

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

The Alumni Newsletter is an unofficial news bulletin published in the interest of the Baylor AFROTC Alumni Association. Contents of this newsletter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the US Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, or Baylor University.

## Department of Aerospace Studies

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Detachment Commander

**Capt Marshall Black**  
Education Officer

**Capt Matt Renner**  
Operations Flight Commander

**Capt Bernard Sheppard**  
Recruiting Officer

**TSgt Hunter Wellington**  
Detachment NCOIC

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Administration NCOIC

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## COMMANDER'S UPDATE

Oh how the time flew this summer and another academic year is upon us! Last Spring, Det 810 cadets fared well above the national average during the POC Selection Process resulting in every eligible cadet earning their spot at Field Training! Once at field training, our AS200/250 cadets earned three superior performance awards, while our very own C/Teichert was instrumental to the success of ROTC's revamped Field Training as cadet cadre. Back at the Det, TSgt Wellington earned ROTC's Enlisted Instructor of the Quarter, leading efforts to launch a national medical Officer Development Training by coordinating a weeklong immersion with the 59th Medical Wing at Lackland AFB for two of our cadets. This effort laid the groundwork for a Det 810 led national level Health Profession Scholarship Program Townhall series with the Surgeon General's Office, raising awareness of medical career track options. In addition, our recruiting efforts since last spring bore significant fruit, resulting in the largest incoming class, 58 strong, since at least 2016. Finally, our cadets were busy traveling the world over summer to far flung places such as Taiwan, Morocco, the Philippines, and Kenya! As for cadre, we bid farewell to Maj(S)s Herlacher and Teicher and welcomed Maj(S) Black and Capt Sheppard. This upcoming semester is packed with trips to Lockheed/Martin, L3 Harris, Sheppard AFB, and continuing incentive flights with the 12th Flying Training Wing and 149th Fighter Squadron! Lt Col Sterling

## AY 2024-2025 CADRE AND STAFF



Lt Col Sterling



Capt Black



Capt Renner



Capt Sheppard



TSgt Wellington



SSgt Lewis



Mrs. Shipp



Mrs. Burris

## AVIATION RELATED NEWS

Over the summer, Baylor approved and funded our request to purchase an FAA approved Basic Aviation Training Device (BATD). This simulator provides a realistic flight experience which can be used to log official flight hours, build proficiency, and maintain currency when paired with a qualified FAA-certified flight instructor. Though only able to log a small number of flight hours for earning a private pilot certificate, up to 60 hours on the simulator under the supervision of a certified instructor may be counted towards a cadet's Pilot Candidate Selection Method (PCSM) score. We anticipate this resource will enable many future Air Force pilot hopefuls to fulfill their dream of earning a pilot AFSC allocation at a more reasonable cost.

As always, if you are able to help coordinate an orientation flight or share your Air Force experience, please contact the detachment at [afrotc@baylor.edu](mailto:afrotc@baylor.edu).



Gleim Flight Experience BATD

## AFSC DROP NIGHT!!



The results are in and our cadets are amazing! 75% of our AS400s received their #1 AFSC pick and 100% received a pick in their top 50% of AFSC options. Break down below:

11XX x 5: Crosby, Majcher, Mangan, Mckinzie, Teichert

12XX x 1: Choudhury // 38F x 2: Cunningham, Sargent

14N x 2: Magpantay, Zeigler (Not pictured)

15A x 2: Mitchell, Waldo // 21A: Shrader

62EXG: McDonald (Not pictured) // 63A: Carey

USSF: Baker

Congrats to all of our AS400/800s!!

## AIR FORCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Air Force ROTC Scholarship portfolio radically changed for this recruiting season. For the past two years, all High School Scholarships were Type 1 Full-Tuition and Fees. To better align ROTC production with Air Force needs and fiscal constraints, the Type 2 scholarship was re-introduced, which pays a maximum of \$18,000 in tuition and fees per year.

The Air Force is accepting scholarship applications from now until 31 December 2024!

Additional details concerning Air Force ROTC scholarships can be found on our Detachment website:

<https://afrotc.artsandsciences.baylor.edu/scholarships>

## ARNOLD AIR SOCIETY

The James Connally Squadron of Arnold Air Society (AAS) at Baylor University was stood up in 1950. Since that time, it has been continually active and has helped shape and mold generations of Detachment 810 cadets. This past spring, 14 Baylor cadets, representing a mix of AAS and Silver Wing members, traveled to San Diego for the National Conclave (NATCON), where they were exposed to Air and Space Force senior leaders and helped guide future national level efforts, and a Baylor cadet won national recognition for her service to Arnold Air Society.

This year's NATCON will be held in Atlanta and promises to be a rewarding experience for the cadets. Last year's trip was made possible through an additional dedicated budget increase from Baylor, as well as numerous donations. We plan to make the same request to Baylor this year.





C/Barton and Gust meeting MG Harrell



C/Majcher at Freefall (3rd from left)



C/Teichert meeting BG Cantrell (ctr)



C/Balsavias (Rt)



C/Sargent meeting CSAF (back row, 2nd from rt)



C/McKinzie and Collins



C/Baker



C/Brown slipping the surly bonds



C/Zenero (ctr) building bombs



## BAYLOR IN DEEDS

Join with the greater Baylor community in supporting the Department of Aerospace Studies and/or Baylor.

You can support Baylor's Department of Aerospace Studies by donating to either the AFROTC Corps Fund or the Chaplain Major General Gerald E. Marsh AFROTC Alumni Scholarship Fund. The Corps fund directly supports Detachment activities, while the Marsh fund supports an endowed scholarship awarded each fall to deserving cadets. Please consider helping offset steadily rising tuition costs experienced by college students across the nation and especially here at Baylor University.

# GREETINGS, ALUMNI!

Welcome Det 810 alums to the Fall 2024 semester at Baylor. We're into the fourth week of the semester and the Air and Space Force ROTC program is looking strong with increased enrollment, some new faces in the cadre, and a soon-to-be minted Colonel running the program. If you haven't heard, Ken Sterling along with several Det 810 grads were on the last O-6 list – keeping Baylor Proud!

Already this fall, our alums are showing their support to Baylor's Det 810. Two of six home games have been flown by our grads thus far with aerial support planned for the others. Baylor grads have spoken at Leadership Labs. Soon we'll be issuing a call to mentor the senior cadets as they prepare to cross into the blue – be ready to fulfill this vital mission. And, Homecoming is just around the corner (October 25-26) with activities planned for Friday Night at the Hurd, Saturday's parade and football game, along with our alumni scholarship board. Behind the scenes, your financial contributions are also making a difference to provide support for various cadet scholarships and activities. Thank you!

To that point, the cadre and cadets are making plans to send 10 or more cadets to the Arnold Air Society National Conclave in Atlanta. Lt Col Sterling is working to secure funds from Baylor to support this trip. If our AAS alums could also step up to fund \$2-3K worth of travel expenses, it would be a good investment in their professional development. Let's ensure our current AAS members can attend. Please give to the [AFROTC Corps Fund](#) and the cadre can arrange to facilitate funding of their travel.

Stay tuned to our [Det810 Baylor AFROTC Alumni](#) Facebook page for frequent news and updates. I look forward to seeing you at Homecoming – anniversary classes (2019, 2014, 2009, 2004, 1999, 1994, 1989, etc.), we're looking at you. Plan a class gathering and come "home" to Baylor! Finally, be sure to visit the [Air Force-Baylor | Alumni | Baylor University](#) website for alumni related news and events.

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## HOMEcoming / MARSH SCHOLARSHIP BOARD DETACHMENT OPEN HOUSE

Continuing our tradition of over 50 years, Detachment 810 cadets will march proudly in the university-wide homecoming parade on October 26, 2024. The parade route will begin in downtown Waco and travel down 5th Street through the heart of campus. Baylor expects a large group of alumni, students, and members of the local community to turn out and support the multitude of student and community organizations participating in this exciting event. The Detachment plans to use homecoming as a chance to reconnect with its alumni, forge new relationships, and support our current cadets.

October 25 - Detachment Open House // Marsh Scholarship Board

0900 -1500: Detachment Open House // Speight Parking Garage

1630-1730: Marsh Scholarship Board (coffee / snacks provided) // Hurd Welcome Center Board Room

Virtual Attendance will depend on the room assigned by the Hurd center staff

Please RSVP for all events to Mrs. Roberta Shipp at [roberta\\_shipp@baylor.edu](mailto:roberta_shipp@baylor.edu)

October 26 - Baylor Homecoming Parade

0830 - 1100: Detachment Open House\*

\* Timeline is variable based on kickoff.

Additional details to follow.

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<https://www.facebook.com/baylorAFROTC>



# CADET WING/CC CORNER

In the Fall 2024 semester, Detachment 810 will continue its legacy as one of the leading AFROTC detachments in the nation, producing Air and Space Force Officers of unparalleled character. This semester marks a significant milestone with our largest Cadet Wing in eight years. This growth attests to our continued commitment to developing future leaders with the skills necessary to join an ever-changing military, ready to tackle dynamic world challenges. This semester, our cadet wing mission statement “to embody a greater commitment,” prepares cadets to represent the unique ethos that unites military service members and provides a deeper meaning to a daily vocation.

Mentorship and intentionality of training are keystones to fostering that ethos. Focusing on the implementation of emerging Air Force concepts, this semester’s cadet mentorship program will include the Airman’s Foundational Competencies in complex scenarios that cadets from all AS levels will discuss with their peers.

We are looking forward to many exciting ways to engage and retain cadets this semester including hosting Leadership Lab at UMHB to further develop comradery amongst Baylor and crosstown cadets. Detachment 810 will partake in engaging base visits, wargaming, and dynamic physical training, while continuing the historic tradition of marching in the nation’s oldest homecoming parade. Above all else, we are continuously enforcing a culture of effective communication, intentional feedback, camaraderie, and the highest level of professionalism in all our cadets, preparing them to be the next leaders of this great nation.



## 54TH FIGHTER GROUP VISITS DET 810

During Training Week 3 (Sep 9-13) Col Sam “Tweak” Stitt III (Class of 2000) returned to his alma mater in a big way! Col Stitt, along with his Deputy and Chief of Staff, provided invaluable career insight and mentorship to Det 810 cadets by sharing their career experiences and participating in a Q&A session with our cadets, answering questions spanning a broad range of topics. At the conclusion of this event, he gifted a signed lithograph to the Detachment for display.

On Friday of that week his unit conducted a pre-game flyover practice and then recovered at the former James Connally Air Force Base, where his crews provided a hands on “pet the jet” opportunity for over 30 Detachment 810 and Connally High School JROTC cadets. Finally, he personally led a two-ship flyover of the Baylor vs Air Force Salute to Heroes game at McLane Stadium!

Visits like these are incredibly valuable learning opportunities for our cadets. If you are interested in coming back “home” and doing something similar, contact Detachment Cadre at [AFROTC@Baylor.edu](mailto:AFROTC@Baylor.edu).



## SPRING COMMISSIONING



New Lieutenants Left to Right:

**Caleb Strube**  
Logistics Readiness  
Moody AFB

**Jacob Ischy**  
Combat Systems Officer  
Pensacola NAS

**Carson Duncan**  
RPA Pilot  
JBAS Randolph AFB

**George Schroeder**  
Public Affairs  
Little Rock AFB

**Scott Harton**  
Gold Bar Recruiter  
Arlington TX  
Pilot  
Location TBD

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