Patriot Pride
Spring 2023

A Letter from the PMS
Notes from the C/BC
Operations Update
Pat Bat Senior Spotlight
Community Engagement
Greetings Patriot Battalion!

This has been a year of great accomplishment for our program, and I am proud of the hard work and dedication that our cadets have shown. Between class, internships, Staff rides, veteran outreach, university sporting events, recruiting, field training exercise, Patriot Formal, etc. it has been an exciting four months. I am also proud of the way our alumni have supported our program. Your financial contributions this year of over $15,000 has enabled our program to support a variety of initiatives for the cadets of the Patriot Battalion. Thank you for your continued support!

This year we say farewell to 15 outstanding young cadets who will be commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants on May 19th. I couldn’t be prouder of these young leaders joining the Army. I fully trust every single one of them will serve our country well. This summer, 13 talented juniors will take off to Cadet Summer Training to execute their final assessment prior to accessions and branch selection this fall. Thanks to the awesome leadership of our senior class, I have no doubt our junior class will perform well above standard, and we look forward to seeing them take charge of the Patriot Battalion next year. We are ecstatic about our incoming freshman class that is projected to be over 30 cadets! Word of the Patriot Battalion is spreading fast across the country. We are optimistic that the Patriot Battalion can double in size within the next three years! That is in no small part to the cadets, university leaders, and alumni community we have sustaining the Army ROTC program.

I wish you all a joyous and safe summer!

Sincerely,
LTC Jason Kneib
Professor of Military Science
Notes from the Battalion Commander

CDT Gerilyn Maselli, Brown University - Class of 2023

This spring, our Battalion has continued to build upon the rock-solid foundation that we established in the fall. We began the semester with platoon STX labs to assess the areas that the MSIII class needed to work to get ready for Advanced Camp. The younger cadets began to learn the fundamentals of platoon operations and stepped into more leadership roles.

In February, the MSIV class embarked on a historical journey back to the American Revolution, where they visited the battlefields of Lexington and Concord. Brown University, a proud member of the Patriot Battalion, served as a barracks for Continental troops and a hospital for French allies during the war. This rich legacy continues to influence the Patriot Battalion’s deep appreciation for American military history.

The month of March was focused on the preparation for the culminating Joint Field Training Exercise with our partners at the University of Rhode Island. Despite the challenging weather conditions, our cadets displayed admirable resilience and teamwork as they “embraced the suck” and accomplished day and night land navigation, an M4 range, and a full day of STX lanes.

The subsequent platoon STX labs that followed the FTX were a testament to the remarkable growth and develop that our cadets have undergone this year. The MSIIIs honed their tactical skills and cemented their confidence before Camp, while the MSIs and MSIIs embraced bigger responsibilities. We are very excited for our MSIIIs heading to Advanced Camp and are confident in their preparation.

As we look ahead, we are excited for the various experiences that await our cadets this summer. Through Advanced Camp, Basic Camp, Air Assault school, internships, and other training opportunities, our cadets will broaden their perspectives, confront new challenges, and emerge prepared to hit the ground running in the fall!
On 10 February 2023, the senior class of Patriot Battalion conducted a staff ride to Revolutionary War battle sites along the retreat path of the British soldiers in Concord, Massachusetts. The seniors prepared briefs in which they reviewed specific battles in detail and presented them on site to their classmates. Through analyzing a crucial moment in the military history of our country, cadets were able to reflect on tactics and leadership lessons of the past, and can apply what they have learned as they move on from ROTC and develop as leaders in the Army.

Pictured: The MSIV class visits the Minute Man National Historical Park. Engraved on base of statue, “By the rude bridge that arched the flood, Their flag to April’s breeze unfurled, Here once the embattled farmers stood, And fired the shot heard round the world.”

As it is tradition, the Commissioning Class takes one last class picture in front of the historic Harkins Hall, Providence College. This picture marks their last picture together as ROTC Cadets while also marking it their first picture as newly commissioned officers in the United States Army. **Front Row (L to R):** 2LT Guerriero, 2LT Brancato, 2LT Bettinelli, 2LT Minnick, 2LT Morrison, 2LT Huynh, 2LT DeAlmeida and 2LT Passauer. **Back Row (L to R):** 2LT Weston, 2LT Maselli, 2LT Harris, 2LT Mason, 2LT Hultman, 2LT Murray and 2LT Wills.
Operations Update

Cadet Braeden Weston (S3), Providence College - Class of 2023
Cadet William Murray (AS3), Providence College - Class of 2023

The Patriot Battalion cadets returned from winter break ready to hit the ground running and build upon the progress made in the fall. The fall semester focused on the basics of Army tactics and leadership, by conducting squad level tactics and soldiering skills. By spring, it was the time for our Cadets to take it to the next level. The MSIIIs assumed platoon leader, platoon sergeant, and squad leader roles in platoon patrolling operations, with MSIs and MSIIIs filling in as lower enlisted. While there were many questions and learning moments early on, LLABs 1-7 (which included patrolling, OPORD briefs, patrol base classes and more) helped get all MSIII’s ready for CST. All of these skills were really put to the test at our culminating CFTX (Combined Field Training Exercise) with URI’s Cramer’s Sabers. At the CFTX, cadets also sharpened their land navigation skills (day and night), conducted Alt C, and believe it or not, completed more platoon patrolling operations. But that was not the end of it for the MSIII’s, as the closing weeks of the semester provided even MORE platoon patrolling labs. We have done our best to ensure that every MSIII is ready to rock at CST. MSIIIs beware, you are next…

Pictured from top to bottom:

Cadets receive a safety brief before beginning the daytime portion of the Advance Land Navigation Course.

Cadet Tracey spends some time methodically plotting his points before heading out on the Advance Land Navigation Course.

Cadets maneuver through STX Lanes during their Combined FTX with the University of Rhode Island Cramer’s Saber Battalion.

After a successful group and zero, Cadets eagerly await their turn to occupy the range and qualify on the ALT C Table. For many, this is by far the best part of a FTX.
Patriot Battalion ROTC Cadets Making an Impact

Cadet Carson Morrison, Bryant University - Class of 2023
Cadet Charles “Hank” Hultman, Brown University - Class of 2023

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cadets of Patriot Battalion were heavily involved in College activities across our seven schools along with community events in and around the greater area of Providence, RI. Being actively involved in the community was important to the Cadets and ROTC program as it provided an additional level of service and commitment, while also fostering and strengthening relationships among Cadets and community organizations as well. This past fall semester, the Patriot Battalion was given the green light to reengage in our community outreach programs allowing Cadets to fully understand the importance of giving back and the true meaning of selfless service. This spring our community engagement efforts really took off; 37 Cadets a cross all year groups participated in a total of 13 community based volunteering and recruiting events, totaling 280 hours. We are excited to have had the opportunity to take the amazing talent that makes our program so awesome and share it with the surrounding community. We are excited about the coming fall semester and the ability to further spread our talent throughout the community for an ever greater positive impact.

A few events the Cadets participated in include:
* Bobby’s Valentines for Veterans (Providence VA Med Center)
* Serving dinner at Mary House (Providence)
* Norwegian Foot March, see write-up on page 7
* JROTC Marksmanship, Academic & Physical Fitness (MAP) Competition between 11 schools

Pictured from top to bottom:
Cadet Chong offers a Veteran a valentine as he enters the VA Medical Center. The handmade valentine were crafted by a local elementary school students and placed in a cellophane bag with a couple of goodies. A total of 302 bags were handed out.

Cadet Monaco assists in serving a pasta dinner at the Mary House.

Cadet Ullucci counts the number of correctly executed sit-ups performed by a Cadet during the physical fitness portion of the Junior ROTC MAP Competition.
Norwegian Foot March

On 29 April 2023, 19 Cadets traveled to Chelmsford, MA and participated in the Norwegian Foot March hosted by the Boston Army Medical Recruiting Station and the 804th Medical Brigade. The event was hosted to help shed light on the need for medical providers both in the military and civilian medical communities as they are experiencing significant shortages throughout the country.

Each participant was required to complete the 18.6 mile ruck within a pre-determined time based on gender and age while carrying 24lbs of can goods. A total of 92 participants took part in the march and 66 successfully finished the ruck; an impressive 2,150lbs of canned goods were collected and donated to benefit the greater Boston area.

CPT Marshall, event organizer, gave a shout out to the Patriot Battalion highlighting two of our Cadets “I also wanted to highlight the fastest male and female of the march and wish them congratulations on their hard work! I don’t know what they are putting in the water down there in Rhode Island, but the Patriot Battalion ROTC of Providence College had a clean sweep.”

Fastest Male: CDT Griffin Gouck, Providence College and Patriot Battalion ROTC, overall 1st place finish with a finishing time of 3 hours and 18 minutes….WOW!

Fastest Female: CDT Ellison Mucharsky, Brown University and Patriot Battalion ROTC, overall 5th place finish with a finishing time of 3 hours and 42 minutes

The following Cadets completed the Norwegian Foot March and earned the “Marsjmerket” (Norwegian Armed Forced Marching Badge):

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cadet Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cadet Wills, Braiden</td>
<td>MSIV</td>
<td>Providence College</td>
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Patriot Battalion Cadet & NCO of the Semester

Each semester cadets are nominated by their peers to compete for the prestigious titles “Cadet of the Semester” and “NCO of the Semester.” The nominated cadets study and fine-tune their knowledge in preparation of sitting before a board of MSIV Leadership and answering a variety of questions. This semester’s the board was held on 3 May 2023, some of the topics included the Cadet Creed, History of the Patriot Battalion, Current Events, Land Navigation, ACFT Regulation, and Army Leadership. This semester Cadet Edward Torres was named “Cadet of the Semester” and Cadet Genesis Aldana was named “NCO of the semester”; read their biographies below.

Cadet of the Semester
Cadet Edward Torres
MSI, Brown University

Cadet Edward Torres is an MSI from Diamondhead, MS. The oldest child, he hails from a family of seven. He is a freshman at Brown University and is studying International and Public Affairs on the Policy and Governance track. He is currently considering double majoring in Political Science. Cadet Torres joined the Patriot Battalion ROTC program because of his desire to serve his country from the age of eight and his desire to take advantage of the early training opportunities that ROTC can offer him. In the future, Cadet Torres hopes to once again compete at the Ranger Challenge competition, attend an Army school and or program to include Air Assault, Airborne, and Project-Go, shadow an officer through CTLT, graduate RECONDO at Advanced Camp, serve as the Patriot Battalion’s Battalion Commander, and commission into a combat arm branch. In his free time, he enjoys rugby practice, listening to music, working out, visiting family, playing intramural sports with friends and having dinner with his girlfriend.

NCO of the Semester
Cadet Genesis Aldana
MSIII, Rhode Island College

Cadet Genesis Aldana is a first-generation college student with the responsibility of helping her parents navigate living in the United States from grocery shopping to doctor’s appointments. Coupled with her academic and ROTC responsibilities, Cadet Aldana stands out among her peers for her level of maturity, organization and ability to distinguish between independent problem solving and the requirements of team work. She is the first to offer assistance and enjoys watching peers and classmates succeed and this is why it is ever so fitting she is majoring in World Language Education with a concentration in Spanish at Rhode Island College. Cadet Aldana feels a strong sense of calm when she is in the classroom, “I hope to influence and guide through education serving as a form of self-discovery.” Reflecting upon the ROTC program, Cadet Aldana admits the “SROTC and the Patriot Battalion has allowed me to grow in different aspects, all which will have a lasting impact on my future endeavors. I decided to join this program to not only lead troops but understand how I can be there for my subordinates emotionally and physically.”

“I want to be an example for others, someone that quietly encourages others to push themselves when they feel they have nothing left to offer. As I enter into my MSIV year, I want to challenge myself even more to embrace physically and mentally challenging situations and push beyond my comfort level. On my free time, I always look forward to spending time and making memories with family and friends.”
Cadet Anna Vygoder is someone who is always aiming to be the best version of herself. She wants to reach her fullest potential and takes full opportunities that come her way. Especially immigrating from Russia at such a young age, she has found her way to become successful in the U.S. She has joined the National Guard to be able to receive her education for free at Rhode Island College, while also swimming and playing tennis. She competed in the 2023 Championship Swim Meet, coming in 2nd in her three events in the entire conference of ten schools and breaking two school records.

As an MSII, she is studying Justice Studies at Rhode Island College with the hope to pursue a career in law enforcement to help our society through selfless service. She is loyal to every task she is assigned to and always displays courage while taking initiatives. By the United States Army standards, Cadet Vygoder is a true leader.

Cadet Vygoder recently completed in the Rhode Island Army National Guard’s Best Soldier Competition at Camp Fogarty, East Greenwich, Rhode Island from 18 - 21 April 2023. During the grueling four-day competition, Cadet Vygoder competed against seven fellow RI Guardsmen in various events to include a board, the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT), day and night land navigation, range qualification, a 12-mile ruck march, STX lanes and a Combat Water Survival Test (CWST). Cadet Vygoder was named Rhode Island Army National Guard’s Soldier of the Year during an awards ceremony at Camp Varnum, Narragansett, RI, she scored a total of 945 points out of a possible 1,000 points.

Congratulations Cadet Vygoder, the Patriot Battalion is excited to see where the future will take you in the coming academic semesters and beyond!
2023 Patriot Battalion Awards Ceremony Recipients

**Distinguished Military Graduates**
Braiden Wills, Providence College, Commissioned ’23
William Murray, Providence College, Commissioned ’23
Gerilyn Maselli, Brown University, Commissioned ’23
Charles Hultman, Brown University, Commissioned ’23

**Department of The Army Superior Cadet**
Ryne Passauer, Providence College, Commissioned ’23
Genesis Aldana, RI College, MSIII
Lily Starrs, Brown University, MSII
Eddie Torres, Brown University, MSI

**Founders And Patriots of America**
Jack McNicholas, Providence College, MSIII
Richard Shin, Brown University, MSIII
Julia Rendon, Brown University, MSI

**Rhode Island Reserve Organization of America**
Nick Brancato, Bryant University, Commissioned ’23
John Fullerton, Brown University, MSIII
Alec Coleman, Providence College, MSII

**Military Order of Foreign Wars of The United States**
Award for Dedication and Perseverance:
Nick Brancato, Bryant University, Commissioned ’23

Award for Academic Excellence:
Rachel Huynh, Brown University, Commissioned ’23

Award for Leadership:
Liam Minnick, Providence College, Commissioned ’23
2023 Patriot Battalion Awards Ceremony Recipients

**American Legion Award For Scholastic Excellence**
Charles Hultman, Brown University, Commissioned ’23
Grace Chong, Brown University, MSIII

**American Legion Award For Military Excellence**
Sean Harris, Providence College, Commissioned ’23
Leo Pacher, Brown University, MSIII (missing from photo)

**Military Order of The World Wars Award**
Katelin Ferreira, Brown University, MSIII
Greyson Heinzer, Providence College, MSII
Carston Maher, Brown University, MSI

**Providence College President’s Trophy**
Ryne Passauer, Providence College, Commissioned ’23

**CPT John “Jay” Tobin Memorial Award**
Braeden Weston, Providence College, Commissioned ’23

**First Command Sabre Award For Leadership Excellence**
Charles Hultman, Brown University, Commissioned ’23
2023 Patriot Battalion Awards Ceremony Recipients

**Civilian Aide To The Secretary of The Army Award**
Braiden Wills
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23

**RI Chapter Association of The United States Army Award**
Gerilyn Maselli
Brown University
Commissioned ‘23

**Daughters of The Founders And Patriots of America Award**
Rachel Huynh
Brown University
Commissioned ‘23

**Association of The United States Army Military History Award**
Luke Tischio
Providence College
MSIII

**Daughters of The American Revolution Award**
Ellison Mucharsky
Brown University
MSI

**The USAA Spirit Award**
Sam Mason
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23

**National Sojourners Award**
Peter Monaco,
Providence College
MSIII

**The J. Hull Family Award**
Amanda Guerriero
Brown University
Commissioned ‘23

**Robert Riesman First Infantry Division Award**
William Murray
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23
2023 Patriot Battalion Awards Ceremony Recipients

Military Officers’ Association of America Award
Sam Hogan
Providence College
MSIII

Rhode Island Society Sons of The American Revolution Award
Colin Fulmer
Providence College
MSIII

Veterans of Foreign Wars of America Award
John Tracy
Providence College
MSIII

Grand Lodge of Rhode Island Sons & Daughters of Italy In America Award
Liam Minnick,
Providence College
Commissioned `23

Rhode Island Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War Award
Connor Dudka
Bryant University
MSIII

General Society of The War Of 1812 Award
Liam Doherty
Providence College
MSII
2023 Patriot Battalion Awards Ceremony Recipients

Providence College "Class of '66" Award
Sean Harris
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23

SGM (R) Gary P. Fortunato Award
Carson Morrison
Bryant University
Commissioned ‘23

1LT Brian McPhillips (USMC) Memorial Award
Domenic Bettinelli
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23

1LT Gregory J. Paredes Memorial Award
Braiden Wills
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23

Brown University ROTC Achievement Award
Gerilyn Maselli
Brown University
Commissioned ‘23

Providence College COL J. Gardner Conway Alumni Award
William Murray
Providence College
Commissioned ‘23

Johnson & Wales University ROTC Achievement Award
Sabrina DeAlmeida
Johnson & Wales University
Commissioned ‘23

Bryant University ROTC Achievement Award
Carson Morrison
Bryant University
Commissioned ‘23
Patriot Battalion Look Ahead

We would like to wish our MSIIIs the best of luck as they pack and prepare for Advance Camp, CTLT and Internships this summer. We are excited to see them embark on and concur these exciting challenges and we look forward to them coming back in the Fall Semester as MSIVs ready to lead the way for the underclassmen. Best of Luck!!

Cadet Aldana
RI College

Cadet Chong
Brown University

Cadet Dudka
Bryant University

Cadet Ferreira
Brown University

Cadet Fullerton
Brown University

Cadet Fulmer
Providence College

Cadet Hogan
Providence College

Cadet McNicholas
Providence College

Cadet Monaco
Providence College

Cadet Pacher
Brown University

Cadet Shin
Brown University

Cadet Tischio
Providence College

Cadet Tracy
Providence College
Patriot Battalion 2023 Commissioning Class

2LT Bettinelli
Second Lieutenant Domenic Bettinelli, originally from Canton, Massachusetts, graduated from Providence College with a degree in Marketing. He commissioned into the Army Corps of Engineers in the Massachusetts National Guard. His long-term goal is to become the best version of himself, in every sense of the matter. 2LT Bettinelli’s most memorable ROTC experience was having the opportunity to experience his MSI year while his older brother was an MSIV (Now 1LT JP Bettinelli) in the Battalion.

2LT Brancato
Second Lieutenant Nicholas Brancato, originally from Syracuse, New York, graduated from Bryant University with a degree in History. He commissioned as a Transportation officer into the U.S. Army Reserves. His long-term goal is to be able to travel to every continent. His favorite memory in ROTC was leaving Fort Knox after finishing Advance Camp.

2LT DeAlmeida
Second Lieutenant Sabrina DeAlmeida, originally from Bristol, Rhode Island graduated from Johnson & Wales University with a degree in Criminal Justice. She commissioned as an Adjutant General Officer into the Connecticut National Guard. Her long-term goal is to serve in the Army and she also wants to do 20 years of law enforcement and become a K-9 therapy resource officer. Her most memorable moment in ROTC was her MSII year when she just joined ROTC and attended her first Fall FTX. She was nominated as “hero of the battle” and was given a challenge coin by then PMS LTC Jones. She felt proud for being recognized for her achievements by pushing herself even when she did not have the same knowledge as her peers.

2LT Guerriero
Second Lieutenant Amanda Guerriero, originally from North Andover, Massachusetts, graduated from Brown University with a degree in English. She commissioned into the Army Corps of Engineers with a branch detail in Field Artillery. Her long-term goals are to add value to the lives of those around her and continue to explore and learn from new experiences. She hopes to produce artwork and writing someday that resonates with people. She has so many favorite ROTC memories it is hard to choose from. One memory that stands out in her mind, aside from almost getting her thumb chopped off at CTLT, would be attending CST. CST pushed Cadets to a level of achievement she did not think possible before and exposed her to the varying types of leadership styles. The intensity of CST also helped foster an environment for deep and meaningful connections with her peers.
Patriot Battalion 2023 Commissioning Class

2LT Harris
Second Lieutenant Sean Harris, originally from Bridgewater, Massachusetts, graduated from Providence College with a degree in Environmental Biology. He commissioned into the Regular Army as an Engineer Officer. His long-term goal is to have a successful Army career, hopefully retire from the Army with 20yrs of service and then use his environmental biology major as a park ranger at a national park. His most memorable ROTC experience was finding an Engineer pin in his cupcake on branching day!

2LT Hultman
Second Lieutenant Charles “Hank” Hultman, originally from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, graduated from Brown University with a degree in Political Science and English. He commissioned into the Regular Army as a Military Intelligence Officer with a branch detail in Field Artillery. His long-term goal is to work in government and raise a family. He has many favorite memories from ROTC including CTLT and CST. One of his most memorable moments was his sophomore year military ball, where cadets were unable to bring dates due to Covid-19 restrictions; it proved to be quite the experiment!

2LT Huynh
Second Lieutenant Rachel Huynh, originally from San Jose, California, graduated from Brown University with a degree in Food and Health in US American Society. She received an Education Delay in order to attend medical school at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine. Her long-term goal is to become an internist or bariatric surgeon supporting the psychological and nutritional health of Soldiers and their families. One of her most memorable ROTC experiences was finishing the 12-mile foot march at Air Assault School!

2LT Maselli
Second Lieutenant Gerilyn Maselli, originally from Raleigh, North Carolina, graduated from Brown University with a degree in International and Public Affairs with a track in Security. She commissioned into the Regular Army as a Military Intelligence Officer with a branch detail in the Infantry. As she reflects back on her time at the Patriot Battalion, her most memorable experience was her time in Germany at the US European Combatant Command. “I learned so much and had many valuable experiences.” Her long-term goal is to continue her service through diplomacy and building relationships with American allies and partners.
Patriot Battalion 2023 Commissioning Class

2LT Mason
Second Lieutenant Samuel “Sam” Mason, originally from Naugatuck, Connecticut, graduated from Providence College with a degree in Business Management and commissioned into the Connecticut Army National Guard as a Military Intelligence Officer. His most memorable ROTC experience was celebrating Military Ball with his friends during freshman year. It was a great welcome to the Patriot Battalion and strengthened a lot of friendships before the Covid-19 pandemic began. His long-term plan is to successfully balance military, civilian, and family affairs, and find fulfillment in each.

2LT Minnick
Know as one of Providence College’s strongest competitors for the Men’s Swim team, Second Lieutenant Liam Minnick, originally from Lake Tapps, Washington, graduated with a degree in Biology. He commissioned into the Regular Army as a Chemical Corps Officer and has strong aspirations to attend Ranger School. While reflecting upon his four years in the Patriot Battalion, his most memorable experience would be the Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) at Camp Edwards during his Sophomore year, “The weather was miserable, there are actually no words to describe how the wind and rain pierced and stung your skin. In an unsuspected way, the weather brought the members of our class and the Battalion together; new relationships were formed while existing relationships were undeniably strengthened.”

2LT Morrison
Second Lieutenant Carson Morrison, originally from Orlando, Florida, graduated from Bryant University with a degree in Communications and commissioned into the Active Component as a Field Artillery Officer. His long-term goal is to serve in the Army for as long as possible and then work in public service. His most memorable moment in ROTC was being able to go to Advance Camp with his best friend in the Battalion (former Cadet), Second Lieutenant Charles Hultman.

2LT Murray
Born and raised in Avon, Connecticut, Second Lieutenant William Murray graduated from Providence College with a degree in Business Economics and a minor in Finance. He proudly commissioned into the Regular Army as an Infantry Officer. With plans to attend graduate school, Cadet Murray is looking ahead to working in the Financial District after his time in the Army. Of the countless memories he has of his time in the Patriot Battalion his most memorable would be the opportunity he had to par-take in both a breachers and claymores course during CTLT, “they were both very loud!”
2LT Passauer
Originally from Covington, Louisiana, Second Lieutenant Ryne Passauer graduated from Providence College with a major in Political Science and minor in History. Ryne commissioned into the Chemical Corps and hopes to have a long-term career in public service within the Army or for other government agencies. His favorite memory in ROTC is the annual military ball that serves as an end-of-year celebration for the entire Battalion.

2LT Weston
Second Lieutenant Braeden Weston, originally from Smithfield, Rhode Island, graduated from Providence College with a degree in Business Management. He branched into the Regular Army as a Field Artillery Officer. His long-term goal is to have a happy family. His most memorable ROTC experience is getting his #1 choice on branch night.

2LT Wills
Originally from New Castle, Pennsylvania, Second Lieutenant Braiden Wills, commissioned into the U.S. Army Reserves as a Chemical Corps Officer after earning a bachelor’s degree in Health Policy & Management from Providence College. His most memorable ROTC experience was placing 4th in the annual 2nd BDE Ranger Challenge Competition (2022) and winning the ruck march event with his outstanding and motivated Ranger Challenge teammates. In the long term, he plans to become a licensed health insurance broker in the Boston area while serving in the Army Reserve.

Patriot Battalion Distinguished Military Graduates
The following newly commissioned Second Lieutenants distinguished themselves by meeting the standards in displaying outstanding qualities of leadership, high moral character, noteworthy academic achievement, superior camp performance, and exceptional aptitude for military service.

Charles Hultman, Brown University
Gerilyn Maselli, Brown University
William Murray, Providence College
Braiden Wills, Providence College
Hail and Farewell

We wish CPT Robert W. Powers II the best of luck and Godspeed as he says farewell to Providence College and the Patriot Battalion. He heads to Fort Liberty (formally known as Fort Bragg), North Carolina, for his next duty assignment as the Brigade S6 (Signal Officer) with the 82nd Airborne Division Artillery.

Captain Robert Powers received his commission through the Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke in 2008. He attended the Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Benning, GA and Fort Gordon, GA. Following his initial training, his first unit of assignment was 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA. There he served as a Joint Network Node Platoon Leader and Executive Officer in the Brigade Signal Company. While assigned as a platoon leader, he served 12 months in Mosul, Iraq in support of OPERATIONS IRAQI FREEDOM and NEW DAWN. Following his tour, he was reassigned to the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment as the Battalion Signal Officer. Shortly after, he deployed for nine months to Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, as a Special Operations Task Force Signal Center Director under Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan with 3rd and 5th Special Forces Group.

Upon leaving Fort Stewart and prior to his arrival to Providence College, his units of assignment include: Signal Captain Career Course (Fort Gordon, GA), Patriot Air Defense Artillery Regiment Signal Officer (Fort Bliss, TX), 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command G6 Operations Officer (Fort Bliss, TX) and Third Army (US Army Central) G6 Plans, Exercise, and Operations Officer at Shaw Air Force Base, SC. While serving at the Army Service Component Command for Southwest Asia, CPT Powers served as the Signal Operations and Exercise planner for nine months at the Forward Command Post in Camp Arifjan, Kuwait in support of OPERATIONS FREEDOM SENTINEL, INHERENT RESOLVE and SPARTAN SHIELD.

Upon his assignment to Providence College in the Summer of 2020, CPT Powers served as an Assistant Professor of Military Science and Battalion Executive Officer.

CPT Powers’ awards include: the Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Commendation Medal (Silver Oak Leaf cluster) and the Basic Army Instructor Badge.
Please Update Your Contact Information!

If you have not received correspondence via email (i.e., the Patriot Pride Newsletter [twice a year] or an invitation to the Military Ball) you may need to update your email address.

To do so, please email Ms. Donna Cairo at dcairo@providence.edu with the following information:

1. Your updated email address
2. The year you graduated / commissioned
3. Your current rank (or if you retired)

Please share this message with fellow classmates and alum to ensure it reaches everyone. Thank you!

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