



# Sun Devil Battalion Newsletter

Fall 2015  
Issue 1 Vol. 2

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ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)  
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Sun Devil BN Cadets Volunteer at Healing Fields



By: Cadet Nicole Rodrigue

TEMPE, Arizona - Flags went up one by one, as volunteers from different backgrounds and generations united to give back to the community.

Over 150 cadets from Arizona State University's Sun Devil Battalion along with the Tempe Exchange Club, Tempe Fire Department, AFROTC, NROTC, and community members helped set up 3,000 flags around the Tempe Beach Park to pay tribute to the victims of 9-11 during this year's 12th annual Healing Field ceremony.

Smiles, laughs and words of encouragement were exchanged symbolizing hope for a better and stronger future.

Nostalgia filled the fields as the ceremony began at 6:02 am, which was the same time that the first tower was hit 14 years ago.

For Cadet Joseph Shryock, the ceremony served as a reminder of an event that happened when he was only four-years-old but greatly impacted his future.

"Events like these are important so that we never forget what happened and we understand why the war on terror exists."

As the ceremony came to a close, the names of the victims were read off leaving a heavy impact on those in attendance, such as Cadet Andrew Shiederer who stated, "Having the names read off made the ceremony a little more personal."



## Outstanding Cadets of the Month

In every Army formation, there are always Soldiers who stand out above their peers. As such, the Sun Devil Battalion Cadet Staff and Cadre will identify one or two Cadets each month who have far exceeded the standards and distinguished themselves amongst their peers. Over the last month, Cadets Jennifer Hobbs and Katalina Peterson have certainly distinguished themselves, and their performance up to this point places them among the best in our Battalion.

CDT Hobbs received the assignment of the S1 Officer over the summer prior to attending Cadet Leader Course (CLC). Following her completion of CLC,

CDT Hobbs displayed incredible initiative, commitment, and loyalty to the organization by working diligently during the summer to prepare the S1 shop for the daunting challenges ahead with the upcoming semester.

CDT Hobbs sought innovative ways to improve the personnel tracking process within the battalion, and spearheaded the establishment of a more effective reporting process.

Furthermore, she established and oversaw a robust leadership development program that calls on leaders within the Battalion to actively engage and develop younger Cadets.



*Cadet Jennifer Hobbs*

CDT Hobbs' performance as the Sun Devil Battalion S1 sets a great example for other Cadets in the Battalion to emulate.



*Cadet Peterson (Left) and Cadet Hobbs (Right) receive BN coin from LTC Weist for earning Cadet of the Month Honors.*

CDT Peterson exhibits all the traits of an outstanding cadet. She helps guide struggling cadets, sets the example, and takes initiative. She consistently excels on her PT tests with strong scores and always strives to become better. She attends Desert Rangers to increase her knowledge of tactics and her physical abilities.

CDT Peterson is a strong cadet within the classroom and consistently performs well during class time.

She is also the Color Guard Commander and leads upward of 50 cadets in Drill and Ceremony/Color Guard, a position that is usually held by senior Cadets.

Additionally, as the Color Guard Commander, she coordinates all of the Sun Devil Battalion's Color Guard events and supervises flag detail.

Overall, CDT Peterson is highly motivated, committed to the Battalion, and sets the example for other Cadets to follow well together. The goal is to have a team with seamless transition, while also allowing them the ability to instill the changes they believe will take the Sun Devil battalion to the next level.



*Cadet Katalina Peterson*



The two newest additions to the Sun Devil Battalion Newsletter are the Commander's Note and the Sergeant Major's Corner. These articles will allow the highest ranking Cadet Officer and Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer in the Battalion the opportunity to discuss how they feel the last month has gone.

## Commander's Note

Dear Sun Devil Battalion:

Over a month has gone by this semester and the Sun Devil Battalion continues to do great things across campus and in the Tempe community. By now, everyone should have already established a decent routine and grown accustomed to the battle rhythm within the battalion. As we all prepare for our transition from ROTC to commissioned service, be sure to consider the total Soldier concept by continuously developing in all aspects, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or spiritually. You will continue to be challenged to balance your academic, military, and personal lives and will be expected to perform well in each area. To the Cadets who have recently contracted, congratulations and welcome to the Army family! However, do not become complacent, you are always replaceable and there are people waiting in line to take your spot in the battalion. Work hard and have fun during your downtime, but do not forget that while you may be having fun there will always be someone else working hard and getting better while you're being unproductive. Most importantly, never forget that in this profession, we are held to the highest of standards and our appearance and performance is a direct reflection of our organization and the Soldiers who have preceded us.

Feel the Heat Sun Devils!

- Cadet Battalion Commander Gerald Prater



## Sergeant Major's Corner

To all Sun Devil BN Cadets and supporters of ASU Army ROTC:

I want to start by thanking everyone for making my first month as the Sergeant Major of the Battalion a successful one. For those of you that are not aware, we currently have the highest number of freshmen cadets in Sun Devil Battalion history with almost 55 new MSIs. With this influx of new cadets, our command staff and cadre worked on creating a new model to ensure these freshmen receive proper mentorship throughout their first year in the program. The new model assigns an MSIV squad leader to a rank of five or six freshmen. The squad leader is responsible for ensuring the development and education for these young cadets. So far, this model has been a major success, and our participation rate from MSIs has never been higher. As the Command Sergeant Major of the Sun Devil Battalion, it is my mission to ensure our junior level cadets are receiving the proper coaching, and mentorship.

Respectfully,

Cadet Command Sergeant Major Russell Davis



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## Upcoming Events

Color Guard at ASU vs. Colorado: October 10<sup>th</sup>, Sun Devil Stadium

Ranger Challenge Competition: October 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, Ft. Bliss, Texas

Fall Leadership Training Exercise: October 23<sup>rd</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup>, Papago Military Reservation

Salute to Service Football Game: October 29<sup>th</sup>, Sun Devil Stadium

## Mission Statement

*A Proud History, A Bright Future: Arizona State University's Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) recruits, educates, trains, and inspires cadets to become leaders of character, committed to the values of the United States Army and dedicated to a lifetime of selfless service to the Nation.*



**"FEEL THE HEAT!"**



**ARMY ROTC**  
LEADERS FOR LIFE