



# AFROTC 270th Cadet Wing Wildcat Warrior Newsletter

Fall  
2011

## Arnold Air Society (AAS): Heading in the Right Direction

By: AAS Sq/CC, C/Maj Tanner H.

What a busy semester for the Loyd B. Vorhies Squadron. We accomplished many tasks this semester with the hard work and dedication of each Arnie, our cadre Advisor Captain Conlon, and Lt Col Meyer.

Every Veteran's day the Arnies conduct a 24-hour Silent Guard vigil at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (VVM) on the Kansas State University campus. Starting at midnight on Veteran's



Cadet's Tim M. and Erica I. change guard during the 24-hour silent guard vigil at KSU's Vietnam Veterans Memorial on 11 Nov 11.

Day and lasting until 2359 hours, cadets stood at attention for 60-minute shifts to remember and honor those who have served before us for our great nation. Over 26 cadets participated in the Silent Guard this year and the event was a huge success.

During this semester the Arnies helped improve Det 270 by redecorating the General Key's classroom. New paint, photos, personal plaques and memorabilia, re-organized displays, and rearranging students desks were all done to aid the room's appearance and functionality.

Also, the Arnies began fund-raising, and are on-track, to install the K-State standard white limestone marker for the VVM in late 2012. Much of the help for this project has come from Lt Col Meyer and Mr Bill Arck. The Arnies think it's important that they give something back to the community. Toward this effort we have gathered and delivered over 700 pounds of canned goods to the Flint Hills Bread Basket.

Additionally, the Arnies raised/donated \$325+ for the Manhattan Crisis Center. We'll continue striving to better our Manhattan community.

Finally, during the semester we initiated 11 candidates and welcomed them as active members to the squadron. With this class we have doubled the size of the Vorhies Squadron. And, we were recently named the AAS Area VIII second most improved squadron (of 13) and our commander was awarded "Most Outstanding Squadron Commander" for 2011. We will continue to build upon our successes next semester and look forward to new projects that will benefit KSU and/or our community.

## Fall 2011 Pershing Rifles...at a Glance

By: PR C/Capt Mark B.

Company G-7 of the National Society of Pershing Rifles (PR) has 18 active members, 7 of whom are AFROTC Det 270 Cadets. G-7 also has nine pledges this year; two of them are AFROTC cadets. G-7 has active members who are from both Army and Air Force ROTC and non-military, civilian members who are K-State students.

The main focus of Company G-7 is Exhibition Drill. Still, G-7 PR members have performed numerous Color Guard details this semester at K-State sporting events and local civic functions.

The main focus during the fall semester was teaching the nine pledges both Exhibition and Regulation Drill to help ensure they're accepted as full PR members. During the spring term our focus shifts and G-7 begins preparing for the annual National Competition scheduled for March 2012 in Baltimore. We hope to continue to build on the success we had last year when we won the 2011 national title in Platoon Exhibition, 2d place in Solo Exhibition, and 3d place in Color Guard. Go Headhunters!!



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## Honor Guard

By: C/Capt Austin M.

The fall semester is always the busiest for Honor Guard and this term was no different; we were quite busy this year. Team members performed at two football games (Kent State and OU), four lady Wildcat volleyball games, and several men and women basketball games. We also had the privilege of performing during KSU's Homecoming parade and at the men's basketball game on Veteran's Day; there's no better way to honor our nation's heroes than to present the colors on their day!

Member cadets worked extremely hard this fall; they performed 2-3 practices and at least one detail per week. Each Honor Guard cadet helped the team accomplish its mission this semester and represented Det 270 and the US Air Force honorably and faithfully. Too, they presented our nation's colors with precision, dignity, and respect. I was proud and honored to be their leader.

## Cadet Wing Commander's Comments

By: C/Col Stephanie J.

The level of dedication required to be a successful cadet has risen drastically since I began AFROTC in 2007. Each wing member has accepted this challenge to do more than just be an ordinary college student. Every morning, afternoon, and every evening cadets are in the lounge working together to make each other better cadets and better future AF leaders.

From the get-go at new cadet/Freshman Orientation in mid-August, the Cadet Wing hit the ground running. Not a week went by this semester when the wing was not involved in something: stadium clean-up, dining-out, volunteer activities, BBQs and the homecoming parade were just the beginning.

The wing increased member numbers in all of the extra-curricular organizations (AAS, Honor Guard, PR and Recondo) this term. Each cadet used what they learned to build upon their solid foundations, to hold each member to a higher standard, and to show the world what K-State cadets are all about.

The wing tried many new things this term, each with great results. The low ropes course allowed everyone the chance to bond as flights and taught the value of a good wingman. We

executed our first joint AF-Army ROTC PT and saw how our fitness regimens differ; each service



E-Flt cadets listen intently in Sep 11 at the low ropes confidence course as the instructor reviews the lessons learned from the last challenge.

pulled ideas from the other and new working relationships were forged. I personally saw many new lines of communication open. We also had the first alumni reunion weekend during my cadet tenure; what a great turnout! Cadets were able to meet some fantastic alumni, to learn how things used to be, and to hear awe-inspiring stories about, and from, great military and civil leaders. Between the parade, the social, and the football game tailgate (complete with flyover), everyone enjoyed themselves to the fullest.

Each wing cadet was highly involved this semester and everyone's hard work was noticed. Each of our guest speakers, including CMSAF #12 Benkin, was very impressed with our pride and professionalism. I am honored to have been the Cadet Wing Commander this fall. Thank you Wildcat Warriors for a great term; keep up the hard work and good luck in your future endeavors.



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AS-400 Class (left to right): David H., Tyler L., Benjamin B., Justin R., Kathryn B., Matthew H., Christopher S., Joseph M., and Jesse F. Not pictured is Logan L. on term abroad.

## AS-400s Take the Reigns

By: AS-400 Senior Class

Change is seen all the time at Det 270 and for this year's 400 class change is the one thing to which we've grown most accustomed. Over our cadet careers many things have changed, the detachment cadre for example; after our AS-100 year we saw (and experienced) first-hand the changes and results of a complete cadre turnover. This experience taught us many things about different leadership styles, lessons we'll not soon forget. Also, our class was the first in recent years to see increased det and national-level competition and with this we saw many cadets come and go.

The year's AS-400 class began our freshman year in 2007 with 65+ cadets. Over the past 3.5 years our class has been drastically reduced, for a variety of reasons, to 10 cadets. Our names are listed below the photo above. Here are a few of our AFROTC memories and experiences about change from these past several years.

Cadets Chris S. and Tyler L. said, "One spring afternoon when our squadron was in the quad to practice drill and ceremony, and Marc M. was the temporary Flight Guide of the formation, we fell-in behind his towering figure. As we stood silently listening to our Flt/CC's wise words a gaggle of appealing looking females passed in

front of the formation. This, as all cadets know, should not be a distraction that causes us to break bearing. However, Marc's lone head turned right ever so slowly and he watched the damsels as they waltzed by. For the enjoyment of himself, and the flight, the Flt/CC called-out Marc in front of his peers and the ladies walking by. This caused Marc to blush profusely and provided great laughter for all flight members."

Jesse F. said attending and completing field training was his most memorable moment in ROTC. He also shared his belief that the ROTC training program gave him a sense of purpose. Cadets Justin R. and Kathryn B. fondly recalled the UH-60 Blackhawk rides they, and the Cadet Wing, had during their AS-200 year; "This was one experience few people can say they've had." Too, it showed them both an aspect of the US military outside of AFROTC.

Finally, Cadet David H. stated his favorite ROTC memories come from the camaraderie and dedication he felt/feels during wing PT. No doubt, Logan L. will likely indicate his term abroad in Russia was his most memorable university experience.

From being followers to leaders this year's AS-400 class has learned a lot about what it takes to excel in the many aspects of college, ROTC, and life. As we continue on our respective paths and active duty careers we can only hope to become the kind of leaders like the many exceptional Wildcat Warriors who preceded us.



Cadets Tim M. and Jesse F. stand at attention while the OG/CC, Cadet Ashton L., inspects Travis B. in October 2011.



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## Words from the Ops Group Commander

By: C/Lt Col Ashton L.

On 16-17 September 2011 the US Air Force held its 15th AF Marathon at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. Det 270 had five cadets run during this weekend event and one cadet, Tanner L., ran the full marathon. Cadet Matt M. ran the half-marathon, Cadets Eric S. and Christian M. ran the 10K, and Cadets Matt M. and Matt H. paced each other on the 5K. All who participated finished in the top 1/3 of their respective races. Det 270 wanted to attend this annual gala event and represent AFROTC and K-State well; this is exactly what we did. Thank you to 1987 alum Lt Col Joe Lask, USAF (Ret) for the logistics support. Outstanding work cadets!

All cadets must attempt the PFA each fall and spring semester; this fall's PFA was conducted on 5 Oct 11. Comparing this year's results to previous years there was a substantial increase in the wing's average PFA score. Much of the credit for this success must be heaped on Cadet Kathryn B. who did a great job leading wing PT and developed an excellent fitness program. Thanks for a job well done!

On 28-29 October Det 270 hosted an Alumni Reunion. The reunion included a dinner and drinks social meet-n-greet on Friday night. This event gave attending alumni and cadets a chance to learn and tell stories about things that occurred during their time at KSU and in the AF. The reunion's timing coincided with K-State's Homecoming weekend and the det hosted a tailgate in Cat Town on Saturday. Here we got to mingle once again while we enjoyed burgers and dogs washed down with a cold beverage. All in all, attendees and cadets alike had a wonderful time reuniting or making new friends and reliving former cadet glories. The Alumni Reunion, like this semester, was another successful wing endeavor.



Cadet Benjamin K. enjoys his Meal Ready to Eat after participating in the KSU Ropes Course, September 2011.

## Mission Support Group Commander

By: C/Lt Col Benjamin K.

On 15 September, 1968 alum Col Roger C. Locher, USAF (Ret) visited KSU as our LLAB guest speaker to help Det 270 and the Cadet Wing celebrate the Air Force's 64th birthday. During his visit he spoke to the Cadet Wing about his experiences as an AF pilot during the Vietnam War and also shared details about the mission on which he was shot down and spent 3 weeks evading capture. Through his story and moving words he illustrated the benefits and results of the many sacrifices made by those who served in the air arm over the past six decades and who continue to serve today. His remarks were followed by the AF's traditional cake cutting conducted by the oldest and youngest airmen present. After the cutting, the wing sang the Air Force song. This was a great day and LLAB!

On 20 October, the wing was honored with a visit from CMSAF #12 Eric Benken, USAF (Ret). Chief Benken spoke about the Air Force's three Core Values. He illustrated the main points of Integrity, Service and Excellence using personal active duty experiences and stories as a Chief and the CMSAF. He discussed significant AF events that occurred in the years leading up to the creation and implementation of our Core Values. These events included the April 1994

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Blackhawk shoot down in Iraq, the June 1994 B-52 crash at Fairchild AFB, the April 1996 CT-43 crash in Dubrovnik, Croatia and a few others during this same time frame. According to Chief Benken, these events demonstrated a lack of situational awareness by the Air Force and helped the CSAF determine the need to create our Core Values. In today's Air Force, the Core Values help guide our members, not only in their Air Force careers, but also in their daily lives. As AF members we are part of a team; we're not just individuals. Chief Benken stated it perfectly when he said, "We win and lose as a team." His briefing was one of the most educational and eye-opening presentations the wing has had the privilege of experiencing over the past four years. Chief Benken left us with these final words, "Serve and lead with integrity – demand excellence".

The fall semester concluded (less finals) on 9 December when Det 270 commissioned the nation's eight newest USAF 2Lts. These eight individuals spent the last 4-4.5 years working hard in academics and AFROTC and obtained a Bachelors Degree and commission in the world's greatest Air Force. Congratulations to Det 270's Fall 2011 commissioning class...job well done!

## Congratulations and Recognitions

### ◇ Fall 2011 Joint Awards Ceremony

American Legion General Military Excellence Award

AS-100: C4C Alex A.

AS-200: C3C Erica I.

AS-300: C2C Patrick R.

AS-400: C1C Christopher S.

American Legion Scholastic Excellence Award

AS-100: C4C Adam C.

AS-200: C3C David S.

AS-300: C2C Tanner H.

AS-400: C1C Tyler L.

Daughters of the American Revolution Award  
C1C Kathryn B.

First Command Financial -- The Wildcat Award  
C2C Jessica Z.

American Veterans Award  
C4C Jesse J.

Military Officers Association of America Award  
C2C Austin M.

Outstanding GMC Cadet of the Semester  
C3C David S.



### ◇ ~ Graduating Seniors, December 2011 ~

The AFROTC Det 270 cadre and the Wildcat Warrior Cadet Wing would like to congratulate the following senior cadets for earning their bachelor's degree, graduating from K-State, and being commissioned a USAF 2Lt. These 8 are: David T., Computer Engineering, Leavenworth; Stephanie J., Digital Arts & Criminology, Manhattan; Benjamin K., Business Admin, Wichita; Cameron S., Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation, Wichita; Nathan T., Kinesiology, Wichita; Tyler D., Finance, Essexville, Michigan; Matthew M., Social Science, Ralston, Nebraska; and Kyle M., Agricultural Business, Warsaw, Indiana.

