

THE Cary High School NJROTC

The Cadet Times

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Inside this Issue:

1. 7 Questions About NJROTC
2. Adopt-a-Highway
3. Clayton Drill Meet
4. 5 Tips to Help You Get Ready for the PRT
5. Academics Team
6. The Future of the Unit
7. Words from CO/XO

Welcome to The Cadet Times!

The Cadet Times is a cadet led newspaper that highlights events and topics that we would like to share with everyone. This month, we have accepted new people to write for us and we are very excited to welcome them to the newsletter. We hope you enjoy this months edition!

7 Questions You Have About JROTC Answered

1. Do I have to join the military?

Being apart of a JROTC unit does not mean that you have to join the military. It is a class and something that you can be apart of. Many people that are in JROTC do end up joining the service, but you do not have to be in JROTC to join.

2. Do I have to be really athletic?

Many People that are in NJROTC aren't as fast as Usain Bolt, and that's okay. Although it is a very physical oriented class, many people who aren't as athletic still strive to improve and work hard to get better at being athletic.

3. Is it fun?

There are many fun aspects of JROTC. We go on field trips and have cookouts and you will make friends in the unit. Everyone is like a close-knit family and everyone has your back. We constantly go on field trips to places like Norfolk Naval Base, DC, Parris Island MCRD, etc.

4. What're the benefits of joining?

If you join a JROTC unit and stay in for at least three years and you want to join a military service, you'll automatically be promoted to an E-2 or E-3, depending on the branch. When you're in a JROTC unit, you're also developing and learning new leadership skills that will help you later on in the real world.

5. Do I have to wear my uniform everyday

No, you do not have to wear your uniform everyday but you will wear it once a week. Wearing the uniform correctly is very important because we represent the unit and the branch that we are apart of.

6. What can you do in ROTC

You can join a team or get involved with a billot (departments within the unit such as; admin, communications, public affairs, drill, etc.). We have eight different NJROTC teams at Cary High School: drill, academics, orienteering, cyberpatriot, marksmanship, sail, athletics and sea perch. You can also get involved and help out at the various school, unit and community service events that we take part in.

7. How can I get promoted?

Promotions are earned. You have to complete a various amount of tasks and complete an exam to be able to get promoted. You won't become an officer just by showing up to class. You need to know the basics of drill, show up to unit, community and school service events and know your military knowledge. During the advancement cycle, you'll turn in all your paperwork and take your advancement test to be able to promote. When and if you pass, we will hold a ceremony called Quarters where you will be promoted in front of all your fellow cadets to commemorate you on your achievements.

Adopt A Highway

Petty Officer Third Class Larissa Weiner-Nichols

On March 27, 2018, the Cary High School NJROTC cadets participated in an Adopt-a-Highway event. Over 35 cadets rallied together to help pick up garbage such as styrofoam cups, plastic wrappers, cans, etc. The cadets found abandoned items in bushes, on sidewalks, and amongst the trees. Every single person that contributed to picking up trash had fun while participating in the community service event. Cadets walked more than 2 miles picking up all the debris that was disregarded on the side of the road. After collecting the garbage, CDR Erickson hosted a cookout for the cadets. At the cookout, the cadets and parent chaperones enjoyed food and had a good time. We hope to see more cadets volunteer at the next Adopt-a-Highway!



The Clayton Drill Meet

Petty Officer 3rd Class Carlos Izquierdo and Petty Officer 1st Class Amanda LaTorre

The Clayton Drill Meet is an annual meet that the drill team participates in, we use this meet to allow the freshman to compete and take the places of our current seniors. The OIC for the meet was Chief Petty Officer Joseph Cruz. At the meet there was no academics or athletics events. We received fourth place overall out of the ten schools that competed. We placed second in Armed Squad which was led by Cadet Petty Officer Second Class Donavin Davis. We also placed fifth in Armed Platoon which was led by Cadet Chief Petty Officer Robert Bowers. NS1 Color Guard placed seventh and Varsity Color Guard placed eighth, both routines were led by Cadet Seaman Dominick Perry. Cadets Joseph Cruz and Daniel Free placed in the top five in Unarmed Knockout. Congratulations to all the cadets that participated!



5 Tips to Help You Get Ready For The PRT

Petty Officer First Class Amanda LaTorre

The PRT is a important aspect of being a cadet. Many cadets strive to pass or score an outstanding, but some have trouble doing so. Here are some tips you can use to help you pass your next PRT:

- 1) Make sure to take advantage of PT days! Don't just sit around or fake doing the exercises because they will help in the long run.
- 2) Exercise on your own time, make sure you are challenging yourself! Even if it results in you having to wake up a little earlier than usual to work out.
- 3) Make sure you stretch beforehand and afterward so you can prevent injuries.
- 4) Eat a healthy and nourishing breakfast and drink water constantly the few days leading up to the PRT to make sure your body is hydrated!
- 5) Always keep track of your progress to help you stay motivated.

The Academic Team

Petty Officer Third Class Carlos Izquierdo

In February, the Academic team competed in the Area Six Brain Brawl, defeating Western Alamance by a 5 point lead which qualified them to go to Nationals in Phoenix, Arizona. In March, members of the Academic team took an academic test at the Area Six Drill Competition and came in second place. Currently the team is preparing for the National Brain Brawl Competition which will take place in later this month. At Nationals, the team competing will consist of 5 people including an alternate. The team will be asked questions on various topics such as history, science, current events, etc. The Academic Team Commander Charlie Loyack commented, "The team will face tougher competition than at Area Six, we'll have to try our hardest." Good luck to all of the cadets competing at Nationals!

The Future of ROTC

Cadet Petty Officer Third Class Haley McNeil

From raising money to competing in the Area 6 Drill Meet, the Cary High School NJROTC has completed its first successful year under the command of Commander Gregory Erickson. Like every year, we strive to do better for the following year. We believe that there is always room for improvement. Next year, we will welcome new staff members, new billot leaders, and new freshman cadets that make the unit better in every way.

This year's drill team had the honor of attending the Area 6 Drill Meet in Chapin, South Carolina for the 17th year in a row. We placed seventh out of 66 schools that are in the area. Next year we hope to place higher in all of our drill, academics and athletics events to make it to Nationals. Personal Inspection this year was standard but we want and will strive to do better with uniform composition and overall general knowledge. With the new year will be a new staff and new cadets, and with that comes a new ideas and plans to improve our already distinguished Cary High NJROTC Unit for the 2018-2019 year.

Words from CO/XO

Cadet Lieutenant Commander Keith Tran and Cadet Lieutenant Ingrid Segura

“Leaders are people who strive for the best. They help teach and show others how to become a better leader in the future. To the future leaders of the unit, my advice is to be accountable for your actions and the outcomes of those actions and to learn from your mistakes. Remember to put aside your differences and strive towards a common goal to keep you all unified. Always have a will to succeed when others don't and remember to lead by example.”

