

THE GOLDEN BUFFALO BULLETIN

Spring 2023

THE GOLDEN BUFFALO BATTALION VISION: BECOME THE TOP ROTC BATTALION IN THE NATION BY PRODUCING COMPETENT ADAPTIVE **LEADERS** OF CHARACTER- GROUNDED IN TEAMWORK AND THE ARMY VALUES; NURTURED BY AN OVERALL CLIMATE WHERE **CADRE** AND **CADETS** ARE **VALUED**, **CHALLENGED**, AND ARE **PROUD** MEMBERS OF THE GOLDEN BUFFALO BATTALION.

IN THIS ISSUE

Another Successful Semester

Introducing New PMS

MSIV Staff Ride

Special Guest Speaker

Military Ball

Bataan/Ranger Buddy

Spring LDX

Commissioning

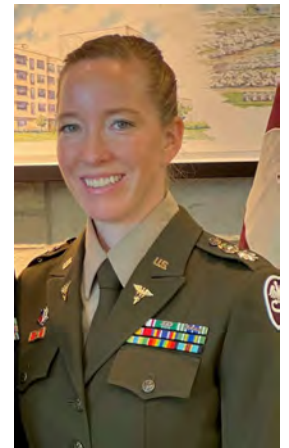
Summer Program Opportunities

Another Successful Semester

Friends, Family, and Alumni of the Golden Buffalo Battalion—Welcome to the latest edition of our semi-annual newsletter! We're eager to share with you some exiting updates and news from the past Spring 2023 semester. We hope you enjoy this edition of the Golden Buffalo Bulletin!

Introducing New PMS

The Golden Buffalo Battalion is saddened to announce that Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Bryce Kawaguchi will be moving on to his next assignment at the beginning of July. He will be attending the Army War College Blended Program to further his officer education. His replacement will be LTC Lynae Place, an acting Chief Medical Officer, AMB Nursing at Medical Department Activity (MEDDAC), Fort Riley, Kansas. She will represent the Battalion's first female commanding officer. Welcome Lieutenant Colonel Place!!!



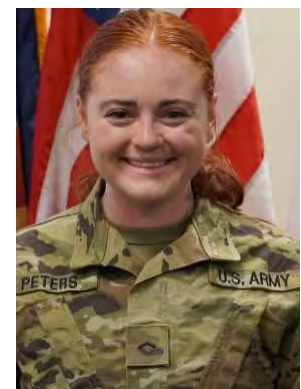
LTC LYNAE PLACE

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

2023 Student Leaders
of the Year – CDT Natalie Peters (MSII) selected
as one of nine nominees

The Center for Leadership showcases how leadership education impacts students' lives. They recognize yearly exceptional student leaders by highlighting each students' hard work and contributions to their respective leadership programs at CU-Boulder.

Learn more about this program here [Student Leaders of the Year](#)



MSIV Staff Ride

A “virtual staff ride” format was presented to the MSIV Cadets which consisted of the use of satellite imagery, digital terrain references and 3D modeling to mimic the in-person experience.

All senior level (MSIV) Golden Buffalo Battalion Cadets are mandated to attend

this curriculum training that is a graduation requirement deemed necessary by the U.S. Army Cadet Command. The presenter for the class session was Mr. Troy D. Lewis, Army University Press Combat Studies Institute Instructor. This four-hour session concentrated on the Combat Action in Afghanistan in 2008 – specifically the attack on Wanat (COP Kahler) on July 13, 2008. Cadets were required to read the official detailed report on the attack at Wanat before the presentation. This allowed them to be prepared to fully discuss the “ins-and-outs” of the entire operation.



MSIV CADETS ATTEND THE VIRTUAL STAFF RIDE ON FEBRUARY 22, 2023.

Special Guest Speaker



BG PELTIER FROM PETERSON SPACE FORCE BASE SPOKE TO ACO CADETS ON FEBRUARY 23, 2023.

The Army ROTC Alpha Company at the University of Colorado Boulder hosted guest speaker Brigadier General Isaac J. Peltier during their Thursday lab on February 23rd. BG Peltier currently serves as the deputy commanding general for Operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command at Peterson Space Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

BG Peltier, an alumni member of AROTC at CU-Boulder, spoke about his time as a Cadet. He also discussed his transition from being that “fresh” new Second Lieutenant to the Brigadier General that he is today. BG Peltier gave some insight into what each Cadet needs to focus on and learn from as they progress to each stage in their Army careers.

Annual Military Ball

The Army ROTC Golden Buffalo Battalion gathered again at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield to host their annual Military Ball. The emcee for the evening was Cadet Benjamin Morehart from CU-Boulder. The evening kicked off with the posting of the colors by the AROTC Color Guard, then everyone remained standing so Cadet Blake Bucca from MSU Denver could lead the Invocation.



Next came the traditional making of the grog bowl – where six Cadets proceeded to describe the meaning of each ingredient they added to the bowl. After all ingredients were mixed, LTC Bryce Kawaguchi selected a Cadet to do the honors of taste testing the grog. Cadet Ania Dojlidko received that privilege and drank a cup full of the concoction with a huge smile on her face. This subsequently led into everyone reading aloud the master toast.

The meals were served, and attendees enjoyed their dinners and

talked amongst themselves. LTC Bryce Kawaguchi was the evening's guest speaker. This year's Hall of Fame Inductees were Brian and Debra Crew, both alumni of the GBB program and graduates of the University of Denver (1991 and 1993 respectively). They are huge supporters and have given generously to the Charlie Company facility upgrades and scholarship/grant opportunities.

The Cadre then recognized those individual Cadets that were selected to receive an internal scholarship, award, or designation. Please see the full-length article on the Army ROTC website here:

<https://www.colorado.edu/arotc/2023/02/24/military-ball-february-2023>



ACO CADETS POSING FOR A PIC AT THE BALL.



ARMY ROTC COLOR GUARD PREPARING TO POST THE COLORS ON STAGE AT THE ANNUAL MILITARY BALL.

Veterans Build Day

Several Cadets from the Golden Buffalo Battalion took time out of their weekend to volunteer to help build tiny homes for homeless veterans. The Veterans Community Project through Rex Laceby (a military veteran and former CU employee) sponsored the CU-Boulder Veterans Build Day in Longmont, Colorado. Volunteers spent the day (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) working “Shoulder to Shoulder” to construct 26 tiny homes at the Boulder RV Service Center location in Longmont.

Everyone was raring to get to work and get their hands dirty. The day was spent adding exterior sheathing, lashing and plywood roofs to 4 of the existing tiny house frame work.

For more information about the Veterans Community Project or if you are interested in getting involved, please visit their website at: <https://www.veteranscommunityproject.org/vcp-colorado>



ACO CADETS AFFIXING THE “BLUE BOARDS” TO THE EXTERIOR OF A TINY HOME.

Bataan Memorial Death March



ARMY ROTC CADETS AND CADRE GETTING READY TO START THE 2023 BATAAN DEATH MARCH IN WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE.

competition with a time of 6 hours 30 minutes; Team #1 ACO finished fourth out of around 25 other teams; Team #2 from CCO persevered through some injuries and were able to finish as a team.

The Golden Buffalo Battalion sent down two teams and seven individuals to participate in the march. The teams consisted of five members with at least one member being female. The individual Cadets trained throughout the fall semester and then went through a rugged try-out to be selected for an individual or team slot. The teams selected to participate in the “full heavy” category of the march. This means that they carried their full ruck sacks weighing 35 lbs plus water and food for the entire 26.2 miles.

The highlights from the event – CDT Morehouse (MSI) won the individual age group division in the heavy ruck military

Ranger Buddy Competition

The 27th annual Army ROTC Ranger Buddy Competition was hosted by the University of Kansas (KU), and was held at Clinton Lake on Saturday, April 8, 2023. Two-person teams (either all male, all female or co-ed) converge on the town of Lawrence to test their skills, representing forty-three universities. The Golden Buffalo Battalion sent three teams to compete this year: 1 Male Team, 1 Female Team, and 1 Co-ed Team (plus one alternate).



THE FEMALE TEAM WORKING THROUGH VARIABLE DURING THE MEDEVAC LITTER CARRY EVENT.

This day-long event is full of various challenges that require a mental mind-set and strong physical skills to navigate each obstacle to achieve its objective. The event began with a 15K buddy ruck/run, the teams then conducted 15 different Expert Infantry/Soldier Badge skill lanes. The event finished with a grueling 5K buddy run with a 135 lb sled drag.

Our Co-ed team took first place in their Ruck March and 5K Buddy Run events and placed fourth out of 53 teams. Our Female team also excelled on their Ruck March, placing fourth out of 26 teams.

Spring Leader Development Exercise (LDX)

Army ROTC Cadets from the Golden Buffalo Battalion attended the annual spring Leader Development Exercise (LDX) on Thursday, April 20 through Sunday, April 23. Their exercise location being the Jack's Valley Training Area located on the grounds of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

Once on the ground, the Cadets got right to work planning and executing the missions set forth by Cadet Command. Different coordinated military unit exercises and scenarios were simulated so

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Remembering
CDT Trevor A. Folken



T. FOLKEN 7/9/01-4/7/22

Cadet Trevor A. Folken was a junior studying Mechanical Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines.

Trevor was a selfless, kind, and motivated young man. He enjoyed working in the school foundry in his free time making castings. He loved ROTC and was hoping to become an Active Duty Engineer.

Cadet Cattan, one of Trevor's close friends, planned the workout for the day. Trevor's parents joined Bravo Company at the Colorado School of Mines to honor his memory with a memorial workout on the anniversary of his death. President Johnson and Dean of Students Dr. Morgan from MINES and Battalion leadership, PMS LTC Bryce Kawaguchi and SMSI MSG Thaj Davis also attended and participated in the workout.

Learn about mental health awareness, visit [Mines Oredigger Trainings](#)

Cadets get “hands-on” experiences dealing with combat techniques and squad tactics in order to complete each mission’s objective. Even though the weather was less than ideal (lows in the 20’s°), the Cadets took it all in stride.



CADETS CLEAR AN AMBUSH OBJECTIVE AND TAKE ENEMY PRISONERS.

Spring Commissioning

The Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (Golden Buffalo Battalion) commissioned a total of twenty Cadets this spring 2023. Alpha Company at CU-Boulder commissioned ten Cadets, Bravo Company at the Colorado School of Mines commissioned seven Cadets, and Charlie Company at the Metropolitan State University of Denver commissioned three Cadets.

The Cadets were sworn in by a ranking Cadre member, friend, or family member; along with their rank pinned onto their uniform by a chosen family member or friend. The final act of commissioning was to give

This three-day exercise is an integral part of each Cadets training curriculum and assists in evaluating their teamwork and leadership capabilities in a “real-life” field environment. For the MSIII Cadets, this is the last time to assess their knowledge base and overall skills they should have learned up till now, before they head off to their mandatory Cadet Summer Training (CST).



A-CO ARMY ROTC SPRING 2023 COMMISSIONEES [LEFT TO RIGHT]: FRONT ROW – 2LT JACK FANIKOS, 2LT KILLIAN PICARD, 2LT ERIC MISAK, 2LT LAWRENCE FERGUSON, 2LT MATTHEW BROCKLANDER; BACK ROW – 2LT CARTER SUSSMAN, 2LT ETHAN MARTIN, 2LT SLOAN LORINO, 2LT KYLE JOHNSON, AND 2LT JARED GERVASI.



C-CO ARMY ROTC SPRING 2023 COMMISSIONEES [LEFT TO RIGHT]: 2LT BLAKE BUCCA, 2LT MASON EDWARDS, AND 2LT TYLER SHERMAN.

the first “Silver Dollar Salute” to a Non-Commissioned Officer of their choosing.

The new Second Lieutenants’ were assigned to a variety of different branches, including Field Artillery, Transportation Corps, Infantry, Armor, Ordnance, Adjutant General Corps, and Quartermaster.

Summer Leadership Program and Internship Opportunities

Several Cadets within the Golden Buffalo Battalion were selected to attend a variety of Summer Leadership Programs and Internships. Including, Project GO, CTLT, CAIT, and Internships like MIP, NSA, and much more.

Project GO (sent x Cadets) – A program that assists Cadets to improve their language skills, expertise on certain regions and basic communication skills that are needed as future military leaders. Distinct options are available depending on what language the Cadet is studying.



B-CO ARMY ROTC SPRING 2023 COMMISSIONEES [LEFT TO RIGHT]: 2LT KEVAN AUGER, 2LT MONTANE WHITELEY, 2LT MICHAEL WHITACRE, 2LT PRESTON MIGLAW, 2LT SAMUEL KRAUSS, 2LT PARKER EGAN, AND 2LT TIMOTHY HAMMOND.

Cadet Troop Leader Training-CTLT (sent 7 Cadets) – The GBB was given the chance to participate in CTLT this summer. CTLT provides Cadets the opportunity to experience leadership in Army units over a three- to four-week period. Cadets serve in lieutenant-level leadership positions in active-duty units.

Cadet Advanced Individual Training-CAIT (sent 7 Cadets) – Functional U.S. Army (skill badges/ASI) courses, including: Airborne, Air Assault, Basic Mountaineering, Mountain Planner, Sapper, Combat Diver, Master Fitness, Jungle Operations and Cold Weather Operations Course, and the United States Military Academy (USMA) Cadet Field Training (CFT).

Army Internships (sent 6 Cadets) – These opportunities are for Cadets who seek additional training in specialized areas such as scientific application, engineering, nursing, medicine, intelligence, and cyber applications based on hosting organizations requests. Examples of available internships include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (EIP), MIT Lincoln Lab Internship (MITLL), Museum Internship Program (MIP), the National Security Agency (NSA), Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C5ISR), and Army Medical Department (AMEDD) as well as opportunities at West Point and the FBI.



Contact Us

The Golden Buffalo Battalion

Visit us on the web:

<https://www.colorado.edu/arotc>

<http://inside.mines.edu/MIL-Home>

<https://www.msudenver.edu/arotc/>

Facebook:

The Golden Buffalo Battalion



Instagram:

@golden_buffalo_battalion



Program Support

Our Cadets rely on your generous donations to help offset costs associated with events such as Commissioning and Awards ceremonies, annual Dining-Out, Military Appreciation/Veteran's Day events, leadership labs, orientation events, Cadet participation in Ranger Challenge and Bataan Memorial Death March, and summer leadership training programs. Without your support, we would not be able to take advantage of these great developmental opportunities for our aspiring officers. To donate online, please visit

<https://giving.cu.edu/fund/army-rotc-program-fund-cu-boulder>

Special Thanks

The Spring 2023 Golden Buffalo Bulletin would not be possible without the following individuals:

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