



## What's New in Training?

Sixteen Naval Science One cadets have recently achieved their first promotion to the rank of Cadet Seamen Apprentice, while ten upper-class cadets have earned higher ranks. Now that we are into the rhythm of in-person instruction, we will be holding monthly awards and promotion ceremonies on the first set of Monday and Tuesday uniform days at the beginning of each month. Awards and Promotion Orders are now being posted to a newly-created folder in the Resources section of the Patriot NJROTC Schoology Group.

For junior ranks, advancement consists of demonstrating increasing professional knowledge and skill by passing written and practical exams. The middle ranks also require engagement in unit activities as reflected by earning team, participation, community- and unit-service ribbons. Higher ranks additionally require cadets to consistently demonstrate a high level of physical fitness, as well as a willingness to take on the duties of various staff and leadership positions within unit.



Naval Science 1 cadets are promoted by the Senior Naval Science Instructor at a recent ceremony.



Cadets from both semesters came out to support the organization. In teams of two, cadets planted saplings around the zone. Through their hard work, our volunteers finished the project early after replanting all of the available saplings. We thank the Stream-Link Education Organization for allowing us to come help out!

## Restoring Streams in our Community: Thurmont Tree-Planting Event

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On November 21st, cadets participated in a tree planting community service project in Thurmont, Maryland. Alongside representatives from the Stream-Link Education Organization, cadets replaced dead tree saplings alongside a riparian zone. Riparian zones are the areas bordering bodies of water, such as ponds and streams. By replacing trees along the creek, the area surrounding it will generate more shade and allow it to become stronger. This also directly supports the surrounding farmland by making it more fertile.

According to the Stream-Link Education organization, their mission is to “connect community to conservation through educational and meaningful volunteer tree-planting experiences to instill stewardship values and improve the health of our rivers and streams.” In 2018, Stream-Link education was awarded the Frederick County Sustainability Award “for outstanding service in furthering the goals of a Sustainable Frederick County.”



## Graduate Spotlight: Caleb Brockett

Caleb Brockett is a 2020 NJROTC graduate of the Patriot NJROTC program and is currently attending the United States Coast Guard Academy. He is studying naval architecture and marine engineering, and is also an athlete on their division 1 rifle team. According to Caleb, during his time in our program, he was exposed to many valuable skills and leadership opportunities that allowed him to excel in the rigorous military lifestyle the Coast Guard Academy offers.

"The Patriot NJROTC set me up with a strong foundation for life at the Coast Guard Academy," Caleb explained. The military discipline and exposure helped him prepare for their summer training program, 'Swab Summer.' Caleb went on to say that he developed self-discipline, study habits, accountability, and was given many leadership opportunities. "PT with Chief Rodrigues really helped me prepare for the physical aspect, while knowing how to execute drill gave me a real head start here."

Of the many opportunities Caleb received through Patriot NJROTC, one of the most significant was his exposure to our rifle team. Caleb developed a passion for the sport early in his high school career; a passion he carried with him to the United States Coast Guard Academy. "Through Commander Gillespie's coaching, I was able to stay motivated and get to where I am today." Caleb says his favorite memories of Patriot NJROTC are his time spent with his rifle teammates.

Caleb will be spending his upcoming summer at a Coast Guard duty station serving as an enlisted member of the Coast Guard. He will also be stationed on the *U.S. Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) Eagle* for a trans-Atlantic voyage. The Coast Guard Academy's afloat leadership laboratory, the primary mission of the *Eagle* is training. Every cadet who attends the Coast



Cadet Caleb Brockett in his USCGA Full Dress Blue Uniform



*USCGC Eagle*

Guard Academy will spend a minimum of six weeks on board *Eagle*. In addition to learning the nautical traditions of his profession, Caleb will be learning basic seamanship and navigation skills as well as important team-building and leadership skills.



## Team Spotlight: Orienteering

Orienteering is an endurance land navigation sport with the goal to locate control checkpoints using a map and a compass. The winner of the event is the individual with the lowest elapsed time. Originating in Sweden, the sport combines military navigation skills with athleticism.

Patriot NJROTC cadets compete at events across the tri-state area. At practice, our head coach Chief Rodrigues teaches navigation skills such as understanding land contours and symbols, as well as methods to achieve the most efficient routes. There are a variety of different courses, all with different skill levels. As cadets progress, they increase course difficulty and develop new techniques. Our team competes at both local and national events. Governor Thomas Johnson High School Patriots has placed first overall each of the past two years at the Area 5 Orienteering Competition. At the NJROTC National Orienteering Championships in 2019, the team placed 5th overall in the nation!



## Free SAT-Prep Course!

As an NJROTC cadet, you are offered various resources to help prepare you for your future. One of these is the NJROTC College Test Preparation Program. Using this program, Navy JROTC cadets can prepare for the SAT or ACT by taking practice exams, working through tutorials, and focusing on areas needing improvement. First, go to [jrotccollegeprep.com](http://jrotccollegeprep.com), select 'SAT' or 'ACT' and follow the instructions to register as a 'new member.' Make sure you choose 'Ijamsville' as the unit's location, then Gov. Thomas Johnson High School. (This is a holdover from when our unit was located at Linganore.) We hope this online resource will help you in your pursuit of mastering the SAT and ACT!





### Booster Fundraiser

10% of sales will support the Patriot NJROTC program

PATRIOT NJROTC

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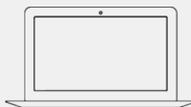


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