



# SPARTAN BATTALION

## FALL NEWSLETTER

### Cadet Summer Training



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were some changes made to the Cadet Summer Training (CST). Platoon “bubbles” were established for the first 10 days of training where the virus was monitored. CST is one of the final steps in preparation and training to commission as a 2nd Lieutenant. It was a chance for our Spartan Cadets to hone their leadership style and sharpen their soldier skills. CST was 5 weeks total in length and cadets were evaluated on their physical fitness, character, teamwork, and resilience. Congrats to all our current MS4s for completing CST!



## Spartan Solarium & Welcome Picnic (25-31 AUG 21)



Leading up to the beginning of the semester, MSIII and MSIV cadets attended Spartan Solarium. Led and taught by cadre, cadets were taught on training subjects covering Leadership, Mentorship, and other topics to prepare them for the upcoming semester. Additionally, cadets learned how to operate in their assigned leadership roles and how to effectively lead the battalion with the guidance of the cadre. Following Spartan Solarium, the battalion welcomed its newest cadets and their family members at the Fall Welcome Picnic.





## Fall FTX (17-19 SEP 21)



Each semester, the Spartan Battalion conducts its Field Training Exercise (FTX). Spartan Cadets successfully conducted their Fall FTX on 17-19 Sep 21 at IM West and Demonstration Hall located on the MSU Campus. Through this opportunity, the cadets were able to better prepare themselves for the upcoming CST with the help of MS4 leaders and the cadre. On Friday, September 17th, the cadets sharpened their swimming skills through Combat Water Survival Training (CWST) at the IM West swimming pool. On September 18th and 19th, cadets participated in various training and activities such as rappelling, paintball, and squad competition stations.



## Extracurriculars

### Cadet Fund

Cadet Fund is the Spartan Battalion's financial wing, helping to organize and manage the fundraising, merchandise, special events, and day-to-day expenses incurred by the battalion. An important role of the Cadet Fund is to be a bridge between clubs and the cadre, receiving and approving requests from clubs for funding. The commander for this year is CDT Woodill. Please visit the Spartan Battalion online shop (QR code found at the end of the newsletter) and support them!

### Color Guard

The Spartan Battalion's Color Guard is a unique extracurricular group in Michigan State University's (MSU) Army ROTC Program. Its mission is to "execute professionalism and be the face of the Michigan State University Army ROTC Program." The Color Guard has achieved high prestige within the ranks of the Spartan Battalion and the university. Cadets who participate in the Spartan Battalion Color Guard have the special opportunity to



play a central role in many events such as the annual Homecoming Parade, Veterans Day Ceremony, the annual MSU ROTC Military Ball, and multiple home NCAA sporting events for football, men's and women's basketball, ice hockey, and others. Cadets train hard every week to carry out their mission in an organized, professional manner in any location at any time. The Color Guard's role is highly crucial in all of these events and is complementary to the MSU Marching Band in honoring America with the "Star Spangled Banner." This year's commander for the Color Guards is CDT Moore.





## Endurance Club



The purpose of Endurance Club is to improve the cardiovascular strength, muscular endurance, and mental stamina of its members. The members target improvement of running form, weight lifting form, and swimming technique. By meeting regularly each week, members record consistent improvements in timed runs, timed swims, and weight lifting capacity. This year's commander is CDT Dahl. The Endurance Club participated in the 2021 Izzo Legacy Race and CDT Dahl came in 8th place out of 1200+ participants, congratulations!





### **Marksmanship**

The MSU Army ROTC Marksmanship team trains to improve weapon handling, rifle and pistol fundamentals to be able to compete in marksmanship matches. They use various methods to train such as live-fire exercises and simulations with the smokeless range. The culminating event that they train for each year is the National Small Arms Championship at Fort Benning, GA, as well as smaller competitions against other ROTC programs in Michigan. The commander for this year is CDT Thomas.



### **Pathfinders**



Pathfinders meet each Wednesday and its charter provides for the development of members' land navigation skills and leadership abilities. In addition to land navigation, Spartan Battalion Cadets who become Pathfinders train in topics such as infantry tactics, rappelling, first aid, and helicopter operations. The training provides Spartan Pathfinders with numerous opportunities to develop leadership skills and lead fellow cadets in the execution of the training. The commander for Pathfinders is CDT McRoberts. Semper primus!





## Ranger 1



Ranger 1 develops high physical, disciplinary and tactical skills and prepares many future officers for effective combat arms leadership. The club accepts cadets who meet its stringent standards. Ranger 1 has many traditional annual activities including a 5-mile unit ruck march, rappelling from the top of Spartan Stadium, arduous term-long recruit training, patrolling and squad tactical exercise requirements each term. A demanding 10-week recruit phase identifies those who have the desire and drive to meet stringent standards. The club only accepts a few recruits each term into Michigan State University's premier leadership proving ground. The commander for this year is CDT Nygaard.



## Cadet of The Month



**A Co.**

**Kara Hall**  
(MSIII) Class of '24  
Marshall, MI  
Mathematics Major



**B Co.**

**Jimmy Kulas**  
(MSII) Class of '24  
Spring Arbor, MI  
Civil Engineering Major



**C Co.**

**Joel Brady**  
(MSII) Class of '24  
Hillsdale, MI  
Human Biology Major

Congratulations, cadets! Your company commanders and peers recognized your hard work and dedication. All three of you happily took part in every possible volunteer opportunity and have demonstrated admirable leadership during both company-level and extracurricular events. Keep up the great work.





## Remarks from CDT BN CDR



“The Spartan Battalion was faced with a unique challenge of catching cadets back up to speed following the COVID-19 2020-2021 semesters, where many cadets were unable to participate on campus. This fall, we were able to take the challenge head-on and provide a semester of quality training, and fun extracurricular activities for cadets to participate in. It is an honor to work and learn alongside cadets, and from our outstanding professional Cadre. Go Green!”

- CDT Hayden Ferguson



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