



3rd Annual CPT Rowdy Inman Memorial 5k

5K



\$25

PER ENTRY

SCAN HERE:



March 13th, 2021*

Location: SHSU Clock Tower

Race Start: 8:00AM

* Date is subject to change and/or conducted virtually

*All COVID guidelines will be followed

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Bearkat BATTALION

January | 2021 | Sam Houston State University

CPT Rowdy Inman 5K Sponsorship Levels

2nd Lieutenant

\$100

- Race day recognition
- 1 free individual entry
- Invitation to provide promotional items at event

Captain

\$200

- Race day recognition
- 2 free individual entries
- Business logo on back of race shirt
- Invitation to provide promotional items at event

Major

\$300

- Race day recognition
- 3 free individual entries
- Large business logo on race shirt
- Invitation to provide promotional items at event
- Promotional table at event

Lieutenant Colonel

\$500

- Race day recognition
- 5 free individual entries
- Largest business logo on race shirt
- Invitation to provide promotional items at event
- Promotional table at event

Contact CDT Rocha at ajr069@shsu.edu

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SHSU Faculty, ROTC Alumni, Local Community Supporters, and Families.

“We have officially completed the first two and a half weeks of the spring semester and are elated to report that our program reached the century mark in Cadets, with 100 motivated young men and women, who are looking to put the welfare of the Nation, the Army, and their future Soldiers, before their own. The positive organizational climate that our Senior Cadets lead with and exhibit, in my opinion is the main reason, why are Cadet retention rate was 88% for the spring semester. I want to personally thank our Senior Cadets for their selfless service as they spend countless hours, ensuring our underclassmen receive the best available mentorship and training under the current environment. We are also excited to welcome 20 new Cadets to the program this semester. Thank you to Brigadier General (Retired) Richard Mills, the Military Science Alumni Club President, who took time out of his busy schedule, to speak with our new teammates, during our New Cadet Orientation on January 20, 2021. We look forward to observing all our Cadets continue to grow as leaders this semester!

Our Cadets work hard to improve their fitness, while most of them work, in addition to their R.O.T.C. leadership duties. They manage these requirements, while also excelling in the classroom. We are extremely proud that our program GPA was an outstanding 3.28. GPA for the Fall 2020 Semester. Our Junior Cadets achieved the highest GPA for a cohort, with a 3.55 GPA. Well done! As impressive as our cadets perform academically, equally inspiring is their selflessness. Our Cadets will host the 3rd Annual Captain Rowdy Inman 5K on March 13, 2021. We look forward to hosting the Inman family and some of his former teammates as we continue to honor a great SHSU ROTC Alumnus, who made the ultimate sacrifice in combat for his country. The specific details for the 3rd Annual CPT Rowdy Inman 5K are located on the first and fourth page of this newsletter. We hope to see you at the 5K and thank you for the support to the Inman family and to our Cadets.

We have a new teammate in the Bearkat Battalion. Sergeant First Class (SFC) Harry Lichtenberger, joined the team this month from Schofield, Barracks, Hawaii. SFC Lichtenberger brings a wealth of experience to the team, to include five combat deployments. Please welcome SFC Lichtenberger and his wife, Rachel, to Sam Houston State University.

Unfortunately, on January 24, 2021, we posted on our social media platforms that one of our former teammates, First Sergeant, Matthew Moates passed away, while on a run. I encourage you to take some time to read our post, dedicated to Matthew and his family, and you will clearly see the impact that he had on our program and Cadets. Thank you to Matt and his family for their service and dedication to our country.

Finally, as we always mention, our success is directly tied to your support. This newsletter clearly represents your support, as every single Cadet, who authored an article has received a generous donor scholarship from one of you. A prime example is Cadet Cody Weeks on page 7, who is the recipient of the William and Elizabeth Rampmeier Endowed Scholarship. Our alumni spotlight is on Mr. Rampmeier and his service to our country. I have personally spoken to Mr. Rampmeier and he is a trailblazer in his family. Thank you, Mr. Rampmeier for your continued support of our Cadets and your service to our country. We hope everyone enjoys this newsletter. Have a great weekend!”

Strength and Honor!

Lieutenant Colonel Joe Contreras



CDT Command Sergeant Major – MSIV CDT Webster, Eric

“First, allow me to start by welcoming back the SHSU Bearkat Battalion for the Spring 2021 semester! The battle against COVID-19 rages on, and various rules and protocols remain in place for all to follow. Discipline is necessary now more than ever. The threat of COVID-19 is truly one of attrition as it continues a sustained assault against society and organizations alike.

However, the Bearkat Battalion remains strong and steadfast. Our resolve has remained steeled towards all Cadets having the best possible school experience, training, and mentorship within a safe environment. This resolve has caused our unity and integrity as a program to shine during such dark times. As those around us take notice of our morale, more cadets have continued to join our ranks. Through our actions and safety measures we have enabled the program to reach the century mark with 100 registered cadets this semester, despite the threat of COVID-19.

This semester we drive onward, and with the increased population within the program, each cadet will have even greater individual responsibility. Senior Cadets are prepared to provide the same quality of mentorship to all Cadets appointed under them despite the growing numbers, just as the Seniors before us provided. Program areas such as Ranger Company, the Cadet Intramural League, Color Guard, and Cannon Crew will continue. Each program’s Officer in Command (OIC) shall ensure their program continues to abide by proper safety measures and provide great experiences and overall enjoyment.

Junior Cadets, continue to prepare for the Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC) this summer. This requires not only mental preparation through knowledge of tactics, but physical preparation as well. Push yourself during physical training sessions in the morning and conduct training during your personal time as well. Be versatile and ready to adapt at a moment’s notice. You must be prepared for any changes, for any reason, with no complaints. COVID-19 makes the road ahead ever-changing.

Sophomore Cadets, please continue to keep your eyes and ears open and take in as much knowledge as possible. Observe the Juniors as they prepare for LDAC and witness their proficiencies and deficiencies while identifying your own. As summer approaches stay vigilant in the event that military schools, such as Air Assault or Airborne, may become available.

Freshmen Cadets, both new and returning, do not be afraid to meet and affiliate yourselves with other cadets. Now is your time to get used to life at a university, and the best way is to engage with others who have been where you are. A great way to meet others and gain advice is to get involved within our programs, but academics may be your biggest adjustment...so you must stay focused. There is a lot of fun to be found, both within our program and outside of the program through the University. Find the balance.”

CDT Command Sergeant Major MSIV Eric Webster



The Bearkat Command Team, MSIVs Nikki Stone and Eric Webster after receiving their branch selections.



3rd Annual CPT Rowdy Inman 5K – MSIV/OIC CDT Rocha, Alejandro

“The CPT Rowdy Inman Memorial 5k is an event hosted annually by the Bearkat Battalion in honor of CPT Rowdy J. Inman, a 2000 graduate of Sam Houston State University. CPT Inman, was killed in action December 26, 2007 while conducting operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Each year his legacy is remembered by the SHSU Military Science Department with assistance from SHSU Military Science Alumni Club (MSAC) by way of the CPT Rowdy Inman Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to two deserving cadets each semester, and funded by MSAC, in addition to proceeds from the CPT Rowdy Inman Memorial 5k.

The race, which has been conducted since 2018, was first organized by now 1LT Caitlin Arrigali who then handed the honor to now-2LT Abraham Padron who commissioned in May of 2020. Currently, the 3rd Annual CPT Rowdy Inman Memorial 5k is entrusted to a senior within the Bearkat Battalion, a tradition that will remain indefinitely. The race is organized by the Military Science Department. However, it has been supported by businesses within the community the previous two years. Some of our past notable sponsors include Cowboy Contractors, HEB, Bill Fick Ford, and the Hearts Museum - all located here in Huntsville.

Due to the emergence of COVID-19 we face unique challenges in 2021. However, with the approval of Sam Houston State University, the CPT Rowdy Inman Memorial 5k will continue to take place due to the Bearkat Battalions strict following of COVID-19 guidelines. We encourage all our supporters to come out and join us in safely honoring the legacy of our honored alumnus Captain Rowdy J. Inman on March 13, 2021! You are able to REGISTER or DONATE for/to the event at the attached link: <https://fundly.com/3rd-annual-cpt-rowdy-inman-memorial-5k-1>”



Rowdy Inman 5K pre-run crowd, 2019.



Runners crossing the finish-line, 2019.



Participants of the 5K stop and pose for pictures, 2019.



The Balancing Act – MSI CDT Castillo, Jordan

“From my first day of ROTC to presently, I have met wonderful peers that I enjoy working with every day. The endless amount of support that I received as a new cadet lifted a tremendous amount of weight off my shoulders. Coming into the program and college not knowing what to expect, or not knowing anyone, can be a nerve-racking experience. A lot of that was put to ease when I was introduced to MSIII and MSIV Cadets, because through them, I got introduced to different organizations across campus.

One such organization being a fraternity, which was introduced to me by two senior Cadets. I am very glad that I decided to join a fraternity, because it gave me another wonderful set of people to call family! I now had responsibilities not only to the program, but also my fraternity, throughout pledgship. The one reason why every student attends college, is to get a degree. So, doing both ROTC and pledgship does not mean your grades will suffer. ROTC will give you the skills and knowledge to excel in the program and make the grade you desire. On the other side, pledgship allows you to be a student first. They care that you pass your classes and will never allow school NOT to be the main priority.

Being a part of ROTC and a fraternity, you will always have a brother or cadet that is willing to help with anything you need. Both have taught me that leaders care about their peers and will always try to go that extra mile if it will help someone out. The MSIII and MSIV classes constantly prove that every day. I have never been a part of a program before that the leadership is outstanding and is always happy to answer questions that you have. With that being said I, am excited to take what the ROTC leadership has exemplified and what a Fraternity has taught me and apply it to the ROTC program to help my fellow cadets and I become future leaders. My advice to current and future ROTC Cadets is do not be afraid of completing pledgship and being in ROTC. It is NOT impossible by any means, and the number of things you can learn in both programs is something worth experiencing. I would like to thank all the ROTC Cadets that helped me in some aspect or another during my first semester, it truly means a lot to me!”



CDT Jordan Castillo's official fraternity profile.



CDT Jordan Castillo receiving the Army National Guard scholarship.



Preparing for CST – MSIII CDT Weeks, Cody

“Throughout my past three years in Sam Houston State University’s Bearkat Battalion, each day has been a continual learning process that has been essential for preparing for Advanced Camp (aka Cadet Summer Training (CST)). As we progress through the spring semesters, undergoing constant repetitions, my confidence grows with the continuation of hands-on training. Initially, with COVID-19 guidelines, schedules and events had to flex or alter to new opportunities. I am happy to be a part of a program that has this much innovation and dedication to its cadets, ensuring its top priority is seeing training is safely fulfilled during the pandemic.

What has helped me the most throughout my ROTC career has been a combination of various factors. My peers and classmates from different MS levels over the years have provided a vast understanding of expectations, standards, and cohesion. My cadre have provided innovative methods in guiding discussion and lecture that promotes our ability in retaining the information necessary for successful operations at Gibbs Ranch and soon to be CST. My mother has helped me as she has become my number one fan with constant reminders of how far I have come and to commend me at every step of my path. Most importantly my two mentors, 2LT Andrew McEnroe and CDT Steven Cardenas, over the last two years have provided the most beneficial guidance in ways that not only will contribute to my performance at CST, but also in ways that I can utilize every day.

I am thankful for the opportunities I’ve been provided. However, this has not been a simple task. My recommendation for anyone is to remain dedicated to the process, fearless to changes, and to remain diligent in your work. Surround yourself with elements that promote positive change.”



CDT Weeks being awarded the Rampmeier and Elizabeth Endowed scholarship by LTC Joe Contreras.



CDT Weeks, Zirkel, and Smith during training at Gibbs Ranch.



CDT Weeks and fellow cadets before their ruck march.



COVID-19 and the Battalion's Response – MSIV CDT Steele, Lynnsey

“The Bearkat Battalion has been adaptive and drives on even through the COVID-19 pandemic. As an organization, we are taking strict precautions when it comes to handling COVID-19. These include, but are not limited to, wearing masks 100% of the time, wiping down classrooms and equipment after use, hand sanitizers, close tracking of Cadets who believe they are experiencing symptoms, and social distancing during training. Every day is a learning experience and our understanding of how we can better protect our Cadets is constantly growing. Through continual communication with the student health center, we do our best to adjust to the ever-changing pandemic.

This semester we have training planned out for the program and specifically the juniors in order to prepare them for their training throughout this summer. More training means we have to closely monitor the risks that come with it. Ensuring that Cadets are following the proper COVID-19 protocols and social distancing is our priority. Cadets feeling symptoms or who have been exposed are closely tracked and are excused from any in-person training and utilize our virtual options. We constantly and closely monitor the number of cases, not only in the program but on campus, Walker County, Texas, and in the United States as a whole.

Handling an issue that we know so little about, such as COVID-19, can be a little overwhelming at times, but it is a task that requires attention to details. It can be difficult, but all parties involved in helping keep our Cadets healthy and safe are very capable individuals. This is a confusing time, but the Bearkat Battalion will adapt to the environment and continue growing and developing Cadets. We would like to ensure our Cadets, families, and community that we are utilizing all resources at our disposal to keep Cadets safe during classes and training. We are also thankful to the university for the opportunity to ensure our Cadets grow to their max potential in becoming future leaders!”



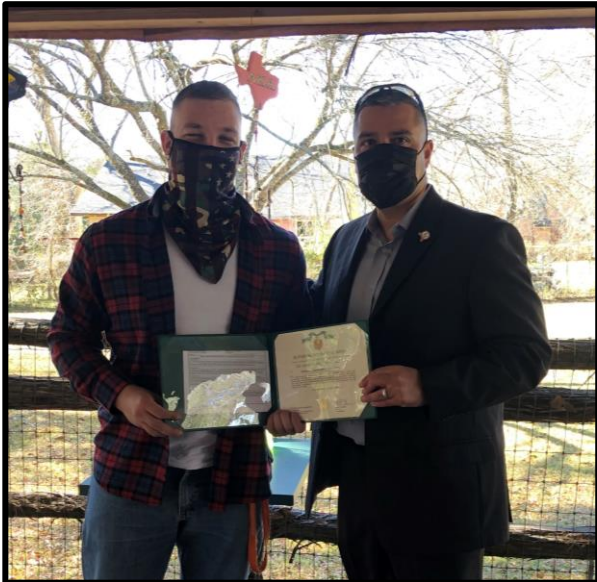
From the range to the field, the Bearkat Battalion is working with university officials and following COVID-19 guidance to ensure the safety of all of its Cadets!



January In Photos



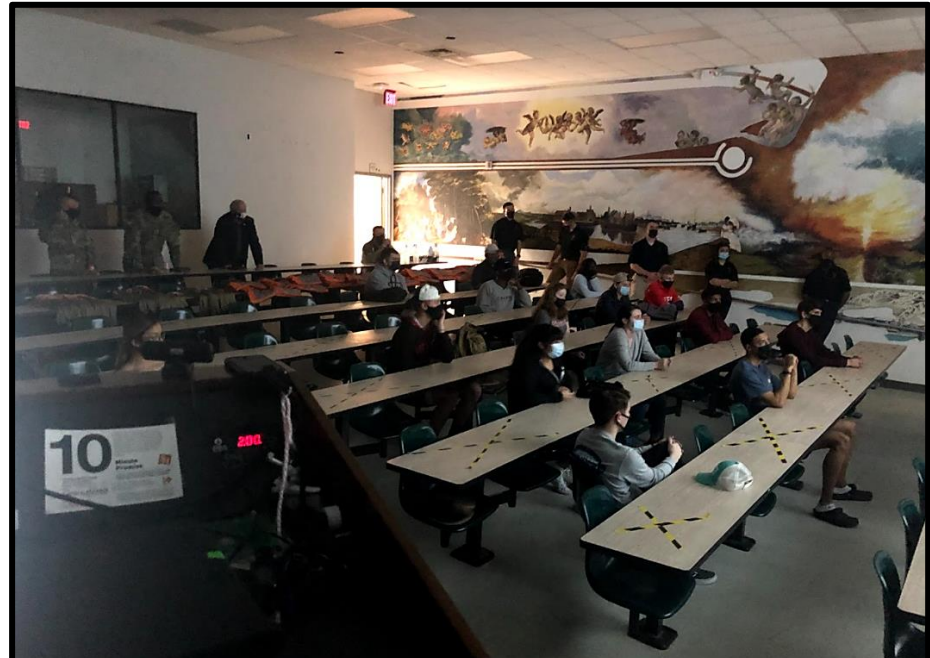
Cadet Leadership performing maintenance and improvements at Gibbs Ranch.



Bearkat Battalion 2LT Andrew McEnroe receives a Army Achievement Medal for his work as a Gold Bar Recruiter.



MSIIs conduct the Contracting Fitness Assessment.



Bearkat Battalion's new cadets receiving guidance from cadet leadership at the "New Cadet Orientation".



January In Photos



MSIV Cadets providing guidance to MSI Cadets during tactical lab.



MSI Cadets participate in tactics discussion.



The Bearkat Battalion's MSI Class executed its Fitness Assessment.



Alumni Spotlight – Mr. William (Al) Rampmeier ‘65

Mr. William (Al) Rampmeier graduated Sam Houston State University in 1965. At this time, the university held the name of Sam Houston State Teachers College (SHSTC). While at SHSTC, Mr. Rampmeier was a member of Scabbard and Blade from 1963 – 1965 and served as the Company Commander in 1964 – 1965. He graduated with a BBA and was commissioned Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG) Military Police in January 1965.

On July 15, 1965 he transferred to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) while at Fort Benning, GA. One month later, he boarded the Army troop transport, William O. Darby, in Charleston and sailed to Qui Nhon, Vietnam. Here his platoon was involved in every major engagement with the enemy from September 1965 to August 1966. During this time, he served in support of Colonel William R. Lynch’s 2nd Brigade. Colonel Lynch was a 1939 graduate of SHSU, who fought in both WWII and Korea. In May 1966, he was transferred to the 3rd Brigade commanded by Colonel Harold G. Moore. Mr. Rampmeier completed his service at Fort Bliss in El Paso, TX.

After leaving the military, Mr. Rampmeier started his career in business and finance for 21 years, then owned Express Employment Professionals for another 25 years. Along with that, he owned and operated a ranch and game ranch for approximately 24 years, plus real estate and other business ventures. He has received numerous professional business awards throughout his career.

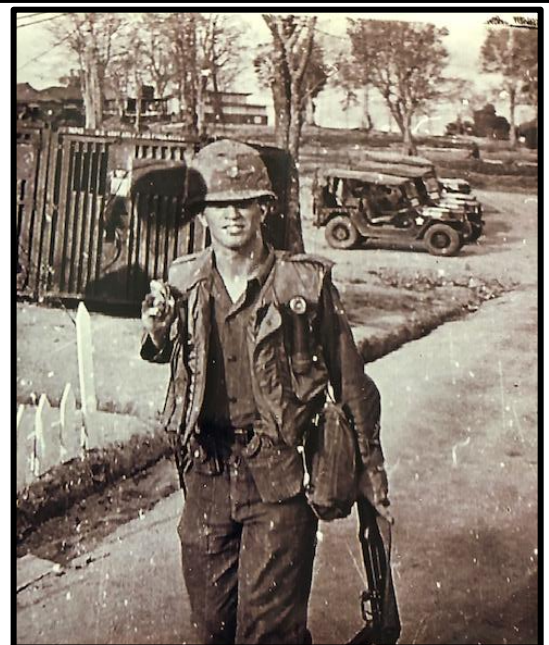
Now residing in College Station, TX, he has been an active member in his church, professional, civic, and charitable organizations. Mr. Rampmeier is a lifetime member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, VFW, VVA, and the SHSU Alumni Association. In addition, he has been very active in mentoring Cadets here at SHSU and awards the William and Elizabeth Rampmeier Endowed Scholarship to a deserving cadet each year.

Mr. William (Al) Rampmeier embodies every aspect of leadership we instill in our Cadets. He continually exemplifies selfless service and dedication to growing and mentoring future leaders. This program and our Cadets are thankful for his continued support.

On behalf of the Bearkat Battalion, thank you for exemplary service and support!



LT William (Al) Rampmeier and fellow MPs in Vietnam.



LT Rampmeier in Bong Song, 1966.



Alumni Spotlight – Mr. William (Al) Rampmeier '65



SHSU (SHSTC) graduating Distinguished Military Graduates of 1965.



9 Jan '07

Dear Mr. Rampmeier –

First thank you for your combat service in Vietnam as a fellow 1^o Cav.

trooper – and for the help that you and your men gave to me & my troopers in some very spotty places. And thank you for

the photos of that sad occasion when I had to leave my great Brigade at Dong Tru on 4 July '66.

With respect to a fellow 1^o Cav. combat veteran.

Hal Moore

Letter of appreciation from Lt. Gen.(R) Harold G. Moore to Mr. Rampmeier.

