



Sep 2015

**Check us out on
AFJROTC.COM!**

**...and on Facebook at
"HQ AF Junior ROTC"**

On the Horizon...

2015-16 Academic Bowl Sched

- **1-25 Oct** - Practice Test (open to all)
- **26 Oct– 15 Nov** - Team Registration (open to all)
- **1-15 Nov** - Level 1 Round (open to all)
- **1-15 Feb** - Level II Round
- **24-28 Jun** - Level III Championship Round JLAB

Register: www.cofcontests.com

- **December 2015** - AdvancEd Accreditation Visit to HQ and several select units in AL & AZ
- **11-22 July 2016** - JICC 2016!



AFJROTC News & Notes

From the Director

Advocates and Ambassadors Needed

- Did you know that AFJROTC has 125,000 cadets? (over 1/3 the size of the entire USAF!)
- Did you know that over the last 3 years cadets did over 4.6 MILLION hours of community service?
- (2013 - 1,559,000 hours / 2014 – 1,521,178 hours / 2015 – 1,604,929 hours!)
- Did you know that AFJROTC is a 58% minority program with 38% female participation?



These are just a few of the incredible facts about AFJROTC and the huge national impact of our unique and life changing program. With budget constraints and challenges at an all-time high, we need to be as clear, positive, and direct as possible about our incredible program and clearly communicate at every opportunity the huge positive impact of AFJROTC and what it does for cadets, schools, communities, the USAF, and our great nation. If all of us clearly communicate our national and local contributions to everyone we can (and our challenges to the right people), we will succeed in increasing awareness which I believe will help in securing some desperately needed very high level advocacy for our program. I want to give each of you some important points that you and your cadets can use to better advocate for our program.

- AFJROTC has 125,000 cadets... a new program record! That's over 1/3 the size of the USAF!
- AFJROTC is a Citizenship program and not a recruiting program and cadets are never under an obligation to join the military
- Our cadets do over 1.5 Million community service hours annually – Over 4.6 Million since 2013!
- Last year our cadets surpassed the 1.6 Million hour mark for community service!
- Our goal this year is 1.7 Million community service hours!
- AFJROTC is a 58% minority program with 38% female participation! (nothing else in the military comes close to that)
- AFJROTC has close to 2,000 USAF retired instructors who lead, teach, mentor, guide and inspire their cadets
- Our great cadets and instructor's involvement and service generates great goodwill for the USAF and promotes very positive USAF image in over 885 communities all across the US and overseas!
- AFJROTC gives the USAF "presence" in many areas that are not near US military bases
- Most importantly cadet lives, their schools, their communities, and our nation are positively changed because of the program!
- In the words of Gen Robin Rand, the previous AETC/CC, "...this program saves lives!"

Gold Valor Awards

NV-20011 Cadet Karim
Hussein

Silver Valor Awards

FL-954 Cadet Joshua Bride-
groom

FL-954 Cadet Kieran Moore

Community Service with Ex- cellence Award

OH-091- Cadet Zoe Collins

OH-20052 - Cadet Jeremy
Fletcher

TN-20026 - Cadet Jeffery
Neikirk

CA-20065 - Cadet
Remington Davis

OH-20051 - Cadet Haley
Ann Dockery

Humanitarian Awards

TX-20004

Cadet Sebastian Arizpe

Cadet Kord R. Ashwood

Cadet Israel Brakens

Cadet Brennan Rogers

Cadet Lenardo Flores

Cadet Maxwell Gaddy

Cadet Blayne Hamilton

Cadet Isayania Hernandez

Cadet Garrett Hilliard

Cadet Natalie Jarratt

Cadet Dora Perchez

Cadet Casey Primera

Cadet Christian Nez

The very best advocates and ambassadors for the incredible AFJROTC program are our 125,000 cadets and 1,970 instructors! This information, coupled with a personal story or two from a cadet on what the program did or is doing for them is POWERFUL. I am writing to ask that you use the briefing and information we have provided in WINGS / Published Files / Directory / JROTC / AFJROTC Director (folder), where you will find the "AFJROTC Intro and Info Brief - .com brief (PPT)" with all of these facts and more. I encourage you to download this brief and use the key info in it to build your own unit "Cadet Outreach" briefing that can be given by your sharp cadets to school and community leaders, representatives, and supportive organizations to spread the word about the great things that our cadets and instructors are doing in our 889 units in the US and overseas.

I have heard some very impressive cadet unit briefs that could be tweaked with some "big picture" key facts right up front about the "AFJROTC national program" then go into your specific unit accomplishments and successes. These important engagements will certainly help your unit gain some valuable support. This local support could easily translate into national level support if the right people are informed about the impactful AFJROTC program. Thank you so very much for all you have already done and your help and willingness to help spread the word on all that our program is accomplishing with our youth. I do respectfully ask for your help.

Please know that your HQ continues to work hard to inform AF senior leaders about our program and gain their support, but more needs to be done. We recently briefed Gen Rand and Lt Gen Roberson (new AETC/CC) on the AFJROTC successes and challenges. Thank you again for your advocacy for our program and for being true "Ambassadors in Blue" to everyone you meet and interact. We need very positive, clear and strong advocates and ambassadors for AFJROTC. Thank you for your help in properly telling the story of our unique and impactful program!

We had an incredible JICC 2015 with over 300 new and returning instructors and about 50 experienced Seminar Leaders. This was the largest JICC training ever conducted. Kudos to the CR, JR, and SD personnel, and our Seminar Leaders for all the hard work to make this superb training happen.

HQ continues to work to secure vital funding and we will be pushing O&M money out much sooner in the school year to allow instructors plenty of time to plan for and fully execute that funding. Please use it. Pete Gray will pass on some other great developments in his article this quarter. Maj Dawson will list out some great "bumper sticker" slogans and we ask for your help to give us your ideas. We have some great stories in this quarter's Newsletter that you will surely find interesting and helpful. Take the ideas presented and consider ways to make your unit better, stronger, and more active!

Thanks for all you do to lead, teach, mentor, guide and inspire our cadets... and thank you for spreading the word about the great impact and benefit of AFJROTC! Tell everyone you can and let's get our story out to key leaders in every echelon. Welcome back to school. We look forward to a great year in AFJROTC. Thank you again!

Col Woods



AFJROTC Deputy Corner

I hope everyone enjoyed their well-deserved Summer Vacation! The following list includes some useful information that has occurred over the summer.

Humanitarian Awards

TX-20004

Cadet Jacob Parsons

Cadet Ryan Rios

Cadet Stetson Rogers

Cadet Aubree Rowley

Cadet Jacob Laureles

Cadet Reagan Tampke

Cadet Eljiah Josie

Cadet Sloan Kail

Cadet Ernest Modkins

Cadet Melynna Morgan

Cadet Adrian Wilkerson

Cadet Brayden Woods

- Regional Director's visited 10 Cadet Leadership Courses in June.
- Even the Director visited a CLC (Kerrville, TX) and delivered the grad speech
- Funding for 250 additional multi-copters was approved--all orders are complete.
- Funding for 350 Remote Controlled Aircraft was approve--all orders are complete.
- The largest JROTC Instructor Certification Course (JICC) ever occurred in July for 253 new (350 total with Seminar Leaders) AFJROTC instructors.
- AFJROTCI 36-2001, has been reviewed and is in coordination. A policy letter including changes has been signed and uploaded in WINGS for the upcoming school year.
- HQ approved the use of EMALL funds for acquiring ABUs and Sage Boots. Ref, Director's 15 July 2015 Policy Letter.
- The AFJROTC Operations Supplement has been updated and is available within WINGS.
- Our "HQ AF Junior ROTC Facebook" page is now being updated as needed.

Upcoming suspense's that need to be on your radar are:

- Last day to order Uniforms thru EMALL for FY15--18 Sep 2015
- Last day to obligate funds for Reimbursement FY15--30 Sep 2015
- Instructor, Superintendent, Principal info updated--10 Oct 2015
- Cadets loaded into Classes for AY2016--10 Oct 2015
- Setup of Curriculum within WINGS----10 Oct 2015
- Fall Enrollment Verification/PSR verified--10 Oct 2015
- Unit Goals Submitted--10 Oct 2015
- Applications for AEF Grants-Fall--10 Oct 2015
- Cadets loaded onto AY2016 Roster--10 Oct 2015
- School AY Demographic Data for AY2016--10 Oct 2015
- Last day to file for Reimbursement for FY15--30 Oct 2015

Thanks for all your hard work in developing citizens of character for America!



Curriculum Corner – Fall 2015

Welcome back from your much needed summer break! Now that school has started we would like to share some curriculum updates that you may find useful to help kick-start your school year.

Addition of Companion Websites for AS 220 and AS 300

This past year, we were fortunate to receive funding to develop two additional companion websites—one for AS 220: *Cultural Studies: An Introduction to Global Awareness* and for AS 300: *Exploring Space: The High Frontier*. These new companion websites will include updates to the curriculum, online resources, online study aids, and lesson quizzes. When the companion websites are completed and ready for cadet use, we will notify you using your WINGS email account. We know you will find these additional companion websites useful for your cadets. Holm Center Curriculum Directorate's mission is to provide you with valuable, 21st century curriculum and resources.

AS 100: A Journey Into Aviation History: Here are some updated sources provided by one of our teachers for obtaining hot air balloons and kites for the activities:

Pitsco Education – Zoon Hot-Air Balloons: http://www.pitsco.com/Zoon_Hot-Air_Balloons

Kites on a Roll: <https://kitesonaroll.com/>

AS 200: The Science of Flight: A Gateway to New Horizons: This summer, we compiled updates to the 2012 *The Science of Flight* course. You can find these updates in two places:

Posted on WINGS in Menu | Published Files | Directory | JROTC | Curriculum | AS-2012 Science of Flight | Errata Sheet June 2015-SF

The Companion Website in the section entitled Home | Teacher Resources | Errata Sheet (as a reminder, instructions for accessing the website are in the SF Instructor Guide on page ix)

CPS/TPC Webinar Dates Available for New School Year

The new school year has started and now is good time to brush up on your CPS, Mobi Board, and TPC skills. CPS has been in use since 2008, however, curriculum has changed and the CPS database has evolved since its initial release. Additionally, many units will receive the new Turning Point Cloud (TPC) engagement system. Just as the name implies, we are moving towards moving curriculum updates to a cloud based system. If you are one of the units that received the TPC you will definitely want to take advantage of the webinar offerings. So, please take a look at the recently sent email notifying each of you about dates and registration procedures for the upcoming CPS, MOBIVIEW, and TPC training webinars.

Many of you may want to review some of the available webinars held during the previous school year as you are preparing to teach your lessons using CPS this fall, we wanted to remind you that we have put together a video library for basic and advanced CPS and MobiView. These videos and training manuals may be found by going to following link: <http://www.screencast.com/t/Hv6ffVZOrv>

Curriculum Corner – Fall 2015

Introducing Leadership Education Electives

Starting this school year, Holm Center Curriculum is providing an option of Leadership Education (LE) electives to allow you more flexibility when Unit Defining Courses in WINGS. LE electives are intended to build upon Holm Center provided leadership education and skills development curriculum. Further engagement rules and descriptions can be found in the 2015 Curriculum Guide starting on pages 8 and 180. Examples of how to incorporate LE electives in your seven-year curriculum plan can be found starting on page 41. Since only Unlocking Your Potential (UYP) is shipped from our warehouse, the 2015-16 CMPF will provide the necessary points of contact for the remaining electives.

Additionally, LE elective content will be identified and listed in:

WINGS |Unit Management |Curriculum |JROTC HQ Provided Curriculum as an LE ELECTIVE1, LE ELECTIVE2, and so on.

New Template for Unit Defining Courses

Recent efforts to simplify the wings curriculum process has received positive feedback from those instructors who have recently defined their unit courses. This new template focuses on the course level and does not require unit/chapter level details. Instructions are published in WINGS | Published Files | Directory | WINGS User Guide and Videos | JROTC Guides and Videos | JROTCCourses.docx. Please review the instructions before you try to input your current Unit Defined Courses into Manage AY. Look at the Sample Templates 23.2.1. and make sure you read about "Course Content Rules Validation. The changes have eliminated the need to put in Units of study (units/chapters), and allows instructors to input the total hours they will be teaching from a particular textbook (AS 100/ LE100, AS220/LE200 etc.) Each course still has to maintain the 40/40/20 break out, and meet the Course Content Rules Validation, but now if you want to spend more time on a specific chapter you have the liberty to do so.

It is important to remember that since you are no longer required to input units/chapters on your Unit Defined Courses, you must now add this information to your Course Syllabus. An example of this can be found in WINGS |Published Files |Directory |JROTC |IAFJROTC Curriculum |Curriculum Guide | Sample_Course_Syllabus. This information may also be found the 2015 Curriculum Guide.

Example for TRAD, A/B, or TRI Schedule:		Example for 4x4 or Block Schedule:	
AS100	36 hours	AS100	72 hours
LE100	18 hours	LE100	36 hours
Drill Cumulative	18 hours	Drill	36 hours
Wellness	18 hours	Wellness	36 hours

Technology Tidbits

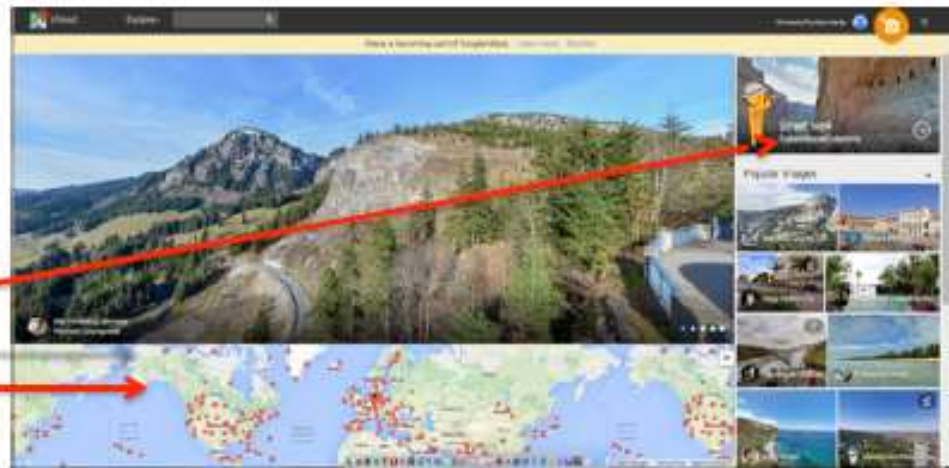
Happy FALL 2015! I hope you all have a great start to the new school year! During the recent JROTC Instructor Certification, we were able to share some of the great online resources that are out there to support the 21st Century Classroom; some for the students, others for instructors (either through professional development, improving knowledge of a topic, or even to gain lesson ideas). For each, I'll identify suggested use.



[Google Views with Special Collections](https://www.google.com/maps/views/home?gl=us)

<https://www.google.com/maps/views/home?gl=us>

A very exciting development with Google Views (soon to be part of Google Maps) is shown here. Navigate by clicking on the pictures (note that the upper right picture takes you to special collections, including oceans) or the red dots on the map. Suggested Uses: Cultural Studies enhancement (check your internet connection and access prior to any classroom use!), Current Events (if this is part of your classroom), prompts for Quick Writes.



OR (I recommend the following first ☺):

Behind the Scenes (how Google does this): <https://www.google.com/intl/en-US/maps/about/behind-the-scenes/streetview/treks/> This link lists out several of their most cool explorations.

One of the most dramatic of their Treks, [if swimming with whales, exploring shipwrecks, or wandering about the Pyramids of Egypt, the Taj Mahal, the Eiffel Tower and more, aren't enough,] is climbing El Capitan, Yosemite. Click on the arrow in the upper right to view the intro video.



Technology Tidbits



Symbaloo – <http://www.symbaloo.com> -- Staying Organized on ALL Internet Connected Machines



Symbaloo allows you to organize your bookmarks visually into a webmix. I introduced the Symbaloo webmix above (titled "Combs-Hardy") during this summer's initial certification. It is available for you to use and edit. (Yes, to do this requires a free account). To find my symbaloo, click on the ladder (upper left) and click on "Add a Webmix" → search for my name "Combs-Hardy" and scroll down to find it. Right mouse click on the tiles to edit and save. To access on more than one machine, you will have to use an Internet browser to navigate to Symbaloo, and log into your free account.

NOTE: With gorgeous scenery and potential visual impact through Google Treks, a broadband connection is best, as a glitchy connection can really ruin the effect you were going for. Therefore, test which times of the day your Internet connection is strongest. OR use screen/video capture software for Fair Use (relating to Copyright restrictions) of resources in your classroom ... running a video or using a picture you have saved to your local harddrive and avoid the risks of a sketchy Internet connection.

A special "Thank you" goes out to the CR (Curriculum) & Technology Team for this quarter's submission!

Ms. Vickaline Helms, Ms. Linda Sackie, Mr. Michael Wetzel, & Dr. Combs-Hardy (Chief of Educations Technology)

AFJROTC Operations Corner

The Power of Grass Roots

Welcome back from vacation! This school year is poised to be one of the greatest AFJROTC years ever. We have hundreds of new instructors, fresh from JICC, rarin' and ready to go, full of enthusiasm, and with vast resources at their fingertips. We have more cadets than ever before, enthusiastic to learn and to serve. And just as importantly, we have a director who is a huge advocate of the program, and is seeking opportunities to advocate the great things you do every day to leaders at the highest levels of the Air Force. Your successes have been noticed, and commanders at every level, from the Holm Center commander to the AETC commander, want you to succeed and grow! Now is the time to push at the "grass roots" level.

One way to do that is to develop short, catchy phrases, like bumper stickers, that you can present to anyone who is willing to listen. These phrases need to give an impactful message about AFJROTC that is immediately understood. Here are a few examples:

- Citizenship - AFJROTC!
- AFJROTC - 125,000 Strong!
- Community Service - AFJROTC!
- AFJROTC - It's not just about the USAF!
- AFJROTC - 125,000 Strong - Saving Lives!
- AFJROTC - Our Nation Needs this program!
- AFJROTC - ~~Virtual~~ Presence Around the Globe!
- AFJROTC - Teaching Integrity, Service, Excellence!
- AFJROTC - In 891 Communities around the Globe!
- AFJROTC - Teaching "Hands On" Leadership for Life!
- AFJROTC - A Positive Force for the USAF and Nation!
- AFJROTC - 4.6M+ Community Service Hours Since 2013!
- AFJROTC - Serving, Mentoring, Teaching, Leading by Example!
- AFJROTC - The Face of the USAF in our communities and overseas!
- AFJROTC - 2000 Instructors making a positive difference for our Nation!
- AFJROTC - Positively Impacting Cadets/Schools/Communities/Nation/Air Force!
- AFJROTC - USAF Diversity in Action - 58% Minority and 38% Female participation!
- AFJROTC - Air Force "Presence and Goodwill" in 891 Communities around the Globe!

These are messages that you can give to school newsletters, local papers, or anyone who notices your efforts, and wants to know more. These are only a few examples. You are the ones making the impact every day, and you know what is most effective. Help us sell the program – **what are some good examples of “bumper sticker” advocacy that you have used to show the program off in your communities?** What can we use to advocate the program to the world? Please send your best bumper sticker slogans to **HQ-DirOps@AFJROTC.COM**. The top ten will be included in the next newsletter, along with the unit that sent it in.

Thanks so much for all you do for our nation. Your impact is deeply felt, and will last for generations. Nothing can change the destiny of a nation more powerfully than changing the lives of the nation's youth. I truly believe that what you do for national security and our future as a nation is more important than any other national organization, because good, engaged citizens are the safeguards of freedom. Thank you!

AFJROTC Operations Support – Fall 2015

If you are locked out of email please do the following:

"JROTC Email support- Be sure to enroll on the Password Self Service site. The address is <http://accounts.holmcenter.com> If you have forgotten your email password do not open a WINGS Ticket. Send a email from your school account to **email.support@holmcenter.com** and ask for a temporary email password. The email administrator will send you a temporary password that can only be used to establish a permanent password. Please let them know which unit you belong to and any other pertinent details/info. "

Civil Air Patrol: Funds have been pulled, no more flying unless you have specific permission telling you that you can. We allocated \$50,000 and only \$27,189.53 was used.

Summer Camp funding. We allocated \$1.6 million and only \$825,000 was used (There are some camps still going). Next year we are going to put timelines of when you all can host summer camps. We are going to also require that you submit your reimbursements requests for camps within 10 working days following the end of your camp.

Finance in general: You all should be submitting your reimbursements at least once a month. Please do not wait to submit one large request at the end of the school year.

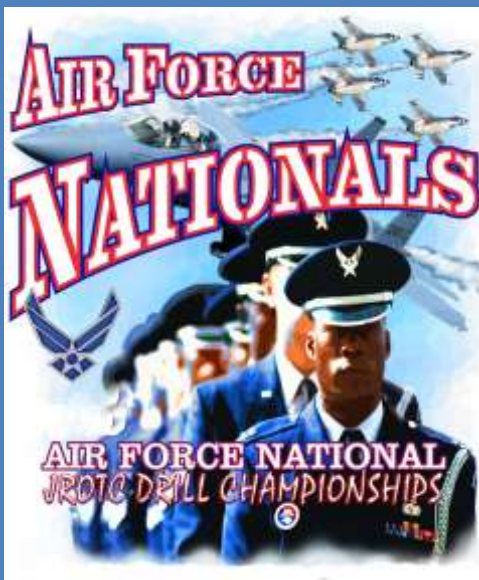
Unit Money Transfers between accounts: we normally can transfer funds between your MILPER and EMALL funds but right now we are holding the transfers. This is because we need to get more uniform money. We are hopeful that we can resume the transfers but we can't guarantee since its close to the end of the year.

For inquiries regarding reimbursements: You are required to check with your district first when inquiring about your refunds. If the district has not received payment into the account, then you should send an email to: **HOLMCENTER.SDFMA.JRReimbursements@us.af.mil** thank you.

Air Force JROTC Officer Training School boot camp experience: We are looking at hosting another mini-boot camp experience in Oct of this year. We are targeting the Columbus day (Oct 10-12th) weekend but haven't firmed up the date with OTS. Please be on the look out for this event, more news to follow. Basically your cadets would come and stay in our actual boot camp dorm rooms and go thru all the same officer courses that trainees accomplish. We had real Military Training Instructors this last January. I'll send out more info on this as soon as I get it. Thank you all.

Thank you all for everything that you all do. I know you all are working hard to make sure your kids have all the encouragement and support that they need to make something good out of themselves. Keep it up the good work.

- Capt Miguel Gaytan



There will be five AF Regional Drill competitions in 2016 to crown the "Best in the Region" drill teams. For more information go to <http://www.thenationals.net/af-nationals.htm> Registration opens 1 Sept 2015.

South Eastern Championship

Saturday: 5 March 2016
Macon CENTREPLEX Ballroom
Macon, Georgia

North Eastern Championship

Saturday: 19 March 2016
Nutter Center Arena
Daytona, Ohio

South Central Championship

Saturday: 12 March 2016
Freeman Coliseum
San Antonio, Texas

North Central Championship

Saturday - date TBA
Bellevue West High School
Bellevue, Nebraska

Far West Championship

Southern California Invitational
Drill Meet (SCIDM)
Saturday: 27 February 2016
NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Los Angeles, California

AFJROTC Logistics

Welcome back to a new school year! If your unit ordered a CPS, rifles, rockets/engines, RC airplane or a multicopter this past school year, they will hopefully begin arriving in Oct/Nov timeframe. These items are ordered once a year usually in September via contract (please do not contact DLA as they will not know anything about these items). We ask that you be patient and not call or e-mail HQs about the status of your item(s) as we are severely outnumbered. :) However, if something you ordered hasn't arrived by the first of the year, please let us know.

Headquarters, Air Force JROTC, will be terminating the annual IT refresh for Air Force provided ADPE equipment at the end of AY-2016. Effective immediately, units may turn in ADPE equipment, not under warranty, to their local DRMO and have their AIM inventory account close out. Units wishing to do this need to contact their Holm Center Equipment Custodian Officer (ECO) for additional information. Units that would like to keep their current ADPE equipment on hand may do so, but will be required to maintain their AIM inventory and comply with annual Holm Center suspense's accordingly. Additionally, units will need to make their school/district aware that Air Force will no longer provide new ADPE equipment and the school/district needs to include AFJROTC units in their distribution of school computer equipment. Unit's wishing to close their AIM inventory accounts may do so by turning all their equipment into DRMO. However, ADPE equipment under warranty cannot be turned in. An alternative to this is to transfer ADPE equipment to a local Air Force ROTC Detachment. This may be done as long as the receiving unit will sign for the new equipment and update their AIM inventory with the Holm Center ECO. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your ECO or your Regional Director.

If you order something close to the end of the school year that may be delivered over the summer, please make sure someone will be at the school to accept it. DLA had numerous packages returned over the summer and unfortunately that means your unit doesn't get the items ordered nor does the unit get their money back. The same applies about ordering items close to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

MPC Letters: With the start of the school year, now is a good time to do a quick check of the unit's MPC Letter. Please go to WINGS / Logistics / MPC Information. View the current MPC Letter on file and be sure the personnel listed are current. MPC Letters need to be updated whenever there is a change in primary MPC, alternate MPC or building principal. Please contact HQ-Logistics@afjrotc.com for further information. We greatly appreciate your time and assistance to keep the MPC Letter current.

- The last day to order thru EMALL is 18 September.

General Robin Rand Returns to Alma Mater, William Mitchell High School for 15 Year AFJROTC Celebration of Excellence



On April 11, 2015, General Robin Rand, Commander, Air Education and Training, returned to his alma mater, General William Mitchell High School in Colorado Springs to celebrate the 15th year anniversary of the Air Force JROTC program at Mitchell High School. Prior to arriving in Colorado Springs, General Rand shared a special biography with the JROTC cadets reflecting on the times and events of his high school days. The cadets enjoyed reading about General Rand's experiences at Mitchell and felt connected to him before he gave the keynote address on Saturday evening. The cadets found that being a Mitchell Marauder truly crosses generations.

As part of their 15 Year Celebration, Mitchell High School JROTC cadets planned several events that included current and former cadets. On Thursday, April 9, the cadet wing hosted a potluck dinner for former cadets. Many of the former cadets came from out of town, including two airmen from Germany and Belgium. Watching the former cadets participate in a drill down and trying to execute the drill down commands provided the entertainment for the evening.

On Friday, April 10, the JROTC Corps hosted an "Open House" where former cadets spoke to the current cadets about their high school, college, and career and life experiences. Current cadets updated the former cadets on what was happening in the JROTC program and Mitchell High School.

The Corps' Military Ball on Saturday was by far the highlight of the weekend. Over 480 cadets, parents, teachers, and administrators listened to General Rand deliver an inspirational keynote address, which emphasized the importance of knowing your Air Force heritage, being able to self-motivate, and learning to persevere when faced with difficult situations. He also saluted the Mitchell JROTC cadets for their hard work and 15 years of excellence.

2014-2015 Air Force JROTC Academic Bowl Championship



Congratulations to the 2014-15 Air Force JROTC Championship Academic Team from Dupo/Columbia High School. They and the other Air Force teams represented AFJROTC very well at the JROTC Academic Bowl (JLAB) in Washington, DC.

The top AF teams were as follows:

1. Dupo/Columbia High School
2. Mascoutah High School
3. Saint Paul's School
4. Sunnyslope High School
5. Medina Valley High School
6. Washington Township High School
7. E.C. Glass High School
8. Stebbins High School

Get Ready for the 2015-2016 Competition Dates

October 1-25, 2015 (open to all cadets!)	Practice Round for Level I
Oct. 26 - Nov. 15, 2015	Team Registration
November 1-15, 2015	Level I – The Challenge (open to all cadets)
February 1-15, 2016	Level II – Zero Hour Threat
June 24-28, 2016	Level III – The Championship in Washington, DC (the top 8 AF teams will go!)

COF Contests: To register and participate in the Practice Test, Level I and Level II, go to www.cofcontests.com

“All Matter”

NM-041 AFJROTC Inclusion Article

By Col Mark Andersen

We all have joined this effort for different reasons. Upon retirement we had the opportunity, to be sure, to work for more money or in a profession that may be more convenient and take less of our time. Ours is an important function, we help Develop Citizens of Character dedicated to serving their nation and community. Our young are our greatest responsibility, guiding them in becoming productive and engaged citizens is not an easy task.

As I write this, there are four cadets in my office all competing for time. Two of them are categorized as Special Education students and that is the subject of this little piece. All Matter.

When I started at Del Norte High School, I was approached by the Special Education Head Teacher and asked if we would accept Special Education students. Thus began a long trek and a steep learning curve. There are several different categories of Special Education student. There are the physically disabled, hearing aids and wheelchairs are coming here at Del Norte. There are those who need more time and instructor effort to learn. There are also those who have emotional issues. All of them matter.

They matter because the first words of the Air Force JROTC goal-set is to instill values of citizenship. There is no better way of instilling these values than teaching inclusion of all members of the community. On uniform days, more experienced cadets find it normal to assist their team mates to ensure proper uniform wear. These students learn true leadership and they know their charges. This is no different than command and knowing your people. One must know the personal issues of all students to guide and teach them. Service to the United States is our second goal. Community service is a primary function of the Cadet Corps at Del Norte. The cadets are engaged in every major Veteran function that occurs in the city of Albuquerque whether it is the annual Veterans Day Parade or several different events to help feed Veterans. They all take their responsibilities very seriously. When I mention all of them, I am serious. The deaf, the physically handicapped, the learners who need a little more help and time, the autistic all shoulder the task of making things happen with leadership supplied by the Cadet Corps.

We have deaf and physically challenged drill team members on our armed drill team. They are the ones who work hardest to succeed and one, in particular, has fought off challenges for position frequently by those that thought he might be easy pickings. He's not. We have color guards that have been performed singularly by deaf students. I have deaf students on my marksmanship team, they pay attention and learn their responsibilities and then perform. I have one young man in a wheelchair that was just recognized as the NRA National Champion in the Adaptive Shooter Class. He did this through hard work and a personal spirit second to none.

This leads me to our last goal, Personal Responsibility/Sense of Accomplishment. What better way to accomplish this goal than allowing all to participate fully, led by a Cadet Corps that has developed into citizens of character. These things must be taught to the students, but once they embrace the ideas, there is no greater sense of accomplishment for the cadets, or we as instructors.

-Col (Ret) Mark Andersen

NM-041 “STEM” Focus - AFJROTC HAB Flights

“How cool, you can see the curvature of the Earth”, a statement echoed by students ranging from 4th grade to high school Senior’s in the Albuquerque Public School District (APS) while viewing images and examining their real world science results. This is what Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is achieving every time APS and JROTC accomplish a High Altitude Balloon (HAB) flight.

“HAB flights, Helium filled weather balloons, have occurred 15 times in our school district over the past two years and our AF JROTC cadets enrolled at Valley H.S.

help design the payload, build the electronics, launch the HAB train, and recover the payload!”, said C/Capt Connor Neal during a recent STEM HAB presentation to Brigadier General Paul H. Guemmer, Commander, Jeanne M. Holm Center. C/Capt Lillie Brooks, added, “At first our goal was to break 100,000 foot altitude record for high school HAB’s but now it’s all about making our experiments work in a near-space.”

“This is a cross-discipline, multi-grade level, district level activity that both Navy and Air Force JROTC instructors and cadets have taken both the leadership of participants and management of this program”, said MSgt Charles Newman, NM-041 ASI. Indeed, JROTC is the leader of this exciting STEM program.

APS District, school Principals, and Staff are strong supporters of STEM. Two high schools are literally leading the charge, West Mesa HS Navy JROTC and Valley HS AF JROTC unit NM-041. District grade levels incorporate Elementary, Middle, and High School students and faculty. JROTC has established leadership among the students and staff alike.

“Our JROTC cadets are teaching the teachers skills in STEM management that include planning and operations, for example our cadets taught our teachers how to solder and assemble printed circuit boards. Our STEM program has accelerated so far beyond what we imagined because of our integrated JROTC programs”, said Alma Ripley, a Principal at Carlos Ray Elementary School and APS District Trajectory & STEM Coordinator.

NM-041 Cadet Commander, C/Major Jordan Lovato, summed up their STEM activities during her briefing, “These students and cadets are involved in Cyber Patriot, HAB, amateur radio, NASA International Space Station contacts, under-water robotics like the movie they filmed here at Valley HS, “Spare Parts”, we also launch rockets of all kinds and sizes. But, what is the best is we are having so much fun with science.”

Maj Zentner commented, “They don’t know it, but they just might learn something about technology, engineering, and mathematics along the way, too!” He added, “Indeed, seeing students of all ages get excited about STEM related activities may be the most rewarding teaching experience because I am seeing the interest maintained from year to year and this is going to pay off when these students graduate and enter the real world.”



DE-931 Cadet Moriah Graham Earns a Pilots License!

In May of 2015 Cadet Moriah Graham made history by becoming the first African American from Delaware to earn a Private Pilot License while still a student in High School. Her accomplishment is representative of the immense talent the youth of our country possesses and I will always consider her to be a great young American marked with determination and resiliency. Moriah set a goal and finished the mission.

Moriah's words say it best:: "The POLYTECH flight program was a dream of mine since the 7th grade. For five years obtaining my private pilot license was a goal of mine and for 4 of those five years it was something that was a sort of fantasy; until I started ground school my junior year. That forced reality to sink in. My goal was to get my private pilot license and I knew it would not be easy, but it would be worth it. Through many trials and tribulations I was able to make it. There many obstacles in my way; and quite frankly, there were times when even I did not think that I would make it. However, I reminded myself that I have people who love and support me no matter if I stumble or even fall a few times. I reminded myself that I have a teacher Lt. Colonel Ray Ott that told me he believed in me and that I could do this even when I didn't even believe in myself. I reminded myself that I have a goal to accomplish and I will not rest until it is achieved.

On May 28, 2015 I achieved this goal and in doing so it showed me that through hard work, dedication, tenacity, the help of God and perseverance anything and everything is possible. I completed this flight program not just for my license but to show other little girls who look just like me that they should never let anyone deter them from their dreams, because dreams can always be made true if you try hard enough. That is what the flight program has done for me." Cadet Moriah Graham

Moriah now makes it 5 Cadets from POLYTECH High School (James Maier, Jonathan Hesterman, Liz Judge and Steven Sanchez) who have all earned their Private Pilot this year. That total is a school record. Moriah will attend Embry Riddle University this fall along with fellow Cadet Steven Sanchez. Liz Judge has enlisted in the US Marine Corps and will report this summer. Jonathan Hesterman has accepted a full Army ROTC scholarship at the University of Maryland and James Maier will enter the Aviation Program at Delaware State University with an agreement to Air Force ROTC at the University of Delaware.



Citadel 2015 CLC



Kerrville Texas Schriener University CLC



Col Woods was able to make it the Kerrville Texas CLC to give out awards and recognition and meet personally with the great instructors from the region who brought cadets. Cadets also did some important community service at the Kerrville VA hospital while they were there.



Kerrville Texas CLC at Schriener University



Thunderbirds Visit NJ-20131



CMSgt Bryan Hilley (ret) from Atlantic County Institute of Technology in Mays Landing, NJ managed to get some members from the USAF Thunderbirds to come out and visit and talk with the cadets.

IL-981 Cadets Participate in Korean War Memorial



Cadets from IL-981 Alton High School participate in a local Korean War Memorial event.

TX-881 Visits the 136th Airlift Wing



On April 30, 2015, the 136th Airlift Wing hosted TX-881, AFJROTC, Marcus High School, cadets, cadre and school administrators on a tour of its facilities. The highlight of the trip was a flight on-board a C-130 over the Dallas-Fort Worth area. It was a beautiful day for a flight and a fun and memorable experience was had by all. -CMSgt (Ret) Benito Salinas



FL-031 Perform Ceremony at the Annual Astronaut Hall of Fame Induction



Attached are photos of Eau Gallie High School AFJROTC FL-031 Honor Guard and Sabre Team cadets that were invited to participate in the annual Astronaut Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at Kennedy Space Center on 29 May 2015. Pictured with the cadets are Astronauts Winston Scott and Col (USAF-Ret) Eileen Collins, who was the first female to command a shuttle flight.

VA-20011 Unit Success / Marksmanship Highlights & Opportunities



Czap and Santrock, both seniors and both four-year shooters, became the first FCHS team members to parlay their skills into college scholarships -- Czap with the University of Memphis and Santrock with Jacksonville (Ala.) State. Czap and Santrock signed their national letters-of-intent, documents which bind their earlier verbal commitments, last week during a ceremony at Samuel M. Hawkins-Central Gymnasium.

This is only our 5th year of competition and already we headed off to our 10th National competition in Port Clinton Ohio. We will leave/drive Thursday, practice round Friday, round 1 Saturday, round 2 Sunday, and then drive back on Monday. We qualified every team member, which consists of 20 shooters to go to Ohio. Three Sporter Class Teams and one Precision Class team.

Zoe Townsend qualified, with 30 national team points and will receive the Jr Distinguished shooting medal in Ohio. Her number will be 850, and they program has only given out 860 in the history of the Civilian Marksmanship Program. This will be the 6th shooter on our team to received the medal in 4 Years. Zoe is only a sophomore. Two of our Seniors have received and accepted offers to shoot on NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Division 1 Rifle Teams. Also they are received large scholarships, ranging from 50% to 100%. We talked to our Athletic Director, Crystal Worley, who added that we have only had 2 other students in the last 12 years to get signed to NCAA Division 1 with a scholarship. We are also doing some research starting at the beginning of the High School's existence to see how many past students have been signed. Both shooters have had many offers from different NCAA teams, but ultimately accepted offers from the following schools: Carter Santrock will sign with Jacksonville State University (currently ranked number 2 in the NCAA). Sierra Czap will sign with the University of Memphis. Even more exciting news I found out yesterday, was that Sierra Czap also qualified for the Women's Invitational Junior Olympics held at the Olympic Training Range in Colorado Springs CO. This is for an opportunity to be selected for the U.S. Shooting Developmental Team for the U.S. Olympics. This match is set for 18-21 April. Every year on average they select 2 shooters from each state (approximately 100) nationwide. This year the state of Virginia has done exceptionally well with their marksmanship talent, and we also want to recognize them. Sierra will shoot along with teammates from the East Coast. Shooters are: Sarah Osborn, Virginia State Smallbore Champion and Auto-qualifier in air rifle; Madeleine Godwin, bronze medalist in air rifle; Claire Zanti; Michael Zanti, Virginia Smallbore/Air Rifle Champion, and Robert Hudson. The following link will explain the Junior Olympics: <http://www.usashooting.org/7-events/njosoc>

The Junior Olympics features international shooting, standing vs. 3 position that they are required by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (<http://thecmp.org>~~<http://thecmp.org/>~~). There is also a chance for the top 2 competitors to make it onto the Junior National Development Team. This Match also offers smallbore .22 cal rifle. This match is the highlight of the year for junior shooters 20 years of age and under.

The goal here is to place on the Junior U.S. Development Team. - Lt Col (Ret) Tracey Carter

GA-946 Cade T'yunna Smith Chosen to Attend 15' Washington Youth Tour

Cadet Second Lieutenant T'yunna Smith of GA-946 AFJROTC has been chosen to attend the 2015 Washington Youth Tour (WYT) by Mitchell County Electric Membership Corporation (EMC). Cadet Smith is a third-year Aerospace Science (AS3) student at Mitchell County High School in Camilla, Georgia and a member of Fox Flight. The 2015 Washington Youth Tour will introduce over sixteen-hundred of America's top high school students to historic landmarks, including sites such as Arlington Cemetery, the Smithsonian museums, Holocaust Memorial museum, Mount Vernon, Supreme Court, U.S. Capital, Washington Monument and the Vietnam Veterans memorial just to name a few! The annual WYT is a weeklong, all-expenses-paid leadership experience for high school students, celebrating fifty years of this life-changing event for future community, state and national leaders!

WAY TO GO CADET SMITH!!!



Col Woods Presents Top Performer to Cadet Pardey from NY-961

Colonel Woods, AFJROTC National Director, Presents the "Top Performer" award to Cadet Captain Pardey, from Colombia, along with Chief Master Sergeant R. Wayne Barron, the HQ Air Force Junior ROTC Inspector during NY-961's Unit Evaluation. The previous year this cadet spoke no English but in only one short year, he was delivering an excellent Unit Mission Brief to Col Woods and CMSgt (Ret) Barron! Incredible story of hard work, teamwork, positive attitude and desire to do his absolute very best! Well done to the entire cadet corps at NY-961.



IL-20082 Cadets Raise \$3,600 for Cancer Research



Cadets from IL-20082, Alan B. Shepard High School in Palos Heights, IL raised more than \$3,600 for Cancer research as part of the school's annual St Baldrick's day event. Nine cadets and one instructor had their heads shaved during an all school assembly. This is the 7th year JROTC has participated in the St Baldrick's Day event, and this is the most money and greatest cadet participation.

"I am thrilled with the way the cadets got behind this event – they were obviously very motivated and came up with many great ideas about how to raise money. This was truly a team effort." said Major (Ret) Johnson, SASI, IL-20082.

The willingness of cadets to give of their time to support charities and community service projects truly captures one of the central goals of the AFJROTC mission to "Develop citizens of character dedicated to service to their nation and community." Well done IL-20082! Keep up the great work!!

TN-20051 Cadets Visit Dayton OH



**COF JROTC 99th Year Celebration 5K Run! Guam unit at 2AM start time.
Outstanding effort by these and other Pacific region teams!!**



FL-934 Cadets Honor Fallen Veterans



Our AFJROTC Cadets performed "Roll Call" at the local cemeteries and placed flags on the graves of approximately 1400 veteran's in Avon Park. At each grave, the cadets read the name, rank and service information of the veteran and then render a salute to honor their service. Our local American Legion (Post 69) provides the flags. Thank youand well done!



FL-20022 Belleview High School Mini Boot Camp

FL-20022, Belleview HS Florida, Kicked off the year on Saturday, 29 August, with a mini boot camp for new cadets. The event was planned and executed by more seasoned cadets led by Cadet Haley Rodriguez. First year cadets were split into groups to rotate through different training events including marching, PT, and Uniform wear. They were then brought together for lunch and mass drill. The training gave 1st-year cadets more confidence about wearing the uniform for the first time and increased motivation for the program.



Learning how to properly polish shoes!



Learning how to make a hair bun.



Learning how to march and work as a team.

FL-033 Performs Multicopter Demo for the Holm Center CC & Air University Key Staff



6/16/2015 - MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala -- Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from Niceville High School, Florida, held a multicopter demonstration, June 10, 2015, at Maxwell's Freedom Park. To showcase one of the Junior ROTC's co-curricular activities, about 17 cadets were here to demonstrate the capabilities of their newest science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, teaching and learning tool they call the multicopter, or quadcopter, a remote-controlled aircraft propelled by four rotors.

"Last year, we at headquarters Air Force Junior ROTC were looking for ways to reinforce science, technology, engineering and mathematics in part of our curriculum," said Col. Bobby Woods, Air Force Junior ROTC program director. "We came up with the plan to provide these quadcopters to a number of units." The quadcopter was introduced into the Junior ROTC program to modernize the curriculum and invoke excitement. "This kind of immersive education and giving them hands-on tools are the things that they need, not just a lecture-given class, but giving them something they can participate in," said Col Woods. With the older cadets teaching the newer ones, Junior ROTC is not only providing the cadets hands-on experiences, but are letting cadets become teachers themselves.

Junior ROTC Cadet Senior Airman Cody Powell showed his knowledge of the multicopter when Airmen from Maxwell gathered around to hear him explain the abilities and limitations of the device and demonstrate his skills in handling the multicopter. Powell said that flying and repairing the remote-controlled aircraft fuels his interest and love for aviation. He has been a part of the Junior ROTC program for a year and shares his passion for aircraft with his fellow cadets through the new co-curriculum. "I believe co-curriculum activities are very important," said Powell. "They distinguish the cadets that really want to be in this program." In addition to having the opportunity to show off their abilities in aviation, the cadets were also given a tour of Maxwell and Gunter and visited the Air Force Enlisted Heritage Hall. "Thank you for allowing us to come and showcase our program, because it really is about the cadets, for the cadets and run by the cadets," said retired Lt. Col. Charles Farmer, Niceville High School senior aerospace science instructor. "We are here to learn from them, share with them and give them the foundation that they need."

Cadet Success Profile

A Cadet's Story

by Ethan Allen, North Side HS AFJROTC, Jackson, TN



My name is C/Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen, Jr., everyone calls me EJ and this is my story of my journey through AFJROTC. After the first week of AFJROTC class as a freshman I felt something big was about to happen to me...something huge. I joined AFJROTC knowing very little about it. I was lost and confused and just a complete wreck, my grades were poor (I barely averaged a C+) and I didn't have the best attitude. When I first got in the unit, I remember them telling me I needed to cut my hair. I didn't want to, but I eventually did cut it and was a step closer to becoming a cadet. The next thing I remember was that I was overweight at 5' 2" tall and weighing 205+ pounds. There was a part of me that wanted to work to improve myself, and on one specific day I set a goal that I would lose weight, like the instructors taught me. I am very close to achieving my goals now but, I'm not there yet.

I decided to try out for the drill team. It didn't take long for me to realize I had found home; and there was a family there for me. I wasn't the best marcher, but I made the JV team. As the first semester progressed, I wanted to be something in the Corps of Cadets and I knew I'd have to work harder. I went home and practiced every day for 3 hours straight; the hard work payed off. One of the older cadets left the drill team and they selected me to move up to the varsity team where I was the only freshman cadet. I was really proud when we won first place at our first competition. And from that moment on, I knew what I wanted to do in high school. I worked harder and harder my freshman year, and even made it to the armed team! Imagine me, the short overweight kid who had always been overlooked and underestimated now on the varsity armed team as a freshman! Success stoked the fire and I knew I had to get better so, I pushed myself like no other. Our drill team continued to win and I loved it, but what interested me most was the commander - I wanted to command. I remember telling the Colonel and the Chief I wanted to command, and before I knew what happened I was commanding 140 members of the Corps in the Christmas Parade. That was quite the learning experience.

My sophomore year found me hard at work on the goals I set as a freshman, never giving up and pressing on. I felt like I was at home, because in AFJROTC it doesn't matter who you are or what you are, there's a home for everybody. My hard work was paying off and I was selected to command the unarmed varsity team. I made some mistakes in my first competition as commander and, although I didn't break my bearing, I was really upset with myself. I finished the routine and marched the team off the field. Once I got by myself, I broke down, I cried, I lost it all. I felt my mistakes cost the entire team that had worked so hard for me a trophy. It was awards time that evening and the announcer said, 3rd place went to one school, 2nd went to another and I thought to myself, "we aren't going to trophy tonight, I failed my team."

As I was thinking that I heard the announcer say, “and in 1st place North Side High School.” I have never screamed so loud before; I was so happy that my team did well ... I didn’t do it, my team did it because we are one. The last local drill meet of the year, was a big one for us because no North Side team had ever won 1st place in Unarmed Regulation. We practiced so hard, we never gave up, we pushed ourselves, and we were extraordinary that day. When we came off that field, the judges came over to us and said we blew them away. We made history that day and won 1st Place - no other North Side drill team commander had ever won 1st place in Unarmed Drill at this event and it felt great!

By my junior year my grades were improving, I was a B+ student, I had a much better attitude and I was happy. I had also started an exercise and running program to better prepare myself for drill. Before long I had lost weight and become a pretty good runner. When I started, my 1-mile run time was over 18 minutes. Now in my junior year, I ran my first 5K and came in 8th. That result motivated me to work even harder. I ran 3+ miles a day and along with weight training I eventually joined the varsity track team. I placed 3rd in a local track meet a 1-mile time of 5:36. That was huge for me! I also realized I loved to spin a rifle and now every day I train with that rifle and practice for 3+ hours trying to get better. I became the armed exhibition commander, a position I always wanted so bad! But there was another team I was the commander for - our Nationals Color Guard team. My freshman year North Side Blue Thunder won 1st Place at the National’s in Open Color Guard. Now I was responsible for upholding our honor. We had that mentality of never giving up until we accomplished what we set out to do. We practiced, and practiced and when we thought we had enough of practice, we practiced some more. The morning of the competition was very quiet and intense for me. I woke up, brushed my teeth, shaved, put on my uniform, and my uniform shoes, I stood there in the mirror, and told myself, today is the day I become that somebody, that someone, that I always dreamed of. I talked to the team and gave them a motivational speech. When we got over to the arena, I felt a cramp in my stomach and I was a little nervous. Command brings the weight of responsibility and my nerves were getting the best of me, but I kept my cool. I remember the team gearing up and standing outside the room waiting to go on the floor next. I remember Colonel Pope (our instructor) crying a few tears because he was so proud of us. Not only did I want this for myself and my team, but I wanted to show everyone that if you put your mind to achieving a goal, it can be achieved with hard work, dedication, and commitment. I don’t remember much of the routine because it was so intense but we felt we gave it our all. It was awards ceremony time, and it was the longest wait of my life because there were so many teams and awards given out! One of the last awards given out was the Open Class Color Guard awards. I remember hearing 4th place to one team and 3rd place to another team, and I started thinking “nope we didn’t place, I had let my team down,” then 2nd place went to another team, and I said to myself, “I’m sorry I failed my team.” Then the announcer said in 1st place..... (longest pause of my life) Blue Thunder Guard, North Side High School!!!! I’ve never looked so uncoordinated in my life, I tripped on the stairs and on my own feet going down to get the trophy. I remember hearing my colonel, my dad and everyone else around me just screaming “YESSSSS!!!!” That is a moment I will remember for the rest of my life.



AFJROTC showed me the way and has helped mold me into the young man I am today. None of this would have been possible if not for my team mates and their commitment, hard work, and dedication.

Now, in my senior year, the goals I set back when I was a freshman I am close to achieving them. I've lost over 65+ pounds, made the varsity track team, recognized as a leader at my school all due to pure hard work, blood, sweat, and tears. I didn't care how much it hurt, how cold or how hot it was - I didn't give up! AFJROTC has taught me how to strive to be the best. As my high school career is coming to a close, I want to serve my country in the Special Forces, I want to save lives, and AFJROTC has given me the mentality that I can do it. But I have also learned that everyone "has it", they just have to reach deep down and be willing to work a little, just like I did, to achieve their goals. I have had some great experiences all due to AFJROTC, traveling to drill competitions, going on field trips, being interviewed on TV and radio, giving public speeches, meeting the Governor of Tennessee, and learning what it means to earn a National Championship in Drill. AFJROTC... I love it here, I like it here, I found a home, a home where a 5' 2" overweight kid can belong and through the values taught in AFJROTC transform. AFJROTC is my home ... and it can be anyone's home. We are all family in AFJROTC, we look out for one another and that is what "service before self" is all about.

I would probably still be that "Overweight kid" if it were not for AFJROTC and my fellow cadets. I've learned leadership, teamwork, and most of all responsibility in my 3 years as a cadet. I've learned never to give up and always strive for the best. I want to thank everyone who has been through this journey with me ... I have high standards and expectations my senior year. As we say at North Side AFJROTC - "WHAT'S OUR STANDARD? It's 100%!!!!"

-By Cadet Ethan Allen, TN-961



If you have inspiring cadet stories please send to your Regional Director and a release form and your cadet could be our next "Cadet Success Profile."