SURF REPORT

Winter & Spring 2023

Photo Courtesy of Leilanie Rubenstein

UCSB Army ROTC Official Newsletter
When our current MSIV class arrived on campus in the summer of 2022 to prepare for the upcoming year, we had one simple goal, leave this program in a better spot than when we arrived. It may sound cliché, but we were determined to build upon what our predecessors accomplished and foster an environment for continued growth for our current Cadets.

So far, and with the help of all Cadets at every level, we have remained steadfast in our pursuit of that goal. Our Ranger Challenge team reached new highs by winning our local task force competition and representing the Surfrider Battalion at Joint Base Lewis-McChord! A team of 5 Surfrider Cadets traveled to New Mexico to compete in the Bataan Memorial Death March, placing second in their category! These remarkable achievements in the extracurricular realm were matched by excellence in everyday activities as well. We had six MSIV Cadets recognized as Distinguished Military Graduates for their outstanding contributions and achievements during their time in the program. Surfriders also set new standards for physical fitness, shattering the old Surfrider record for the Army Combat Fitness Test in May. During our joint spring field training exercise with 5 other schools from around the state, Surfriders led the way, demonstrating the tactics they learned and refined throughout the year at Leadership Lab.

As our MSIV class approached commissioning, there was undoubtedly ample time for reflection. We will remember the sunrise runs, the hot days at Leadership Lab, and the long weekends in the field. But ultimately, we will remember the people, because people make this program special. From all the Surfriders who came before us, all of those we had the pleasure of serving with, and all of those who will come after us, the Surfrider Battalion will always represent the best of what UCSB has to offer. As a class, we are proud to say that the program is flourishing, and we can’t wait to return as alumni and see how far it has grown!

- Chance O. Nelson
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Surfrider Cadre Leadership

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Surfrider MSIV Leadership

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CDT ROBERT WARD  
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CDT NICHOLAS LIZARRAGA  
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CDT YANDRELL HOLSOME  
S4

CDT ANNA BOUND  
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CDT JENNALI REYES  
S6

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CDT NATHAN PENNER  
AS3

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CDT QUINN SCHROEDER  
AS5

CDT NICOLE ANDERSON  
AS6

CDT JOHN ROLLINSON  
AS3

CDT NICHOLAS SANDERSON  
AS3

CDT SEBASTIAN BOUVIER  
AS4

CDT JUSTIN COLE  
AS3
Winter & Spring Events

**Winter**
- 09JAN Start of the quarter
- 25-29JAN Ranger Challenge Competition
- 11-12FEB Range Weekend
- 24FEB Reagan Ranch Visit

**March**
- 19MAR Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon
- 27-31MAR Spring Break

**April**
- 10APR Easter PT
- 21-23APR Joint Field Training Exercise
- 28-30APR Alumni Weekend

**May**
- 01-04MAY Army Combat Fitness Test
- 06MAY Military Ball
- 25MAY Sedgwick Reserve
- 27MAY Murph Challenge

**June**
- 01JUN 12 mile Ruck
- 16JUN End of Quarter
- 16JUN Commissioning
- 17-18JUN Graduation
JBLM Competition

After placing first at the 8th Brigade Task Force South Ranger Challenge Competition, the Surfrider Ranger Challenge team competed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) for a spot to represent the Brigade at the Sandhurst Ranger Challenge Competition at Westpoint, NY. During the last week of January, the team of 11 traveled up north to Seattle, WA where they spent five days competing against 5 other schools in the western Brigade Region.

The competition events combined both physically demanding fitness tests, advanced tactical knowledge, and tremendous teamwork. The events included: Functional fitness race, 8 mile ruck march, tactical combat casualty care and chemical biological radiation nuclear evacuation, an assault hand grenade course, M4 assembly and disassembly, M4 and M17 qualification, M230 grenade launching, M249 disassembly and reassembly, Zodiac carry and paddle, day and night land navigation, map reading test, Army Combat Fitness Test, one rope bridge, obstacle course, confidence course, patrolling exam, call for fire, and the viking right of passage.

The Surfrider team was very unique for several reasons; the team was the only one who was new to the competition, did not have prior service Cadets, had freshmen compete, and comprised of 3 females. Overall, the team proudly placed 4th! Freshman Nicolas Gandolfo described the experience as: “Often really intimidating competing against all upperclassmen but I had a lot of fun with my team and am excited to compete in future years.”

Captains Karsen Flom (MSIII) and Lauren Little (MSIV) have trained the team since last April, and described seeing the team compete as a “Rewarding and meaningful experience! It was amazing getting to see everyone's hard work and come together and conquer new experiences together.”

The team looks forward to the next season to train up the new team and is proud to represent the Surfrider Battalion!

"AFTER PARTICIPATING IN RANGER CHALLENGE FOR FOUR YEARS, IT WAS AMAZING TO END THIS JOURNEY AT JBLM WITH SUCH A HARD WORKING TEAM. WE LEARNED A LOT, AND I AM SO EXCITED TO SEE WHAT THEY ACCOMPLISH NEXT YEAR AT THIS COMPETITION."

MSIV LAUREN LITTLE
Engagement Skills Trainer (EST)

After four weeks of winter break vacation, the Surfrider Battalion wasted no time getting back into the swing of things! Their first weekend back, the MSIII class traveled to Camp SLO to complete land navigation and engagement skills training (EST) with the M4 rifle. Cadets virtually practiced zeroing their rifles and completing the 4 minute qualification course using training rifles attached to a laser and computer system which emulated targets popping up in real time. Following marksmanship, Cadets hit the hills and demonstrated their land navigation skills searching for various points around the camp. Practicing these skills are important for MSIIIs as passing M4 qualification and land navigation are both requirements to graduate from Cadet Summer Training.

Range Weekend

The Surfriders’ marksmanship training was just getting started with EST! In the first weekend of February, the Battalion met Cal Poly at Fort Hunter Liggett to conduct live M4 zeroing and qualification. Despite the rain, Cadets were able to zero their rifle and then attempt qualifying on the U.S. Army M4 qualification course which consists of 40 pop up targets at varying distances. Cadets spent two full days practicing what they had learned at EST which allowed them to enhance their marksmanship expertise. Once the range went cold, Colonel Lisa Lamb, Fort Hunter Liggett’s Garrison Commander, came to speak to the Battalions on behalf of UCSB’s Empowering Women in Leadership Club. She discussed her career in the U.S. Army and answered questions from Cadets about leadership and how to build a successful and competitive career- a great way to conclude a great weekend!
Reagan Ranch Visit

This past winter quarter, the Young America’s Foundation graciously hosted our MSIII and MSIV Surfriders at President Ronald Reagan’s ranch, Rancho Del Cielo, in the Santa Ynez mountains. Cadets had the opportunity to tour the original home and property of President Reagan and learn a little bit more about what he stood for and who he was as a person through heartfelt and humorous anecdotes.

During their time at the ranch, Cadets were able to visit Fort Drone, the Secret Service’s headquarters at Reagan’s ranch. After a fantastic lunch, our Surfriders were shuttled to the top of a hill that served as a helicopter landing zone, and provided an amazing view of the Santa Ynez valley. After a Q & A with the Young America’s Foundation, Cadets were given a copy of Riding with Reagan, written by John R. Barletta, and is filled with wonderful stories that exemplify the character of President Reagan.

"IT WAS REALLY SPECIAL BEING WELCOMED BACK HERE AND GETTING TO TOUR SUCH A HISTORIC SITE AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE INCREDIBLE LIFE OF PRESIDENT REAGAN. I’M EXCITED TO GO BACK NEXT YEAR!"

MSIII MICHELLE STORY
Bataan Memorial Death March

On March 19th, a group of Surfrider Cadets participated in a grueling 26.2-mile ruck march to honor the soldiers who fell in the Death March of Bataan. The event was organized to pay homage to the heroic soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II.

The event was split into two groups. The first group consisted of five Cadets who participated in a competition at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico: Lauren Little (MSIV), Jeremiah Canada (MSIII), Mark Marino (MSII Captain), Jacob Bailey (MSIII Captain), and Amgad Hawari (MSIII). Despite difficulties in fundraising and the COVID-19 pandemic, this was the first time in six years that the team was able to compete at the national event. The team was captained by Mark Marino and Jacob Bailey, and they competed against ROTC programs from across the country. Their hard work and dedication paid off, as they took an impressive second place out of 26 teams, demonstrating exceptional physical and mental toughness to complete the challenging ruck march.

"After training for several months, it was really memorable to see both teams do so well! Especially after not being able to go the past couple years. As a captain, it was really meaningful going to White Sands to represent the battalion for such a good cause. It’s no easy task but I’m so happy everyone stuck with it!"

MSIII CO-CAPTAIN
JACOB BAILEY

The second group of six Cadets completed the ruck march in the Santa Ynez mountains, which featured over 5000 feet of elevation gain. These Cadets included Daniel Marshall (MSIV Captain), Karsen Flom (MSIII), Sammy Shafik (MSIII), Alec Garcia (MSII), and Nicolas Gandolfo (MSI). This was a particularly challenging course, and the Cadets demonstrated great strength and perseverance to complete the march, paying tribute to the fallen soldiers of the Battle of Bataan, who demonstrated similar qualities of courage, strength, and determination.

Both groups of Cadets displayed an unwavering commitment to their training, team, and country. These Cadets serve as a testament to the values and principles of the UCSB ROTC program and to the spirit of service that drives them forward.

"After training for several months, it was really memorable to see both teams do so well! Especially after not being able to go the past couple years. As a captain, it was really meaningful going to White Sands to represent the battalion for such a good cause. It’s no easy task but I’m so happy everyone stuck with it!"
In mid April, the Surfrider Battalion traveled to Fort Hunter Liggett for a joint field training exercise alongside five other schools. In years past, this training event was composed of only three schools. With the purpose of Spring FTX to be to further prepare the MSIII Cadets for CST, the addition of the two other programs created an environment which more closely resembles the training environment in which they will experience at Fort Knox, KY. The first two days of the training event consisted of platoon STX lanes. During this time, our MSIII Cadets were able to practice working towards a common goal with Cadets from other programs who had a wide variety of different tactics and methodology. At the same time, the junior Cadets had the opportunity to refine their individual soldier skills and learn from the MSIII’s mistakes and successes. After the STX lanes were complete, the Cadets enjoyed hot chow from the cafeteria. The following morning, all Cadets had the opportunity to improve their land navigation skills. Land navigation started at 0400 and ended at 0830, giving Cadets the opportunity to practice plotting and finding points both during the night and day. Once land navigation was complete, the Surfrider Battalion packed up and headed home to face midterms!

"MY FAVORITE PART OF JFTX WAS WHEN THEY WOULD THROW SMOKE! IT WAS A LOT OF FUN GETTING TO BE WITH SO MANY NEW CADETS, AND USING REAL WEAPONS AND SMOKE GRENADES MADE THE WEEKEND UNLIKE ANY FIELD TRAINING I HAVE BEEN TO."

MSII TRISHA PAGALA
The Surfrider Battalion conducts Physical Training (PT) every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 0630. Maintaining a high standard of physical fitness and readiness is crucial, so a structured PT is essential. At the start of PT, the Battalion does Preparatory Drills (PDs) and Military Movement Drill 1 (MMD1) to warm up and prepare for that day’s workout or run. However, just because the Surfriders maintain a high fitness level, as shown by their highest average Army Combat Fitness Test score in UCSB ROTC’s history, does not mean that PT can’t be fun as well. It is important to have a quality mixture of team-building and physical excursion. For this reason, there are PTs throughout the year that are more so centered on fun activities, such as Surf PT, Easter PT, Bring-a-Friend PT, and our annual Contracting PT. For this year’s Easter PT, the MSIV class hid Easter eggs all around the track, and each squad competed against one another to search for eggs and conduct the workouts listed inside each one to find the final large golden egg to win. The Bring-a-Friend to PTs occurs a few times throughout the year and usually involves a team sport such as football or sharks and minnows, which is always a fun time. However, one of the most special PTs that the Surfriders have is the Contracting Ceremony PT, where the Battalion takes turns calling cadences to the beach. Once they’ve arrived, the newly contracted Cadets take the Oath of Enlistment while knee-deep in the ocean and get to call in a friend afterward to submerge in the ocean as a celebration.

Leadership Lab, or LLAB, is another regularly occurring event throughout the year. Every Thursday, the Battalion goes to Ellwood to practice and hone in on their leadership abilities and use the skills and lessons they have learned over the year. It is a wonderful opportunity for Cadets to show their accumulated knowledge while gaining helpful feedback from the Cadre and one another. During Spring Quarter, the Surfriders did Platoon Situational Training Exercises (STX) Lanes throughout the quarter. From the start of the year, the MSIII class had been learning the techniques and proper way to lead platoon missions; Spring Quarter is when they practice their leadership skills in different positions within a platoon to prepare themselves for Advanced Camp this summer.

"CONTRACTING AS A CADET IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO BE CELEBRATED, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT MEANS JOINING A PROGRAM LIKE THE SURFRIDER BATTALION. I WAS PROUD TO BE STANDING ALONGSIDE SOME OF THE MOST TALENTED, HARDWORKING, AND PASSIONATE PEOPLE I KNOW."

MSI MEGAN SCHRECK
On April 29th, we were thrilled to celebrate the “All Gaucho Reunion” at UCSB by having our own ROTC Surfrider Battalion Alumni BBQ on Goleta Beach. Many of our Cadets, both past and present, came out to the BBQ and had a chance to talk with each other about their Army careers as well as reminisce about their experiences in ROTC. We had alumni from the 60’s, 70’s, 80’s, and more recent years. Even though our guests varied in age, they all belong to the Surfrider Battalion family and have a strong bond.

A special addition to our Surfrider Alumni BBQ this year was presenting the “Live Like Regi” Alumni Scholarship Fund award to one of our current Cadets. The Live Like Regi Alumni Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Captain Reginald “Regi” Jerome Johnson, USMC, to honor his outstanding contributions and service to our country as a fighter pilot in the U.S. Marines Corps, and his unrelenting commitment to his far-reaching circle of friends. The Fund was created through the generosity of his many friends, family and those that served with him. Regi received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from UCSB in 1994, was a hurdler on the UCSB Track and Field team and fraternity brother of Phi Sigma Kappa. A few of Regi’s friends were on hand to present his prestigious award to MSIII Cadet, Amgad Hawari. Cadet Hawari is a fine example of living his life with many of the same beliefs and goals that Regi had.

We are thankful for all Surfriders, past and present, who were able to join us in person this year, and we hope to see them again and many more next year for our Surfrider Alumni BBQ.
Military Ball

On May 6th 2023, the Surfrider Battalion held their annual Military Ball at the Veterans Memorial Building in downtown Santa Barbara. This year we had a special guest speaker, Sergeant Major of the Army (Retired), Daniel A. Dailey. The night kicked off with the presentation of the Colors by the Surfrider Color Guard team followed by a rendition of the National Anthem by our very own CDT Connor Wilcox (MSIV). Following the National Anthem, CDT Mark Cullen (MSIII) performed the missing man ceremony to honor fallen and missing service members. LTC Erik Kunak and Sergeant Major of the Army (Retired), Daniel A. Dailey imparted words of wisdom upon the Cadets and commissioning seniors to help guide them throughout their careers in the United States Army. The night concluded with an incredible dinner and the Surfrider class skits as well as the grog ceremony, where each class presented a special ingredient to be mixed together and consumed by our MSIV Cadets. Military Ball Committee Chairs, CDT Amgad Hawari (MSIII) and CDT Alec Garcia (MSII), as well as the rest of the Military Ball Committee, did a phenomenal job planning this event all year and welcoming service members of several branches, the community, and our friends into the Surfrider family for one spectacular night.

“We had such an amazing team who came together and spent countless nights painting decorations, organizing flowers, or reviewing our dinner menu. I hope all of the guests enjoyed the evening as much as I did!”

MSII COMMITTEE
CO-CHAIR ALEC GARCIA
Clubs & Committees

The Surfrider Battalion is proud to have 16 different Cadet-ran clubs and committees; some of these are long standing in the program such as Bataan and Color Guard, others are making their debut this year such as the Empowering Women in Leadership Club and intramural volleyball! Any Cadet in the program is able to seek Cadre approval and begin a club in which Cadets can choose to attend. Some noteworthy achievements of our clubs include the Tactics Club led by CDT Mark Cullen (MSIII), where Cadets gather to go over tactics in depth and meet with various Surfrider alums to expand their tactical knowledge. Additionally, this Fall CDT Karsen Flom (MSIII) began the Empowering Women in Leadership Club where they met with several female leaders including the Garrison Commander of Fort Hunter Liggett, Special Forces Green Beret, self defense experts, and more to discuss the various problem sets women face in the military and positions of power. CDTs Daniel Park (MSIII) and Nathan Penner (MSIV) have been hard at work preparing the Battalion to pass the Army Combat Fitness Test and meet weekly to conduct strength training. Whether it’s in the classroom, on the court, or out in the field, Surfriders are always keeping busy bettering themselves and the community.

"THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY WEEK IS ALWAYS PLAYING SOCCER WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE BATTALION! RAIN OR SHINE WE ARE ALWAYS OUT THERE! A LOT OF PEOPLE COME OUT TO PLAY BUT WE ALSO GOT A KILLER FAN SECTION!"

MSII JORDAN JUCEAM
Awards Ceremony

Following a small celebration for the Army’s 248th birthday, the Surfrider Battalion hosted our annual Awards Ceremony where several distinguished Cadets were awarded for their phenomenal contribution to the Battalion and adherence to the Army values. Awards are given by both members of the Surfrider Battalion such as LTC Kunak, but also by several honorable supporters and Santa Barbara community members, such as the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Order of World Wars and the Pierre Claeyssens Veterans Museum Foundation. Over fifteen Cadets within the program this year were recognized for their achievements; awards can be given for a variety of reasons, including superior placement at Cadet Summer Training, notable volunteer service within the community, academic success, overall improvement, military bearing, and so much more. Some of the most memorable awards include those given by the families of fallen Surfriders whose families graciously grant a Cadet a monetary scholarship in honor of their loved one as a way to memorialize their service, achievements, time as a Surfrider, and incredibly honorable life. This year, The Captain Christopher C. Walter Memorial Scholarship Award was granted to MSIII Cadet Karsen Flom, and The Captain Dion J. Burmaz Memorial Scholarship Award was given to MSII Cadet Alec Garcia. On behalf of the Surfrider Battalion, we want to extend a special thank you to all who support our Battalion and so graciously helped award our amazing Cadets.

"AFTER MY FIRST YEAR OF ROTC, BEING ABLE TO RECEIVE AN AWARD AND BE RECOGNIZED FOR MY PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM WAS REALLY MEANINGFUL AND MAKES ME EVEN MORE EXCITED TO COME BACK NEXT YEAR!"

MSI TIMOTHY JOO
Commissioning & Graduation

What a bittersweet graduation weekend for our Surfrider Family! The Surfrider Battalion is proud to welcome 15 newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenants into the US Army! On June 16, Cadets and proud families and friends, all gathered at Goleta Beach to hold our annual Commissioning Ceremony where 15 MSIV Cadets officially became 2nd Lieutenants. With the waves crashing in the background, Cadets raised their right hand to recite their Oath of Office, and after four years of being displayed in the ROTC building, the new Lieutenants were finally able to pin on their official gold bar ranks. Per tradition, each commissionee was rendered a first salute and in return gifted the enlistee with a silver dollar. Many commissionees had someone special perform their oath or pin on their bars, such as 2LT Quinn Schroeder, whose father, LTC James Schroeder administered his Oath of Office; 2LT Schroeder described this as, “so meaningful to have my dad swear me in, he has supported me in every way the last four years as a Cadet and I know it made him very proud to see me become an Officer like him.” Following commissioning, these Officers weren’t done celebrating yet! Over the weekend, they continued the festivities as they received their Bachelor’s Degree from UCSB and traded their shiny gold bars and dress uniforms for a cap and gown! Commissioning and graduation are very meaningful events for our Cadets, Cadets’ families, Cadre, and the community to celebrate the outstanding achievements of these young men and women as both Soldiers and scholars, and wish them luck as they kick start their careers. As sad as goodbyes are, the program is incredibly honored to have been a part of the journey of these 15 Officers and know they will continue to demonstrate the leadership qualities instilled in them as a Surfrider.

Additionally, we had two commissionees graduate from California State University, Channel Islands and commission as 2nd Lieutenants at an earlier ceremony on May 21, 2023 in the company of friends and family. The two new Army Officers are 2LT Robert Ward and 2LT Justin Cole. Surfriders Lead the Way!
ANOTHER CONTRACTED CADET, ALTHOUGH NOT PICTURED IS: MSIII SAMMY SHAHIK. THE SURFRIDER BATTALION IS PROUD OF THIS MOMENTOUS STEP IN THEIR FUTURE ARMY CAREER.
Ashton Yin (MSII)
Major: Economics
Hometown: Riverside, CA
Looking to Branch: Combat Arms

How do you exemplify Respect?
"Respect can be exemplified in a number of ways, such as actively
listening to others, being open to different perspectives and ideas,
treating others with dignity and kindness, and avoiding behavior that
may be hurtful or dismissive. It also involves acknowledging the value
and worth of each individual, regardless of their background, beliefs, or
opinions, and pushing them to be their best."

Fun Fact: "I work as a Legal assistant at a law firm downtown Santa
Barbara."

Jenny Pham (MSII)
Major: Economics and Accounting
Hometown: Westminster, CA
Looking to Branch: Aviation

How do you exemplify what it means to be Focused?
"A quote that I’ve set as my daily reminder for a couple years now is, “If
you accept your misfortune and handle it right, your perceived failure
can be a catalyst for profound reinvention,” by Conan O’Brien. My
main focus in everything I do is growth, and with growth, there is
failure, and with failure comes a plan to try again or another way.
Maintaining an adaptive mindset has helped me stay determined and
work towards things I haven’t achieved yet."

Fun Fact: "I am the first woman in my family to pursue a military
career!"
**-INTEGRITY-**

Jordan Juceam (MSII)
Major: Sociology
Hometown: Simi Valley, CA
Looking to Branch: JAG Corps

How do you exemplify Integrity?
*For me, having integrity isn’t just being honest with those around you but being honest with yourself. It takes being completely transparent with yourself to realize that you may not be fulfilling your full potential as an individual, and your overall integrity will help you hold yourself to a standard. I try to live by this sentiment and be honest and trustworthy to everyone around me whether that be a roommate, another Cadet in the program, or a member of our Cadre!*

Fun Fact: "I love to draw and paint, it's very therapeutic, and spent a lot of my time this last summer painting murals at office buildings for some companies in LA."

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**-RESPONSIBLE-**

Elizabeth Fourney (MSI)
Major: Chemistry
Hometown: Cherry Hill, NJ
Looking to Branch: Medical Services

How do you exemplify Responsibility?
"Responsibility is about having a mindset where you can see the mistakes you made and tell yourself, “Ok let's move forward, fix your mistakes, and keep trying with the best effort you can.” By focusing on what you're doing well and not fixating on your mistakes, you'll learn more from the experience and grow stronger as a result."

Fun Fact: "I've performed at Radio City Music Hall with my high school Girls Ensemble opening for the Rockettes in their Christmas Spectacular."

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Alec Garcia (MSII)
Major: Political Science
Hometown: Hollister, CA
Looking to Branch: Field Artillery
How do you exemplify Determination?
"When I think of the word determined, I think of drive. To have drive is essential because you can affect your mission, your team, and yourself without it. I feel that if one commits themself to something, it is their job to have the determination and give total effort as they voluntarily decide to do it. My parents significantly influenced me and my view of this word. My parents never cared whether I went to college, vocational school, or the military or worked a 9-5 job as long as I was determined and gave it my all."
Fun Fact: "For seven years now, I have been working for a non-profit organization called the California Association of Student Councils."

Daniele Roberts (MSIII)
Major: Psychological and Brain Sciences
Hometown: Cherry Hill, NJ
Looking to Branch: Medical Services
How do you exemplify Excellence?
"To me, excellence means putting my whole heart into any endeavor in which I pursue. It means possessing moral virtue. Excellence is not a trait, but a habit. In order to maintain excellence, I have to be consistent in my efforts. It does not mean perfection. Rather, improvement in itself, is excellence. Whether it is in ROTC settings or other aspects of my life, I consistently strive for positivity and value. I hold myself to the highest standard, and refuse to settle or become complacent in life."
Fun Fact: "I spent one summer in Ostional, Costa Rica conducting field research on a population of Olive Ridley Sea Turtles."
Mark Marino (MSIII)  
Major: Political Science  
Hometown: Berkeley Heights, NJ  
Looking to Branch: Field Artillery  

How do you exemplify what means to be Resourceful?  
"Being resourceful is using all the available resources around you to become the best version of yourself. This means talking to Cadre, MSIV's, and anyone who has a wealth of knowledge that is willing to share for others to learn."

Fun Fact: "I like to practice my handstands and will often try to walk on my hands."

Congratulations to all our Surfrider Cadets who were spotlighted these past two quarters! They were nominated by Cadre and fellow Cadets for consistently living the Army values, demonstrating Surfrider qualities, and ultimately leading by example. We have no doubt that they will be great Army Officers in the near future.
Upcoming Summer Events 2023

- **June**
  - MSIII Cadets leave for Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky

- **July**
  - Cadets continue Cadet Summer Training
  - Cadets Garcia, Hawari, Yin leave for Air Assault School

- **August**
  - Cadets finish Cadet Summer Training
  - Cadets attend Summer Internships
  - Cadets attend CTLT

- **September**
  - Cadets return to UCSB for classes!
Thank you to the Media and Design Committee for creating this newsletter!

**MS II:**
1) Jordan Juceam  
2) Min Kim  
3) Ashton Yin  
4) Edward Grant

**MS III:**
1) Frank Dang  
2) Karsen Flom  
3) Shane Herup  
4) Eunice Lee  
5) Joel True  
6) Mark Marino  
7) Sammy Shafik

**MS IV:**
1) Daniel Marshall  
2) Jack Rollinson  
3) Sebastian Bouvier

**Committee Chair:** Quinn Schroeder (MSIV)  
**Committee Advisor:** Ms. Patricia Dent
Jonathan M. Church was a highly decorated combat veteran and avid surfer who passed away peacefully at the age of 77. He had an impressive 26-year military career, rising to the esteemed rank of Command Sergeant Major of the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion and earning the respect of his fellow servicemen and women. Jon served our Nation with distinction both in and out of uniform. He was the beloved Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the University of California, Santa Barbara Army ROTC and touched the lives of many young Cadets, whom he loved dearly. Additionally, he served the community as the Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1649 and the Commander of the Military Order of the World Wars. Jon had a deep love for the ocean and a passion for surfing. He displayed remarkable skill and determination, competing and emerging victorious in many California contests and even on the international stage. Jon also had a successful career at the US Post Office where he worked his way up to the position of supervisor showcasing his dedication, work ethic, and leadership skills.

He devoted significant time to training and mentoring others, leaving a lasting impression on his colleagues. Additionally, Jon fearlessly joined the fight against wildfires in California as a water tender transporting crucial water supplies. In his personal life, he was married to Wendy Church, the love of his life. They became inseparable companions and shared 11 unforgettable years adventuring far and near. Jon was a treasured member of the Yoon family, Wendy's own family. He became a father to Gia and Marlin, Wendy's children, who cherished his presence and held him in high regard.

In honor of Jonathan Church’s name and in lieu of flowers, you may donate to any of the following:

- UCSB Department of Military Science / Army ROTC
- Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1649
- Santa Barbara Military Order of the World Wars
Join our Surfrider Family

University of California, Santa Barbara
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