two-day **7th Brigade ROTC Bold Warrior Challenge Oct. 25-27 at Fort Knox, Kentucky**. 38 schools from Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio were all included in this competition of all the programs in the brigade.





# BOLD WARRIOR CHALLENGE (CONTINUED)



## PERSHING RIFLES: *A note from "Dr. V"*

I write as an alumnus and faculty adviser of Company M, First Regiment, Pershing Rifles to let all of you know that our organization is thriving. It has been many years since most of us wore the blue and white membership cord and the world has changed in many ways. Today's P/Rs carry on with the same high spirit, and code of conduct that helped make us champions on the drill floor, distinguished military students, successful army officers and business leaders. The majority of the cadet battalion officers and staff and Distinguished Military Graduates continue to come from the ranks of Company M. The Company is continuing to move forward, but needs alumni assistance.

In addition to performing its traditional duties on campus, the National Society now mandates that each company send representatives to the annual national convention in order to maintain its active status. The Company Endowment Fund provides most of the income necessary to fulfill these obligations. Many of us have generously contributed to the Endowment Fund already. To the younger alumni, if you can see your way clear, no matter how small the amount, make a donation to the Endowment Fund. Include a note with your check, designating the contribution to the Pershing Rifles Endowment. Since 1951, the members of Company M-1 have lived our lives "as men and women for others." Help us to ensure a bright Company future.

**George N. Vourlojanis, Ph.D. '70**

Faculty Adviser, Company M  
Emeritus Professor of History

P.S. On January 29 I spoke to the pledge class on the history of the National Society & Company M-1.

### ARCHIVES: P/R & ROTC

As part of an effort to preserve & maintain the Military Science Dept and Pershing Rifles rich histories, two separate archival and storage areas were established in the University's archives located in Grasselli Library. Space has been allocated for the preservation & storage of artifacts, documents & photos relating to ROTC & the P/R's. **If you wish to donate items to the collections, contact either:**

**LAUREN DICILLO**  
Archivist/Librarian  
[LDicillo@jcu.edu](mailto:LDicillo@jcu.edu)  
(216) 397-1597

**DR. GEORGE VOURLOJANIS**  
History Dept.  
[GVourlojanis@jcu.edu](mailto:GVourlojanis@jcu.edu)  
(216) 397-4579

**Please leave a message with your name and contact phone number** and we will contact you to make arrangements for the accession of any items you wish to donate to these two permanent Carroll collections. **Looking forward to hearing from you!**



**Michael Bobinski ('71) visits with LTC Ferguson & tours the new Pershing Rifle history / archive room**



# COLOR GUARD & AUSA - DOING US PROUD!



**The Wolfpack's Honor Guard:**  
Go Cleveland Browns and **Cleveland's Army ROTC!**



Cadets from the **Cleveland's Army ROTC** participated in **CSU's Veterans Day** celebration. Wonderful event!

## **UPDATE: P/R:** *from Cadet David Kullik*

We have new class of 16 hopeful Riflemen and have worked hard to develop cadets into effective and professional future leaders for the United States Army! We focus on instilling discipline; growing tactical/technical expertise; drill & ceremony; providing in-depth tactics classes; lessons in leadership and practical exercises. This focus provides young cadets the knowledge and experience to skyrocket them past their peers. Additionally, those who joined last year have the opportunity to teach the new class of riflemen. One of the best ways to learn something is to teach it to others, so this is a fantastic way for MS2's & MS3's to prepare for Advance Camp while also giving back to an organization that gave so much to them. MS4's lead with their experience & provide oversight.

Outside of the classroom environment, P/R presents a plethora of worthwhile experiences for young cadets. With thanks to the Pershing Rifles Endowment Fund, we were able to fund a large trip to the range a few months back. 25 cadets were able to practice marksmanship with a variety of rifles, handguns and carbines. This session helped cadets to develop and sharpen an extremely important skill - one that is a large part of their Advance Camp evaluation.

P/R also conducts our own Physical Training, focusing on practical and real-world situations, with a strong emphasis on teamwork. PT is fun but challenging, which keeps cadets motivated to give 100% effort into the workout. We also conduct ruck marches on the weekends through scenic parks as a large group. This builds a strong sense of camaraderie; we get after it & enjoy nature's beautiful scenery!

Pershing Rifles will continue to work as an asset to the Wolfpack Battalion by serving as a supplementary organization to foster leadership and discipline with the future Officers of the United States Army.



**2019 ANNUAL MEETING & EXPOSITION**

14-16 OCTOBER | WASHINGTON, DC | [WWW.AUSA.ORG/AM](http://WWW.AUSA.ORG/AM)



**40th Chief of Staff of the Army, James McConville** shares some wisdom and time with our future Lieutenants.



Cadets with **MG Evans & GEN Garrett** at the **AUSA President's Reception**.



Lunch with friends. **GEN (r) Carter Ham, BG Munera, LTC Ferguson** and our amazing Wolfpack Cadets



# FALL LABS AND TRAINING

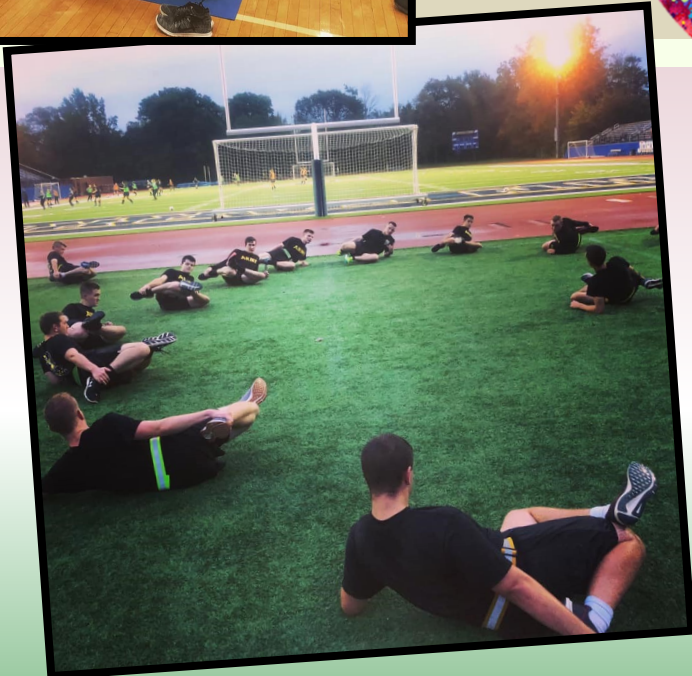
Cadets from our **Cleveland area schools & (one from Capital University!!)** conduct an After Actions Review a Squad Attack at lab. Cadets conducted reconnaissance, the attack and actions on the objective as a building operation for platoon ops.



A little Yoga anyone? Flexibly and core strength are key to running, lifting, rucking & life!

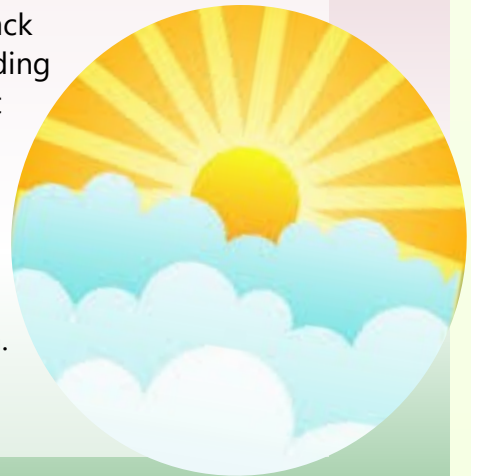
Thanks **Elizabeth Rerubinski** the workout was great!

*Namaste!*



John Carroll Wolfpack Army ROTC concluding a solid day workout at a sunrise PT session.

Tenacity, focus, determination and a never quit mantra. These Cadets are ready for anything!



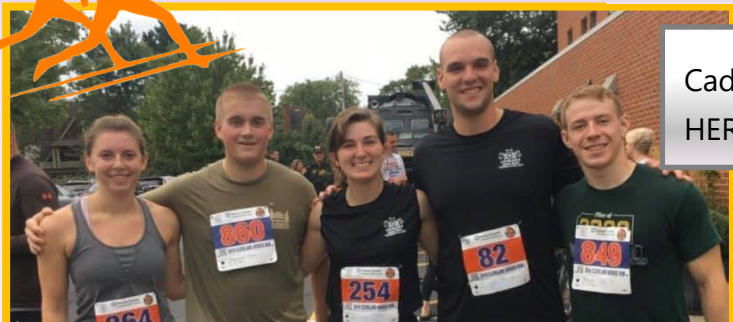


# CADETS LEARNING AND REPRESENTING!

In November, Wolfpack Army ROTC represented the program at their school Case Western Reserve University. A great school with amazing students!



CWRU Cadets: Dutta, Liu, Lindsay, Espinosa, Johnson, Labrie



Cadets: Walker, Morrissey, Riley, Hupka & Hollingsworth

Cadets completed Cleveland HEROES RUN!

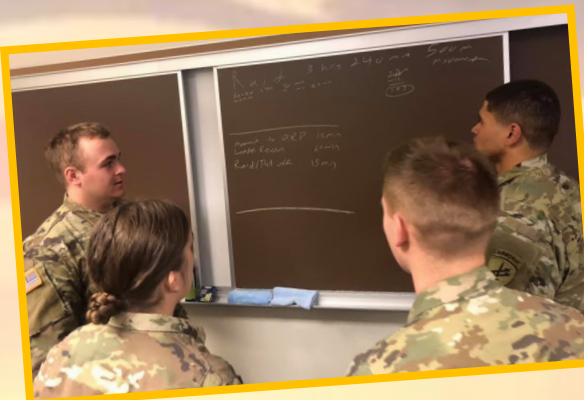


Cadets in top row: Riley, Bailey, Pearce  
Cadets seated: Hollingsworth, Reyes

Congrats to our Cadets for completing the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge! 3 Golds & 2 Silvers! Great job!!!



At drill & ceremony practice the discipline one learns marching is key and is as old as Valley Forge!



Wolfpack Army ROTC juniors planned a 1/3 -2/3 timeline for Movement to Contact, Platoon Attack & Raid. Timelines are hard!!!



# DINING IN, COMMISSIONING (DECEMBER) & CUTTING LOOSE!

Commissioning December 2019  
Baldwin Wallace University



Congratulations **Second Lieutenant Moesch** for Commissioning into the United States Army as an Infantryman! Great job! Lead the Way!



Thank you **Baldwin Wallace President Robert Helmer** for speaking at 2LT Moesch's Commissioning Ceremony. President Helmer quoted Isaac Newton saying, "if I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."

Dining In:

Mr. Vice taking instructions from **MAJ Jenkins** about proper Dining In protocol!



"Excellent Mr. Vice work until the point when sardine juice got spilled on the head table."  
LTC Ferguson



**TURKEY BOWL 2019!**

The Wolfpack Army ROTC had some fun with our annual Turkey Bowl! Good times, great football!



Pre-FTX ride on a whirly bird. Not a bad ride!



# ALUMNI NEWS • SAVE THE DATES

**Update From 2LT Donner ('19)** 2LT Donner sent us back some motivation from Engineer Basic Officer Leadership Course (EBOLC). He seems to be having a BLAST!



**Be our GUEST!**  
**1LT Haas ('17)** came by to share his experiences with our Cadets. He said "focus on PT and learning your job," you can't go wrong with that.



*Two Updates from:* **LTC Mike Story ('00)**

**2LTs Robinson & 2LT Henry ('19)** great seeing you both at BOLC. Go out & do great things. Soldiers deserve great leadership, so give it to them."

**"Our 20th class anniversary is coming up! Let's meet up at the Awards Dinner, April 24<sup>th</sup>!"**

**Update From 2LT Henry ('19)** I recently graduated AMEDD (Army Medical Department) BOLC (Basic Officer Leadership Course) in Fort Sam Houston, TX. BOLC is the next step in professional military education for officers following their commissioning. BOLC combines broad Army knowledge with branch specific doctrine to build well-rounded, yet specialized Army professionals. It is an excellent opportunity to refine the skills you have learned in ROTC, network with your peers, and develop the skills and knowledge to succeed in your respective career path.

## Awards Dinner Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Guest Speaker:  
**Shannon E. French, PhD**

[CLICK HERE](#) to register • donate



## Commissioning Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

Guest Speaker:  
**COL (r) Peter Haas ('89)**



### ARMY NIGHT @ PROGRESSIVE

**FRIDAY, MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

- Black Daggers appearance!
- Purchase tickets by April 1
- Fireworks ♦ \$ hotdogs ♦ plus more!!

**CONTACT MAJ TIM JENKINS: [TJENKINS@JCU.EDU](mailto:TJENKINS@JCU.EDU)**



**Social media!** Follow us & post your updates too!

### DONATE TODAY



**Your sponsorship** makes a huge impact! *Thank you* for your generosity and **support of our programs!**

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For **major gifts**, please contact JCU's Ms. Debbie Petraska, Dept. of Advancement at (216) 397-4338 or [dapetraska@jcu.edu](mailto:dapetraska@jcu.edu).

