

# AFJROTC News & Notes

April 2017

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 HQ AF JUNIOR ROTC



**Colonel Bobby C. Woods, Jr.**  
AFJROTC Director

## From the Director..

### BE A GOOD EXAMPLE

Each school day as I leave my subdivision, I see about five young people waiting for their school bus. Right by the bus stop is a stop sign on a road that rarely has cars. Just a few days ago, I was leaving for work going to the Headquarters building on base and I was wearing my flight suit with an AFJROTC patch on my right shoulder that is closest to these young people. I noticed the kids watching me, and I realized I was about to set....“an example.” It was my choice to make that example a “good one” or a “not-so-good” one. I approached the stop sign and made a full and complete stop and looked to ensure there were no cars approaching. Then I moved forward to the next stop sign on the Highway. I don’t know if they saw or even realized that I stopped or not, but I knew I had set a good example. Integrity is doing the right thing even if no one is looking.



I share this with you only to make a bigger point. Our actions... set examples for others. They can have a positive impact, or a negative impact. Our actions and our attitudes reveal our character. Our actions and attitudes are important because they impact those around us, whether we realize it or not. We all make mistakes every day, and that only means we are human. We are not perfect. However, we should always strive to be a practical example of what “right” looks like as much in the little things as in the big things, in uniform and out, every day. If we make a mistake... recognize it, correct it if we can, learn the life lesson from it, don’t repeat it, and move forward in a positive way so that a good example is demonstrated. What you do and how you do it....matters.

And with that final thought, I conclude my last article to you.

It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve each of you as your Director of AFJROTC. Ours is an incredible citizenship program that I know changes and saves lives. It has been an honor to wear the uniform with you and to serve alongside you. Cadets, your service transforms schools, communities and our great nation. Your service also sets a good example for others to follow and influences other people you may not even realize.

Thank you for all that you do for our country and for representing the Air Force so well. Thank you for mentoring and teaching other cadets coming up in your unit. Thank you for being a real leader and always showing a practical example of what “right” looks like. Instructors, thank you for your sacrifice and service which makes a positive difference in the

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## From the Director (cont)...

lives of our youth. Your hard work and selfless dedication is recognized every day and is appreciated very much. You are making a positive difference!

AFJROTC is great because of our incredible cadets and instructors. As my family and I transition to the next chapter of our life, please know that out of all the great things I have been a part of in my professional Air Force career, being a part of our amazing AFJROTC program is the one thing I am

most proud of! And that is because of each of you. Thank you again for all you are doing and all you are going to do. Be a good example! And know that I will be fully stopping at all stop signs, whether anyone is watching, or not. All my very best to each of you!

Humbly Yours,

BOBBY C. WOODS, JR, Colonel, USAF



## From the Deputy Director...

A few weeks back, during a unit evaluation trip, I had a wonderful conversation with a principal that obviously loves and appreciates what Air Force JROTC has done for her school and, specifically, her students. She pulled out her phone to show me a series of pictures and as she did she shared the story behind the pictures. The first picture was of a young man that was involved in a gang with the personal appearance and attitude to match. She explained, at that time, he was failing school, involved with a gang, and likely headed to jail or worse. The second picture she shared with me was of a sharp dressed cadet standing in her office...it was the same young man. She said he was completely transformed. He sought her out simply to show off his uniform and his new found confidence. The last picture was one of the same young man studying in the school's inner courtyard, something she thought she would never see. She told me he would graduate following summer school to make up for previously failed classes. Another life saved by our program and the intentional efforts of a dedicated instructor team. Thank you!



**Mr. Scotty Lewis**  
AFJROTC Deputy

We are rapidly approaching the point, 15 June 17, when we will pull all unspent unit O&M. Please refer to the previously sent detailed email on this subject to ensure your unit is on track. We are truly working to utilize every dime we are allocated vice losing a significant amount each year during closeout. Our sincere desire is to maximize the level of support we can fiscally provide to your units and cadets. Similar to last year, as we undergo fiscal year closeout, be prepared for short notice opportunities to "spend" resources we have been able to compete for. Those circumstances are usually time sensitive which means those units that remain "plugged in" during the summer period are more likely to benefit.

One last thought, this year we have executed an historical level of CAP resources! We believe it is due to two primary changes: (1) we have gone to a "pull" vice "push" system and (2) we have changed the resources we transfer to CAP to a grant which allows the funds to cross fiscal years. The "pull" system essentially means we are no longer wasting/losing resources with those units that are either not in a position or not inclined to utilize the funds. The grant process means we no longer lose the resources at the end of the fiscal year, they simple remain in the account until utilized by our units. Our nation is extremely concerned with a pending shortfall of aviators due to a significant retirement bubble in the near future. We are doing our part by at least planting a seed in the heart/mind of a young high school student with a CAP orientation sortie. Again, thank you!

My best to you all and I hope you have fruitful, amazing summers. 

# Instructor Management Corner



**Mr. David Richerson**  
Chief, Instructor Management

Hello everyone! I am sure each of you are very busy with all the spring field trips, awards ceremonies and community service projects. With graduation also drawing near, it is a hectic time for everyone, especially your graduating seniors. I wish all of the seniors the best as they complete high school and venture off to the next stage of their life. I am certain they will never forget their AFJROTC instructors.

For the JRI team, we are in the midst of handling numerous retirements and transfer requests. As is normal, there are lots spaces to fill and lots of volunteers for those spaces. If

you are part of this process, watch your email closely, and take action when you are required to. Best of luck on those interviews! NOTE: Any transfer-approved instructor who accepts an offer at another school must send in a completed AFJROTC Form 98 within 15 days of accepting the new offer. Only then can we advertise for the pending vacancy the transfer would create. Please familiarize yourself with Chapter 17 to see all of the specific policies.

**Outstanding Instructor Awards (OIA):** The nomination process can be found in AFJROTCI 36-2001, Chapter 18. Please note: all nominations must be received by Instructor Management no later than 1 May 2017. After that, each nominee will be considered and the full results determined by mid-May, with the results being published soon after. As a reminder, only the Region winners may wear the Gold AFJROTC Instructor badge.

The 2017 Junior ROTC Instructor Certification Course (JICC) is being planned now. All new instructors hired before 1 May 2017 are required to attend. Those hired on or after 1 May 2017 will likely be deferred to JICC 2018. Additionally, those

instructors who received a “Does Not Meet Standards” unit evaluation score, or those who have been otherwise directed, are required to attend JICC 2017. For planning purposes, the date range is 10 to 22 July 2017. If there any humanitarian issues that would create a deferment need, please email HQ-Instructor Management early.

Seminar Leaders make JICC the best it can be! We will host more than 210 JICC student-attendees, and we will have over 40 Seminar Leaders. We have had a great response to Seminar Leaders requests! Ms. Diane Jackson is working with all of you on this and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. As a reminder, we will need most Seminar Leaders to bring a TPC kit with them (including receiver) to use in their seminar rooms.

Lastly, you may not hear it enough, but on behalf of the entire JRI team, thanks you for the efforts you give each and every day. As you watch your seniors graduate, you may never know the impact you have had on them, but know that you have helped shape the future of America by teaching them in AFJROTC.

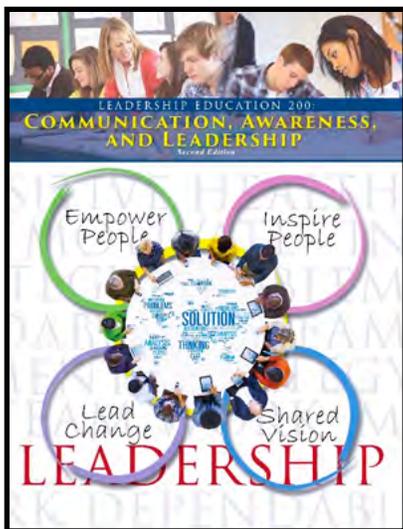
Have a safe spring! 



# Curriculum Update...

## THE REVISED LEADERSHIP EDUCATION 200 COURSE

The revised *Leadership Education 200: Communication, Awareness, and Leadership, Second Edition* course with student textbook, instructor guide, and companion website will be available for the beginning of the 2017-2018 academic year. **Once the shipments of the final materials arrive, we will notify everyone that the materials are available to order.**



This revision features all the 21<sup>st</sup> Century enhancements we have incorporated over the past years, and the national standards include McREL, Common Core, and ISTE Standards for Students. A new feature of this course is a correlation of standards common to “all” lessons.

To assist you with next year’s planning, please refer to the *AFJROTC 2017 Curriculum Guide* for the course outcomes, chapter and lesson titles, and learning outcomes and objectives utilizing the “Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy.”

POC: Linda Sackie, Instructional Systems Designer, Holm Center Academic Affairs Directorate; e-mail: [linda.sackie@us.af.mil](mailto:linda.sackie@us.af.mil). 

# Support Update...

## LOGISTICS

Please contact your RD to transfer money between EMALL and MILPER (Logistics no longer does this).

FY17 EMALL funds will be pulled on 15 September, which is also the last day to order through EMALL.

If you order something close to the end of the school year that may be delivered over the summer, please make sure someone will be at the school. Every year DLA had numerous packages returned and unfortunately that means your unit doesn’t get the items ordered, nor does the unit get their money back. The same applies to orders close to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

To obtain the status of items ordered from EMALL through 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](mailto: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. This does not apply to contracted items or items stored at the Gunter Warehouse.

## FINANCE

We still need your help in following the procedures outlined in the finance guide to ensure timely reimbursement and credit card payments. Below are a few of the most common issues we see:

- When submitting a credit card request for meals and lodging, please attach a cadet roster with those who will be attending.
- Ask the vendor if they accept VISA/CC via phone call, or will they need an authorization form (Attach authorization form via WINGS request).
- When building a request for an O&M transaction, please do not assign a password with the parked cart, the CC holders will not be able to access it.
- You all should be submitting your reimbursements at least once a month. Please do not wait to submit one large request at the end of the school year.

The following are the suspense dates for the funds account to make note of:

- O&M funds should be submitted by 15 Jun 2017
- CLC funds should be submitted by 25 Jul 2017
- MilPer funds (Credit Card) should be submitted by 15 Aug 2017
- MILPER funds (Reimbursement) should be submitted by 15 Sept 2017
- EMALL funds will be pulled 15 Sept 2017

All instructors need to ensure that prior to the end of this school year, and heading out for a well-deserved summer break, you check to see that all financial obligations have been submitted properly within WINGS. Please check to see if anything was returned to you for correction; and if it has been returned, please fix the issue and resubmit. Lastly, make sure you are tracking with the above suspenses, don’t lose any funding because of not properly spending the AF funds in accordance with the finance guide instructions. 

# News & Noteworthy...

## 2016-2017 AFJROTC Academic Bowl Level II Results

Congratulations to the following teams that advanced to the Championship event for the 2016-2017 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. Best of luck to the teams below as they seek top honors in the 2017 Air Force JROTC Academic Championship and JROTC Joint Service Academic Bowl Championship.

### 2016-2017 AIR FORCE JROTC ACADEMIC BOWL FINALIST TEAMS



**Air Academy High School**  
**Arlington Career Center**  
**Byron P. Steele High School**  
**John F. Kennedy High School**  
**North Quincy High School**  
**Sunnyslope High School**  
**Scripps Ranch High School**



**USAF Academy, CO**  
**Arlington, VA**  
**Cibolo, TX**  
**Tamuning, GU**  
**Quincy, MA**  
**Phoenix, AZ**  
**San Diego, CA**



# News & Noteworthy...

## AFA ANNOUNCES STELLARXPLORERS III NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The Air Force Association today announced the National Champions of StellarXplorers III, the National High School Space Challenge held in Colorado, April 6-8, 2017. Ten National Finalist teams representing schools and other organizations from Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Oregon, Texas and Kaiserslautern (Germany) competed in the Space Foundation's Discovery Center on a challenging space system design problem.

**The StellarXplorers III National Champion is the "Sky Dragons" team from San Pedro High School, San Pedro, CA.** The "Scintillators" from the Kaiserslautern American High School from Kaiserslautern, Germany, finished in second place, followed by the "Rocketeer Steers" of Graham High School, Graham, TX. Each student in these teams received educational grants, sponsored by the United States Air Force science, technology, education and math (STEM) Program and United Launch Alliance.

"StellarXplorers was a valuable experience! These young scientists are the key to the future of our nation," said Ms. Michelle Lowery, Team Director of the Rocketeer Steers. "It was impressive to watch the way in which the students worked together as a team to meet the real-world challenges presented by the StellarXplorers III Competition."

Students were required to define an optimal satellite orbit, choose spacecraft components, and select rocket boosters to meet a stringent set of mission requirements in an intense eight-hour period. The next day, teams were required to present a scored briefing about their solution to a panel of experts.

"The caliber of these competitors is just unbelievable," said Stephen K. Gourley, Director of StellarXplorers. "Our National Champions actually solved the mission requirements we gave them better than we in the Program Office expected! We're thrilled to be offering a program that generates such excitement amongst students and their educators."

*Congratulations!*



*Way to Go!*

**DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!**  
**REGISTER BY 1 MAY 2017**  
[WWW.STELLARXPLORERS.ORG](http://WWW.STELLARXPLORERS.ORG)

THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SPACE COMPETITION

**STELLARXPLORERS IV**

INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE FUN!  
REGISTER FOR ANOTHER SEASON OF COMPETITION  
AND  
COOL ENCOUNTERS OF THE BEST KIND

REGISTER 1 MAY AT  
[WWW.STELLARXPLORERS.ORG](http://WWW.STELLARXPLORERS.ORG)

APPROVED FOR LISTING  
**NASSP**  
2017-2018  
STUDENT CONTESTS, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

**AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION** 501(c)(3) educational organization

# News & Noteworthy...

## SILVER VALOR AWARD, AY 2016/2017

*Awarded to a cadet for a voluntary act of heroism which does not meet the risk-of-life requirements of the Gold Valor Award.*

CA-862 Cadet Sergio Ochoa  
 CA-20066 Cadet Justin Bashe  
 CA-20066 Cadet Serena Monarrez  
 CA-20066 Cadet John Robinson  
 CA-20066 Cadet Kyle Yohn  
 FL-20065 Cadet Anthony Elio  
 HI-931 Cadet Julian Adams  
 KY-931 Cadet Ean Rutherford  
 NC-939 Cadet Jarod Betts  
 NV-20011 Cadet Philip Bouchard Jr.

## HUMANITARIAN AWARD, AY 2016/2017

FL-20081 Cadet Nathan Bazile  
 FL-20081 Cadet Roa Bernal  
 FL-20081 Cadet Antoinette Bozzo  
 FL-20081 Cadet Arianny Contreas  
 FL-20081 Cadet Sarla Dominguez  
 FL-20081 Cadet Mark Doucette  
 FL-20081 Cadet Donald Ford  
 FL-20081 Cadet LeAnn Garcia  
 FL-20081 Cadet Muler Gonzalez  
 FL-20081 Cadet Ryan Gray  
 FL-20081 Cadet Tyler Hooper  
 FL-20081 Cadet Tyler Jones  
 FL-20081 Cadet Akaylah Lee  
 FL-20081 Cadet Ana Maria  
 FL-20081 Cadet Ashley Merritt  
 FL-20081 Cadet Zachary Napier  
 FL-20081 Cadet Daniel Nunez  
 FL-20081 Cadet Alannis Olmeda  
 FL-20081 Cadet Chelsea Ramos  
 FL-20081 Cadet Alexandre Raw  
 FL-20081 Cadet Alyssa Roberson  
 FL-20081 Cadet Christopher Roesch  
 FL-20081 Cadet Mark Saquic  
 FL-20081 Cadet Taylor Tucker  
 FL-20081 Cadet Jacob Wozar  
 GA-20131 Cadet Giovanni Nieves

## COMMUNITY SERVICE WITH EXCELLENCE AWARD, AY 2016/2017

AZ-802 Cadet Alex Sanchez  
 CA-862 Cadet Janeiry Perez  
 CA-862 Cadet Violeta Agabekyan

## UNIT EVALUATION "EXCEEDS STANDARDS"

CA-026 Moreno Valley High School  
 CA-782 Valencia High School  
 CA-811 Hiram W. Johnson High School  
 CA-871 Canyon Springs High School  
 CA-922 Hemet High School  
 CA-953 Vista High School  
 CA- 20016 San Jacinto High School  
 CA-20051 West Covina High School  
 CA-20065 Santiago High School  
 CA-20081 Vista Murrieta High School  
 CA- 20144 Heritage High School  
 CA-20145 De-Anza High School  
 FL-20056 H.B. Plant High School  
 GA-032 Forest Park High School  
 GA-065 Warner Robins High School  
 GA-9511 Tucker High School  
 GA-20133 Meadowcreek High School  
 IL-961 Lincoln-Way Central High School  
 MD-20022 Charles Herbert Flowers High School  
 MI-20141 Howell High School  
 MO-20062 Bolivar High School  
 MO-941 Blue Springs South High School  
 MO-961 Farmington High School  
 MO-081 Lafayette High School  
 MO-851 Gateway STEM High School  
 NC-20052 Northside High School  
 NC-938 Maiden High School  
 OH-20061 Bellbrook High School  
 OH-091 Wayne High School  
 PA-20101 Pine- Richard High School  
 SC-941 D.W. Daniel High School  
 SC-921 Dutch Fork High School  
 TN-20023 Lebanon High School  
 TN-20062 Dobyns-Bennett High School  
 TX-091 Judson High School  
 TX-20022 Earl Warren high School  
 TX-20141 Porter High School  
 TX-951 Oak Ridge High School  
 VA-20022 Atlee High School

## AIR FORCE JROTC EARNS TOWN AWARD

By C/1Lt Courtney Berry

MO-20061 Saint Clair High School in Missouri was recently awarded the Saint Clair Chamber of Commerce 2016 Organization of the Year Award. Cadet Colonel Noah Cohen, Corps Commander and Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Tre' Anderson, Vice Corps Commander accepted the award on behalf of the Corps. According to Mr. Fred Arflack of the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce, competition for the award included the Franklin County Baptist Association and the St. Clair Lions Club. Mr. Arflack added that the JROTC was selected because of the cadets' patriotism, willingness to assist various community organizations, and their high visibility throughout our town. "We are very honored to be selected for this award, it recognizes



*Pictured left to right: Cadet Colonel Noah Cohen and Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Tre' Anderson*

the hard work of our cadets and highlights what the JROTC is instilling in the students that participate in the program," stated C/Col Cohen. Also representing the JROTC at the banquet were the instructor staff and a Color Guard team. "The JROTC is a quarter of our school and it is important for us to be at events like this" is how C/Lt Col Anderson felt about the evening's events. He added, "I am very proud to be a JROTC cadet and feel it has been my best experience during high school." Cohen has been nominated to the U.S. Air Force Academy and West Point and Anderson plans to enlist in the Air Force.

## TWO NV-0012 NORTH VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GET CLASS ACT AWARD

By Shelby Sheehan, (1 Feb 2017)

Reno KRNV — There are two amazing Junior ROTC cadets that follow the Air Force motto to a tee,

--Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.--

This month they are both News Four's Class Act Award Winners!

Evening anchor Shelby Sheehan surprised Cadet Tyler Gentry and Cadet Juan Velasquez in their class at North Valleys High School.

These two young men are seniors this year and have left quite a mark at their school and in our community.

Not only have they dedicated hundreds of hours to community service projects, they have also spearheaded new ones! Tyler led a new service called "Operation Panther Express" between the high school and O'Brien and Cold Springs Middle Schools and somehow also managed to play varsity basketball for the Panthers.

In addition to football and track, Juan took charge on a partnership with the Reno Fire Department helping families in need over the holidays.

Both students credit the Air Force JROTC program at North Valleys for their desire to help the community on a big scale.

Juan is waiting to hear if he will attend Mississippi State in the fall and Tyler received a congressional nomination to attend the United States Air Force Academy. News Four will keep you posted on where these two outstanding young men end up!

Congratulations to Cadets Gentry and Velasquez, Class Act Award Winners! 



## HOLM CENTER SUPERINTENDENT ATTENDS MILITARY BALL AT BELLEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

On February 25, 2017 Chief Master Sergeant William Harrington, the Superintendent of the Holm Center in Maxwell AFB Montgomery, Alabama attended Belleview High schools 13th Annual Military Ball as a guest speaker. Chief Harrington attended the ball with the invitations of Cadet Captain Austin Fessenden and Cadet Captain Lacey Mallory, the POC's for the military ball. Chief Harrington gave a wonderful address to the cadets about preparing for their future. He was also impressed by the cadets of Belleview, saying "they were well-mannered as each greeted me and welcomed me to the event." Chief Harrington is a personal friend of Belleview High school's ASI, Master Sergeant Robert McCormack. Regrettably, MSgt McCormack was in the hospital recovering from surgery and unable to attend. 🇺🇸



## GA-953 WINS AFJROTC NATIONAL RIFLERY CHAMPIONSHIP

GA-953 Cherokee High School recently defeated challengers during the annual Air Force National Riflery Championships held by the Civilian Marksmanship Program in Anniston, AL. This competition is recognized by all service JROTC programs as the venue for determining each service's national champions. See [odcmp.com/JROTC](http://odcmp.com/JROTC).



*Pictured Cadets left to right: Chaolin Hancock (Jr), Brody Miller (Jr), Cody Stroup (Sr; team captain), Noah foster (Jr), Dylan Rodrigue (Jr), Connor Walsh (Fr)*

GA-953 earned their way to the competition by competing in the first round, postal competition, and securing an invitation to the riflery championships, 9-11 February. While in Anniston the Warriors defeated the defending national champions, Monroe Area High School AFJROTC, Monroe, GA. Shooters for Cherokee included Senior, Cody Stroup and junior shooters, Chaolin Hancock, Brody Miller and Noah Foster. Top shooter for Cherokee was Cody Stroup with a combined two-day 3 X 20 total of 1135. Cherokee bettered Monroe Area by a score of 4514 to 4512.

Per Lt Col (Ret) Stanfill, "These guys have been working since early October for this opportunity. When it came time to focus on winning the championship, they didn't fail. Monroe Area HS has a great reputation for riflery championships and fought to the end; we only outshot them by two points."

Additionally, GA-953 will continue in its quest for a regular season area championship in the Georgia High School Association as they have their final match this week and currently stand at 6-1 in the Area 10. The Warriors will then focus on the Area 10 championships for a high seed in the State Riflery Championships that begin later in the month. 🇺🇸



## AK-941 PRESENTS COLORS AT ANNUAL DOG SLED RACE

The AK-941 North Pole High School Color Guard recently presented colors at the Iditarod start in Fairbanks, Alaska, 6 March 2017. Ambient temperature at the time was 28 degrees Fahrenheit. Yes, that's 28 degrees BELOW zero! Although the Iditarod normally starts in Willow, AK, trail conditions further south forced officials to move the start to Fairbanks for the third time in its 45 year history. The last time was in 2015 when AK-941 also provided the Color Guard, when the weather was a balmy -20 degrees.

## 7 SENIOR CADETS RECEIVE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

By Ariel Lopez, Fort Mill Times

A record seven senior cadets in Clover High School's Air Force JROTC program have received full ROTC college scholarships worth an estimated \$1.1 million.

"That's nearly one-third of my senior class," said Major Brian Batson, senior aerospace science instructor at Clover High. "You could tell this class was special when they started with us four years ago. They were outstanding students from the very beginning."

Those cadets are Ray Beebe, John Dickey, Sam Gordon, Sahara Ivey, Ariel Lopez, Kirsten Morrison and Emily Stefurak.

In addition to the seven ROTC scholarships, five senior cadets

qualified to receive the South Carolina Palmetto Fellows Scholarship awarded to the most academically talented high school seniors across the state,



and can be as much as \$10,000 per year for math and science majors.

"The depth of talent in this class is extremely special. In my 10 years of teaching JROTC, I've never

encountered anything like it," said Senior Master Sgt. Clarence Woodham, also an instructor. "It's really a testament to the outstanding education the cadets receive in Clover schools."

Past cadets have been appointed to national premier service academies such as the United States Military Academy at West Point, United States Air Force Academy and United States Naval Academy. Four cadets in the past two years received full ROTC scholarships. 

Read more here: <http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/community/fort-mill-times/article74692467.html#storylink=cpy>

## AZ-061 AGUA FRIA HIGH SCHOOL READING ACROSS AMERICA



Since 2009, CMSgt Siau of AZ-061 Agua Fria High School has joined her good friend, Mrs. Luci Moore in support of Reading Across America. Every year at the elementary school level, they celebrate this program which focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources.

On 28 February 2017, Chief Siau escorted fourteen cadets to Kingswood Elementary School in support of this worthy cause. The cadets from AZ-061 read to Pre-K through 3rd grade students. The cadets were assigned different books from the Dr. Seuss collection.

Mrs. Moore asked the cadets to first introduce themselves and talk about why they're wearing a uniform, and talk AFJROTC, why they joined, and their involvement. She wanted her students to hear about the program, what it entails, as well as how it impacts their college and career dreams. The cadets then read one of three Dr. Seuss books and afterwards were hammered by a plethora of questions from the young students.

In attendance were two juniors, three sophomores, and nine freshmen. The cadets truly enjoyed the opportunity. Sophomore Cadet Kyla Heller stated, "Reading across America" was one of the best experiences I have had while performing community service. Seeing the children excited to be able to talk with us and ask questions was very heart warming."

Cadet McAnerney had the opportunity to read to a special needs class. He stated, "as soon as I walked in the class everyone's face lit up." I told them, "You should always be yourself no matter what someone says and you can all reach your goals. It was an experience of a lifetime and one I'll never forget." 

## NV-031 RANCHO HIGH SCHOOL VFW AUXILIARY

February 3, 2017

NV-031 Rancho High School presented the colors for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary National President, Ms. Collette Bishop on her first visit to Nevada. Ms. Bishop's tour included trips to the Nevada Veteran's Home and Veteran's Memorial before meeting with VFW and VFW Auxiliary members on her campaign to end veteran suicide.



*Pictured left to right: C/Major Gaven Clark; C/Captain Aldo Alanis; (VFW Auxiliary National President, Ms. Collette Bishop); C/SMSGT Blake Roszelle; C/Colonel Blaise Cohen; C/1Lt Nicholas Howe*

## THANK YOU FEDEX!



Mr. Todd Taylor with cadets on board a modified 727 classroom at FL-092's Kathleen High School, Central Florida Aerospace Academy campus.

(FEDEX donated a fully operational 727 as a classroom).

*Cadets pictured left to right: C/Lt Col Matt Atkins, C/Col Michael Murillo, Wing (Corps) Commander, C/Maj Caleb Fussell, C/SMSGT Mackenzie Barber, C/Capt Gianna Azzaro, C/CMSGT Craig Nolen, Wing (Corps) Command Chief, C/Maj Nick Diaz, C/TSGT Andrew Baker, C/Maj Sarah Shipley, C/Col Joseph Hodges*

## VA-20061 TWO GENERATIONS OF CADETS



*Pictured left to right: C/Brandon Dao, Mr. Rob Dao, Col. Daniel Vasenko*

Col. Daniel A. Vasenko, SASI VA-20061, was Cadet Rob Dao's flight commander at AFROTC Det 025 Arizona State University. Twenty six years later, Col. Vasenko now teaches his son, Cadet Brandon Dao, at VA-20061 Battlefield High School.

# Cadet Success Profile



Hello all from the Support Division!

I've been at HQ AFJROTC since July, and am excited to be here. The way I see it, I've come full circle. My AF career got its early start in JROTC at Green High School (OH-20062) and now, 19 years later, I'll likely be concluding my AF career the same way I started; in JROTC.

The very foundation of who I've become, personally and professionally, really started to form during my time in AFJROTC. I can still remember taking command of my first flight in my unit, and leading them through a graded drill sequence. My flight commander was a no-show for the day; I was the deputy and had to take command of the flight for my first time. Out of nowhere, this loud and commanding voice came out of my (then) tiny body. I didn't know who that person was! I didn't expect to do so well, and it was the first time in my life I felt like I was truly good at something. My time in AFJROTC is what got me to focus on my future, and what possibilities were in front of me.



*Lieutenant Colonel Vanessa Saks*

Since those early beginnings, a lot has happened to bring me back to AFJROTC. I received my commission out of the University of Akron ROTC in 1998. Since then I've had 2 career fields, 8 assignments, 3 deployments and one detail to the State Department. All of which has shaped me into the officer I am today, but my foundation was formed in AFJROTC.

I have the fondest of memories of my time there. Encampments, drill team competitions, base visits, our senior year trip to DC, the random cadet who never quite understood why he couldn't wear colored socks in uniform and let us not forget 80's hair in uniform! So many memories. But most of all, I remember the great instructors we had and my fellow cadets.

To finalize, I want to send my personal 'thank you' to all of the instructors and 'good luck' to all you cadets. What you do every day makes a difference. You might not see it today, or tomorrow, but what you do has an impact on the lives of many! My career is proof of that.



## GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

We require your help in developing a quality AFJROTC newsletter product.

**ARTICLES** - Please submit in a Word document with pictures attached separately, not embedded in document.

**AUTHOR(S)** - Please clearly identify the author(s) of the articles. (and titles too)

**PICTURES** - Cell phone pictures require much lengthier editing techniques to appear as quality photos ... and sometimes it is not possible to correct them. Please try to not submit cell phone pictures. Hi-resolution photos are needed.

**PICTURE RELEASES** - Ensure each picture has a parental signed release form.

**PICTURE CAPTIONS** - We absolutely would love to be able to identify the action in the photos with the identities of those involved. However, many pictures are not always clearly identified with this information.



*The mission of AFJROTC is to "Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community."*

*The objectives of JROTC are to educate and train high school cadets in citizenship, promote community service, instill ideals of responsibility, character, and self-discipline, and provide instruction in air and space fundamentals.*

*The AFJROTC program is grounded in the Air Force core values of "integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do."*