

# The Scuttlebutt

Volume I Issue 2

January 2014

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## Air Rifle Team shoots for the first time

The Rancocas Valley NJROTC unit has started up its first ever Air Rifle team. On December 14, the team officially hosted its first practice in the old Eastampton Elementary school, where a room was given to the unit for practice. Ten cadets showed up along with parents and Chief and Commander. The first shot was fired by C/PO2 Kennedy.

Rancocas Valley never had an air rifle team. The idea of it was turned down years ago. Chief Aupperle revived this idea and went to the Board of Education about it last year. Without hesitation, the Board of Education agreed on the team's existence. Each cadet that wants to join this team must come to 3 days of safety practice after school. After these 3 days, they will take a test. In order to be on the team, you must get a 100% on the test. The rifles were donated by several schools including the Delaware Military Academy and William Allen High school.

Rancocas Valley will participate in the shooting portion in the Linden High School Drill Competition. Good luck RV!

-C/PO3 Ignacio



(Above) C/PO2 Jon Funda gets ready to shoot

## Physical Training (P.T.)

Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, cadets are encouraged to come out and do P.T. There you will learn how to be physically fit and how to reach goals that are set in the Cadet Reference Manual. After roll call, you head out to the gym to warm up, and then moderate to strenuous exercises begins. P.T. is a great way to lose weight; I myself lost 60 lbs from P.T alone.

The Training Officer (T.O.) C/Ensign Dan Rosario is in charge of P.T. and makes sure all the cadets are exercising the way that they are supposed to. And every so often, some of last year's Officers come and join in the exercise.

Early Tuesday morning, 12/17/13, Former CO Harrison Ruby, leads the way for P.T. Harrison is presently with the Purdue Naval ROTC program and is showing his knowledge of good workouts. Harrison likes to do PT as a team effort and motivates the cadets with a passion. Harrison constantly tells the cadets that they need to drink lots of water, that hydration is the key to keep going in good workouts. Thank you to Harrison Ruby for taking the time and coming out to teach us.

C/PO2 Chambers

## AMI Completion

On Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>, the 2013 Annual Military Inspection was held. Captain Philip Roos, commanding officer at Rutgers University, came and inspected our unit. The Cadet Commanding Officer, (CO) C/LCDR Bruce Lemyre, and Drill Department Head C/LTJG Frankie Grupico led the units in the inspections and ceremonies. After the inspection was done, the choir sang the National Anthem, while the Color Guard presented the colors. For ten years in a row, our unit has been known as a distinguished unit, this year we hope that it will be eleven.

C/PO2 Sines



(Above) The Choir sings the National Anthem as the Colorguard and Cadets present arms

## Holiday Gift Wrapping

Every year, the unit has its annual Holiday Gift Wrapping fundraiser. For three days, parents and family members can come to A127 to have gifts wrapped and donated money towards the unit. This year, it was held on Monday December 16<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>. Cadets were able to stay after school from 1430-1900 to wrap and have fun. The money goes towards the units activities and supplies and it's a great way to earn community service hours.

C/PO2 Sines



## Army VS Navy Game

The U.S Naval Academy has been playing organized football since 1879 and West Point since 1890, when Cadet Dennis Mahan Mitchie accepted a challenge from the Navy Academy. The two teams faced off on The Plain at West Point on November 29, 1890. Ever since, the Army-Navy rivalry has been a legendary thing. The game itself wasn't played for ten times in history, once in 1909 after the death of a Cadet against Harvard, twice in WWI (1917 and 1918) and twice when the player eligibility was disagreed upon. But the game was then cancelled for five straight years (1894-1898) four years after the rivalry initially started, because of an incident between a Rear Admiral and a Brigadier General. The two teams were restricted to home games and from playing each other.

Philadelphia was chosen as neutral location to host the Army-Navy Game in 1899. Franklin Field was the first place to host the game and through the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Municipal Stadium (JFK Stadium), Veteran's Stadium and Lincoln Financial Field have hosted the Army-Navy Game.

12 years in a row, Navy has beaten Army in this famous rivalry, this year being the 12<sup>th</sup> time. With a final score at the end of the fourth quarter Navy had beaten Army 34-7. GO NAVY!

C/PO2 Sines



## Military Ball

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, the unit will be having its 40<sup>th</sup> annual Military Ball. This is the time of the year where the cadets are able to dress up (girls in dresses, guys in uniform) and have a great time; dancing to music and having great food. And of course, the annual Senior dance will be held, which is when anyone in the unit can try and dance with any of the seniors, which includes our CO, C/LCDR Bruce Lemyre. Cadets are allowed to bring dates that are not in the unit, its encouraged for all cadets to attend.

C/PO3 Holloway



(Left) Cadets and Commander at the 2013 Military Ball

## Rancocas Valley Drill Team at Manchester Drill Competition

On the anniversary of Pearl Harbor attack, Rancocas Valley drill team along with twelve other schools participated in the Manchester High School Drill Competition in Manchester, New Jersey. The school placed overall 5th. The team competed in New Cadet Basic Unarmed, Colorguard, Armed Platoon, Inspection, Academics, New Cadet Colorguard, Physical Training Competition, and Armed Exhibition. C/SN Ford led the new cadets in basic unarmed. C/SN Grupico also led new cadets in Colorguard. The commander of Armed Platoon was C/CPO Tallo. C/CPO Danser-Sweet led Unarmed Platoon. C/LT Whritenour led the Armed Trick team and Varsity Colorguard.

This was the second drill competition of the season. The Drill Team placed 2nd overall at Neptune High School Drill Competition. In this competition, the team was able to compete for more events such as academics, Armed Trick, Physical Training Competition, and New Cadet Colorguard. This is the first time we have competed in these events for this season.

This competition happened the day after the unit's 40th Annual Military Inspection. The teams were able to perform in front of their parents, alumni, the entire company, and the Commanding Officer of the NROTC unit in Rutgers University. The team impressed everyone in that gymnasium.

The next competition the team will be competing in is the Linden High School Drill Competition on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>.

-C/PO3 Ignacio