

SPARTAN BATTALION Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 03



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Template Designed By Cadet Broome

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CADETS OF THE WEEK



ALPHA CO.

Cadet Shelton
Cadet Mantie
Cadet Mayes

BRAVO CO.

Cadet DeMille
Cadet Dieng
Cadet Ingle

CHARLIE CO.

Cadet Collins
Cadet Jones
Cadet Nesom

LEADERSHIP LABS



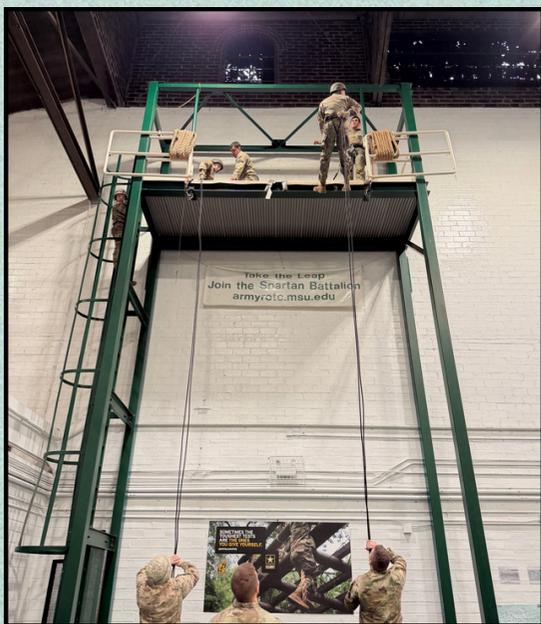
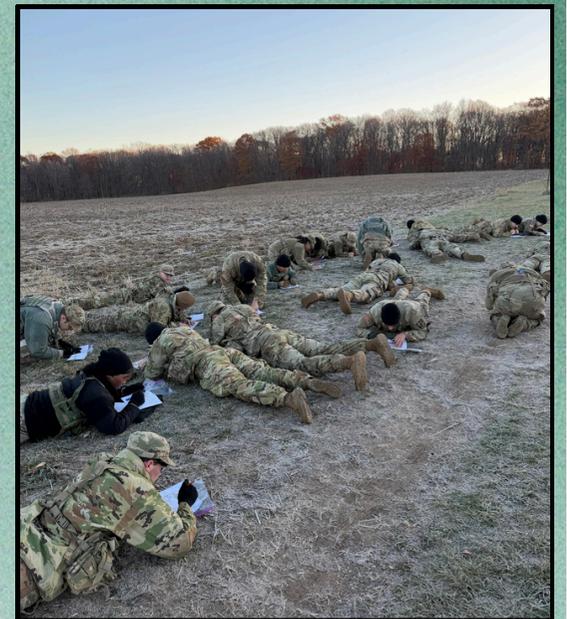
BRANCH BRIEF

This month, cadets participated in a Branch Brief lab where representatives from multiple Military Occupational Specialties from the Michigan National Guard shared insights about several fields such as military police, infantry, signal, med services, intelligence, aviation, logistics and field artillery. Cadets learned about day-to-day responsibilities, career paths, and opportunities within each branch, helping them better understand their options as future Army officers.



LAND NAVIGATION

Cadets conducted land navigation, strengthening their map reading, point plotting, and terrain navigation skills. The MS3s continued to build their confidence and readiness to ensure success at CST. The lab gave cadets valuable hands-on experience to apply their skills in the field.



ROUND ROBIN

MSI and MSII cadets participated in a round robin lab where they practiced rappelling and learned to assemble and disassemble the M4 rifle. MSIII cadets were tested on several warrior skills. This consisted of M240B and M249 firing procedures, TCCC and MEDEVAC, and land navigation.

CLUB UPDATES

ENDURANCE CLUB

The Endurance Team has focused on Friday speed workouts and weekend long runs, with plans to complete a group 5K before the semester ends.

DRILL TEAM

After Veterans Day details, the team is transitioning its attention to competition drill and ceremony for the remainder of November.

PATHFINDERS

Pathfinders are preparing members for camp with training focused on call for fire, and STX lanes, while also offering optional Land Nav, MS3 support, and ACFT prep.

MARKSMANSHIP

The Marksmanship Team is holding tryouts and building its training schedule in preparation for Spring competitions.

RANGER ONE

Ranger One has hosted weekly battalion-wide tactics classes covering battle drills, TTLODAC, call for fire, and OPORDs.

RANGER CHALLENGE

Ranger Challenge is preparing for the Fort Knox competition by training on the one-rope bridge, land navigation, and tactical team events.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT: RANGER ONE



Ranger One has continued to support the battalion by hosting weekly tactics classes open to all cadets. Club members have led detailed instruction on battle drills, TTLODAC, call for fire procedures, and OPORD preparation, helping strengthen the battalion's overall tactical proficiency. A special congratulations goes to Recruits Summerhays and Challgren for successfully completing their 24-hour recruit mission and demonstrating outstanding commitment.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Each year, we honor veterans from Michigan State University and the surrounding community with a joint Army–Air Force service at the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel.

With VIPs, Cadre, Cadets, and guests in attendance, the Spartan Battalion’s Color Guard presented and retired the colors, an opera singer performed the national anthem, and a guest veteran delivered remarks in tribute to their service and experience.



MR. BRIAN VELLA



Mr. Brian Vella, President of United Image Group, is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran whose service from 2005–2011 continues to guide his leadership and community involvement. After earning a Political Science degree and MBA from The University of Toledo, he went on to lead United Image Group’s growth in the Midwest. He remains dedicated to supporting military families through his work with Folds of Honor – Michigan Chapter and by mentoring veterans transitioning to civilian careers.

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST



Cadets spent the morning having breakfast with senior veterans, engaging in conversations about their military experiences and life lessons. Veterans also offered personal advice they felt today's cadets could benefit from, and the visit wrapped up with a chance to meet one resident's dogs, adding a warm and personal touch to the event.





PHOTO RECAP



SPARTAN BATTALION CONTACT INFORMATION



Mr. Sullivan – ENROLLMENT OFFICER

Mr. Robert H. Sullivan graduated from the Citadel in 2000 and went on to serve in the 3rd BDE, 3rd ID during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. Robb deployed again in support of OIF in November of 2007 with the 4th BDE, 10th MTN DIV (LI). Mr. Sullivan came to the Spartan Battalion from various contractor positions with TACOM and the TSA.

In addition to his duties here at MSU, he is currently a US Army Reserve Officer assigned to the 406th CSSB located in Ann Arbor, MI.

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SFC Boles – MSU/ARMY ROTC NATIONAL GUARD CAREER LIAISON AND RECRUITER

SFC Kyle Boles began his military career in 2010 as an Infantryman, serving in various leadership roles across multiple units, including the 101st Airborne Division and the National Training Center. He transitioned to Active Duty Recruiting in 2017 and currently works as the Michigan State University National Guard Liaison. Boles has two deployments to Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

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SSG Hitchcock – MSU/ARMY ROTC NATIONAL GUARD CAREER LIAISON AND RECRUITER

SSG Tanner Hitchcock began his military career in 2015 as a Military Policeman with the 46th Military Police Company in MI, serving until 2021. His roles included Auxiliary Security Forces in TX, deployment to Guantanamo Bay for Operation Enduring Freedom, and peacekeeping in Kenosha, WI. In 2022, he became a squad leader and Non-Lethal Weapons Instructor with the 1776th Military Police Company. Since 2024, he has served as the National Guard Liaison at Michigan State University.

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ALUMNI UPDATES

Send your updates to weissst1@msu.edu
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We want to see what our alumni are
accomplishing!

Scan the QR code to update your
information!

