



2034 Barnett Ave.
Quantico, VA 22134

Phone: 703-784-3706
Fax: 703-784-4050

www.mcjrotc.marines.mil

Inside this issue:

Dates to Remember 3

Capstone Course 4

Tolleson HS and Veteran's Memorial HS 5

East HS and Churchland HS 6

Success Stories – results of recent competitions 7

Clearwater HS and Tomball Memorial HS 8

Palm Beach Lakes HS 9

HQ Gazette

Spring 2017

From the Director

Wow! It is hard to believe that School Year (SY) 16-17 is rapidly drawing to a close. Where does the time go? First, let me apologize for not getting out into the battlespace and visiting our Programs. As you will read from the rest of the staff, my absence in the field, while disappointing should be no great surprise. We have a lot going on here at the Headquarters. We continue to look for ways to optimize the program at the National Level. We continue to work at getting the most benefit out of every dollar spent. As I said in the last Newsletter, sometimes that has unintended consequences. Just know that, regardless of the path taken, I am committed to do the best I can to ensure that all our Programs receive the best support we can offer. I know sometimes from the view of the Instructors, that end state does not seem as clear but trust me, there is light at the end of the tunnel and we all will benefit when we get there. Until then and as always, thanks for the continued support and flexibility.

I am optimistic that SY 17-18 will be filled with opportunities to get back out amongst the schools to see and observe what we do best, mentor and teach our future leaders.

Although the school year is winding down there is still plenty to do before we pack up and take a well-deserved break. In a few short weeks, on the 22nd of April, the MCJROTC National Drill Competition will take place in Irving, TX. Congratulations to all who participated in the Regional Competitions and earned the right to represent your Region in the National Competition. I am looking at ways to increase the number of schools that may participate in future years, but I think 15 schools is a great first step in trying to identify the "best of the best." Brigadier General Bohm, Com-



Bob Oltman, MCJROTC Director

manding General, Training Command will preside over this year's competition. I am sure he will get a great perspective of what we are all about. Many heartfelt thanks to Region 5 and the MCJROTC Staff at Irving High School, our primary planners for this event. I look forward to observing firsthand and reading about the results in the next Newsletter. Good luck to those competing and for those who missed the cut, better luck next time.

Finally, thanks to all of you who play a part in making this Program a success. Based off my observations, it is clear to me that this is a calling, not a job. To that I say thank you one hundred times over. We are blessed to have you in the fold.

See you around the campus.

DIRECTOR SENDS

From the Desk of the Deputy Director



As many of our instructors now know, the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (MCJROTC) Program is in the process of fielding a modern day system to help us manage the Program. The system is called Citizens Development Management Information Subsystem (CDMIS).

It is a web-based application that utilizes cutting edge technologies to provide a user-centric experience for managing JROTC Programs at the Headquarters, Region, and Unit levels.

Recently, we have been successful in getting the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Commanding General, Training and Education Command. The MOU is currently under staffing and review by Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) for implementation during the 3rd quarter of this fiscal year.

The Project is currently underway. It is being developed in several phases over the course of the next two fiscal years. Currently, we have submitted "Phase 1" documentation to NETC for technical development and includes, infrastructure changes at the unit/school/cadet level, management of the security/access, management of unit/school administrative data, generic nomenclature changes (i.e. Naval JROTC to MCJROTC), and a banner change to use MCJROTC logo for our use.

The following phases (2, 3, & 4) will include:
PHASE 2 - Instructor and School Information
PHASE 3 - Supply and Budget Management
PHASE 4 - Curriculum Management

The Project is on time, on budget, and should be completed no later than the 2nd quarter of FY 18.

Ralph W. Ingles

Operations & Instructional Support Branch

During the first newsletter I shared the new Operations and Instructional Support Branch (O&ISB). Now I would like to introduce the team and a glimpse of their duties:

Anna Henson - Compliance/Training Specialist. Anna will assist with plans and strategies for internal control processes and clean audits for the Program. She will also assist and monitor MCJROTC IGs and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) compliance as well as standards and continuing education/training requirements for our instructors.

Barbara Janos-Morin - Instructor Management Support Assistant. Barbara receives all new instructor applications and prepares monthly boards. She also prepares certification, recertification and decertification letters, MI/SMI waivers, maintains the command chronology and assists with other administrative needs.

Nancy Turner - Instructor Records and Analysis Specialist. Nancy maintains the instructor data base and records, reconciles all DD Forms 2754/2767 and instructors Leave Earning Statements with the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS). She provides Minimum Instruc-

tor Pay (MIP) to instructors and district HR personnel. She assists with other administrative needs and also approves Defense Travel System (DTS) authorizations.

Wendy Young - Operations and Instructional Support Specialist. Wendy is the POC for competitive Letters of Instructions (LOIs), assists with approval of travel estimates for competitions, assists with Memorandum of Agreement updates/management, school applications, and higher headquarters correspondence. She also enters invitational travel orders in DTS and works with Web Support to maintain the MCJROTC website and the Headquarters Newsletter.

Please bear with us as we align roles and responsibilities in an effort to provide you the best level of service and support you deserve.

Competitive News

The MCJROTC Marksmanship Air Rifle Service/Regional Championships were held 9-11 Feb 2017 in Las, Vegas NV. There were 21 Sporter teams, 8 Precision teams, 7 Sporter and 5 Precision individuals; or approximately 150

cadets vying to leave their mark in MCJROTC shooting lore. The competition was keen and every cadet gave it their best shot. When the final shot was fired in the Sporter category, Nation Ford HS SC, held on to the Directors Cup for a 2nd year followed by Rio Rancho HS, NM, and Gulfport HS, MS. In the Precision category; Eldorado HS, NM took home the Directors Cup followed by East Coweta HS, GA and La Cueva HS, NM. Individual Sporter category cadets were from Nation Ford HS, SC, Eldorado HS, NM and Gulfport HS, MS. Individual Precision category cadets were from Eldorado HS, NM, East Coweta HS, GA, and Eldorado HS, NM. Several cadets also earned their Excellence in Competition (EIC) badge.

There were 7 Sporter teams and 8 individuals, and 5 Precision teams and 5 individual qualifiers that advanced to Anniston, AL. for the National JROTC Air Rifle Championships on 23-25 March 2017 to compete against Sister Services. In the Sporter category Navy took 1st and 2nd followed by our Gulfport HS MS and Nation Ford HS, SC. In the Precision category Eldorado continued to dominate followed by Navy, and our East Coweta HS, GA and La Cueva HS, NM. Several cadets earned their EIC badge.

The cadets displayed great sportsmanship, while some of the Instructors suffered from competition anxiety and nausea.

To the cadets—thank you for taking on the challenge and

putting in the extra time and effort for this sport. We know there are other things you could be doing.

To the instructors—we salute you for your dedication and sacrifice you make for the program and the unbelievable hours you put in for your cadet's ability to compete.

To all our parents and chaperones—without your support we realize that many of these cadets would not be able to participate and have an opportunity to experience not only the competition, but the travel in itself.

Our hats go off to all of you for giving up your time, and in some cases, your income to support our MCJROTC program activities!

To the Administration—we thank you for your continued support of our programs and our partnership.

Please know that we are making every effort to reduce the number of days competitions take the cadets out of school and stand hard and fast that education is the priority over competing.

Be sure and check the dates to remember (below) for administrative due dates and upcoming events. If there is anything O&ISB can do to support you please let me know. We look forward to learning of continued success in all programs.

Carmen E. Cole
O&ISB Manager

2017 Dates to Remember...

22 April	National MCJROTC Drill Competition, Irving, TX
24 April	CMRs due to Logistics Specialists
30 April	Instructor Recertification Packages due to Region Directors
5—7 May	Drill Nation, Daytona Beach, FL
15 May	Pay forms; DD 2754 and 2767 due to HQ
18—21 May	National YPFT, MCRD San Diego, CA
23—27 June	JLAB, Catholic University, Washington, D.C.
25—30 June	Senior Leadership Camp Capstone, Lexington, MO
30 June	Instructor Evaluations due to RDs / PRD deadline for the year
9—15 July	Cyber Camp, Randolph-Macon Academy, Front Royal, VA
16—23 July	New Instructor Orientation Training, Fredericksburg, VA



Program Support Branch

Greetings from the Program Support Branch: Sheila Warren, Kari Brewton, Pam Fantana, James Jones, Jerome Bell, Richard Rush, Bill Madison and Chris Beyer.

With the combining of the Logistics Section and the Finance Section into one Branch – Program Support Branch (PSB)– we hope that we are continuing to provide you with top notch customer support and meeting all of your support needs.

There are new processes that have gone into effect as a result of a TECOM internal audit. These processes will be detailed out in a forthcoming policy letter and will ultimately be codified with the re-write of our Standard Operating Procedures.

It is hard to believe we are at the mid-way point of the fiscal year. This is the time of year that PRDs for events (camps, competitions, orientation trips etc.) begin streaming in to the PSB. It is important that you remember that your Purchase Request Documents (PRDs) must have the ability to withstand scrutiny. Please ensure that your PRD has a source document and that “paints the picture” so auditors understand the who, what, where,

when and why of your requirement.

April 3rd is the day that Consolidated Memorandum Receipts (CMRs) go out to all Responsible Officers. They are due back to your Logistics Specialist by April 24, 2017. If you have questions, please contact your dedicated Logistics Specialist.

It is imperative that we maintain accurate records in the accountability of government furnished property. In the event any gear is missing, lost, stolen, please be sure to use the new Financial Liability Investigation of Property Loss (FLIPL) procedures to report missing gear. FLIPL procedures will be detailed out in a forthcoming policy letter.

As always, if you need anything, please reach out to one of the eight of us. We are here to support you so that you can do what you do best.

Sheila Warren
Program Support Branch Manager

Academics and Compliance

The Capstone Course

For the first time MCJROTC will hold a National Senior Leadership Course. The course will be held at the Wentworth Military Academy and College in Lexington, Missouri, during the period of 25-30 June. One hundred cadets from all five regions, nominated by their instructors and selected by their Region Directors, will gather at Wentworth to participate in this challenging five-day course.

Participating cadets will be evaluated academically and physically each day. Formed into squads and rotating into the squad leader positions, cadets will be faced with missions designed to test their leadership, adaptability, mental and moral courage, and endurance. Days will be long and rest will be limited. By the end of the course on Friday afternoon, cadets will have a better understanding of their leadership skills in difficult circumstances. More importantly, they will have participated in a first-time event and had the opportunity to set high

standards for the cadets who will follow in their footsteps next year, as well as take back to their units valuable leadership lessons to share with the other cadets.

Mark Newbold
Academic & Compliance Manager



Tolleson Color Guard

Submitted by CWO5 Freddie Jordan, Region 4

For the past four years, the Arizona House of Representatives has recognized Private First Class Oscar P. Austin (Medal of Honor) recipient with a moment of silence on the House Floor of the State Capital. On February 23, 2017 (the month and day of his death), the Tolleson High School MCJROTC Color Guard had the distinguished honor to present colors on the floor of the Arizona State Capital Building prior to this recognition.

Members of Tolleson's MCJROTC Color Guard include:

Cadet 1st Lt Christopher Jordan (American Colors)

Cadet SSgt Makayla Gillett (Marine Corps Colors)

Cadet SSgt Ruby Hernandez (Right Shoulder Rifle Bearer)

Cadet SSgt Desiree Gardner (Left Shoulder Rifle Bearer)



Congratulations Cadet St. Romain!

Submitted by GySgt Yolanda Garcia, Region 5

Cadet Captain Dalton St. Romain from Veterans Memorial Early College High School, in Brownsville Texas was awarded the NROTC Scholarship for \$180,000 on February 15, 2017. The scholarship was presented by U.S. Navy representatives. The presentation ceremony was attended by the MCJROTC instructors from Veteran's Memorial MCJROTC, GySgt Yolanda Garcia and GySgt Deandrea Williams; school administrators; MCJROTC cadets, VMHS students and St. Romain's parents.

Cadet Capt St. Romain assumed command of his MCJROTC unit in 2015. He is also the Armed Drill Team Commander. In the past he has served as the Operations Officer, Platoon Sergeant, and Squad Leader. He is a member of the National Honor Society, student council officer, the Parliamentarian of his Skills USA chapter, and an Altar Server Captain at his church. He strives for nothing short of military and scholastic success. Additionally, he has interned with his local Congressman the summer before his senior year. He plans to attend Texas A&M University at College Station and major in Engineering.

LeBron James Family Foundation Visits East MCJROTC

Submitted by MSgt John MacLean, Region 3

At East Community Learning Center's annual winter sports assembly, the exhibition team of the school's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) program kicked off the event with a drill routine.

Front and center was 18-year-old Cadet Major Dillon Benefield, the MCJROTC Commanding Officer, who led the team in rhythmically spinning and tossing rifles before they marched single file off the gym floor.

Right behind them, representatives from the LeBron James Family Foundation burst through the doors and announced to the crowd that they were surprising a group at the school with brand new Nike uniforms.



"When they said Nike, I was expecting the basketball team," Cadet Major Benefield said.

To Benefield's surprise, along with others on the team, two fellow MCJROTC members ran out onto the gym floor sporting bright red Nike tracksuits with the school's dragon mascot across the chest and matching Beats headphones. The LeBron James Family Foundation (LJFF) awarded the tracksuits and headphones to the competitions teams of the school's MCJROTC Program Friday during the assembly as part of its ongoing "Earned Not Given" uniform drop initiative.

LJFF started the initiative to encourage a positive cultural change after James and others in his inner circle learned about negative behavior and poor sportsmanship exhibited at some Akron Public School sporting events, said foundation spokesperson Stephanie Rosa. Since then, the foundation has awarded uniforms to several Akron student groups that exhibit positive traits such as sportsmanship, leadership and togetherness.

"It's all about giving back, that's really important to [LeBron]," said Michelle Campbell, the executive director of the foundation. "It's pretty awesome, especially when no one knows it's happening."

East's MCJROTC team was the first group to receive the gifts from LJFF outside the traditional realm of sports, but Campbell said the uniforms are available for any group that demonstrates leadership qualities.

Drone Competition Highlights

Submitted by LtCol Pratt, Region 1

The Churchland High School Marine Corps JROTC Drone/Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) teams took second place overall in the inaugural Phoebus High School Drone Competition held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at Phoebus High School, Hampton, Virginia.

They competed in events such as the aerial obstacle course, surveillance and intel gathering and unknown distance courses which tested operational skill with the drones as well as coordination and team work. Thanks to Phoebus for leading the way with this competition! We hope to parlay this finish into a robust drone team that participates in more local and regional competitions.



SUCCESS IN MANY FORMS...

Regional Drill Champions

Region 1

Gloucester HS, Gloucester, MA
Lynn English HS, Lynn, MA
Reading HS, Reading, PA

Region 2

Gateway HS, Kissimmee, FL
Nation Ford HS, Fort Mill, SC
North Forsyth HS, Cumming, GA

Region 3

Pacific HS, Pacific, MO
R-S Central HS, Rutherfordton, NC
South Iredell HS, Statesville, NC

Region 4

Basic HS, Henderson, NV
Kofa HS, Yuma, AZ
Selma HS, Selma, CA

Region 5

TBD

National Air Rifle Championship Results

Sporter Team

3rd Gulfport HS, MS
4th Nation Ford, SC
7th Rio Rancho, NM
9th Selma, CA

Precision Team

1st Eldorado HS, NM
3rd East Coweta HS, GA
4th La Cueva HS, NM
10th Granbury HS, TX

Individual Sporter

1st Levi Carlson, Nation Ford HS, SC
7th Kaylene Castillo, Eldorado HS, NM
8th Gabrielle Mayes, Rio Rancho HS, NM
9th Elizabeth McGee, Rio Rancho HS, NM

Individual Precision

3rd Haley Castillo, Eldorado HS, NM
4th Mark Amdahl, Eldorado HS, NM
5th Nate Peterson, East Coweta HS, GA



CyberPatriot National Finalists

La Cueva High School, Albuquerque NM
Montachusett Tech, Fitchburg, MA

JROTC Academic Bowl (JLAB) Finalists

Beverly High School, Beverly, MA
Catholic High School, Little Rock, AR
Como Park High School, St. Paul, MN
Daniel Boone High School, Gray, TN
Muncie Central High School, Muncie, IN
R-S Central High School, Rutherfordton, NC
Redmond High School, Redmond, OR
Round Rock High School, Round Rock, TX



MCJROTC Program Makes Friends with Friends of Down Syndrome

Submitted by LtCol Charleston, Region 5

The relationship between the Marine Corps JROTC cadets and Down Syndrome students began almost 10 years ago when LtCol Carlen Charleston was the Senior Marine Instructor (SMI) for Willowridge High School. For consecutive years from 2007-2010, over 60 cadets participated annually in a gala picnic event complete with games, food and fun for students with Down Syndrome. Many years later, as that event ended, The Down Syndrome Academy opened its doors and LtCol Charleston was now at his current post as the SMI for Tomball Memorial High School (TMHS). "I immediately wanted to see how we could help this great organization and they stated that they wanted to create a ball to give the students of the Academy an opportunity to celebrate their achievements." In 2014, in conjunction with Rosa Rocha, the Executive Director of Friends of Down Syndrome, the Cinderella Ball was born.

The students needed to learn etiquette, how to waltz, all of the intricate details of conducting a formal event; and that is where the cadets of the TMHS MCJROTC program entered. Each of the Down Syndrome candidates participating in the ball is required to attend several classes conducted each Saturday by the MCJROTC cadets. These classes lead up to the big event which occurs around the 21st day of March each year. That date is significant because 21 March is the day we celebrate World Down Syndrome Day. The 21 signifies the uniqueness of the triplica-

tion of the 21st chromosome that causes Down Syndrome.

The big event occurred on March 18 this year. Male cadets were decked out in their Dress Blues and female cadets in their evening gowns as they escort and present the students of The Down Syndrome Academy at this gala fundraising event. Last year's event was a phenomenal success raising more than \$100,000 for The Down Syndrome Academy and Friends of Down Syndrome organization. The ball took place at the Red Oak Ballroom located in Houston, TX.



Cadets in photo pictured from left to right are: Christopher Spooner, Trulee Altendorfer-Artieda, Kyle Colbert, Randall Schmalriede and Steven Thompkins



Clearwater Cadets Meet Commandant of the Marine Corps

Submitted by LtCol Kumagai, Region 2



On March 10 2017, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert Neller, hosted the Clearwater High School MCJROTC cadets at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. and the Commandant's house. The Commandant spoke candidly with the cadets about setting goals, having a plan to reach those goals, and the necessity to work hard and study to achieve those goals. Most cadets thought that touring the Commandant's house and speaking with the Commandant was the highlight of our orientation trip to Marine Corps Base Quantico and Washington, DC.

SgtMaj Fineran was General Neller's Senior Enlisted Advisor during their respective tenures at U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Central Command. General Neller's admiration and respect for SgtMaj Fineran led to the private audience with the Commandant.

Army Major General Visits High School Alma Mater

Submitted by Cadet 2ndLt Colson and Cadet 2ndLt Cannon, Region 2

United States Army Major General Darrell K. Williams paid a visit to his high school alma mater, Palm Beach Lakes High School in West Palm Beach, FL. He came to share his story with the sophomore class and Marine Corps JROTC Academy under the stewardship of Master Sergeant Jonathan Oakley.

MG Williams grew up in Pleasant City, Division, and Washington Heights, which are considered to be underprivileged neighborhoods in West Palm Beach. He is one of eight siblings, all of whom were raised to be high achievers. When Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Sirvon Cannon asked MG Williams what was his motivation to succeed, MG Williams stated a quote by his late Uncle Willie Stevens, "Be the best you can be."

MG Williams also states "You can do anything that you want to do. Dream + Plan × Hard Work = Success. A dream without a plan is a hallucination." He emphasized that you must have an education. His journey started

when his parents put him on a train with two suitcases and footlocker on his way to Hampton, Virginia. Today MG Williams is a Logistician, in which he handles supply, transportation, maintenance, and medical needs for the Army.



(Below) First State Military Academy, Clayton, DE captured the 1st Place Air Force Association Delaware State Award in the All Service Division in CyberPatriot IX, the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition.



(Above) Cadets from Rio Rancho High School Marine Corps JROTC hosted the 2017 New Mexico State Championship. They also competed and received the State Runner Up Trophy for 2017.

What's new at your school?



(Below) Alvin High School's MCJROTC male and female cadets earned 1st place in the physical fitness competition held at the Region 5 drill meet hosted by Pasadena High School on 18 Feb 2017



(Above) Nation Ford HS MCJROTC Team "A" and Team "B" finish 1st and 8th place, respectively at USMC JROTC National Air Rifle Championships (Sporter) 10-11 Feb 2017 in Las Vegas, NV.



(Below) Cadets from Irving High School MCJROTC toured the Texas A&M campus with support from the Corps of Cadets. The cadets were exposed to the campus, Corps of Cadets/ROTC traditions, activities and facilities; providing the opportunity to see through the eyes of A&M cadets.



(Below) Robert E Lee, Baytown TX visited Company C, 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion in Galveston. Cadets were instructed on Marine Corps equipment and weapons and enjoyed an MRE for lunch.



Jean Ribault HS at Parris Island



(Below) Bixby High School's JROTC Unit won the inaugural JROTC Oklahoma state championship.



(Right) Culpeper County High School competed in a drill event held in January at Snow Hill High School, MD. Culpeper received 6 trophies; 3rd place in the color guard, 1st place in platoon armed, 1st place in platoon unarmed, 1st place in first year squad armed and 2nd place in first year unarmed, and 1st place overall.



Send in your news!

Articles—one page or less in MS Word
Photos—JPEG format

Submit by May 10 to your RD