



Sun Devil Battalion Newsletter

ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2015
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Start Strong. Army Strong.

Welcome Back Sun Devil Battalion and get ready for a great Fall Semester 2015! For all newcomers into the program, welcome to one of the best and most rewarding college experiences of your life. If you elect to stay in this program, you will graduate with not only a degree, but also a commission as an Officer in the United States Army. This program teaches leadership skills which can assist you in all aspects of life, be it military or civilian. In this month's newsletter, we will introduce you to our



new Professor of Military Science, as well as the new Cadet Command Staff. The Cadet Command Staff is a group of upperclassmen who will be running our Sun Devil Battalion this year. We will also show you the great opportunities ROTC provides for studying abroad and where our cadets traveled this summer. Everyone should take advantage of these unique opportunities.

Professor Of Military Science: LTC Thad D. Weist



The Professor of Military Science is the highest-ranking officer in an ROTC program. Their job is to ensure that the officers coming out of the program are ready and capable of leading American soldiers. This year the Sun Devil Battalion welcomes a new Professor of Military Science, LTC Thad D. Weist. LTC Weist grew up in a working-class neighborhood with his parents and two brothers in West Cleveland. He was commissioned as an Army Aviation Officer in

1998 from the United States Military Academy at West Point. Upon commissioning, LTC Weist attended Rotary Wing Flight School. He has served on several combat deployments, which include: the initial invasion of Iraq (2003), Operation Iraqi Freedom (2006) and Operation Enduring Freedom (2010-2011). LTC Weist has been awarded two Bronze Stars for excellence in combat operations, and the air medal for combat aerial flight. At home, LTC Weist is kept very busy with three sons all under the age of

six. Since moving to Arizona, he and his wife, Polly, have enjoyed taking their sons swimming to escape the heat. In his free time, LTC Weist is a big sports fan. He played basketball, football and handball at West Point. When he is not playing sports, LTC Weist is strategizing for his upcoming Fantasy Football season. As the new PMS, he is looking forward to coaching, teaching and mentoring the future leaders of America.

Meet the Sun Devil Battalion Cadet Staff

Battalion Commander: C/LTC Gerald Prater

Battalion Command Sergeant Major: C/CSM Russell Davis

Battalion Executive Officer: C/MAJ Matt Farberov

Battalion Operations Officer (S3) : C/MAJ Katherine Richardson

Battalion Personnel Officer (S1): C/CPT Jennifer Hobbs

Battalion Logistics and Communications Officer (S6): C/CPT Jacob Caudle

Battalion Public Affairs Officer (S5): C/CPT Gabe Smith

Battalion Financial Management Officer (S8): C/CPT Jake Conover



C/LTC Gerald Prater



C/CSM Russell Davis



C/MAJ Katherine Richardson



C/MAJ Matt Farberov

“Hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard”
-C/LTC Prater

Cadet Summer Opportunities

Each summer, the Sun Devil Battalion selects its top cadets to study abroad and to attend Army Schools. The Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency Program (CULP), and Project Global Officer (Project GO) are both designed to give future Army officers the opportunity to learn a new culture and language. The Army’s Airborne and Air Assault courses are schools designed to test a soldier and teach them a new way to enter into battle. Here at the Sun Devil Battalion, we sent over 15 cadets this summer to experience some of these opportunities. Here are some of the places they went:



Cadet Plowman in Madagascar



Cadet Ridenour at Air Assault Graduation

Kosovo

Albania

Chile

Mongolia

Barbados

Madagascar

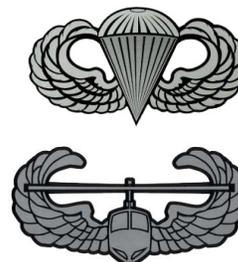
Spain

Rwanda

Serbia



Cadet Hobbs in Kosovo



ARMY ROTC
LEADERS FOR LIFE