WHO: Cowboy Battalion Cadets
WHAT: Dining In
WHEN: 15FEB14
WHERE: Hilton Garden Inn, Laramie Wy
SUMMARY: Since it’s inception in 1776, the U.S. Army has kept the Dining In tradition to build unit cohesion, camaraderie, and espirit de corps. This year the Cowboy Battalion Dining In was no exception.

It started with a receiving line consisting of the members of the head table who greeted each Cadet by name. This was followed by the posting of the colors and then the mixing of the grog. The tradition of the grog is to add ingredients for major conflicts in which the Army has been engaged, making for a very 'dynamic' mixture used for toasts throughout the evening. The final toast is saved for the POW/MIA ceremony, honoring those who have made the final sacrifice. During dinner, the floor was opened up for entertainment which consisted of calling fellow Cadets out with points of order and points of honor. Points of order are used to draw attention to a fellow Soldiers' deficiencies; while a point of honor is used to defend against the accusation. Punishments are determined by Mr. Vice and may range from having to sound-off at every point of order, to drinking extra grog, conducting physical exercises, or paying fines. American Legion Post 14 Commander, Deanna Hurless, delivered a rousing speech about the great service that the American Legion provides veterans across the nation and in the local community. Afterward, the colors were retired and the mess was officially closed. Each class acted out a skit after dinner making fun of the Cadre and other Cadets, as is tradition. At the end of the evening, everyone walked away after having a lot of fun, getting to know each other a little better, and knowing they took part in one of the Army's great traditions.