

**Ashley Ridge High School**  
**AFJROTC, SC-20081**  
**2023-2024 Annual Awards, Change of Command & Pass-In-Review**

*Thursday, 2 May 2024*  
*1800 Hours*

**Program Contents:**

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**Sequence of Events:**

- Adjutant's Call
- National Anthem
- Recognition of Honor Flights
- Presentation of National Awards
- Presentation of Outstanding Cadet Awards
- Change of Command
- Recognition of Seniors
- Pass-In-Review

**Distinguished Guests:**

Brooke Matthews, Ashley Ridge High School Principal  
Heidi Guerry, Ashley Ridge High School Assistant Principal  
Anthony Pieretti, Ashley Ridge High School Assistant Principal  
Miley Taylor, Daughters of the American Revolution, Susannah Smith Elliott Chapter  
LtCol (ret) Bob Ticknor, American Legion  
Maj (ret) Bill Clark, Air Force Association and Military Officer's Association of America  
David Lee, ARHS AFJROTC Booster President  
Robert Marcrum, ARHS AFJROTC Booster Vice President  
Janine Marcrum, ARHS AFJROTC Booster Secretary  
Annie Herb, ARHS AFJROTC Booster Treasurer  
Mr Billy Schimpf, SCBilly.com, Photographer

**SC-20081 Instructors:**

Col (ret) Jeff Wilkinson  
MSgt (ret) Angela Powell  
MSgt (ret) Jason Blake

Senior Aerospace Science Instructor  
Aerospace Science Instructor  
Aerospace Science Instructor

## 2024 Graduates

C/SSgt Fabiola Acevedo Rivera

C/MSgt Ashton Augustine

*George Mason University*

C/Col Savannah Benesh, Operations Group Commander,  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society, Navy 4yr ROTC Scholarship, NROTC

*George Washington University*

C/SMSGT Caleb Bennett, Mike Flight NCOIC / President KHHS  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*United States Marine Corps*

C/LtCol Zachary Brady, Squadron 2 Commander  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society, Cutlass Scholarship, SC Hope Scholarship, AFROTC

*Charleston Southern University*

C/Lt Col Nathaniel Burness, Wing Executive Officer  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society, USAF 4yr J-100 AFJROTC Character-In-Leadership Scholarship,  
AFROTC

*Embry Riddle Aeronautical University*

C/LtCol Katelyn English, Squadron 1 Commander

*United States Coast Guard*

C/SSgt Amber Ferri

C/MSgt Solomon Green

*Trident Technical College*

C/CMSGT Isabella Henry, Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant,  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*Trident Technical College*

C/SSgt Jahvon Horry

*United States Air Force*

C/Lt Col Ayden Hudson, Wing Standards & Evaluations Officer  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*Charleston Southern University*

C/TSgt Shanay Joiner

*United States Air Force*

C/Maj James King, Public Affairs Officer

*Charleston Southern University*

C/Col Robert Marcrum, Wing Commander,  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society, Army 3yr ROTC Scholarship, AROTC

*The Citadel*

C/Maj Roman Mullens, Community Service Officer  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*Charleston Southern University*

C/LtCol Joseph Piper, Mission Support Commander  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*ND Air National Guard/ND University*

C/Maj Dominic Ratchford, Mike Flight Commander  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*United States Marine Corps*

C/SSgt Summer Rivera

C/TSgt Ernest Simmons

*United States Army*

**2024 Graduates (continued)**

C/Maj Noah Smith, Information Management Officer  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*Trident Technical College*

C/TSgt Landon Watrous

*Universal Technical Institute*

C/Maj Westel Willoughby, Wing Fitness Officer  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*The Citadel*

C/Col Breanna Wilson, Director of Staff  
Kitty Hawk Honor Society

*University of South Carolina*

### AY 2023-2024 Flight Crews

C/Amir Huger, Commander C/Courtney Lamberson, NCOIC	<i>Alpha</i>
C/Brandon Maldonado, Commander C/Liam Belcher (1 <sup>st</sup> sem) / C/Nolan Bundrick (2d sem), NCOIC	<i>Bravo</i>
C/James Vicini, Commander	<i>Charlie</i>
C/Corbin May, Commander C/Tyler Hayes, NCOIC	<i>Delta</i>
C/Olivia Fort, Commander C/Nolan Bundrick (1 <sup>st</sup> sem) / C/Dylan Reeves (2d sem), NCOIC	<i>Echo</i>
C/Eunice Lim, Commander C/Nicholas Jayme, NCOIC	<i>Golf</i>
C/Jaidan Esver, Commander C/Matthew Compton, NCOIC	<i>Hotel</i>
C/Azalea Prior, Co-Commander C/Mariah Stypula, Co-Commander	<i>India</i>
C/Craig Barger (1 <sup>st</sup> sem)/C/Kaden Daniel (2d sem), Commander C/Emma Huckabee (1 <sup>st</sup> sem)/C/Nivea Lewis (1 <sup>st</sup> sem)/C/Mason Sutton (2d sem), NCOIC	<i>Juliet</i>
C/Kota Daniel, Commander C/Ashton McClain (1 <sup>st</sup> sem), NCOIC	<i>Kilo</i>
C/Dominic Ratchford, Commander C/Caleb Bennett, NCOIC	<i>Mike</i>

**AY2023-2024 Senior & Command Staff:**

Wing Commander	Robert Marcum
Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant	Isabella Henry
Wing Standards & Evaluations Commander	Ayden Hudson
Wing Executive Staff Officer	Nathaniel Burness
Operations Group Commander	Savannah Benesh
Squadron 1 Commander	Kaitlyn English
Squadron 2 Commander	Zachary Brady
Director of Staff	Breanna Wilson
Logistics Commander	Addison Smith
Logistics OIC (Awards & Decs)	Grace Cook
Mission Support Commander	Joseph Piper
Community Service Officer	Roman Mullens
Information Management Officer	Noah Smith
Wing Fitness Officer	Westel Willoughby
Public Affairs	James King
Mike Flight Commander	Dominic Ratchford
Mike Flight OIC	Caleb Bennett

**AY2024-2025 Senior & Command Staffs:**

Wing Commander	Jaeden Esver
Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant	Brandon Maldonado
Wing Executive Staff Officer	Grace Cook
Operations Group Commander	Olivia Fort
Director of Operations	Mariah Stypula
Squadron 1 Commander	Kota Daniel
Squadron 2 Commander	Tyler Hayes
Standards & Evaluations	Nivea Lewis
Director of Staff	Oksayanna Minott
Logistics Commander	Eunice Lim
Logistics OIC (Awards & Decs)	Jose Hernandez
Logistics OIC (Supply)	Kaden Daniel
Community Service Officer	Courtney Lamberson
Information Management Officer	Rocco Vicini
Wing Fitness Officer	Amir Huger
Public Affairs (Internal)	Emma Huckabee
Public Affairs (External)	Angel Tra
Mike Flight Commander	Craig Barger
Mike Flight OIC	Matthew Compton

**2023-2024 Fitness Award Recipients:**

***Gold***

Craig Barger  
Caleb Bennett  
Nolan Bundrick

Abigail Debney  
Eunice Lim  
Katelyn Lim

Corbin May  
Owen O'Keefe

***Silver***

Hayden Barnes  
Savannah Benesh  
Nathaniel Burness  
Isaiah Cowell  
Connor Cox  
Triston Cox  
Jaiden Esver  
Sekhem Evans  
Solomon Green

Aaron Haefner  
Aidan Hamilton  
Isabella Henry  
Carlos Infante  
James King  
Courtney Lamberson  
Diego Milan-Riera  
Oksayanna Minott  
Ava Norton

Morgan Roach  
Jack Robinette  
Addison Smith  
Mariah Stypula  
Landon Watrous  
Malorie Wethington  
Livy Williams  
Breanna Wilson

***Bronze***

Mikayla Benesh  
Tyler Birdsong  
DeSean Butler  
Vance Cook  
Kota Daniel  
Brenden Domschine  
Paige Edwards  
Katelyn English  
Olivia Fort  
Tyler Hayes  
Anna Howell  
Connor Jackson  
Brandon Jarvis-Mixer

Nicholas Jayme  
Londyn Johnson  
William Kimmel  
Makiyah Kirkman  
Brandon Maldonado  
Robert Marcum  
Ashton McClain  
Kylie Melton  
Django Morris  
Emma Nall  
Song Nhi Tra  
Thomas O'Neil  
Jacobi Patten

Alice Piper  
Tristan Prograis  
Dominic Ratchford  
Shona Ratchford  
Zy'Ariea Robinson  
Michael Silky  
Alex Solis Garrido  
Mason Sutton  
Angel Tra  
Lily Wilkerson  
Westel Willoughby  
Lily Wilkerson  
Westel Willoughby



**2024 Flight Certificate Badge Recipient:**

Joseph Piper

**AY2023-2024 Cadet of the Month Recipients**

SEPTEMBER	Song Nhi Tra	Carlos Infante
OCTOBER	Mikayah Kirkman	Jack Robinette
NOVEMBER	Amber Ferri	Brandon Jarvis Mixer
DECEMBER-JANUARY	Payton Mills	Sekham Evans
FEBRUARY	Ava Norton	Triston Cox
MARCH	Abigail Debney	Miguel Stephenson

**AY2023-2024 Honor Flight of the Month Recipients**

SEPTEMBER	Charlie Flight
OCTOBER	India Flight
NOVEMBER	Foxtrot Flight
JANUARY	Bravo Flight
FEBRUARY	Juliet Flight

**AY2023-2024 Flight Crew of the Quarter Recipients**

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	Dominic Ratchford	Caleb Bennett	Mike Flight
2d Quarter	Tyler Hayes	Corbin May	Delta Flight

### **National Awards for Presentation:**

**Air Force Association (AFA) Award.** This AFA-sponsored award is presented annually to the outstanding third year cadet. The award recipient must possess/meet the following personal characteristics and eligibility criteria:

- Top 1% of the cadets in a unit in the following areas, academics, leadership, and professionalism.
- Positive attitude (toward AFJROTC and school).
- Outstanding personal appearance (uniform and grooming).
- Display personal attributes such as initiative, judgment, and self-confidence. Courteous demeanor (promptness, obedience, and respect for customs).

**Daedalian Award.** The Order of Daedalian is a fraternity of commissioned pilots from all military services. It is named after the legendary figure, Daedalus, and was organized by WWI military pilots who sought to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, love of country, and the high ideals of self-sacrifice which place service to the nation above personal safety and position. This award is offered to encourage the development of these traits in cadets and to interest them in a military career. The medal is fashioned after an ancient Grecian plaque discovered by a Daedalian in the village of Lavadia, Greece and depicts Daedalus and his son Icarus fabricating their legendary wings of wax and feathers. This annual award recognizes one outstanding third-year cadet at each unit that meets the following criteria:

- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of patriotism, love of country, and service to the nation.
- Indicate the potential and desire to pursue a military career.
- Rank in the top 10% of their AFJROTC class.
- Rank in the top 20% of their school class.

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Award.** This award is presented annually to a fourth-year cadet that meets the following criteria:

- Rank in the top 25% of their AFJROTC class.
- Rank in the top 25% of their high school class.
- Demonstrate qualities of dependability and good character.
- Demonstrate adherence to military discipline.
- Possess leadership ability and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of JROTC training.

**American Legion Scholastic Award.** This award is presented annually to one third- or fourth-year cadet based on the cadet's overall scholastic achievements. Each cadet must:

- Rank in the top 10% of the high school class.
- Rank in the top 25% of their AFJROTC class.
- Demonstrate leadership qualities.
- Actively participate in student activities

**American Legion General Military Excellence Award.** This award is presented annually to one third- or fourth-year cadet based on the cadet's general military excellence. Each cadet must:

- Rank in the top 25% of their AFJROTC class.
- Demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship.

**Reserve Officers Association (ROA) Award.** This award is presented annually for military and academic achievement to an outstanding fourth-year cadet. The recipient must possess individual characteristics contributing to leadership such as:

- Be in the top 10% in the AFJROTC program.
- Be in the top 25% in academic grades.

- Be recognized for having contributed the most to advancing the objectives of the AFJROTC program, which include outstanding dedication to citizenship, knowledge of civic responsibility, military orientation, self-discipline and a sound work ethic.
- Positive attitude toward the AS curriculum.
- Outstanding personal appearance (wear of the uniform, posture, and grooming).
- Attributes of initiative, judgment, and self-confidence.
- Courtesy (promptness, obedience, and respect).
- Growth potential (capacity for responsibility, high productivity, adaptability to change).
- Demonstrate the highest personal, ethical standards & strong positive convictions.

**Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Award.** This award is formerly known as The Retired Officers Association Award. The SASI selects the recipient subject to the final approval of the sponsoring MOAA chapter. This award is presented annually to an outstanding third-year cadet who shows exceptional potential for military leadership. Each cadet must:

- Be a member of the junior class.
- Be in good academic standing.
- Be of high moral character.
- Show a high order of loyalty to the unit, school, and country.
- Show exceptional potential for military leadership.

**Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Award.** The SASI selects the recipient subject to the final approval of the sponsoring VFW chapter. This award is presented annually to an outstanding third or fourth-year cadet who is actively engaged in the AFJROTC program and who possesses individual characteristics contributing to leadership. Each cadet must:

- Positive attitude toward the AFJROTC program.
- Must be enrolled as a 10th-12th grade AFJROTC student.
- Must maintain a “B” average in AFJROTC curriculum and a “C” average in all remaining subjects with no failing grades in the previous semester.
- Active in at least one other student extracurricular activity (music, athletics, government, etc.)
- Have outstanding military bearing and conduct.
- Possess strong positive attributes like courtesy, dependability, punctuality, and respect.
- Demonstrate and actively promote patriotism (being a member of the drill and ceremonies team)
- Demonstrate leadership potential

**National Society United States Daughters 1812 Award.** Awarded annually, at the SASI’s discretion, for academic excellence, leadership, military discipline, dependability, patriotism and upright character in speech and habits.

**National Sojourners Award.** The SASI selects the recipient subject to the final approval of the sponsoring National Sojourners chapter. This award is presented annually recognizing an outstanding second or third-year cadet who contributed the most to encourage and demonstrate Americanism within the corps of cadets and on campus. Each cadet must:

- Be in the top 25% of their academic class.
- Encourage and demonstrate ideals of Americanism.
- Demonstrate potential for outstanding leadership.

**Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction Award.** The SASI selects the recipient and requests the award from the nearest Scottish Rite Valley of the Southern Jurisdiction at any time during the calendar year. This award annually recognizes an outstanding third-year cadet in a 4-year program. Each cadet must:

- Contribute the most to encourage Americanism by participation in LDR activities or community projects.

- Demonstrate academic excellence by being in the top 25% of class.
- Demonstrate the qualities of dependability, good character, self-discipline, good citizenship and patriotism.

**Military Order of the Purple Heart Award.** The SASI selects the recipient and requests the award from the nearest Military Order of the Purple Heart unit. This award annually recognizes an outstanding underclassman (first, second, or third-year cadet), who is enrolled in the AFJROTC program and demonstrates leadership ability. (Seniors are not eligible) Each cadet must:

- Have a positive attitude toward AFJROTC and country.
- Hold a leadership position in the cadet corps.
- Be active in school and community affairs.
- Attain a grade of “B” or better in all subjects for the previous semester.

**Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Award.** This award recognizes an outstanding third year cadet in a 4-year program who is enrolled in the AFJROTC program. The recipient must exhibit a high degree of leadership, military bearing, and all-around excellence in AS studies and not have previously received the award. Each cadet must:

- Be currently enrolled in the AFJROTC program.
- Be in the top 10% of their AFJROTC class.
- Be in the top 25% of their overall class.

**Military Order of World Wars Award.** This award is presented annually to an outstanding cadet who has committed to continue the aerospace science program the following school year. Selection is based on outstanding accomplishments or service to the AFJROTC unit.

**American Veterans (AMVETS) Award.** This award is presented annually to one qualified cadet that possesses individual characteristics contributing to leadership such as:

- A positive attitude toward AFJROTC programs and service in the Air Force.
- Personal appearance (wearing of the uniform, posture, and grooming, but not physical characteristics per se).
- Personal attributes (initiative, dependability, judgment, and self-confidence).
- Officer potential (capacity for responsibility, adaptability, and maintenance of high personal standards).
- Obtained a grade of “A” (or the numerical equivalent) in their AS class.
- Be in good scholastic standing in all classes at the time of selection and presentation.
- Be in the top 10% of the AFJROTC class.
- Demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship.

**Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Award.** This award recognizes an outstanding third or fourth-year cadet. The recipient must demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship. Each cadet must:

- Be in the top 10% of the AFJROTC class.
- Demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship.

**Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated (TAI) Air Force JROTC Cadet Award.** This award is presented annually to two cadets. Cadets may be first-year, second year, or third-year cadets and must meet the following criteria:

- Attain a grade of “B” or better in their AS class.
- Be in good academic standing.
- Actively participate in cadet corps activities.
- Participate in at least 50% of all unit service programs.

**The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) Award.** Awarded annually for exceptional leadership to the most outstanding AFJROTC cadet while serving in an Enlisted Rank. The selected enlisted cadet must have shown outstanding leadership throughout the course of the school year.

**The Celebrate Freedom Foundation (CFF) Award.** The awards program recognizes 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students enrolled in AFJROTC programs. Cadets must demonstrate the following personal characteristics to be eligible for nomination:

- Outstanding personal appearance (uniform and grooming).
- Display personal attributes such as initiative, judgment and self-confidence.
- Courteous demeanor (promptness, obedience and respect for customs).
- Growth potential (capacity for responsibility, high productivity and adaptability to change).
- Possess the highest personal and ethical standards and strong positive convictions.
- Shows the potential and desire to pursue a military career.
- Rank in the top 5% in his/her AS class with a grade average of A or numerical equivalent.
- Rank in the top 15 % of his/her academic class.
- Demonstrates a positive attitude (toward AFJROTC and school).

**Air Commando Association Award.** Awarded annually at the SASI's discretion for completing a one-page essay based on a historical AF Special Operations Mission possessing the 13 critical attributes of success: integrity, self-motivation, intelligence, self-discipline, perseverance, adaptability, maturity, judgment, selflessness, leadership, skilled, physical fitness and family strength.