

# Cadet Newsletter

## Vista Murrieta Air Force JROTC

### Letter from Public Affairs

As the semester slowly winds to a halt, underclassmen look forward to the relaxing summer awaiting them; while graduating seniors prepare for the daunting yet exhilarating trepidations of their future. Looking back four years ago to when the program was still trying to find its way around school, it only seems fitting to say that it has grown in size and reputation. Each year has added strength to the program and it only increases every-

day. Much of the successes and accomplishments of this year are due to the instructors, Colonel Matera and Sergeant Shoemaker. Without their leadership and steady guidance, the program would not be what it is today. Also, our hard working senior staff is responsible for many of the unit's achievements. Their planning and focus has truly made an impact on the school, community, and the corps. I would also like to recognize the cadets. It is the cadets that truly make our corps distinguished; they are the

embodiment of what being an AFJROTC cadet is all about; through their service and integrity they make all the difference. I challenge cadets to continue to strive for excellence in all that they do. With hard work and dedication nothing will stop them from achieving what they want in life. As I pass on the torch, I am humbled and honored to have been a part of the JROTC program and to have been part of such an amazing year. Thank you and enjoy!

-C/Captain Michelle Bernay  
Public Affairs Officer



*Integrity First*

*Service Before Self*

*Excellence in All We Do*



Editor: C/1st Lieutenant Angelo Mendoza

### Message from The Cadet Commander

JROTC has had such a positive influence on my life and I know that the experiences, memories and friendships made in this program will last a lifetime. I have been so humbled to have served as the Commander this year and I wish good luck to the cadets of next year as well as the seniors who will be moving on to do outstanding things in the next chapter of their life.

This unit has grown exponentially over the years and has made a lasting impact on our school and community. Never forget to live your life by the Air Force values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in all we do. Our unit has such a bright future, and I am so honored to have been a part of it these last four years.

Sincerely,

C/Lt. Col. Dominic Parisi

Cadet Commander,  
2012-2013

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## Past Events

- > Unit Inspection
- > Military Ball
- > Orange Glen Drill Meet
- > 8th Grade Parent Night
- > Open House
- > Unit Drill Competition
- > Care Packages
- > Campus Beautification
- > Your Mamma's Cookies Fundraiser
- > Golden Bear Drill Meet
- > Special Olympics

## Cadet Goals

### Community Goals

1. Complete a canned food drive to donate 2,000 cans to St. Martha's Church Food Bank.

2. Complete and mail care packages to deployed service members.

### School Goals

1. Complete a campus wide beautification project.

2. Conduct color guards for all requested school events.

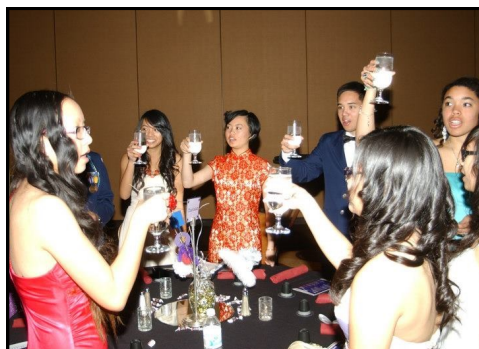
### Unit Goals

1. Complete a minimum 3,000 hours of community service.

2. Conduct a drill competition to include VMHS cadets.

## May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Awards Ceremony 1800-2000	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 End of the Year Luau 1500-1718	18 Uniform Turn-In 0900-1300
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Uniform Turn-In 0900-1300
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	



From right to left: Military Ball 2013, Campus Beautification, Campus Beautification, Unit Drill Meet.

## Nicolas Cage Rage

By: Michelle Bernay

The first annual scholar bowl adopted by Mr. Nguyen, ASB Director, was won by some of our own JROTC cadets: Savannah Pham, Richard Shoe-maker, Angelo Mendoza, and Dominic Parisi of the team they dubbed *Nicolas Cage Rage*.

The bowl consisted of a bracket system with 32 teams of four who battled against each other, for the chance to win the \$800 cash prize. Questions consisted of: math, science, literature, history, sports, and pop culture. The game was very fast paced, so team members had to really know their stuff. Each member of the team seemed to have a unique way of answering the questions.

Parisi remarks, "Everyone on our team did have a job, even though we never really assigned it. I think everyone knew Savannah was there for math and pop culture, I was there for history and politics, Angelo was there for all the random science stuff, and Richard was in charge of all

the miscellaneous questions."

Competing in the rounds was no picnic as *Nicolas Cage Rage* went up against a lot of really difficult teams.

"We just wanted to do this for fun" said Pham, "Mostly because we thought we were going to lose and we wanted to do it while laughing."

*"We just wanted to do this for fun, mostly because we thought we were going to lose and we wanted to do it while laughing."*

Although they lost a round during the semi-finals, a slight mishap gave them a second chance and got them into the final round.

The final round was against the team *Caucasian Invasion*, and was held in the main gym, where students and teachers were able to watch the competition. It seemed as though the prize could have gone to either team; however in the end, *Nicolas Cage Rage* won with a slight lead of 260 points to 250. Everyone cheered as the team was given their prize that would go towards college tuition. Afterwards, when asked how they came together as a team Parisi said, "We came together at the last minute on the last day and that's how we came together as a team. We are all friends but we didn't expect to be on the team together. I think what drove us to win was being the underdogs because not a lot of people expected us to win."



## Student of the Month

By: Michelle Bernay

Our Cadet Commander, Dominic Parisi, 12th grade, was selected as student of the month for February. The Murrieta Valley Chamber of Commerce selects a group of High School seniors and recognizes them through their student of the month recognition program. The selected students and their families are invited to a breakfast with the Chamber of Commerce members. Parisi Remarks,

"I'm actually pretty humbled

because of the other people that got elected. A lot of other people have a higher grade point average or their more involved in school; but people have mentioned that I am well deserving of it."

*"I'm actually pretty humbled because of the other people that got elected."*

Colonel Matera nominated Parisi and then the nomination went to the Chamber of Commerce. As a cadet and student at Vista, Parisi strives to always uphold the cadet core values and honor code. He began JROTC much like any other freshmen excited yet anxious to be a part of

something new. He was involved in Drill Team and Color Guard. In his sophomore year he was 1st sergeant and as a junior, were the Executive Officer and a Flight Commander. As a senior, he is the Cadet Commander and led the first Four – Man Armed Drill Team.

"I got invited to a breakfast where my dad, Colonel, Mr. Daniel all got a chance to talk about me and it was really heart touching about the way they talked about me and other students, said Parisi."

After high school he plans on going to Colorado and going to school up there.

## Flights of the Month

September 2012:

Charlie Flight

October 2012:

Foxtrot and Golf Flight

November 2012:

Bravo Flight

January 2013:

Foxtrot Flight

February 2013:

Golf Flight

## Flight Commanders of the Month

September 2012:

Domonique Moncada (B)

October 2012:

Savannah Pham (F)

November 2012:

Matthew McGuire (A)

January 2013:

James Edwards (E)

## Nomination Convention

Congratulations to Cadet Jet Lewis, who was elected ASB secretary and Savannah Pham who was elected the Senior Class Secretary/Treasurer.



## Cadets of the Quarter

### 1st Quarter 2012:

**Kimberly Bertel**

Bravo Flight, AS1

**Andrew Appel**

Delta Flight, AS1

**Kevin Adcock**

Echo flight, AS2

### 2nd Quarter 2012:

**Jerick Portugal**

Delta Flight, AS1

**Samuel Rueda**

Echo Flight, AS2

### 3rd Quarter 2012:

**Ashley Ilasin**

Delta Flight, AS1

**Sabrina Drennen**

Echo Flight, AS2

## The Senior NCO Council

*By: Michelle Bernay*

Since the beginning of the year, the Cadet Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (SNCO) has made it their duty to mentor and help AS1's in the program. As freshmen enter the program, sometimes they feel apprehensive and need a helping hand in feeling part of the unit. This is where the SNCOs come in.

The SNCOs are led by 1st sergeant Caroline Dutzi, who mentors and maintains the welfare of the enlisted corps. This is the first year of the SNCO council. The process of becoming a member of the SNCO council starts when a cadet is ready to lead in the thirty steps of drill. After they have efficiently completed it, they are eligible to be promoted to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant. Once they are part of the council, they are dele-

gated to a flight and have a greater responsibility of being role models to them. What started out as a small council is now an even bigger one. Dutzi said,

"Everything has to be super organized; they have to know what they want, what they want to talk about, and they have to be effective.

SNCO's have many responsibilities to their flight. "As an NCO, I help the flight commander, make sure the uniforms are ready, and encourage the cadets to come to the activities." Claire Edwards, 10th grade.

Every Thursday the council meets and develops different plans to see what way they can better help the AS1's.

"We motivate, inspire, and mentor the AS1's" stated Sam Rueda, 10, "They have improved a lot since we started the SNCO program. They have become more involved

and you can actually see the change in their uniforms."

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Not only do they help cadets, but also the unit. They were greatly appreciated during the campus beautification. Instead of cleaning just the quad, this year JROTC wanted to span the entire school. As a result of having many people in the program, it was difficult communicating everything at once. The SNCO's helped organize and motivate cadets, so there was more hard work and less confusion.

"By the end of the year our hope is for the AS1's to take what we have taught them and to come back next year." Dutzi said.

## Golden Bear Drill Meet Results

*By: Angelo Mendoza*

April 27- Our own JROTC Drill Teams and Color Guards performed exceptionally well at the 2013 Golden Bear Drill meet held at the Del Amo Fashion Center at Torrance California.

Our Varsity Drill team was commanded by Cadet Savannah Pham, and our Novice Drill Team was commanded by Cadet Michelle Bernay. color guard 1 was commanded by Cadet Dominic Parisi

and color guard 2 was commanded by Cadet Christina Rosas.

All of our competitive teams have been training for months, and it paid off.; in the end, we manage to place two of our teams, one in drill, and another in color guard, in the top five.

Our scores are as follows:

*Color Guard 1: 3rd*

*Color Guard 2: 14th*

*Novice Drill: 5th*

*Varsity Drill: 14th*

