

PATRIOT BATTALION

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023 Issue 1
by CDT Borresen



Welcome Back Patriots!

Welcome back from Winter break! Patriots are refreshed and ready for a hard semester of training as we look forward to our joint FTX with Georgetown and Howard, our Military Ball, Spring Commissioning, Advanced Camp and other great officer development opportunities!

Exciting Vacations

Over the break, Patriots traveled across the globe to enjoy the Winter vacation.

CDT Peyton visited Switzerland over the Winter break. His favorite moments from his trip include practicing his German and visiting Jungfrauoch.



CDT Martinez explored Puerto Rico over break to visit with friends and family. His favorite moment from his trip was a bike tour along the coastline and visiting the National Parks.



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Study Abroad

Various Cadets participated in Study Abroad programs over Winter break.

CDT Parkinson and CDT Velasquez spent their break studying abroad in Rwanda. Their program focused on genocide, healing and reconciliation in the aftermath of the 1994 Rwanda genocide. Some highlights from their trip include excursions to cultural sites around Kigali, meeting with villagers in their local communities, visiting Akagera National Park and visiting different mass genocidal museums and memorials.

CDT Bridget White spent her Winter break studying abroad in Argentina. Her program focused on human rights, human security and social well-being in Latin America. One of her favorite experiences was visiting the U.S. Ambassador's residence.



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Fitness Over Break

Over break, Cadets kept up on their fitness through different activities. Cadet Coffey met with friends from his CTLT and went snowboarding in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. CDT Middlebrooks participated in many reformer pilates classes over the break!



Smart Lab

CDT Medina, CDT Velasquez and MSG Munn had the opportunity to partner with GMU Smart Lab to support health and performance as well as demo their testing capabilities. The Patriot Battalion is excited to work with them this semester, conducting fitness tests and learning more about healthy lifestyle behaviors!



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Patriot Battalion Activities

COLOR GUARD & DRILL

Cadets are taught military bearing and practice several ceremonial drills with rifles and marching. The Patriot Battalion Color Guard and Drill Team also perform in several events and ceremonies on and off-campus. The Color Guard and Drill Team practices after PT.

RANGER CHALLENGE

During Ranger Challenge, Cadets can expect to be pushed physically and tactically. The RC team meets every day of the week to conduct intensive physical training and review tactics. Some events that Cadets participate in are a written land-navigation test, day and night orienteering, basic rifle marksmanship, grenade assault course, weapon disassembly and assembly, and an ACFT.

VALOR

Valor is a Bible study focused on building Christian military leaders. Valor offers a community that supports each other academically, spiritually, and in ROTC. Valor also offers mentors and guest speakers who served or are serving in the military and retreats where you can relax, connect with friends and God.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Eagle Bank Volunteer Event - Jan 27 & 28

Patriot Games 1 - Feb 1

Spring JFTX - March 30 - April 2

Military Ball - April 29



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New FB: www.facebook.com/GMUArmyROTC