

THE THUNDERBOLT

January 2013

592ND CADET WING

THE THUNDERBOLT STAFF

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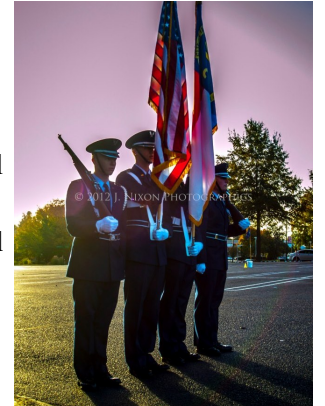
PHOTO OF THE MONTH (by Tyler Timms)

LOOKING BACK: FALL 2012 >>JEREMIAH SPURLOCK



GMC Takeover Week (Ian Lindstrom)

From the messy Dining-In to the mysterious Headquarters Inspection, a lot happened at Det. 592 in the Fall 2012 semester. We saw the incoming of a new Detachment Commander and witnessed the victorious return of the Field Trainees. We bonded as fellow cadets at Filter's Fantastic Fiesta and competed to see which Flight was the best. The GMC took over the Wing, showed the POC what they were made of, and together we led yet another highly successful 49er Drill Competition. The AS100s were introduced to a new IMT program, and FTP was revamped. When the results of the Detachment Inspection came in, we rose to the challenge and proved our flexibility. Together, we grew as a Detachment and are one step closer to those shiny butter bars!



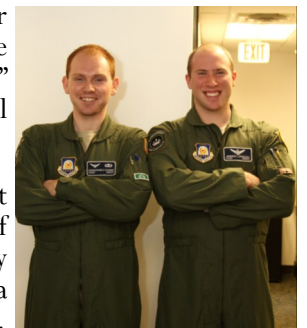
Drill Comp. Honor Guard (Nixon Photographics)

A CHANGE OF COMMAND >>MARVIS JOSEPH

A new year and a new semester yield a new Cadet Commander! The beginning of our Spring 13 semester here at 592 was officially marked by the Change of Command ceremony held at the first physical training session, on the 9th of January.

It is no secret to the Wing that Cadet Colonel Christopher Schmidt took over control of the Cadet wing, relieving our beloved Cadet Colonel Jeremiah Spurlock of command. "The best word to sum it (*the change of command*) up is: EXCITING!" said Mr. Schmidt during our mini interview held at Memorial Hall.

Our new Commander is well aware of the challenges that await his staff in taking over the supervision and training of Detachment 592's approximated one hundred and twenty cadets. Pros and Cons all taken in account "It's all fun and a learning experience filled with challenges and successes." Mr. Schmidt continues to say: "The biggest challenges are the best success and everyday has presented both so far". We wish you a much-anticipated success, Commander.



Cadets Schmidt and Spurlock (Ian Lindstrom)

TAKING THE OATH >>KIRA JOHN



*(Left to Right) Cadets Carey, Fisher, and Gratton
(Ian Lindstrom)*

At the beginning of the fall semester, every Air Force ROTC detachment sees the same event: all of the men and women who have returned from Field Training stand before the class to take the Oath and become Professional Officer Candidates. At the beginning of this spring semester, however, Detachment 592 saw three young cadets stand and take the pledge because they have set themselves apart and received an Air Force Scholarship. All POC receive a monthly stipend, but only scholarship cadets have full tuition coverage. Most fees will be taken care of, and the cadets are allowed a stipend with which to purchase textbooks.

In-college scholarships are awarded based on traits such as GPA, leadership skills, community involvement, physical fitness, and general standing. This semester, Detachment 592 has three cadets who met those qualifications: Cadets Carey, Fisher, and Gratton. Cadet Carey currently attends Davidson to study Political Science, although his desired career in the Air Force is to pilot the F-22 Raptor. In his spare time, he enjoys reading military encyclopedias, which will hopefully be useful in some way. Cadet Fisher is currently studying Mechanical Engineering in the hopes of becoming an engineer/pilot. He enjoys spending time with fellow cadets at events such as Jaeger's Bond, where he can be seen eating his favorite food: bacon, egg and cheese biscuits. Cadet Gratton is studying Criminal Justice and aspires to become an Air Battle Manager, a sensible choice which qualified him for the ABM Select scholarship. If he could have any superpower he would choose eternal life; a skill that would likely be beneficial for service in any of the armed forces.

FLIGHT COMPETITION >>CHRISTOPHER PITILLO

Cadet Meehan hurdles down the track towards the finish line. He's exhausted and beat down, but the cheers of his flight mates carry him onward, ever closer to victory. Just a few steps behind him, Cadet Williams forces out his last bit of willpower in an attempt to catch him. POC and GMC competing in a competition of strength and endurance, because here there are only two ranks in which the corps falls into: flights and foes. This is a race for glory, a test of each cadet to prove what flight reigns supreme. This is the Air Power Flight Competition.

Scenes like this are typical in the mornings as cadets strive to acquire the Air Power Points they crave. Be it through PT competition, inspections, general knowledge quizzes, and attendance, the Air Power Flight Competitions inspire camaraderie and esprit de corps throughout the flights here at Detachment 592 as each claws for their spot at the top. At the end of each semester only one can claim to be number one and get their inscription on the coveted commanders cup. The Bravo Bombers currently lead in the PT category with two out of two wins, followed closely behind by alpha flight. Don't let these standings discourage any of you other flights, though, because there's still plenty of time until the end of the semester and plenty of chances to overtake the lead!



Bravo Flight (Ian Lindstrom)

CADET LIFE

Jaeger's Bond >>Cecilio Suarez

This semester's Cadet Wing Executive Officer, Cadet Jaeger, has thus far done an outstanding job with the Thursday evening get-togethers, called Jaeger's Bonds. When Cadet Jaeger was asked what he enjoys best from the Jaeger's Bonds he said, "Seeing other cadets that I do not normally get to see throughout the week and getting to know other cadets. There are a lot of new faces around the detachment and attending the dinners is the best way to get to know people."



Intramurals >>Earl Gratton

Our intramural basketball team had its first victory this month against CJC, 51-28. AS100 Cadet Anderson proved to be the MVP of the game with a whopping 27 out of the 51 points scored by the team. Come out and support the team!

Arnold Air Society >>Earl Gratton

Arnold Air Society has just kicked off its candidate class for Spring 2013. The initial turnout was impressive, with 23 potential members. Candidates must now endure a 10 week process where they will be put through rigorous and mentally challenging scenarios. Cadets who show great leadership ability will be accepted into AAS.



Silver Wings >>Marvis Joseph

This semester, Silver Wings has been reinstated among the prestigious student organizations of DET 592. Sister society to Arnold Air, The National Society of Silver Wings has at its core: Service and the Professionalism of its members through their involvement in the 49er Community. Like our Neil A. Armstrong SW chapter on Facebook: www.facebook.com/SWatUNCC.

COMMANDER'S CORNER >> Shanttee Cunningham

INTERVIEW WITH THE COMMANDER



Lt. Col. Fitzgerald (Ian Lindstrom)

“What was your previous assignment?”: *“Part of the Air Staff A10. My job was Deputy Director for the Policy Division Planning and Strategy.”* This assignment focused on the Air Force’s nuclear mission, including creating nuclear policies and discussing nuclear projects with Congress.

“What was your favorite assignment?: Current assignment with Det 592.

“What did you think of the dining in?”: *“Had a blast.”* Although it was cold that day enjoyed every moment.

Cadet Caddell asks, “What would you like to change in Det 592?”: *“Nothing”* Not all things are perfect, however, the purpose of our learning is to help us develop. Changing anything would not help the cadets; change, instead, must be brought on by the cadets.

“Do you ever laugh at FTP when we cannot do some of the simplest things right?”: *“FTP is a great source of entertainment.”* However, it is nice to see all the cadets come out at 0600 with full motivation.

Cadet Donald asks, “What has been the most rewarding part of your experience with the United States Air Force?”: Working with the quality of people that you meet. Staying in a job with the Air Force is made more special with the people you share your experiences with.

Cadet Cunningham asks, “This question only works if you know Harry Potter but, if you could be sorted into Hogwarts, what house would you like to be in?”: *“[laughter]...I don’t know much about Harry Potter. I only watched the first movie”* However, after taking a quiz online, our Commander has been sorted into Hufflepuff!

ACTIVE DUTY >>Alette Pittman

SMSgt. Duffy is part of the 174th Security Forces Squadron at Hancock Field, Syracuse NY. As the NCOIC of Installation Security and Anti-Terrorism, he recommends and puts into effect all Security Policies involving Air Force resources. To help him achieve this mission, he has access to Intel reports from OSI, FBI fusion cells, DIA, CID, etc., analyzing current threats.

Interesting Experience: “Prior to my current duty station, I was stationed at Charleston AFB, SC as part of the Phoenix Raven program. Raven's work in two and four man teams providing security for the Aircraft and and its crew all over the world. Dressed in flight suits to blend in with air crew and armed with a 9mil and plenty more weapons on the C-17. Most of my missions were embassy runs all over Africa, Europe, and South America.”

Advice for Future Officers: “Have fun and experience as much as possible. The Air Force has a lot to offer... Nothing better than an Officer who listens to their troops and looks out for them. Respect is earned, not handed to you. Listen, defend, and treat your troops with respect and they'll follow you anywhere.”



BIRTHDAYS

(December-January)

Kailey Filter, 2 Dec

Kimberlie Kirkpatrick, 9 Dec

Jonathan Wright, 10 Dec

Christopher Pitillo, 16 Dec

Shanttee Cunningham, 17 Dec

Christopher Burke, 2 Dec

Wayne Turner, 6 Dec

Lance Harris, 9 Dec

Cecil Anderson, 29 Dec

Joseph Tompkins, 12 Jan

Tyler Tate, 20 Jan

Trevor King, 15 Jan