

DRILL NATION

One World, One Spirit, One Passion...

2013-2014 Edition

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Look inside for National Championship Event Wrap-ups and YOUR invitation to attend the National High School Drill Team Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida this May!

U.S. ARMY CADET COMMAND COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORNER



BEN MINNIFIELD
LEMONT SCOTT GROUP



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United States Army Cadet Command strengthens its core by partnering with senior level influencers around the country. Our community leader and educator spotlight recognition partner is Ben Minnifield of the LeMont Scott Group. Ben began his career in public service as family service worker in 1990, and developed essential programs within the Mississippi Head Start program. Since then, Ben has worked on projects ranging from media related ventures with the NBA and Steve Harvey, forming a collective alliance of partners.

Over the past year Ben has been an integral part of ROTC efforts to shape a force that mirrors that of the nation. His work with Jackson, Mississippi public schools and JROTC has ensured students have access to STEM materials needed for advanced educational learning.

United States Army Cadet Command salutes the efforts and inspiration of Ben Minnifield and looks forward to our continuing effort to create citizen minded Americans.

Partnering with Cadet Command is just one of the many ways to lend your support as we educate the future leaders of America. For more information on how to partner with United States Army Cadet Command, please contact Captain D'Angelo Loyd, USACC Strategic Outreach Chief at:

dangelo.loyd@us.army.mil or 502-624-6302.



DrillNATION

Official Publication of the Internationally Recognized
JROTC Drill & Ceremony Spectacular, the
National High School Drill Team Championships

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MARCH ON!

It is time for the world to understand what Drill is to you. What it has done for you as a cadet and as a team. And where you would be without it. "Like" the MarchOnDrill page on Facebook, and follow the steps to add your OWN video (examples of what March On is looking for are shown).

Add your voice! Tell the world what it means to you. Drill is... [tell us what you think] or Without Drill... [where would you be today]. Let the world see the difference this program makes.

MAGAZINE DEDICATION

With troop deployments that stretch across the globe, the 2013-14 *DrillNATION* Magazine is dedicated to both the active duty and reserve components of our American Armed Forces, along with the National Guard. These brave and selfless individuals continue to provide the blanket of freedom that Americans enjoy every day. Thousands of cadets and instructors who have attended the Nationals in the past are currently serving around the globe in all branches of the armed forces, helping to protect the interests of the United States of America. SNI is honored by their commitment to duty and wish them all a safe and speedy return home when they complete their mission.

Sports Network International thanks the many exhibitors who help make the Nationals a special home for JROTC drill: A Tag 4 U, Chancellor University, Competitive Outcomes, College Options, Country Meats, Daisy Outdoor Products, ERAU Army ROTC, For the Art, Georgia Military College, Glendale Industries, North Georgia College, Norwich University, Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets, US Coast Guard Academy, US Merchant Marine Academy, US Navy ROTC Scholarship Program and Virginia Tech.

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VISIT THE NATIONALS DRILL CAMP WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS!

Raider Nationals Cadets Prove That **PAIN** Just Lets Them Know They're Not **DEAD** Yet!

2013 Army JROTC National Raider Challenge Championships
 Gerald Lawhorn Scouting Base
 Sat-Sun, 2-3 November
 Molena, Georgia



THE OFFICIAL U.S. ARMY JROTC RAIDER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

What would cause a bunch of teenagers to want to spend the night in the Georgia woods in the cold of early November? Sleeping on cots, in tents and cabins, these JROTC cadets can think of nowhere they would rather be. Despite a deluxe camping area with lots of amenities, it is no Hilton! So "roughing it" is exactly what these cadets came to do as they came in record numbers to compete in the 2012 U.S. Army JROTC Raider National Championships!

While many teenagers are looking forward to the latest movie in an IMAX theater and hanging out at the mall, Raider cadets prefer spending their weekend in the backwoods running through cold streams, carrying heavy ruck sacks, mastering obstacle courses and getting sweaty and muddy. This special breed of cadet thrives in this environment. The 2012 Raider Nationals was the most challenging yet and not coincidentally, also the largest Raider competition field ever assembled! The excitement of competing against some of the best Raider teams in the nation make the trip even better as all three divisions proved to be the strongest in history.

FEMALE DIVISION

While the female division always has the smallest number of teams, they have all the heart and competitiveness found in all Raider teams! **Francis Lewis HS** (Fresh Meadows, NY) were ready to defend their multi-year title and when these young women were finished, there was no doubt that they would continue their reign for another year. Patriot Strength dominated in four of the five events by capturing 1st place in the 5K, Gauntlet, CCR, and Rope Bridge. They placed 3rd in the PTT but still finished a full 12 placement points ahead of the nearest competitor. **Osborne HS** (Marietta, GA) put in very solid performances and separated themselves from the rest of the pack by earning 2nd place in Gauntlet and CCR, 3rd in the 5K, and 5th in the PTT. This allowed them to take home the Female Division Runner-Up trophy.

MIXED DIVISION

The Mixed Division is a fantastically fun division to watch as the strategy involved to compete with both sexes pulling the load makes brains and practice a huge part of the overall team success. Always-tough **Smith-Cotton HS** from Sedalia, MO, last year's Mixed Division Champion came ready to defend their title and the Tiger Team looked like they just might be able to do it again. They walked away with 1st place finishes in three out of the five events (PTT, 5K, Gauntlet) and a 2nd in CCR. However, they tumbled hard in the Rope Bridge competition where they fell all the way to 19th place. This threw them out of the running for the overall title as **Grissom HS** (Huntsville, AL) rose to take their place. Although they did not place first in any event (2nd: 5K, Gauntlet, Rope Bridge; 3rd: PTT, CCR) they stayed strong and solid in every event and proudly earned the Mixed Division Army Raider Championship trophy.

MALE DIVISION

Easily the most competitive division with a whopping 36 teams vying for the top spot, the Male Division is always intense. These young men will stop at nothing to take home evidence that their months of practice produced winning results. With this many competitors, it was apparent early on that many very good teams were going to be uncharacteristically omitted from the final trophy presentations on Sunday afternoon. So earning some trophy...ANY TROPHY....in the Male division is quite a noteworthy accomplishment at this high-power event.

All eyes were on **Francis Lewis HS Patriot Force** as the multi-year champion came to defend their place at the top. **Osborne HS** and **Grissom HS** fought very hard last year just to have Francis Lewis snag the title from their grasp. This year they both came ready to make a name for themselves. It looked like all three of these schools had a shot at the championship with Francis Lewis capturing 2nd in Gauntlet, 3rd in CCR and Rope Bridge and 4th in 5K but their disappointing 11th place in PTT put them in third place overall and left the door wide open for a new champion.

Grissom HS Team One gave it a run by taking 1st in Gauntlet and 2nd in 5K and CCR but they also fell when it came to PTT and Rope Bridge putting them in the runner-up position. That allowed **Osborne HS Cardinal Males** to shine bright as they left the rest in the dust taking home first in PTT and CCR, third in 5K and fourth in Gauntlet. Even with a 6th place finish in Rope Bridge, they were still separated from the rest by 7 placement points. Their cadets were overjoyed to accept the Championship trophy and take it back home. **Richmond Hill HS** (Richmond Hill, GA) also turned in a very solid performance in all five events which landed them at fourth place overall. They aced 5K and Rope Bridge taking home 1st in those events and 5th in Gauntlet. A respectable 8th place in both PTT and CCR kept them at the top of the leaderboard.

On Sunday morning two cadets from each school, one male and one female, test their individual skills in the Ultimate Raider competition. This timed obstacle course has males pitted against males and females against females to determine which individuals can run the arduous 1.5 mile course in the shortest time possible. The winners deserve special recognition for running this tough course ahead of their competitors. **Cadet Emily Sexauer** from **Adairsville HS** (Adairsville, Georgia) captured first for the females and **Cadet Marc Johnson** from **Grissom HS** took home first for the males.



(L-R) **Francis Lewis HS Patriot Strength** (Female Division Champs), **Osborne HS Cardinal Males** (Male Division Champs) and **Grissom HS Mixed Team** (Mixed Division Champs) took home tons of hardware at the 2012 Raider Nationals in Molena, Georgia.

The Raider Nationals are sponsored by **U.S. Army Cadet Command** and several dignitaries were present including **Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Howard**, CSM, US Army Cadet Command, who delivered a keynote speech to the more than 1,200 cadets, instructors, and supporters gathered for the awards ceremony. Special recognition must go out to **Cedar Shoals HS Army JROTC** under the direction of **SAI LTC Eric Cleveland** for providing all of the logistical support and staff for the event, as well as **SFC Ed Fincher** who serves as the Event Director for this massive undertaking. The **Georgia National Guard** sponsors the event as well, providing unparalleled professionalism through judge support and the **Lawhorn Scouting Base** provides the perfect venue every year that helps to make this event THE premier Raider competition in the nation every school wants to be a part of! With hundreds of hours spent practicing for these events, every team that competed in the Raider Nationals showed their dedication and deserves the utmost respect and admiration. If you are competing this year, good luck and we can't wait to see you in November!

BE A PART OF THE REAL RAIDER NATION!

Entry spaces are going fast - contact SNI today!

<http://raider.thenationals.net> ✉ email) raider@thenationals.net



FUNDRAISING

The Single Most Important Thing in JROTC That No One Tells You Anything About!

“Sequestration” - “The Big Recession” “The Lesser Depression”

The current economic ebb and flow of a capitalist society has generated several ominous labels. The public and private causes for the latest financial upheaval matters little to those now in the funding cross hairs. But when budgets tighten on the military, the pennies in the JROTC program make a quick target for bean counters looking for short term fixes to balance sheets. And sometimes it's not even the money being spent which is often the equivalent of “paperclips at the Pentagon” - it's the perception these events will have and again, cadets get caught in the cross fire. So these days with travel money and other JROTC funds completely zeroed, if you want to do anything as a program outside of the standard day-to-day classroom activity in JROTC, it comes from fundraising, plain and simple. One phrase from the 1983 movie *The Right Stuff* rings with both its accuracy and eloquence -- “No bucks, No Buck Rogers” – and fundraising becomes the mother’s milk of both opportunity and execution. So whether you want to do this or not, you better at least be comfortable with the basics or decide a “staycation” is all your unit can do.

Even the many JROTC programs we like to call “8 to 3’ers” that technically meet the minimal definition of JROTC likely have a need for some limited fundraising. Military balls, Dining Out, JROTC Banquet and other popular JROTC activities often need some funding to take the sting out of the individual payment levels required. People and programs can exist on “bread and water” but they are only existing...they are not thriving! And to make your program live, breathe and thrive, you need to give the cadets more than just sustenance.

Many programs learned long ago if you want a vibrant program that exudes esprit de corps and excellence; create a buzz at the school, in the community, and among your service peers, you simply can't do that ONLY during the regular school day. To achieve this extra level, extra-curricular JROTC programs that compete locally, regionally or even nationally are almost requirements. Because ladies and gentlemen, the next step after program budget cuts will be program contractions for those schools with smaller numbers or for those “failing to thrive”. And while your discussion of citizenship, leadership and other related topics might leave your cadets riveted in the classroom seats, if you don't offer a hook to get them INTO that classroom in the first place, they'll never

learn the multitude of benefits JROTC has to offer. And through no fault of your own, you will have failed to maximize the potential your program could attain in the lives of the kids, the school and the community.

Making an extra-curricular program or two a standard part of your JROTC program is often fairly easy. Making these programs thrive and almost self-sustaining takes work, and fundraising is almost always a part of that success. The biggest truism in fundraising remains “success breeds success”. Everyone likes to back a winner. Doing something with these programs that provides their participants with a sense of purpose that drives home the lessons of leadership, excellence, teamwork, and all else that are taught in the classroom provide the lifetime learning that justify the time and expense these programs maintain.

Trips that allow cadets to compete and include overnight stays in cities away from home offer huge learning opportunities and program building memories off and on the competition floor. These are the largest and most impressive memories these cadets take with them into their adult life long after their JROTC days are behind them. So fundraising becomes the name of the game for Drill, Raider, Academics, Rocketry, Academic Team, Marksmanship, or literally any extra-curricular group maintained within the walls of a well-run JROTC program.

So now you've bought in...you have decided that you want your cadets to have a full JROTC experience. You know your kids and know what program(s) you would like to start or improve and take them to the next level to compete against regional or national teams. Where do you go now?

Looking at the history of fundraising, the “what has worked and why” is a huge strength we have in planning to fund raise yet few consider this when hard charging head long into concepts and even

specific fundraising events. Not that new, fresh ideas may not be just outstanding as well, but many details MUST be considered to make your efforts successful, accountable and in some cases LEGAL!

KEYS TO SUCCESS

Fundraising Committee/Booster Club

To make any type of long term commitment to running a quality program that offers cadets one



or more extra-curricular activities, establishing a booster club can be critical. While long-established booster clubs are often comprised of several members that no longer have their own children in the program, these board members generally have cadets in the program so they have a vested interest in seeing the program succeed over the long term.

Communication, Accountability and Transparency

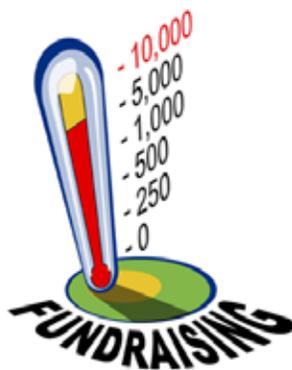
Transparency about sources and amounts of money raised, who attended and participated in fundraisers, time expended and overview of what was accomplished inspire confidence with donors, supporters, and school administration. Communication helps to avoid distrust and can further activity participation and success. Accountability keeps supporters AND any detractors “in the loop”. Nothing poisons the well like a disgruntled parent or other former supporter who makes an accusation of financial improprieties. Don't allow this to even appear possible! All fundraising opportunities need to be identified in advance, and then wrapped up with hard numbers in writing and made available for all to see. Communication regarding constant updates of funds generated, methods used, and ongoing totals is vital.

Clearly Identify your Needs

Today, many programs make the fatal mistake of executing fundraisers with too broad of a topic. Doing this often leaves the donor uninspired. “Raising money for the JROTC Program” has a completely different reception and ring with people versus “Raising Money for a Raider Training Course” or “Raising Money to attend the *service* National Championships.” People need to have an easily identifiable goal they can easily quantify in one sentence.

Follow-Up and Follow-Through

With the establishment of the official JROTC booster club, and then designating a smaller group of members who assign themselves to the fundraising committee, you now have a dedicated group of people whose job it is to try to work with the program to meet the financial goals set forth by the senior instructor and the cadets. It is CRITICAL (especially in the beginning) that you work closely with these people. Specific activities for fundraising YOU approve will be required to be approved by the committee. Updates and progress reports at regular intervals should be the norm with everything in writing. Mostly your name is on the door so you simply can't turn everything over to the fundraising group OR the



booster club. Ensure they know nothing gets mailed out, sent out or requested without your knowledge and approval.

Make a Personal Connection

Likely the LARGEST key to success in all of fundraising is to make a personal connection, IDEALLY BEFORE YOU NEED ANYTHING. Then, should someone help you to your goal, contact them directly either in person or by phone to thank them and to keep them updated on what they helped to accomplish. Whether you are working with an individual or a group, get to know them well.

Penelope Burk, president of Cygnus Applied Research, Inc., wrote about the importance of a simple thank-you call in retaining donors. She found that when groups call new donors to say "thank you" those donors feel significantly more valued and reward the organization with increased loyalty and money in the future.

The personal connection also pertains to your cadets and their families. Have you taken the time to contact every cadet's parents personally by phone or in person? Do you know what all of your cadets' PARENTS do for a living? You should, for many reasons but fundraising is a big one. Simply knowing what the parents do can often stimulate ideas for involvement that can greatly benefit the program in general or your extra-curricular activity specifically.

General Fundraising Suggestions

Do you have a professional or college sports team(s) in your area? A large golf tournament or other large annual event? State Fair, County Fair? These events generally need temporary help with crowd control, parking, clean-up, concessions and other functions. Contact their community outreach department/game day services, athletic director or even the city permitting office to learn how to reach the appropriate contact in advance. Ask if your group can assist and maybe ask if they would like you to perform an exhibition routine or present the colors? Ask how you can be involved in what they do.



Are there retired military or civic organizations in your area? Ask what you can do to help support them so they will hopefully be able to support YOU when you need it! Design a program once a year where you perform for them! Do a spaghetti dinner at the AmVets, VFW, Elks, American Legion, Kiwanis, Rotary or other similar groups in your area. Contact them to see if they have any jobs or activities your program could do as a group to help raise funds or to further THEIR goals. Maybe be a part of their National Convention when it rolls through your area?

One of the easiest and most lucrative fundraisers ever, is a "Letter Writing Campaign." Your unit creates a form letter asking for donations from friends and family members. Each cadet sends this letter with instructions on how to donate to every friend and family member they know. Although many may not be able to donate much, every dollar helps and you never know if an out-of-town aunt or uncle has the ability to donate a large amount unless you ask!

Every person and organization that you contact can benefit you in some way in the future, start now to foster those relationships.

Finding the Best Fit

After nearly 25 years of assisting programs with fundraising, this is something we at SNI have become extremely proficient in. First, try to change your mindset from "individual fundraising event(s)" to "a fundraising plan." Your fundraising efforts should be looked at as ongoing and should become easier the longer you do it. They should be varied to ensure diversity and should look primarily at the following factors:

- How much time will I need to invest to set this up and how much money can we raise (return on investment, aka R.O.I.)?
- How many people will be required?
- Are there any start-up costs? What is our risk? What are the downsides?
- Is this something that will be hard to start but will be easier in future years?
- Is this something that is hazardous in any way or potentially places my cadets/parents/cadre in a bad light?

SNI is EXTREMELY cautious about doing any recommending of "fundraising companies." These groups often have products that may have upfront fees, small profit margins, inferior products, simply serve as a middleman, or all of the above. We've all seen the overpriced candles, wrapping paper, candy bars, magazine sales and the like. That said, one company we have found is CLEARLY head and shoulders above the crowd when it comes to fundraising. **Country Meats** produces smoked snack sticks that are specifically designed for groups looking to do fundraising. Their product is simply delicious, low in carbs, high in protein and sells for only \$1.00 per stick which is LESS than the inferior competing products like the more well-known "Slim Jims." Almost anyone will give \$1.00 to a fundraising effort where they get something this good out of it! And the best part about this is they make a great year-round compliment to a fund raising program.

Literally hundreds of JROTC programs sell these meat sticks as they require no upfront money and they literally sell like hot cakes year round! Most importantly, **Country Meats** LOVES Junior ROTC! They will send you a sample pack at no cost to you so you can "try before you buy." We encourage you to check out their website and look at their Facebook page and you will be ordering your cases right away to sell throughout the year. Sell them at school. Sell them at your athletic event concession stands at your school

(they even have free display boxes). Sell them in local businesses that will assist your efforts (doing this is a constant revenue stream and all you have to do is replace the product! The possibilities are endless!



For JROTC groups that are very drill-centric, we at SNI also love to support long time drill-enthusiast **For the Art Clothing**. They make a quality product and have a way for your cadets to earn while also doing something annually to keep drill in the forefront.

For the Art Clothing is dedicated to elevating drill by helping drill teams find ways to support themselves. Here are some of the ways that you can join with For the Art to create successful fundraisers for your school.

Join Rep Platoon

Rep Platoon is a street team dedicated to spreading the passion for drill through For the Art's fashion. Members of Rep Platoon can earn money and free prizes (such as FTA gear, rifles and trips to the National High School Drill Team Championships) by promoting For the Art. It's easy. Simply complete the following steps:

- 1) Visit the "Rep Platoon" section of ftaclothing.com
- 2) Follow the instructions on signing up for a Rep Code
- 3) Receive your rep code, promotion tools and tips
- 4) Begin promoting For the Art
- 5) Every time someone makes a purchase using your rep code (from which they receive a discount), you will be earning points towards cash, gear, trips and more!

Invite For the Art to your Drill Event

Hosting a competition, a camp or any gathering or 20 or more drill teams? Contact For the Art through ftaclothing.com and give them the details. If the event meets the criteria and For the Art hosts a booth at your event, you will receive 15% of the profits earned at their booth.

There are literally HUNDREDS of great fundraising ideas that are known as "Do It Yourself" and space does not permit us to write details about ALL of them in this article. BUT fear not, we have culled through many websites and spoken with many groups over the decades. We have gone ahead and listed our SPORTS NETWORK INTERNATIONAL FAVORITE 100 FUNDRAISING IDEAS and placed them on the main SNI webpage. Here is the direct link if you wish to browse them: www.thenationals.net/sni-fundraising-list.htm

In Closing

Raising money for your program can be a tricky process. But with the right tools, clear-cut goals, and a positive attitude, you can provide the mechanism you need to excel in anything you wish to accomplish. Your cadets will learn much through their efforts and their work will make them appreciate your endeavors all the more.



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Air Force Nationals - College Park, Maryland

The 2013 Air Force Nationals were held for the first time at the University of Maryland inside venerable Cole Field House in College Park, Maryland. Air Force ROTC Detachment 330 served as the perfect host for their younger peers in the first-ever campus setting. This arena was in the center of the university so cadets were treated to a ride through a beautiful college as they arrived at the drill meet. Many of these cadets will be making choices very soon on where they will be attending college and this day gave them much to think about off the drill floor.

On the drill floor, the overall competition looked strangely similar to the 2012 Nationals when the awards began being presented. Both the Armed and Unarmed Champions from the previous year held onto their title as the spectators experienced a moment of déjà vu.

ARMED DIVISION

John Jay HS Silver Eagles again came in and dominated the floor as they captured first place in Inspection, Color Guard and Exhibition. The only event where they showed any weakness was Regulation where they placed 11th, but this poor showing was nowhere near enough to bring down the powerhouse team from San Antonio, Texas.

Although they placed fourth overall in 2012, the Nighthawks from Brandeis HS (San Antonio, Texas) came ready to fight hard for the top spot and it landed them very close as they captured the Armed Division Runner Up title this year. They didn't capture first in any event, however,



Air Force Association Maryland State President, Shedrick Roberts, poses with the proud winners. From L-R: Brandeis HS Nighthawks, Armed Runner-Up; John Jay HS Silver Eagles, Armed Division Champion; Thomas C. Clark HS Silver Valor, Unarmed Division Champion; Brandeis HS Blue Aces, Unarmed Division Runner-Up.



The 2014 AF Nationals stays in the D.C. area - returning to the PG Sports & Learning Complex. Get your entry slot TODAY!

they did have a top five finish in every event (2nd Exhibition, 3rd Regulation, 4th Color Guard, 5th Inspection) which is what kept them very close to the top of the leaderboard.

Last year's Runner Up, Thomas C. Clark HS tried to reach the top but a disappointing finish in Regulation kept them away from either one of the big trophies. The Centurion Guard stayed strong in the other three events taking home 2nd place in Color Guard, 3rd in Exhibition and 4th in Inspection. They walked away this year even more determined to practice, practice, practice to make sure they have everything it takes to take home the overall title next year.

Other very solid finishes included: Bellevue West HS (1st Regulation & 1st Commander), Spring Valley HS (4th Overall, 4th Regulation, and 4th Exhibition), East Paulding HS (2nd Inspection, 3rd Color Guard), Louis E. Dieruff HS (2nd Regulation), and Lowell HS (3rd Inspection).

UNARMED DIVISION

Unlike the Armed Division, the Overall Champion was a foregone conclusion after the event-specific trophies were handed out. No one could touch the amazing performances turned in by Thomas C. Clark HS Silver Valor as they guaranteed the defense of their title from 2012. They placed second in Inspection, Color Guard and Exhibition and won the tie-breaker to capture 1st in Regulation. Their commanding cadet also received first place recognition for being the best regulation commander which helped them in their fight to

victory.

Keeping in step with their armed brothers, the Blue Aces from Brandeis HS took home the Runner Up trophy for the Unarmed Division. Although they could not catch Thomas C. Clark, they stayed well ahead of the pack by grabbing first in Inspection, second in Regulation and fourth in Exhibition. Had they placed higher than 6th in Color Guard, they still would not have caught the Silver Valor team.

Snap II from John Jay HS ranked third overall last year but fell to fifth this year even with top five performances in three of the four events (1st Exhibition, 3rd Color Guard, 5th Regulation). The Dragons from Jefferson City HS offered impressive performances and captured 3rd in both Inspection and Regulation and 4th in Color Guard. Only their 13th place finish in Exhibition kept them from unseating the Blue Aces.

Other strong performances included E.C. Glass HS (1st Color Guard), Lackey HS (3rd Exhibition), Dutchtown HS (4th Inspection), and East Paulding HS (4th Overall, 5th Inspection, 5th Color Guard).

The Air Force Nationals over the past few years has alternated between Washington, D.C. and Macon, Georgia. While a return trip to Georgia was in order this year, no venue in Georgia could be found that offered the date availability needed in combination with a price that would make the event sustainable and affordable to the teams. The event has remained the same price since its inception and therefore, despite a lengthy search, a return to the DC is planned for 2014.

Make sure to save the date in your competition calendar to join the best field in Air Force JROTC drill at the 2014 Air Force National JROTC Drill Championships on Saturday, 22 March 2014 at the Prince George Sports & Learning Complex in Landover, Maryland. To register your Air Force JROTC unit, just go to the event homepage at: <http://af.thenationals.net>.

For scoring results, photos & info: <http://af.thenationals.net>



U.S. ARMY CADET COMMAND



Over 1700 JROTC cadets descend on Louisville to fight for top honors at the Army Nationals

The U.S. Army Cadet Command National Drill Championships has been established as the premier showcase for Army JROTC drill and ceremonies excellence. Schools from all around the nation attended this spring and the event was busting at the seams with over 1700 cadets on 87 teams from 66 schools representing 22 states. Without a doubt the largest single-service drill nationals ever held.

The Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville provided the perfect backdrop especially being just down the road from Cadet Command's national headquarters at Fort Knox. Several dignitaries were on site to watch these amazing cadets show off their months of hard work preparing for their 15 minutes of fame on the drill floor.

ARMED DIVISION

At the 2012 Army Nationals, the cadets from Douglas MacArthur HS came loaded for bear and ready to prove their allegiance to their instructors by "winning one for the gipper," and they did. Without having that extreme emotional trigger, would they be able to hold onto their championship title?

Although the boys from DMac still turned in respectable fifth place overall performances, they were lacking that extra fire this year and only walked away with one trophy (2nd Inspection).

Last year's runner up, Francis Lewis HS Patriot Guard also came in strong, but also lacked that extra push to rise to the top. They placed in three events (2nd Exhibition, 5th Inspection & Color Guard) which put them in fourth place overall.

Landing in third place overall were the Chargers from North Miami Beach HS. They only captured two trophies (1st Regulation, 4th Color Guard) but their consistent strength in all four events kept them near the top.

Two teams shared the spotlight as they raced for the finish. Marmion Academy and James Madison both showed strength in all four events, but the Flannigan Rifles from Marmion edged out the Mighty Maverick Guard by a slim margin of only 84 points out of 4000. Marmion Academy cadets took home first place in Color Guard and Exhibition, third in Regulation and fourth in Inspection along with the Overall Armed Division National Championship trophy. James Madison cadets would have loved the title, but were satisfied with Runner-Up as they took home first in Inspection, second in Color Guard, and fourth in Exhibition.

UNARMED DIVISION

In the Unarmed Division it was very hard to predict the winner while watching the awards ceremony. The 20 event team trophies were spread over 14 different teams and no one team received more than two trophies. It looked like almost anyone had a shot at the top prize. With the overall title determined by proportional points, it not only matters that your score is better than the next team, it matters *how much better* your score is. The top three schools ended

up being separated by only 27 points out of 4000, therefore every single point mattered.

Last year saw Douglas MacArthur HS Mighty Blue Angels take the National Championship and the North Miami Beach HS Lady Chargers as Runner-Up, but much like their male counterparts, the girls from DMac just didn't have as much power this year (2nd Exhibition, 4th Color Guard). This left the door open for North Miami Beach to make a solid run for the title. They looked great with a first place in Inspection and a second in Color Guard, but until the scoring reports were received, they had no idea how they placed in Regulation and Exhibition. James Madison also placed in two events, first in Regulation and second in Inspection, but was it enough? Smith-Cotton HS was disappointed that they only placed in one event although it was first in Exhibition, so they thought they were far out of contention for one of the big trophies.

As the final placements were announced, it was Smith-Cotton HS Gold Tigers that received the Runner-Up position proving that every point does count. They placed sixth in both Inspection and Regulation and eighth in Color Guard, keeping their overall total high enough that they edged out the Lady Maverick Guard from James Madison HS by just 10 points for second overall. Capturing the Overall National Championship in the Unarmed Division were the Lady Chargers from North Miami Beach HS by just 17 points over Smith-Cotton!

Now that North Miami Beach has tasted the thrill of victory, they will be more than ready to defend their title next year. The 2014 Army Nationals promises to again be full of amazing cadets showing that they put in hundreds of hours of hard work perfecting each performance.



From Left to Right - Unarmed Runner-Up Smith-Cotton HS Gold Tigers, Unarmed National Champions North Miami Beach HS Lady Chargers, Major General Jefforey A. Smith Director - US Army Accessions Command Discontinuance Task Force, Armed National Champions Marmion Academy Flannigan Rifles, Armed Runner-Up James Madison HS Mighty Maverick Guard.



2014 U.S. ARMY CADET COMMAND NATIONAL DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPS
KENTUCKY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY - SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014
FOR ALL EVENT SCORING, PICTURES & INFO, HIT THE ARMY NATIONALS WEBSITE: [HTTP://ARMY.THENATIONALS.NET](http://army.thenationals.net)



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NAVY NATIONALS

ACADEMIC, ATHLETIC & DRILL CHAMPIONSHIP



A Virtual Navy Nationals Yields Excellence on the Small Screen!

<http://navy.thenationals.net>

How can you have an event where everyone is spread across the country? That was the same question on everyone's mind when NETC announced that the **2013 The Navy National Academic, Athletic & Drill Championships** would be held "virtually." As soon as word came down, the questions started flooding in... and SNI was up to the task with the direction and guidance of NJROTC HQ and the Area Managers to put on the first-ever on-line service drill championship event. With all the negatives clearly apparent, the positives were emphasized to make the event the best showcase of Navy JROTC excellence possible as it has been for well over 25 years.

With NJROTC Headquarters setting the rules for the virtual event, SNI set about to implement the groundbreaking Nationals. SNI produced all of the paperwork and needed support materials and personnel/judging/overseer guidelines, as well as assembling the judges. These dedicated, knowledgeable individuals then undertook their duties with great diligence for the benefit of the 25 nominated schools.

The academic & athletic events were held at home under the watchful eye of knowledgeable personnel to ensure adherence to the regulations. With the Rhode Island Marines opting out of judging the drill portion of the event, SNI saw this as both a challenge and an opportunity to set about gaining the finest military judging minds from around the world to grade these schools. Marine and Navy personnel, both active duty and recently retired with massive backgrounds in the areas they were tasked to evaluate (including a few past Navy Nationals judges) eagerly took on the daunting task. They were able to watch, rewind, and provide amazingly detailed written commentary in all areas of the event. In fact, it is fair to say that while the color guard and basic judges were on par with the historical judging levels, that the Armed & Unarmed exhibition events *may never again see the level of expertise and excellence assembled to judge* this event - they were literally the dream team of military judging!

Every event would have an unbiased monitor (either an Area Manager or neighboring instructor) to oversee that the rules were followed, and that only ONE performance was executed. Each team competed at home, in their own gym, football field, parking lot, and classroom. The athletic events were performed, sit up/curl up counts were recorded and the relays were timed. The academic exams were mailed in double-sealed envelopes and only opened and administered by the monitor. All in all, with several unique challenges, the event was a success and a new Navy Nationals Champion was crowned at a simulcast awards ceremony where all of the schools logged in to watch the results unfold. Trophies were shipped to Area Managers to present to the schools very soon after the results were revealed.

Although the event itself was anticlimactic for the cadets, the awards presentation wasn't. Without the benefit of watching others compete, they had no clue where they stood in the big scheme of things. **Boca Raton HS** (Boca Raton, FL) and **Flanagan HS** (Pembroke Pines, FL) were both hoping to keep the National Championship trophy in the sunshine state, but there were 23 other schools hoping to steal it away.

The awards ceremony started with the athletic trophies and it was no surprise that **Shawnee Mission North HS** (Overland Park, Kansas) ran away with the Curl-Up first place trophy again this year. They did almost 200 more curl-ups than second place **Flanagan HS**. Shawnee Mission North had 8 in the top 17 males and 4 in the top 10 females, all maxing out at 250 curl-ups in five minutes. Coming in third, fourth, and fifth respectively were Boca Raton HS, **Neshoba Central HS** (Philadelphia, MS) and **Centennial HS** (Las Vegas, NV). The Push-Up team trophies also saw familiar faces from past years. Flanagan HS took first place with Centennial HS coming in second. Shawnee Mission North captured third only three points behind Centennial, then Neshoba Central HS and **Escambia HS** (Pensacola, FL) rounded out the top five.

The Oval relay brought Boca Raton HS another first place win with **Green Run HS** (Virginia Beach, VA) less than three seconds behind. **Norview HS** (Norfolk, VA) was just over three seconds back at third place. Escambia HS and **Winter Park HS** (Winter Park, FL) almost tied for fourth and fifth with Escambia being only 55/100^{ths} faster. The shuttle relay came down to a difference of 29/100th of a second between first and second place. Winter Park HS grabbed first with a time of 3:21.31 with Boca Raton HS hot on their heels at 3:21.60. Despite the different venue, these schools annually vie for the top slots in Pensacola as well! Less than a second separated third through fifth as well with **Cabrillo HS** (Long Beach, CA) taking home their only team trophy of the event with a third place finish. **Union Grove HS** (McDonough, Georgia) took fourth and Shawnee Mission HS received fifth.

The awards then turned to the Academic team trophies. This is always a coveted event since the winner receives a full 1000 points toward the overall championship. Flanagan HS has always been strong in the academic arena and this year was no exception. Not only did they have three cadets place in the top seven for individual academic medals, they achieved 20 points more than their nearest competitor. Union Grove HS was close behind in second place with a spread of 79 points over third place Boca Raton HS. Escambia HS and Nease HS rounded out the top five in fourth and fifth place respectively.

Although every event is vital to gaining a top overall finish, the drill events seem to get the biggest crowd attention and appeal. However this year by rule, the bleachers were quiet as the judges viewed each performance. The schools sent raw videos of their five drill events and they were reviewed in order using a blind draw just like the standard procedures. Judges from 10 different states and two countries sat with downloaded scoresheets and judged in detail the 25 schools in their event via computer. It was different and certainly a first time situation for the Navy Nationals, but without question yielded the most detailed and exacting judging notes than at any other time in the history of the competition.

Winter Park HS was the surprise winner of the Overall Drill Events 1st place trophy. Always strong in drill, they captured 1st place in Unarmed Basic & Armed Exhibition and 3rd place in Armed Basic & Unarmed Platoon Exhibition. Their 7th place finish in Color Guard competition did not drop them out of the top spot.

Missing the champion spot in drill by just 15 points out of 2,500 was always-strong Boca Raton HS who took home 1st place in Armed Basic, 2nd place in Unarmed Basic and Unarmed Exhibition, and 3rd place in Armed Exhibition. Their 10th place finish in Color Guard was the difference between champion and runner-up in drill this year. Last year's overall drill winner, Centennial HS came in 3rd overall with a solid all around finish in all events (1st Unarmed Exhibition, 4th Armed Basic, and no lower than seventh in the other three events).

When it came to final totals to determine the Navy Nationals Champion, it looked good for Boca Raton HS who captured 11 team trophies, 3 more than any other school. However, if their cadets had answered correctly just 13 more questions between them on the academic exam, they would have taken home that Overall Championship. This tiny margin allowed Flanagan HS to successfully defend their 2012 title as they captured the Overall Navy Nationals Championship for the second year in a row. Coming in third overall was Winter Park HS with Centennial HS following in fourth and Shawnee Mission North HS completing the top five. With few judges actually seeing these schools perform previously, it was very heartening to see that the overall pattern of finish so closely paralleled that of the Rhode Island Marine judges' placements for many of the past several years.

Currently, the plan is to host the Navy Nationals live on site unless word is released differently. SNI and most of the top Navy schools have already begun the work needed to be in Pensacola in early April. There is hope that a final word may come down in November. All Navy schools should keep in touch with their Area Manager since they will be the first to know. No matter where or how the 2014 Navy Nationals are held, Flanagan HS and all of the other top finishing schools will be more than ready to defend their hold on those top finishes.



The computer screen replaced the eyes for the first time ever as the 2013 Navy Nationals were held as a virtual meet on-line!

They Got By With a Little Help From Their Friends!

Travel restrictions imposed by their school district nearly kept one of the best drill teams in the nation from attending the all-service championships. But this year, the team found a way to make it happen.

This article is being reprinted in its entirety from the US Army Cadet Command website. It was originally published on May 3, 2013, just before the National High School Drill Team Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida. SNI is proud to be associated with these amazing instructors that banded together and assisted a fellow unit in need.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (May 3, 2013) – He had done the calculations. No matter how retired Lt. Col. Amador Cano looked at them and crunched them, the numbers just didn't add up.

After all the training, all the fund-raising and all the success at last month's Army Nationals, James Madison High School was \$7,500 short of being able to send its armed and unarmed teams to Daytona to compete at the National High School Drill Team Championships.

A disappointed Cano, beaming over his Cadets' accomplishments, broke the news to them. Without another major money-making project, the teams that placed second and third at the service-level meet wouldn't get a shot to vie for a national title.

Not this year anyway. So the proud Soldier, short on options, decided to do something he had never considered before... He asked for help.

Cano, senior Army instructor for James Madison, punched out an email to his fellow Army JROTC instructors in San Antonio, asking what they might be able to contribute to help James Madison close its financial gap.

In just a matter of weeks, all they did was spread the word throughout the community, come together and end up raising close to \$8,000 to ensure James Madison, the city's lone Army representative, would be able to take the floor this weekend in Masters Level competition.

"This is what JROTC is all about," Cano said. "You're competitive on the drill pad. But when the day is over, we're all friends and looking out for each other."

The road to gold at the national drill meet is colored green. It always has been, considering that making the trip can cost a program tens of thousands of dollars, depending, of course, on the distance from Daytona and the number of Cadets traveling to compete.

The estimated price tag for James Madison is \$26,000 to \$28,000. That includes bus transportation, lodging and meals for the six-day trip for Cadets, cadre and chaperones.

JROTC programs begin raising money in the fall for various events in which they'll compete over the course of the school year. James Madison held a variety of fund-raisers, including selling Christmas trees during the holidays, holding rummage sales and peddling barbecue. But those ventures collectively were down at least a few thousand dollars from last year.

Even though students are required to pay \$300 each to make the Daytona trip, it wasn't enough to overcome the shortfall.



James Madison High School unarmed exhibition team perform platoon exhibition in Daytona. Photo by Steve Arel / U.S. Army Cadet Command



Members of the James Madison (Texas) High School armed exhibition team have their helmets shined before taking the drill floor at the Army Nationals drill meet in Louisville, Ky in April. Photo by Steve Arel / U.S. Army Cadet Command

When Chief Warrant Officer 4 Richard Gonzales, the senior Army instructor at nearby Winston Churchill High School, got Cano's email, he considered the plea a call to action for a deploying sister unit.

"When a sister unit deploys, if you're not deploying, it's all hands on deck to support the trip," he said.

Working in concert with colleagues at Ronald Reagan, Theodore Roosevelt and Douglas MacArthur high schools, Gonzales spearheaded the effort, forwarding Cano's email to others who could help, who in turn forwarded it to even more.

Two senior Churchill Cadets then orchestrated a fund-raiser called Coins for Madison, where students went around the community toting red buckets and collecting several thousand dollars in change.

The list of those donating to the cause is lengthy. St. Margaret's Episcopal Church gave \$1,000, the school district contributed \$1,500 and local council members donated, too. State Rep. Joe Straus, the Texas speaker of the house who hails from San Antonio, chipped in as well.

Even the bus company offered assistance, defraying half of its fee till after the trip.

"This was a rare opportunity to help one of our own, which was a strong source of motivation," Gonzales said. "There is a spirit of competition that drives them (the Cadets), but this was a spirit of unity."

Cano doesn't yet have a final tally on the total raised and contributed the last few weeks. Money was still coming in to his office a couple of days ago.

"I'm proud of our kids, our school and our district," Cano said. "I just don't know what I'm going to do to thank them. There's no way I can repay their kindness."

The unprecedented effort hasn't surprised James Madison cadets.

"Knowing we worked so hard to get to this point, it was somewhat disappointing," Melissa Kidder, commander of the unarmed team, said of learning of the shortfall. "There was no doubt we wouldn't make it."

James Madison arrives in Daytona today, settling in and practicing before masters level competition begins Sunday. Cadets are confident – as are many in San Antonio – about their chances of returning home as national champions.

Considering the way in which those throughout the city rallied around the program, Cadets like Jordan Choate, commander for James Madison's armed team, feel more pressure to succeed.

"With all the people who are counting on us to go do well and people who have put in their money when they didn't have to, we don't want to disappoint them," he said. "With all the support behind us, we'll do our best. Hopefully, that will show in our results."

--- contributed by Steve Arel, US Army Cadet Command, PIO



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1SG Jim Tadayeski, Grant High School Army JROTC, Louisiana

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CWO3 Bob DeWitt, Rutland HS Marine Corps JROTC, Georgia

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2014 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Introduction

Sports Network International is pleased to provide this invitation to all precision drill units to attend the 32nd annual **National High School Drill Team Championships** in Daytona Beach, Florida. This event is open to all Junior ROTC units and select other military-style programs competing in Armed & Unarmed divisions. This is your school's **official invitation** to enter the nation's finest drill & ceremony competition, referred to worldwide as simply "**The Nationals.**" Schools will never experience a more majestic and remarkable drill event than this.

The **National High School Drill Team Championships** remains the most coveted drill destination in the world. Schools travel from across the U.S. to attend this all-service drill spectacular. Schools considering entry into the Nationals **should make plans early** as competition spaces are limited to roughly 50 schools at the Masters Level; 55 schools at the Challenge Level; and 35 schools within the Open Level Color Guard event.

Sports Network International, Inc. (SNI) serves as the Event Manager for The Nationals. The National High School Drill Team Championships are proudly sponsored by the **U.S. Army Cadet Command**.

Competition Guidelines

All units may use their own service regulations to compete at the NHSDTC.

Where their manual is not specific, Armed Divisions use US Army TC 3-21.5 while the Unarmed Divisions use US Air Force FM 36-2203 (1996). The variety of services that gain top finishes in Daytona is a testament to the fairness of this drill event. The event SOP is listed on the event website early in the school year. Schools having specific questions regarding the event should contact SNI before applying for entry.

Event Judging

All judges at the NHSDTC maintain a strong background in military drill. Judges are fully qualified military personnel representing all four branches of the service. Judges are given extensive judging manuals in advance of the event, as well as a full on-site briefing on the eve of the competition. The Nationals' judges are extremely motivated and give a 110% effort. This remains a major reason why so many teams look to end their drill season at "**The World's Most Famous Beach.**"

Competition Events

The NHSDTC maintains two competition levels. The **Challenge Level** event is designed for drill teams who wish to be part of the Nationals experience while competing against similarly talented schools at a less intense skill level. The Challenge Level maintains Armed (demilitarized weapons only) & Unarmed divisions. **Select teams may be required to move up to the Masters Level depending on the strength of their team or the composition of their male/female ratio.** All schools are encouraged to enter "stand-alone" units into the exciting Open Level Color Guard event also held on Saturday.

The **Masters Level** event brings the finest drill programs in the nation together to compete within three separate divisions. Teams using standard full-weight rifles compete in the **Demilitarized Arms Division**. Teams without weapons enter the **Unarmed Division**. The **Mixed Division** is for teams with lightweight weapons (regardless of gender), for all-female teams (regardless of weapon type) and for mixed gender teams (see SOP for requirements).

CHALLENGE LEVEL EVENTS

- ★ Unit Inspection (12 + Cmdr.)
 - ★ Platoon/Flight Regulation (12 + Cmdr.)
 - ★ Color Guard (4-person only - w/arms)
 - ★ Team Exhibition (9 cadets & over)
- (Squad or Platoon Formation is acceptable)**

MASTERS LEVEL EVENTS

- ★ Unit Inspection (12 + Cmdr.)
- ★ Platoon/Flight Regulation (12 + Cmdr.)
- ★ Color Guard (4-person only - w/arms)
- ★ Squad/Element Exhibition (8 + Cmdr.)
- ★ Platoon/Flight Exhibition (13 & over)
- ★ Solo & Dual Exhibition Cadets

Schools may enter multiple complete teams in different divisions at the Nationals **as long as no cadet competes for more than one team**. Therefore, schools entering both an armed and unarmed team may do so, but the two teams **must have separate cadets for each team**. This rule allows maximum cadet participation without adding multiple school entries utilizing the same cadets.

All Masters Level Armed units are allowed one entry (per team) in both Solo & Dual Exhibition. Unarmed Masters units can enter one pair in Unarmed Dual Ex. ***Select Challenge Level cadets may also be accepted into these events!** Teams can petition for a 2nd entry slot if desired. Also, **ALL CADETS** are urged to compete in their level's Armed & Unarmed Knockout Drills. **NOTE:** No "knockout fee" is charged to participate.

NHSDTC Event Specifics

The National High School Drill Team Championships are held at the impressive **Ocean Center Arena** in Daytona Beach, Florida in late Spring every year. This state-of-the-art facility features permanent seating for over 6,000 with outstanding amenities for a drill competition the size and prestige of the Nationals. The Ocean Center also features a complete concession area and ample bus parking. **Limited private meeting rooms are available for rent during the event.** Contact SNI for details. All instructors and cadets who attend the Nationals will attest that the Ocean Center remains the most exceptional drill & ceremony facility currently in use in the United States.

Schools are housed in Daytona Beach at one of 15+ oceanfront hotels located within 10 minutes of the Ocean Center Arena. They provide quality & affordable billeting for every Nationals team. SNI will also offer schools the ability to choose an Upgrade Hotel Package Plan at one of several select premium hotels.

The Headquarters for the event is the Hilton Oceanwalk Resort. Located directly across the street from the Ocean Center, the Hilton is an oasis which will provide exceptional billeting for the few schools selected to stay in this luxury hotel environment. Schools requesting a specific hotel should contact SNI directly.

All Challenge & Open Level schools must arrive by Friday afternoon. All Masters Level schools must arrive by Saturday afternoon. Exceptions granted on a case-by-case basis. **The Challenge & Open Level events will be held on Saturday, May 3rd, with the two-day Masters Level competition held on Sunday & Monday, May 4th & 5th.** Both competition levels feature Knockout Drills and an Awards Ceremony in the evening following the competition.

Awards and Trophies

The Nationals features unparalleled trophies & awards. National Championship and National Runner-Up trophies are awarded in all competition divisions - Demilitarized Arms, Unarmed and Mixed (at the Masters Level); Armed & Unarmed (at the Challenge Level). **The impressiveness of these trophies remains legendary within the Junior ROTC drill community!**

DRILL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team events in all competition divisions are trophyed in **1st-5th place**, or 1st-3rd if the size of the division warrants. All schools competing for a Championship (schools entering every team event in a division) will receive a personalized NHS DTC plaque to commemorate their quest at Daytona.

The Masters Level division maintains both Solo & Dual Exhibitions for all armed teams and Dual Exhibition for unarmed teams. Regulation Cadet Commanders at both the Masters & Challenge Levels also compete for Commander's Trophies. These individual trophies are awarded in **1st-3rd place**. Top finishers in all Armed & Unarmed Knockout Drills will receive a hand-painted medallion.

Costs to Attend

All schools choosing to attend the National High School Drill Team Championships **must attend through the Team Package Plan**. This plan is designed to ensure all cadets and instructors are given the enjoyment of staying together in superb oceanfront hotels with other schools from across the country, provided with treasured event mementos, as well as **ensuring all schools receive the finest drill event they have ever attended at an affordable cost.**

Team Package Plan Includes:

- ❖ *Four days & three nights billeting in one of several oceanfront hotels in Daytona Beach*
- ❖ *NHS DTC bronze medallion on a chest ribbon*
- ❖ *NHS DTC collared sports-shirt for adults or t-shirt for cadets, both ordered to size*
- ❖ *Swiss-embroidered four-inch patch designed exclusively for the NHS DTC*
- ❖ *8" X 10" color team photograph*

The price of the Team Package Plan, based on staying four-to-a-room, is only **\$127.00 per person** for the **full 4-day/3-night package**. Challenge level schools have the option to stay in a 2-night package for only **\$112.00 per person**. Three, two & one to-a-room prices are slightly higher, utilized primarily for instructors & other adult team followers. Schools interested in Deluxe billets should contact SNI ASAP or check the website for those upgraded rates. **All participants (cadets, chaperones & instructors) are required to attend the NHS DTC through this Team Package Plan to ensure all event costs are fully covered.** Parents and other team followers MAY attend through the package plan, but this is optional.

Registration Fee

The School Registration Fee for Nationals entry is \$300 for the Masters Level, \$200 for the Challenge Level and \$50 per team for the Open Level Color Guard or stand-alone solo/dual exhibition entrants. Schools wishing to enter multiple teams in multiple competition levels should contact SNI for details. **This event Registration Fee is completely refundable** if requested before **Friday, December 6th, 2013**, but non-refundable once a school has been accepted for entry into the Nationals. This ensures that only those schools who are **fully committed** to attend the event occupy a valuable competition slot with the many other fantastic drill programs attending.

To Register for the NHS DTC

ONLINE REGISTRATION: To register your school for the Nationals, complete the online **NHS DTC Registration Form** located at: <http://myschool.thenationals.net> - if you choose to mail your registration fee, your school is not considered registered until the fee has been received. Schools unsure of which competition level they should enter should contact SNI before submitting their School Registration.

SELECTION PROCESS: All registrations will be accumulated and reviewed by the SNI Competition Committee beginning on Friday, December 6th, 2013. SNI will evaluate all entries on their merits and decide which schools will be accepted. This judgment will be based on many factors but the largest of these include:

- ❖ *Overall team strength in past Nationals performances as well as other regional drill meets you have attended.*
- ❖ *Teams looking to capture an Overall Championship (complete teams entering all team events within a division) are given preference over partial teams.*
- ❖ *Geographic spread, service diversity, gung-ho nature & previous entry attempts are all very strong points considered by SNI.*

While most returning schools to the Nationals register within weeks of receiving *DrillNATION* magazine and this invitation, a few schools wait. Historically, demand to enter the Nationals causes the event to be nearly full by this date. Schools registering after the December 6th review deadline will have a smaller chance of getting into the Nationals. Any "standby slots" available after this date are available on a strictly first-come, first-served basis.

Additional Registration Info

Schools accepted for entry will be listed on the SNI website by Tuesday, December 10th. Any school not accepted will have their entry fee refunded within 10 business days.

Payments can be made by credit card or e-check online. Any checks should be made payable and sent to **Sports Network International** at the address listed below. Schools may contact SNI by email at anytime, but all paperwork will be submitted via our state-of-the-art website.

In Closing

We invite all teams, **especially those who have considered attending in the past**, to look at attending the 2014 Nationals. Your drill team's attendance will become the highlight of your school year, giving focus and purpose to your drill season. It provides a strong means of attracting interest in your program from within your community and will give your school and drill unit the national notoriety and incredible learning experience that they richly deserve. The Nationals is renowned for the strong teams who annually attend. With the availability of the Challenge & Open Level competitions, schools of all talent levels now look to become a part of the exciting & memorable Nationals experience.

Mostly, a trip to the Nationals will give your cadets, parents and staff a great experience to reflect upon for the rest of their lives. The Nationals is the ultimate reward for a long year of hard work and dedication.

Veterans of the Nationals will attest that **no other drill meet compares with the National High School Drill Team Championships**. The overall talent, all-service flavor and vast geographic spread of teams attending the Nationals give this drill event an unparalleled atmosphere of drill excellence! We at SNI wish your program and your cadets the best of luck this school year and **we hope to see your school in Daytona Beach, Florida this May at the 32nd Anniversary of "The Nationals!"**

For additional information:

Event Manager
Sports Network International, Inc.
10 Broadcreek Circle
Ormond Beach, Florida 32174
800/327-9311 ☎ 386/274-1919
website: <http://drill.thenationals.net>
email: drill@thenationals.net

The NHS DTC Challenge Level Competition Wrap

Overall strength and consistency in all events is the key to a Challenge Level Championship



“Challenge Level teams climb the ladder each year as the talent pool gets deeper and deeper in JROTC drill.”

- Justin Gates, SNI Competition Director

The Challenge Level at the National High School Drill Team Championships always holds a surprise as to who will rise to the top. Each year the teams that place first and second overall are sent to the Masters Level so it leaves the top slots wide open for new champions every year. This particular level is designed to showcase teams that are smaller, newer, or less experienced drill programs, but once they unlock that special combination necessary to rise to the top, they have to face the big dogs and learn to fight a bit harder to make a name for themselves.

ARMED DIVISION

There were 28 teams competing in the Challenge Armed Division and the team trophies were spread out among 13 different teams but one Army unit came on strong and bested the competition with a spread of more than 200 placement points for the overall title. Coyote Guard from West Creek HS from Clarksville, Tennessee was the only team to place in every team event. They captured first in Color Guard, third in Regulation and Exhibition and fourth in Inspection. It was this overall consistency that propelled them to the Overall Armed Division National Championship.

The Runner-Up trophy went to a long-time attendee, the Navy JROTC unit from Passaic HS in Passaic, New Jersey. The Mighty Indian Guard placed in three of the four events and other than the champions, were the only unit to do so. They took home second in Exhibition, third in Color Guard and fourth in Regulation. They just barely missed out on capturing fifth in Inspection, landing in sixth in that event. Both of these top teams proved that you have to be good in every event to land at the top of the leaderboard in the Challenge Level.

Two teams managed to place within two events. The Centurions from Papillion-La Vista South HS from Nebraska took first in Exhibition and fourth in Color Guard (placing them at third overall). The Black Knights from Chester W. Nimitz HS from Irving, Texas captured second place in both Inspection and Regulation (landing them at sixth place overall).

Other notable finishes: Okkodo HS Bulldogs (1st Regulation, 4th Overall), West Creek HS Coyote Pride (1st Inspection, 5th Overall), Lackey HS Ruff Ryders (2nd Color Guard), and Rutland HS Middle Georgia Leathernecks (3rd Inspection).

UNARMED DIVISION

The Unarmed Division was not nearly as much of a runaway as the Armed Division, although the Overall Champion was the only team to manage a top five placement in three of the four events, they only won with a margin of 54 placement points out of a total of 4800. The Warriors from West Orange HS from Winter Garden, Florida made a name for themselves as they grabbed first place in Inspection, third place in Color Guard, and fourth place in Exhibition. Even their ninth place in Regulation couldn't keep them from being crowned the new Unarmed Division National Champion.



Command Sergeant Major Roger Howard, CSM, US Army Cadet Command presented the Champion and Runner-Up trophies. Shown from left to right: Papillion-La Vista South HS Guardians Unarmed Runner-Up, West Orange HS Warriors Unarmed Champions, West Creek HS Coyote Guard Armed Champions and Passaic HS Mighty Indian Guard Armed Runner-Up.

The real fight was between two teams for the Runner-Up trophy. Separated in the end by only eight placement points, Papillion-La Vista South HS Guardians from Papillion, Nebraska took the honors and placed first in Exhibition and second in Regulation. Fleming Island HS War Eagles from Fleming Island, Florida was hot on their heels with second in Color Guard and fifth in Exhibition.

With the trophies spread out so much, there were only three other teams that took home two team trophies each. Those were Belleview HS Marchin' Rattlers who placed first in Regulation and fifth in Inspection, Providence HS Team Providence UA that placed second in Inspection and third in Regulation, and the Panther BN from Mulberry Senior HS placing fifth in both Regulation and Color Guard.

Other notable finishes included East Paulding HS Black Venom (1st Color Guard), William Mitchell HS Mitchell Marauders (2nd Exhibition), Gloucester HS Scarlet Thunder (3rd Inspection), and Waukegan HS Unarmed Bulldogs (3rd Exhibition).

Every year the Challenge Level talent gets stronger. One thing is for sure, any team that is able to be consistently good in all events, even if they do not place in the top five, will have a chance at the overall title next year. Consistency across all events is the key! The 2014 Challenge Level of the NHS DTC will be full of surprises as yet again, the top two in both divisions are sent to the Masters Level the following year.

2013 OPEN LEVEL COLOR GUARD COMPETITION

The Open Level Color Guard competition is always a showcase of some of the best Color Guard performances at the Nationals. Quite often, the cadets that compete in this category do not also perform on the drill team, therefore they spend even more time perfecting their skills in Color Guard movements and regulations... and it shows!

This year proved that no one service stands head and shoulders above the rest where Color Guard performances are concerned. Out of the 32 teams competing, a team from all four service branches placed in the top five taking home hardware to display in their trophy case.

All eyes gravitate toward the Mules and Mulettes from Alamo Heights HS in San Antonio, Texas since one of these two teams has taken home first place over the last few years and the other usually places very close behind. Although this year, an Air Force JROTC team that has not seen a trophy in this division before, the Blue Thunder Guard from North Side HS from Jackson, Tennessee edged to the front by 14 points and captured prestigious first place honors in the Open Level Color Guard event.

The Mulettes from Alamo Heights HS had to settle for second place this year, although this Army JROTC unit will be ready to fight for their title back next year. The SeaChicks from Navy JROTC powerhouse Flour Bluff HS out of Corpus Christi, Texas came in third only three points behind the Mulettes.

The Mules from Alamo Heights HS, as in past years, are only a few placements behind their sister team. The boys came in fourth place but still have the trophy to support their bragging rights back home.

Rounding out the top five is a Marine Corps JROTC unit from Dededo, Guam. Okkodo HS has attended the Nationals for several years but this is their first top five placement in the Open Level Color Guard event.

All of these teams will be back in 2014 to fight for that first place spot so North Side's Blue Thunder Guard shouldn't get too comfortable – there will be a large target on their backs next year.

WANT MORE IN DEPTH SCORING REPORTS? GET EXCLUSIVE CONTENT AND THE FULL RESULTS ON THE NET'S ONLY SOCIAL COMMUNITY DEVOTED TO JROTC DRILL!

www.DrillNation.net

2013 National High School Drill Team Championships

Challenge Level Attendees & Event Standings



Armed Division

Inspection

West Creek HS	<i>Coyote Pride</i>	754
Chester W. Nimitz HS	<i>Black Knights</i>	742
Rutland HS	<i>Middle GA Leathernecks</i>	735
West Creek HS	<i>Coyote Guard</i>	713
East Paulding HS	<i>Black Hawks</i>	688

Regulation

Okkodo HS	<i>Bulldogs</i>	746
Chester W. Nimitz HS	<i>Black Knights</i>	721
West Creek HS	<i>Coyote Guard</i>	713
Passaic HS	<i>Mighty Indian Guard</i>	692
Alvin C. York Institute	<i>Sergeant York's Own</i>	684

Color Guard

West Creek HS	<i>Coyote Guard</i>	782
Lackey HS	<i>Ruff Ryders</i>	730
Passaic HS	<i>Mighty Indian Guard</i>	704
Papillion-La Vista South HS	<i>Centurions</i>	698
St. John's NW MA	<i>Silver Rifles</i>	694

Team Exhibition

Papillion-La Vista South HS	<i>Centurions</i>	888
Passaic HS	<i>Mighty Indian Guard</i>	843
West Creek HS	<i>Coyote Guard</i>	830
LaSalle Institute	<i>O'Donovan Rifles</i>	828
Lakeside HS	<i>Legion Drill Team</i>	821

Overall Armed Champion

West Creek HS - *Coyote Guard*

Overall Armed Runner-up

Passaic HS - *Mighty Indian Guard*

Airport HS
Army JROTC
W. Columbia, S. Carolina

Alexandria Senior HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Alexandria, Louisiana

Alvin C. York Institute
Army JROTC
Jamestown, Tennessee

Bainbridge HS
Air Force JROTC
Bainbridge, Georgia

Belleview HS
Air Force JROTC
Belleview, Florida

Bloomington HS
Air Force JROTC
Valrico, Florida

Blythewood HS
Army JROTC
Blythewood, S. Carolina

Celebration HS
Air Force JROTC
Celebration, Florida

Chester W. Nimitz HS
Navy JROTC
Irving, Texas

East Paulding HS
Air Force JROTC
Dallas, Georgia

Englewood HS
Army JROTC
Jacksonville, Florida

Everglades HS
Army JROTC
Miramar, Florida

Fleming Island HS
Navy JROTC
Fleming Island, Florida

Forestville MA
Army JROTC
Forestville, Maryland

Gloucester HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Gloucester, Massachusetts

Hopewell HS
Army JROTC
Huntersville, N. Carolina

Jackson-Olin HS
Army JROTC
Birmingham, Alabama

Unarmed Division

Inspection

West Orange HS	<i>Warriors</i>	890
Providence HS	<i>Team Providence UA</i>	881
Gloucester HS	<i>Scarlet Thunder</i>	873
Bainbridge HS	<i>Wings of Blue</i>	859
Belleview HS	<i>Marchin' Rattlers</i>	858

Regulation

Belleview HS	<i>Marchin' Rattlers</i>	712
Papillion-La Vista South HS	<i>Guardians</i>	711
Providence HS	<i>Team Providence UA</i>	706
North Salem HS	<i>Lady Vikings</i>	697
Mulberry Senior HS	<i>Panther BN</i>	692

Color Guard

East Paulding HS	<i>Black Venom</i>	734
Fleming Island HS	<i>War Eagles</i>	732
West Orange HS	<i>Warriors</i>	715
Oxon Hill HS	<i>Blue Guard</i>	674
Mulberry Senior HS	<i>Panther BN</i>	673

Team Exhibition

Papillion-La Vista South HS	<i>Guardians</i>	806
William Mitchell HS	<i>Mitchell Marauders</i>	748
Waukegan HS	<i>Unarmed Bulldogs</i>	747
West Orange HS	<i>Warriors</i>	727
Fleming Island HS	<i>War Eagles</i>	726

Overall Unarmed Champion

West Orange HS - *Warriors*

Overall Unarmed Runner-up

Papillion-La Vista South HS - *Guardians*

Lackey HS
Air Force JROTC
Indian Head, Maryland

Lakeside HS
Army JROTC
Evans, Georgia

LaSalle Institute
Army JROTC
Troy, New York

Luqoff-Elgin HS
Army JROTC
Luqoff, S. Carolina

Mulberry Senior HS
Army JROTC
Mulberry, Florida

Murphy HS
Army JROTC
Mobile, Alabama

North Bullitt HS
Army JROTC
Shepherdsville, Kentucky

North Salem HS
Army JROTC
Salem, Oregon

Okkodo HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Dededo, Guam

Oxon Hill HS
Air Force JROTC
Oxon Hill, Maryland

Papillion-La Vista South HS
Navy JROTC
Papillion, Nebraska

Passaic HS
Navy JROTC
Passaic, New Jersey

Providence HS
Navy JROTC
Charlotte, N. Carolina

Ramsay HS
Army JROTC
Birmingham, Alabama

Rutland HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Macon, Georgia

St. John's Northwestern MA
Army JROTC
Delafield, Wisconsin

T.C. Williams HS
Army JROTC
Alexandria, Virginia

Taylor County HS
Army JROTC
Perry, Florida

Union City HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Union City, New York

United South HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Laredo, Texas

Waukegan HS
Army JROTC
Waukegan, Illinois

West Charlotte HS
Army JROTC
Charlotte, N. Carolina

West Creek HS
Army JROTC
Clarksville, Tennessee

West Orange HS
Air Force JROTC
Winter Garden, Florida

William Mitchell HS
Air Force JROTC
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Zephyrhills HS
Army JROTC
Zephyrhills, Florida

Congratulations to all of the remarkable schools that "stepped up to the Challenge" at the Nationals!

MASTERS CADETS LIVE TO DRILL!



Pictured above are the proud cadets from Flour Bluff HS - Demilitarized Arms Division Champions (back row), Francis Lewis HS - Unarmed Division Champions (left) and Fern Creek HS - Mixed Division Champions (right).

UNARMED DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Last year's champion **Thomas C. Clark HS Silver Valor** came out of the gate looking strong and ready to defend their title with a 1st place in Inspection, a 3rd place in both Color Guard and Flight Exhibition and 5th in Regulation, but without knowing their placement in Element Exhibition, they were concerned. As the trophies were distributed, two other teams also received top five finishes in four of the five events. So it looked like the race to the title would be between Thomas C. Clark, **Brandeis HS** (last year's Runner-Up) and **Francis Lewis HS**. The Blue Aces from Brandeis placed 1st in Flight Exhibition, 2nd in Regulation, 3rd in Inspection and 4th in Color Guard. Patriot Pride from Francis Lewis took 1st in both Regulation and Element Exhibition, 4th in Inspection, and 5th in Color Guard. All three teams were dealing with one unknown. If they tanked in that one event, it could make all the difference in the final proportional points. When it came down to the final two trophies, all three teams were hopeful knowing they all had a shot but it was too close to call. **Brandeis Blue Aces** were announced as the Runner-Up, maintaining their position from last year, but would the overall champion be Thomas C. Clark or Francis Lewis? The wait was over and beating Brandeis by only **6 points out of 6000**, **Francis Lewis Patriot Pride** proudly received the National Championship trophy in the Masters Unarmed Division.

Drill is the most visible and creative component of JROTC and is often used as the primary recruiting tool to attract students into the world of JROTC. But to those who are immersed in the art and sport of drill, it can be so much more. Much like an athlete may "live to play football" in high school, these young men and women "live to drill." They spend hours each day perfecting their performances in the hopes that their hard work will someday be recognized and rewarded on the world's biggest stage for the love of drill, the National High School Drill Team Championships Masters Level Awards Gala.

The Ocean Center Arena is transformed from a drill battleground into a majestic hall where the judges and honored guests wear their finest mess dress, the cadets wear class A uniforms, and the beauty & skill of drill is celebrated and honored one last time for many graduating seniors. The stage is covered with stunning trophies as large as six-feet tall with the iconic eagle banner providing the perfect background. The judges arrive by service accompanied by the cadets singing their service song. As the ceremonial color guard approaches with everyone at attention, not a sound can be heard throughout the entire arena except the cadenced foot-falls of the cadets as they bring our national colors center stage. The National Anthem is sung a cappella in such a clear voice as to cause chills. The colors are posted, everyone takes a seat and the ceremony begins. To those who have never attended, no words can describe the majesty these teams are deservedly given.

The experience of attending the Masters Level Awards Gala is priceless to these cadets and their excitement mounts. Many are texting home with the web address where their families can tune in to an internet simulcast and share in the glory. Two very long days of competition drill, grueling inspections, memorized sequences, cased colors, and tossed rifles have led to this very moment. Would their school be the one called to receive the National Championship trophy for their division?

MIXED DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

It has been 14 years now that the Lady Leathernecks from Fern Creek HS have marched up to the stage to receive the huge National Championship trophy in the Mixed Division. These ladies are so locked on that no one to date has even come close to threatening their reign. They showed strength in all five events capturing 1st place in Color Guard and Platoon Exhibition, 2nd in Inspection, 3rd in Squad Exhibition and 4th in Regulation. They have definitely unlocked a secret and are not sharing it with the rest of the world.

The race for Runner-Up was still up for grabs with three schools standing in line. **Smith-Cotton HS Black Tigers** (2nd Regulation & Squad Exhibition, 3rd Platoon Exhibition, 4th Inspection & Color Guard) and **Seneca HS Lady Red Hawks** (1st Inspection, 3rd Regulation, 4th Squad Exhibition & Platoon Exhibition, 5th Color Guard) were the only other two teams to place in all five events but sneaking in under the wire were the **J.H. Reagan HS Rough Riders**. Even though they placed seventh in Inspection, their first place in Regulation and Squad Exhibition and second place in Color Guard and Platoon Exhibition put them just far enough ahead to capture the Runner-Up trophy.

DEMILITARIZED ARMS

The fight for top honors was fierce this year with the absence of last year's champion, **John Jay HS Silver Eagles**. The scoring was very tight with all 25 team trophies going to the top eight schools. The **Leathernecks from Fern Creek HS** were looking very promising as contenders for the overall title as they captured second in Regulation and Platoon Exhibition, third in Inspection, fourth in Color Guard and fifth in Squad Exhibition. They were the only team to place in all five events. However, it isn't about how many trophies you receive, it is about how high your score was and how close it was to the top score in each event since the title is determined by proportional points.

Two other teams received four team trophies each: **Marmion Academy Flannigan Rifles** (2nd Squad Exhibition, 4th Inspection, 5th Regulation & Platoon Exhibition) and **Brandeis HS Nighthawks** (1st Color Guard, Squad Exhibition & Platoon Exhibition, 3rd Regulation) and three teams walked away with three trophies each: **James Madison HS Mighty Maverick Guard** (2nd Color Guard, 3rd Squad Exhibition, 5th Inspection), **Flour Bluff HS SeaDevils** (1st Inspection & Regulation, 3rd Platoon Exhibition) and last years runner up **Francis Lewis HS Patriot Guard** (2nd Inspection, 4th Squad Exhibition & Platoon Exhibition). With all of these powerhouse teams receiving high placements, it was impossible to tell which of these six teams would emerge victorious.

With just over 300 points out of 6,000 separating the top five, and only 51 points between third place and first place, this was one of the tightest races this event has ever seen. With all of the cadets holding their breath hoping they had managed to do enough to land on top the **Runner-Up placement was announced as Brandeis HS Nighthawks**. These Air Force cadets jumped and screamed knowing that second highest honors was amazing in only their fourth year of existence. But that left everyone wondering if Francis Lewis had fought back to reclaim the title or was Fern Creek going home with dual national championships? Neither, it was the **Navy JROTC unit from Flour Bluff HS in Corpus Christi, Texas** that took top prize for the first time since 2006. Now that they have the National Championship title back, the SeaDevils will triple their efforts and long hours of practice in order to keep it where they feel it belongs.

The love and dedication to the art and sport of competition drill and ceremonies was on display in all three divisions this year. The hundreds of hours of practice and sacrifice paid off for these amazing teams and it shows with the number and size of the trophies they brought back home to their proud schools. The 2014 Nationals promises to be just as exciting next May and will provide another amazing carrot on the end of a long hard JROTC season. Call SNI today about how your team can be a part of the competition with one cadet or an entire team!





NATIONAL High School DRILL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



Masters Level Event Standings

ALL RAW SCORE TOTALS ARE BASED ON A MAXIMUM 1200 POINTS PER EVENT

Demilitarized Arms

Inspection

Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	946
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Guard</i>	892
Fern Creek HS	<i>Leathernecks</i>	851
Marmion Academy	<i>Flannigan Rifles</i>	847
James Madison HS	<i>Maverick Guard</i>	806

Regulation

Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	760
Fern Creek HS	<i>Leathernecks</i>	750
Brandeis HS	<i>Nighthawks</i>	706
North Miami Beach Sr. HS	<i>Chargers</i>	699
Marmion Academy	<i>Flannigan Rifles</i>	690

Color Guard

Brandeis HS	<i>Nighthawks</i>	*767
James Madison HS	<i>Maverick Guard</i>	767
Thomas C. Clark HS	<i>Centurion Guard</i>	758
Fern Creek HS	<i>Leathernecks</i>	752
North Miami Beach Sr. HS	<i>Chargers</i>	747

Squad Exhibition

Brandeis HS	<i>Nighthawks</i>	976
Marmion Academy	<i>Flannigan Rifles</i>	911
James Madison HS	<i>Maverick Guard</i>	891
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Guard</i>	888
Fern Creek HS	<i>Leathernecks</i>	887

Platoon Exhibition

Brandeis HS	<i>Nighthawks</i>	1030
Fern Creek HS	<i>Leathernecks</i>	996
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	979
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Guard</i>	973
Marmion Academy	<i>Flannigan Rifles</i>	967

Unarmed

Inspection

Thomas C. Clark HS	<i>Silver Valor</i>	1009
James Madison HS	<i>Lady Maverick Guard</i>	1004
Brandeis HS	<i>Blue Aces</i>	1000
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	968
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Seahawks</i>	958

Regulation

Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	793
Brandeis HS	<i>Blue Aces</i>	777
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	757
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Gold Tigers</i>	739
Thomas C. Clark HS	<i>Silver Valor</i>	724

Color Guard

North Miami Beach Sr. HS	<i>Lady Chargers</i>	852
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Seahawks</i>	843
Thomas C. Clark HS	<i>Silver Valor</i>	828
Brandeis HS	<i>Blue Aces</i>	825
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	805

Element Exhibition

Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	806
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	789
United South HS	<i>South Mighty Panthers</i>	775
James Madison HS	<i>Lady Maverick Guard</i>	763
North Miami Beach Sr. HS	<i>Lady Chargers</i>	736

Flight Exhibition

Brandeis HS	<i>Blue Aces</i>	956
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Gold Tigers</i>	955
Thomas C. Clark HS	<i>Silver Valor</i>	936
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Seahawks</i>	933
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	925

Mixed Arms

Inspection

Seneca HS	<i>Lady Redhawks</i>	977
Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	953
Winter Springs HS	<i>Golden Bears</i>	937
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Black Tigers</i>	915
Airport HS	<i>Golden Talons</i>	866

Regulation

J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Rough Riders</i>	808
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Black Tigers</i>	803
Seneca HS	<i>Lady Redhawks</i>	753
Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	745
Airport HS	<i>Golden Talons</i>	738

Color Guard

Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	797
J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Rough Riders</i>	721
Miami Coral Park Sr. HS	<i>Lady Rangers</i>	700
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Black Tigers</i>	680
Seneca HS	<i>Lady Redhawks</i>	663

Squad Exhibition

J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Rough Riders</i>	997
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Black Tigers</i>	970
Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	934
Seneca HS	<i>Lady Redhawks</i>	841
Winter Springs HS	<i>Golden Bears</i>	839

Platoon Exhibition

Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	963
J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Rough Riders</i>	893
Smith-Cotton HS	<i>Black Tigers</i>	811
Seneca HS	<i>Lady Redhawks</i>	722
Airport HS	<i>Golden Talons</i>	679

Demilitarized Arms Champions

Champion: Flour Bluff HS - *Sea Devils*

Runner-up: Brandeis HS - *Nighthawks*

Solo Exhibition

- 1st Cadet Beheler - Airport HS
- 2nd Cadet Aguilar - Hubbard HS
- 3rd Cadet Childress - Fern Creek HS
- 4th Cadet Kofron - Marmion Academy
- 5th Cadet Martin - Ringgold HS

Dual Exhibition

- 1st Flatt & Rikke - Flour Bluff HS
- 2nd Grove & Dozier - Brandeis HS
- 3rd Brewer & Riggs - Fern Creek HS
- 4th Pacer & Voirin - Marmion Academy
- 5th Lucio & Cruz - Hubbard HS

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2013 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Unarmed Champions

Champion: Francis Lewis HS - *Patriot Pride*

Runner-up: Brandeis HS - *Blue Aces*

Dual Exhibition

- 1st Gao & Zhang - Francis Lewis HS
- 2nd Arnold & Kidder - James Madison HS
- 3rd Silva & Belisario - John Jay HS
- 4th Ntamuhanga & Romero - Lynn English HS
- 5th Aguilar & Soto - Passaic HS

Mixed Arms Champions

Champion: Fern Creek HS - *Lady Leathernecks*

Runner-up: J.H. Reagan HS - *Reagan Rough Riders*

Solo Exhibition

- 1st Cadet Wile - Summerlin Academy
- 2nd Cadet Hagan - Fern Creek HS
- 3rd Cadet Padron - J.H. Reagan HS

Dual Exhibition

- 1st Hagood & Wile - Summerlin Academy
- 2nd Stanfield & Womack - Fern Creek HS
- 3rd Brewer & White - Fern Creek HS

★ 2013 MASTERS LEVEL PARTICIPANTS ★

★ Schools of Excellence ★

2013 ALL-SERVICE JUDGING CORPS



Judges listed from left to right, front row to back row:

Army: SSG Jessica Tuggle, 1SG Michael Jones, SSG Dustin Pugh, SSG Nicholas Guerin, SFC Bernard Miles, MSG Leonard Hutton, SGM Blaine Huston, SSG Travis Knudsen
Marine Corps: SSgt Erika BonillaRubi, MGySgt Andrew Johnson, SSgt Alvaro Menziesandino, Sgt Ivan Colina, Sgt Brandon Patrick, Sgt Jonathan Yeneic, SSgt Alberto Andino, SSgt Julio Mercedes
Navy: PO1 Christopher Aumen, CPO Joseph Obleton II, PO3 Brendan Dicarolo, PO1 Bradly Mueller, SCPO Robert Whiddon, PO1 Santos Colon, PO2 Ryan Langford, PO3 Joshua Fischer
Air Force: SrA Kenny Santiago, SSgt Steven Cuthbert, MSgt Todd Graham, MSgt Jimmie Rushing, SMSgt Jeffrey Taylor, MSgt Bryan Smith, MSgt Herman Ybarra, SSgt Scott Salamone

Airport High School
Army JROTC
West Columbia, S.Carolina

Ben Davis High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Indianapolis, Indiana

Brandeis High School
Air Force JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Cathedral Preparatory High School
Air Force JROTC
Erie, Pennsylvania

Central Crossing High School
Navy JROTC
Grove City, Ohio

Central High School
Army JROTC
St. Joseph, Missouri

Charles H. Milby High School
Army JROTC
Houston, Texas

Cleveland Jr. Naval Academy
Navy JROTC
St. Louis, Missouri

Colts Neck High School
Navy JROTC
Colts Neck, New Jersey

Deland High School
Air Force JROTC
Deland, Florida

East Aurora High School
Navy JROTC
Aurora, Illinois

Ed W. Clark High School
Navy JROTC
Las Vegas, Nevada

Evans High School
Army JROTC
Evans, Georgia

Fern Creek High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Louisville, Kentucky

Fleming Island High School
Navy JROTC
Fleming Island, Florida

Flour Bluff High School
Navy JROTC
Corpus Christi, Texas

Forestville Military Academy
Army JROTC
Forestville, Maryland

Francis Lewis High School
Army JROTC
Fresh Meadows, New York

Freedom High School
Navy JROTC
Tampa, Florida

Georgia Military College Prep High School
Army JROTC
Milledgeville, Georgia

Gloucester High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Gloucester, Massachusetts

Grant High School
Army JROTC
Dry Prong, Louisiana

Hereford High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Hereford, Texas

Hiram Johnson High School
Air Force JROTC
Sacramento, California

Hubbard High School
Army JROTC
Chicago, Illinois

Independent Soloist
Non-Affiliated
Fredericksburg, Virginia

J.H. Reagan High School
Army JROTC
Houston, Texas

James Madison High School
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

John Jay High School
Air Force JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Johnson High School
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Lackey High School
Air Force JROTC
Indian Head, Maryland

Leavenworth High School
Army JROTC
Leavenworth, Kansas

Leesburg High School
Air Force JROTC
Leesburg, Florida

Lincoln County High School
Army JROTC
Hamlin, West Virginia

Lynn English High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Lynn, Massachusetts

Marmion Academy
Army JROTC
Aurora, Illinois

Mexico Academy and Central School
Marine Corps JROTC
Mexico, New York

Miami Coral Park Senior High School
Army JROTC
Miami, Florida

Morgan County High School
Air Force JROTC
Madison, Georgia

Newsome High School
Army JROTC
Lithia, Florida

North Miami Beach Sr. High School
Army JROTC
N.Miami Beach, Florida

North Salem High School
Army JROTC
Salem, Oregon

Passaic High School
Navy JROTC
Passaic, New Jersey

Pulaski County High School
Army JROTC
Somerset, Kentucky

Rahway High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Rahway, New Jersey

Ringgold High School
Army JROTC
Ringgold, Georgia

Sandalwood High School
Air Force JROTC
Jacksonville, Florida

Seneca High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Louisville, Kentucky

Smith-Cotton High School
Army JROTC
Sedalia, Missouri

South County Career Center
Army JROTC
Ruskin, Florida

South Mountain High School
Army JROTC
Phoenix, Arizona

Summerlin Academy
Army JROTC
Bartow, Florida

Thomas C. Clark High School
Air Force JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

United South High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Laredo, Texas

West Broward High School
Army JROTC
Pembroke Pines, Florida

White County High School
Army JROTC
Cleveland, Georgia

Winter Springs High School
Army JROTC
Winter Springs, Florida

Zephyrhills High School
Army JROTC
Zephyrhills, Florida

Sports Network International extends our sincere appreciation to every JROTC instructor who goes the extra mile for their cadets. No other program better prepares young people from all walks of life to become quality citizens. With honor and an unwavering commitment to excellence, these cadets will guide our nation throughout the 21st century.

Drill Hall of Fame

At the National High School Drill Team Championships in May 2013, three more names were added to the list of DHOF inductees. This amazing Hall of Fame was started in 2013 with 13 original inductees. This illustrious, diverse and amazing group of drill icons are celebrated each year as more join their ranks. These individuals and groups have been earmarked as the standard bearers to lead all others. Scores of other individuals and groups were considered and most all brought extremely strong credentials to the table. However, despite the amazingly tough choices, we have added three more to the Drill Hall of Fame. We will always cherish the impact each has made to the drill world and we look forward to expanding this field annually each May at the National H.S. Drill Team Championships.

www.drillhalloffame.com

2013 D.H.O.F. Inductees

LTC James Rose & the Riderette Drill Team from Theodore Roosevelt High School



LTC (ret.) James E. Rose was used to long days and pressure situations long before his JROTC career began. Serving one tour in Korea and two in Vietnam, LTC Rose left the active-duty Army with a Silver Star, Combat Infantry Badge, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. But then he took control of the Theodore Roosevelt Drill Program in 1982, the magic soon followed when he was hired to run the JROTC program at Theodore Roosevelt High School. He often said that his fondest memories in the world were the accomplishments his teams gained on the drill floor!



Major Greg Mikesell & the Black Watch Drill Team from Winston Churchill High School

To witness Black Watch under the leadership of Major Greg Mikesell was to watch a thoroughbred running strong across the blue grasses of Kentucky. Without question, the largest testament to the greatness that was Black Watch was not the numerous National Championships earned in the amazingly competitive Armed Division of the Nationals. It was the respect they were given and the style with which they operated.



Major Greg Mikesell developed a culture that helped to make not only Winston Churchill H.S. world famous for their exhibition drill, but for the type of high caliber men and women who would leave his program.

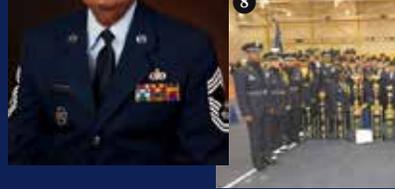
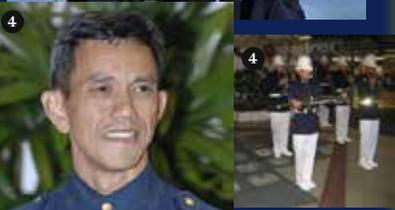


The United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon

The U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon first performed in the Sunset Parades of 1948 and received such an overwhelming response that it soon became a regular part of the parades at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. The 24-man rifle platoon execute a series of calculated drill movements and precise handling of their hand-polished, 10-and-one-half pound, M1 Garand rifles with fixed bayonets. Once the year's Silent Drill Platoon Marines



have been selected each fall, they begin their rigorous training at Marine Barracks Washington and later move to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., in order to perfect the routine before beginning a tour of the Corps' continental installations. The Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon has performed around the world in every continent and also several times right on the main floor in Daytona Beach at the National High School Drill Team Championships!



HISTORICAL INFLUENCES

- 1 Baron Friedrich von Steuben
- 2 John "Black Jack" Pershing & the Pershing Rifles

ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR GUIDING FORCE

- 3 The United States Army Drill Team (The Old Guard)
- 4 Mr. Paul Naki & The King's Guard
- 5 The National High School Drill Team Championships & Sports Network International
- 6 Mr. Constantine H. Wilson & New Guard America

SCHOOLS & INSTRUCTORS

- 7 La Salle Military Academy
- 8 CMSgt Frank Killebrew & Oxon Hill High School
- 9 Major Odell Graves
- 10 MGySgt Douglas Dunlapp & Fern Creek High School

INDIVIDUALS

- 11 Abdul Al-Romaizan
- 12 Donovan White
- 13 1stSgt. Christopher Borghese



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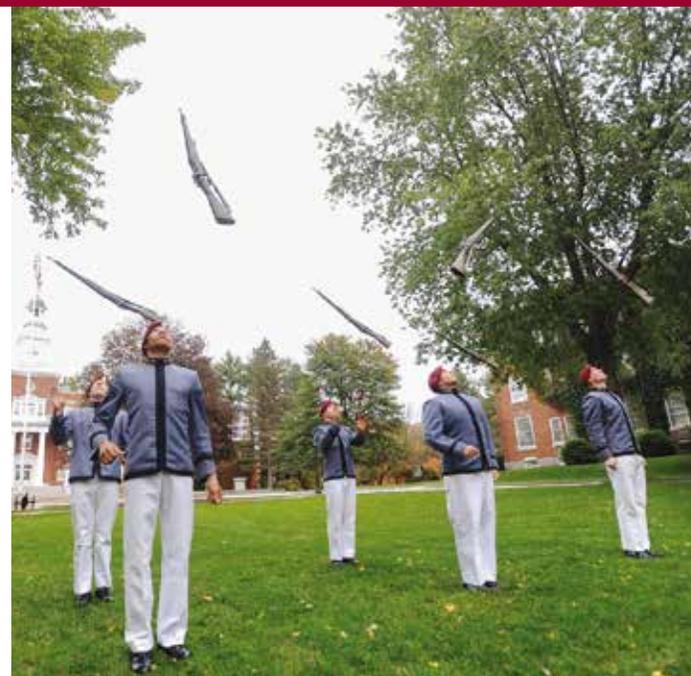
Norwich University's Corps of Cadets prepares all students to become competent and responsible citizens.

Norwich founder, Captain Alden Partridge, understood that a structured military lifestyle combined with rigorous academics would benefit those pursuing careers in both the military and private sector. The birthplace of ROTC, and the nation's oldest private military college, Norwich University prepares its students to commission as officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines.

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NATIONALS

S C R A P B O O K

A Look Around the Nationals and JROTC Universe



AFJROTC cadets shadow active duty for a week at Joint Base Langley-Eustis

High school students from the Hampton Roads area got a bit of military life this week during the 2013 AFJROTC Summer Leadership Program. More than 80 AFJROTC cadets participated in the week-long program June 24-28, 2013.

With support from service members across Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, the cadets were able to experience firsthand what it takes to be a member of the armed forces during a military shadow day June 25.

As part of the leadership program held each year by the Newport News Public School System, cadets woke up at 5 a.m. daily and endured an intense training environment consisting of drill practice, uniform and room inspections, athletic competitions and team-building exercises.

During the designated shadow day, cadets experienced working dog demonstrations, explosive ordnance disposal training, F-22A Raptors take-offs and leadership opportunities. They even tested their physical endurance on the confidence course at Fort Eustis. Sounds like a fantastic learning experience for all involved! Great job cadets!

Hubbard HS Captures Nationals Spirit Banner Award

Every year, SNI selects one school that best embodies the spirit of the Nationals. With sequestration in full force and money pulled away from teams at the last minute, every team faced obstacles and hurdles that could have crushed lesser groups. But after a lengthy history of excellence in drill, NHSDTC benefactor Mr. Abdul Al-Romaizan (right) presents to Hubbard H.S. Battalion Commander c/CPT Ever Benitez (left) the coveted Spirit Banner during the Masters Level Awards Ceremony in Daytona Beach. Hubbard has undergone a drill explosion over the past few years with talented teams competing within Armed, Unarmed and Mixed Divisions at the Nationals under the strong guidance of long time drill aficionado, SAI LTC John Wargo.



Bringing the Air Force Nationals to a City Near YOU!

While the upcoming 2014 Air Force Nationals event is completely set and ready to go in Washington, DC this March, budget cuts eliminating AFJROTC travel funding have forced a re-think on how to best serve the greatest number of AFJROTC cadets who love drill.



Rather than a single event location that a vast majority of teams have to raise large amounts of money for both travel and billeting, with limited future budgets the event will move FROM the single National event structure to that of a five site regional competition structure. Spreading these sites into large clusters of drill talent around the country will allow schools to save greatly on their competition costs and to hopefully make it easier for the top finishing teams to then compete at the National High School Drill Team Championships to determine the overall AFJROTC Armed & Unarmed Champion.

As a final carrot, SNI is currently seeking National sponsors to provide money that will help these winning schools with their travel bills associated with attending the NHSDTC representing their region.

Each of the events will utilize a "host JROTC unit". Currently, SNI will work with a local JROTC/ROTC unit in each of the five designated cities to provide logistical support for the event to be held in their backyard! Stay tuned as full details come forward to all AFJROTC units in May, 2014.

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In the battle of budgets vs. JROTC, the only thing certain is the kids lose

In what has become an all too familiar theme, JROTC programs from all services requiring minimum instructor levels and school boards looking to cut budgets are coming to an impasse with kids coming out on the short end. One recent example is the impending closure of the Mission H.S. Army JROTC program in Mission, Texas. The closure remains tentative, but supporters have rallied to the point that a congressman has stepped in to try to help.



While most all agree on the value of these JROTC programs, school districts that either cannot or chose not to meet their contractual obligation risk losing the program. When programs fail to maintain minimum instructor numbers, they generally get a letter of probation. If the situation is not resolved, then the program is often slated for closure. "Placing a unit on probation is a severe action and a matter of great concern to us," Leon McMullen, Army JROTC Deputy Director, wrote in a January letter to Principal Joe Lopez of Mission HS.

However, what often occurs in these cases is the very attributes taught in JROTC come to the forefront to help save the program - strength, courage, selflessness and tenacity! Cadets, parents and community leaders often work tirelessly to resurrect the program because they know first-hand the amazing benefits it provides. It is awesome to see the future leaders JROTC produces stepping to the forefront to show why JROTC is the best program available in high schools today around the world!

Jean K. Weil Scholarship Winners Take Top Honors of all Nationals Seniors

Selecting only TWO graduating seniors at the NHS DTC as the most outstanding overall cadets at the Nationals is an almost impossible job! However after review by the Scholarship Review Committee narrowed the field to just five top cadets, on-site interviews with JKW Scholarship Board Member, Mr. Keith Warren, once again left two top finishers above the field.

For the first time in the decade plus history of the JKW scholarship program, both winners came from the Challenge Level competition and both were in Air Force JROTC! The first recipient was **James McCormick - Cathedral Prep School in Erie, Pennsylvania** The other winner was **Arnelle Jones - Osceola High School in Osceola, Arkansas**. Both of these amazing cadets are proudly featured above with JKW Board Member and former NHS DTC and ISIS competitor, Mr. Keith Warren.



Along with the notoriety of earning the title as BEST graduating cadet at the Nationals, each of these two cadets received a \$1,000 scholarship to use toward their future scholastic expenses. To see more on this prestigious award as well as how to apply for the 2014 JKW scholarship, go to the on-line home at: <http://jkw.thenationals.net>.



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