



MAY 21, 2021, ISSUE 16

UNIT TROY NEWSLETTER



picture from last year's Annual Military Inspection

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT:

NSI's:

CDR Lauper
wlauper@fjuhsd.org

LT Fronek
rfronek@fjuhsd.org

1st Sgt Lyon
slyon@fjuhsd.org

1st Sgt Barnes
wbarnes@fjuhsd.org

Recap

Hello Unit Troy! Last Friday, we successfully held our annual Awards Night. Congratulations to all the award recipients and next year's head staff! On Wednesday, the NS4s and NS1s had their final mentorship meeting where the NS4s passed down some last advice to their NS1s. Departments have also started recruiting Yeoman for next school year and are wrapping up interviews this week. Additionally, the Color Guard Department is looking for cadets to hold up the 50 state flags for graduation. This event is open to all NS1s, NS2s, and NS3s. Lastly, all textbooks including NS3 and NS4 NJROTC textbooks are to be returned to the library. Please check your Troy school email for specific dates and times. This is the last issue of the 2020-2021 newsletter so please check back on the Facebook Group for more updates!

Awards Night

This year's Awards Night was held on Friday, May 14th. We would like to congratulate all the cadets who earned awards and headstaff positions for their outstanding work this year! Our unit was also awarded the honor of being a distinguished unit following the Annual Military Inspection in March. A special congratulations to our Runtime Terror CyberPatriot team and Brain Brawl team who were awarded the Meritorious Achievement ribbon, as well as the cadets on the Unarmed Exhibition team who were each awarded the Cadet Achievement Ribbon for excellent performance at their national competitions.

Additionally, we are extremely proud of our graduating seniors who have received academy appointments and ROTC scholarships. Karishma Seth has been awarded an Army ROTC scholarship, John Phillips a Navy ROTC scholarship, and Anusha Sapre an Air Force ROTC scholarship. Not to mention, Louis Um will be attending the Naval Academy; plus, Dylan Parr and Noah Hagar have both enlisted in the Army. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, the annual luncheon for cadets going into military services has been canceled. However, our cadets still received a visit from the County of Orange and were given gift certificates.

The night then wrapped up with the announcement of the 2021-2022 Headstaff for our Unit. Congratulations to our new Commanding Officer, Erica Lodenquai, Executive Officer, Zachary Dang, and Master Chief Petty Officer, Alex Bowman. Finally, we would like to congratulate the new Department Heads: Rohan Patel (Public Affairs), Esther Lee (Operations), Patrick Um (Supply), Raul Godinez (Administrative), and Joshua Ortiz (Color Guard) as well as our new Interventions Officer, Amariah Peedikayil.

Top 3:

CO: Karishma Seth
600020484@fjuhsd.org

XO: John Phillips
800020252@fjuhsd.org

MCPO: Joseph Oh
800020353@fjuhsd.org

Interventions:

Interventions Officer:
Sehar Lohawala
800020195@fjuhsd.org

Public Affairs:

PAO: Carolyn Tang
800017596@fjuhsd.org



Please click [HERE](#) to view pictures of this event taken by Andrea Florendo, Amariah Peedikayil, Anuj Patel, and Ivy Chen. The pictures above were taken by Andrea Florendo.

Brain Brawl Nationals

Like many teams in NJROTC, Brain Brawl not only offers fun opportunities for cadets to learn and experience, but it can also leave a lasting impression on some cadets.

Thienan Bui, now a midshipman at UCSD, had been competing in Brain Brawl competitions since his freshman year in Troy's NJROTC program. He has been working closely with Troy's teams and creating a new online tournament format. Over the years, Troy's Brain Brawl team slowly transitioned from state champions, to national runner ups, to making history by becoming the first West Coast team to bring home the national title.

Congratulations to NS4 Audrey Wang, NS3 Justin Huang, and NS2s Chan Chung and Manal Ahmed.



“During nationals, we tried to just have fun with the competition and see how far we could go, but we started winning round after round and realized that we could win. The mood was light even when we were on the brink of elimination. The competition was a good experience because the vibes were up the whole time.”

- c/ENS Justin Huang



“My favorite memory of Brain Brawl was the first one I went to freshman year at Pacifica. It was a really fun day where I got to know my teammates and learned that even if you mess up, it's fine as long as you can get back up. [For those interested in joining Brain Brawl] I'd recommend reading the textbooks and practicing the quizlets. Also it's okay to mess up and lose points once in a while, because it shows that you're trying and giving effort which is the most important thing we ask for.”

- c/SA Manal Ahmed

Change of Command

Despite the restrictions due to COVID-19, our unit has still been able to accomplish a so much. Part of this success was due to the great leadership of our Top 3. As the year comes to an end our 2020-2021 Top 3 have a few last words to share.



"For the future generations of leadership, I would say one thing. There is always more. Take what is here and make something more of it. Work towards growth, as there truly is no limit to where this program can reach."

-c/CDR Karishma Seth



"Despite all the strange circumstances this year, this unit did pretty good for what it had available. While there are still many, many, problems to fix, I am confident that next year's staff will do an excellent job of both fixing previous issues as well as developing new programs that will elevate the unit to even further heights."

- c/LCDR John Phillips



"NJROTC has been a blessing in my life. From the moment I've stepped in squad bay I entered timid and reserved, but I now leave as a prepared leader. Being part of a nationally competing drill team, the Operations Department and finally being the Master Chief Petty Officer, the program has truly helped me grow not only as a cadet, but as a person."

- c/MCPO Joseph Oh



Public Affairs Spotlight

Last words from this year's Public Affairs Officer!



"Hi! My name is Carolyn Tang and I was this year's Public Affairs Officer. A little bit about myself is that I have been in the program for four years and competed in the Drill Team (formerly Team Red). On campus, you could typically find me in Squadbay getting books from my locker; outside, I'm probably getting coffee with my mom. This was Unit Troy's first year having a Public Affairs department and being the first PAO has been such an honor. I am grateful to have been able to write 16 issues of our newsletter to anyone who reads it every other week and hopefully provide a connection to the unit throughout this abnormal school year.

After asking many of our Unit Troy alumni their favorite memory of their time in ROTC, I'd like to highlight mine as well. I think I'll always carry the memory of doing butterflies with 1st Sgt Barnes at PT and hearing him ask for the nth time, 'What did you have for breakfast Mr./Ms. _____?' I could also recall my NS1 BLT experience and thinking I would die on the first night (not to be dramatic).

In short, these past four years have been an experience I wouldn't trade for anything else, and I thank the NSIs and the cadets around me who have made these memories. In wrapping up this chapter of my life, I am happy to announce I will be attending CSUF for the next four years, majoring in Business Accounting. And now, I'm thrilled to 'pass the baton' to next year's Public Affairs leadership whom I trust will make this department bigger and better."

- c/LT Carolyn Tang

Public Affairs Spotlight

Introducing your next year's Public Affairs Officers!



"Hello! My name is Rohan Patel and I will be your Public Affairs Department head for the upcoming year. I will be overseeing the documentation of all the amazing accomplishments of our unit in the coming year. I can't wait to meet everyone in person this fall!"

-c/LTJG Rohan Patel



"Hello, my name is Anh Thu Bui and I will be one of your NS4s in the upcoming year. For public affairs, I hold the position of the assistant head who's in charge of overseeing the website and social media divisions. I can't wait to meet everyone in person next year!"

- c/ENS Anh Thu Bui



"Hi, my name is Anuj Patel and I will be an NS3 in the 2021-2022 school year. I am going to be a Public Affairs assistant head and will oversee the photography, cruisebook, and newsletter divisions. I can't wait to see everyone in the fall!"

- c/ENS Anuj Patel



"Hi, my name is Andrea Florendo and I'll be an NS4 during the 2021-2022 school year. Next year I will be the Newsletter division head so I'll be leading the team in charge of creating our bi-weekly newsletters. I'm excited to be in the Public Affairs Department and I can't wait to meet everyone next year."

- c/ENS Andrea Florendo

From the NSI's



CDR Lauper:

"Hello Warrior NJROTC family!

Congratulations to our Cadets on earning Distinguished Unit with Honors for the 2020-2021 School Year! This is the 21st year in a row that Troy has earned the Distinguished Unit Award. The Distinguished Unit award can be awarded to no more than 30% of the units in an Area. Distinguished Unit with Honors may be awarded to up to 66% of the schools earning the Distinguished Unit award. The Honors designation earns additional nominations to the United States Naval Academy as well as nominations to the United States Military Academy (West Point) and the United States Air Force Academy. Well done!

As always, I have mixed emotions as our seniors graduate and head out into the world. They have been instrumental to the success of this program. Change is a fact of life, and this week, we held a Change of Command to officially turn over the responsibilities and accountability. Next week, Troy High School will have Senior Reflections on Wednesday, August 26th and Graduation on Thursday, August 27th. Both will be available via live stream:

Reflections: click [HERE](#)

Graduation: click [HERE](#)

***** We need Cadets to volunteer to assist with the 50 State flags at graduation on May 27th.** Please encourage your cadets to assist. We need Cadets to load the stands into a truck prior to the event. We need Cadets at Fullerton stadium at 1745 (5:45pm) to unload the truck and set-up. We need Cadets to hold the 50 State Flags during the graduation

ceremony. We need Cadets to load the stands into a truck after the ceremony, and we need Cadets to unload the stands upon return to Troy High School.

On June 4th, our NJROTC e-Sports team will be competing against the Navy's e-Sports team. The event will be available via Twitch. This is a great opportunity to compete with the professionals who are paid to play video games.

Your NJROTC has a busy summer planned. Our Quizbowl team competes in National Championship Tournaments on Memorial Day weekend and also the following weekend. The first weekend in June is also the International SeaPerch Challenge. Sail Academy and Leadership Academy take place in the middle of June. RoboSub completes their entry in June. The College Options Team will be travelling to Washington, DC in July to compete in the National Finals. Freshman Orientation is on August 6th, and we are off to the races!!!

For our NS4s, I want to thank you for your dedication to this program. Reflect on what the program was like four years ago and what it offers now. Reflect on your many accomplishments and championships. You will always be a part of Unit Troy and Unit Troy will always be a part of you. As you move on to the next phase of your life, I wish you Fair Winds and Following Seas."

What Makes Troy NJROTC the Best in Area 11?

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