Arnold Air Society (AAS) 2012 National Conclave (NATCON)  
By: AAS C/Maj Tanner H.

The Loyd B. Vorhies Squadron made continuous strides toward becoming a top-notch AAS unit during academic year 11-12. The unit experienced much progress at many service events and the 2012 NATCON.

The squadron-initiated project to install a white limestone sign for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on campus met its funding needs through K-State. We will break ground for sign construction in mid-May and project a 1 June completion date.

We conducted many service projects this year. Arnie’s cleaned and reorganized the AAS/Honor Guard room. We also adorned the room with many of the unit’s previous awards. We also recently completed Relay for Life and raised $260 for a “Cure for Cancer” by selling paracord bracelets. For our hard work and contributions toward this very worthy cause we were pictured on the front page of The Collegian. The Vorhies Squadron also donated over 100 lbs of food to the Bread Basket during the spring term that helped feed the hungry. Finally, we supported the KSU Telefund to aid cadet scholarships and assisted the Habitat for Humanity during its Earth Day activities.

In March, Lt Col Meyer rewarded the Arnies for their hard work and dedication with a trip to the KS Cosmosphere. There we learned more about manned flight, space, and US history. The trip was a great morale boost and helped build teamwork and camaraderie among squadron members.

In April, four Arnies made the road trip to Detroit, MI for this year’s NATCON, called “Rock On”. Although the unit did not receive any national level awards this year we did submit five nominations. The Vorhies Squadron had many outstanding officers this year. Their efforts made us a national-level finalist for the Most Improved Squadron. We will build on this success and look forward to the next school year where our continued progress will be evident.

Pershing Rifles G-7 Company Attends 2012 NATCON  
By: PR C/1Lt Mark B.

Members of KSU’s Company G-7 of the National Society of Pershing Rifles (PR), travelled to Baltimore, MD this March to compete in the 2012 annual National Drill Competition. The Headhunters, as they’re known, returned with the title “Best Company in the Nation” for the second consecutive year! They also brought home two first place trophies: one for solo and one for dual exhibition. G-7’s primary focus this term was on armed drill. Practices were held up to four times a week in preparation for the Baltimore competition.

Besides its emphasis on armed drill, G-7 also honed its discipline and teamwork by...
providing KSU and the local community with Color Guard details at many events. This semester’s details included basketball games, community organization meetings, and assisting with a Barbershop Chorus performance in McCain Auditorium. G-7’s membership includes Army and Air Force ROTC cadets and several civilian members.

Honor Guard
By: C/Capt Mark B.

The spring semester saw many details for the Wildcat Warrior Honor Guard (HG) unit at K-State. HG members supported four KSU basketball games, the 2A State HS basketball tournament, MLK Day parade, a community organization meeting, and two details (saber arch & POW/MIA) at last month’s dining-out.

Active HG personnel attended two meetings per month and participated in two details this semester. Several cadets volunteered to assist with many more details than this minimum. As a whole, the HG “team” looked extremely sharp this semester and their performances succeeded my expectations as their commander.

Ft Riley Pool LLAB
By: C/Lt Col Kathryn B.

This spring Det 270 cadre planned and executed an exciting LLAB opportunity, to conduct the Army’s Combat Water Survival Test! In early March Army ROTC cadre and cadets accompanied the Wildcat Warriors to Ft Riley’s Long Pool. Upon arrival the Army cadets properly taught and demonstrated the five stations each cadet would have to attempt. These included a 10-minute swim without assistance, five minutes of treading water, a blindfolded three-meter fall with a rubber duck (simulated M-16 rifle), removing load bearing equipment (LBE) in the water, and a 25-meter swim in LBE. All cadets attempted each station in full uniform and, I’m pleased and proud to say, the vast majority passed with flying colors.

During this LLAB cadets were able to learn water survival skills and boost their self-confidence. They did this by getting out of their comfort zone and pushing their limits. Too, all Wildcat Warriors had a fun time while learning and experiencing combat water survival techniques.

Cadet Wing Commander’s View
By: C/Col Chris S.

Spring has traditionally been a different academic semester, one centered on training the AS-200 class in preparation for Field Training (FT). This spring term was slightly unique because wing leadership provided all Wildcat Warrior cadets, not just the 200s, with a multitude of hands-on opportunities to hone their personal leadership abilities, confidence, and discipline.
To build upon previous year’s progress many new ideas were implemented in this term’s training agenda. Cadets participated in water survival training and completed the Leadership Reaction Course at Fort Riley. Too, an interactive tour of Manhattan Regional Airport was conducted and included AF pilots as guest speakers.

The wing also had the privilege of meeting and serving the local veterans at VFW Post 1786. Cadets provided the veterans a meal and had small-group discussions before and after hearing some leadership lessons from the nation’s greatest generation. It was an honor to be able to speak with such distinguished heroes in our own community.

Throughout the spring cadet led units such as AAS, HG and PR thrived. Both AAS and PR competed at their respective national conclaves. Additionally, the Telefund was a success and many cadets helped KSU’s Army & Air Force ROTC raise over $3K for scholarship opportunities. Thank you to all who donated/supported.

Due to the hard work and dedication of every cadet within the corps, another successful and productive semester has come to a close. It was an honor to serve the fine young men and women of Det 270 as this term’s CC. I look forward to watching these Wildcat Warriors develop into exceptional leaders and officers of the future, for our US Air Force!

C-130 Orientation Flight
By: C3C Christian M. & Hayden T.

On 3 March 2012, seven cadets escorted by Lt Col Meyer to Rosecrans Air National Guard Base, MO experienced a C-130 low-level orientation flight. Upon arrival, we were greeted by the 180th Airlift Squadron and allowed to sit-in on the planning and execution of a tactical airdrop. The mission started with a detailed overview of the drop zone and mission’s flight route. Next, the cadets joined the aircrews for a Safety and Intel Brief where they we learned about in-flight hazards and the threat from man portable air defense system surface-to-air missiles. Afterwards, we stepped to the aircraft, two C-130s, and flew with the two aircrews as they conducted their training mission. During the flight, we were allowed to move around the aircraft and spent time in the cargo area and the cockpit. After the flight, we attended the mission de-brief and were encouraged to comment and ask questions to crew members. The trip was a great success and a huge learning experience, and enjoyment, for those who attended, even the cadet who vomited.

Field Training Preparation (FTP)
By: C3C David S.

The spring semester is always a busy time for cadets. New cadets who joined in January are playing catch-up, AS-100 cadets are spending time getting back into the groove after a semester of learning to successfully adjust to the college lifestyle, and POC cadets are spending time getting acquainted with their new wing jobs. Yet, off to the side and separated from the Cadet Wing are the AS-200 cadets assigned to the FTP Squadron. Their spring semester activities will take them for quite a ride.
The 2012 AFROTC enrollment allocation selection rate was higher than it had been in years past; Det 270 had better than 90% selection and bested the national average for the second straight year. This summer, 14 Wildcat Warriors head to Maxwell AFB, AL for four weeks of the most fun we never want to have again!

The semester was filled with trials and errors for the AS-200s: from planning and executing a Group Leadership Project LLAB to conducting a tactical strike in Weber Hall for an Operational Readiness Exercise, the AS-200s were always active and on a steep learning curve. Also, the AS-200s had extra training with the addition of a mid-week morning PT session to join the wing standard 2 PTs a week. We also held weekly inter-flight meetings to organize our thoughts and form a plan of action for the coming week. Whew, I’m exhausted!

**Congratulations and Recognitions**

**PR Co. G7:** New G-7 members from Det 270 are Air Force cadets Riley D. and Erik S. They completed their initiation the first weekend of May!

**AAS Vorhies Sq:** This spring there were four AS-100 cadets who pledged AAS. The S’12 Candidate Class, and now full AAS members, are: Riley D., Laina J., Nathan P., and Andrew V. These candidates completed their final hurdle, “The Last Mile”, on 5 May to earn the right to become active AAS members!

**Graduating Seniors, May 2012:** After a long and eventful journey, the following cadets graduated from KSU and commissioned as US Air Force 2Lt’s on 11 May. They are: Benjamin B., Kathryn B., Joseph C., Jesse F., Ashton L., Justin R., Chris S. and Drew S.

**Upcoming Events**

~29 Jun: Det/CC Assumption of Command
18 Aug: Freshman/Newcomer’s Orientation
20 Aug: Fall Classes Resume