



April 2015

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

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

On the Horizon...

- **25 April – JROTC 5K !!
A World Record attempt!**
- **13-24 July 2015 – JICC 2015**
- **December 2015 - Advanced
Accreditation Visit to HQ
and several select units.**



AFJROTC News & Notes

From the Director



Why do we exist as an AFJROTC program?

Why do we work so hard, giving of our time and our energy for our cadets and this program?

Why do you, as an instructor in AFJROTC, do what you do each day?

These are some great questions that if answered, can provide some great clarity and focus.

In his book Start With Why, which I highly recommend, Mr. Simon Sinek explores the importance of asking the “why” question and makes a compelling argument that all ultra-successful people, businesses, and organizations have figured out not only “what” they do, or “how” they do it, but “WHY” they do what they do. They understand their purpose! Understanding your “purpose” as an instructor is the one central element that will separate those good instructors from those who are truly great.

Asking the “why” question provides laser focus on what it is you (and we) are working to accomplish. So why do we do what we do?

It’s simple. Our mission is to develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community.” Everything we do should be directed at achieving that mission. But our mission... is more than a mission. I would submit that our true purpose is to “make as great a positive impact in the lives of our cadets, our schools, our communities, and our nation as we can.” Our focus, attention, and hard work are all about our cadets! I hope each of you realizes the great opportunity you have to make a positive difference (impact) in the lives of your cadets.

You have a great opportunity to be living examples of true leadership, professionalism, and compassion for our cadets. If you are doing what you do for all the right reasons, the cadets already know it...and you already know they respond very positively to your leadership, mentoring, guidance, and compassion. They respond because you care! Our cadets, your school administration, and your community, will support what you are doing when they are able to understand why it is you are doing it...to positively impact lives. I am talking about our hearts and our true motivations. You have probably heard the statement, “they won’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” This is such a true statement and at the core of what I am talking about.

I encourage each of you to consider your true “purpose” for being an AFJROTC instructor. We are very fortunate to have many great instructors who already understand what I am trying to articulate. I encourage you to think about your own vision for your cadets? What’s your vision for your unit or your school? Have you ever spent any time considering these questions? If you have, then thank you. Please keep doing it. If you haven’t, I would ask that you do so. The result might just be something that changes how you think about what you do and brings clarity to the great “opportunity” you have to positively impact lives. This is serious business.

My purpose as the Director is to serve and support the students and the instructors of AFJROTC. I have learned that my life is not about me. My purpose as the Director is to advocate for our program, our cadets, and you, and to make decisions that make this program stronger. Why? So each of you has

the opportunity to reach as many students and cadets as you can. YOU, as the instructors of AFJROTC, have the very important opportunity to ...make a positive difference and directly impact their lives. And to be honest, I'm a little jealous about that. What an awesome job each of you have. I hope you realize that.

Your cadets will never forget you! It is my hope that as each cadet looks back at their time in High School and their time with you that they will be inspired by the demonstrated leadership, professionalism, mentorship, care, and compassion exhibited by each of you. Each of you are leaving a mark on their lives...work hard to ensure that mark is a positive one. Our responsibility is incredibly important. We are not here doing our jobs at the HQs and at schools around the country and overseas for ourselves. We do it for them. I want each of you to know that I understand the great value of what you do as instructors each day and year after year. I hope you understand that your Director and your HQ staff "gets it."

I know all of you are busy with the tasks required from HQ and those from your schools and districts, ...we are all incredibly busy, but I ask that you take some time and reflect on your own motivations and purpose for being an AFJROTC instructor. I want you to understand the great opportunity and privilege each of you have to truly impact and lead our cadets. All of our truly great units have a common ingredient; the instructors understand what it is they are working to achieve. They understand their purpose! Understand in many cases, your example is the most positive and stable thing many of our cadets have in their lives. Lead them. Serve them. Guide them. Teach them. Care for them. Know that you are making a difference in their lives. Thank you for what you do every single day. Continue to do great things and take some time to see the positive impact you are having. Thank you for not only doing what you are doing, but thank you for understanding "why" you are doing it! I encourage each of you to....start with why. The AFJROTC program changes lives! You are on the front lines in the battle for our youth. Thanks again for all you do!

In March, I had the privilege to visit with the cadets and staff at De-Anza High School (CA-20145) in Richmond, CA and Heritage High School (CA-20144) in Brentwood, CA. The cadets of CA-20145 have a great story of standing up for their program by collecting hundreds of signatures in support and personally delivering comments to their school board who were deciding whether or not to open an NDCC unit. These cadets were so compelling in their pleas that the school board voted 5 to 0 in favor of creating their own unit. This was done in the midst of some local opposition by some who were trying to keep the unit from opening. Kudos to the cadets for being professional and making their voices heard in a very positive and effective way! The cadets of both CA-20145 and CA-20144 were sharp and I very much enjoyed talking with them about the importance of community service, positive attitude, hard work – 100% effort, and the importance of teamwork. Keep up the great work!

Brigadier General Guemmer, CMSgt Harrington and I also had the opportunity to visit the regional Marksmanship Competition in Anniston, AL on 13-14 February. Congrats to our Air Force teams who did very well! I wish I could shoot as well as these cadets. :) Read more about that in this newsletter!

Also, check out what Aberdeen High School (MS-20001) did with their Multicopter and the recognition they received from as a result. Congrats to the unit and the cadets on winning the "2015 Partnership Excellence Award" from the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education! Outstanding job seeing a need and then serving your community in a very unique way. Read more about that below.

Also, don't forget about the JROTC 5K on 25 April. This will be a new "World Record" attempt for the largest distributed/simultaneous 5K ever. I encourage max participation if you are able! Check out this link for more info and how to register. <http://collegeoptionsfoundation.net/>

Thanks Again!

Col Woods

Congrats to the following:

Gold Valor Awards

none

Silver Valor Awards

TX-20009– Medina Valley High School

- Cadet Garret Chase
- Cadet Emily Chase
- Cadet Ryan Bauchman

FL-041– Leesburg High School

- Cadet Katelynne Charuka

Humanitarian Awards

TX-956– Victoria Center for Advanced Learning

- Cadet Tristan Freeman

“Exceeded Standards” 2014 /2015 Unit Evaluations:

- VA-061 Patrick Henry High School
- MO-20021 Branson R-IV Schools
- GR-821 Ramstein American High School
- PA-20051 Seneca High School
- TX-20081 Forney High School
- CO-961 Harrison High School
- MS-941 Noxubee County High School
- CO-20001 William Mitchell High School
- NT-941 AFNORTH High School
- BE-931 SHAPE American High School
- GA-801 Ridgeland High School
- GA-20112 River Ridge High School
- WA-20061 Arlington High School
- NC-805 T.C. Roberson High School
- PR-981 Bayamon Military Academy
- WA-20062 Bethel High School
- NC-955 Piedmont High School
- WA-952 Battle Ground High School
- TX-792 Lamar Consolidated High School
- SC-061 Northwestern High School

AFJROTC Ops Support Section

Credit Card payments are now faster. We have implemented a digital process and have two full time operational card holders. Also our new finance guide is about to be published, so be on the lookout for that!

In regards to the summer leadership labs or better know as Cadet Leadership Courses, we are waiting to see what the funding is going to be. Mr. Pete Gray our deputy director sent out emails asking you all to commit your MILPER/EMALL funds now (you can do that by submitting a reimbursement/credit card purchase in proposed status). The unspent unit money is going to be pulled back which will be used to pay for the CLC's and JICC. Therefore I won't be able to get you your final dollar figures until the leftover EMALL/MILPER money gets pulled back to us.

In regards to Civil Air Patrol incentive flights, keep flying! If you don't think you will be able to use your allocated funds please let me know I have other schools who would like to use the money.

In regards to awards (Community service, etc), we are now going through all the packages that we received. Please expect to hear back from us by 24 April. We want to get those back to you before school lets out. If you haven't received an e-mail from me telling you that I have received your package, please resend it to me at HQ-OpsSupport@AFJROTC.COM and your Regional director. Please send all packages in official letterhead.

Our contact list has changed a bit. We finally completed our new cubicles and seating changes. The new contact list (which has our phone numbers and emails) will be posted on WINGS inside Published Files > Directory > JROTC > AFJROTC Director

Thank you all hope you have a good day.

Miguel Gaytan, Capt, USAF



Congrats to the following:

"Exceeded Standards" 2014/2015

Unit Evaluations:

- CO-021 Aurora Central High School
- SC-062 Rock Hill High School
- TX-20083 Louis D. Brandeis High School
- AZ-791 Cactus High School
- TX-793 Tom C. Clark High School
- TX-20063 Tivy High School
- AZ-801 Westwood High School
- AZ-931 Mesa High School
- AZ-20021 Chandler High School
- GA-20053 Troup County Comprehensive High School
- OH-871 Columbus Downtown High School
- GA-20024 Sandy Creek High School
- TX-942 Del Valle High School
- AZ-862 Hamilton High School
- GA-791 Morrow High School
- TX-083 Dickinson High School
- GA-9310 Redan High School
- FL-034 Rutherford High School
- FL-033 Niceville Senior High School
- AR-20001 Greenwood High School
- NC-9512 East Mecklenburg High School
- NC-021 Dudley High School
- VA-20003 Great Bridge High School
- TN-20026 Greeneville High School
- VA-051 Indian River High School
- VA-062 Western Branch High School
- CA-092 Arlington High School
- FL-953 River Ridge Middle/High School
- FL-952 F.W. Springstead High School
- TN-791 Heritage High School



AFJROTC Director of Operations

First, the introductions. I am Maj. Bob Dawson, and I have taken Lt Col Ezell's spot as director of Operations here at HQ JROTC. I have been at the Holm Center for about a year and a half, coming to JROTC from OTS, where I was an instructor, then Director of Staff. My background is in engineering and acquisitions, where I have been the Crew Systems Engineer for the T-6 and program manager for numerous materials and manufacturing projects in the Air Force Research Laboratory. I have loved my time shaping young officers, and look forward to serving with you in JROTC's mission to build citizens of moral character.

I would like to echo Col Woods' important message about why we do what we do. General Rand's key idea for instructors in AETC is that we are here to develop human capital. That is truer in JROTC than anywhere else in the Air Force. The key is their moral character. As Col Woods put it, that is why we do what we do. America is the world's last, best hope for freedom. There is no nation with as much freedom as we have, even today, after 239 years of influencing the world. Everyone comes here to learn about and experience freedom. If we lost it, there is nowhere else we could go for reprieve. The key to guarding that freedom is having citizen-leaders of good moral character. Nations rise and fall on the moral character of their leaders.

Your education of high school students inculcates that necessary moral character in them at the most basic level, so it is more important than any other education we support in the Air Force. You should be proud of that. Be pro-active, and do everything you can to reinvent education to ensure that you develop that moral character in your students. More than anything, you want them to walk away from your class being able to think critically, act morally, and innovate as needed. The key character attributes they will need throughout life – especially the majority who don't go into the military – are humility, nobility, courage and compassion. Men and women with these characteristics will be the foundation of our communities, and our freedom.

I am grateful beyond words to be a part of that. I hope you are excited to go to work every day. You have the potential to do more for your students than any other teacher. Please let me know what I can do to help and support you.

Congrats to the following:

"Exceeded Standards" 2014/2015 Unit

Evaluations:

- VA-20081 Grassfield High School
- FL-081 Hernando High School
- FL-20055 Hardee Senior High School
- SC-064 Spring Valley High School
- KS-061 Derby High School
- NC-20062 East Montgomery High School
- SC-871 Lexington High School
- FL-934 Avon Park High School
- NC-939 Jesse O. Sanderson High School
- KS-961 Wichita High School Heights
- SC-20021 Edisto High School
- FL-011 Melbourne High School
- SC-011 Sumter High School
- SC-873 Crestwood High School
- CA-901 Casa Roble Fundamental High School
- FL-936 Flagler Palm Coast High School
- IL-20083 Mascoutah Community High School
- OK-921 John Marshall High School
- SC-20022 Berea High School
- IL-20051 O'Fallon High School
- FL-023 DeLand High School
- FL-941 Pine Ridge High School
- SC-872 Wando High School
- CA-862 Duncan Polytechnical High School
- FL-951 Mount Dora High School
- SC-933 Fort Dorchester High School
- FL-041 Leesburg High School
- OR-20121 McNary High School
- TX-948 Lake View High School
- MS-934 Bay High School

2014-2015 Air Force JROTC Academic Bowl

Level II Results

Congratulations to the following teams that advanced to the final championship round of the 2014-15 Air Force JROTC Academic Bowl in Washington, DC. Level II was very competitive and all of the teams proved their academic strength! We wish continued academic success to all cadets who participated in this year's bowl. And best of luck to the teams below as they seek top honors in the Air Force JROTC Academic Championship and JROTC Joint Service Academic Bowl Championship.

2014-2015 Air Force JROTC Academic Bowl Finalist Teams

Dupo/Columbia High School Dupo IL

E.C. Glass High School Lynchburg VA

Mascoutah High School Mascoutah IL

Medina Valley High School Castroville TX

St. Paul's School Covington LA

Stebbins High School Riverside OH

Sunnyslope High School Phoenix AZ

Washington Township High School Sewell NJ

The finalists should have received an email with your travel allowance and transportation details. If you didn't receive an email please contact Wendy Darling (wdarling@collegeoptions.net).

Also the organization putting this event together has a Facebook page called JROTC World. If you have not visited the page, please do so and encourage all of the cadets in your unit to "like" the page. It is a terrific way to share information about JROTC and will be a primary way we communicate with your friends/family during the Academic Championship in June. Check out the photos and videos from last year's program!

Congrats to the following:

"Exceeded Standards" 2014/2015

Unit Evaluations:

- TX-936 Central High School
- VA-821 Arlington Career Center
- FL-20041 Timber Creek High School
- VA-20067 Freedom High School
- FL-931 Forest High School
- FL-20022 Belleview High School
- FL-20021 North Marion High School
- IN-20051 Owen Valley High School
- NC-20063 Jay M. Robinson High School
- GA-934 Newnan High School
- TX-947 Elsik High School
- NC-20066 Northwest Cabarrus High School
- GA-931 Mount Zion High School
- LA-934 Riverdale High School
- LA-932 Destrehan High School

From Curriculum (CR)

Companion Websites and Curriculum Updates For 2015

As discussed in the previous February 2015 Newsletter, we are currently working on four companion websites for current courses taught to your cadets. Please allow us to provide you with the following update on their status:

First, there is the much anticipated **LE 100: *Traditions, Wellness, and Foundations of Citizenship*** companion website. The companion website for LE 100 is still being developed and we are currently working out all the issues so we can release it as early as possible. Expected release date should be prior to the upcoming 2015-2016 school year.

Secondly, we are overseeing development of two new companion websites for **AS 300: *Exploring Space; The High Frontier*** and **AS 220: *Cultural Studies; An Introduction to Global Awareness***. These new companion websites will provide additional technology tools for both in/out the classroom. As many of you know, we already have provided companion websites for **AS 200: *Science of Flight; A Gateway to New Horizons***, **LE 300: *Life Skills and Career Opportunities***. Also, the **LE-200: *Leadership Education, Communication, Awareness, and Leadership*** is currently under revision and will also have a companion website.

Additionally, due to budget constraints we are still limited to 40 textbooks (classroom set) and one IG. If you need more, then please contact Chief, AFJROTC Curriculum, Ms. Helms, email: Vickie.Helms@Maxwell.af.mil for further discussion.

AFJROTC Logistics

To obtain the status of items ordered from EMALL thru WINGS go to: WINGS | Logistics | Receive items and click search. Select the order. The requisition number starts with FG3037 and will appear in the Requisition ID column; if the order has been in "processing" status for more than 30 days you will need to contact DLA. Send that FG number to dlacontactcenter@dla.mil or call them at 1-877-352-2255, but please do not call and send an e-mail. (Please either call OR send an e-mail, but not both.) If an item has been shipped, ask the DLA rep for the delivery date and who signed for it.

When receiving in items such as rifles, rockets/engines, CPS items and multicopters please make sure you are receiving in the correct order number. These items are ordered on contract and as we get ready to order items for SY15-16 we have run into a problem. Units are receiving in items that were ordered after the modules were opened (1 Aug) and when we run a query for this year's orders it shows already received. This may result in your unit not getting the items ordered.

The Outstanding Flight Ribbon is no longer available thru EMALL. Units can use a vendor of their choice and use UA/MILPER dollars.

Thanks,

Robin

Aberdeen High School AFJROTC Cadets Recognized for Economic Development Efforts Using Quad-copter

By MS-20001 Cadet Public Affairs Staff



ABOVE: Phantom Vision II
Quad-copter



ABOVE: Aberdeen Port Aerial
View

Today, remote controlled aircraft are slowly but surely taking over the aerial photography duties once performed by airplanes and helicopters. Aerial imaging missions include such things as filming movies, geo-surveying, taking pictures for commercial real estate development and much, much more. Recently, the Aberdeen High School AFJROTC unit worked with the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce in Northeast Mississippi to take aerial pictures for the Chamber's economic development initiatives. The Cadets captured aerial pictures of the Aberdeen and Amory ports along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway using the unit's new Phantom 2 Vision Plus Remote Control (RC) Multi-copter provided by HQ Air Force Junior ROTC.

This cadet-led STEM project has captured the hearts and imagination of the media, citizens, and elected officials across the State of Mississippi and beyond. Aberdeen AFJROTC cadets are now able to put knowledge learned in their math, science, and aerospace classes into practice as they determine altitude, wind speeds, camera angles, target distance, and other factors required to take the best pictures possible. Because of their hard work, the Aberdeen AFJROTC unit was recently notified that they had been selected by the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education to receive the very prestigious **"2015 Partnership Excellence Award"** for their innovative use of STEM technology (RC Multicopter) for economic development and their community outreach with the Chamber of Commerce and County Board of Supervisors. Based upon these recent successes, the Aberdeen AFJROTC phone is starting to ring off-the-hook with more requests for aerial imaging support for other county development and environmental projects. Without a doubt, in the Aberdeen AFJROTC unit, our cadets' dreams take flight for real!

Great job to the unit for their valuable work and being on the "cutting edge" of identifying a community need and your service to provide this valuable assistance with this new AFJROTC Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) tool!

Aberdeen High School AFJROTC Cadets Recognized for Economic Development Efforts Using Quad-copter

By MS-20001 Cadet Public Affairs Staff



Aerial Photo of Aberdeen HS in Aberdeen, MS.



Amory Port Aerial View



MS-20001 3rd Year Cadets Brief Monroe County Chamber of Commerce Director, Mr. Skip Scaggs, on Phantom's Aerial Photography Capability.

KS-962 Cadets Flying CAP sorties



KS-962 flew its CAP sorties. We flew 12 cadets on 4 flights.

AL-011 Robert E. Lee H.S. Wins River Region Youth Group Volunteer of the Year !!



HQ AFJROTC is very pleased to announce that the AFJROTC Cadets from Lee High Schools (AL-011) were selected as the River Region Youth Group Volunteer of the Year! We are all incredibly proud of your accomplishment and your service to our community here in Montgomery, AL. Truly, you "Make A Difference Every Day." Thank you for caring and working so hard to make positive impacts in your unit, school, community, state, and our nation. Great work!

A special thanks to Antonio T. Douglas, Colonel (Retired), USAF for this story.

Holm Center CC & Air University CEM Visit Biloxi AFJROTC



On 5 March 2015, Brig Gen Guemmer (HC/CC), CMSgt Horn (AU/CEM), and CAPT (USN-Retired) John Lewis (Director of MS JROTC programs) saw the outstanding AFJROTC program at Biloxi High School in Ms. These gentlemen visited our cadets at Biloxi High and really got them fired up about the Air Force and life. WLOX Channel 13 covered the visit on the local news channel. Kudos to the cadets and instructors at Biloxi High! Thanks to Maj (Ret) Edwin Butler, SASI MS-781 for the story and pictures.

Gen Guemmer Visits Marksmanship Championship—Anniston, AL



Brig Gen Guemmer (Holm Center Commander) and Chief Harrington (Holm Center CEM) with cadets from the Marksmanship team from MS-934 and FL-20083. Congrats to all the Air Force participants for your strong showing!

"Thank you for allowing Chief Harrington and I to meet and get to know your cadets. We were both very impressed with the quality of competition and the quality of young adults we met. Keep up the great work!"

PAUL H. GUEMMER, Brig Gen, USAF—
Holm Center Commander

Sickles High School (FL-20083) Marksmanship



The FL-20083 Marksmanship Program, commanded by Cadet Hayden Knight and coached by MSgt William "Bull" Robinson at Sickles High School in Tampa, Florida, is in just their second year of existence and is quickly climbing the Air Force ranks. According to Cadet Knight "our goal this year was to break into the Top 10 for Air Force with our second year team and get our first year team into the Top 20." Through their dedication to each other and relentless training they realized their goal earning 8th and 19th place honors at the Air Force JROTC Nationals in Aniston AL!



Their season is not over yet as they are went on to the Florida State Championships in March and then they will finish the school year with the Junior Olympic Trials in May. Marksmanship has many opportunities for cadets to continue their sport as well as their education with scholarships to major universities as well as CMP scholarships offered. Cadet Knight says: "being the commander of the team, I really had no idea how much my teammates would impact me, not only as a shooter, but as a leader. As the commander, I've had to make difficult decisions some-times, and the workload I have had to handle has matured me in ways I never could have imagined. I'll never forget the memories I have made with this amazing program, and can never thank my teammates and instructors enough.

Special thanks to Lt Col (Ret) Robert A. Marasco, SASI, FL -20083, Sickles High School for the story.



MS-934 Military Ball with Col Woods



MS-934 held its Military Ball on the 6 Feb 2015, the guest speaker for the night was the Director of AFJROTC, Colonel Bobby Woods, Jr. The Leadership Group from MS-934 took a moment to pose with the Director and SASI. Special thanks to Mrs. Marlow, Maj Marlow and the cadets who worked to make the night a very fun and memorable event. MS-934 is a great unit with superb cadets. They have a great marksmanship program as well. Several cadets were recognized with numerous medals from a recent Marksmanship Championship. Great job MS- 934!

Maj (Ret) Reese Marlow and Mrs. Marlow with Superstar Cadet!



FL-032 Drill Meet



Florida Air Academy (FL-032) in conjunction with The World Drill Association hosted Eau Gallie High School and the South Alberta Light Horse (Kiwanis) Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (SALH) in a drill competition on 14 March 2015. The SALH presence gave us an unprecedented International flavor this year as they traveled all the way from Medicine Hat, Alberta Canada to compete. Although their cadets got a little, “overheated” from our 82-degree Florida weather, it still did not stop them from winning overall 1st place and taking back with them the 1st place prize of \$500. Eau Gallie High School (FL-031) from Melbourne FL, took overall 2nd place and the \$300 prize. More than the competition, all the cadets had a great time interacting/sharing with their peers, as they shared their different drill techniques. Thanks to Stephen B. Hammond, SMSgt, USAF (Ret) for this story.

PRATTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC DRILL TEAM WINS THE ALABAMA ARMY JROTC DRILL COMPETITION



Prattville High School Junior ROTC drill team competed in the State of Alabama Army JROTC drill competition held at Stanhope Elmore High School on 14 March 2015. They competed against eighteen other Army, Air Force and Marine Junior ROTC teams from around Alabama. The team won 1st place in Unarmed Platoon Exhibition, 1st place in Color Guard, 1st place in Unarmed Inspection, 2nd place in Armed Platoon Exhibition and was named the 1st place Overall winner at the competition. The team will compete in their final competition of the year at the Walton High School Braves Invitational in Defuniak, Springs, Florida.

NV-20012 Community Service



Community Service is such an important part of community relations within AFJROTC. North Valleys High School, NV-20012, Reno, NV, conducted their Annual Environmental Clean-Up at Bonanza Casino, in Reno, on Saturday, 21 March 2015. Members of the Casino staff said, "Thank you all, and your fine program, for your continued outstanding support!" Cadet Panther Air Wing Commander said, "This is just one way that we like to give back to our community for their support of our high school and program." George Fleck, Lt Col USAF (Ret.)

FL-051 Community Service



The cadets from Fort Walton Beach High School AFJROTC along with family members started a new tradition on 21 February by attending the Pensacola Ice Flyers Military Appreciation hockey game. The Ice Flyers are members of the Southern Professional Hockey League. The cadets were asked to present the Colors for the National Anthem and performed flawlessly in front of over 5,500 fans at the Pensacola Bay Center. Many of the fans in attendance were retired or active duty military members. This presentation was a highlight for the four graduating cadets who were members of the color guard. The Ice Flyers came away with a win to make it a great evening for all. Thanks to Lt Col Philip Trexler, (SASI, AFJROTC FL-051) for his article!

NJ-20131

AIR FORCE JROTC DRILL TEAM DRILL COMPETITION

WOW! A second year program garnering awards at a drill competition. We all know this only happens with LOTS of hard work, dedication, and teamwork!

- * Academic Challenge: First Place
- * Armed Color Guard: First Place
- * Unarmed Exhibition: First Place
- * Unarmed Inspection: Second Place

Congrats Cadets on your outstanding achievement. Well done!



FL-939 AFA Florida State Drill Championship

Sandalwood High School drill team and color guard members, for the 8th time in 12 years, won the AFA Florida State Drill Championship! We are very proud of the cadets! They have waited 4 years since last winning this title. FL-939 now has its name on that traveling trophy 8 times (once 4-years-in-a-row). The closest any other school has come is 4 times total. Thus, FL-939 has far more championship wins than any other school in the state! Yea, FL-939 cadets! We are all incredibly proud of you guys.

Thanks to MSgt Grayling D. Hunter for sending this to us!

Sandalwood AFJROTC FL-939



NM-20011 in 26th Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon Event



Alamogordo High School JROTC Cadets participated in the 26th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon held on Saturday, 21 March 2015 at White Sands Missile Range.

Mayor Susie Galea met and congratulated the cadets for completing the marathon. This marathon is widely considered to be one of the most difficult courses in the world.

The Bataan Memorial Death March honors a special group of World War II heroes. These brave soldiers were responsible for the defense of the islands of Luzon, Corregidor and the harbor defense forts of the Philippines.

The conditions they encountered and the aftermath of the battle were unique. They fought in a malaria-infested region, surviving on half or quarter rations with little or no medical help. They fought with outdated equipment and virtually no air power.

On 9 April 1942, tens of thousands of American and Filipino soldiers were surrendered to Japanese forces. The Americans were Army, Army Air Corps, Navy and Marines. Among those seized were members of the 200th Coast Artillery, New Mexico National Guard.

They were marched for days in the scorching heat through the Philippine jungles. Thousands died. Those who survived faced the hardships of a prisoner of war camp. Others were wounded or killed when unmarked enemy ships transporting prisoners of war to Japan were sunk by U.S. air and naval forces.

The Army ROTC Department at New Mexico State University began sponsoring the memorial march in 1989 to mark a page in history that included so many native sons and affected many families in the state. In 1992, White Sands Missile Range and the New Mexico National Guard joined in the sponsorship and the event was moved to the Missile Range. Since its inception, the memorial march has grown from about 100 to some 6,500 marchers from across the United States and several foreign countries. While still primarily a military event, many civilians choose to take the challenge.

Marchers come to this memorial event for many reasons - personal challenge, the spirit of competition or to foster esprit de corps in their unit. Some march in honor of a family member or a particular veteran who was in the Bataan Death March or was taken a prisoner of war by the Japanese in the Philippines.

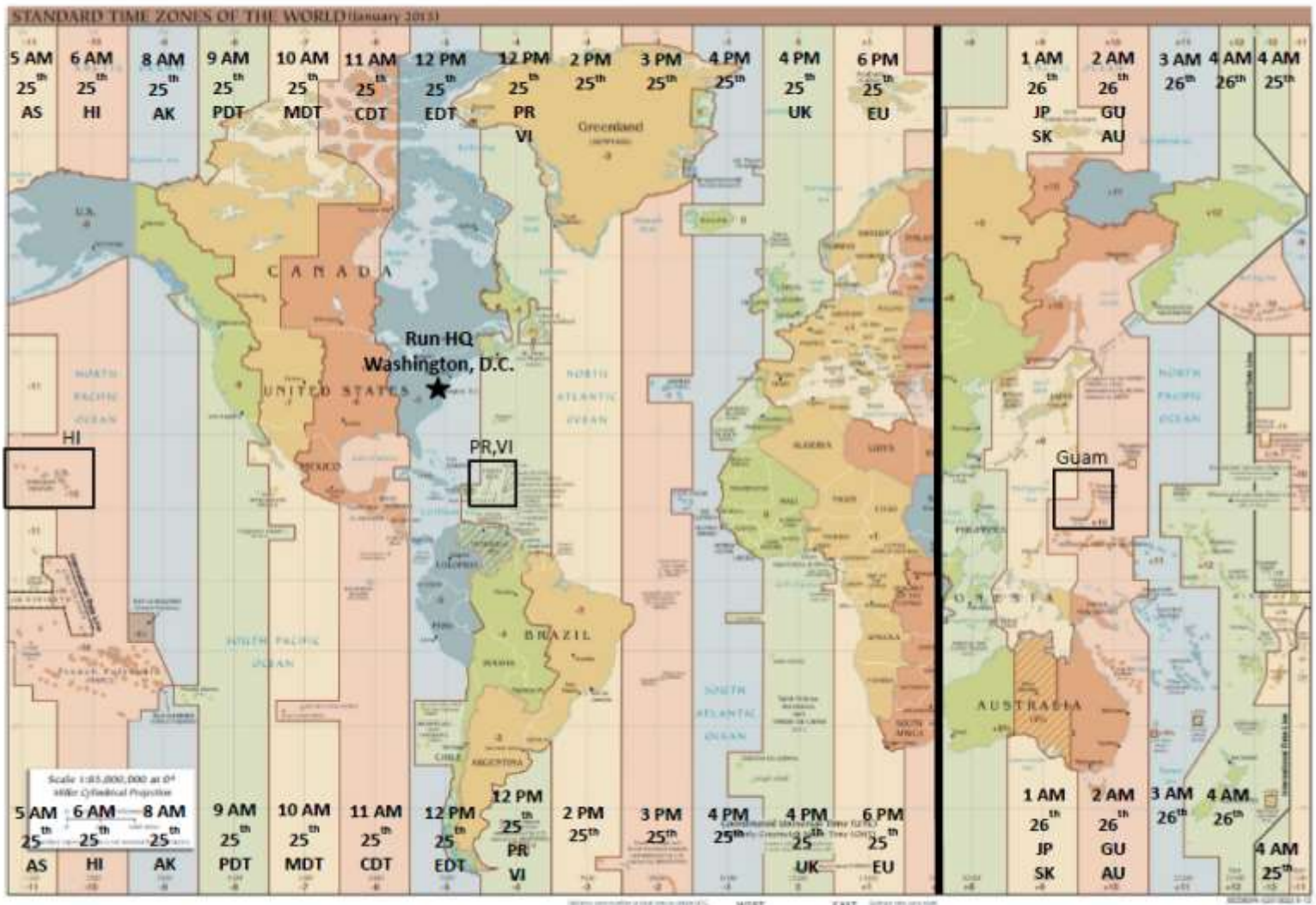
Two of my cadets completed the 26th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon. Also, my wife Giselle and I were able to meet and chat with the Philippine Ambassador to the United States.

Special thanks to Lt Col (Retired) Stephen McDaniel, SASI, NM-20011 for the story.



JROTC 99th Anniversary Run Coordination

Start time: 12:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time, April 25th, 2015



Note From the Editor:

If you have any questions or concerns over the newsletter please email us at

HQ-OpsSupport@AFJROTC.COM

Also if you have any submissions that you want us to publish, please remember that we need to have Photo release forms filled out by legal guardians if the person pictured is a minor. Those forms are located in WINGS under the published files under extracurricular activities folder.

Also don't forget to follow us on Facebook

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Thanks!

Captain Gaytan