Honoring Those Who Served

Veterans Day Vigil
C/ Marshall

Engraved above the west entrance of the Memorial Amphitheater, located right behind the Tomb of the Unknowns, reads “Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori” meaning “It is sweet and fitting to die for one’s country.”

Every year on November 11th, we honor those brave men and women who have served this country, especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. This year to honor our veterans, Det. 875 stood guard over the Rock in honor of those killed or missing in action. When asked what his
motive were for volunteering, Capt Guy commented, “I’m a veteran, too and I’m doing my part by honoring those who served. It’s an honor to be serving them, especially the ones that didn’t get to come home.” This is a sentiment shared by all of us at Det. 875. As we stood facing Lane Hall, we couldn’t help but remember those who came before us and feel honored to stand guard for them. As cadets, we are always reminded of why we want to serve and live out Ut Prosim. Our detachment let it be known that we will never forget about our brave veterans, and we will always honor those who didn’t return home.

Motives were for volunteering, Capt Guy commented, “I’m a veteran, too and I’m doing my part by honoring those who served. It’s an honor to be serving them, especially the ones that didn’t get to come home.” This is a sentiment shared by all of us at Det. 875. As we stood facing Lane Hall, we couldn’t help but remember those who came before us and feel honored to stand guard for them. As cadets, we are always reminded of why we want to serve and live out Ut Prosim. Our detachment let it be known that we will never forget about our brave veterans, and we will always honor those who didn’t return home.

**Cadet Highlights**

Many of the cadets in Det. 875 do truly wonderful things. This is just a small way of congratulating some of them. This month we are highlighting one cadet for his commitment to excellence this November. Of course, there are many more outstanding cadets doing equally outstanding things in our detachment, that’s what makes us the best alive!

First, we would like to highlight everyone that participated in the Veterans Day Vigil. Your service to our community and detachment has not gone unnoticed and we thank you.

Next, we would like to highlight Cadet Aaron Morales for his efforts for the Veterans Day Vigil. Cadet Morales organized not only the Vigil guards, but also led the creation of two instructional videos on the procedures and rifle drill for the Vigil. These are not simple tasks and we thank him for his service to our detachment.

Way to go, Det. 875! Can’t wait to see what wonderful things you can achieve next month.
Seven AFROTC and seven AROTC cadets, accompanied by Lt Col Ward and CPT Wright, attended the American Veterans Conference in Washington D.C. in early November.

Previous attendees said the conference was life changing and they highly recommended going. When I saw an email sent out to the Wing about it I knew that it was an opportunity I couldn’t pass up.

The conference included panels of wounded warriors, WWII veterans, Pearl Harbor survivors, Medal of Honor recipients, and many other men and women of valor who shared their inspiring stories. The Honorable Deborah Lee James, General Peter Pace, and Chuck Hagel also made appearances as keynote speakers.

We had the opportunity to meet all the distinguished guests during the conference at the receptions. We mingled with the guest speakers and met other cadets from all the service academies and ROTC detachments. We met the Norwegian Ambassador, Kåre R. Aas, at a reception at the Norwegian Embassy.

Another major event of the conference was a black tie dinner with a reception at the Mayflower Hotel in D.C. It was another chance to continue to meet and have personal conversations with the panel members. During dinner, there was a televised honors program where various panel members were presented with awards by special guests such as actors Kevin Spacy and Sean Murray.

We were presented with a unique opportunity for some of us to have a personal tour of the guard quarters of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier the next morning. While only half of our group was allowed into the tomb guard’s quarters, one of the guards took time out of his day to meet with all of us to answer any questions we had about the life of being a tomb guard.

The American Veterans Conference is a unique opportunity that is well worth the drive up to Washington D.C. The experiences we gained from the trip were truly life changing.
It’s a warm, sunny November afternoon. You are out with your squad at the Virginia Tech Cross Country Course going for a nice morale run. All of a sudden two zombies jump out and chase you! You sprint as fast as you can, but the zombies catch up. One reaches out, and as you begin to panic, the zombie screams, “twenty five burpees!”

The Halloween Run, planned by Cadets Noah White and Michael Venkat, was held during Leadership Lab on Tuesday, November 1st. Cadets lined up by squadron near the Virginia Tech Cross Country Course and departed into the abyss. “This year we made the run more of a morale boosting event because it was during Leadership Lab. It was daytime when we had the run so we added the callisthenic exercises to give some incentive to run fast,” commented Cadet White.

The squadrons were sent through the course and had to avoid getting tagged. If tagged, the cadets had to complete a variety of callisthenic exercises. Morale boosting events like this are what make Detachment 875 the best alive!