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Newsletter of the CCAC Issue 63 – July 2026



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By LTC Greg LeClair, Professor of Military Science

Mavericks – Spring 2026 semester has come to a close. The Maverick Battalion is sending nearly 30 cadets to CST26 this summer; looking further ahead, we'll be sending nearly double that number in CST27. Speaking of numbers – we just commissioned 10 new cadets at the beginning of May at a very impressive ceremony at the National Medal of Honor Museum. Congratulations to our very latest UTA alumni and Second Lieutenants. Furthermore, we have an impressive 70 new cadets programmed to join the Maverick and Comet Battalion in Fall Semester 2026. Through growth, we can trim back for higher caliber cadets with the highest quality attributes and competencies that are commensurate and necessary to lead America's sons and daughters.

We proudly hosted several guest speakers this semester. Notably, we enjoyed the presence of LTG Leslie Smith and LTG Edmond Brown. LTG Smith addressed Cadets and Faculty at our Leader's and Luminaries speaker series and LTG Brown was our guest speaker at our Spring Commissioning. Both leaders delivered remarks on the critical elements of character, trust, and relationship building – areas we can all agree an Army leader must master in order to build confidence and inspire others. Inspirational leadership draws from many things and it is the leader's responsibility to set the example and the environment for organizational success.

Great news: we have established a new military obstacle course on campus adjacent to Maverick Stadium. It has several obstacles that will prepare our cadets for Airborne, Air Assault, as well as Cadet Summer Training.

We've named it in honor of an important UTA alumni and lifetime member of CCAC – David H. Gaines. David is an exceptionally generous supporter of our program and his contributions will make an enduring impact to the Maverick Battalion for decades to come. Thank you so much David for your vision and reinvestment in your origins.

The Maverick Battalion hosted its 2nd Annual "Maverick Cup" joint athletic military competition. We hosted nearly 20 different Army, Marine, and Air Force JROTC programs at Maverick Stadium in a spirited athletic competition with several hundred attending. The HMMWV push and the litter-carry were grueling challenges.

(Continued next page.)



Built Together, Ready for Tomorrow

(continued)

Some teams came prepared and made it look easy. Maverick Cup is a 7-event military athletic competition and in the mid-day heat we could clearly identify what JROTC teams prioritize physical strength in their programs. Strength is critical in military leadership and there is no substitute for setting the example through presence and superior athletic performance. Certainly, events like Maverick Cup have fringe benefits to the program locally and micro-impacts to Army SROTC; but in a larger sense, it is an investment in our local community youth to continue their journey of character, encouraging young men and women to future service in any capacity, branch, corps, component, or service. If we are successful, and they are inspired, everybody wins and feels the reward. We don't care who gets the credit. That is what Maverick Cup is about and I hope to learn it continues on for many years to come.

Your inbound Professor of Military Science is LTC Rob Wilkins. He's just finished an Engineering Battalion Command at Fort Hood. He arrives this summer to take the program, together with MSG Mike Standridge, to the next level. They have the first ingredient in successful leadership – they care! I'm excited to see them extend the limits of progress and achieve new milestones for the Maverick Battalion. Buckle in gentlemen and welcome to the show.

What are the lyrics? "And the Army Goes Rolling Along," and indeed it does. It has been my absolute pleasure and thrill of a lifetime reinvesting in the profession of Army Officership here at The University of Texas at Arlington and the Maverick Battalion. The Army depends on ROTC programs like ours to provide some 80% of the officer cohort every year – incredible when you really think about that and how profound our mission is in producing Army leaders of strength and character. Leading and inspiring cadets in Army ROTC has really opened my eyes to the process and basic fundamentals of leadership in ways that, admittedly, I wish I had experienced myself long ago. To make quality cadets is really a trinity between Cadre, Cadets, and Alumni. Many thanks to all my cadre members over the last three years for making my life easier and pouring your experience, albeit with some patience, into producing the quality cadets of the Maverick Battalion. To the many Cadets that we've commissioned that are now officers out in the force, continue to do great things, and I'll see you in formation. Many thanks to the CCAC – such a critical component in the trinity. The value of the CCAC to the program's continuity is irreplaceable and you have my genuine thanks for your continued leadership. CCAC presence and contributions make an enormous impression on cadet development. For those of you that participate in the program on a regular basis, please know this: the impact of your investment, seen or unseen, is long lasting and makes a world of difference to these young cadets. Don't let up!

I'm headed back to the force for one last adventure. Thank you again for the opportunity to help shape the program and future Mavericks. God Bless you all my Brothers and Sisters in Arms. Strength and Honor. Mavericks Lead the Way.

Never forget – military training initially began at our institution when it was the Carlisle Military Academy. Since 1902, hundreds of outstanding young men and women have been prepared for service as officers in the U.S. Army as a result.

We are the legacy – past, present, and future. Mavericks Lead the Way!



Memorial Day Message

By BG (Ret) Ricky Gibbs, President of CCAC

Memorial Day is one of the most solemn national observances in the United States. Observed on the last Monday in May, it is a day set aside to honor men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who died while serving their country. While often associated with the start of summer, Memorial Day's true purpose is remembrance—of sacrifice, service, and the cost of freedom.

The Origins of Memorial Day

Memorial Day began in the aftermath of the American Civil War, the deadliest conflict in U.S. history. In 1868, General John A. Logan, commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued an order establishing "Decoration Day" as a time to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers and flags.

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Memorial Day Message

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“Memorial Day is specifically a day of mourning, reflection, and gratitude for lives lost in defense of the nation...”

The first national observance took place on May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery. Over time, communities across the nation adopted similar commemorations. After World War I, the observance expanded to honor Americans who died in all wars, not just the Civil War. In 1971, Congress officially designated Memorial Day as a federal holiday, moving its observance to the last Monday in May.

What Memorial Day Honors—and What It Does Not

Memorial Day is often confused with Veterans Day, but the two serve distinct purposes. Memorial Day honors those who died in military service, while Veterans Day honors all who have served, living or deceased. Memorial Day is specifically a day of mourning, reflection, and gratitude for lives lost in defense of the nation.

Traditions of Remembrance

Across the United States, Memorial Day is observed through a variety of traditions that emphasize honor and reflection. Families and volunteers place American flags and flowers on graves in national and local cemeteries. Parades, memorial services, and speeches are held in towns and cities nationwide. One of the most significant national observances is the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.



In addition, a National Moment of Remembrance takes place each year at 3:00 p.m. local time, encouraging Americans to pause for a minute of silence to honor the fallen and reflect on their sacrifice.

Why Memorial Day Still Matters Today

Memorial Day serves as a reminder that the freedoms enjoyed in the United States were not achieved without cost. Each name etched on a memorial represents a life cut short—sons and daughters, parents, friends—who made the ultimate sacrifice. Remembering them is an act of national gratitude and civic responsibility.

In a time when the realities of war can feel distant to many Americans, Memorial Day reconnects the present with the past. It encourages reflection not only on military history, but also on values such as duty, service, and sacrifice. By honoring the fallen, Americans affirm a commitment to remembering history honestly and respecting those who bore its greatest burdens.

Honoring Memorial Day with Purpose

Memorial Day can be observed meaningfully in simple ways: learning the stories of those who served, visiting a cemetery or memorial, thanking surviving families, or taking time for quiet reflection. While gatherings and celebrations may occur, understanding the day’s significance helps preserve its true spirit.

Ultimately, Memorial Day is not just about looking backward—it is about reaffirming the responsibility to remember. In honoring those who gave their lives, Americans renew a collective promise: that their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

I want wish all a happy and fun filled summer and wish luck and success to all the new 2LTs entering service this summer. God speed.



CCAC Scholarships

By Ken Smith, VP Finance

CCAC Members, we have reached a milestone in our Scholarship awards to Cadets. For the first time, we awarded this Spring Semester a total of \$15,000 to the Mav Battalion Cadre to pass on to deserving Cadets. Our Endowed Scholarship account has reached a Market Value over \$298,000 and Book Value over \$212,000 and a sustained Distribution over \$10,000 per year and could be higher depending on the market.

The **Welcome Back Orientation Lab will be Thursday, August 20th at College Park Center** where the new Cadre will hand out certificates and awards to Cadets among scholarships. We look forward to seeing Alumni Members at the Lab for meet and greet along with sharing a light meal. Mavs Lead the Way!



Cadet Corps Alumni Council Achieves 501(c)(3) Status

By Aaron Brown

The Cadet Corps Alumni Council (CCAC) is proud to announce that we have officially received recognition as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

This milestone marks an important step forward in the continued growth and long-term development of the CCAC. It strengthens our ability to support alumni engagement, preserve Corps history and traditions, and build a stronger foundation for future generations of cadets and alumni.

As a recognized 501(c)(3) organization, the Council can now receive tax-deductible charitable donations and pursue additional opportunities such as grants, corporate sponsorships, and nonprofit partnerships. These capabilities will help expand programs, strengthen alumni outreach, and support initiatives aligned with the organization's educational and charitable mission.

More importantly, this achievement positions the Council for long-term sustainability and growth. It reflects a commitment to building an enduring alumni organization focused on leadership, service, fellowship, and preserving the legacy of the Corps experience.

We thank all alumni and supporters who have contributed their time, effort, and vision toward helping the organization reach this important milestone. We look forward to continuing to strengthen the Corps alumni network for years to come.

2026 Hall of Honor Review

2026 was another amazing year for the Hall of Honor. Mark D. Martin and Stephen C. Smith were inducted into the Hall of Honor with all the ceremony and honor of the many who came before and the gratitude of those who will come after, as the Cadet Corps Alumni Council and the Military Science Department recognized them for their dedication and commitment. From welcoming speeches by UTA Provost Dr. Tamara Brown and Liberal Arts Dean Elizabeth Newman, to the cake cutting expertise of CCAC Alum COL (Ret) Charles Feuerbacher and CDT xxxxx, to the closing remarks by CCAC VP Ken Smith, the 46th Hall of Honor became part of the history of the Corps of Cadets.



Bunky Garonzik, CCAC President Ricky Gibbs, and HOH Inductee Stephen Smith



COL (Ret) Charles Feuerbacher and CDT xxxxx



The I Am A Maverick Team showing uniforms worn by soldiers from UTA and its precursor institutions.



CCAC President Ricky Gibbs with HOH Inductee Mark Martin



Current Sam Houston Rifle Cadet march under the watchful eye of Bunky Garonzik.



Sam Houston Rifle Alums from 1963. (L-R) James Tomlin, Gary Weber, Jerry Bob Houston, Stephen Smith, Theron Arrington.



Members of the Hall of Honor present at the 2026 Hall of Honor Ceremony:

Seated (L-R): Bunky Garonzik, Gary Weber, James Tomlin, Stephen Smith, Mark Martin, Ricky Gibbs, Charles Feuerbacher, Theron Arrington, and Jerry Bob Houston.

Standing (L-R): Ken Smith, Guy White, Larry Pink, Orlando Reyes, Jeanie Deakyne, Michael Morrow, Stan Thompson, Fred Campos, and Jerry Thomas

**SAVE
THE DATE**

2027 Military Science Hall of Honor

Ceremony and Luncheon

Saturday, March 6, 2027

10 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
Location To Be Announced

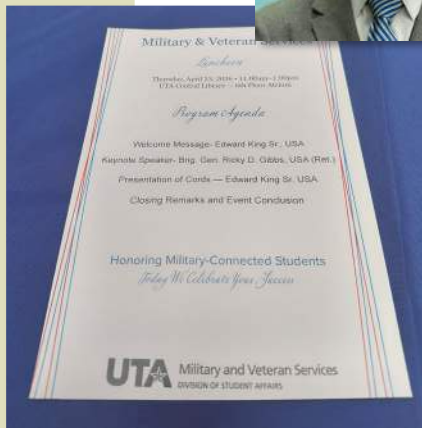
Veteran Services Luncheon



CCAC President Ricky Gibbs is the Guest Speaker for UTA Military and Veteran Services Luncheon on April 23, 2026.

The ceremony honors Military and Veterans of the Class of 2026. Ricky spoke on global experience, technical skills, never lose your drive, push for excellence, bring others along with you, be proud of your service, and show honor and integrity.

Dr Edward King, Military and Veteran Services Director, presented the class with their cords to wear at Graduation. Ken Smith also attended the event.



2026 Metal of Honor Parade

By Bunky Garonzik

The University of Texas at Arlington Military Science Sam Houston Rifles Alumni marched for the 18th time at the Medal of Honor Parade in Gainesville, TX on April 18.

It presented another opportunity to salute America's finest as we celebrate 250 years as a nation. While the weather seemed a bit nippy, and the ranks seemed to be a bit thinner, most of the regular attendees showed up.

As it turns out, other than the Military Academies, only two colleges have two or more recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, and the University of Texas at Arlington is one of the two. It is truly something to be proud of, and yet another reason to visit the MOH Museum in Arlington, which is rated best new museum in our nation. Special thanks goes to those alumni who came from out of town. We also had some additional vets attend the party at Sandra's Barn.

Ken Smith likes to keep a low profile, but the reality is, he and Sarah keep this organization going strong. We are looking forward to meeting the new PMS, and hopefully they will be one of the officers who can maintain the excellence of the Military Science Department at UTA.



L to R: David Andrews, Sam Barbaraia, and Axel Martinez



L to R: Steve Kennedy, Bunky Garonzik, Fred Campos, Ken Smith, Larry Pink, Orlando Reyes, Phil McEwan, Axel Martinez, Dave Andrews, and Sam Barbaraia.

Military Ball/Dining Out

By Ken Smith and Fred Campos

UTA Maverick Battalion hosted its Spring 2026 Military Ball at the UT Dallas Campus, Davidson-Gundy Alumni Center in Richardson, TX on Friday, May 1, 2006 starting at 1800.

The Roaring Rebel cannon from the Carlisle Cannon section fired an opening volley to begin the Ball, followed by remarks from LTC LeClair. This cannon will now reside at the Comet Battalion, UTD detachment for ongoing honors and events. Colors were presented by a joint UTA/UTD Cadet Color Guard and the National Anthem was sung by Stacy Wynette. Following that were traditional toasts and the Fallen Soldier Remembrance reading and silent toast.

MG Gary Bunch, Retired June 2012 from the U.S. Army Material Command as Assistant Deputy Commander gave the keynote address. His remarks highlighted his journey as an adopted German toddler along with his twin sister and subsequent acceptance at T&AM and graduation in 1976 with a BS in Zoology. NC. He is past Chairman and member of Rockwall Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors, past chairman and Commissioner of the Rockwall Housing Authority and an advisory Board member with Veterans Mortgage of America and the PJ Hammer Corporation.

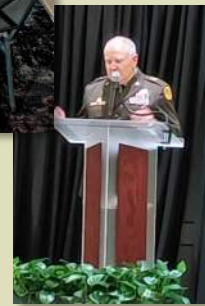
MG Bunch's remarks centered on mentorship, positive influence, even composure, and mistakes as a learning opportunities, his actions after loss of soldiers in his command while in Iraq, and remembering Veterans and the familial bonds that are made and sustained. MG Bunch was presented a crystal State of Texas plaque by LTC LeClair and 2LT Adkens.

Cadet awards followed and were:

Military Order of the World Wars; presented by COL (Ret) and UTA Professor Emeritus Jim Quick.



Fallen Soldiers Table



MG (Ret) Bunch from U.S. Army Material Command was keynote speaker.



2LT Lauren Adkens and LTC LeClair presenting the crystal State of Texas Speaker's plaque to MG Bunch.



Bronze: CDT Hannah Loether and CDT Makenzie Rosado



Silver: CDT Aviva Agho and CDT Christopher Ly



Military Ball/Dining Out (continued)



Gold: CDT Matthew Gasperini and CDT Kody Hogan (not shown)



Sons of the American Revolution: CDT Elijah Flood receives the award from LTC LeClair



Daughters of the American Revolution: CDT Eugenia Adjabeng receives the award from Cheryl Litke



Lauren Adkens, UTD Comet Battalion Commander, presented LTC LeClair with a departing gift.



LTC LeClair and MAJ Stevenson with their departing gifts.



Scottish Rite: CDT Simon Saberon and CDT Marvis Mosley



The grog ceremony, followed by several iterations, was finally deemed consumable by LTC LeClair. Cake cutting followed and then the floor was opened for dancing and camaraderie

2025 Winter Commissioning

The Winter Commissioning of 7 new LT's took place on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025 at the National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, TX.



L to R: USA Commission of 2LT Deon Rodrigues, 2LT Tope Oodo, 2LT Saurav Poudyal



L to R: 2LT Chinedum Akpeh, 2LT Faith Marie Akindayomi, 2 LT Issac Kim, 2 LT Andrew Herndon, and CPT Jake Jackson

2LT Saurav Poudyal

2LT Poudyal graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. 2LY Poudyal branched active duty Logistics and will attend the Basic officer leadership course at Fort Gregg-Adams, Virginia. 2LT Poudyal's wife, Shruchi Shrestha, will pin his rank on his uniform. 2LT Poudyal will receive his first salute from SGT Onchwati.



2LT Deon Rodrigues

2LT Rodrigues graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. 2LT Rodrigues branched active duty Military Intelligence and will attend the Basic Officer Leadership Course at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. 2LT Rodrigues' mother and father will pin his rank on his uniform. 2LT Rodrigues will receive his first salute from MSG Ross.



2LT Andrew Herndon

2LT Herndon graduated from Dallas Baptist University with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. 2LT Herndon branched National Guard Infantry and will attend Basic Officer Leadership Course at Fort Benning, Georgia. 2LT Herndon's mother and father will pin his rank on his uniform. 2LT Herndon will receive his first salute from A1C (Ret.) Meek.



2LT Herndon received the Battalion Outstanding Leadership Award, by the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), North Texas Chapter. Shown is 2LT Herndon receiving the award, which is a replica of a Roman Gladius sword, presented by COL (Ret) James P. Hogan on behalf of AUSA.



2025 Winter Commissioning (continued)

2LT Tope Oodo

2LT Oodo graduated from the University of Texas at Alington with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. 2LT Oodo branched active duty Nursing and will attend the Basic Officer Leadership course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. 2LT Oodo's mother and father will pin her rank on her uniform. 2LT Oodo will receive her first salute from SFC Middleton.



2LT Chinedum Akpeh

2LT Akpeh graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas with a Bachelor's Degree in Clinical Psychology. 2LT Akpeh branched National Guard Logistics and will attend the Basic Officer Leadership course at Fort Gregg-Adams, Virginia. 2LT Akpeh's father will pin his rank on his uniform. 2LT Akpeh will receive his first salute from SGT Reddy.



2LT Faith Marie Akindayomi

2LT Akindayomi graduated from the University of Texas at Alington with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications. 2LT Akindayomi branched National Guard and is pending her branch results. 2LT Akindayomi's sister will pin her rank on her uniform. 2LT Akindayomi will receive her first salute from SFC Kuchelmeister.



2LT Isaac Kim

2LT Kim graduated from the University of Texas at Alington with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. 2LT Kim branched National Guard Engineers and will attend the Basic Officer Leadership course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. 2LT Kim's mother and father will pin his rank on his uniform. 2LT Kim will receive his first salute from PO2 Morales.



Results of Executive Committee Election

CCAC Officer elections for the Executive Committee were held in April. Notices were sent out to all CCAC members for nominations for the Committee in early April, and then a ballot was sent out for a vote later in the month. Thanks to more than 25% of the 220 members who responded (best response yet!), we have a new slate of officers until April 2028. The Executive Committee and the duties for each position according to CCAC bylaws are listed below:

President – Ricky Gibbs

Past President – Jerry Bob Houston

VP Finance – Ken Smith

VP Hall of Honor – Position Empty (Ken Smith will step in)

VP Membership – Aaron Brown

VP Communications – Aaron Brown

VP Development – Imran Khan

VP Marketing – Position empty

Historian – Mark Latham

Chaplain – Steve Kennedy

Members at Large – Bunky Garonzik (Senior Advisor)

Paul Faidley

Lora Rimmer

Art Cleveland

Mike Morrow

Secretary/Treas – Sarah Nahhas



*Several of last year's Executive Committee with their CCAC Challenge medals.
L to R: Bunky Garonzik, Mike Morrow, Ricky Gibbs, Jerry Bob Houston,
Steve Kennedy, and Sarah Nahhas*

Results of Executive Committee Election (continued)

CCAC Executive Committee positions and duties:

President—Provides executive and administrative leadership and serves as the liaison between the Military Science Department and the CCAC.

Past President—Provides provide counsel, guidance, and training to the new President, as well as fulfill any tasks or roles assigned by the President.

Vice President, Membership—Responsible for planning and executing campaigns to boost membership.

Vice President, Hall of Honor—Solicits nominations and chairs the selection committee for Hall of Honor inductees and organizes the Hall of Honor.

Vice President, Communications—Responsible for production of the CCAC's newsletter three times a year (January, May, and September) and content and editing of the CCAC website.

Vice President, Marketing—Responsible for PR, advertising, and marketing activities.

Vice President, Development—Responsible for programs to raise money for the Cadet Corps Endowed Scholarship Fund and oversight for the fund.

Vice President, Finance—Reviews the CCAC finances and takes part in the annual audit of CCAC's accounts.

Secretary—Responsible for maintaining CCAC files and records.

Historian—Responsible to the President to help maintain history and traditions of the Corps.

Chaplain—Responsible for the spiritual and ethical guidance of the Chapter.

Member-At-Large—Responsible for attending Executive Board Meetings and will represent the membership of the CCAC as a voting member of the Executive Board. Will work with VPs as committee members to learn the duties required and aide in the execution of those duties. Will work with VPs as committee members to learn the duties required and aide in the execution of those duties.



The First Meeting of the New Executive Committee will take place:

**Thursday,
August 20, 2026
at 10 a.m.**

In the Alumni Conference Room,
University Center on the UTA campus.

More information on Building, location, room number, and best parking for the Executive Committee will be sent out in August.

**The Maverick Welcome
Back event**

will take place shortly after the meeting, and alumni are invited to attend.

More Info to Come!

A Short History of the Sam Houston Rifles

Research By LTC (Ret) Mark B. Latham

The Sam Houston Rifles began as the "Crack Platoon" was formed in the fall of 1924 out of the Cadet Corps of North Texas Agricultural College. The team was later to provide competition for John Tarleton State College at the Fort Worth Stock Show and Exposition. It was during this competition, in 1933, that the team took its first trophy.



In 1935, following their third straight defeat, Tarleton withdrew from competition. The Crack Platoon now had to settle for exhibition drills, which were not infrequent as the teams fame spread. In March of 1937, the name Sam Houston Rifles was adopted, and their typical drill schedule included parades and honor guards throughout northern Texas and exhibition drills at the State Fair of Texas and the Fort Worth Stock Show.

In 1942, when the United States entered into World War II, the Sam Houston Rifles Drill Team was disbanded by unanimous vote of the members, to answer the call to arms. In 1947 the war was over and those who returned re-established the old Sam Houston Rifles. In 1950, remembering the sacrifices and ideals of their forerunners, the Sam Houston Rifles Constitution was drafted by the team. Also that year, the Houston family shield with crossed rifles was adopted as the official crest, and the nickname "Jodies" was attached to the popular unit.

The team performed in Fort Worth, Dallas, and other cities in northern Texas. The Jodies also performed at the Presidential Inaugural of 1957, the Junior Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, Mardi Gras in New Orleans, the Cotton Bowl Parade in Dallas, the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington D.C., and in such Texas cities as Laredo, Galveston, San Antonio, Tyler, Corpus Christi, and Lubbock.



Continued on next page.

*Sam Houston Rifles Combined Task Force, UTA,
Gainesville Medal of Honor Parade, 2017*

A Short History of the Sam Houston Rifles

(continued)

For decades it has been a normal sight to find the leadership in the corps of cadets proudly wearing the black and gold cord of the SHR. Today is no exception. There is a long and distinguished line of those who have earned membership in the leadership laboratory that is the Jodies. It was through building high performing organizations like the SHR, as well as the Rifle and Pistol Teams, the Insurgent Team, and others, that cadets learned about leadership, character, and how to build high performing organizations. These "teams" provided a lasting foundation of leadership skills that endured in an ever-changing environment.

For those of us who selected the military as a career, we found organizational change and evolving doctrine and tactics the norm. The constant in all of this was leadership and the requirement to build a winning team of teams. This same skill set proved invaluable to those both in and out of uniform.



Sam Houston Rifles, NTAC 1930s



Sam Houston Rifles, ASC, 1950s



Sam Houston Rifles, ASC, 1950s



Sam Houston Rifles, ASC, 1960s



1st Bn, 15th Infantry Drill Team, 3rd ID, Winner of Marine Day Drill Competition, using Jody Drill, M-16A1s and fixed bayonets, 1977



Sam Houston Rifles, ASC, 1960s



Sam Houston Rifles, UTA Dallas Veterans Day Parade, 2016



Sam Houston Rifles Alumni Task Force, Gainesville Medal of Honor Parade, 2016

2026 Spring Commissioning

UTA Commissioned eleven new 2LTS on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at the National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, TX. Eight officers were from UTA, and 3 from Dallas Baptist. LTC LeClair, officiating over his last commissioning, read the Oath of Office to nine Officers; and CPT Jackson, TX ARNG, read the State Oath of Office to two Officers.

New officers are:

- 2LT Adjabeng, Nurse Corps Active Duty
- 2LT Bentley, Nurse Corps Active Duty
- 2LT Fain, Military Police USAR; 2 LT Flood, Infantry Active Duty
- 2LT Mosely, Engineer USAR
- 2LT Negrete-Valley, Nurse Corps Active Duty
- 2LT Ngethe, Medical Service Active Duty
- 2LT Onchwati, Logistics Active Duty
- 2 LT Ortiz, Nurse Corps Active Duty

TX National Guard Officers are:

- 2LT Shumake, Infantry
- 2LT Stiftinger, Military intelligence

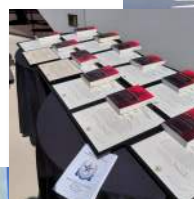
LTC Edmond Brown, Acting Commander of US Army Transformation and Training Command (newly-combined US Army Transformation Command and US Army TRADOC) was the guest speaker and was brief in his remarks, as directed by his wife, in his comments. He emphasized seven points supporting:

Be All You Can Be; Be Humble; Be Kind; Be Honest; Be Brief; Be Curious; Be Excellent; Be Authentic.

LTC LeClair and CPT Callahan presented a crystal State of Texas plaque on behalf of the Maverick Battalion.

Alumni Fred Campos, Steve Kennedy and Ken Smith attended on behalf of the CCAC. Friend of the CCAC and Maverick Battalion, COL, Retired SC, Bob Bedell was also present.

Each 2LT was gifted the book Red Platoon to add/start their Military Reading Collection. Additionally, 2LT Mosely was gifted the AUSA Outstanding Cadet for Leadership Award, a replica Roman Gladius by local Chapter representative, COL (Ret) Hogan.



Membership

Currently, our membership consists of 205 Life Members and 15 two-year members.

If you are not a full-time member, please consider becoming one this year!

Head over to this link for membership information:

<https://cadetcorps.org/Join-us>.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns re: membership, at jrabrown@gmail.com.

CCAC Life Members

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Christopher Ambrosio | Charlotte Darrah | William P. Jones | Laura Pavlik | Kevin R. Smith |
| Cecil T. Anderson | Anthony F. Daskevich II | Ashley Kaestner | Hannah Peoples | John W. Sone |
| Christopher Anderson | Archie P. Davis III | Steve Kennedy | Sergio R. Perales | William C. Sonricker |
| David J. Anderson | Jean A. Deakyne | Jimmie A. Kepler | Bill R. Phillips | Bernardino L. Sosa-Roldan |
| Nathan Arauco | Ricardo F. Diaz | Imran Khan | Claudia M. Pink | John J. Soules |
| Theron R. Arrington | Mark A. Dickens | John B. Kidd | Larry D. Pink | Mark C. Stevens |
| Amanda Augustine | James L. Doty III | Gaylon L. King | Billy B. Pinkerton | Donald J. Stevenson |
| William Barnett | Scott A. Downey | Brittney Lamb | Steven Porter | Shannon Swenson |
| Raymond F. Beall | Eddie Drain | Mark B. Latham | Clarence W. Potter | Joe Billy Swift |
| John T. Bell | Henry A. Dufeau | Rex H. Latham | Alma Pressley-Pellegrini | Robert M. Tarbet |
| Paul E. Berg | Al Ellis | Willard Latham | R. Zack Prince | Betty A. Thomas |
| Jonathan J. Bevill | Paul S. Faidley | Jorge Lemus | Carlos Quijas | Jerry W. Thomas |
| Jody L. Bills | Charles E. Feuerbacher | Joe Lopez, Jr. | Christopher Rainsberger | Edward H. Thompson |
| Barry N. Birdwell | Michael John Francis | Joe Lopez, Sr. | Mark Rasins, Sr. | Stanley I. Thompson |
| Billy J. Blankenship | Daniel L. French | Roger C. Lowe | Jimmie A. Redden | Randy J. Threet |
| Charles Blumenfeld | David H. Gaines | Mikio E. Ludwig | Thomas V. Remediz | Susan M. Tillotson |
| Lance Bobinski | Antonio C. Garcia | Mark D. Martin | Ronald M. Rendleman | Annette Davenport Tomlin |
| Bryan E. Bolt | Allan Garonzik | Axel Martinez | Orlando L. Reyes | James E. Tomlin |
| Caroline Boutelant | George B. Garrett | Robert D. Matkin | William C. Riggs | Scott A. Townsend |
| Cornelius Brady | Brian M. Gellman | Norman L. Matthews | Lora A. Rimmer | Gregory R Trnka |
| Ernest L. Brister | Justin Gerron | E. Ronelle McAbee | RC Roark | Elmus S. Ussery |
| Wyatt A. Britten | Sheldon J. Gerron | Gary H. McBride | Barry Robinson | Barbara Vogl |
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Where Are You Now? Send a Greeting!

By Bunky Garonzik

The Military has a way to separate friends by location, time, distance, and assignments. Some years ago, we had a “Where Are They Now” article in our Newsletter—the Reveille. And that gave our members an opportunity to catch up with old buddies and classmates.

A couple of issues ago, I asked alumni to write in and “reconnect.” We asked our members to simply drop us a short note on “What’s Up.” Of course, we didn’t get a response from everyone, but we got so many great responses. Now we’re running the plan up the flagpole again, so hopefully we will hear from you.

Write and tell us where you are now. Send your name, where you are, what you’re doing, or just generally say “Hi!”

It’s one way to connect time, distance, and memories. Pretty sure most of our members would like to hear from you.

Send your greetings to Bunky at bunkyg5@verizon.net

Or Sarah at snahas@decisionanalyst.com



Cadet Corps Alumni Council (CCAC)

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The Cadet Corps Alumni Council (CCAC) has a twofold mission:

First, to support The University of Texas at Arlington’s (UTA) Military Science program and enable it to continue developing outstanding future leaders of the U.S. Army.

Second, to facilitate comradeship and communication among Military Science alumni across the decades and recognize their service and achievements.