



BEARKAT BATTALION



From right to left, LTC Joshua Limberg, MG Andy Munera United States Army Cadet Command (USACC) Commander, MG (R) David Glaser SHSU's Chief Strategy Officer, USACC CSM Roy Young, Mr. David Stender, Deputy Director for the Institute of Homeland Security at SHSU and MSG Christopher Liberatore

As the Fall 2022 semester ends, Cadets worked hard to finish 2022 strong! Cadets were busy reaching out to the community through our volunteering program over the last few months (look for details in the January newsletter). As we prepare for Winter break, the Bearkat Battalion would like to thank Cadets, Alumni (near and far), and everyone who supported us during the semester. Happy Holidays!

Eat'Em Up Kats!



CDTs (Left to Right) Gray, Pilgrim, Lopez, Greco, Bahr, Sumrall, Towouh, and Ward with the kids from New Waverly elementary school during Veterans day

PMS Comment

Whoa! The semester has flown by! It has been a great semester and a learning experience for both MSG Liberatore and myself. I could not be prouder of the Bearkat Battalions' accomplishments these past few months! We contracted 18 Cadets this semester bringing our total up to 63 within the Battalion. The hard-charging Ranger Challenge Team finished 4th in the Brigade out of 36 programs. And we exceeded our fundraising goal for the Rowdy Inman 5k run and overtook the streets of Huntsville with over 90 runners participating.

During homecoming weekend, we hosted over 250 JROTC Cadets at a tailgate and football game and still had time to begin planning for next semester's Multi-Program Field Training Exercise (MPFTX). Even more exciting, we are planning key strategy changes to our spring semester weekly field training labs.

This past semester, our decorated program became the National Senior Headquarters for the Scabbard and Blades Society and is working with other Universities to stand up similar programs. Finally, we ended the semester with our MSIVs getting their branches and the commissioning of Cadets Christian Rodgers and Cody Weeks to Second Lieutenants. A busy and productive semester for sure.

Next semester is looking to be just as productive. In addition to training with Stephen F. Austin at the MPFTX, we are hosting a JROTC competition, that includes an ACFT competition. Spring semester is right around the corner and culminates with the commissioning of one of our largest classes to date. I hope everyone enjoys their holiday season and gets to spend some time with friends and family.



LTC Limberg giving a speech during Veterans day at Elkins Lake Golf Course



Newly Contracted Cadet: Chapa



CDT Chapa taking the Oath of Enlistment given by LTC Limberg

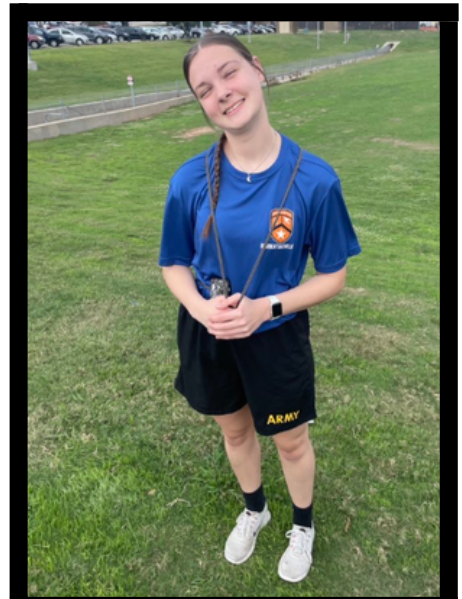


Mia Chapa
New Caney, TX

"I enjoy playing sports and working out in my free time. I plan to major in Criminal Justice with a minor in Forensic Science. My experience in my first semester of ROTC was more than I was hoping; meeting new people and getting involved in the program was easier than I thought it would have been. I am pleased that I decided to contract during my first semester as an MSI cadet. "



CDT Chapa with CASA
(Civilian Aide to the
Secretary of the Army)
Myrna Trevino



CDT Chapa all smiles
after contracting





CADET CAMILLE DANG-FOUTY
Branch: Air Defense Artillery
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: Purdon, TX



CADET ALEXANDER DIECK
Branch: Air Defense Artillery
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: Monterrey, Mexico)



CADET WILLIAM A. SUMNER
Branch: Armor
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: League City, TX



CADET JULIAN D. MONROIG
Branch: Infantry
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: Friendswood, TX



CADET MATTHEW A. PILGRIM
Branch: Infantry
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: Spring, TX



CADET BRENDAN G. SMITH
Branch: Transportation Corps
Major: International Business
Hometown: Tomball, TX

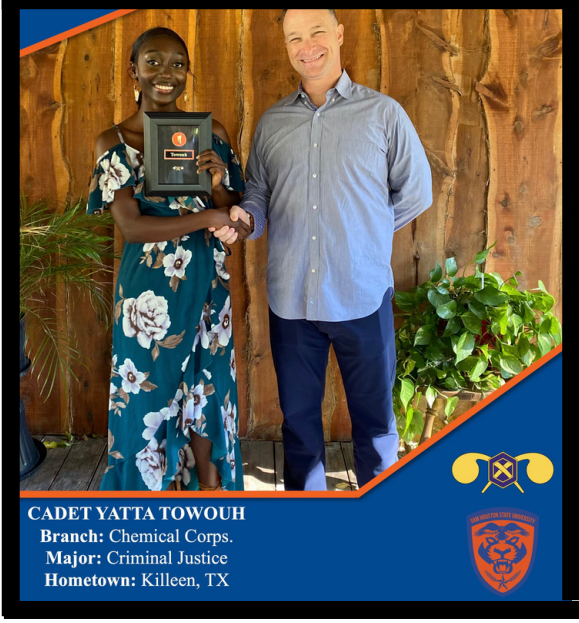


CADET DEENA E. STONE
Branch: Aviation
Major: Victim Studies
Hometown: Katy, TX



Fall 2022 MSIV Branch Reveal

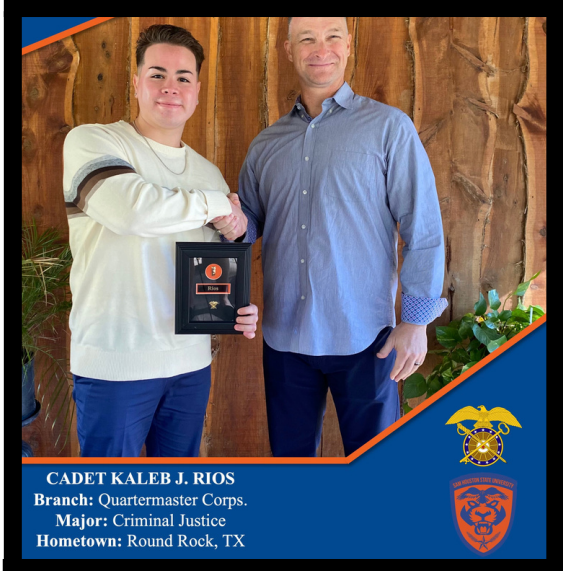




CADET YATTA TOWOUH
 Branch: Chemical Corps.
 Major: Criminal Justice
 Hometown: Killeen, TX



CADET ETHAN A. BAHR
 Branch: Signal Corps.
 Major: Management Information
 Hometown: New Caney, TX



CADET KALEB J. RIOS
 Branch: Quartermaster Corps.
 Major: Criminal Justice
 Hometown: Round Rock, TX



CADET BENJAMIN C. DENE
 Branch: Military Intelligence/Field Artillery
 Major: Criminal Justice
 Hometown: Tyler, TX



Train to Lead!

Color Guard: CDT Barerra

Fall 2022 contained the most events the Color Guard has ever supported, almost half of a year's worth within the Month of November. The Color Guard completed seven events; two football games, two Veterans Day events, the SHSU Ring Ceremony, the Bay Area Presidential dinner, and the 5th Annual Rowdy Inman 5K.

The Bay Area Presidential dinner was a fantastic opportunity for Color Guard tabs. Cadets Wright-Burwinkel, Sitkowski, Watson, and Mills drove down to Galveston and posted the colors for the Bay Area Alumni and Friends Association and the University President, Dr. Alisa White. They were even treated to a three-course meal, paid for by a generous association member!

Perhaps the most rewarding events for cadets are the Veterans Day ceremonies. Cadets are able to interact, honor, and build connections with veterans, and this was especially true at the HEARTS Museum Veterans Day Ceremony, where Cadets Slott, Wright-Burwinkel, Watson, and Barrera posted and retired the colors. The ceremony included speeches, awards, and a meal. Veterans from every branch of the service were present and sang along with their portion of the United States Armed Forces Medley. I am pleased to say Army veterans vastly outnumbered the rest. Cadets were privileged to meet two members of Congress and, more importantly, a World War II veteran, who managed to join the service underage. It was indeed an honor to serve these heroes of our great nation.



Color Guard awards presented to: Thille, Wisnewski, Hyams, Stone, and Ratliff



CDTs Smith, Mills, Slott, Dene and Barerra posting the colors for Veterans day





CDTs (Left to Right): Barerra, Smith, Mills, Slott, and Dene preparing to raise the flag during the Veteran's day ceremony at Elkin's Lake Golf Course



Color Guard Cadets at the football game





**Top MS1 Cadet:
Presented to CDT Jackson
Hyams**



**Top MS2 Cadet:
Presented to CDT Tanner Stone**



**Top MS3 Cadet:
Presented to CDT Cinnamon
Wright-Burwinkel**



**Command Sergeant Major
Prominence Award:
Presented to CDT Jack Boucher**

Fall 2022 Awards Ceremony



**Battalion Commander Military
Award:
Presented to CDT Jacob Clement**

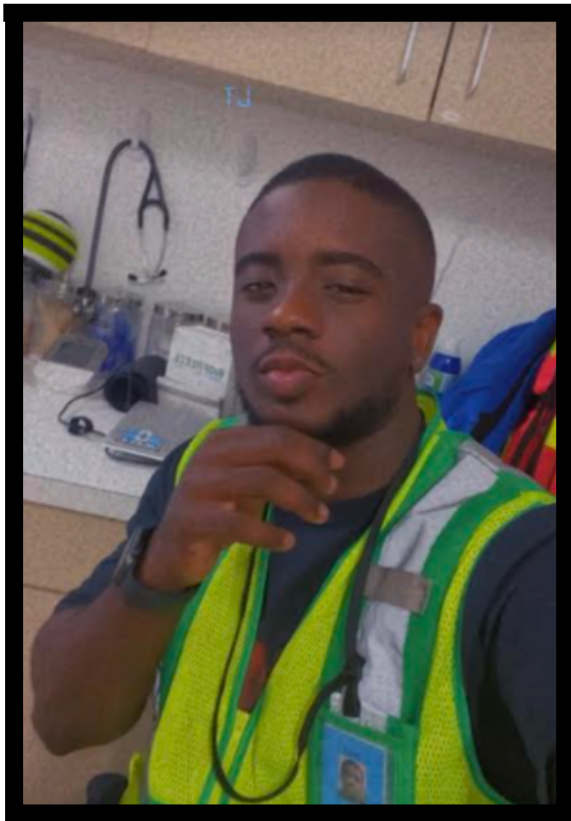
This fall semester, our Battalion recognized deserving cadets at the Fall award ceremony hosted by CDTs: Xiomara Santiago, Deena Stone, and Bethany Mitchell. We were able to give away a total of \$12,000 in scholarships to some of the hard-working cadets for their accomplishments. We are proud of our cadets and look forward to seeing more of their achievements!



**CPT Rowdy Inman Award:
Presented to Cadet Kynneith LeBlanc (Left) and
Cadet Emily Slott (Right)**

Balancing Life: CDT Oluwasegun Olatunji

I joined the Sam Houston State University ROTC program during the Fall semester of 2021 as a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in Public Health. I also serve as a simultaneous membership (SMP) cadet in the Army Reserves, being a prior-enlisted soldier in the Quartermasters Corps. ROTC has been nothing but amazing and motivating. I have learned to appreciate the significant responsibilities and tasks of being an Army Officer and the ability to work in a successful team with my fellow cadets. Working a full-time job while in the program has been challenging but positive due to my cadre members' extensive help and guidance. One of the significant challenges I have faced has to be my daily commute to campus, which is over six and a half hours, round trip from campus and back to my civilian job. I have been fortunate to have outstanding leadership from my cadre, which has allowed me to balance my civilian profession as an occupational health specialist for one of the Fortune 500 companies and flourish in my military career while maintaining my academic GPA of 4.0. My end goal is to commission as an officer in the United States Army and complete my master's degree.



CDT Olatunji at his job as an occupational health specialist



CDT Olatunji at CSTX TRAINING Fort Hunter Liggett, Jolon, California



Eat'em Up Kats!

Cadets on Thanksgiving break



CDT Avery Sitkowski proposed to his soon to be wife, Zoë, over the break



CDT Gaus-Schmidt with her sister's rabbit, Rey, over the break



CDT Boucher keeping physically fit over the break



CDT Cruz became an official Greek-Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated (The first Latin Sorority)

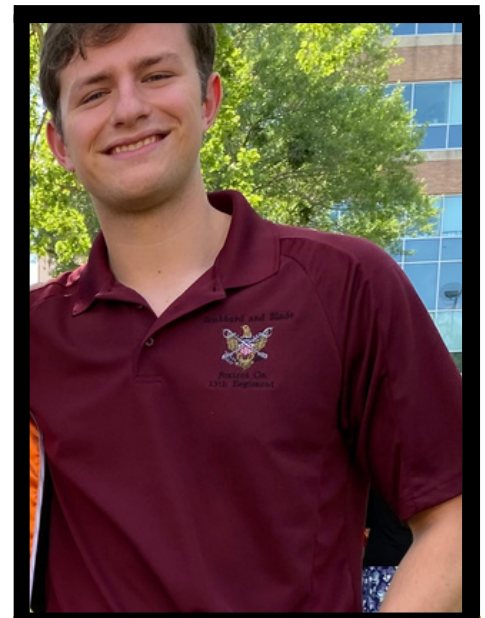
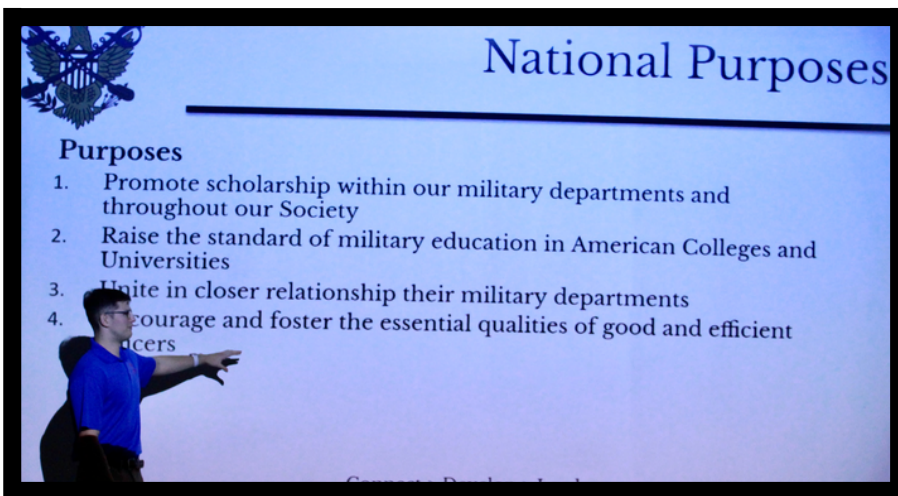


Scabbard & Blade: CDT Dieck



These are just a few of Scabbard & Blade members (left to right): Watson, Emswiler, Ratliff, Cooke, Clement, Huff, Nitsche, and Sitkowski

Scabbard & Blade (S&B) is a Military National Honor Society open to any Cadets enrolled for at least a semester in ROTC. S&B requires all its Cadets to encompass the "five-star" qualities; Honor, Leadership, Professionalism, Officership, and Unity. Our mission is to empower the next generation of military leaders through developmental events. To be a part of the honor society component, a member must either be in the top 20% of their class or have a 3.5 GPA and be classified as a Junior or Senior. Our Battalion has operated as the National Senior Headquarters for the past year. The cadets within our S&B Company have exciting events coming up next semester. We hope all current, and prospective SHSU Cadets aim to meet our standards and potentially enter our ranks.



National Commander of Scabbard & Blade CDT Dieck



Five Stars!

Fall Intramural League: CDT Rudy Rochat



Cadet Intramural League 1st Place Team Award:
Presented to Cadets Lauren Silva, Christian Santiago, Wesley Taravella, John Wisniewski, Ryan Coker, Mason Kizer, Avery Sitkowski, Errika Summers, and Rudy Rochat

My name is Rudy Rochat, and I am the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Cadet Intramural League (CIL). In the Fall of 2020, CIL was created by 2nd LT Eric Webster. He created CIL as a way to bring the Battalion together and build cohesion with the cadets during covid. Each semester cadets have the opportunity to sign up and compete in the league against the other cadets. This semester the sport we played was kickball. We had 60% of the cadets in the battalion sign up to compete against one another. We fielded 6 teams that competed each week. At the end of the semester, we crowned our 5th CIL Champion. The winning team members each won a scholarship from the program, and their team's name was engraved into the history board of past winners that hangs in the trophy room in the ROTC building. As the OIC, I look forward to next semester as I'm bringing changes through the medium of intramural sports that will create a more fun and exciting environment for cadets.



CDT Rochat with his team after the last game of the intramural League



Cadet Spotlight: Camille Dang-Fouty

Camille Dang-Fouty is a Sam Houston State University senior and an MSIV in the Bearkat Battalion. She is originally from a small town called Purdon, TX. Outside of ROTC, she is the president of the largest organization on campus, the Student Alumni Association, with over 700 students.

She is also in Chi Alpha, a church group on campus; Phi Sigma Phi, an honors fraternity, and Trio, a first-generation organization. She is also on the Board of Directors for the Alumni Association as a student representative. She is also a member of Homecoming steering committee, which helped create and organize homecoming, as well as on the Campus Life Development fund, which gets together monthly to discuss how to distribute funds to student organizations.

This past semester, she earned the Spirit Award in the Trio organization and is presented to the person demonstrating the most "trio spirit". This means that no matter the obstacles that come into your life, you always push through them and are motivated to keep going.

"When he called my name, I was shocked. I did not expect it, but I was happy and appreciative that I earned the spirit award. I try to look at life positively, even when things get rough, and see that it is rewarding."



CDT Dang-Fouty with her academic trio advisor who awarded her the award



CDT Dang-Fouty throwing grenades at Cadet Summer Training



Alumni Spotlight: 2LT Abramski

My military experience so far after graduating Sam Houston State University has been incredible. After graduating and commissioning as a Military Intelligence Officer, my wife Emily, and I, experienced the coveted "military move" firsthand. We packed our cars full of our belongings and hit the road, bound for Fort Huachuca, AZ, to attend the Military Intelligence Basic Officers Leaders Course (MIBOLC).

At MIBOLC, I interacted with intelligence professionals across the Army's domains, including our International Officer (IO) brothers and sisters. After a very short four months in Arizona and a few Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP) sessions later, I graduated and found myself, yet again, moving. This time to my first permanent station, Ft. Carson, Colorado. Emily and I have been here for two months and love the Colorado Springs area and the 4th Infantry Division.

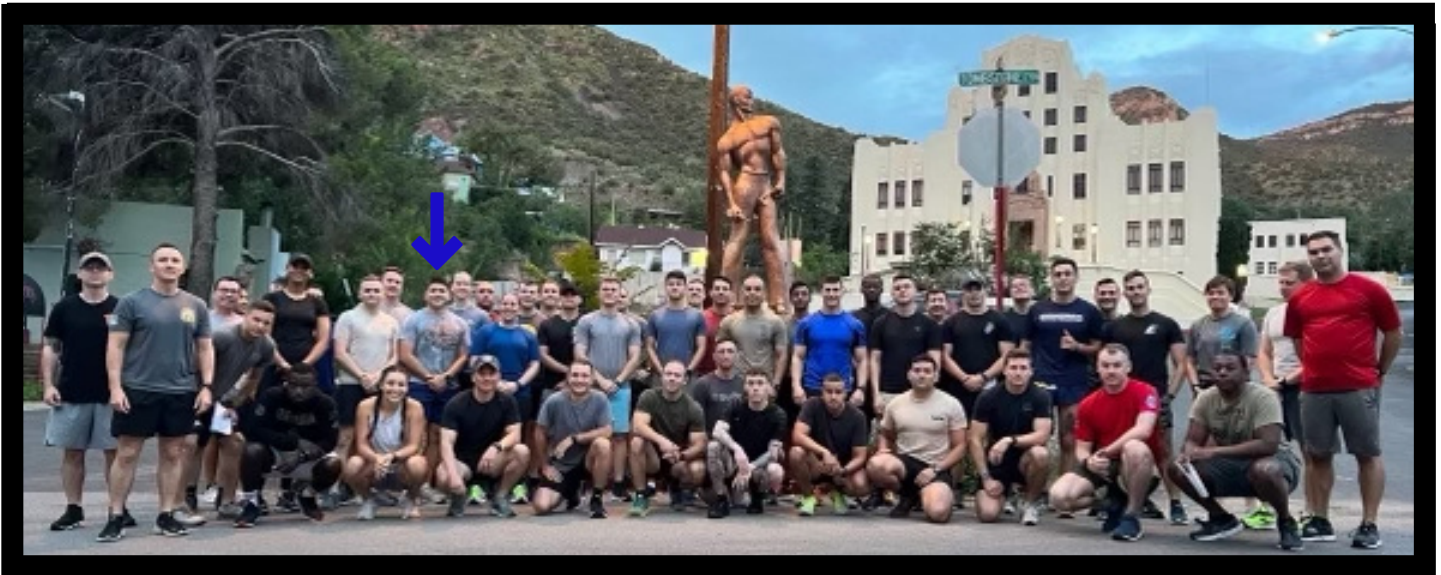
For the Senior class, here are a few of my top lessons from a very young career in the Army.

1. Impressions and relationships matter. Work on them.
2. Ask questions—a lot of them.
3. Be a force multiplier in your War Fighting Function (WFF).
4. Positivity is contagious.
5. Time management is imperative. Plan around your family and loved ones.



2LT Abramski and his wife at the Military Ball





2LT Abramski and class 09 at Bisbee, AZ for the annual Bisbee Stair Climb. Roughly 4.5 miles and 1000 steps at 6000 feet elevation



2LT Abramski at the conclusion of the MIBOLC course at Fort Huachuca, AZ

