

2010/201

### 2011 Orientation Team Leader Training

The JMLC and the Army, Naval and Air Force ROTC units provided some unique training to help prepare the USF Orientation Team Leaders (OTLs) for their summer duties in giving USF's newest freshmen and transfer students an in-depth first look at the university. The purpose of the training was to provide the OTLs some basic knowledge of the ROTC programs at USF so they could better assist freshmen who were interested in ROTC. After a series of informational and motivational presentations by Mr. Luis Visot, SFC Jonathon Stapel (Army ROTC), LT Michelle Smith (Naval ROTC) and Maj Cheo Stallworth (Air Force ROTC), the OTLs spent the next couple of hours rappelling off the side of the C. W. Bill Young Hall (CWY) and learning the basics of firing small arms weapons such as the M-16 using the EST 2000 small arms weapons simulator. Each of the OTLs were provided instruction on how to load, aim and fire the M-16 or M-4 rifles and then placed in various scenarios to practice and test their abilities in their use. The OTLs were then given individual instruction on the basics of rappelling, proper use of rappelling gear and a safety brief. They then rappelled off the south side of CWY from the 4<sup>th</sup> floor down about 50 feet to the sidewalk below. The OTLs had an exciting time and will long remember their experience with the USF ROTC programs.



SFC Chase Miller coaches a student from the USF Orientation Team Leaders during a rappelling exercise.



MG Luis R. Visot and a student from the USF Orientation Team Leaders on the rappel tower at CWY Bill Young Hall.

### A Conversation with South Ossetia

The JMLC made a huge investment in audio visual technology when C.W. Bill Young Hall (CWY) was built providing the university with conference rooms and academic classrooms with videoconferencing capabilities. As a result of a close working relationship with the World Languages Department under the leadership of Dr. Victor Peppard, the JMLC was able to support a first time ever conversation between USF students studying Russian and students at the University of South Ossetia in Tskhinval. Using the JMLC Conference Room, a group of USF students studying Russian were able to discuss with the students at University of South Ossetia about student life and the cities where each live and study. The South

Osseitans showed pictures of the damage done by the August war in 2008 between Georgia and Russia that resulted in South Ossetia's separation from Georgia. They also showed pictures of the beautiful landscape where they live.

Some of the students from Tskhinval were specializing in English and their language proficiency was very good. (They typically start studying English in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade). The USF students of Russian also did well for themselves speaking Russian.

Both sides were very pleased with the meeting and it would be in the news in South Ossetia. This is just one example of how the JMLC has assisted other university departments as a result of their pursuit of common goals.

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# **JMLC in Action**

Another busy and exciting year has flown by as we congratulate and send our best wishes to our newest 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants and Ensigns of the Class of 2011! This is one of the largest commissioning classes for each ROTC program at the University of South Florida. During this past academic year, the Joint Military Leadership Center (JMLC) has shifted its focus to programming and events for individual ROTC students to learn more about each others' military services and joint operations through a series of guest speakers; encouraged the study of foreign languages/cultures and participate in study abroad; and provided opportunities to interact with fellow ROTC students outside the ROTC curriculum.

During the Fall 2010 semester, the JMLC hosted several guest speakers in a small seminar type environment. This provided a unique opportunity for ROTC students to engage with speakers who had a variety of unique backgrounds and experiences. CDR Dan O'Shea, a Navy SEAL, gave a presentation on his experiences as the Coordinator of the Hostage Working Group (HWG). The HWG was the US Mission's primary planning facilitator, intelligence fusion node, and coordinating element for all hostage-taking incidents in Iraq. LT Monica McGuire, USCG, a USF graduate student, spoke about her experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer and her duties as a junior officer in the USCG. Mr. Luis Visot, Executive Director, spoke about Operation UNIFIED RESPONSE, the U. S. government's humanitarian and disaster relief response in Hait after the earthquake in January 2010.



The JMLC continued to promote the study of foreign languages and cultural awareness among ROTC students. To help encourage ROTC students to study abroad, the JMLC hosted an information session with the USF Study Abroad office. During the program, Air Force Cadet Robert Sadusky, who was studying in St. Petersburg, Russia, gave a short presentation and answered student questions using Skype. Two other ROTC cadets, Army Cadet Maria Santana and Air Force Cadet Ashley Lonergan, both whom studied Russian in Moscow during the 2010 summer, also gave a presentation on their study abroad experience. Although the university did not receive a Project Global Officer (GO) grant as in the past two years, ROTC students are still eligible to apply for various Project GO programs that promote the study of DoD designated critical foreign languages such as Arabic, Chinese and Russian.



# JMLC in Action...cont.

During the Fall Semester, the JMLC and the commanders of the USF ROTC programs, CAPT Scott Pollpeter, Col Robert Wright and LTC Padraig Clark, met with MG Steve Hashem, Director, Coalition Coordination Committee (CCC) and briefed the Senior National Representatives of the Coalition at U.S. Central Command which consists of sixty nations. This was a wonderful opportunity to continue a long standing relationship with the Coalition and brief new representatives about USF and its ROTC programs. During this past year, Coalition representatives gave presentations through out the academic year to the senior class of the Air Force ROTC as part of their world regional studies curriculum and attended an Army ROTC commissioning ceremony. JMLC and ROTC staff were guests of the Coalition at their annual International Night held in December which features food and drinks from each of the nations of the Coalition.



Army Cadet Wade Cady, Navy Midshipman Anna Douglas, and Air Force Cadet Kristin Through the USF Foundation, Mr. John Harper, USF Alumni Association Executive Director, and his wife, Cindy, established the CPT Jason Ellis Holbrook Memorial Leadership Award. U.S. Army Captain Jason Holbrook was killed in the line of duty at Tsagay, Afghanistan, on July 29, 2010, when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device (IED) during a combat reconnaissance mission. CPT Holbrook was the son-in-law of Mr. John & Cindy Harper and married to their daughter, Heather, a USF alumna. The scholarship award will provide funds to an ROTC student of each service program to attend a nationally recognized leadership conference in memory of CPT Holbrook' s selfless service to his country. This inaugural year, the three award recipients attended the U.S. Air Force Academy National Character and Leadership Symposium 23 – 25 February in Colorado

Springs, Colorado. The recipients of this year's award were **Army Cadet Wade Cady, Navy Midshipman Anna Douglas, and Air Force Cadet Kristin Khoury**. For the next academic year, the CPT Holbrook Memorial Award will increase its support to double the number of ROTC students to attend conferences.

In preparation for the 2011-2012 Academic Year, the JMLC led the initiative to establish an **ROTC Living Learning Community** (LLC). The LLC is a



An impromptu gathering of ROTC students representing all services during a break in classes at the CWY Bill Young Hall.

special program within a residence hall that will enhance the overall university experience while providing special emphasis on a particular area of interest. The ROTC LLC will provide ROTC students living on campus the opportunity to live and interact with ROTC students of all services. This will help promote a "joint" mindset that values the unique cultures of each military service and permit students to participate in a built in network of peer support that encourages excellence and service.

LIVE IT

**LEARN IT** 

For More Information call John Sarao at 813-974-7841

## What's New in Town?



A new student organization has spread its wings and seeks to take off for whole new heights- it's the Joint Military Association (JMA) at the University of South Florida. A partnership amongst the ROTC programs and anyone who is willing to put their best foot forward in the name of leadership and a brighter future, this group is pushing to be known.

Moving from the ground up, the JMA is well equipped with innovative ideas and the guidance of their advisor Commander John Sarao who works with the cadet-

civilian Executive Board to bring their thoughtful ideas into reality for their members and the community. With intent to bring unity amongst the branches, promote philanthropy here and abroad, introduce the traditional leadership with a youthful spin to it and bring a much needed change for a better tomorrow- the Joint Military Association has already made leaps forward.

Thus far, they have performed:

- ▲ 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Freshman Social: a movie, food, fun and inspiration for the Freshmen of USF ROTC and the first year students in the cross-enrollment plan.
- Relay for Life Participation: a joint effort amongst the branches to raise money for cancer re search and awareness
- Mentoring: Hillsborough High School students had the opportunity to do activities and talk with the USF ROTC about their future, ROTC, etc.
- ▲ Candy/Bake Sale: a fundraiser for future programs that the JMA may do.
- Participation in the Run for the Cure 5k in St. Petersburg
- ▲ The annual inter ROTC Flag Football Tournament

Upcoming endeavors will include volunteering opportunities and the Future Leaders Summit. For more information email us at <u>joint.military.associationusf@gmail.com</u> or call the Public Affairs Liaison at 954-934-6285 or find them on Facebook under Joint Military Association.

## **Relay for Life: To Change Lives**

It is always a pleasure to see the youth of today caring about a cause that is older than themselves. This is just one of the feelings that arose from the Army, Naval and Air Force ROTC Programs' participation in the 2011 Relay for Life at the University of South Florida on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Soccer and Track Stadium.

Alongside 80 other teams, 73 cadets/midshipmen joined together to help raise money in the fight against cancer. From buying name pieces and fundraising to helping set up tents/ supplies and demonstrating a joint military effort, these shining stars did it all. Even the Joint Military Association was present and at the head of the effort. Cadet President Cedric Street and his Executive Board made sure that the military presence was felt with meet-and-greets, give-aways and periodic joint laps ran around the track's event. It surely was a magnificent sight to behold. Marisa Dior, a Relay participant said: "I hope that this is something that will continue to be done because it is an inspiration to know that the military really isn't just military."

Well, keep up the good work ROTC- you're being counted on.



Articles by Cadet Shanna Bookal

# **USF SUNCOAST BATTALION NEWS**



AROTC cadre in front of the Marshall Student Center

2011 started out as a busy year for the Army ROTC Suncoast Battalion. We welcomed CPT Bryan Dunker as the new Assistant Professor of Military Science (APMS) at Saint Leo University, SFC Jonathan Stapel as the Recruiting Officer and Mr Phillip Smith as a new Human Resources Technician and are bidding farewell to our Executive Officer, MAJ Edwin Escobar and MAJ Steve Wills. APMS at Saint Leo University. They will both be missed and we wish them continued success as they begin their new assignments.

ARMY ROTO

The staff of the Army ROTC Battalion is "Army Strong" at 17 members; it consists of 6 officers, 5 NCOs, 5 Human Resource Assistants, and a staff assistant from the university. It takes a staff of very high caliber to successfully run a battalion of over 250 Cadets. More than 120 Cadets have contracted with the US Army and are committed to earning their commission and degrees within the 4-year time allotted for Army Cadets.

This has been a year of participation for the Battalion in both the local and university communities. Cadets have performed color guard duties at local sporting and community events throughout the year, as well as participating and organizing events with the Student Veterans Association at the University of South Florida. This year's Army Golf Scramble at MacDill AFB was a great success and generated funds for this year's Military Ball. Our involvement with the community is one of the areas of our program that we take great pride in not only as a way to provide information about the Suncoast Battalion but also as a way to say thank you for all the services that are provided for us.



# THE SUNCOAST BATTALION IN ACTION



Left: 2LT Lothridge, the youngest member of the 2011 commissioning class at the age of 19, cuts the cake following the ceremony held at the Joint Military Leadership Center





Above: Our Military Ball at the end of the spring semester is one of the highlights of the year for both Cadets and Cadre. The Military Ball provides Cadets the opportunity to learn more about military culture and how to conduct themselves at a formal event. We were honored with a wounded warrior, SGT isaac Chandler, and the guest speaker was Hall of Fame Football Player, Lee Roy Selmon.

Right: Training in the field is key to success as a Cadet and within the Army. Small unit tactics and land navigation are the two major areas that we focus on when we conduct operations at Jefferson Training Area. The skills taught by our instructors in the classroom are put to the test every Thursday afternoon as Cadets take what they have learned and apply it in a real world situation. This training helps to prepare Cadets for LDAC at FT. Lewis in Washington in the summer of their third year.



### THE TOUGHEST BULL

BY: MIDN 2/C DOWLING



Some of the Toughest Bull competitors.

On April 2nd, students from USF's Army, Naval, and Air Force ROTC units participated in The Toughest Bull Competition. This grueling course was made up of multiple strength and endurance challenges and was staffed by volunteers from the Buccaneer Battalion. This course was designed in order to find out who among those competing was The Toughest Bull.

The course was made up of 40 pull-ups (with a 10 minute flexed arm hang for females running the race), a 500 meter swim, 200 pushups, and 300 sit ups. Between each of these events, participants ran 1.5 miles, a total of 6 miles for the entire competition.

In the end, Midshipman 2/C Tomblin won the male's competition, while SSgt Altman won the female NAVAL ROTC

competition. Also placing in the top three were were Midshipman 4/C Porchie in 2nd Place and Midshipman 4/C Coombs in 3rd Place. Afterwards, winners were recognized and each received "motivating bobble head trophies" for their extraordinary physical performances. Many more members of the Buccaneer Battalion both competed, demonstrating to the other units our high levels of physical fitness.

On 23 FEB, I left for the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, to attend the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual National Character and Leadership Symposium. I had the same flight as CDT Wade Cady, from USF's Army

### THE NATIONAL CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM BY: MIDN 2/C DOUGLAS



ROTC program, and as CDR John Sarao, who went with us. Once we all arrived in Colorado, we met CDT Kristen Khoury from USF Air Force ROTC, as well, and we were all shuttled to the academy from there. I was assigned a USAFA Cadet Host, CDT Molly Crosby, whom I stayed with and attended my lectures with. Thursday, 24 FEB, was the first day of lectures. It began with the NCLS Opening Ceremony and ended that evening with the Symposium Dinner, where all the special guests and attendees joined, in uniform, for a meal together. In the time between, I heard several notable speakers, including Colonel Leo Thorsness, Colonel George "Bud" Day, and Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta, all Medal of Honor recipients. Friday, 25 FEB, was the second round of lectures, during which I listened to a Wounded Warrior Panel, and heard a

very thought-provoking presentation

by Dr. Tori Murden McClure, the current President of Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky. On both days I listened to accounts by Vietnam Prisoners of War, including Colonel Thorsness, Colonel Day, and Mr. Orson Swindle. I also had the privilege of hearing and briefly meeting Master Sergeant William Gibson, one of the first men with an above -the-knee amputation to redeploy to combat, which he did only two years after receiving his initial injuries.

As one might guess, it was inspiring to be surrounded by so many outstanding and driven individuals, and the whole experience was a wonderful opportunity that I hope to share with my fellow battalion members.



Cadet Kristin Koury, Cadet Wade Cady, MDN Anna Douglas and John Sarao.

### A REFLECTION ON SOME OF THE THINGS I LEARNED MY FIRST YEAR BY: MIDN 4/C WENGLER

As I reflect back on my freshman year of college, I reminisce about all the friends I have made, the late nights of studying, the new taste of freedom, and largely ROTC. Becoming a member of the Buccaneer Battalion has truly made an impact on my journey to become a Naval officer. I am so thankful for all the opportunities and experiences it has brought me thus far. From what seems like just yesterday, at indoctrination, to now, as I prepare for my first pass and review, I have come to realize just how much NROTC has taught me about myself and how I have grown as an affect of the program.

I have grown up exposed to the military and had believed myself to be well versed in the customs and expectations that are associated with being a military member. Even with this mindset, there is no other feeling parallel to that of when my fellow classmates and I raised our right hand to take the oath for the first time. That August morning of freshman orientation was the first of countless mornings I have woken up before the sunrise this past year.

The early morning PT sessions, wearing a uniform to class, and the extra importance of being on time were just a few of the adjustments I wasn't excited to adapt to. Although, after constantly rehearsing these customs, I have learned the significance and reasoning for tasks such as these. I have learned that there is more to PT, than just how high I can score on the PRT, but also about accountability and encouraging one another. The motivation and advice from the staff and my peers demonstrated their interest in helping us succeed. Whether wearing whites or khakis, putting on my uniform is another reminder that I am not just another one of the 40,000 students on campus. I am a representative of a select group. Knowing that my words and behaviors are a reflection of our Battalion and



MIDN Addeo and MIDN Goly at The Battle of the Bulls Drill Meet.

NAVAL ROTC the Navy is one of the most difficult things I've had to adjust to. Through my experiences, I have developed the sweet feeling of pride knowing I have the privilege of wearing the uniform. The professionalism expected in ROTC and throughout the military is something I initially had to remind myself to exemplify, but now, it is almost subcon-

scious. Salutes and proper greetings have become a part of my nature and are valuable skills I know I will utilize throughout my career as an officer.

Aside from the classroom and mili-

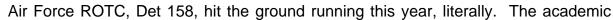
tary bearing, the people that comprise the NROTC unit here at USF have certainly confirmed my positive experiences. During freshman orientation, I distinctly remember one of the MECEPs stating, "You are about to join one of the biggest fraternities/sororities in the world." His comment, although comedic at the time, has proven to be correct. The Navy is an organization one willingly joins. An organization that fights for a cause, demands hard work and dedication, and is an outlet to meet people that will become life-long best friends. This past year was comprised of moments both challenging and rewarding. Overall, I am confident that spending my first year at college in NROTC was a good decision.



MIDN Wengler being inspected by Sgt. Bruno at Freshmen Orientation

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Air Force ROTC's mission is to "develop quality leaders of character for the Air Force" and we take that mission seriously. AFROTC is where young adults come to belong to a team and leave with a sense of accomplishment and pride. It is where the transformation from civilian to cadet to Airman occurs. AFROTC is about challenging our cadets to do their best in all areas to include: academics, athletics, and community service. To that end, we strive to recruit the best and brightest in order to fulfill our mission. An AFROTC cadet can expect to participate in a variety of activities throughout the school year.



year began with a joint two mile run honoring President Judy Genshaft's 10 year anniversary at USF and her long-time support of ROTC. More than 200 cadre, cadets, and midshipmen participated, and we

plan to keep the run an annual event. Our cadets also participate in the USF Campus Recreation ropes course located at Riverfront Park. The challenging

course is specifically designed to enhance communication, support, problem solving, and teamwork, all of which are necessary skills for future Airmen!

In addition to running, our cadets try to get as much flight time as possible. November began the flying season with a KC-135 Orientation flight. Fifteen AFROTC cadets, one NROTC Mid-shipman, and one AROTC cadet successfully completed the mission. Throughout the year our cadets also flew 17 hours with the Civil Air Patrol.











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Air Force ROTC is all about working together and the goal is to become a team. To that end, the cadets conduct their own exercises with objectives geared toward that goal. Operation CLAXON is one exercise put on by the cadets with the objective of learning compass orien-

teering, search & rescue, and small squad tactics. JTLTS is another cadet run exercise with the objectives of learning Self Aid Buddy Care and small squad tactics. These exercises are designed to make the cadets work together and rely on each other, bringing them to their goal of performing as a team. The cadets work hard so they can play hard. Each semester our cadets participate in at least one traditional military event. The highlight of the fall semester is the Combat Dining In. The purpose of the dining-in is to bring together members of a unit in an atmosphere of camaraderie, good fellowship, and social rapport. The basic idea is to enjoy yourself and the company. The combat dining in is the newest of the dining in traditions and it's far less formal atmosphere and combat dress requirements have made it very appealing to the masses. This year's combat dining in began with obstacle courses and relay races and ended in water balloon fights. There was a lot of good food and good fun in between. The highlight of the spring semester was the Military Ball. The military ball is a formal dining-out, which means spouses and guests are invited to participate. This year's military ball hosted Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Lt Gen Richard Newton III. Both events were flawlessly executed



In addition to combat and formal dining events, the cadets are active in sports and in the community. A capstone event each year is the Lime Cup. The Lime Cup is an athletic/scholastic competition between the six Florida AFROTC University programs. This year, over 80 cadets participated in the Lime Cup, which was hosted by Det 158 and included competitions in: volleyball, flag football, soccer, track, and a knowledge bowl. Our cadets proved strong competitors and placed third overall. Community involvement this year included park clean-ups and running in the race and volunteering for the "Race for the Cure." Our Color Guard was active with seven events each term from USF football games to volunteering services to the Wounded Warrior program.

Finally, each semester culminated with a long awaited and well deserved commissioning ceremony. This year we commissioned a total of 22 new Lieutenants; six in the fall term and 16 in the spring term. Each newly commissioned lieutenant left AFROTC with a sense of accomplishment and pride, and most importantly, a sense of belonging.

#### About Us

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The Joint Military Leadership Center (JMLC) is charged to provide the student cadets/ midshipmen and officer candidates with unique (Joint Interagency, Multinational and Multi-component) core competencies and skills in leadership development, global understanding, and security/military/defense strategies. The "end state" will be an academically-structured, research based, and values-driven program that educates, trains and prepares military Officers and Service Leaders for their leadership roles in the continuing transformation of our Armed Forces and in a dynamic and challenging global environment.

Our vision is the establishment of a premier "state of the art" Learning Center and Program that educates, trains, and prepares future Armed Forces Officers to value, operate and conduct successful operations in a joint, multinational, interagency and multi-component, and non-governmental organizations (NGO's) environment & an Academic Center of Excellence for national and military defense strategies, leadership development.

### **Our Focus**

### **Cultural Awareness and Global Sensitivities**

\* To facilitate and encourage ROTC students to study foreign languages and culture with emphasis on the Department of Defense's Critical Languages as part of their academic curriculum including study abroad.

\* To provide programs and opportunities for ROTC students to learn and have greater awareness about issues of global concern and improve their overall global literacy in a wide variety of topics.

\* To implement programs that will develop a proficiency in the Cross- Cultural Competence of our ROTC students so that they are better prepared to effectively communicate with people of different languages and cultures.

\* To develop partnerships that will enhance greater cultural awareness and global sensitivities of ROTC students both within the university and external.

### **Program Development & Curriculum Design**

\* To provide a robust and relevant speaker and seminar program in leadership development, global understanding, and National Security/military/defense strategies.

\* To develop innovative programs for ROTC students to interact with each other, representatives of each military service, Major Combatant Commands, the Department of Defense, the Interagency as well as other students and professionals from diverse cultural backgrounds.

\* To support and encourage ROTC student participation in various Leadership and National Security related conferences at the service academies and other colleges/universities nationwide.

\* To fully implement the various program requirements in order to establish relevance with the academic and military community.

\* To communicate with the three ROTC Cadet Commands, in order to determine the feasibility of systematically enhancing the current pre-commissioning curriculum requirements.

#### **Organizational Development and Oversight**

\* To encourage and provide opportunities for ROTC students to interact and promote espirit de corps amongst the three service ROTC programs at USF so that they are able to gain a basic understanding and appreciation of their sister services' capabilities, limitations, and cultures

\* To continually assess and develop the organizational structures that would best serve our constituents: the cadets, officer candidates, and midshipmen.

If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter or the Joint Military Leadership Center or if you know of someone who would like to receive this newsletter via email, please contact Lori Matthews at <u>matthews@jmslc.usf.edu</u> or call 813-974-2615.