From the Professor of Military Science

Alumni, Family, Friends and Cadets of the Northwoods SROTC Detachment,
Wow - what a blur the last year has been with all of the changes to Army ROTC and the Northwoods Detachment! As I stated in the last newsletter, the shift of focus from the juniors and LDAC to our seniors is no small task. Cadets, Cadre, and staff should be proud of their efforts this year.

As we close out the year and say goodbye to another set of seniors, we also have to say good-bye to some of our Cadre. This summer we will say goodbye to my right hand man and our senior enlisted advisor, MSG Ivan Johnson. MSG Johnson will be PCSing to Germany and we will miss his calm demeanor, his unique way of bringing any conversation back to the topic of food, and his outstanding mentorship of Cadets and Cadre. We are also losing our WIARNG APMS at UWEC, MAJ Dan Walsh. Dan will be leaving us to take another position with the WIARNG. We cannot say enough about his efforts to grow the program over at UWEC and will miss all of his “war stories” about his “good ‘ol days” in the guard. We wish both of these professionals the best of luck as they continue to serve our nation.

I will end as I always do, asking for your support of the program. The future of this program is tied directly to the officers it produces and their willingness to support the program after graduation. I ask you to consider a small donation to help strengthen this program. We have begun the initial planning for what we are tentatively calling our Hall of Fame, another area where your contributions are sorely needed. Can’t send money? Your experience and expertise is just what we are looking for! Mentoring is the mark of a good leader. Contact me at pindellk@uwstout.edu to discuss how you can provide valuable support to the program.

Finally, as I reflect on the last two years and contemplate my upcoming last year, I am still so proud to be a part of the Northwoods. This is a special place with special people and it has been my honor to serve alongside the future of our Army. Until next time, Northwoods!

K. Dave Pindell
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2015 Spring Commissioning

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Congratulations to these 2LTs and welcome to the ranks of the Northwoods alumni!
Spring Things:
Battalion Training Overview

As the first training event in the spring semester, the Northwood Battalion conducted its annual Military Ball. The Military Ball serves as an opportunity for all of the Cadets to experience a more formal side of the Army. UW-Stout’s Chancellor Bob Meyer was the guest speaker and congratulated the program for its production of outstanding individuals. After the speeches, awards, fine dining, and dancing followed. It was yet another successful Military Ball.

Next, Cadets of the NW BN traveled to Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to compete in the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency on March 27-29, 2015. Over 106 cadets strived for gold, silver, and bronze awards. Events included Flexed Arm Hang, 11 x 10 Meter Sprint, 1100 Meter Run, First Aid Test, Pistol Qualification, 100 Meter Swim, and Road March. All 11 competing Cadets earned the coveted GAFB-MP badge!

The NW BN supported and participated in the planning, resourcing and conducting of the Combined Leadership Development Exercise (CLDX) from 09-12 APR 15 at Fort McCoy, WI, to prepare MS IVs (seniors) and MS III (juniors) for the leadership decisions they may face and give them an opportunity to exercise their critical thinking skills in a tactical environment. This training consisted of individual Cadets being divided up into platoons and squads with several other Cadets from other WI Universities and fill key positions of leadership throughout the 3 day training event. The focus of training was to develop the MS IVs and MS III’s.

A week after the CLDX, Cadets from UW- Eau Claire, Stout, and River Falls came together at the Cadott School Forest for the Individual Leadership Training Exercise (ILTX). The three day training event focused on Patrol Base Operations, Area Recons, Reaction to Contact, and the final event, “capture the flag” paintball. Cadets of every level participated in developmental training and were present for the first Cadet Hail and Farewell. Around a campfire on the last night of training, SY14-15 newly contracted Cadets were acknowledged for joining the program and the MSIV’s gave impromptu speeches about their battle buddies.
Battalion Training Overview (continued)

The semester ended for the MS IVs with the ROTC staff ride. The staff ride is the MSIV capstone event that fosters esprit de corps among the graduating seniors and the Cadre who embark on the adventure. This year’s staff ride and battle analysis focused on the Battle of Tippecanoe. The MS IV’s conducted hours of research and a one hour presentation on the battle, key leaders, motives of each participating side, and the lessons learned. The battle site is in present-day Lafayette Indiana, which is an eight hour drive from the Northwoods footprint. Along the way, the Cadets and Cadre stopped at the memorable Fasanos restaurant, located on the west side of Chicago, where many calories and trans fats were consumed. From there, the group left for the iconic landmark of Prophet’s Rock, which is a hill that the Native American leader used as a watch point during the battle. The Cadets and Cadre reflected upon readings and analyzed the area with a military eye. Next, the group moved westward to Prophet’s Town, where readings and analysis continued. Cadets were able to conceptualize the movements of the Native Americans on the day of the battle and better grasp the distances associated with the plan of attack.

Day 2 of the Staff Ride involved a fun run in the morning of roughly 3.5 miles. After PT, the MSIVs conducted the actual battle analysis portion of the Staff Ride. The battle site is perfectly preserved and gave a true overview of where hundreds of soldiers had posted 200 years earlier. Cadets read vignettes and historical literature assigned to specific points in the battle. Upon completion of the Staff Ride, Cadets left the battle site with a firmer understanding of the movements and the mental agility of the key leaders involved in the battle.

The success of this semester’s events can be attributed to the first annual Planning Conference that was held in January 2015 before the semester began. MS IV Cadets and Cadre met at the UW- Eau Claire for two days to develop orders and plan the semester. Cadets were able to meet and discuss events with Cadre and the MS IV’s who held their c/BN positions the previous semester.

The final event of the semester was the Northwoods Battalion spring commissioning ceremony at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. On 23 May 2015, the NW BN commissioned Second Lieutenants Alden, Carter, Mataczynski, Oldenberg, Olson, Thompson, Wanek and Widder. We wish them all the best of luck in their future Army careers.
NW BN Featured Alumnus:
1LT Tim Nelson

Second Lieutenant Tim Nelson is a May 2013 graduate of UW-Stout and commissioned August 2013. 2LT Nelson is an Active Duty Armor officer stationed in Fort Riley Kansas and was assigned to D Co, 2-34 AR, 1 ABCT, 1 ID. “Within three weeks I was sent to Kuwait to meet my unit, and took a platoon the day I arrived in Kuwait in November 2014. I deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Enduring Freedom where we Trained, Advised, and Assisted the Iraqi Army in preparation for their fight with ISIS.” LT Nelson has had an eventful career in the army thus far, and has completed courses such as: Army Reconnaissance Course April 2014 - June 2014, graduated Army Ranger School from June 2014 - August 2014, and Airborne School in September 2014.

Hails/Farewells:

**Hail- CPT Justin**, will be working at UW-Stout as the new APMS. CPT Justin is an Active Duty Engineer Officer and brings a lot of experience to the program. We are delighted to have him here and look forward to working with him.

**Farewell- MSG Johnson**- has served as the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the ROTC program and has acted as UW-Stout’s MSI. MSG will PCS back to Germany in August 2015.

**Joy Evenson**- has been working at UW-Stout for 34 years and has held multiple positions. Mrs. Evenson retires as the Department Program Associate for the Military Science Department after 8 years.

**MAJ Walsh**- leaves as the APMS at UW-Eau Claire after 2 years. He will continue to serve in the Wisconsin ARNG full-time as a Lieutenant Colonel and dual-status technician at the 426 Leadership Regiment at Fort McCoy, WI.

ALL ALUMNI - The Northwoods Alumni Program is in its early stages and we need your help. You can help us in one of three ways. The first is to update your contact information so we have a way to contact you. The second is to reach out to other alumni in your year group and have them provide us with their contact information. The final way is to consider donating to our program. Although money would be nice, we do not currently have a centralized method of receiving your funding. UW-Stout alumni can continue to send money to us via the Stout Foundation, however, I am hesitant to ask UW-River Falls and UW-Eau Claire alumni to do so until we get approval for a centralized fund that can be distributed to any student in our battalion, regardless of university. Therefore, what we are looking for right now is for you to donate your time to mentor a current Cadet or provide us an update so we can highlight your accomplishments in our next newsletter. To update your contact information, to volunteer to mentor a Cadet, or if you have questions related to the Alumni program, please contact Jared Siverling at siverlingj@uwstout.edu or 715-308-0512.
Blue Devil Company  
UW-Stout

The Blue Devil Company saw many changes in response to Cadet Command’s training focus shift from MS IIIs to MS IVs. The Company worked hard to adapt to the challenges that accompanied these changes. There was a larger focus on preparing MS IVs to serve the Army as Second Lieutenants and increasing their development as leaders. This semester, the MS IV’s worked hard planning and executing all of the Northwoods Battalion events. They also continued to dominate their academic studies, ensuring they learn as much as they can prior to commissioning. Despite all of the new changes, the MS III Cadets are still getting plenty of training, as they worked hard to plan and execute weekly leadership labs and physical training sessions. This semester also saw the implementation of a new virtual classroom concept. The MS IIIs from River Falls attended class at Stout one week a month, and virtually participated from River Falls the rest of the time. Overall, this system was a success. Marquette University hosted this semester’s CLDX at Fort McCoy, offering MS IIIs and IVs great training opportunities. All MS IIIs and IVs held leadership positions in either a garrison or tactical environment at this event. Like CLDX, all training events at UW – Stout were great learning experiences due to the effort put forth by the Cadets of Blue Devil Company. Finally, we are excited to welcome MSIIIs Ben Beyer and Willy Elliott into the ranks of the Stout contracted Cadets, both of whom are looking forward to their MS III year. Blue Devils!

Notes from CPT. Nathan Justin (UW-Stout APMS):

My first semester as the Assistant Professor of Military Science at UW-Stout saw the Cadets of the Blue Devil Company continuing to grow amid constant changes and uncertainty. Cadet Command’s Bold Transformation initiative significantly changed the expectations of our Cadets, and their ability to adapt and dominate the environment was remarkable. This semester saw Cadets planning complex leadership labs they never experienced before, incorporating critical thinking and objectives based training into their plans. Four of our Cadets earned the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency: Benjamin Beyer, Kyle Hoefft, Nathan Turner, and Daniel McGlew. Preparation for the new Cadet Leader Course (formerly LDAC) was intense, as training events were focused on thinking through the tactical problem and understanding why we make the decisions we do. It was a steep learning curve for all, and the Cadets did exceptionally well. Congratulations to our MSIVs commissioning this May: Adam Widder, Jeffrey Alden, and Derek Mataczynski. I thank everybody for the warm welcome I received upon my arrival at Stout, and look forward to the honor of shaping the future leaders of the United States Army. BLUE DEVILS!

Like UW-Stout Army ROTC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UWSTOUTROTC
Blugold Company
UW-Eau Claire

This semester, like our last, has been full of changes for the Blugold Company. Our Cadets have been able to take the changes in stride and persevere due to their dedication and hard work. The guidance and leadership of our Cadre, Sergeant First Class Tripp and Major Walsh, has been instrumental in our ability to adapt and excel despite the many changes. We sincerely thank them for their hard work and dedication that they have provided for our Cadets.

This semester our freshman and sophomore Cadets have been focused on learning the fundamentals of leadership. Through peer discussions in class and practice in our leadership labs, they have learned valuable lessons which will aid them in their leadership development. They also continued to improve in their basic soldier knowledge of First Aid, Cultural Awareness, Squad Tactics and Physical Fitness. Our MS III and MS IV Cadets have continued to develop their skills as mentors for the younger Cadets and as leaders in the program. Focusing on military doctrine, they are developing their training skills by leading our leadership labs. Many class discussions focus on Leadership in a complex world.

Blugold Company also grew its relationship with the community by volunteering for Special Olympics and setting up warming tents for Eau Claire’s Polar Plunge. Several of our Cadets also participated in the event and braved the icy waters in February. This is a relationship that we look forward to continuing for years to come.

As our seniors prepare to graduate and commission this May, we know that Blugold Company is in excellent hands. Our Cadets will continue to strive for excellence and lead the program to new heights. As always, Blugold Company will continue to produce outstanding Army Leaders.

Notes from MAJ Dan Walsh (UW-Eau Claire APMS):

As the 2015-16 school year at UW-Eau Claire winds down, I remain pleased with the direction that the Blugold Company is heading. Despite the many changes in ROTC, our program curriculum and the downsizing of the US Army, we remain committed to continue to increase the strength of the Blugold Company. We welcomed SFC Sean Tripp at the beginning of the year who brought a wealth of 19D Cavalry experience to enhance the training of Northwood’s Detachment. This year at UW-Eau Claire we also commissioned two Second Lieutenants in December and will be adding five more Second Lieutenants to the Army’s leadership in May. Our number of committed ROTC Cadets remains strong as they prepare themselves through classes and summer training to transition to the next level of MSL leadership. The Cadets look forward to the challenges ahead and what the future has in store for them as the progress through the program.

A special thanks goes out to all of the alumni who returned to the program to share their experiences as Lieutenants and as Company Commanders. We appreciate your support and your desire to share your experiences to enhance the training of our Cadets. Shoot us an email or send us a picture so we can feature you and your career accomplishments on our UWEC Facebook page. Your support of the current program is essential. Go Blugolds!

Like UW-Eau Claire Army ROTC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UniversityOfWisconsinEauClaireRotc
Falcon Company
UW-River Falls

UW- River Falls ROTC, Falcon Company, had an action-packed semester. Cadets trained for and participated in events such as the Saber Arch at the Military Ball, competed in the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency, as well as completing the Combat Water Survival Test, CLDX, and ILTX; each event offering its own opportunities to build individual and team skills. These events encouraged team building within Falcon Company as well as continuously building cohesion among the Northwood’s Battalion as a whole. Cadets at all levels were constantly testing their knowledge by interacting and taking on new leadership positions. MSIII cadets were responsible for training at weekly labs and physical training sessions, overseen by cadre, throughout the semester. Labs were focused on gaining and developing the necessary attributes and skills needed to become an effective critical thinker in both civilian and military life. UWRFR ROTC will continue to work hard and make the most of all the challenges presented in the upcoming year.

This semester, UW-River Falls ROTC did not have any graduating MS IV’s. The MS III’s had to step up in a big way to accomplish the mission of the Northwood's Battalion. Many of the III’s were given positions that are typically held by seniors and asked to perform in such manner. They performed with diligence, and River Falls now has six very experienced MSIV Cadets returning for the fall semester.

Notes from SFC Todd (UW-River Falls APMS):

We just finished another strong semester of work here in Falcon Country. Our Cadets continue to develop into the leaders of tomorrow by actively participating in CLDX, ILTX, and Leadership Labs. I am excited to witness the fruits of our labor as five Falcon Cadets depart for training this summer. Cadets Emily Stephenson, Hannah Hathaway, Alexandra Mikle, Tucker Malecha, and Matthew Ahlfs will train at Cadet Leaders Course in Ft. Knox, KY. Cadets Malecha, Hathaway, and Ahlfs will also be mentors at Cadet Initial Entry Training (CIET) at Ft. Knox. We have two cadets traveling overseas for Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP), Emily Stephenson will be going to the Country of Serbia and Alexandra Mikle will be going to the Country of Georgia. I am positive both will represent us well. Our program continues to improve in quality and we all look forward to the arrival of our new APMS, CPT Alexandra C. McGuire, who will only help our program grow bigger and stronger. As always, be safe and have an outstanding summer! Falcon Right!

Like UW-River Falls Army ROTC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UWRFROTC
Summer Training and Beyond

The Northwoods Battalion does not stop training after the academic year ends. Listed below are Cadets and spring 2LTs and the different types of training they will be attending this summer and beyond. Training is in 2015 unless otherwise noted.

Legend:
AMEDD: Army Medical Department, BOLC: Basic Officer Leadership Course, CFT: Cadet Field Training, CIET: Cadet Initial Entry Training, CLC: Cadet Leader Course, CTLT: Cadet Troop Leader Training, CULP: Cultural Understanding & Language Proficiency Program,

UW-Eau Claire
Adams- will attend CLC June 27 to July 28th
Adameczak- will attend CLC June 7th to July 8th
Carter – will attend Infantry BOLC and serve in the Active Duty Army
Hill- will attend CFT June 27th to July 24th
Franks- will attend CIET July 16th to August 12th
Ihrke- will attend CIET from July 3 to July 31st
Merritt- will attend CLC June 19th to July 20th
Noll- will attend CULP June 14th to July 15th
Oldenberg- will attend Infantry BOLC and serve in the Army National Guard
Olson- will attend Signal BOLC and serve in the Army Reserves
Schultz- will attend CLC June 23rd to July 24th
Thompson- will attend Medical Service Corps BOLC and serve in the Army Reserves
Wanek- will attend Military Police BOLC and serve in the Active Duty Army
Weltzien – will attend CIET June 5th to July 2nd

UW-River Falls
Hathaway- MSIII Instructor at CIET May 28th to June 17th; CLC June 19th to July 20th
Ahlfs- MSIII Instructor at CIET June 9th to June 30th; CLC July 6th to August 5th
Malecha- MSIII Instructor at CIET from June 1st to June 22nd; CLC from June 23rd to July 24th
Mikle- will attend CULP May 10th to June 10th and CLC from June 11th to July 12th
Stephenson- will attend CULP May 31st to July 1st and CLC July 6th August 5th

UW-Stout
Alden- TDY at CLC from June 3rd to August 14th; Medical Service Corps BOLC August 24th, reports to Korea on the 30th of November and will serve in the Active Duty Army
Beyer- will attend Air Assault June 20th to July 3rd
Cardinal- will attend CIET from July 8th to August 4th
Heinkel- will attend CLC to July 6th August 5th
Hilgendorf- will attend CLC June 7 to July 8th
Hirsch- will attend CIET June 25 to July 23rd
Hoeft- will attend CLC from June 3rd to July 3rd
Huro- will attend CLC from July 10th to August 9th
McGlew- MSIII Instructor at CIET June 18th to July 7th; CLC from July 10th to August 9th
Mataczynski- will attend Military Police BOLC June 1st and serve in the Active Duty Army at Fort Riley, KS
Miller- will attend CLC July 14th to August 13th
Mortensen- will attend CLC June 15th to July 16th
Radzak- will attend CLC July 14th to August 13th
Nathaniel Turner- will attend CLC June 11th to July 12th
Walters- will attend CLC June 15th to July 16th
Widder- will attend Military Police BOLC October 14th and serve in the Active Duty Army at Fort Riley, KS
Van Rossum- will attend CIET July 12th to August 8th
Fall 2015 Semester

This school year had some unprecedented changes as the MSI & MSIV curriculum and overall focus of ROTC training dramatically morphed from year’s past. The Cadre were under pressure to implement the new standards and the Cadets had to focus on learning as fast as they could. At times, it seemed like drinking from a firehose; however, with extreme pressure, some of the world’s most valuable gems are created. The fall 2015 semester calls for additional changes for the program, to include new MSII & MSIII curriculum, the establishment of the Northwoods Hall of Fame, and the Commanding General of Cadet Command, MG Peggy Combs, visiting UW-Stout’s campus. Regardless of new challenges and opportunities, as always, the Cadets and Cadre will continue to move forward.

Rounds Complete!! Parting thoughts from MSG Ivan Johnson (Senior Military Instructor):

As I prepare to leave the Northwoods Detachment this summer, I will take this time to thank the people who made this an interesting and memorable duty assignment. I begin by thanking our civilian Cadre: Mrs. Pam Hotchkiss, Mr. Philip Grape, Mrs. Joy Evenson, and Mr. Jared Siverling. They are the true driving force behind the success of the Northwoods Detachment’s, and I can’t say enough about their numerous contributions to the program, fellow Cadre, and students. Secondly, I will thank a few team members who are no longer part of the Detachment: LTC Brian Stout, MAJ Jared Sunsdahl, CPT Brad Frahm, SFC Gary Robinson, SSG Michael Geiger, Mrs. Joanne Parks, and Mr. Tabb Benzinger. By providing excellent mentorship and purposeful direction, they guided me through the beginning of my long journey and words cannot sufficiently express how grateful I am for their help and friendship. Lastly, I will thank the current Northwoods Detachment Cadre: LTC K. Dave Pindell, MAJ Daniel Walsh, CPT Nathan Justin, SFC Sean Tripp, and SFC Jeffery Todd. This team of consummate professionals remind me daily of why I joined the Army. Their dedication to duty and willingness to do the hard right has solidified my faith in this great profession we all love. I will always cherish our relationship, and I will miss each and everyone here. I would be remiss if I failed to mention the outstanding Cadets of the Northwoods Battalion. Thank you for your hard work and willingness to learn new ideas and concepts. As I depart Menomonie, I leave you with one lasting thought to keep your leadership compass pointing North. Trust, but verify! Farewell and good luck!

Contracting Board

Master Sergeant (MSG) Ivan Johnson, our Senior Enlisted Military Instructor (SMI), continued this semester in his role as President of the Northwoods Battalion Contracting Board (NBCB). Similar to a Soldier of the Month Board, Cadets must be nominated by their Assistant Professor of Military Science (APMS) and have outstanding potential to serve as an officer in order to appear before the board. It is comprised of all three Assistant Professors of Military Science, the Senior Enlisted Military Instructor, Noncommissioned Officers from all three schools, and one rotating MSIV Cadet. Through a series of questions and hands on evaluations, the contracting board determines if college students have the necessary leadership attributes and competencies to be United States Army Officers. The board also determines if eligible Cadets should be the recipient of the various campus-based scholarship opportunities that are available. The goal is to ensure that quality officers are produced for the United States Army, National Guard, and Army Reserve. Listed below are the Cadets who went before the board this semester.

The following Cadets boarded and contracted this semester:

**UW-Eau Claire:** Ka Vue (3.0 year GRFD Scholarship) and Monica Weltzien (2.5 year Line Scholarship)

**UW-Stout:** Ben Beyer (3.0 year GRFD Scholarship) and Willy Elliott (2.0 year GRFD Scholarship)

The following Cadets earned ROTC scholarships to begin next semester:

**UW-Eau Claire:** Katie Franks (2.5 year Line Scholarship) and Billy Hinnenkamp (4.0 year Line Scholarship)

**UW-Stout:** Andre Cardinal (2.5 year Line Scholarship) and Sam Hirsch (3.0 year Line Scholarship)
Northwoods Battalion
University of Wisconsin – Stout Blue Devil Company
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Blugold Company
University of Wisconsin – River Falls Falcon Company

Phone: 715-232-1464 (UW-Stout)
715-308-0512 (ROTC Cell)
Email: ROTC@uwstout.edu

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The Northwoods logo was submitted and approved on April 22, 2014. A UW-Stout student majoring in graphic design undertook the daunting task of designing the “Grizzly” logo. The creation of this logo by a student demonstrates the continued partnership with our universities, an enduring relationship that will stand the test of time.

The Grizzly is roaring to demonstrate his ferocity. He maintains his bearings with the help of a north-seeking arrow, representing magnetic north and the Northwoods BN. These visual images represent the type of aggressive, yet well-disciplined leadership attributes we strive to instill in our Cadets. The tongue, here as a heart, represents the love we have for the beauty of the Northwoods.