

MESSAGES FROM LT COL AND CHIEF



Greetings Patriots! I would like to welcome all our new arrivals to the unit. We are lucky to have so many talented cadets to join our team!

Since my arrival I have enjoyed meeting many of you and am very impressed the quality of our cadets here at Patriot NJROTC!

I am also so impressed with our Orienteering team and the rifle team. The Orienteering team did such an incredible job beating all the Area 5 Competition to win the area championships!!! They have gone to the Nationals 3 years in a row!!! They will be competing on the 17th of February, at the National championships in Georgia. Our Rifle team started out with mostly an all new slate of shooters this fall and largely due to their hard work and incredible coaching from John Dirndorpher they have won many medals including 1st place for Matt Dirndorpher, and 2nd place for the team at the CMP Pa State Championships. Our Novice team got 1st place at the Area 5 Championships!, And Brenden McCormick, due to his incredible shooting was chosen to represent Area 5 at the National Championships in February in Alabama! So we definitely have quite a talented group of cadets in this unit!!! I also must comment on the incredible parents we have here. We have received so much help from parents volunteering their precious time to help out driving and helping on all our events! We couldn't do any of this without all your kind help and support!

All the best to all of you for a great year!

LtCol Gregg Lyon



As we pass the half-way mark, while appropriate to reflect on our accomplishments to date, it is equally important to set goals and expectations for the remainder of the year. If you've just completed your semester and didn't double up, you are still a part of this unit. Every team, service event and field trip is still open and available to you. To keep up, you need to stay connected through this newsletter, our website and our various social media platforms. This is a fantastic resource for cadets and parents alike, and with a little browsing of the latest news and calendar, you will be able to find most answers about upcoming events and opportunities.

I am happy to announce our unit wide Patriot NJROTC annual orientation trip. Designed to get away from Frederick and see a variety of locations, equipment and technology that the Navy and armed forces offer, these trips will offer a wide variety of unique tours and experiences. To get started, we are heading south to the U.S. Navy's largest naval base, Norfolk, Virginia. In this area, we will find ships, submarines, fighter aircraft, helicopter squadrons as well as SEAL, diver and EOD commands to visit. Please be on the lookout for further information regarding the schedule and final cost as we begin coordinating ship and command visits.

Finally, always remember that this is YOUR unit. The cadet staff does its best to represent your concerns, goals and hopes for this unit, but cannot do it alone. We need everyone's input, professionalism and commitment to continue moving in the right direction. Please stay engaged and let your voice be heard!

Chief Michael Rodrigues

NEWS

TEAM COMPETITIONS

There will be one drill meet, one rifle meet and an Orienteering National Championships in *February*. Please see the calendar for dates and locations.

MILITARY BALL

Please mark your calendar for this year's military ball scheduled on *March 24* from *6:30-10:30* PM at Morningside Inn. Ticket information will come out soon. Mrs. Buckman suggests that girls planning on going to the Military Ball should start dress shopping..

FIELD TRIP

All NJROTC cadets are welcome to join us for a field trip to *Gettysburg National Military Park, PA* on *Thursday, February 23, 2017*. The field trip form is attached to this newsletter. The first 42 cadets who return the form will be added to the list.

NJROTC YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST



We are in the second year of compiling our own NJROTC Yearbook. This year our Yearbook Committee invites **ALL** cadets to participate in the Yearbook Cover Contest. The deadline to submit your entry

is *Wednesday, March 1*.

Be the creative winner whose artwork will be featured on the yearbook cover. Entries not selected will be displayed as Honorable Mention inside the yearbook. Please email your questions and design to our Yearbook Coordinator Hongwei Xu at hwxu@comcast.net.

CADET PORTRAIT DAY

Tuesday, February 28, all in semester cadets will have their portraits taken by Wally Hines Photography, Inc. If you would



like to purchase the photos, the order form has been sent home with your cadet at the start of the semester.

RIFLE AREA 5 CHAMPIONSHIP



Veteran Team, 5th place – McCormick, Dirndorfer, Ray, Barnhouse
Novice Team 2, 1st Place – Beane, S. Palmer, Bonnila, Brockett
Novice Team 3, 3rd – Rodriguez, Hicks, Richman, Solhi
Individual – McCormick 4th and Dirndorfer 6th

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Please mark your calendar for the volunteer opportunities planned for the coming months. Sign-up sheets will be posted at Chief's room. For questions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Chris Henry at cmh62@comcast.net.

March - Blessings in a Backpack Food Drive (Dates/times TBD)

April 1 - Rails to Trails

April 29 - Rebuilding Together

May 13 - Cleaning tombstones at Antietam National Battlefield

June 3 - Planting Hope (used to be Convoy of Hope)

August 26 - Patty Pallotos Family Funomenon

MEET THE STAFF

The following are the exclusive interviews with four of our staff. The staff were asked about their positions, length of the positions, job responsibilities, accomplishments, suggestions to improve unit performance, and hobbies and/or extracurricular activities.



My name is [Samantha Buckman](#) and I am a senior from Linganore High School. I have been Commanding Officer for one year. My responsibilities include overseeing unit activities and helping to plan upcoming events such as field trips. One accomplishment this year was organizing the AMI and helping prepare the unit for this yearly inspection.

In order to improve the unit as a whole, we need to have much more cadet involvement. There are many volunteer opportunities each month, but we typically only have a handful of people signing up for each of them. To become more successful as a unit, more people need to get involved in the activities that we commit to, including community service. Many of the activities we do help organizations that support the unit with donations of their time and products. To have lots of cadets help out when they ask for our assistance would be a great way to thank our local support.

Some extracurricular activities besides NJROTC that I am involved in are Model UN and Girl Scouts, and my hobbies include reading and exploring foreign languages.



My name is [Nick Metelski](#) and I am a junior from Governor Thomas Johnson High School. I have been Public Affairs Officer for one year. I manage recruiting opportunities and social media, creating a Facebook page. To improve unit performance, we need more unit participation. Besides NJROTC, I play lacrosse and basketball.



My name is [Alex Ball](#) and I am a junior from Governor Thomas Johnson High School. I have been Assistant Supply Officer for one year. My responsibilities include keeping cabinet neat, clean, and organized. Also, I issue uniforms and equipment to cadets. To improve unit performance, we need to have more unit participation. Besides NJROTC, I play lacrosse, exercise in the gym and love computer work.



My name is [India Pack](#) and I am a junior from Linganore High School. I have been Administrative Officer for one year. My responsibilities include managing all the paper work that deals with the cadets information. To improve the unit as a whole, we must improve upon cadet involvement throughout the unit and have new cadets participating. Also getting the news about what the unit is doing readily available to all cadets and parents. Besides NJROTC, I participate in Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

Gregg Lyon

Senior Naval Science Instructor
LtCol, USMC (Ret)
Gregg.Lyon@fcps.org
(240) 236-8257

Michael Rodrigues

Naval Science Instructor
HMC, USN (Ret)
Michael.Rodrigues@fcps.org
(240) 236-8257



PATRIOT NJROTC

Governor Thomas Johnson High School
1501 North Market St.
Frederick, MD 21701
(240) 236-8257



PARENT/TEACHER APPROVAL FOR FIELD TRIP

Teacher: LtCol Lyon / Chief Rodrigues Program: NJROTC
Trip Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017
Destination: Gettysburg National Military Park, Pennsylvania

Field Trip Objective: All NJROTC cadets are welcome to join us for an orientation trip to the Gettysburg museum and battlefield. This trip will include museum admission, an orientation movie and a 2 hour guided tour of the battlefields.

Departure Time: 0745 Approximate Return Time: 1400

REQUIRED:

- Cost: \$0.00 (Bring a bag lunch or money for food at museum)
- ALL cadet forms (school physical, health risk questionnaire and waiver) and \$25 unit maintenance fee must be submitted.
- Cadets should wear clothing appropriate for the weather as we will have frequent stops along the battlefield tour. Uniform NOT required.
- Muster at 0730 inside of the NJROTC classroom at T.J.
- The first 42 cadets to return this form (hand deliver or e-mail) to Chief Rodrigues will be added to the list. If we have enough to fill a second bus (minimum of 25), one will be reserved. 84 total seats available for this trip.
- Deadline to register: Thursday, February 9th by 1430.

Student Name: _____

Print

I give permission for this student to go on the stated field trip.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent telephone number in case of emergency: _____



TEACHERS' SIGNATURES: Signature implies passing grades and consent to miss a day of school. Advance assignments should be provided.

Period 1 _____

Period 3 _____

Period 2 _____

Period 4 _____