



# Cadet Times

February 2022

## Upcoming Events

March 5th - Bluebonnet Military Skills Meet  
March 9th - Superior Instructor  
March 14th -18th- Spring Break  
March 21st—April 1st- Cadet Challenge  
March 26th- Outstanding Cadet Board  
March 29th- Parent Meeting for All Army Nationals Competition

## Special Message

Hello Y'all ! Nice to start the year off with good vibes

-C/2LT David Garcia (PAO)

## Quote of the Month

"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."

- Albert Einstein

## Battalion Commander's Corner

Hello my Mighty Cadets! It's your commander once again! Another month, another newsletter. We had a pretty eventful February this year which is pretty interesting considering it's the shortest month of the year. Our battalion competed in various marksmanship and PT competitions throughout the month. The drill, color guard, and rangers teams also competed during the Mardis Gras Drill Meet in Galveston. Besides all the competitions we also conducted our annual SLP at Sea Star Base. All in all, it was a really fun and eventful month.

Most importantly though (hehehe) , I had my 18th birthday this past month. And, I want to give all you youngsters some words of advice- it's not all that. I know everyone is always counting down the days until they become a senior or until they're finally 18. I'm not saying it sucks growing up and finally having responsibilities and a little freedom, but I just want y'all to remember you're only young once! You're only ever going to be 15,16, and 17 once so make the most of it!! I'm so proud of all y'all like always. Make great decisions and have fun my wonderful Cadets!



# Citation Cord Inspection

In order to be prepared for the inspection, I studied by repeating the answers to the questions - over and over again. Then I asked the questions to myself and tried to answer them. I felt anxious during the inspection. In the beginning, I didn't know the JROTC ranks but, when I heard how he talked with the other students, I calmed down a little. After the inspection, I felt proud! I think the inspection was an interesting experience. Keep calm, try to enjoy the social activities and analyze the information you are given. Remember to study!

- Cadet Lina Rodriguez



On February 2nd, 2022, I had my first Citation Cord Inspection. We started practicing two days prior to the event, I know that sounds like we didn't have enough time to acquire any knowledge, but we did. Matter of fact, I started studying the night before the inspection. At the beginning of the inspection, I was feeling a little nervous, but our inspector was very nice, the atmosphere was now cordial and relaxed; all that nervousness, tension and stress disappeared. To be honest, I feel like everything was easy for me and for all of us. To all of next year's LET I Cadets, I would like to say, do not overthink, and do not worry too much about all these things, just be responsible, be confident and always remember to have fun!

- Cadet Telma Lagos



# PT Competition at Westbury HS

Starting the competition off, some of the male PT Team got lost at Westbury, but found their way to Bellaire's group. It was very cold and exhausting for the whole team. The competition for the PT Team was very fun for some of us but it was difficult for everyone. Although it was hard, Bellaire pushed through it with nothing but one goal; to finish strong! Everyone really enjoyed the experience and felt accomplished.....and in pain.

- C/SGT Hector Escobar



# Mardi Gras Drill Competition

The Red Rangers practiced diligently leading up to the day of the Mardi Gras Military Skills Meet. During the competition, the team maneuvered with precision after each command given. They also executed moves not seen often in a regulation routine, such as Counter Column. Although the event had some administrative issues, the Red Rangers ended up winning 3rd place in the Armed Drill Competition!

- C/2LT Madison Collins



It was early in the day as the Drill Team members were studying their questions. Getting ready for the competition, they were quite nervous as they couldn't remember the answers. As the day went on, they all started to remember the answers which gave them a sense of relief. As the competition kicked off, they all started to move towards the door scared, but everyone was comforted each other. Once they stepped onto the drill pad, they were ready to WIN! When the competitions were over and the drill team waited eagerly for the results, to their surprise they earned 3rd place. The team had mixed feelings, but in the end it was a good learning experience. This would be one of the many competitions the drill team will have as they grow and become a great team to represent the JROTC from Bellaire High School.

- C/2LT Adrian Tecuapetla



# Marksmanship Mardi Gras Competition

The Marksmanship Team competed in a very different place and setting. The range looked new and unfamiliar, but a little change didn't stop the Bellaire marksmen from doing their very best. The marksmen toiled and practiced numerous times in order to be prepared for the competition. Preparation and hard work resulted in a second place title in the Marksmanship Competition.

- C/2LT Josh Paguinto



Cadets participated in a marksmanship competition at Ball High School. Before the competition, Cadets prepared by practicing after school and during their off-periods. During the competition, Cadets were focused on hitting their shots and trying to score as high as possible. They watched their breathing and made sure to take their time. After shooting, Cadets awaited their score which earned them a 2nd place title and trophy for the Bellaire High School's JROTC Marksmanship team.

-C/SFC Abdelrahman Dafaalla

# Mardi Gras Unarmed

The Galveston Mardi Gras competition was an amazing JROTC experience. The result of the placings was important but spending the weekend together overrode everything. As a senior in high school, this was a memorable experience. Cadets worked together as ONE throughout the whole event whether it was the competition itself or checking up on each other in the rooms and making sure everyone was okay. This competition definitely helped expand everyone's understanding of each other and Cadets got to interact with other Cadets from different teams. Teamwork was demonstrated throughout the event, and it was a success!

-C/2LT Winnie Chuma



On Saturday, February 19th, the Bellaire's JROTC teams Armed Drill, Unarmed Drill, Color Guard, Marksmanship, PT, Tug-O-War, and Raiders traveled to Ball High School in Galveston, Texas for the Mardi Gras competition. Cadets did a beautiful job performing their routines and managed to place in the top 3 numerous times for each team, amongst other schools. Though there were multiple ups and downs throughout the a long day of competition, Bellaire High School place 2nd overall at the competition, continuing to keep up their winning streak. Our teams should be very proud of themselves for their outstanding work and multiple victories. Go Cardinals!

- C/PFC Autry Oran

# Mardi Gras Color Guard

The secondary Color Guard team competed at the Ball High School Mardi Gras Military Skills Meet. Both primary and secondary teams trained as hard as they could to try and place at least the Top 5. But unfortunately, both color guard teams couldn't place in those positions. Even though they didn't get to exceed those expectations, both commanders Joshua De La Fuente and Edgar Ayala are very proud of both teams for putting on all of their efforts in both inspection and regulation phases. Hopefully on their next competition, they will put in their All to get 1st place for both Primary and Secondary teams.

- C/2LT Edgar Ayala



The Galveston competition was a new experience for the secondary team. There were few differences from what was expected to happen. For example, instead of everyone being asked three questions each, the inspector only asked a single question per person. After inspection, the judge/inspector was very friendly and gave the team some tips to try for their next competition in order to look sharper in uniform. After the routine the judge gave the team a brief rundown and provided recommendations. Although the secondary color guard didn't place top three, it served as experience since many of the members lack competition experience.

- C/PFC Antonio Hernandez



# Sea Star Base SLP

The Sea Star Base experience was amazing, right as we get off the bus we head to our rooms where we are going to spend the night. The view from the 2nd floor was beautiful you could see the ocean, and moody gardens and Schlitterbahn. The good stuff started the next day. We put on our life jackets after that we got separated into 4 groups to clean the docks of the pier—2 will go on the right side and the others will go to the other side of the pier, and later we will regroup in the middle. It was really fun, just not the part getting wet since it was windy that day, but for some odd reason cleaning seem oddly fun lol. The only problem was that seagulls kept pooping on the parts that were already clean which frustrated my group after all of that we regrouped in the middle to take a nice picture for memories.

-C/SGT Angel Cortez



Sunday morning, February 20th, Bellaire's JROTC Cadets performed their annual Service Learning Project at the Sea Star Base in Galveston, Texas. Sea Star Base is a non-profitable organization that sponsors marine and aquatic programs where young people, such as our Cadets, learn about teamwork, leadership skills, and maritime career pathways. The Battalion spent multiple hours cleaning and scrubbing away to beautify the bases' docks. Our Cadets should be super proud of themselves for their outstanding work at the Sea Star Base and their multiple victories at the Mardi Gras competition. Go Cardinals!

-C/PFC Autry Oran