Inaugural Fall Semester Edition

Thank you for taking the time and interest to review the first semi-annual newsletter proudly produced by the Georgia Military College ROTC Department Staff and Cadets. In this publication, we hope to provide Alumni, current Cadets, family, friends, college staff, and prospective future Cadet students a picture of past and future events at Georgia Military College. In addition, we would ask everyone to share this newsletter with anyone you may know that expresses interest in attending Georgia Military College and/or have them contact GMC’s Military Science Department for more information!

Find out more!

For additional information on the Army ROTC Early Commissioning Program, please see the Georgia Military College website at: www.gmc.cc.ga.us. Near the top, scroll over “Prospective Students,” and click on “Army ROTC.” Here, you will find a number links in the lower left that will provide information about the program, activities, newsletters, ROTC Applications process, list of Cadre and Staff, Contact Information, and more!

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Greetings from the Georgia Military College ROTC Department!

What an honor it is to be the Leader of this outstanding ROTC program and a member of the GMC Executive Team. My Family and I are truly blessed with this opportunity and since we first set foot on the campus last summer, we’ve been in awe. This Campus, our facilities, my Cadre, and the Staff and Faculty of GMC, all come together with a single purpose each day; to develop young leaders of character both for our Nation and its Army. What a great mission to have! The opportunity to professionally develop and train the next generation of officers is a challenge that the Cadre and I are excited about and take very seriously. Our greatest satisfaction is witnessing Cadets grow, learn and succeed in leadership and life. Whether it’s in the classroom, or at events like the Army Ten-Miler in Washington DC, Ranger Challenge at Fort Knox, KY, the Soldiers Marathon at Fort Benning, GA, or supporting Wounded Warriors our Cadets are getting out there and practicing their leadership. Our Cadets are what makes this program special.

Please enjoy the attached stories and pictures of our Cadets in Action this Fall!

From the Professor of Military Science: LTC Thomas Nelson

Leaders’ Training Camp (LTC) Summer Pre-Camp 2014

This summer’s Leaders’ Training Camp had 51 GMC/Mercer University students conducting training at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. Prior to attending LTC, the students participated in the annual mini-camp held at GMC over 5 1/2 days. Pictured above are LTC students with GMC President LTG (R) William Caldwell. Training at GMC included the Army Physical Fitness Test, the Army Swim Test, Rappelling, Physical Training, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, Land Navigation, Patrolling, and other Tactical Field Training.
The Battle of Chickamauga Staff Ride - Sept. 12-13, 2014

From September 12th-13th, GMC and Mercer University Cadets conducted a Staff Ride to the Battlefield of Chickamauga. This training focused on the historical application of leadership exercised by the commanding officers during the Civil War battle. Cadets were tasked to research and analyze specific aspects of the battle and in turn, recreated the tactics and discussed the leadership of the historic officers assigned to them. Time on site at the battlefield area included two days of lecture and open discussion over multiple contributing skirmish sites. The staff ride concluded with a cookout and social activities at the Catoosa National Guard training site. The lessons learned over the Chickamauga staff ride greatly prepared cadets for the upcoming challenges they will face this academic year in the 136th Corps of Cadets and throughout their future careers as leaders and Army officers.

Fort Benning Leadership Training Exercise — Sept. 30, 2014

As part of the ROTC curriculum, Cadets conduct training focused on refining the basic military skills they will be using as Leaders in the U.S. Army. This fall, first and second year Cadets traveled to Fort Benning, GA to increase their individual proficiency in Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Land Navigation, and negotiating the basic Obstacle Course. Over the two-day training event, GMC and Mercer University Cadets were challenged to qualify with the M-16A2 rifle, plot and find navigation points in the Georgia wilderness, bond as a team to negotiate climbing obstacles, and bivouac as Soldiers do.
On October 3, 2014 Army ROTC Early Commissioning Program Cadets were administered their Contracting Oath by GMC Cadre. The Contracting Oath is the first milestone in a Cadet’s career, signifying their demonstrated ability and commitment to serve as a future U.S. Army Officer. Pictured above is the first group taking the Oath for the 2014-2015 school year.

The History of Georgia Military College

Georgia Military College was established in 1879 by act of the Georgia General Assembly “to educate young men and women from the Middle Georgia area in an environment which fosters the qualities of good citizenship.”

The school was originally called Middle Georgia Military and Agricultural College and was ceded state government lands surrounding the Old Capitol Building, which was the seat of government for the State of Georgia from 1807-1868.

The Old Capitol Building, then as now, is central feature of the Milledgeville, Georgia campus and sits on the city’s highest point.

The name of the school was changed to Georgia Military College in 1900. Legislative acts of 1920 and 1922 severed the relationship with the University of Georgia and gave a local Board total power over the operations of the school.

In 1930 the official addition of a junior college division to the College-preparatory secondary school finally justified its name. In 1950 the War Department designated the institution a “Military Junior College.” Today Georgia Military College is one of only five United States Military Junior Colleges.

The Georgia Military College of today is made up of a two-year liberal arts multi-campus junior college and a preparatory school (grades 6-12). The college is a co-educational public institution operating under the direction of a publicly elected Board of Trustees.

GMC is one of five military junior colleges that participates in the U.S. Army’s Early Commissioning Program. Cadets who graduate from GMC’s two-year, military science-oriented curriculum receive an officer’s commission in the U.S. Army. Although GMC is a state funded institution, it is not part of the University System of Georgia or the Technical College System of Georgia. The junior college was established in 1879, and later added a preparatory school for students in sixth grade through twelfth grade.

-GMC website
Fall quarter, twenty six Cadets from the Old Capitol Guard Battalion competed in the annual Army Ten Miler race hosted in Washington, DC. The Cadets trained diligently in their teams for months leading up to the race and competed against over 80 other ROTC units and over 35,000 other runners, with the top team finishing 19th overall. Following the race, GMC Cadets were afforded the opportunity to tour the Nation’s Capitol, monuments, and museums. Additional events during the trip included attendance at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Conference and the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps luncheon hosted by the Commanding General of Cadet Command, BG Peggy Combs. Such an experience was rewarding for the Cadets and allowed them to experience the sights of Washington, DC and meet with their Cadet counterparts from around the Nation.

Every year, the GMC Corps of Cadets hosts Alumni Weekend in order to honor past graduates. This year’s Alumni Weekend included a tailgate, junior college football game, alumni parade, brunch, and dinner dance. Four distinguished alumni of the GMC ROTC Program were honored for valor as well as military and/or civilian achievement. Of these, four Active Duty Captains were honored by the alumni association with awards and grants in their honor to assist outstanding students with a scholarship grant.

The U.S. Army Silver Wings Parachute Team conducted an aerial demonstration by jumping into the GMC Prep School Football game — presenting the game ball to prior School President MG (R) Acker — and displaying the National Colors for the Nation Anthem.

Alumni Weekend - Oct. 25th, 2014

Top left: Alumni award recipients for Valor in combat, Top Middle/Right: Alumni Parade, Bottom Left: Alumni catching up with former mentors, Bottom Middle: Alumni Platoon, Bottom Right: Alumni Brunch
Wounded Warrior 10k Race - Oct. 25th, 2014

On Saturday October 25th, four teams comprised of GMC and Mercer University Cadets along with two Cadre competed in the Wounded Warrior 10k in scenic downtown Columbus, GA. The event was organized by the Big Dog Running Company of Columbus, and featured runners from across the country. The 10k route was demanding, with numerous uphill stretches along the backdrop of the Columbus Riverwalk. The “Old Capitol Guard Battalion” Cadets were well rewarded for their efforts, taking home numerous trophies and dog tag medals for their individual and team performances. Cadets that placed in the top ten: John Savage (2nd), Sam Moses (4th), Ariel Vasquez (5th), and Jourdan Ramirez-Pharr (8th). The Cadets were thrilled to run in support of such a worthy cause. The team trophy bearing the GMC/Mercer names will be displayed at the WTU on Fort Benning.

“The Cadets were thrilled to run in support of such a worthy cause!”

Internal Ranger Challenge — Nov. 6-9th, 2014

This year marked the opening of first annual GMC Ranger Challenge Competition, in which teams of nine GMC and Mercer University Cadets competed for the honor of taking home the Commander’s Trophy. Throughout the grueling 36-hour event, Cadets competed at over ten stations that tested their mental and physical toughness. Stations included a 10 km team ruck march, grenade assault course, land navigation, and Tactical Combat Causality Care. Event results allowed the Corps of Cadets finalize the participants who would go on to compete in the 1st BDE Bold Leader Challenge at Fort Knox, KY.
From November 5-9th, 2014 the Old Capitol Guard Battalion’s top team of 11 Cadets competed in the 1st Brigade Cadet Command Bold Leader Challenge (BLC) Competition held at Fort Knox, KY. The team was comprised of the top performing Cadets from the GMC internal Ranger Challenge held 26 – 27 October 2014. The event began on day 0 with refresher training in rappelling, grenades, and weapons knowledge. On day 1, the Cadets were tested on Land Navigation and conducted M-16A2 marksmanship testing in the form of a tactical shoot. Day 2, the team conducted an 11 mile round robin consisting of stations testing their abilities in rappelling, CBRN, grenade handling / grenade throw, tactical casualty combat care, and one-rope bridge set up; the day concluded with an Awards dinner and ceremony held by the 1st Brigade Commander and staff. Overall, the Old Capitol Guard Battalion team placed 2nd among the Military Junior Colleges and 6th overall against all military colleges and the Cadets look forward to next year’s competition.
As future officers in the United States Army, Cadets at GMC are trained and expected to maintain the highest standards of physical fitness. Pictured above are Cadets conducting the Army Physical Fitness Test.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cadets Report</td>
<td>2 January 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Day of Classes</td>
<td>7 January 2015</td>
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<td>6th BDE Ranger Challenge</td>
<td>22—25 January 2015</td>
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<td>Leadership Training Exercise</td>
<td>19—21 February 2015</td>
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<td>Winter Classes End</td>
<td>12 March 2015</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>16—20 March 2015</td>
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<td>Bataan Death March</td>
<td>21—23 March 2015</td>
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<td>Leadership Training Exercise</td>
<td>8—11 April 2015</td>
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<td>KU Ranger Challenge</td>
<td>17—19 April 2015</td>
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<td>Run Across Georgia</td>
<td>21—24 May 2015</td>
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<td>Commissioning</td>
<td>29 May 2015</td>
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<td>Graduation</td>
<td>29 May 2015</td>
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**GEORGIA MILITARY COLLEGE**
**MILITARY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**
**ARMY ROTC**

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www.gmc.cc.ga.us

**Share this Newsletter with Friends and Family!**

If you know someone who is interested in Army ROTC and has the potential to become a great Army Officer, please refer them to Georgia Military College.

Prospective Cadets can compete for an ROTC Scholarships that covers Tuition/Fees/Books and GMC provides a Performance Grant that covers Room/Board.

Call (478) 387-4931/0419 for more information or email rotc@gmc.cc.ga.us