

# CRAMER'S SABERS

Alumni Newsletter



# TOUGH RUCK 2023



Summer 2023

## ROTC Alumni Chapter Officers and Directors

**President:** COL (R) John Petrella, Jr. '68

**President Emeritus:** COL (R) Tom Heaney '81

**Vice President:** COL (R) John Hall '87

**Secretary:** LTC (R) David Accetta '87

**Treasurer:** CPT (R) Michelle (Guyon) Wood '88

### Directors:

GEN (R) Leon LaPorte '68

COL (R) Phil Saulnier '62

COL (R) Bill Babcock '68

COL (R) Bill MacKinlay '69

COL (R) Robert Clegg '69

COL (R) LaMonte Wells '74

COL (R) Karen Jennings '80

COL (R) Ray Horoho '82

COL (R) Thomas Byanski '86

COL (R) Robert W. LeValley '87

COL Jason LaCroix '98

LTC (R) Milt McKenna '68

LTC (R) Paul McNamara PMS '81-'85

MAJ (R) Gregory Couturier '02

CPT James Bentz '98

Asst. Dean Emerita Jane M. Stich '62, MA '69, MBA '83

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## Cadet Battalion Staff: Fall 2023

Battalion Commander: CDT Charles Pettit (URI)

Command Sergeant Major: CDT Ben Seward (URI)

Executive Officer: CDT Leilah Enoch (URI)

S-1: CDT Grace Fishpaw (SRU)

S-2: CDT Darby Donegan (URI)

S-3: CDT Ryan Lawrence (RWU)

Asst. S-3: CDT Matt Vartanian (URI)

Asst. S-3: CDT Joseph Cartier (URI)

Asst. S-3: CDT Aaron Healy (URI)

Asst. S-3: CDT Aydan Durant (URI)

Asst. S-3: CDT Leilyn Alvarez (URI)

S-4: CDT Madison Wuttke (URI)

S-6: CDT Brian Bericochea (RWU)

FUOPS: CDT Joseph Silva (URI)

CUOPS: CDT Samuel Nendze (URI)

Safety: CDT Sofie Morris (RWU)

PAO: CDT Grace Fishpaw (SRU)

ROO: CDT Tiago Huynh (URI)

Asst. ROO: CDT Liam Reynolds (RWU)

Asst. ROO: CDT Garrett Deforest (SRU)

PTO: CDT Dominic Tramontano (RWU)

Finance: CDT Matt Kirschenmann (URI)

Operations SGM: CDT Sean Seiler (RWU)

## Cramer's Sabers Battalion Cadre, Fall 2023

**Professor of Military Science:** LTC Cornelius Granai

**Executive Officer:** MAJ Shea Leap

**Operations Officer:** MAJ Angela Anderson

**Assistant Operations Officer:** MAJ Andrew Marsh

**Senior Military Instructor:** SFC Jeffery R. Holomuzki

**Enrollment and Scholarship Officer:** Mr. Vance Dewey

**URI Liaison:** Ms. Cassie Barbato

**Supply Tech:** Mr. Justin Prosser

THE CRAMER'S SABERS ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER

University of Rhode Island Army ROTC

3 Keaney Rd, Suite 2

Kingston, RI 02881

Phone: 401.874.7682

# Message from the Chapter President



The ROTC Alumni Chapter continues to be very engaged with the ROTC Program within the University structure. Thanks to the continued support of our members, we have been able to provide significant funding for the cadets. In this edition you will read of the tremendous success of our team at the 49th Kansas University Buddy Competition. We will again provide support for “Zero Week” which provides an opportunity for the cadets and cadre to perform basic training exercises to prepare for the beginning of the semester. I am pleased to announce the Chapter Officer Elections, which happen every three years, I along with LTC Dave Accetta as Secretary and CPT Michele Woods, as Treasurer, will remain in position along with COL John Hall who will join us as Vice President. Thank you, Dave, Michele, and John, for stepping up to ensure this organization continues in its basic mission of support to the cadets and cadre and thank you Rob Levalley for your service as Vice President over the past few years. I would also like to thank the Board of Director members for all their efforts in ensuring that mission is accomplished. We have approved the standing committee chairpersons: COL Karen Jennings as Communications chair, COL Ray Horoho as Hall of Fame chair following COL Bob Clegg at the conclusion of this year’s Hall of Fame ceremony and COL Tom Heaney as the Golf Tournament Chair.

As you saw in the Winter edition of the newsletter and will see in this edition, the ROTC Program under the leadership of LTC Cornelius “Tad” Granai continues to exceed expectations. Tad along with a highly motivated and talented cadre have done an

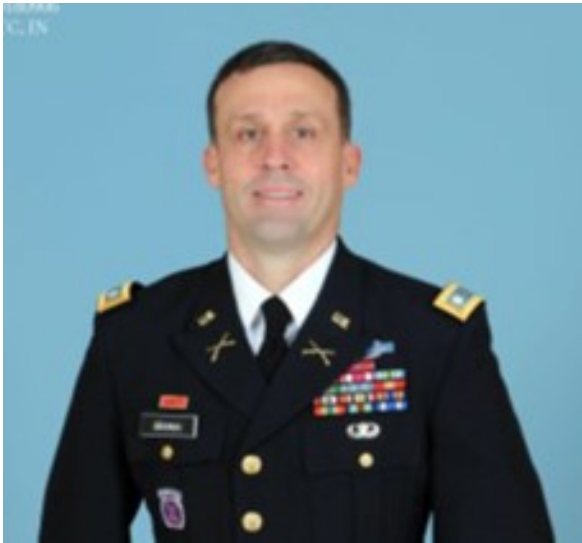
excellent job in preparing the senior cadets for commissioning and their assignments upon graduation. The accomplishments of all the cadets from freshmen to seniors were on full display at the recently completed URI ROTC Awards Day and the Military Ball.

The Chapter continues to enjoy a positive relationship throughout the University which enhances our efforts to promote the ROTC Program. This was very evident at the recent Awards Day and Military Ball which were attended by the University President Mark Parlange and his wife Mary; the Dean of the College of Art and Sciences, Jen Riley, a huge supporter of ROTC; the newly appointed Dean of the Business College, Air Force Captain Sean Rogers; and the Director of the Center for Military and Veteran Education and The URI Student Veterans Organization, Navy Commander Bob Flynn. I would be remiss if I did not mention the tremendous support our Chapter receives from the Foundation and Alumni Engagement President Lil O’Rourke and Michele Nota Vice President Alumni Engagement.

Unfortunately, we will be losing MAJ Shea Leap as he rotates to a new assignment. He has been an outstanding example and trainer of the cadets and a close ally to the Alumni Chapter. On behalf of the Alumni Chapter, good luck in all your future assignments Shea. On a positive note, the program has finally been assigned a senior NCO SFC Jeffery Holomuzki who will add significantly to the development of the cadets. Welcome to the University of Rhode Island, SFC Holomuzki.



# Message from the PMS



Hello to the entire Alumni! Once again, another school year has quickly come and gone. As usual, the Cadets of the Cramer's Sabers BN have performed brilliantly throughout the year. From the start of the academic year at Zero Week through the commissioning of the newest 11 2LTs, the Cadets have made Cadre, Staff, and I am sure, the alumni extremely proud. Our most recent 2LTs that commissioned on 18 May consisted of five Active Duty Officers (1x Armor, 2x Infantry, 1x Military Intelligence branch detailed Infantry, and 1x Nurse), one Reserve Officer (Med Service), and five National Guard Officers that will serve in various states, to include RI, MA and CT among others. Following Cadet Summer Training (CST), we anticipate commissioning three more 2LTs with one more 2LT going Active Duty (Air Defense) and two serving in the National Guard. At that point, the program will meet its annual mission of 15 cadets commissioning this FY as we commissioned one 2LT in December 2022.

This newsletter will highlight several recent events. Along with regular classes and Physical Fitness Training, training included the CFTX with PC, 5 Labs, Award Ceremony, Military Ball, 12-Mile Foot march, and the first official ACFT in program history among others. In addition, this newsletter will highlight two incredible events. First, 10 cadets competed in the marathon length Boston Tough Ruck

with fantastic results. Second, based on the financial support of the Cramer's Sabers BN Alumni, three 2-man male teams' competed in the University of Kansas Ranger Buddy Competition, finishing 4th, 17th, and 19th respectively out of ninety 2-man teams. Moreover, based the aforementioned high finishes, the program won the male team division. This is out of 45 ROTC programs from across the country!!!! Beginning in late May, and throughout the summer, 11 cadets will attend CST Advanced Camp, three will attend CST Basic Camp, and 4 cadre will support CST at Fort Knox, KY. Upon everyone's return from CST, the program will welcome seven National Scholarship winners (up from two last year) and nine more that have already pledged to be part of the program in the fall. This is a great start for the incoming freshmen (MS1) class.

A special thanks goes out to so many of our partners at three universities. Each of the schools continue as huge supporters of the Program. A big thanks also goes to URI President Marc Parlange and the Dean of the College of Arts and Science, Jen Riley, the Salve Regina Provost, Nancy Schreiber, Associate Dean of Students at Salve Regina University, Jen Jensen, Roger Williams Provost, Margaret Everett, and Eric Brunson, Dean of Criminal Justice at Roger Williams for all they do for the cadets at URI, Salve Regina and Roger Williams respectively.

Lastly, as always, thank you to the URI ROTC Alumni for all you do. The cadets and cadre cannot thank you enough. Your recent financial assistance with the University of Kansas Ranger Buddy, Military Ball, and cadet AGSUs is second to none.



# Cadet News

## CRAMER'S SABERS BATTALION SUCCESSFUL AT THE 49<sup>TH</sup> KANSAS UNIVERSITY RANGER BUDDY COMPETITION

URI Alumni graciously funds and provides the opportunity for the Cramer's Sabers Ranger Challenge team and coach to travel to 3rd BDE, Kansas University's 49th annual Ranger Buddy competition during easter weekend 8-9 April. Through their relentless dedication and perseverance, sacrificing several evenings and weekends, URI Cadets found incredible success in an EIB based ranger competition. Travelling into rival territory, 2nd BDE (Freedom BDE) Cadets tested their skills against 91, 3rd BDE all male division teams and 45 programs, where URI placed 1st in the all-male division and 4th, 13th & 17th as

individual teams within the competition. Upon arrival in Kansas, URI Cadets had the opportunity to tour the Command and General Staff College and the Combined Arms Military Library at Fort Leavenworth, stopping for discussions and photo-ops at the Buffalo Soldier Monument and Berlin Wall Memorial. The Alumni Chapter congratulates the Cadets and MAJ Shea Leap for an outstanding performance!



**Cramer's Sabers Team: Cadets Patrick Lane, Benjamin Seward, James Koester, Sean Seiler, Joseph Morrissey, and Thomas McMullen**



**CRAMER'S SABERS**

## TOUGH RUCK COMPETITION

On 16 April, ten Cramer’s Sabers cadets participated in the Tough Ruck. A 26.2 mile race with a 35 lbs. minimum ruck in honor of fallen soldiers and their families. To participate, each cadet raised a minimum \$450 for the Military Friends Foundation, a Massachusetts charity which honors all those who were killed in the line of duty and assists their families. The race began with a ceremony featuring keynote speaker, General James C. McConville, Chief of Staff of the Army and a speech by a gold star father, remembering all who have given their life in service and thanking the participants for rucking in their memory. The race began in the historic city of Concord and moved east to Lexington, starting and ending in Minute Man National Historical Park, the site where the first shots

of the Revolutionary War were fired. All participants who complete the race in under 9:00:00 are given an authentic Boston Marathon medal, coinciding with the race that is held the next day. Our cadets showed incredible athletic capability and mental fortitude with all ten cadets finishing the race under the 9:00:00 mark. The cadets completed the race in the uniform heavy category. The cadets honorably represented the Cramer’s Sabers Battalion raising over \$5,000 for the Military Friends Foundation and finishing as one of the top ROTC programs and the only program to carry the battalion guidon the entire way. **Sabers Led The Way!**



### Participating Cadets, Completion Times, and Overall Place

- CDT Koester 5:16:55 21st
- CDT Lane 5:16:59 22nd
- CDT Morrissey 5:34:16 38th
- CDT Cartier 6:22:12 94th
- CDT Reynolds 6:24:09 98th
- CDT Bowen 6:33:58 121st
- CDT Tramontano 6:35:20 125th
- CDT McMullen 6:35:21 126th
- CDT Eustis 6:40:45 145th
- CDT Enoch 8:04:08 434th

# Faculty News

## The ROTC PROGRAM AND ALUMNI CHAPTER WELCOME SFC JEFFERY R. HOLOMUZKI TO URI

SFC Jeffrey Holomuzki was born in Lexington, Kentucky on 04 March 1989. He enlisted into the United States Army as an 11B Infantryman 23 April 2012. He graduated from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment (OSUT).

SFC Holomuzki was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 3rd IBCT, 1st Infantry Division, at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He held duty positions as a reconnaissance scout, radio-telephone operator, and senior reconnaissance scout. In 2013, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with a Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force.

Upon his return from Afghanistan in 2014, SFC Holomuzki was reassigned to Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st IBCT, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). SFC Holomuzki He deployed once again to Afghanistan in March 2015 in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel as a fire team and rifle squad leader.

SFC Holomuzki served as a weapons squad leader during Operation Judicious Activation, Gabon in 2017. There he led his squad on embassy security operations in conjunction with the USMC and cross-training with Host Nation Forces.

In 2018, SSG Holomuzki was placed on assignment to Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd IBCT, 25th Infantry Division, at Schofield Barracks, HI. There he served as a weapons squad leader, assistant operations sergeant, and rifle platoon sergeant. He deployed to Thailand in support of Operation Cobra Gold 2020 during the onset of the COVID-19 epidemic.

SFC Holomuzki currently serves as the Senior Military Science Instructor at the University of Rhode Island (March 2023-present).

SFC Holomuzki's military education includes the Senior Leader's Course, Advanced Leader's Course, Warrior Leader's Course, Basic Combative Course, Airborne School, Air Assault School, SHARP Foundation Course, and the Battlefield Forensics Course.

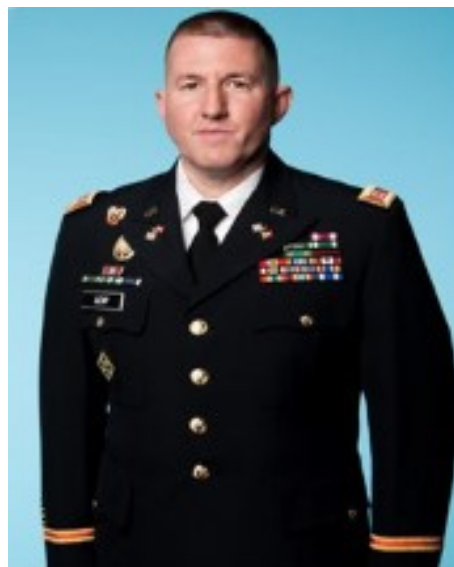
SFC Holomuzki's awards and decorations includes: Army Commendation Medal (5), Army Achievement Medal (5), Meritorious Unit Citation (2), Army Good Conduct Medal (3rd award), National Defense Service Medal, Afghan Campaign Medal (2 Stars), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 3), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO medal, Basic Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, and German Schutzenschnur (Gold).

SFC Holomuzki holds a bachelor's degree from the Ohio State University in International Security and Intelligence Studies. SFC Holomuzki is married to his wife Sidney, and they have two children, Bo (8) and Laney (4).



## THE ROTC PROGRAM AND ALUMNI CHAPTER BID FAREWELL TO MAJ SHEA LEAP

MAJ Leap joined the University of Rhode Island ROTC program in the summer of 2020. During his tour at URI MAJ Leap was a positive influence on the cadets, Recently he lead the cadets to the Kansas University Ranger Buddy Challenge where, under his guidance, they exceeded expectations. While assigned to ROTC, MAJ Leap became a partner working with the Alumni Chapter on a number of activities always ensuring there was a direct link between the ROTC Program and the Alumni Chapter. On behalf of the ROTC Alumni Chapter, we wish him continued success in his next assignment.



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### CALLING ALL URI ROTC ALUMNI!



The URI Army ROTC Alumni Chapter is conducting a national search to find and connect with past Cramer's Sabers Battalion Alumni of all year groups. Alumni of the program include Commissioned Officers from the University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University, and Salve Regina University. If you are a ROTC alumnus and want to stay connected with the program, other alumni, and current cadets, please send a note to [URIROTCAA@gmail.com](mailto:URIROTCAA@gmail.com), and someone from our Communications team will connect with you.

Over the years, many of us have moved, changed emails, and phone numbers several times. Many of us no longer have home phone numbers! It is a top priority of our board to maintain an active and current directory of all alumni in order to share up to date information on the program, cadets, and communicate opportunities to support.

We send out a newsletter semi-annually and would like to update our directory so that we can share what our Alumni Chapter is doing so that you might enjoy reading about it or joining us during one of our events. If you have any friends who you are still in contact with, ask them if they receive the newsletter and if not, please give them our Gmail address.

We also have several platforms to help reconnect alumni with the program:

**LinkedIn: URI ROTC Alumni Group**  
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/96094>

**Facebook: URI ROTC Alumni Chapter**  
<https://m.facebook.com/urirotcalmuni/>

Thank you for your assistance!



# THE CLASS OF 2023 COMMISSIONED 2LTs INTO THE ARMY



On Thursday, May 18, 2023, the Commissioning Ceremony for the Cramer's Saber Battalion took place in Edwards Auditorium. The attendees including cadets, family, friends, university dignitaries and ROTC alumni filled the hall. The University of Rhode Island President Mark Parlange

attended with his wife Mary and gave a Rhody welcome to all expressing how proud the University was of these senior cadets. Also in attendance was the President of the URI Foundation and Alumni Engagement, Lil O'Rourke and the Dean of Students at Salve Regina, Jennifer Jensen. The guest speaker was Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos who

congratulated the cadets for their commitments as students and ROTC participants and on behalf of the state of Rhode Island, she expressed how proud the State is of their accomplishments. LTC Granai, prior to administering the oath and formally commissioning the seniors, expressed how proud the cadre were of them and how hard it was to see such a talented group leave. In addition, LTC Granai provided some parting advice keying on four areas to remember as they go forward as army officers, Humility, Hard Work, Positive Attitude and Enjoy Yourself. LTC Granai then administered the oath of office. Following the pinning of the 2LT bars by family members and the first salute, LTC Granai proclaimed the class of 2023 "Dismissed".

## MEET THE NEWLY COMMISSIONED 2ND LIEUTENANTS:



Front Row L to R: **Patrick Lane**, Armor-RA, Distinguished Military Graduate; **Megan Brigham**, Medical Service Corps, Connecticut NG; **Katherine Bzowycykj**, Medical Service Corps, USAR; **Madison Christiana**, Medical Service Corps, North Carolina NG;

2nd Row: **Christian Ditusa**, Ordinance, Rhode Island NG; **Jack Eustis**, Infantry, RA; **David Falano**, Aviation, Rhode Island NG; **James Koester**, Infantry, RA; **Joseph Morrissey**, Military intelligence- Branch Detail Infantry, RA; **Chantel Rosario De Los Santos**, Quartermaster Rhode Island NG

# THE PINNING OF THE BARS BY FAMILY AND FRIENDS



# THE 2023 CRAMER'S SABERS MILITARY BALL

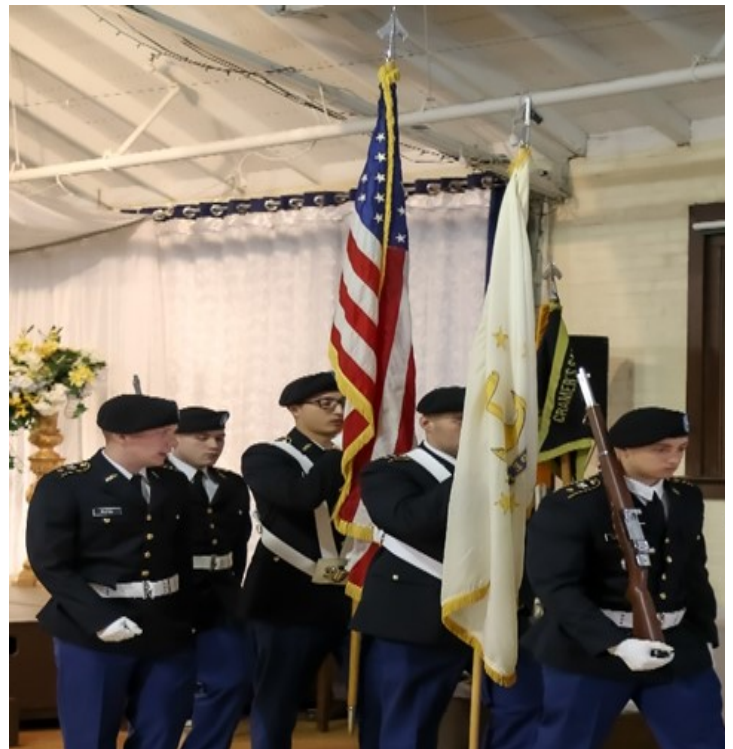
The 2023 Military Ball took place at the historic Westerly Armory, Westerly Rhode Island, which has been restored to its place as a community icon and now serves as a museum, an event venue, home to The Westerly Band (America's oldest active community band), and largest memorial in Washington County to all veterans. Erected in 1901 after the wood-framed armory on Main Street was destroyed, the Westerly Armory is one of only eighteen historic armories in the state of Rhode Island. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and is also a Save America's Treasures Site, awarded by the United States Congress.



The Ball was planned and directed by the senior cadets and attended by more than 120 people including cadets from all classes, family members and friends, ROTC Alumni, distinguished guests from The University of Rhode Island and Salve Regina. The evening was full of military tradition, recognition for outstanding accomplishments and lots of fun. Ms. Roberta Mudge Humble, URI class of 1968, is the President of the Westerly Armory Restoration and was very extremely helpful in arranging the ball.

cadets with excellent guidance and personal experiences to assist them as they pursue their military careers.

The evening began with the traditional posting of the colors by the ROTC Color Guard. Commander Bob Flynn USN, the keynote speaker, provided the



2023 Military Ball Photos



## HONORING ROTC ALUMNI DURING THE BALL GROG PREPARATION

During the preparation of the traditional Grog Bowl, MS4 Cadets honored all the Saber Alumni who have served in conflicts dating back to WWI by identifying a representative from each conflict. As each cadet added mysterious ingredients to the Grog

Bowl the conflict was identified, and the representative Sabers Alumni recognized with their picture projected on a screen.



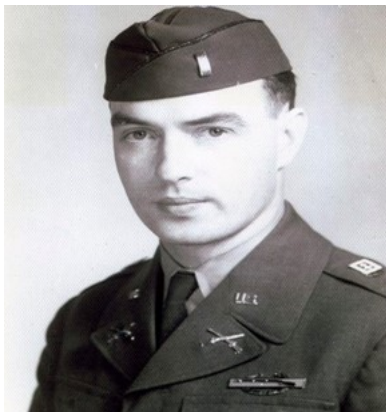
*LT George S. Shepard*



*MAJ Kenneth M. Perkins*



*CPT Elwood J. Euart*



*LTC Phillip J. Gilchrist*



*CPT Henry R. Phillips*



*MG Roger A. Nadeau,*



*GEN Charles A. Flynn*



*COL Karen L. Jennings*



*2LT Joseph D. Fortin*

# 2023 Alumni Awards



Mr. Joshua Wilson presents the Prestigious 1LT Parker D. Cramer Award to Cadet Jack Eustis



COL (R) Bill Babcock presents The LTC Richard Schott Award to Cadet Megan Brigham

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***THE CRAMBER'S SABERS AWARD AND THE ALUMNI AWARDS ARE PRESENTED TO OUTSTANDING CADETS WHO KEEP THE TRADITION MOVING FORWARD***

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LTC Tad Granai presents The 2LT William G. Shank Award to Cadet James Koester



COL (R) Tom Heaney presents The Ranger Award to Cadet Patrick Lane



LTC (R) Torre Peterson presents the LTC Paul F Helweg Jr. Award to Cadet Christian DiTusa



COL (R) John Petrella presents The Gen Leon LaPorte Award to Cadet Patrick Lane

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***THE CRAMBER'S SABERS AWARD AND THE ALUMNI AWARDS ARE PRESENTED TO OUTSTANDING CADETS WHO KEEP THE TRADITION MOVING FORWARD***

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COL (R) John Petrella presents the 1LT Carl Myllymaki Award to Katherine Bzowyckj



COL (R) Bill Babcock presents the 1LT Carmen DeCubellis Award to Cadet Joseph Morrissey

# The 2023 ROTC Award Recipients

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY AWARD

[Cadet James Koster](#)

## THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AWARDS

[Cadet Tom Bleakley](#)

## RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER AUSA AWARD

[Cadet Ben Seward](#)

## AUSA MILITARY HISTORY AWARD

[Cadet Jack Eustis](#)

## THE SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812 AWARD

[Cadet Tiago Huynh](#)

## THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART AWARD

[Cadet Joseph Cartier](#)

[Cadet Jake Bernard](#)

## THE MILITARY ORDER OF WORLD WARS AWARD (MOWW)

[Cadet Robert Mehorter](#)

[Cadet Garrett Deforest](#)

[Cadet Brian Bericochea](#)



## SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR AWARD

[Cadet Joseph Morrissey](#)

## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AWARD

[Cadet John Bowen](#)



## THE MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS AWARD RI CHAPTER

[Cadet Christian DiTusa](#)

[Cadet Brandon Luke](#)

## THE USAA SPIRIT AWARD

[Cadet Patrick Lane](#)

## THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATION & ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION AWARD

[Cadet Joseph Silva](#)

## THE ORDER OF THE FOUNDERS AND PATRIOTS OF AMERICA AWARD

[Cadet Charles Pettit](#)

[Cadet Madison Christiana](#)

## THE RESERVE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION AWARD

[Cadet Sara Carney](#)

[Cadet Liam Reynolds](#)

[Cadet Leilah Enoch](#)

[Cadet Katherine Bzowycyjk](#)

## THE AMERICAN LEGION AWARD

[Cadet Sean Seiler](#)

[Cadet Madison Wuttke](#)



**THE RESERVE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION AWARD**

[Cadet Sara Carney](#)  
[Cadet Liam Reynolds](#)  
[Cadet Leilah Enoch](#)  
[Cadet Katherine Bzowycykj](#)

**THE AMERICAN LEGION AWARD**

[Cadet Sean Seiler](#)  
[Cadet Madison Wuttke](#)

**THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AWARD (RI Chapter)**

[Cadet Grace Fishpaw](#)

**THE NATIONAL SOJOURNERS AWARD**

[Cadet Dominic Tramontano](#)

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD (SAR)**

[Cadet Davis Lee](#)

**THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD**

[Cadet Isabella Rosado](#)

**THE DAUGHTERS OF THE FOUNDERS AND PATRIOTS OF AMERICA AWARD**

[Cadet Carissa Johnson](#)

**THE DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN COLONISTS AWARD**

[Cadet Megan Brigham](#)

**THE MASSACHUSETTS DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN COLONISTS AWARD**

[Cadet Abigail Gallic](#)  
[Cadet Chantel Rosario](#)



**THE JOANNE LACHAPPELLE AWARD**

[Cadet Madison Christiana](#)

**THE SUPREME COUNCIL SCOTTISH RIGHT OF FREE MASONRY**

[Cadet Matt Kirschenman](#)

**THE JOHN "DOC" ROGERS, JR. INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD**

[Cadet David Falano](#)

**THE JOHN "DOC" ROGERS, JR. LEADERSHIP THROUGH COMMUNICATION AWARD**

[MS1 Cadet Simely Lantigua](#)  
[MS2 Cadet Ryan Lawrence](#)  
[MS3 Cadet Isabella Rosado](#)  
[MSIV Daniel Dicuffa](#)

**THE JOHN "DOC" ROGERS, JR. AWARD FOR MILITARY LEADERSHIP SELFLESS SERVICE**

[Miss Rosemary Doyle](#)



**DISTINGUISHED MILITARY STUDENT AWARD**

[Cadet Jack Eustis](#)

**SUPERIOR CADET AWARDS**

[MS1 Cadet Katherine Bzowycykj](#)  
[MS2 Cadet Matt Vartanian](#)  
[MS3 Cadet Thomas McMullen](#)  
[MSIV Cadet Aydan Durant](#)



**1LT CARL MYLLYMAKI ALUMNI AWARD**

[Cadet Isabella Rosado](#)

# CENTER FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN EDUCATION AND URI STUDENT VETERANS' ORGANIZATION

On April 27, 2023, the Center conducted the first Annual Veterans Award Ceremony with a luncheon in the Hargde Forum, Lower College Road. The Center's Director, Commander Ret. Bob Flynn, presided over the ceremony. The Center assists URI

veterans, current military, and military connected students in understanding veterans' and military benefits. In support of this program, COL Babcock, COL Petrella, Ms. Jane Stich and LTC Cornelius Granai were in attendance.



LTC Granai presents The Top-Notch Soldiers Award to Cadet Megan Bigham and Tracy Santos Presents Veteran Leadership Award to Cadet Chantel Rosario



CDR Bob Flynn presents Student Excellent Award to Tracy Santos

## Awards Presented:

- **Dr. Sean Rogers** - Veteran Excellence Award (Student Veteran Organization)
- **Mr. John Garcia** - URIFAE Civilian Impact Award (Student Veteran Organization)
- **Chantel Rosario De Los Santos** - Student Veteran Leadership Award (Students Veteran Organization)
- **Cadet Meghan Brigham** - Top Notch Soldiers Award (Dr. Sean Rogers)
- **CAPT Dave Hill** - Veteran Service Award (Military and Veteran Education Center)
- **Nancy Rabadoux** - Outstanding Service Award (Military and Veteran Education Center)
- **Nancy Pendergast** - Outstanding Service Award (Military and Veteran Education Center)
- **Tracy Santos** - Student Excellence Award (Military and Veteran Education Center)

# Hall of Fame

## ROTC ALUMNI CHAPTER TO CONDUCT THE 2023 HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

On **Veterans Day, November 11, 2023, at 10:00 AM** in the Ballroom of the University of Rhode Island Memorial Union, the ROTC Alumni Chapter will induct 10 Rhody heroes who have brought

great honor to the Nation, the Military, the University and the ROTC Program, into the ROTC Hall of Fame. Join us to honor these great Americans.



*COL Lawrence Connell*



*LTC Dennis Donegan*



*COL Stephen Falcone*



*COL John F. Hatch Jr*



*COL Augustine Ledwidge*



*COL Christopher Moylan*



*COL Raymond Murray*



*MG William Riley Jr*



*1LT Mark Swistak*



*CPT John Thompson*

# ROTC UNIFORM PROGRAM

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!!!

Thanks to the continued generosity of our alumni, the members of this year's graduating class were provided with an Army Green Service Uniform for their commissioning ceremony. This program was begun by LTC (R) Paul F Helweg, Jr. past president, and has continued to grow over the past several years.

*" I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the alumni who have continued this program through the years. I am overwhelmed every year at your generosity. Programs such as this set us apart from all others, demonstrating the dedication and generosity of our alumni to assist those who follow us. A big thank you to **COL Rob Levalley** for coordinating this successful effort." COL John Petrella '68*

### THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS:

MG (R) Roger Nadeau '74  
Ms. Jane O'Connell Stich '62  
Mr. Dave & Priscilla Feeney '71 '70  
COL (R) William P. Babcock '68  
COL (R) Ray Horoho '82  
COL (R) Scott Larson '72  
COL (R) Robert Levalley '87  
COL (R) Cheryl Lussier Poppe '78  
COL (R) Samuel Palmisano '79  
COL (R) LaMont Wells '74  
LTC (R) Dan Lutz '94  
LTC (R) Robert & Nancy Schachner '60  
COL(R) Michael Patalano '69  
LTC (R) Robert Guyon '83

MAJ (R) Greg Couturier '02  
COL (R) John Hall '87  
The Myllymaki Endowment  
COL (R) Raymond Murray '83  
COL (R) Phil Saulnier '62  
LTC (R) Peter Tancredi '68  
LTC (R) John Cookinham '63  
COL(R) Richard Brown '84  
COL (R) John Petrella '68  
LTC Anthony Cassino '97  
COL Jason Lacroix '98  
MAJ Kristine Hinds '05  
Mr. Charles Jay '73  
LTC (R) John Clays

### LOOKING GOOD IN THOSE BRAN NEW ARMY GREENS AS THEY TAKE THEIR FRIST SALUTE





2023

LTC (R) Paul F. Helweg, Jr., ROTC Memorial Golf Tournament

***Register Today!***

**Green Valley Country Club, Portsmouth RI, September 29, 2023**  
**Check-in 11:30 a.m. ~ Shotgun play begins 12:30 p.m.**

\$125.00 per player includes green fees, golf cart, prizes, auction, raffle, and steak dinner. Chicken available upon request, please note with reservation.

**Make checks payable to: *URI Foundation ROTC Golf #5919***

**Mail to: *URI Foundation, ATTN: Rebecca Vigeant, 79 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881***

**Please email or mail single/foursome information to: *Jane Stich at jstich@uri.edu or 77 Cedar Island Road Narragansett, RI 02882 as soon as possible!! \*\*\****

Anyone registering after September 15, must register at the Green Valley Country Club the day of the Tournament at the Registration Desk.

**Individual:** (Name, E-Mail,) \_\_\_\_\_

**Foursome:** (Name, E-Mail)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ I'd like to sponsor a cadet; I've included an additional \$125.00
- \_\_\_ I have additional guest(s) for dinner included \$40.00 for each dinner.

***\*\*\*We will provide metal bag tags to each registered golfer. We will engrave your golf bag tag with your name if we receive your registration prior to 14 August 2023. So, register today!!***





## TEE SPONSOR INSTRUCTIONS

**THANK YOU** for pledging to sponsor a tee/hole for our September 29, 2023, ROTC Golf Tournament

### **Donation by Check:**

Your tee/hole sponsor donation check for **\$100.00** should be Payable to: *URI Foundation ROTC Golf 5919*

Please write in **"Tee Sponsor"** in the memo space of your check

**Mail the check to:** *URI Foundation Attn: ATTN: Rebecca Vigeant, 79 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881*

### **Donation on Line:**

If you prefer to make an online payment using a credit card or Pay Pal please go to:  
[urifae.org/golf](http://urifae.org/golf)

This will bring you to a donation form specially for the ROTC Golf Account

### **Tee Signs:**

When you make your donation (either check or on-line), please email LTC (R) Milton McKenna at [smmck66@verizon.net](mailto:smmck66@verizon.net) so he can confirm your payment and sign information.

Tee sponsor signs will be prepared with your "message" and/or "photo" (.jpg files please) to commemorate your pledge. Please ensure LTC (R) McKenna receives your information.

***Tournament proceeds support the ROTC Program and Alumni Chapter***

***2023 ROTC Alumni Golf Committee***



# Cramer's Sabers Battalion History

The Army ROTC Battalion on the URI Campus originated from the military training unit established in 1894 by Captain William W. Wetherspoon, later Chief of Staff of the United States Army. Under the provisions of the Morrill Act of 1862, better known as the Land Grant Act, State colleges set up military training units to prepare college students for leadership in the event of a national emergency. In 1920, the unit was re-designated as the Reserve Officers Training Corps in compliance with the National Defense Act of 1920.

Starting with a unit consisting of fourteen men in 1894, the unit grew to approximately 1500 cadets during the time ROTC was mandatory for freshmen and sophomore male students. The unit was organized into a brigade of three battalions consisting of three companies each and one provisional battalion consisting of the junior training company, Kingston Rangers, the ROTC Band and the Drill Team.

An Infantry branch material unit was instituted with military instruction in 1940. Subsequently, Quartermaster and Engineer branch units were incorporated into the program in 1943 and 1951 respectively. Presently, all branch training has been terminated and replaced by general Military Science instruction. (full college credit is received for ROTC courses by all students enrolled.)

Since 1951, over 11,900 cadets from the program have been awarded commissions into the Active and Reserve Components of the United States Army. Approximately 29,000 students have taken basic ROTC courses at the University of Rhode Island during the same period. Beginning with the academic year 1965-1966, Military Science has been on a voluntary basis. In 1986 the University of Rhode Island cadet battalion was named "CRAMER'S SABERS" in honor of First Lieutenant Parker Dresser Cramer, Infantry Corps, University of Rhode Island Class of 1959.

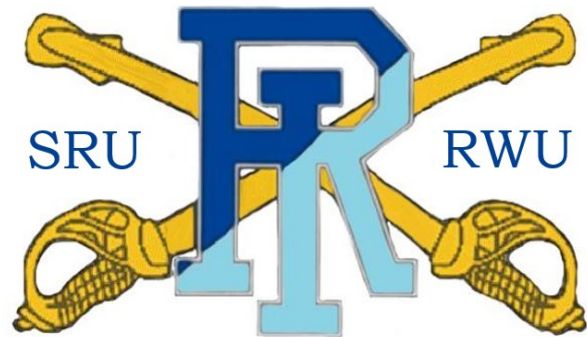


## THE ARMY ROTC FUND FOR MILITARY LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

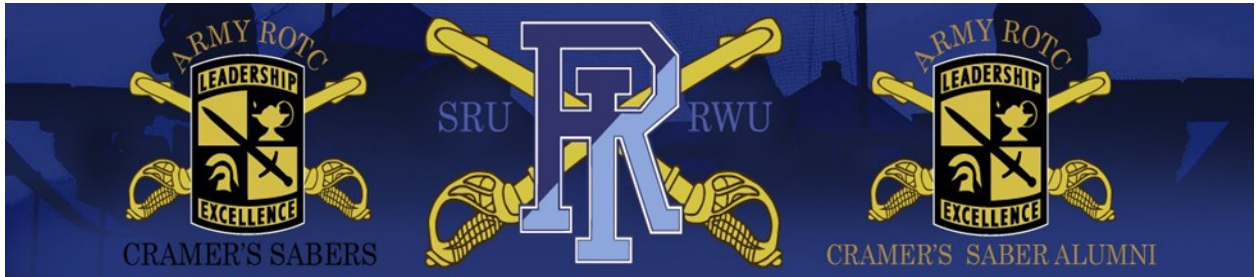
Under the leadership of the late LTC Paul F Helweg '70, the ROTC Alumni Chapter established The Army ROTC Fund for Military Excellence in 2005. Known as the LTC Richard S Schott Prize, the fund is named for LTC Schott, an outstanding officer who perished in Vietnam while saving his men. The award, consisting of the income generated by the endowment, is given annually to a cadet who demonstrates superior academic, leadership, and other attributes important for a future commissioned officer.

“Through Their Generosity and Dedication, the Following Friends of URI ROTC Continue the Tradition of Leadership Excellence for Our US Army and Our Nation”.

The fund initial donors included 40 alumni and friends and is memorialized on a plaque located in the ROTC department. If you are interested in helping us grow this endowment, please contact Jackie Nowell, Associate VP, Donor Relations and Engagement, 401-874-4221, [jnowell@uri.edu](mailto:jnowell@uri.edu) at the URI Foundation and Alumni Engagement PO Box 1700 Kingston, RI 02881.



# SABERS LEAD THE WAY!



**KEANEY GYM HOME OF THE CRAMER'S SABERS BATTALION**