



# COMMANDANT'S CHAT

4 December 2008

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7 & 14 Dec: Mother/Son Mass-Brunch
- 8 Dec: Archbishop visit, Mass
- 15 Dec: Mass
- 16-19 Dec: Finals
- 22 Dec – 4 Jan: Break
- 6 Jan: Out of Uniform (selected cadets), Epiphany
- 16 Jan: Junior Officer Applications Due

## 2008 – 2009 Command Team Selected...

- Congrats to **C/COL J. Szymanski** and his subordinate leaders:
- C/LTC T. Caturia** – BDE XO
- C/LTC R. Muellerleile** – Chief of Staff
- C/LTC D. Ayotte** – Blue Bn Cdr
- C/LTC R. Robinson** – White Bn Cdr
- C/LTC M. Baer** – Gold Bn Cdr

Each year this is a difficult selection process. The Class of 2009 has many superb leaders.

## SO WHAT ARE THESE NEWLY APPOINTED LEADERS RESPONSIBLE FOR??

Promotions are not simply a reward for past accomplishments; they are functional positions with critical performance objectives. They include, but are not limited to:

1. The overall discipline and appearance of the STA Cadet Corps.
2. Planning and completing the cadet incentive program.
3. Plan and develop a training plan for the BFI.
4. Successfully execute the BFI.
5. Producing a STA Command Briefing and brief as required.
6. Assisting in alumni functions.
7. Planning, developing, and implementing a process to select JOs for the 2009-10 SY.

8. Train and execute the Mother's Review.
9. Plan and execute the end-of-year military awards ceremony.
10. Administer and manage the STA Corps performance counseling program.
11. Manage and develop the Senior Mentorship program.

## JUNIOR OFFICER APPLICATIONS...

We are starting the process to select the Classes of 2009/10 STA Cadet officer leaders. Applications will be distributed in LET Class before Christmas break. Juniors must turn in their completed applications through their company chain of command by 16 Jan. The selection process, led by seniors, is quite extensive and culminates with a final interview board in late April.

## DO IT! APPLY!

I strongly recommend that all juniors participate in the JO process. Whether you are selected or not, it provides valuable experience in preparation and execution of the interview process. This will pay huge dividends during potential college and work interviews. **Seniors who do not apply will not hold higher-level leadership positions.**

## OVERCOATS

To reiterate... all freshman and sophomore cadets are required to wear the black STA coat or a letter jacket when outdoors. Those who do not or wear another form of jacket will receive demerits. The new hockey coat is **not** a substitute for the black overcoat.

## ...and they return!!!

Each year it is enjoyable to see the many recent alumni return for Thanksgiving and the Cadet Colonel promotions. I would like to mention

just a few who stopped by: **Cadets Mark Mataczyski '08, Nate Schwartzbauer '08**, at the Air Force Academy and West Point. **Cadet Ben Munkittrick '08** at Norwich University. (As you might guess, these graduates did not need haircuts!)

## Marksmanship Training....

During this semester, freshman and sophomore cadets have the opportunity during study hall, health class, or after school to receive marksmanship training and obtain an Army qualification badge. Marksmanship training is a superb way for cadets to learn mental discipline, control and focus. It is a sport where the shooter learns to use the mind to control the body. Each cadet will receive safety training prior to shooting and qualifying. Cadets use a precision sport pellet rifle for shooting.

## HOOAH is awarded to:

- Cadet J. DeMay '09** for obtaining his Eagle Scout!
- The **former STA Cadet Colonels** for attending the promotion ceremony...an impressive group of leaders!
- The Mothers' Club, Taher staff, Mary Culbertson, John Geroux, and the STA facilities crew** for helping with the Cadet Colonel ceremony!

## Military Logic ...

"Never tell the Sergeant you have nothing to do."

"The easy way is always mined."

"If it's stupid but works, it isn't stupid."

## MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide the STA community periodic updates of current events within the Corps of Cadets and the STA Military program. Send questions, comments, and/or good news to Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Michael P. DePuglio, United States Army, Commandant.

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...See you on the high ground!