



# Arizona State University Army ROTC

## WHAT BEING AN OFFICER IN THE U.S. ARMY MEANS TO ME



ASU Army ROTC cadets and cadre admire the sunrise as they nearly approach the finish line of an 8-mile ruck march. Photo Courtesy of C/2LT Suter

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**"A Good Plan Violently Executed Right Now is Far Better than a Perfect Plan Executed Next Week."**

- GEN. George S. Patton

BY: C/CPT Grant Smith

MS IV

The U.S. Army is an institution. It is a great institution with a long history of protecting something that has proven over time to be the most efficient means of promoting the prosperity of human beings throughout the world. In spite of this great achievement the U.S. Army itself is just an institution. I say "just" because institutions are often better understood as a collection of individuals. Like most institutions, the Army has historically directed focus away from this fact. As a consequence individuals within the Army have attempted to define certain characteristics as essential for all soldiers from privates to general officers. The merits of this approach are readily apparent. Manufacturing a personal philosophy based on one's pro-

fession is a daunting task and these guides ranging from the Army Values to the ethical decision making process provide valuable assistance throughout this process. Ultimately, though, each individual within this great organization has a philosophy that is their own. I am no exception to this. To me, being an Officer in the United States Army is a profession. The reason I have chosen this specific profession is normative. My primary motivation is that I understand the collective forces that shaped this country, the compromises required throughout its development, and the value of the system that has been operating in this country since its inception. It is my understanding that the Constitution deviates

the ideal of individual liberty to its natural limit by constraining the role of government to defense from external threats through the military and arbitration between citizens through the rule of law and court system. In the face of this fact and an extraordinary wealth of evidence outside the scope of this article I have determined that the Constitution of the United States promotes the welfare of the human condition in an unparalleled manner. Therefore I believe the Constitution of the United States and the individuals it represents require and deserve the defense and security that is provided by the United States Army. Accepting a Commission in the U.S. Army affords me the opportunity to participate in this defense. To me being an Officer is simply exercising this opportunity.



### BRING ON THE MULTICAM



Spc. Eddie L. Williams, soldier from Fort Belvoir, Va., models the new MultiCam Army Combat Uniform. Photo Courtesy of Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown, www.army.mil



Above Photos: MultiCam Kevlar cover and boots. Photo Courtesy of Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown, www.army.mil

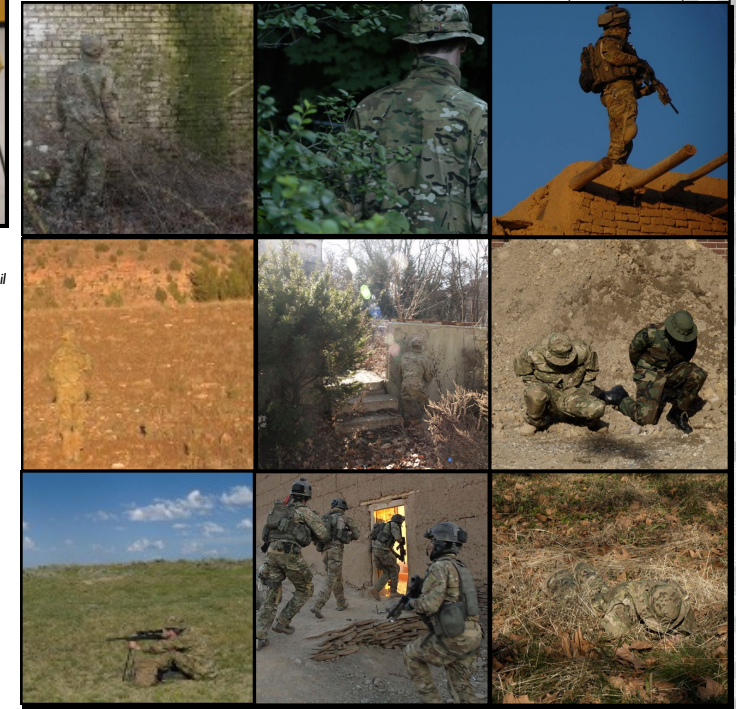
BY: CDT Joseph Garza

MS III

It would be a great lie if someone was asked, "Have you heard anyone complain about the Universal Camouflage Pattern (UCP) on the ACUs?," and answered "No."

Complaints about the UCP are heard again and again by soldiers fighting and serving overseas and within our country's borders. This caused the late Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., to direct the Army to change the uniforms to a more functional pattern. Because of this, Secretary of the Army John McHugh announced that the Army will field the same ACU uniform but with the Multi Camouflage (MultiCam) pattern to Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan this summer.

The implementation of MultiCams within the Special Operations Forces (SOF) community and other elite organizations has proven to be effective. Based on this achievement, soldiers deploying to Afghanistan should expect to be issued MultiCams beginning in July. McHugh's action will give commanders a far more improved ability to obscure and maneuver through numerous terrain features to accomplish their missions, while giving the soldiers equipment they could put



The MultiCam Army Combat Uniform blends in with its surrounding environment. Photo Courtesy of Crye Precision LLC.

their faith in.

Unlike the stone and sand shades of the UCP, MultiCam incorporates some old Army favorites like green! MultiCam uses the variety of colors and over a hundred layers to blend surrounding colors together as opposed to the contrast effect that other uniforms used to approach the issue of concealment. This unique pattern is "designed to reflect some of the surrounding colors of the environment...by adapting to varying local lighting conditions, it blends well in many environments, elevations, seasons, weather conditions, and times of day." For more info, visit [www.multicampattern.com](http://www.multicampattern.com).

### DESERT RANGERS UPDATE

BY: C/CPT Grant Smith

MS IV

The Desert Rangers have been working hard and are about to put the skills they've been developing thus far since the last semester to the test. Starting next week the DR's will be conducting squad situational tactical exercises (STX) at Papago Park. We've added a couple of unique training opportunities to the mix to ensure the Desert Rangers are being challenged to their fullest capacity while making the training as realistic as possible. One

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**DESERT RANGERS UPDATE**

unique feature we will employ next is having the platoon leader work close with three squad leaders. The platoon leader will also learn how to brief the entire platoon on a terrain model for a comprehensive mission that utilizes all three squads. This method will facilitate a better understanding of how the Army functions at the platoon level.

Additionally, every week we plan to rotate one squad into the role of opposing force (OPFOR) in order to let them see the small unit tactics they've been learning from another perspective. Hopefully this will initiate novel thought about how to be more effective small unit tacticians and leaders by challenging the OPFOR to provide insightful feedback during the After Action Reviews for each squad STX lane. All of the Desert Rangers seem to be eager to meet these challenges and I am very excited to see what they can do!

**PHOTOS: AROUND THE BATTALION**



**BRM**



**INTRO TO STX**



**CWST**



**UPCOMING MILITARY BALL**



*Dining Room, Marriott Phoenix Airport Hotel*

BY: C/2LT Jordan Suter

MS IV

The opportunity to participate in this year's military ball is due largely to the time and energy everyone put into assisting with the Waste Management Phoenix Open. The dedication displayed by a number of cadets within the Battalion will pay off in a night out with fellow cadets, cadre and their significant others.

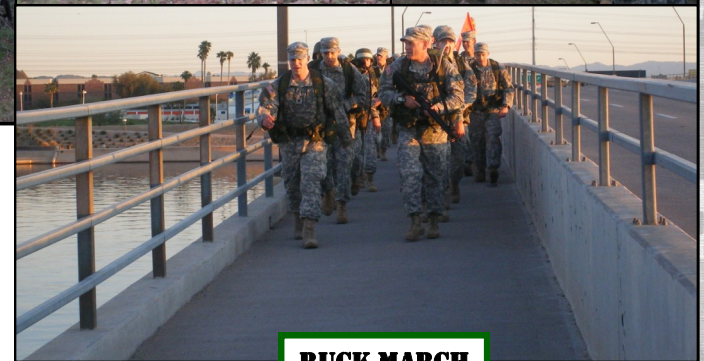
This year's military ball will be hosted on April 17, 2010, at the superb Marriott Hotel located near the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport. Tickets will be priced between \$18 to \$20 per person, depending if miscellaneous costs need to be covered. The uniform for female cadets is a formal

gown (cocktail dresses are NOT authorized). Male cadets must wear their Class A's or Dress Blues (you may display either cadet or prior service ribbons, but not both). For those males without a military dress uniform, you are required to wear a suit and a tie. However, a tuxedo is optional and highly suggested being that this is a formal event.

Although the yearly dining out is a well-deserved reward for our endeavors, there are customs and courtesies you should attain to learning before your arrival. For more information on military customs and courtesies, reference DA PAM 600-60, located on the Cadet Staff Page under the "Army Forms & Pubs" Tab.



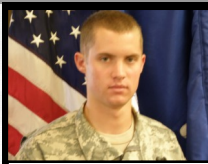
**STX**



**RUCK MARCH**







# CADET COMMANDER'S CORNER

**BY: C/LTC Lance Bailey**

**Cadet Battalion CDR**

Two months into the semester and our Battalion has successfully trained cadets on land navigation, marksmanship, squad/platoon maneuvers, combat water survival, and battle drills just to name a few. These are all critical tasks that officers MUST be grounded on in order to lead soldiers. Not to mention we know that we raised at least \$10,000 through the Waste Management Open. In other words, we kicked butt last month. We're going to expect you to do the same in March as you will continue to build off what you've recently learned. We will move into situational training exercises (STX) which are especially relevant to our MSIII cadets preparing for Warrior Forge this summer. Additionally, will deploy to Camp Navajo (Bellemont, AZ) this month to participate in the Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX)

from the 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> which puts everything you've learned at ASU to the test. The University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and University of Nevada- Las Vegas will all be joining us in this endeavor. Last but not least we have Spring Break! This time can be a great opportunity to have fun and clear your head but it also offers the potential to do some serious harm to your future as an officer. Be smart! If you are of legal age to drink do so responsibly. Let your instructors know where you are going. Always have a battle buddy you can rely on. Bottom line is to act like you're training to become a commissioned officer. March is a critical month for our program so come prepared and ready to train. Go Devils!

-C/LTC Bailey

**"BRAVERY IS OFTEN MISTAKEN FOR STUPIDITY."  
- C/CSM Owensby**

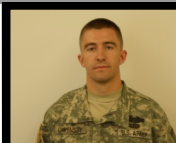
## HELPING OUR BATTALION GROW

We currently have about \$15,500 at our disposal, which is \$10,000 more than last semester thanks to all 152 cadets and cadre members who dedicated their time to participate in the WM Phoenix Open fundraising event. For those who were unable to attend the WM Phoenix Open, don't worry because you will be able to participate in the NASCAR fundraising event that is scheduled next month between April 8th through the 10th.

**Keep up the good work!**

If you would like to help out our Battalion with a donation, please make checks out to the "ASU Army ROTC Cadet Fund" and send them to:

Department of Military Science  
Arizona State University  
ATTN: Cynthia Mitchell  
P.O. Box 874901  
Tempe, AZ 85287-4901

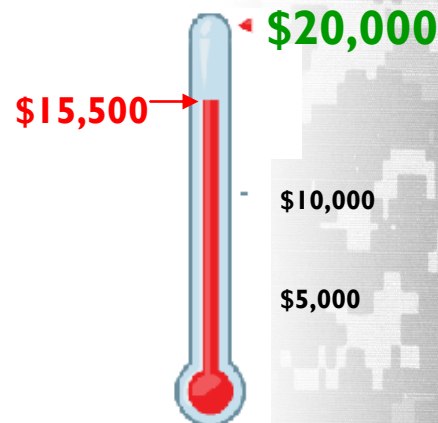


# CADET CSM'S CORNER

**BY: C/CSM Derrick Owensby**

**Cadet Battalion CSM**

I know we have all heard the phrase "Take charge when in Charge," but very few seem to actually take this saying as far as it needs to go. The concept of take charge when in charge means to obviously lead others when appointed to the position (such as the MS3's with their rotating squad leader positions). When you're the leader, don't be afraid to LEAD that unit, no matter the size. Don't be afraid to enforce standards, make spot corrections, and implement pre-thought out timelines. If you make a mistake, oh well, accept the criticism and drive on to the next task. Far too often have I seen indecision that only puts the leader in an unwanted, and possibly dangerous position. The other part of the phrase "Take charge when in Charge" that I wanted to discuss, is what to do when you cannot be there to lead, but are still the appointed leader. This is quite simple, be proactive. Proactive to assign someone else to take over in your absence, and also be proactive enough to have checks established to find out if this person lead effectively in a manner that doesn't degrade from your reputation. This should make perfect sense, but is often overlooked, or not thought out far enough. In addition, we are all future warrior leaders in the United States Army, and need to think beyond the next step, and look for what needs to be done three steps ahead. Now get out there and Lead, Follow, or get out of my way!!!







## COMMANDER'S CORNER

**BY: LTC Roderick Hammond**

**Battalion PMS**

Team,  
For those who volunteered your energy, time, and patience in support of the Phoenix Waste Management Open, thanks for a job well done. More than you know, your efforts have forged a lasting impression that will, hopefully, develop into an annual fund raising event for the Battalion for many years to come. What did you accomplish?

1. A proven reputation of Dependability, Professionalism, and Trustworthiness.
2. Established Value and Worth in the stock of the Battalion as a values based organization.
3. Demonstrated the, "Good neighbor" policy for the benefit of the community.
4. Exercised Leadership, Initiative, and outstanding Character beyond the ROTC environment.
5. Increased the financial value of the Battalion Cadet Fund to support special events for the enjoyment and participation of all Cadets.

Now that we are well into the midpoint of the semester, I ask that you stay true to your task of moving to the next level: MS I's to II's, II's - III's, III's - IV's and IV's - 2LT's. Doing so requires that you reestablish a distance and direction as you move from point A to point B and beyond. Remember, getting to your destination may require that you pick an intermediate goal/objective. However, you must be smart to pick an intermediate goal that doesn't divert or convolute while allowing you to achieve your personal endstate. For example, earning a 300 score on the APFT at end of the semester in April 2010 may have required you to set personal diagnostic scores starting at 270 in Jan, 280 in FEB, and 290 in MAR. Regardless of your goals, remember to be true to yourself by being honest and realistic when conducting a self-assessment to chart the path to your personal endstate.

GCU has just returned from their Spring Break as ASU prepares to embark on a much deserved rest period. Above all else, be SAFE, have fun and relax. Do not compromise your honor, integrity, or self-worth. Have the intestinal fortitude to stand your ground and do the right thing. Please return well rested and ready to deploy to the Spring JTFX.

Smile and Hustle,

Feel the Heat!

### COMING UP THIS MONTH

ASU SPRING BREAK	15-19MAR
BATAAN DEATH MARCH	19-22MAR
JFTX	25-28MAR
DONSA	29MAR



## TOP'S CORNER

**BY: MSG John Garrison**

**Battalion SMI**

As an ROTC Cadet, you have been preparing and training to become a Commissioned Officer and platoon leader. As a platoon leader you will be part of a leadership team consisting of you and your platoon sergeant. What does a platoon sergeant do? What can I expect from my platoon sergeant?

As the platoon leader, you are responsible for everything your platoon accomplishes or fails to do. You will lead your platoon by establishing the platoon's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's), develop plans for everyone to understand down to the lowest level, and by coordinating your platoon's efforts. Your platoon sergeant is the senior NCO in your platoon and second in command. He or she typically has 12 to 18 years of experience and will become your primary advisor and assistant, capable of leading your platoon in your absence.

The platoon sergeant executes the daily business of the platoon, and supervises the platoon's administrative, logistics, and maintenance requirements. The platoon sergeant also plays an integral role in both individual and collective training of the platoon. He or she ensures that the needs of the Soldiers of the platoon are being met. The platoon sergeant acts as a mentor, assisting in the training and development of the platoon leader.

You should expect your platoon sergeant to live the Army Values, be committed to upholding and enforcing standards, to be technically and tactically proficient. You can expect your platoon sergeant to have a take charge attitude and fully determined to accomplish the mission. You can expect him or her to be more than willing to take care of the Soldiers of the platoon. Lastly, you should expect a professional NCO to be willing to impart many years of experience and wisdom upon you in a proficient manner.

"Noncommissioned officers are the backbone of the Army and the reason our Army is the best trained, most professional, and most respected in the world."

-- GEN Erik K. Shinseki, FM 7-22.7

## Contact for Scholarship Information:

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