

2024 Union County HS JROTC Military Ball

The Union County High School JROTC held their Second Annual Military Ball on May 2, 2024 at the Main Street Junction, in Union. The purpose of this formal ball is to: Prepare cadets to demonstrate proper protocol and etiquette in civilian and military settings. Differentiate between etiquette and manners. Prepare cadets on how to successfully attend a social event and have a great time.

This ball allowed all JROTC or guests of the JROTC cadets to participate in some traditions, customs and courtesies of the Army, including a formal receiving line and cutting a cake with a military sabre. The cadets and guests followed basic etiquette of a ball, ate a catered meal, and enjoyed socializing and dancing.

The annual Military Ball is primarily set up by the cadets over the course of several months. This includes planning for the venue, inviting VIP's and guests of the JROTC, deciding on what to eat, what kind of music will be played and many other items. This is a Leadership task, as part of the curriculum of the JROTC program and Cadet Major Lexi Merchant organized the planning of this year's Military Ball, as her class project.

Every male cadet who went to the Ball wore their JROTC uniform, with a white shirt and bow tie. The females could decide between wearing their uniform or a ball gown of their choice. While they were allowed to choose a dress, there are tasteful restrictions on the type of dresses they can wear. The male guests wore dark suits or tuxedos.

Kevin Brewington was the guest speaker and gave an outstanding presentation.

The battalion invited several members of the community who support the JROTC. They also invited the surrounding schools in the upstate that have JROTC programs to join them. There were 88 cadets and guests in attendance. All of those in attendance had a great time and had a lot of good things to say about the event.

The JROTC cadets were overall excited and grateful for such an amazing Military Ball experience.