# THE PIRATE SCROLL

PIRATE BATTALION, SETON HALL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

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Welcome to our first newsletter!!! This one has been in the works for some time. It may seem easy to get one out, but not when our cadets are taking in excess of 15 credit hours per semester. We want these newsletters to inform our families, friends and alumni. Most importantly, we want to showcase our Pirate cadets' accomplishments. We plan to do a newsletter at the end of every semester (Fall and Spring) as well as the end of the summer training session before fall semester begins. For this one, you'll see that we've captured everything from our summer training through the fall semester. ROTC has changed over the past year. We find ourselves in the mix of making it better and ensuring we're developing the best cadets to be the best Army junior leaders of our great Army. This past summer was the last of Leader Development Assessment Course (LDAC) and Leader Transition Course (LTC). Instead, cadets will now attend Cadet Leader Course (CLC) and Cadet Initial Entry Training (CIET). We adjusted our Outcome Merit List (OML) to distinguish each cadet from one another. When our cadets complete the last two years, they earn almost 25 credit hours that are not completely counted toward their graduation requirements. This year we have been trying to reconnect with our alumni. Since October, we have contacted over 200 of them, but we know there's so many more out there. We ask that each of our alumni encourage each other and reach out and contact us. This year at our Awards Ball, 2 May 2015, we will induct our inaugural Hall of Fame alumni. Please visit our website

(http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/index.cfm ) to get reacquainted with our cadets and battalion.

#### **CADET SUMMER TRAINING**

Over the summer, many of the Battalion's Pirates had great opportunities for participation in additional training. Training consisted of programs such as Cadet Troop Leader Training (CLT), Project Go, Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP), and Leadership Training Course (LTC) as both a trainee and Cadre to assist in training of new cadets. Cadets also have the opportunity to attend army schools such as Airborne School and Air Assault School. However, while some cadets were away for the summer, many of the remaining Pirates participated in events at Seton Hall University as well as the neighboring communities. Pirates provided support to home events such as Pirate Adventure, Seton Hall University's Freshman Orientation event, the Knights of Columbus Tank Pull, and several color guards. One color guard in particular stood out in which the Pirates conducted a color guard on the Aircraft Carrier Intrepid in New York City. All the summer events allowed Cadets of the Pirate Battalion continuity of training received during the school year as well as continuous leadership experience to facilitate excellence in our cadets.



Cadets with the Seton Hall mascot at Pirate Adventure!



Cadet Shawn DesLauriers on SMUD range firing a .50 caliber rifle at ordinance on a Hawaiian volcano.

# Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT)

The summer following junior year, Cadets Shawn DesLauriers, Brent Warn, Andrew Derogatis, and David Glinbizzi participated in CTLT. Cadet Troop Leadership Training. The program allowed them to shadow a 2nd Lieutenant from each of their respective units. This experience allowed them to learn about the duties and responsibilities of a platoon leader and the operations of a unit. Cadet DesLauriers shadowed at the 706th **Explosive Ordinance Disposal** Company based out of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii As part of his training, he was able to conduct training missions on the Big Island of Hawaii and run lanes involving the identification and disposal of several IED's and other dangerous explosive materials that could be used by the enemy to harm our deployed soldiers in combat.

Continued on page (CTLT)

CTLT

While there, he was able take a tour of the islands of Hawaii and appreciate the beauty of the tropics. The first-hand experience he was immersed in allowed Cadet DesLauriers to learn more than what he expected. He said that the soldiers were eager to bestow their knowledge of military tactics and methods and enthusiastically answered his questions. In fact, they explained the various procedures that active duty officers and soldiers go through

on a daily basis. This brief taste of leadership gave Cadet DesLauriers a glimpse of what his future holds as well as the opportunities that come with being an Army officer.



Cadet Shawn DesLauriers and his CTLT group enjoying the Hawaiian sunset

## A Pirate in Spain!

Cadet Jeffery Prol was tasked to educate soldiers of the Spanish Legion based in Ronda, Spain. His assignment was for three weeks in which he worked side-byside with a platoon leader of an infantry platoon. Working one-on-one enabled him to establish a friendship that facilitated an expedited learning of the Spanish culture. He learned that in the Spanish military, officers are required to pass an English competency test to be eligible for promotions. Most officers had a solid foundation of the English language, however, many of the enlisted soldiers had minimal English competencies. He worked with the first lieutenant on his English fluency by providing his input on proper grammar usage and enhancing his vocabulary, while his first lieutenant taught him the Spanish translation of their conversations. Their friendship allowed for

# Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP)

Each year, Cadets are given the opportunity to travel the world for three weeks. By immersing themselves in foreign cultures, they expand their knowledge of how others view the U.S. and, in the process, learn more about themselves. Through this program, future leaders are able to further develop cultural awareness and foreign language proficiency skills. These experiences aid in the education of our future leaders in ways that cannot be simulated by traditional classroom education. This summer cadets deployed on CULP missions to: Spain, Romania, Albania, Burundi, Tanzania, and Paraguay



Cadet Prol in Spain



Cadet DeWerth Jaffee in Romania



Cadet Smith in Burundi



Cadet Cabezas in Paraguay

SPAIN

a smooth learning experience for both parties. The teaching-learning experience did not have a "classroom feel" yet the skills acquired were more permanently learned. Cadet Prol's team participated in live fire drills in assault rifle and sniper rifle ranges, driving various sized tanks and infantry tactics training. He joined on a tour of Madrid, Ceuta as well as Grenada and several other cities on weekends. He stated that, the highlight of his mission was a 25-mile ruck march through the mountains of Spain to the Mediterranean Sea. In addition, the camaraderie he felt with the soldiers of the Legion was something he would never forget. In addition, the place offered such spectacular sceneries that were breathtaking. He was amazed that he was able to form such a connection with individuals with so many life experiences that surpassed those of his own. Cadet Prol found that Spanish soldiers love the United States of America and have high respects of our military. He was even told on many occasions by the Special Forces soldiers that they would be honored to serve in the American Army. The experience enhanced his pride for the Pirate Battalion and at the same time humbled him.

### **Leadership Training Course (LTC)**

This summer several of Pirate Battalion's Cadets got the opportunity to attend LTC at Ft. Knox Kentucky. While at LTC Cadets got the opportunity to act as team leaders as well as receive training on Basic Rifle Marksmanship, obstacle courses, and field craft. Besides training Cadet Christopher Kosmyna had the opportunity to act as Cadre at LTC saying it was a "highly rewarding and it served as a great leadership and developmental position being the first leader that the new cadets worked with."

# **Project Go**By Cadet Michael Duce



Cdt Duce(far right) with his fellow students

Project Go is an 8-12 week intensive language program designed to rapidly teach students in a critical language before immersing them in a culture that uses it. The program consists of an 8-week period at a host school in the United States where students dedicate 6-10 hours a day to language study, accompanied with four hours of daily

class. The program teaches students writing, speaking, and cultural understanding of the language being taught. At the end of the 8-week program, students are then sent to a foreign country

where they are immersed in the local customs and culture through living with a host family there. In the foreign country, students have daily classes for three hours and peer-to-peer discussions between natives of the country and students. After class, students are given free time to



Cdt Duce with his Georgian
Host Family

explore and encounter the culture at hand. This is accompanied by weekly immersion trips around the country that help further cultural understanding. This program motivates students to reach new heights of language understanding and proficiency as well as give them the chance to experience a foreign culture not known to most of the world.

### **Knights of Columbus Tank Pull**



Cadet George helps set up event seating

an 80,000 pound tank mounted on a flatbed truck. There were two events in the challenge consisted of a fastest time as well as a lowest combined weight. By supporting this event, cadets were able to assist in gathering donations benefiting the veterans. In total, over \$500,000 was raised for The Wounded Warriors Project over the last three years that Army ROTC has been providing support to the Tank pull.

This past summer, Pirate Battalion supported the Knights of Columbus Tank Pull in Clifton, New Jersey in order to support the Wounded Warrior Program. Cadets of the Pirate Battalion teamed up with our neighbors, the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers Army ROTC. They created a team that was sponsored by Capstone Valuation Services, LLC. Cadets assisted with set up and breakdown of the site. The Tank Pull Challenge itself was a physical test of endurance in which competitors moved



Cadets of Pirate Battalion and Rutgers Army ROTC in front of the 80,000 pound tank they pulled.

### **Pirate Adventure**

Every year Pirate Battalion Cadets help Seton Hall welcome in its news students during its Pirate Adventure program. During the Multiple sessions in June Cadets run Team building activities and discuss with incoming freshman what being a Seton Hall student is like.



Cdts Waligroski and Walker help out during tug of war



Cadets Critique Freshman push up form during Pirate Adventure

## Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC) 2014



Cadet Brent Warn Poses LDAC 2014

This summer, starting as early as June, Pirate Battalion sent its class of 2015 MSIII cadets to LDAC at Fort Knox Kentucky. Cadets would be integrated into 48 cadet platoons to not only receive training in areas such as Land Navigation, Basic Rifle Marksmanship, and Care under Fire, but to be assessed on their leadership abilities as well. Starting training from the moment they arrived in Kentucky some of our Pirates took responsibility of leadership on day one of training and got the opportunity to apply all of their knowledge, training, and leadership ability with their peers from ROTC programs across the United States. After four weeks of training our Pirates

graduated LDAC and some started additional summer training not with a Platoon Mate during hours after graduation. In summer of 2015 Pirates will again head to Ft. Knox but to a new course, the Cadet Leadership Course,

which is to have a greater focus on Cadet Training and leadership opportunities.

#### **FALL SEMESTER 2014**

Pirate Battalion Started off the fall semester strong with NCO week, run by the Battalions Cadet NCO leadership. Focusing on bringing Alpha Company's teams, squads, and platoons together. After NCO week, more training will start with the Battalion Color Guard team, Physical Training, Ranger Challenge, the Combat Water Survival Test, two leadership Labs and the Battalions Fall Leadership Training Exercise (LTX). More details can be read on page 6.



MSIII Cadets lead Physical Readiness Training during NCO Week



Prospective Cadets attend an informational session held by Pirate Battalion during NCO Week

## **Physical Readiness Training**



Cadets play soccer in late October at Ivy Hill Park

One of the First tasks that Pirate Battalion Cadet Leadership undertakes during the Start of any Semester is overseeing and improving Battalion Physical Readiness. Using Physical Training plans developed by MSIII cadets with Guidance from their MSIV platoon leaders Cadets lead their subordinates every week in conducting Physical Readiness Training. Through the Semester Pirates would conduct runs in South Orange, Army regulation exercises on Seton Hall Campus, and

once every month completive events.

Besides this, Pirates will conduct the Army Physical

Fitness Test (APFT) three times over the course of the Semester. Once a semester cadets from Pirate Battalion take a standard for record APFT in order to test their muscle strength and endurance capabilities. An APFT consists of two minutes of continuous Push Ups, two minutes continuous Sit Ups, and a 2-mile Run. If cadets score above three hundred on the APFT, they are welcomed into the Three Hundred Club, and are recognized for their dedication to being physically ready. The cadet with the top score is recognized as Pirate Battalion's Iron Cadet at the end



Cadet Von Caplan runs into the finish line during the Record APFT

score is recognized as Pirate Battalion's Iron Cadet at the end of the Academic year. Shown Below are Results from the Fall Semester's three APFTs.

#### **300 CLUB**

Reserved for Cadets who have scored 300 points or higher on the Army Physical Fitness Test having achieved maximum scores on each event



CDT. Cabezas



CDT Bala



CDT. Chelf



CDT. Osika



CDT. Barikian

Most Push Ups 101



CDT Cabezas





CDT Barikian

Best 2 Mile Run 11:47



CDT Cabezas

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#### **Pirate Battalion Color Guard Team**

Throughout the year, Pirate Battalion supports several various events by tasking the Color Guard Team to present the United States Colors. Pirates have served as color Guards at locations such as the Aircraft Carrier Intrepid, New York Red Bulls games, at the Prudential

Center for the New Jersey Devils, as well as Seton Hall basketball games. Cadet Christian Jamandre is the captain of the Pirate Battalion Color Guard



The color Guard Team presents the colors at a New York Red Bulls game early in the semester

Team. He conducted auditions upon the beginning of the semester in which all cadets were welcome to try out and display

The team during an Alumni event their knowledge of being a color guard. The Team practices twice a week to maintain high professionalism and skills.

## Ranger Challenge Team



The 2014 Ranger Challenge Team
assembles their one rope bridge during the
Competition transit time to

complete the challenge! The Ranger Challenge Team competed in events such as a 10k ruck march, an obstacle course, confidence course, a hand grenade assault course, one rope bridge, a log carry, and an unknown event of the Commander's choice called the CDRs Challenge.

The Ranger Challenge competition was held on 18OCT2014 in Dix, New Jersey. This year, ranger challenge candidates underwent rigorous training beginning in the 2014Spring semester in order to physically and mentally prepare themselves for this year's ranger challenge competition. Due to their remarkable drive and dedication, our team outperformed 24 schools and placed 18th out of 42. In fact, our Pirates



The team during movement between events

## **Combat Water Survival Training (CWST)**



Once every Semester Pirates dive into the pool to test their confidence in the water under load. The test consists of a 15-meter swim with rifle and equipment, a blindfolded drop off the 3-meter high dive with rifle in hand, and an equipment ditch after jumping into the water. Even though some cadets were weak swimmers, they stepped up to the challenge knowing that as leaders, fear of water is never a reason to quit.

## **Land Navigation**

As future officers, cadets must demonstrate how to critically think and solve problems. Land Navigation

Cadet John Chideau training is a basic soldiering conducts the equipment skill that allows cadets to ditch during the CWST navigate using a map and a compass. This training challenges the cadets to plan out how they will complete a five-point course in less than three hours. On 12th September 2014, cadets from Alpha Company, Pirate Battalion conducted Land Navigation



A Pirate Battalion Cadet diligently plots his points before stepping off.

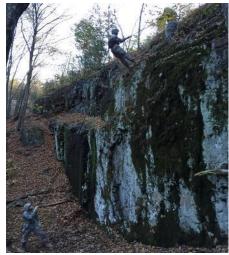
training on South Mountain Reservation, South Orange, NJ. The cadets went through 2 hours of instructional classes on how to read maps and plot routes. Afterwards, the cadets moved onto the land navigation course and were given three hours to find their points. They maneuvered the course on their own, testing their knowledge on how to navigate with a map and compass. The last training event was a 2- hour class where the cadets moved to different terrain features and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of key terrain features from a tactical and strategic perspective.

## **Leadership training Exercise (LTX)**

On October 24<sup>th</sup> 2014 Pirate Battalion started its Semester LTX. During the first part of the day, Alpha Company Cadets conducted a round robin of events. Pirates got the chance to work as a team at Columbia High School in South Orange, NJ taking on their high and low ropes courses. Simultaneously, Cadets received hand grenade training and care under fire instruction nearby at a local Park in Maplewood, NJ. After the entire Company had gone through each event, Pirate Battalion moved up to South Mountain Reservation to conduct another training round robin. Squads broke up and conducted squad tactics training, land navigation, Basic Marksmanship Instruction, and Reconnaissance training, as well as rappel off a cliff face.



Continued on page 10



Cadets work together to rappel down a cliff face at South Mountain

LTX After a full night's sleep, Alpha Company woke up and conducted squad STX lanes, testing their ability to not only receive and understand an operations

order, but also communicate the mission to their squad and lead them. After two full days of continuous training, Pirate Battalion moved back to FOB SHU and dismissed for the remainder of that weekend.



3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon Cadets search an "Enemy" during Squad STX on October 25th

# Operation Firestorm, Pirates go Paintballing

On November 14<sup>th</sup> 2014, Pirate Battalion deployed to Battle Creek Paintball facility to conduct Squad STX lanes utilizing Paintball equipment to help better simulate actual combat conditions. Cadet Squad leaders were tested in their ability to brief operations orders as well as direct their squad to complete their mission while under enemy fire. After three iterations of STX lanes, the squads faced off against each other in a force-on-force tournament. Cadets said they gained invaluable insight into the complexity of commanding soldiers under fire and the importance of effective communication in leading their teams and squads.



Pirates shoot and move during a Squad Attack at Battle Creek Paintball

## Halloween 2014



Alpha Company prepares to step off in costume

The Friday of Halloween every year Alpha Company shows out in force in costume for Halloween. This year, the Battalion ran through South Orange and back to Seton Hall showing Pirate pride and Camaraderie.



The MSI class after the run

#### **PIRATE BATTALION BRANCHES OUT**

Over the course of the semester, Pirate Battalion did more than just conduct Army centric training. Pirate Battalion is a dedicated member of not only the Seton Hall community, but also of Northern New Jersey. Over the Fall Semester Pirate Battalion branched out of just running Leadership Labs and Physical training in multiple ways

# Seton Hall Men's Basketball Opener

On November 16<sup>th</sup> Seton Hall Men's Basketball opened its season against Mercer. Pirate Battalion was there to lend support. Alpha company sat in the students' section cheering on the Pirates to their first win of the season.



Cadets put their hands up to help psych Mercer out during a free throw

## **Turkey Drive**

Working with the
Community Bank of NJ on
November 23rd Pirate
Battalion helped collect
Turkeys and other food
items for the needy



## South Mountain Reservation Cleanup

Thanks to Essex County and the Parks Department, Pirate Battalion enjoys the use of South Mountain Reservation to conduct its training. To show appreciation and dedication to the community, Cadets picked up trash and cleared sidewalk of debris and well as cleaned up the Reservations 9/11 memorial on November 15<sup>th</sup> 2014.



Cadets move leaves out of a SMR public use area

### The Captain Dalessio Memorial 5k run/walk



Cadets and Cadre just before stepping off on

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2008, one of Pirate Battalion's own lost his life in service to his country, Captain Gregory T. Dalessio. To honor and memorialize his sacrifice and help raise funds for the Greg T. Dalessio Memorial Scholarship, a 5k walk/run was held on December 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 at Cherryhill, NJ. Pirate Battalion made a special effort to come down to Cherryhill that Saturday and run in the race to show support and honor one of our own. Pirate Battalion Cadets and Cadre stepped off from the start line singing cadences and bearing the Pirate Battalion Guidon on that overcast morning. The Pirate

Battalion Cadets were glad to have been able to show their support to the Dalessio Family.

#### **Cadet of the Week**

Alpha Company, Pirate Battalion presents the Cadet of the Week award every Friday of a regular training week to the cadet who demonstrates expertise, initiative, and overall selfimprovement. The process of selecting the cadet of the week begins with nomination of Cadets at all levels from within each platoon; Cadets who have helped improve the overall status of the unit. Afterwards, three nominated cadets from each platoon are reviewed by the Company leadership. The company leadership then chooses one of the nominated cadets as Cadet of the Week. Once the Cadet of the Week is chosen, he or she is recognized for their efforts at final formation on Friday afternoon. All cadets in Alpha Company are welcome to take on the challenge and strive to be Cadet of the Week.

#### This semester's Cadet of the week winners:











27SEPT2014 -030CT2014

110CT2014-170CT2014

CDT Courtney Chelf CDT Patrick Hurley CDT Peter Cabezas 040CT2014-100CT2014

CDT Andre Viola 02NOV2014-08NOV2014

CDT Joseph Dolson 16NOV2014-22NOV2014

#### **Cadet of the Month**

The Cadet of the Month award is presented to the cadet who has been selected by the board as a standout among his fellow Pirates. A Cadet of the Month board is held every last Thursday of each month. During the Cadet of the Month board, cadets must demonstrate expert knowledge on historical information about Pirate Battalion, World Affairs, basic soldiering skills, proper customs and courtesies, and other topics. The board members consist of the Cadet Command Sergeant Major assisted by four other board members from Pirate Battalion Staff and Alpha Company Leadership. The Cadet of the Month board interviews begin with the cadet's sponsor entering the room and briefly explaining why they believe their cadet is Cadet of the Month material. After this, the cadet enters the room and answers a total of 10 questions from the board members. The board members look for response, confidence, knowledge, and character. At the completion of the board, one of the nominated cadets is selected as Cadet of the Month, with an announcement and an award presented at final formation the following day.

#### This Semester's Cadet of the Month Winners:



Cadet Nicholas Keves



Cadet Kyle Adams

## **Commissioning December 2014**

On December 19th 2014 Pirate Battalion had the Honor of commissioning three of its Cadets as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants in the U.S Army. From left to right in the first picture Alexandra Barikian,

LTC Gonzalez administers the Oath Staff of the New Jersey of Office

Flora Corizzi, and Hernan Vargas took the Oath of Office during a formal commissioning ceremony held in the Chancellor's Suite at Seton Hall University.

Attended by Pirate **Battalion Cadets as** well as family and friends of the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants, the ceremony was attended by Brigadier General James J. Grant Chief of the Joint

National Guard.



SFC Sarni accepts 2ndLT Vargas' challenge coin after exchanging the ceremonial first salute

General Grant welcomed the new army leaders into the profession during his speech and gave them some personal advice about being Army officers. Lt. Corizzi and Lt. Barikian commissioned into the army nurse Corps and Lt. Vargas

commissioned into the Infantry. The ceremony concluded after the pinning of shoulder boards by family and first Salutes from each Lieutenant's chosen NCO.



General Grant address the new Lt's



From left to right Lt. Corizzi, Lt. Vargas, and Lt. Barikian cut their cake after the ceremony

## **Pirate Alumni**







Over the past 60 years, Pirate Battalion has commissioned officers of the highest caliber into the United States Army. We proudly call them our Pirate Alumni. Their contributions in the military and civilian sector are unrivaled. We are eager to reconnect with our roots, the storied history and greatness that Pirate Alumni helped establish. During the beginning of fall semester, Pirates had a great opportunity to reconnect with some alumni at Seton Hall University's Golden Pirate event.

Alumni can help and give back to Pirate Battalion in many ways. Some Alumni have given back with not only donations of money but also with their time. Pirate Battalion is constantly looking for guest speakers who want to talk about their experiences in the army and as leaders. By providing support and assisting in funding many of the costs associated with supplies and vendors for Cadet held events can be mitigated and cadets can learn from your invaluable experiences. If you are interested in becoming involved with Pirate Battalion please visit <a href="http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/alumni.cfm">http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/alumni.cfm</a> to update your contact information so we can better connect with you. To find alumni from years past visit <a href="http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/alumni-1950-current.cfm">http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/alumni-1950-current.cfm</a>.

More than anything else we want to reconnect with you and hear from you.

#### If you are interested in Donating to the Pirate Battalion, you will help:

- Promote Cadet training with a larger array of educational methods
- Help enable leadership opportunities outside of typical leadership laboratory

#### Donations made to the Pirate Battalion Cadet Fund may be allocated for various events including:

- Leadership seminars where Cadets may hear of lessons learned from fellow alumni
- Commissioning ceremonies to bid Second Lieutenants farewell as they move on in their Army career and rejoice in their accomplishment.
- Participation in 5k/10ks in order to further integrate Cadets into the community
- Best Pirate Competition to facilitate the enhancement of Esprit de Corps
- Other purposes such as awards to provide recognition for accomplishments or updating equipment to enhance Cadet training operations.

We gratefully accept donations in any amount! If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to the program, please choose one of the following methods:

- Online by credit card using the form to the right.
- Contact the SHU Army ROTC offices at Mooney Hall to learn of other ways to contribute: (973) 761-9446 or email <a href="mailto:angella.gladden@shu.edu">angella.gladden@shu.edu</a>
- Or visit us at http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/index.