

# BEARKAT BATTALION

## NEWSLETTER



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Read the out going remarks of the Former Cadet Battalion Commander Avery Sitkowski  
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## EAT 'EM UP KATS!

In this May edition of the ROTC Newsletter, we celebrate and highlight a year of growth. First, we have outgoing remarks from the Cadet Battalion Commander, Cadet Command Sergeant Major, and the PMS. Also included are remarks from the new Cadet Battalion Commander. Continuing the highlighting, we have MS3s who will be conducting follow-on training after camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky, this summer. Lastly, we have pictures of our graduating seniors and soon-to-be Second Lieutenants in The United States Army.

**Cadet Michael Huff**  
Newsletter OIC



Read about the Cadet of the Month Cadet Joseph Piro  
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# Outgoing Professor of Military Science

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSHUA LIMBERG

The last two years have flown by and I could not be prouder of what the Bearkat Battalion has accomplished. The Cadets continue to inspire me and remind me why our Army will continue to be the best in the world. In my short time here, we commissioned 43 Second Lieutenants into every branch and component of the Army. We also currently have 36 Cadets who have raised their right hand to defend the nation and eventually commission as Second Lieutenants with at least 10 more ready to commit next semester. They are truly awesome and the Army's future is bright.

Thank you to Dr. White, MG (R) Glaser, and Dr. Gaillard. Your support to me and the Battalion has been invaluable in achieving our mission of recruiting, educating, developing, and inspiring Cadets to become commissioned Officer of character for the Army.

Thank you to Kevin Green, Joseph Snyder, and the rest of the Gibbs team. Your flexibility and support have provided the Cadets the opportunity to practice and refine skill sets that set them apart from their peers throughout the country and put them ahead of their fellow Second Lieutenants when the finally get to their Basic Officer Leader's Course.

Thank you to Fred Silva and the Ed Rachal Foundation for your support. Your facilities and financial enabled the program to challenge Cadets outside of their comfort zone as well as allowed us to reward them for their hard work.



**“The measure of a Life is its Service”**

# Professor of Military Science

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSHUA LIMBERG



Thank you to the staff and faculty of Sam Houston State University as well as the Huntsville community. Your support and understanding whenever we called was always appreciated; especially because it was last minute as the Cadets learned the value of planning and time management.

Thank you to all the donors, alumni, family, and friends who donated time, money, and resources for the Cadets. A majority of the Cadets received some form of monetary award thanks to your generosity and all the MSIIIs and Ranger Company Cadets received a small clothing allowance to replace their well-used uniforms and boots.

I have learned many things in the Army but one of the things that sticks out the most is that the Army keeps rolling along and the Bearkat Battalion is no different. Major (Promotable) Roger Hafford is set to replace me and he is ready to continue the success of the Battalion. He has a wealth of experience and is excited and ready for the challenges that await him. I have no doubt the Battalion will continue to thrive and I am excited to see what they accomplish.

I have told the Cadets that it is a small Army and you never know who you run into so I am sure I will see some of them again; even if I am moving halfway around the world to Japan. It has been an honor to serve here. Thank you again.

**Professor of Military Science, Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Limberg**

# Outgoing Battllion Commander

## CADET AVERY SITKOWSKI

Bearkats,

As we come to the closing of this year I reflect on my time in leadership, which is marked by a blend of nostalgia and anticipation. As the senior class says goodbye to you all, I am reminded of the incredible journey we have all embarked upon together. The opportunity to represent you all has been a great honor, and one that fills me with great pride. As we started the school year back in August, we have achieved more than I could have imagined. Every step forward has been a testament to your dedication and resilience.

As the outgoing senior class hands over responsibility, I look at the incoming class with a sense of trust as was once done to us. It is my challenge for the new leadership to be better than us in every way so that this program will have a bright future. While my time in the Bearkat Battalion may be drawing to a close, the impacts made will endure. I leave with a sense of pride in what's been accomplished and profound optimism for the future of this organization. Thank you for the privilege of letting me serve as your leader, mentor, and friend. Always try hard and do your best! Eat'em Up Kats!

**Former Cadet Battalion Commander  
Avery Sitkowski**



**Cadet Sitkowski during his MS3 year with retired Lt. Gen. Karbler**



**Cadet Sitkowski graduating from Air Assault**



**Cadet Sitkowski receiving the coveted saber for his time as CDT BC**

# Outgoing Command Sergeant Major

## CADET CINNAMON WRIGHT-BURWINKEL



**Cadet Wright-Burwinkel presenting an award to a Cadet**



**Cadet Wright-Burwinkel posing for pictures with after the BN CoC**



**Cadet Wright-Burwinkel posing for Battalion portraits.**

Bearkat Battalion,

Congratulations to all the cadets for a year well done! The opportunity to work with each one of you has been one of my highest honors. While my time at the Bearkat Battalion is coming to an end, I will not forget the lessons learned here and the friendships made. As you look forward to bigger and better things, do not forget to look back and remember where you started.

MS1s, you may have encountered new challenges in your first year at college. Know that your first year does not define you and that your journey is nowhere near its end. Take what you have learned from this year and be ready to come back as an MS2, stronger.

MS2s, the camaraderie and potential in your class are remarkable. Continue to challenge each other and serve as mentors. This next year is the one that counts the most. Show up and stand out.

MS3s, this is it; you are ready for camp. All of you have the potential to leave a positive mark on the program. Rise to the expectations and exceed them.

MS4s, I wish you the best of luck in your careers. It has been a pleasure working alongside you, and this year's success is thanks to each one of you.

I am deeply thankful for the Bearkat Battalion's role in my journey; your support has been a cornerstone of my personal development. To everyone in the Battalion, thank you for shaping me into the leader I have become.

**Former Cadet Command Sergeant Major Cinnamon C. Wright-Burwinkel**

# Incoming Battalion Commander

## CADET JACOB CLEMENT

Bearkat Battalion,

I am blessed and honored to serve as the Battalion Commander for the SHSU ROTC program. I look forward to following in the paths of the great leaders who have served in this position before me. I plan on taking something from each BC who has been over the Battalion since my MS1 year and adding some of my own personality and character to the position as well.

As a program, we have many things to look forward to this coming fall. The rest of the incoming MS4 leadership has been placed in positions that I believe they will excel in. I am excited to see what each of them brings to the table as far as developing the program. As future leaders in the Army, our focus is developing others who demonstrate the Army values. We have achieved this by creating a family environment where Cadets can embrace their unique abilities and work together as a team to develop themselves and others.

I am proud of the environment created these past three years and am eager to continue improving the morale of our program. Our class embraces the responsibility to leave the program in a better place by the time we commission and start our careers as Army officers.

To the Battalion, be ready to get to work and have fun this coming school year. I believe in the notion that it is better to be consistently good rather than occasionally great. I look forward to pushing each cadet to show up consistently and give an honest effort in everything they do this coming year. I also believe in the notion that WE are stronger TOGETHER, and we must realize we are better when we are accomplishing goals as a group and not just as individuals.

Good luck to our commissioning seniors as they embark on their Army Careers! We are proud of you and know you will represent our battalion well.

Good luck to the Cadets attending Army schools and internships this summer and to my class, which will be attending Cadet Summer Training.



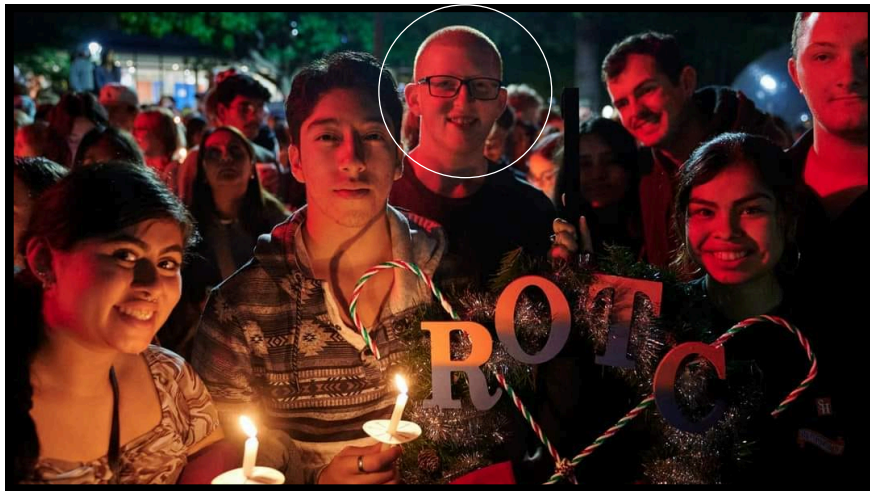
**Incoming Cadet Battalion Commander Jacob Clement**

# Cadet of the Month

## CADET JOSEPH PIRO



**HERE COMES THE BOOM!!  
The Cannon Crew**



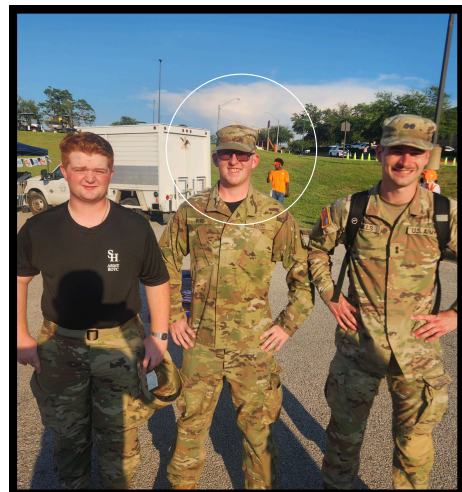
**Cadet Piro enjoying time with fellow Cadets during SHSU's annual Tree lighting event held each December.**

"Thanks to everyone who has helped me these last few semesters learn everything about ROTC. Special thanks to Cadet John Wisnewski for being the best squad leader ever!"

**-Cadet Joseph Piro**



**"Cadet Piro is a great runner and I wish him the best. I hope to see him next semester in Ravens Flock."  
-Cadet William Mills**



**Cadet Piro supporting the ROTC tent during Tailgate.**



**Cadet Piro receives his Cadet of the Month Certificate.**

# Cadet Troop Leader Training Acknowledgements

## TRAINING AND LEARNING

Congratulations to all the Cadets who will be participating in Cadet Troop Leader Training this summer! Their dedication, discipline, and commitment to service are commendable as they step into this invaluable leadership opportunity. Through this experience, they will not only sharpen their leadership skills but also learn from Officers around the United States. Best wishes from the outgoing MS4 class, and have a successful summer of growth and accomplishment.

Those Cadets attending CTLT's this summer are:



Cadet William Ratliff



Cadet Olivia Sanchez



Cadet Michael Kilgore



Cadet John Wisniewski



Cadet Tanner Stone



Cadet Katelyn Nitsche



Cadet Hagui Cardona-Sanchez



# Cadet Advanced Individual Training Acknowledgements

## TRAINING AND LEARNING

Congratulations to all the Cadets who will be participating in Cadet Advanced Individual Training (CAIT) this summer! Their dedication, discipline, and commitment to service are commendable as they step into this invaluable leadership opportunity. The program includes, but is not limited to, the following schools and training opportunities: Air Assault, Robin Sage, Sage Eagle, WHINSEC, and OPFOR.

**Those Cadets attending CAIT's this summer are:**



**Cadet Jesus Ortega Alvarez**



**Cadet Karli Mcmillan**



**Cadet Kaleb Brown**



**Cadet Alexander Cannon**



**Cadet Madison Evans**



**Cadet Diego Paez**



**Cadet James Cooke**

# Spring Graduation

## CLASS OF 2024



2LT Jack Boucher



2LT Faith Calma



2LT Ryan Coker



2LT Arly Cruz-Florez



2LT Princeton Davis



2LT Nezahualcoyolt Espinoza



2LT Isiah Galindo



2LT Emmett Gray



2LT Mason Kizer



2LT Kynnyth LeBlanc



2LT Cory Morrison



2LT Bailey Pogue

# Spring Graduation

## CLASS OF 2024



2LT Cinthia Salinas



2LT Carson Shell



2LT Avery Sitkowski



2LT Emily Slott



2LT Michael Thille



2LT Nicholas Watson



2LT Cinnamon Wright-Burwinkel

