

Area VII Newsletter

By AAS C/Maj Jonathan Carbonara



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Heroes 5K

*AAS C/1st Lt Alexander Shultze
Bong Squadron*

On November 16th, the Richard Bong AAS Squadron, part of Detachment 925 at the University of Wisconsin, held its fifth annual Heroes' 5k.

The Heroes' 5k is a race that each year seeks to raise money and awareness for a veteran-linked non-profit organization. This year, the race benefited Badger Honor Flight, the local chapter of an organization that transports WWII and Korean War veterans to Washington DC, free of charge, to see their respective memorials.

Honor Flight was founded



This year's participants running in the cold at University of Wisconsin

in 2004 in Springfield, Ohio by retired Air Force Captain Earl Morse. Originally, Earl used his own aircraft to fly veterans out to DC, according to the



One of the participants nearing the finish line.

Badger Honor Flight website. Now, contracted airliners fly hundreds of veterans each year out to DC for day-long trips to the memorials and other sites around the capital. The Badger Honor Flight, which serves veterans in Columbia, Dane, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Sauk, and parts of Dodge Counties in Wisconsin, was founded in 2009.

This year's Richard Bong Squadron Commander, Meaghan Shepherd, felt honored to help assist this organization in its mission: "I'm really glad we decided to donate to Badger Honor Flight. Supporting veterans is what the race is all about, so I'm glad we could give back to them."

Participants this year in-

cluded high school track athletes, current ROTC cadets, veterans, family members of cadets and active duty Air Force Officers. Runners braved the cold on a dash out to scenic Picnic Point and back. The race was won by Matt Strother with a time of 23 minutes, 13 seconds. Matt is the brother of C/4C Andrew Strother.



Retiring the Flag

*AAS C/Capt Andrew Wartman
Lindberg Squadron*

Saint Louis University, the institution at which Detachment 207 is located, has a building known as the Center of Global Citizenship. Upon this building flies the flags of every nation represented by the student body. Over time these flags become derelict in nature and are then entrusted to Detachment 207 in order to retire them properly. C/Wartman properly retired the flags on



Cadet Wartman is preparing the flag for the ceremony.

September 19th in the parking lot of Detachment 207. An intense fire was built to ensure complete burning. Prior to placing the flag into the fire, the tri-corner fold of the Amer-



Cadet Wartman saluting the retiring flag.

ican flag was opened up, and the flag was then folded into a coffin shaped rectangle. Coming to attention, the flag was then placed in the fire, and C/Wartman briskly saluted. C/Wartman spoke to the purpose of the flag and all it represents, giving a thoughtful and inspirational speech. The National Anthem was played followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance, some students of Saint Louis University, participated in this portion of the ceremony. A moment of silence was then taken to remember those who had fought

for the flag and those who are currently fighting. Once the American flag was completely burned, flags of other nations were respectfully burned. The ashes were then extinguished. C/Wartman remarked that this ceremony opened his eyes to the symbolism, respect, depth of culture related to the American flag. C/Wartman plans on working with his AS200 class at Detachment 207 to get an American flag flying outside of the Detachment 207 building.



Getting Back in the Game!

AAS C/1st Lt Kayla Null-Gracia

RE Fleming Squadron

Now that college has officially began, every week members have gotten together and served at Feed My Starving Children. Also, on October 2, our staff members are hosted a morale event for all active Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members. We provided

baked goods and other delicious snacks as we all watched the Vikings vs. Packers game that evening. Lastly, we are currently preparing for our annual POW/MIA vigil on Veterans Day where we will be inviting a speaker to come share his/her life experience following by a 24 hour march around the flagpole on campus to honor prisoners of war or those missing in action. This event is one incredible one and we encourage many to come join us or watch us as we honor those wonderful people who have

and continue to serve this country.



The new cadets who recently pledged for Arnold Air Society last semester.

Super Heroes

AAS C/1st Lt Conner Amundson

Norstad Squadron

On 22 October 2014, members of General Lauris Norstad Squadron of University of Minnesota's Air Force ROTC detachment participated in the Love Your Melon charity event. Love Your Melon is a not for profit organization ran



2 Cadets and a Child in Spiderman outfits standing next to a T-6.

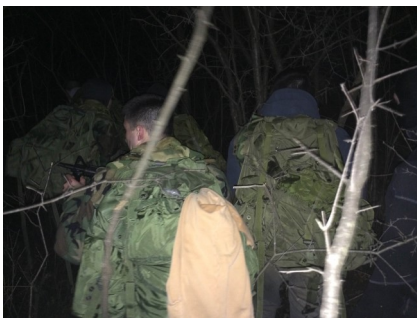
by college students on a mission to put a hat on every child battling cancer in America. For every hat sold, another identical hat is given to a child battling cancer. Named "The Flying Gophers", cadets were able

to spread the word to family and friends and in the end, donate 179 hats in the month of October. Additionally, some cadets were chosen to participate in the Superhero event in which they dressed up in superhero costumes and paired with a child battling cancer for the day. These superhero teams went on a day filled with fun adventures – helicopter rides, airplane rides, racecar rides, boat rides, and playing sports with Minnesota Viking and Minnesota United football/soccer players.

Scobee Squadron's CTX

*AAS C/Maj Jonathan Carbonara
Area VII*

On the night of November 7th and the morning of November 8th, 6 Candidates from Scobee Squadron's AAS Candidate class took on CTX. It was led by AAS C/1st Lt Nakanishi. Cadets Benedyk, Curry, Krause, Lawless, Maniak and Mannino were transported from Illinois Institute of Technology to Lewis University to begin CTX. They had to perform an AEF scenario in Lewis' woods south of the campus. The Cadets had to utilize their skills and knowledge through



The Candidates in Lewis University's woods.

the woods to find the downed pilot while being attacked by the enemy. Once they were finished, the Candidates had to perform an Open Ranks Inspection (ORI). After they perfected the ORI, they went to sleep.

The Cadets were woken up from their sleep at 0430 and



Open Ranks Inspection led by Cadet Curry.

went through a rigorous PT session led by AAS C/Maj Reese. It lasted about an hour and a half which incorporated an intense amount of cardio and muscular endurance. PT was completed after a run and a sprint across Lewis University's rugby field and up a hill. From there they walked around campus for an hour picking up trash.

After they were finished with their community service project, they were given time to prepare for Squadron Review Board (SRB). At SRB, they were questioned about

their performance during CTX and whether or not they performed to their fullest. Once all 6 Candidates were done being questioned, SRB was over and CTX was complete.

Congratulations to all of the new Arnies who made it through!



The Candidates after PT preparing for their Community Service project.





AAS C/1st Lt Heather Bennett

Scoobie Squadron

GOPHERCON was a great experience this year. It was held at the University of Minnesota. The Area had a lot of great business sessions and even established a new Area VII mascot, the Screaming Snowmen. There was a lot of great leadership exhibited at the conclave and the staff worked hard to make it an engaging and worthwhile event. Congratulations to all the awesome squadrons who won awards! While the business sessions were a lot of work, everyone had a great time at



AAS and SW attendees at the Banquet.

the banquet that evening. It was great hearing from the guest speaker, Brig General Dennis W. Schulstad who discussed some of the ongoing challenges we will face as future leaders in the Air Force. His advice on always educating ourselves and being ex-



Area Commander AAS C/ Col Basraoui giving a speech.

perts in our fields definitely are welcomed words to me.

Congratulations to the Bernie V Guthrie Squadron and the Colonel Charles Scharf Squadron for winning Area HQ and ARCON HQ for the 2015-2016 year! We look forward to your leadership! Having the event in Minneapolis was great and there were a lot of interesting sights to see downtown and nearby like the Mall of America. ARCON is always a great opportunity to meet new people within the area and build up our energy for NATCON in the spring.

For those Arnies who missed out this year, it is definitely a great experience that everyone should participate in. It's a great opportunity to visit a different place and get a better idea of how Arnold Air Society fits together and functions as a whole. You also get valuable networking and extra leadership development on top of your training in AFROTC. We look forward to seeing everyone in Chicago for this upcoming NATCON!



Running on the Lakefront

*AAS C/1st Lt Brigid Jensen
Scharf Squadron*

The Charles Scharf Squadron's Candidate Training Program at Marquette University is nearing its fifth week of training. Two week ago, candidates participated in Rock Day where they drilled and ran six miles with intermittent exercises along the Milwaukee Lake-

front. The day was dedicated towards remembrance of POW/MIA's. Rock Day culminated with each candidate receiving a rock. The assignment is to research a POW/MIA and paint the rock with that person. Candidates are to constantly protect and care for their "POW" until they graduate CTP. Last weekend, candidates each gave impromptu briefings to the class. The briefings proved a challenge to keep bearing because of the silly topics the candidates were given. Candidates are chal-

lenged weekly with intense drill, academic quizzes, physical training and determination. The Charles Scharf Squadron AAS members look forward to welcoming the candidates to the society.



Cadets running with out at the lakefront.

Hangar Dance

*AAS C/1st Lt Jacob Bierschbach
Guthrie Squadron*

Captain Bernie V. Guthrie would be proud of the squadron named after him. The cadets shown below were able to take part in the Hanger Dance held in at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport. While the AAS cadets provided security for



Cadets standing in front of the B-25 Bomber "Paper Doll."

dinner guests, they were able to see some of the legendary air craft that were presented. Captain Guthrie was a fan of WWII aviation himself, having flown a P-38 Lightning during

WWII. Air planes shown below are a B-25 named the Paper Doll and in the right picture you can see a P-51 Mustang in the background, both game changers in WWII. The cadets hope they will get to attend again!



Veterans Day Vigil

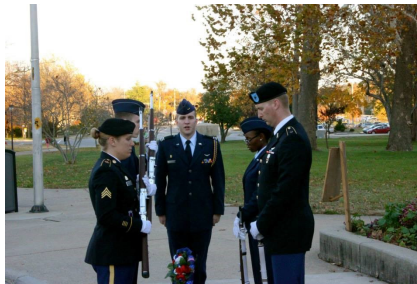
*AAS C/1st Lt William G. Bennett
Harper Squadron*

Arnold Air Society hosted the annual Veteran's Day vigil this month in association with Air Force ROTC and Army ROTC. This was a 24 hour silent vigil, which was stood by pairs of 2 cadets, one Army ROTC cadet and one Air Force ROTC cadet for shifts of 30 minutes per-pair. The cadets stood silent before the American flag to honor the service-



An Army and Air Force ROTC cadet stand silent before the flag on Tuesday November, 11th.

men and women who came before them as well as prisoners of war and service members who are missing in action. Contracted cadets stood for hour long shifts.



Harper Squadron's commander, AAS C/Maj Ramey commands the changing of the guard in the early morning hours of Tuesday November, 11th.

The vigil began at 1100 on Monday November, 11 and ended at 1100 on Tuesday November, 11. Air Force ROTC POC along with contracted Army ROTC cadets stood watch over the cadets to deter any potential hecklers. The Cadets occupied Detachment 205's old backhouse while they waited for their shifts to begin.

Prior to their shift, the Army and Air Force ROTC cadets marched to the Old Main flagpole located in between Quigley hall and Altgeld hall. The vigil was concluded with a

closing ceremony at Shryock Auditorium which included guest speakers including retired Colonel Tomczak, detachment 205's former commander.

Colonel Tomczak served in the military for 30 years and held many various positions including a position at the White House Military Office where he coordinated with White House staff and the Secret Service on Air Force One presidential flights.



POW/MIA Awareness Run

AAS C/1st Lt Jacob Bierschbach

Guthrie Squadron

Waking up early on a Saturday morning, especially for a run is hard on everyone. But the morning of September 20th was different for the cadets of the Bernie V. Guthrie Squadron. The people they were about to honor had it much worse than just to wake up out of the ordinary. That morning the cadets ran in honor of those who wish that was their only inconvenience. These men and women are America's lost brethren, Prisoners of War and Missing in Action. These members of our military an-



A group of Air Force ROTC Cadets and members of Rolling Thunder running with the black POW/MIA flag.

swered a call and some never returned. Their families have had to endure missing family members, friends, and mentors. According to the Defense Prisoner of War & Missing Personal Office there are currently 83,000 missing Ameri-



AAS Cadets Shilvock and Wietgreffe run a stretch of the POW/MIA Awareness Run.

cans. The missing come from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Cold War, and even the Gulf War.

The run started in Sioux Falls, SD and finished at the Veterans Memorial in Brookings, SD. "America's POWs and MIAs should be honored and recognized, rather than memorialized, with the focus on continuing commitment to account as fully as possible for those still missing," said AAS C/Maj Ethan Rasmussen, Squadron Commander.

In all, 21 cadets and 4 members of the Rolling Thunder, ran the distance relay style with two cadets running a mile and then passing off the flag to two more cadets. Rolling

Thunder Chapter 2 is a motorcycle organization aiming to publicize POW/MIA awareness. They were very excited to work with the cadets. Together the group brought awareness to those heroes who gave much more. The Bernie V. Guthrie squadron holds this event annually, proudly, and cannot wait to do it again!



Wounded Airman Program

AAS C/Maj Jonathan Carbonara

Area VII

The Wounded Airman Program (WAP) is a service that reaches out to disabled Airmen. It was started in 2011 when General Phil Breedlove visited a disabled Airman and realized that he was not receiving the awareness he deserved. The Air Force Association

(AFA) took the lead to make the wounded Airmen from the Air Force more recognized. The AFA Chapters immediately took action and started funding with their local medical centers. WAP helps the Airmen financially, with adapted equipment, and lifestyle items. AFA works all requests through the Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) office in conjunction with a signed MOU and 100% of funds donated to the WAP are used in direct support of wounded Airmen and their families. To Do-

nate, you can go to the Wounded Airman Program under www.afa.org. Click DONATE and select "Wounded Airmen."



Paula Roy addresses wounded Airmen in Colorado Springs.



Area VII Squadrons

**Bennison
Bong
Clifford**

**Guthrie
Harper
High**

**Horner
J.P. Fleming
Lindbergh**

**Norstad
O'Neil
R.E. Fleming**

**Schafer
Scharf
Scobee**