



FEBRUARY 12, 2021, ISSUE 11

# UNIT TROY NEWSLETTER



picture from last year's Annual Military Inspection

## QUESTIONS?

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## Recap

Hello Unit Troy! Happy Friday and Happy Lunar New Year! Please note that we are officially returning to the hybrid schedule on the 16th with no further discussion about postponing it. Reminder that because of the holiday, Cohort B students will return first on that Tuesday. Congratulations to our Cyber teams for continuing to dominate in the State Round competition this year. A special shoutout to Team Runtime Terror who are State champions in the Platinum Tier and will be moving to Nationals! Lastly, [here](#) is the link to purchase this year's cruise book made by our very own Cruise Book Sub Dpt! Get yours to have a keepsake from this unique school year!

## Alumni Spotlight: John-Michael Linares

The spotlight is on John-Michael Linares this week, a graduate of the Class of 2015. Enjoy!

### How were you involved in the unit at the time?

I was quite involved in the unit during my time in NJROTC (2011-2015). I was on the first official Cyber team (known as "InSecT" at the time, when (5) students were involved), and I stayed with it until I was an NS4 (when we had (35) students). On the unit side, I started as Communications Officer as an NS3, during which I rebuilt the website. Then as an NS4, I took on the role of First Quarter Commanding Officer (CO), holding the rank of c/CAPT. In this role, I restructured the NS1 Orientation, led BLT for 150 NS1s, and captained the scoring of TAFM.

### What is a fond memory you have from ROTC?

I best remember Troy's first trip to CyberPatriot Nationals in 2014. There's quite a few funny stories from this trip I could tell, like how my friend Robert traveled to Baltimore with a cold and a broken toe, or when I had a Notepad conversation with the Red Team as they were actively controlling my computer. However, I'm most grateful for the opportunity to watch the work we put into the Cyber program truly multiply into the successful program it is today. I've traveled to CyberPatriot Nationals every single year that Troy has been there (either as a competitor, as a sponsor, or as a mentor), so I've been there to watch Troy win every National CyberPatriot award they've earned. Fast forwarding eight years, we're still a powerhouse in the cyber world, and I love to see it.

### How has your experience from ROTC helped you post high school?

Troy NJROTC provided me a sandbox in which I



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refined my leadership abilities. There's quite a bit I could say, but I'll narrow it down to three key aspects: **CONFLICT RESOLUTION:** On multiple occasions while serving as CO, I was faced with conflict between opposing team commanders. Which team would get which cadet? Who gets priority for practice areas? Whose team didn't put the rifles away last night? All valid scenarios, and highly relevant to the "real" world. The truth is that not everyone gets along, and that's okay. However, we need to use our experiences to help others work through their disagreements. In college, I expanded upon my conflict resolution experience as a resident assistant (RA) for first-year students. I had the pleasure of helping multiple groups of six students co-exist in a small space for 9 months at a time. This wasn't always easy, but the experience from NJROTC truly helped me survive my job with only a few gray hairs.

**INSTRUCTION:** The ability to coherently teach a topic is usually not an inherent skill; it requires practice. The highlight of my senior year was the chance to train my own platoon of NS1 cadets. These cadets were like sponges, and they were relying on my knowledge, precision, and ability to teach them the knowledge necessary to be successful in the unit for years to come. I was pretty bad at teaching for quite a few lessons, and often had to repeat lessons, but that was okay! In the end, my cades learned what they needed to learn, and we had a great time in the process. With the confidence and experience from teaching NJROTC 4-5 times per week, I took on the role of College Academic Mentor. In this role, I taught a weekly lecture to 150 students, and two breakout sessions to 20 students. Without the teaching experience from NJROTC, there's no way I would have been ready for that position.

**COMMUNICATION:** Perhaps the most important skill from NJROTC was that of communicating effectively.

After my tenure as CO, I had many hundreds of emails between my staff and the NSIs, and numerous group chats between cadets. I learned to keep others regarding situations and decisions. Basically, the more people who know about the process that leads to a decision, the more likely they are to accept it. At my last company (Boeing) and current company (Microsoft), I frequently send status emails, reminders, and messages to coworkers with whom I'm working. That way, there's never any surprises if something doesn't go as planned.

## From the NSI's

CDR Lauper:

"Hello Troy NJROTC Warriors! Congratulations to our CyberPatriot teams, as they qualified one team for nationals and took the State Championship and first runners up. We are hosting the JROTC Quizbowl Invitational on February 20th. Our e-Sports team has initiated the first ever (as far as I know) JROTC e-Sports tournament, which is open to JROTC programs from all services and all states. Our Brain Brawl team is preparing for the Pacifica Brain Brawl and our Academics Teams are preparing for the National Academic Competition. I remain extremely proud of what our Cadets are accomplishing...continuing to show why Troy NJROTC is the best program in Area 11. We will be returning to hybrid learning on Tuesday, February 16th. We remain hopeful that we will be able to have some activities yet this year. Time will tell. Our Booster Club is preparing another order of spirit wear. We need to have sufficient quantities in order to have it made, so if you want, or may in the near future want, please go to this [link](#). If you missed the NROTC Prep Program webinar, it can be viewed [here](#).

Thank you for your support of our Cadets!"



# Team Schedules

**Saturday 2/13:** Drill - Armed (0800-1200) \*virtual  
Drill - ACX (1500-1600) \*virtual by Zoom

**Sunday 2/14:**

**Monday 2/15:** Drill - Unarmed (1500-1730)  
Drill - Armed (1500-1730)

**Tuesday 2/16:** Drill - CG (1500-1730)  
Drill - PT (1500-1730)  
Orienteering (1500-1630) \*virtual by Zoom  
Robosub (1530-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

**Wednesday 2/17:** Drill - Unarmed (1500-1730)  
Drill - Armed (1500-1730)

**Thursday 2/18:** Drill - ACX (1500-1600)  
Drill - CG (1500-1730)  
Drill - PT (1500-1730)  
Orienteering (1500-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

**Friday 2/19:** Drill - PI (1500-1630)  
Drill - PT (1630-1730)  
Seaperch (1530-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

**Saturday 2/20:** Drill - Unarmed (0800-1200)  
Drill - Armed (0800-1200)  
Drill - ACX (1500-1600) \*virtual by Zoom

**Sunday 2/21:**

**Monday 2/22:** Drill - Unarmed (1500-1730)  
Drill - Armed (1500-1730)  
Robosub Outreach (1530-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

**Tuesday 2/23:** Drill - CG (1500-1730)  
Drill - PT (1500-1730)  
Orienteering (1500-1630) \*virtual by Zoom  
Robosub (1530-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

**Wednesday 2/24:** Drill - Unarmed (1530-1730)  
Drill - Armed (1530-1630)

**Thursday 2/25:** Drill - ACX (1500-1600)  
Drill - CG (1500-1730)  
Drill - PT (1500-1730)  
Orienteering (1500-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

**Friday 2/26:** Drill - PI (1500-1630)  
Drill - PT (1630-1730)  
Seaperch (1530-1630) \*virtual by Zoom

*\*\*Note that practice schedules are subject to change after the release of the issue by the respective team commander. Stay alert for these changes from your respective team page. Thank you!*

**What Makes Troy NJROTC  
the Best in Area 11?**

click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y2n9ewam>