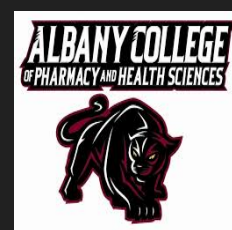


# MOHAWK ARMY ROTC



**MOHAWK BATTALION**



# CADET BC & CADET CSM OPENING REMARKS

Throughout the Fall Semester, Cadets in the Mohawk Battalion conducted a variety of training events in order to prepare them for Cadet Summer Training (CST), offer an opportunity to demonstrated their leadership abilities, and prepare them for commission as Second Lieutenants in the United States Army. As the Cadet Battalion Commander, I had the opportunity to direct and shape this training based on my and the MSIV class's cumulative experiences during CST at Fort Knox, KY. The training executed this semester was physically demanding. During the semester Cadets attended physical training three or more days per week, took the new Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT), and completed multiple foot marches culminating in an eight-mile road march in the pouring rain. The training was also mentally challenging, as Cadets prepared to lead platoon-level operations while managing a full college course load. Consistently, despite numerous challenges and unforgiving weather, the Cadets of the Mohawk Battalion performed strongly, demonstrating a commitment to excellence and a clear sense of duty. This fall semester has been an excellent culminating experience for my ROTC career, and I look forward to watching the continual improvement of the MSI, MSII, and MSIII Cadets during the spring semester of training.

c/Battalion Commander Andrew Kazmer

Greetings! Your Cadets have been incredibly busy juggling academics, ROTC events, and community service in Albany. Cadets finished their Field Training Exercise in Vermont to help prepare them for Cadet Summer Training (CST) in Fort Knox, Kentucky. The leadership of our junior and senior classes is credited with a large part of this semester's accomplishment. As they strive for greatness, the majority of our seniors have led from the front during every ROTC event. This upcoming semester we have many big events planned –Military Ball, Joint Field training Exercise (JFTX), Ranger challenge and the culminating event will be the commissioning of 15 new Second Lieutenants. It is an honor and a privilege to be a member of such a wonderful organization. Enjoy your winter break and get ready for the new semester!

c/Command Sergeant Major Farrah Sanford



# SUMMER '21 ACHIEVEMENTS & FALL '21 CONTRACTED CADETS



## Fall' 21

- Coolidge
- Dawson
- Fiducia
- McDonald
- Moe
- Rossi
- Daniels
- Fini
- Garner
- Harris, J.
- Hong
- Lapham
- Potocnak
- Such

## Summer '21 Advanced Camp Graduates

- Bisaccia\*
- Borelli
- Bosco-Johnson
- Chasse
- Douglas
- Foley
- Glasser
- Kazmer\*
- Lee\*
- Lynn
- Macagnone
- Mason
- Riley
- Sanford
- Schmitz

\*denotes RECONDO recipients

## Air Assault

- 2LT Bressett
- CDTA Cahill
- CDT Dawson
- CDT Riley
- CDT Schmitz
- CDT Spaulding
- CDT Moe

## Airborne

- CDT Moe

## Cadet Troop Leader Training

- CDT Bisaccia FT Bragg
- CDT Foley FT RichardsonA
- CDT Kazmer US Army Garrison Grafenwoehr
- CDT Lee FT Polk
- CDT Macagnone FT Hood A

"Jumping out of an airplane is something I've only ever heard of and seen in action movies. The Airborne is an incredible organization and legacy. I personally loved the thrill of my knees in the breeze! Anybody willing to jump out of a perfectly good airplane is a total badass."  
-CDT Moe

## Summer '21 Basic Camp Graduates

- Fiducia
- Robinson
- Rossi

"I shadowed a route clearing platoon with the 317th BEB and the 46th Engineer Battalion. I learned how to clear a route from IEDs with the 317th using a buffalo, husky, and talon.. Form the 46th I learned how vertical and engineering platoons create and build projects. I also learned how they assist combat arms units"  
-CDT Will Lee

# ALPHA COMPANY

“Alpha Company is composed of Cadets from Siena, Union, Skidmore, and Sage Colleges - with its headquarters located at Siena College. Cadets from Alpha Company are held to the highest standards as they represent the host school of the Mohawk Army ROTC Battalion. This semester, I, Cadet Riley, had the privilege of leading Alpha Company as its Cadet Company Commander in coordination with the Company’s Training, Advising, and Counseling Officer, Master Sergeant Bradley Hecker. Alpha Company Cadets physically train three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) while also maintaining a rigorous college workload. Four cadets from the Company represented the Mohawk Battalion Ranger Challenge Team (including the Captain) which placed second in the Brigade Competition. Alpha Company Cadets went above and beyond the expected standards as cadets in this past semester, taking time out of their personal school and work schedules to attend ROTC related classes (taught by third-year cadets) that refine the skills they are expected to exhibit when they arrive at Cadet Summer Training. To build additional camaraderie outside of ROTC, Alpha Cadets also formed a recreational flag-football team which made it to the league’s playoffs. Third-year cadets stepped up and led the Company in lower-level leadership positions while simultaneously being evaluated on their performance, performing exceptionally well. First and Second-year Cadets made great strides in both their physical fitness, as well as in their leadership development. This past semester, Alpha Company exhibited enhanced physical fitness capabilities by winning two out of three of the Mohawk Battalion Company Competitions, a series of competitions that enhance physical fitness and personal competencies, while also aiming to build morale and unit cohesion. It is safe to say that this semester, all twenty-four Cadets in the Company lived up to the Company Motto - ‘Iron Sharpens Iron!’”

c/Captain Quillan Riley



# BRAVO COMPANY



I was given the privilege of being the Company Commander of Bravo Company for Fall 2021. The goal for ROTC is to help develop cadets to become future Second Lieutenants. ROTC is a challenging experience for Cadets because it requires them to balance the academic rigor of RPI and mental and physical challenges of ROTC. Despite the challenges, the MSIII leadership and new MSIs exceeded my expectation. I saw strong development in their tactical skills, leadership skills, physical fitness, and spirit. One of the most noticeable moment for Bravo Company was during the Company Competitions. Despite being the smallest Company, the pride and spirit they showed to win was phenomenal. Although our Company did not win every competition, they made sure it was close and hard fought. A lot of these achievements is thanks to the MSIII leaderships for the work they put in to make sure the new MSIs were given the resources and development to meet/exceed the requirements of the program. I would also like to thank the MSIs for their commitment to the U.S. Army. I believe that every single Bravo Cadet will be successful regardless of component and branch. Friends and families should take pride and be proud of their Cadet in their future career as an Army Officer. Bravo Company includes Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Hudson Valley Community College.

c/Captain William (Will) Lee

# CHARLIE COMPANY

This semester, Charlie Company had a brand-new start with all new Cadets as many experienced Cadets moved on to staff positions as MSIVs. The Company focused on basic rifleman training with weekly ruck marches, Individual Movement Techniques, and classes at the end of PT. The Cadets showed an eagerness to learn and motivation to improve, training in all weather conditions and suffering together through the rain and the cold. In just a few short months, Charlie Company went from being a group that was unfamiliar with the Army lifestyle to experienced Cadets that show promising careers as United States Army Officers. Charlie co. includes the University at Albany and the College of St Rose.



c/Captain Spencer Mason



# NURSING SCHOOL

When I first began my studies in the field of nursing, I knew that it would certainly be difficult. It has always been a common belief that nursing, and ROTC could not go together, and for the first few weeks I thought that to be the truth. Many late nights of studying, overloaded with work, and falling behind on my ROTC responsibilities took a major hit to my morale. But as time went on, and the weeks passed, I began to change my ways and learn from my initial struggle. I knew that this path would not be easy, and I would not allow myself to quit so easily. Nursing has led me to change my habits, manage my time more efficiently, and to take more responsibility for myself and others around me as any nurse should. I felt that nursing has helped me become more confident as a person and in my ability to make decisions, which in turn has made me a more confident leader. I felt that no greater than at my clinicals. Over the weeks I went from a nervous wreck who couldn't speak to a patient without having second thoughts, to becoming someone I thought I would never be, and that is someone who wields knowledge with great confidence, I find myself now completing skills I once thought were impossible. I speak more confidently to my peers not only in nursing but in ROTC, and I now push myself more than ever. Nursing school is a tough challenge, I will not lie. However, as former president Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor", and this very rough sea has made me not only a skilled nurse, or a skilled cadet, but a skilled leader. While I still have much to learn, I am confident that I will only become better in my career as a nurse cadet.

- Cadet Agate, MS3



Cadet Agate



Cadet Borelli giving a fellow cadet a piggy back ride at advanced camp

# CAPSTONE PROJECT

CDT Borelli is working on a capstone project at RPI, building an Application Programming Interface (API) to handle data coming from a wearable physical therapy device his group and he are creating. He has launched a server that analyzes the physical therapy data in real time and displays on the project's website relevant statistics with features that help a physical therapist assess injury recovery. He has also implemented modern encryption standards to protect user information.

- Cadet Borelli MS4, Computer Systems Engineering with concentration in Cryptography and Network Security

# FALL FITNESS TESTS

Mohawk cadets took a variety of PT tests this semester to test overall physical strength and endurance.

In October, Mohawk cadets took the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT). This test consists of 6 events: the repetition strength deadlift, the standing power throw, the extension push-up, the sprint drag carry, the leg tuck, and a 2 mile run.

In addition, Mohawk cadets took the Army Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT). The OPAT consists of 4 events: the standing long jump, the seated power throw, the strength deadlift, and the interval aerobic run.



# RUCK MARCHES

Ruck marches are a staple of military drills and training. The goal of a ruck march is to condition soldiers to travel long distances on varied terrain carrying all military equipment that is needed during a mission.

Mohawk cadet trained throughout the semester to complete an 8 mile ruck march which was held at the end of the annual fall FTX.





# COMPANY COMPETITIONS

Cadet Company Competitions are designed by Cadet Company Commanders to enhance physical fitness and personal confidence, while also building morale and unit cohesion through teamwork. The events challenge Cadets in Companies across the Battalion to work together effectively as a team to finish the event as quickly as possible.

## CHARLIE RUN COMPANY COMPETITION

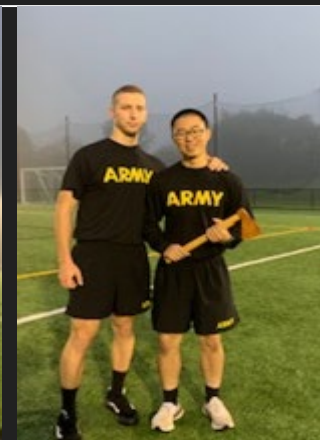
On 23 September 2021, Mohawk Battalion Cadets participated in a competition that sought to replicate competencies expected of Third-Year Cadets attending Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox. This included Ruck Marching, Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), and 9-Line MEDEVACs. Cadets had to complete three "Siena Loops" about 1.2 miles each loop, totalling 3.6 miles. Cadets rucked the first loop with a thirty-five pound rucksack. Upon completing the first loop, each Company received a casualty they had to evaluate utilizing TCCC, and call up a 9-Line MEDEVAC. The second loop saw Cadets Carry a casualty around the Siena Loop on a litter, simulating a Combat Evacuation. Upon returning to the starting line, the Cadets had to perform a second TCCC on a simulated casualty, and call up another 9-Line MEDEVAC. The third loop was the most challenging, with each Company completing the last lap with a thirty-five pound ruck while also carrying the simulated casualty on a litter.

Alpha Company was the first Company to finish the competition, with a time of one hour, eight minutes, and three seconds, with Bravo and Charlie Companies finishing Second and Third respectively. In total, Mohawk Battalion Cadets were pushed to their maximum limits to perform their expected competencies under a high-stress and physically demanding environment.



## BRAVO RUN COMPANY COMPETITION

On 07 October 2021, Mohawk Battalion Cadets participated in a Company Competition that was ultimate football. The idea behind ultimate football was to have a competition that was both competitive and fun. The rules for ultimate football were the same as ultimate frisbee. To compensate for the number differences, the competition would have a 9 vs. 9 with four teams. Alpha would be split into two teams while Bravo and Charlie would have one team. This allowed for a balanced competition that also boosted morale for the Battalion. Bravo Company took the first palace trophy with Charlie coming in a close second and Alpha placing third.



# LEADERSHIP LABORATORIES

## Super Lab 1

On 2 October 2021, the Mohawk Battalion conducted a Super-Lab at the 42ID Training Area. This event trained the Cadets on:

- Individual movement tactics (high/low crawl, 3-5 second rush)
- Hand grenade training
- Squad tactic classes
- Squad tactic lanes



## Super Lab 2

On 2 October 2021, the Mohawk Battalion conducted a Super-Lab at the 42ID Training Area. This event trained the Cadets on

- Squad lanes including:
  - Ambush
  - Raid
  - Attack
  - Defense
- Call for Fire and Howitzer familiarization with 13B National Guard soldiers

# RANGER CHALLENGE



2nd Place Overall

1st Place One Rope Bridge

2nd Place TC3

2nd Place Hand Grenades

3rd Place Burden

“Being on the ranger challenge team was both challenging and incredibly rewarding. Not only because we reached our goal of advancing to Sandhurst, but also because of the bonds formed with my teammates and the physical and mental challenge it provided. It exemplifies how important it is to function as a team utilizing everybody’s strengths in order to be successful. It is an experience I will never forget and a level of challenge and camaraderie I will always strive for.”

-MSII CDT Daniels

Fall 2021 was a semester of early mornings and demanding PT sessions for Mohawk Battalion’s Ranger Challenge team. Led by MSIII Kellyanne Cahill, the 12 person team comprised of cadets from RPI, Union, University at Albany, and Siena claimed a valiant 2nd place finish at Freedom Brigade’s Ranger Challenge Competition. The competition, including 42 teams from the northeast, took place in Fort Dix, New Jersey from October 22nd-24th. After a rigorous season of training, the team took home 5 new streamers (won in various events at the competition) for the team guidon and a beautiful silver trophy. Training will resume for the team immediately upon returning to school in the new year to prepare for the national competition they qualified for held at The United States Military Academy at West Point in April.

-RC Captain Cahill

# FALL FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE (FTX) CAMP ETHAN ALLEN, VT

From 28-31 October 2021, the Mohawk Battalion conducted a Warrior Tasks and Drills Field Training Exercise at Camp Ethan Allen, Vermont. This exercise was planned and executed by the MSIV Cadets and included the following events:

- Day and night land navigation training and qualification
- Leadership Reaction Course
- Primary Marksmanship Instruction
- M4 zero range
- M4 qualification range
- Radio, TMK, OPORD, and EPW/Aid and litter classes.
- 8-mile Ruck March

This event challenged the Cadets and gave them valuable feedback on their warrior skills competencies. But more importantly, the FTX enabled the Battalion to bond and develop trusting relationships essential for a unit readiness.



Land  
Navigation



M4 Weapons Qualification