



Best Alive! Newsletter



The Man, The Myth, The Maintenance Officer: Captain Jeremy Guy

Cadet Ragan

He needs no introduction. After three and a half years of exemplary service with Det 875, Captain Guy is returning to the maintenance career in the Air Force with the 6th Maintenance Group at MacDill AFB, Tampa, FL. Whether you have seen him work as the Operations Flight Commander, the AS200 Instructor, or even the Commandant of Cadets at Maxwell AFB, you know the incredible effort he puts forth towards any of his responsibilities. Both the cadre and the cadets have been lucky enough to get to know Captain Guy, but it's time to see how ROTC has shaped this well-oiled maintenance officer.

When first asked about what it will be like moving from Blacksburg to Tampa, Captain Guy was quick to reply, "My wife is excited, and I think it's going to be awesome." He went into the personal ties he has to the Sunshine State - noting how he and his wife met in Florida - as well as future dreams related to the coastal location. Perhaps unknown to many, Captain Guy has a lifelong dream to live on a boat, sailing from port to port. Which makes sense after spending so much time with planes. Captain Guy admitted his love for the Blue Ridge mountains, but can't help feeling more at home by the ocean.

Inside This Issue

Warrior Day	2
APA Banquet	3
April 16 th Vigil	4
Commissionees	4

Aside from the new adventure in Florida, Captain Guy also reflected on the takeaways from being a part of an ROTC program. "I never had to define my leadership style before," Captain Guy explained. He fleshed out this thought by saying how we're used to hearing leadership philosophies in the Corps, but it was new to him, and made him think about the right and wrong way to lead. Captain Guy also pointed out how teaching ROTC gave him a "Reblueing" which he defined as reigniting his passion and enthusiasm for the Air Force. Also, Captain Guy enthusiastically

stated, "I got to go to Field Training – TWICE," when asked to reflect on his best experiences.

Captain Guy ended with some final thoughts on leadership for us to apply as cadets, and especially as new lieutenants. He highlighted how leadership should revolve around trust, confidence, success, and humility. There's no doubt that Captain Guy has epitomized these traits for us to learn from. MacDill AFB is lucky to have your talent, Sir, but Det 875 will continue to carry on your lessons.



Warrior Day

Cadet Livingston

On Sunday, 23 April 2017, Detachment 875 geared up and headed to the Radford Army Ammunition Plant for training exercises known as "Warrior Day." Squadrons delivered briefs to their respective cadets to go over main points such as tactics, coordination, and a time schedule. All the while cadre evaluated cadets. After the brief, flights were transported in vans to the plant and completed three different Leadership Reaction Courses, supervised by AS400s and evaluated by AS300s. After an MRE lunch, cadets then picked up paintball markers and face masks to complete the main mission. The scenario

proved more difficult than originally planned when heavy rain clouded vision through masks, but it did not hamper morale. Cadet Henry MacGibbon did an outstanding job coordinating Warrior Day. In his words, he "hope[s] GMC cadets grew their leadership abilities, especially in scenarios that they may experience at LEAD and that AS300s had the chance to provide feedback in order to better prepare GMCs." He was also thankful for the positive attitude and motivation demonstrated by the Wing as well as hopeful that all had a fun, exciting, and challenging day.

Live in Fame or Go Down in Flame

Cadet Richie

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of members of the Air Power Association, Detachment 875 had a splendid evening at the Air Power Association Banquet. The event was held at The Inn at Virginia Tech on the first of April. Starting with cocktail hour, guests arrived to enjoy refreshments and conversation with friends. The impressive rendition of the National Anthem by the Cadet Choir complemented the elegant presentation of the Colors by the VTCC Color Guard. The VTCC Gregory Guard followed with a spin performance rifle demonstration. The Toast was then given and then the POW and MIA ceremony was presented by Cadet Jacobson and RFSS. The detachment was honored to host and welcome Colonel Donald J. Barnes as the Guest of Honor for the evening. His remarks reminded us of the true meaning of leadership through three personal stories from his experience in the Air Force. Dinner was served as well as a fun presentation by



Cadet Michael Crain and Cadet Michael Venkat in regards to those commissioning this year. Colonel Torrens then gave a few remarks before the Color Guard retired the Colors. The official ceremony was concluded with the Air Force song. After, the dance floor opened and the music and dancing began.

“Shout out to Cadet Amelia Daniels for staying up until 0300 while sick to make the event possible, so many little details were reviewed to make the banquet work well,” Cadet Sydney Tinker said, a member of the APA Banquet committee. The event would not have been possible without the help of many APA members including the detachment’s own Cadet Amelia Daniels, Cadet Kathryn Theiss, and Cadet Michael Venkat who spent hours planning and organizing the event. Many other cadets contributed to the success of the banquet and will be taking on the responsibilities of such events in the future.



A Day of Remembrance

Cadet Freeman

The shooting on April 16, 2007 was a day that would go down in infamy for Virginia Tech. Thousands of students, faculty, and parents were effected on this horrible day. The Corps was not exempt from this event as Matthew La Porte, a bandsman and Air Force ROTC cadet, was shot and killed while attacking the gunmen. When some hid in fear, La Porte tried to barricade the door of the room he was in. When the gunman eventually burst into the room he grabbed a desk and charged the gunman in an attempt to save his fellow classmates. In memory of Matthew La Porte the entire Air Force Wing went on a run to his grave. This was the first time that we have done this as a Wing, but it looks as though it will become tradition. It was a powerful sight

to see the entire Wing running to honor a fallen cadet. Even more powerful were the 32 memorial push-ups we did after the run. We counted as loud as we could in honor of the 32 victims of that fateful day 10 years ago. We honor Matthew La Porte for his sacrifice and his embodiment of the eight pylons and the Air Force Core Values. He stood above his peers in the face of danger and gave the ultimate sacrifice so that others may live. We also honor all 32 victims of the shooting, and their memory deserves to be passed on and honored as much as any other person. The victims of the April 16th shooting all deserve the highest honors that we at this university can give because they gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Saying “Goodbye” to Some of the Best Alive

Our 2017 Commissionees:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Alb, Juan S | Frazier, Morgan E | Lavoise, Scott R | Reynolds, Casey L |
| Bechtel, Michael J | Goddard, Mitchell P | Lyon, Benjamin W | Roberts, Leah K* |
| Carella, Anthony P | Goggins, Kyle W* | MacGibbon, Henry E | Robison, David R |
| Carroll, Kylie A | Gonsiewski, Walter J | McLernon, Nicholas C | Ross, Sean P |
| Carroll, Nicholas R | Gulotta, Matthew F | Melton, Virginia M | Rossi, Keith J |
| Crain, Michael A | Jimenez, Christopher J | Mercier, Mark R | Rozansky, Stephen E |
| Daly, Eric C | Jordan, Eric M | Mueller, Nathan A | Sharpy, Dylan T |
| Daniel, Lyndon E | Kelly, Matthew L | Oslund, Nathaniel S | Thomas, Randal C* |
| Daniels, Amelia G | Kelly, Sean J | Preiss, Joshua B | Vician, William B |
| Fetcho, Eric S | Lanman, Zachary L* | Reed, Samantha M | Vogel, Hannah M |
| | | | Warrell, Eric C |
| | | | West, Jonah A |
| | | | Winthrop, Phillip M |

*commissioning in August