



Michigan State University Spartan Battalion Newsletter

Upcoming

March

- 01MAR16 – BN OPORD Brief
- 02MAR16 – Ruck March
- 15MAR16 – PLT STX Rehearsals
- 18MAR16 – Spring LDX
- 22MAR16 – Land Navigation
- 29MAR16 – PLT Missions

April

- 01APR16 – Norwegian Foot March
- 03APR16 – Sandhurst Comp.
- 08APR16 – CALDX
- 15APR16 – MSIV Staff Ride
- 15APR16 – Best Ranger Comp.

Commander's Corner

I could not be more honored to take on this revered position. As we move our training towards practicing tactics in larger units out in the field, I know that our battalion will continue to learn and grow, preparing us all to be the best officers that the United States Army could ask for.

CDT Belanger, CDT/BC



February has been a busy month for the Spartan Battalion. The annual Military Ball took place on the 13th of February and included dinner, dancing, and speeches in the Huntington Club. There was also the Change of Command Ceremony in which the positions of Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major were passed on to CDT Belanger and CDT Thompson. We also said farewell to one of our longtime cadre members, SFC Rocheleau who left for a new assignment. In other news, the Battalion continues weekly labs, color guard at the home basketball games, and training for competitions such as the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (GAFPB), Sandhurst competition, and Norwegian Foot March.



SFC Rocheleau says goodbye to the Spartan Battalion.



The color guard team at the men's basketball game.

Ruck March

The Spartan Battalion braced a cold morning on 11FEB2016 as they completed their first ruck march of the semester in the snow. The distance was 4 miles while carrying 25 pounds on their back. The cadets are issued a packing list before, which they must follow to ensure their ruck is at proper weight. These ruck marches are an important part of the Battalion because they promote morale within the Battalion as cadets finish together while improving their physical fitness as well.



Cadets participate in the ruck march.

Military Ball

The Military Ball took place on Saturday evening, of 13FEB2016 in the Huntington Club. Cadre and cadets wore their ASU's while guests dressed in formal attire. The guest speaker was Brigadier General Gervais who delivered a sincere and motivating speech to the Battalion and their guests. After the ceremony and dinner concluded, guests were welcome to stay for dancing, socializing, and a free photo booth.



BG Gervais delivers her speech to the Battalion and guests.

Change of Command Ceremony

On 17FEB2016 the Spartan Battalion conducted a Change of Command Ceremony to pass leadership of Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major from CDT York and CDT Vanlopik to CDT Belanger and CDT Thompson. The colors were passed from CDT York to the PMS, LTC Winston, in order to signify passing the leadership. LTC then passed the colors to CDT Belanger, then to CDT Thompson to signify the trust of leadership and responsibility being passed on to the new BC and CSM. "It was a good experience to see how a Change of Command Ceremony is actually done", MS III CDT Piper said.



The guidon is passed from outgoing to incoming leadership.

