

# MMA Leader



Current information for our Special Friends. Dedicated to our Cadets—Leaders of tomorrow.

The MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY develops disciplined, morally strong, college-ready young men who are prepared for responsible leadership.

CELEBRATING 41 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

12 Pages

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## The Few, The Proud, The Alumni

Although numbers of alumni returning for MMA Annual Alumni Reunion festivities Friday through Sunday (30 March – 1 April) didn't break any preset records, **enthusiasm** and good old-fashioned **Academy spirit** were in abundance. Greeted by smiling staffers Connie Flores and Ester Reyes, Alumni checked in at Peacher Hall Cadet Activities Center and strategized how to maximize their few short hours aboard the Academy. MMA President BGen Cheney, Superintendent Colonel Hill, Alumni/Support Services Director



**EXCEPTIONALLY WELL DONE!** Above: MMA President BGen Stephen Cheney, USMC (Ret) is joined by MMA Alumni and IWO JIMA Veterans as MMA's Corps of Cadets Parade In Review during the Friday, March 30th combined event celebrating Annual Alumni Reunion and 25th Anniversary of the original 'unveiling' of the IWO JIMA Monument. Below, left: MMA Color Guard steadies MMA Colors in the brisk southern breeze as they rise proud and true alongside the U.S. flag.



Colonel Hobbs, and longtime friend of the Academy SgtMaj Steigerwald - all USMC (Ret) - extended a warm welcome to Alumni bright and early Friday morning, March 30th, briefing them on structural and strategic updates since their reign as top dogs on campus.

As the sun began to cast early-evening shadows upon MMA's Parade Deck, a near-capacity crowd comprised of Rio Grande Valley community, alumni, and friends of the Academy gathered for a 5 p.m. 25<sup>th</sup> Dedication of the Iwo Jima

Monument and Alumni Parade. To the delight of all in attendance, they were treated to stellar performances by the Academy's Drill Team and Leatherneck Band. Another event highlight - Alumni and Iwo Jima veterans joined BGen Cheney in Parade Review. Of special note was the Marine Military Academy flag - fresh out of the archives - rising straight and true alongside the U.S. flag. Following the Parade, Alumni gathered in front of the Monument for the traditional '**brothers by choice**' photograph, then made their way to the General's Quarters for a hearty reception filled with good food, fellowship and a few tall tales of the 'good old days'.

**Continued on pages 2-3**

On Saturday morning, the Corps of Cadets Public Affairs Officer Shin found Alumni hard at play on MMA's Back 40. In true Public Affairs Officer fashion, Cadet PAO Shin snapped photographs that are proof-positive: MMA Alumni can hurtle down the zip line with the best of 'em!



“Okay, concentrate...move this foot just a little further, let out the line...heads up below, I’m coming down!” An undisclosed participant “...and I’m not divulging...!” takes on the Rappelling Tower, and WINS. Okay, ‘fess up...who’s name goes on that plaque?!?

ZIPPITTY DOO DAH, ZIPPITTY DAY...my, oh my, what a glorious day! A most appropriate tip of the cover as this brave soul ‘retro rockets’ down MMA’s Zip line. OORAH, did that feel GREAT or what!?!?

Below: FINE DINING AND EQUALLY-FINE FELLOWSHIP ARE THE ORDER OF THE EVENING AS MMA ALUM, FAMILY AND FRIENDS GATHER AT HARLINGEN’S COUNTRY CLUB.



*Provided and Distributed by:*



Gathered together again on Saturday evening at Harlingen Country Club, all enjoyed fine cuisine, fellowship, and yes...what Alumni Dinner would be complete without a yard of amusing anecdotes about the yesterdays gone by. You know, the speeches that begin with a grin and a, “Well, in my day we didn’t have all these luxuries they have now...like running water in the barracks. No, sir, we carried water in tin buckets...from the well about a mile or so across the Back 40...” 🍷

**Fair winds and following seas, brethren...until next year!!!**

**MMA Alumni Reunion 2008: 28-30 March**



A SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION. Alumni attending this year's Reunion include:

- HAROLD ZURLO, '69
- BILL LINS, '70
- WENDELL JOHNSON, '72
- FRANK DELAPE, '73
- BILL FANNING, '79
- PAUL URIBE, '79
- BARDEN AMBROZE, '82
- JOSEPH ARDITO, '82
- GORDON CLEMENTS, '82
- CHRISTOPHER CRUM, '82
- ROGER CHAPPELL, '83
- CARLOS GONZALEZ, '83
- PAUL URTEAGA, '83
- THOMAS BROWNELL, '84
- AARON CARLSON, '85
- ALEX HINOJOSA, '87
- RAUL KURI, '87
- BEN URESTI, '87
- CALEB HOOD, '93

## BATTALION PAO, SOUNDING OFF...



An academic year is almost over and there is only about a month to go. The Corps of Cadets has done an admirable job. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of March, cadets had a parade in honor of alumni. Though there were only a few alumni present, cadets did their best as always. Remembering the old days, the alumni had a great time. Showing their dedication and bravery, the alumni rappelled in the "Back Forty" on the following day. **They showed their courage.**

For the third quarter evaluation for the battalion, Echo and Alpha Companies tied for the Golden Guidon. In addition, Echo Company obtained the academic streamer, Alpha Company gained the military streamer, and Golf Company and Echo Company tied for the athletic streamer. I praise these companies for the wonderful job they have done, and I encourage the other companies to try harder next time. Just like Gunny Martinez, the D.I of Echo Company said, "**It is all about teamwork.**"

Although a short period of time remains, the Corps still have a few events: Sports Banquet and Ring Ceremony, Graduation, Summer Break, and the second semester exams. For the seniors, I believe they can't wait to graduate on May 19<sup>th</sup>. For the juniors, the last ACT, SAT, and AP exams are coming up. The second semester exams, the hardest and biggest exams of the year, will start on 12<sup>th</sup> of May. These will test cadets over everything they have learned. I believe preparing ahead always helps. The most important event of the year, the **sweet** summer break is getting very close. About 3 months long, the summer break will serve as a refreshing period after the strenuous work cadets performed. Over the summer break, summer camp will occur. Taking their time off on weekends, the summer camp cadet instructors are currently in training, getting ready to teach campers what MMA is about. I strongly believe that MMA will have a great summer camp, as usual. The campers will rise above perceived hardships and grow.

This is Battalion PAO...Sounding OFF!--*Cadet Shin, Echo Co.*

Editor's Note: Cadet Corporal Dong-Kwon Shin is a 2nd-year student at MMA, son of Mr. and Mrs. ChangSoon Shin of Chungcheongnam-do, KOREA. 🇰🇷

# Cadets of the Month for February '07

Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for February with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

*"Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance."* - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret) Commandant

## ALPHA COMPANY RYAN FITCH

Junior - La Mirada, CA

*"Cadet Fitch is a superior cadet in every respect. Currently serving as Squad Leader; I expect he will quickly move into more key and active leadership roles. He's energetic, motivated, of the highest moral fiber, earning the respect of his peers, subordinates, and superiors alike. I am honored to recognize Cadet Fitch for his continuous contributions to all aboard the Academy."* - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



## CHARLIE COMPANY CURTIS HAMILTON

Freshman - Brownsville, TX

*"Cadet Hamilton has done an exemplary job in all that he does. He demonstrates outstanding skills, maintains good military conduct at all times. During CCQ Cadet Hamilton ensures academic subjects are conducted in an outstanding manner. He has set an excellent example for all to follow."* - GySgt Antonio Aguilar, USMC (Ret)



## DELTA COMPANY LIAM DAWSON-THOMAS

Sophomore - Vallejo, CA

*"Cadet Dawson has become an asset to the success of Delta Company. He possesses good work ethic, a can-do attitude and consistently sets an outstanding example for other cadets to follow. Cadet Dawson has earned this prestigious nomination."* - SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



## ECHO COMPANY KEVIN HOUSER

Senior - Scottsdale, AZ

*"Cadet Houser is an outstanding cadet who has had to work hard to achieve his position as Platoon Commander. He is highly respected by all cadets in his platoon. Cadet Houser always takes care of cadets in his charge, looking after their well being and applying his leadership skills in a fair and consistent manner."* - GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)

## FOX COMPANY NICHOLAS GERHARD

Freshman - Houston, TX

*"Cadet Gerhard is full of life with a smile on his face and motivated to accomplish any task given. Assigned as Laundry Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge, he's directly responsible for the preparation, organization and accountability for 58 cadets. Cadet Gerhard's initiative and "Can Do" attitude is why he is selected as the cadet of the month."* - MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)



## GOLF COMPANY KYLE FOSTER

Freshman - Virgin Islands

*"Cadet Foster is currently Squad member of 1st Platoon and has done an outstanding job. He demonstrates outstanding leadership potential daily. For a 1st-year Cadet I can say he will be a future leader in Golf Company and leadership in the Band. He maintains his military bearing at all times, is focused and dedicated to his education and the Corps of Cadets."* - SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



## BANDSMAN MARSHALL HEARN

Freshman - Houston, TX

*"Cadet Hearn has shown immense improvement as a musician, particularly over this last quarter. He is motivated, participates with a high, genuine degree of enthusiasm. Always on time and prepared, he is reliable and continually seeking self improvement, he is now one of the band's strongest soloists. Keep up the good work Marshall, it's paying off! You, sir, are indeed the man!!!"* - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



## DRILL TEAM/COLOR GUARD DANIEL KHALIL

Sophomore - San Antonio, TX

*"Cadet Khalil is focused on accomplishing any and all tasks assigned to him. Assigned as the Color Guard Commander, his leadership breeds success in such a team environment that no one can ignore. His initiative and can-do attitude earned him this prestigious nomination."* - MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)

# Cadets of the Month for March '07

Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for March with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

*"Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance."* - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret)  
Commandant

## ALPHA COMPANY

**ADAM BLAINE**

Sophomore - San Jose, CA

*"Cadet Blaine is a good cadet who is trustworthy and reliable. He often times takes the initiative to get things done before being required to do so. Cadet Blaine has always made a positive contribution to ALPHA Company, and I look forward to him becoming a key leader."* - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



## CHARLIE COMPANY

**CHRISTOPHER HJORT**

Sophomore - Fredericksburg, VA

*"Cadet Hjort has done an outstanding job. He demonstrates outstanding skills and maintains good military conduct at all times. During CCQ Cadet Hjort makes certain academic subjects are conducted in an outstanding manner. He has set an example for all to follow."*

- GySgt Antonio Aguilar, USMC (Ret)



## DELTA COMPANY

**JACOB LEMONS**

Sophomore - Corpus Christi, TX

*"Cadet Lemons has demonstrated outstanding potential and has performed his duties as a new cadet in Delta Company in an excellent manner. As a result of his performance, can do attitude and unselfishness work ethic I nominate him for cadet of the month for the month of March."*

- SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



## ECHO COMPANY

**AUSTIN SMITH**

Sophomore - College Station, TX

*"Cadet Smith is a 1st-year cadet who has developed great leadership skills. He is now a squad leader for 1st Platoon who leads by example, is always willing to help fellow cadets with daily issue's, works hard to maintain good grades, wears his uniform with pride, has developed a good attitude and displays a 'I want to be a leader' mind set."*

- GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)



## FOX COMPANY

**ANDREW MARTINEZ**

Sophomore - McAllen, TX

*"Cadet Martinez is a 2nd-year cadet who continues to be focused on MMA's mission. Assigned to 1st Platoon, 1st Squad leader, his leadership by example breeds success in such a team environment that no one can ignore. His initiative and 'can do' attitude is why he has earned selection for this prestigious honor."*

- MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)



## GOLF COMPANY

**NATHANIEL KEEGAN**

Junior - Casa Grande, AZ

*"Cadet Keegan is a 4th-year cadet who has done an exceptionally-fine job since the first day he arrived at MMA. He is ambitious and has his mind set on what he plants to do in the future. Cadet Keegan is a valuable asset to both GOLF Company and the Corps of Cadets."*

- SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



## BANDSMAN

**ROBERT POTTER**

Freshman - Houston, TX

*"Cadet Potter has flourished this year in the MMA Band. He is an extremely reliable trumpet player who is ready to step up into the section leader position next year. He's always been punctual, and very rarely has he attended rehearsal, has shown consistent growth and development throughout this entire year and has unquestionably proven himself to be very deserving of this recognition. Thank you for your continuous loyalty to the MMA Band Cadet Potter. You are...Trumpetus Maximus!"*

- CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



## DRILL TEAM/COLOR GUARD

**OISIN CROWLEY**

Sophomore - Galway, IRELAND

*"Cadet Crowley is a one-of-a-kind cadet. Assigned to the drill team and color guard, he confronts all challenges with decisive action's and enthusiasm. His versatility and dependability contributes to the success of the Team, and his 'can do' attitude is why he earned this prestigious selection."*

- MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)



# Around Campus...



**MMA COLOR GUARD AND LEATHERNECK BAND IN RED HOT RACING ACTION Sunday, March 25th at Harlingen's Valley Race Park Family Day.**

The Academy's Color Guard and Leatherneck Band solidified a stellar presence at Harlingen's Valley Race Park Family Day on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Despite blustery winds nearly launching covers and colors alike, both the Band and the Color Guard represented the Academy in true MMA fashion bringing honor, courage and commitment to the forefront of all in the audience...an international audience including citizens of Canada, United States, and Mexico alike. "These young men are very well-mannered, and so remarkably patriotic," remarked a passerby who appeared transfixed during the Leatherneck Band's rendition of 'The Star Spangled Banner', the raising of the American flag way across the dog track, and the presentation by MMA Color Guard. "We're from Canada, and we're not familiar with all this pomp and circumstance – especially when we're talking about teenage boys!" MMA Color Guard: Cadets Alexander Denton, Matthew Fraser, Oisín Crowley, Michael Brewer, James Miller, Ryan Fitch, and Daniel Khalil. MMA Leatherneck Band: Cadets Patrick Davis (Alto Sax); Jared Ray (Percussion); Jacob Witz (Percussion); Richard Cook (Sax/Bassoon); Michael Nye (Percussion); Jonathan Webster (Percussion); Jonathan Jackson (Trumpet); Justin Frantz (Trombone); Robert Potter (Trumpet); Marshall Hearn (Trombone); Wiley Greene (Tuba); Justin Shelton (Clarinet); Collin Smith (Bells); Cotey Tackitt (Percussion); James Corsentino (Percussion); James Flowers (Percussion); Andrew Martinez (Percussion); John Walantas (Baritone); Travis Duncan (Tuba); Michael Karfunkle (Clarinet); Austin Shuffield (Trumpet) – also served as Bugler for announcing first 5 races; Robert Bracken (Tuba); Kyle Foster (Alto Sax). 🇺🇸



**"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PLEASE...MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION!" ROTARY INTERACT presentation by Cadet Ryan Secrest on March 23rd was anything but a 'yawner'.** Cadet Secrest delivered an invigorating "POWERPOINT" presentation on RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) 2007, outlining MMA participation by Camp Counselors Cadets Zach Bowen, Tate Landin, Tyler Secrest; and Campers Cadets William Aiken and Colt Marcyan. Here's what Secrest had to say: "What Is RYLA? An all-expenses-paid seminar, camp, or workshop to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Who participates? Young people ages 14-30 chosen for their leadership potential attend. Rotary clubs and districts select participants and facilitate the event's curriculum. RYLA began in Australia in 1959 as a festival in response to Queen Elizabeth II's visit. It spread all over Australia and then to other countries, officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, and is one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service. RYLA's purpose demonstrates Rotary's respect and concern for youth, provides an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders, encourages leadership of youth by youth, recognizes young people who are rendering service to their communities, and teaches students about Rotary and the principle of 'Service above Self.' Presentors this year included: Jim Mailhes, President of Rotary Club of Corpus Christi; John Thurston, CEO of the Gulf Coast Council of The Boy Scouts of America; Marilyn K. Spencer, Rotary District Governor and professor at A&M Corpus Christi; Wes Atwood, Consultant with the Dale Carnegie Group; Judge Carl Lewis, Judge for the Nueces County Court; and many others. Activities throughout the year included team-building activities like navigating the ropes course, a course of obstacles that force campers to physically overcome simulated obstacles, stepping up to the RYLA Challenge, and a series of events designed to promote creative thinking and develop teamwork skills. " Cadet Secrest wrapped up his presentation with a hearty "Thank You, On behalf of the other campers and counselors at the Marine Military Academy I thank you for sending us to RYLA. It was a lot of fun, we learned how to become better leaders, and overcome our differences and work together to achieve a common goal." We agree, Ryan...OORAH! **Pictured above, L-R: Cadets Aikin, Secrest, Bowen and Marcyan.** *Editor's Note: Cadet Secrest has recently earned selection by The RYLA Committee to receive a \$500 scholarship based on Ryan's leadership skills and performance.* 🇺🇸

## SAN ANTONIO MINI-TOUR.

ECHO Company travelled to San Antonio on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, to take in a Spurs game...and a whole lot more. ECHO left campus at 10:30 a.m. and before returning in the wee hours of the next morning, not only did they witness the Spurs triumph over the Seattle Warriors 106-96, they took in San Antonio's famous Riverwalk, Alamo, and River Center. **Action-packed fun!** 🇺🇸



Photograph courtesy of Cadet Olaqinwon



**RESULTS ARE IN! MMA's Drill Team Competition at Rice U. on February 10th: Trophies: 1st-Color Guard, Rifle Team; 2nd-Academic, Armed Basic Drill, Personnel inspection, Tug of war; Overall-3rd; Individual medals: 1st-Tannehill(Rifle team); 2nd-Powell (Push-ups); 4th-Khalil (Push-ups), Powell (Academic). WAY TO REPRESENT...OORAH!** *Photograph is courtesy of Mrs. Jenny Fracasso, wife of FOX Company D.I. MSgt Fracasso.* 🇺🇸



**LOVE IS IN THE AIR...and it smells like Chinese Buffet!! FOX Company Cadets were treated to "I LOVE YOU Buffet" in Harlingen in honor of their abundant generosity during this year's United Way Fund Drive - proving once again that it's ALWAYS better to give than to receive, and in this instance the payback tasted "hmmmmmm good"!** 🇺🇸

Photograph courtesy of Ms. Bates, Social Directress

# American Cancer Society Relay For Life

A Team Event to Fight Cancer



**DID YOU KNOW...**

American Cancer Society cites the vital importance of establishing a healthy lifestyle in young people through good school health program(s) which address risky behaviors through education, environment and policy implementation, including:

1. Quality health education in the classroom (K-12)
2. Healthy food choices in the school mess
3. Regular physical education that promotes lifelong fitness through regular physical activity
4. Policies that prohibit tobacco use by students...

Everyday, common practices aboard Marine Military Academy Campus!



Photograph courtesy of Cadet Abdur Olajuwon

**LAPPIN' IT UP!** American Cancer Society's 2007 RELAY FOR LIFE included great representation by MMA's KEY Club and National Honor Society. Cadets from ALPHA Co.: Vinnie Cervassi, Andrew Davis, Jason Franks, Lionel Rodriguez; CHARLIE Co.: Edgar Steeg, William Akin; DELTA Co.: Richard Powell, Eric Harrison; ECHO Co.: Abdur Olajuwon; FOX Co.: Travis Duncan, James Flowers, Trevor Davidson, Juan Saldivar, Derek Sooby; GOLF Co.: Kevin Gurganious, Zachary Bowen; and Co-Captains MMA Faculty Mrs. Dye and Commandant SgtMaj Kinsley. The cadets were present for the opening ceremonies and cheered on the many cancer survivor's as they circled the track in the traditional Survivor's Lap. After the team lap, the cadets ran in fifteen minute intervals into the wee hours of the morning. Entertainment was provided throughout the night and the cadets made sure to get involved in the many activities. Several of them participated in the scavenger hunt and the beach volleyball game (played with water balloons), which they won! The threat of strong thunderstorms forced the event to end early, but the cadets still managed to rack up 300 laps before heading out. MMA Cadets were responsible for bringing more than \$3,500 in donations to the event. Pictured to left is Cadet Steeg setting the pace during Team Lap. **WAY TO REPRESENT!**

**AAARRRRFFFF!** Commandeered by MMA Faculty Advisor Carla Haynes, a group of MMA cadets arrived at local McKelvey Park to assist the Harlingen Humane Society's 1st annual "Strut Your Mut" dog walk. First order of business was setting up tents and stands, not an unpleasant task in the mild, cool breezy weather. "Today, the purpose of this event is to raise money for the Humane Society of Harlingen. We'll use the funds to renovate the shelter and to cover operating costs," explained event organizer Sylvia Bermea. Event-goers had the opportunity to adopt a puppy at a cost of \$85, fee inclusive of spaying/neutering, rabies treatment; and placement of a computer chip in each puppy adopted so if lost, the owner can locate the puppy. Cadets lent not only their strutting ability but also a great deal of 'charm' to the success of the event. Pictured to right, Front: Cadets Ottovoggio, Walzer, Karpus, and Linton. Back: Cadets Hearn, Olajuwon, Dugrenier, Colwell and Cerna.



# COLLEGE ROOM CORNER



Robin Farris, MMA College & Career Counselor  
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## A New Financial Aid Estimator – FAFSA4caster

Recently, I received via e-mail from the United States Department of Education’s Office of Federal Student Aid information about a new financial aid estimator which will aid families of juniors in determining whether they will qualify for federal financial aid and for how much. While this won’t replace the FAFSA (Free Application

for Federal Student Aid) which will need to be filled out after Jan 1 of your cadet’s senior year, the information supplied on the **FAFSA4caster** will carry over. If you have any questions about **FAFSA4caster**, contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or me at 956-423-6006 Ext 305.

The U.S. Department of Education’s office of Federal Student Aid is pleased to announce the release of **FAFSA4caster**, a new Web tool designed to assist high school juniors and their families plan for education beyond high school. Students can receive an estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) by entering their information into **FAFSA4caster**, a simplified version of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). **FAFSA4caster** also provides guidance on next steps for applying for admission, applying for federal student aid, and paying for education beyond high school.

## Background

In September 2005, the Secretary of Education formed the bipartisan Commission on the Future of Higher Education to launch a national dialogue on the vital issues of accessibility, affordability, and accountability in higher education. One

of the needs identified in the Commission’s final report was to notify students of their federal student aid eligibility earlier in order to help families plan better. We have developed **FAFSA4caster** to address this need.

## FAFSA4caster Benefits

**FAFSA4caster** is a companion piece to the official FAFSA on the Web. The free **FAFSA4caster** tool will assist high school juniors and their families in the following ways:

- Instantly calculate an estimated EFC
- Inform the student of potential Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant) eligibility
- Reduce the time needed to complete the FAFSA when the student applies as a senior

## FAFSA4caster Access

Students and families interested in assessing their eligibility for federal student aid can access **FAFSA4caster** by visiting [www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov](http://www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov). The links for **FAFSA4caster** are located in the lower right corner of the home page.

## Spanish FAFSA4caster

Students will be able to access a Spanish version of **FAFSA4caster** beginning April 29, 2007. 🇺🇸

## MMA’s Boy Scout Troop 22 Scoop



**Birders flocking to Rio Grande Valley will now have 1 more very important stop on their tour - residential Harlingen!** Thanks to MMA’s Life Scout **Nathaniel Keegan**, a few fellow scouts, Sam Patten, Wildlife Biologist, TX Parks & Wildlife, MMA Troop 22 Scoutmaster SgtMaj Jim Poe, 15 brand new habitat units are mounted in residential Harlingen, and hopefully adopted by Ferruginous Pygmy Owls as their “Home Sweet Home”. This is the first effort to relocate the tiny owls in to a residential area. The project addresses the need to provide sanctuary for the owls in hopes of creating an environment conducive to repopulating the Rio Grande Valley with the species. Way to give a hoot, Nathaniel...well done! Pictured above, L-R: Sam Patten, Wildlife Biologist, TX Parks & Wildlife; MMA Troop 22 Scoutmaster SgtMaj Jim Poe; Cadets Nathaniel Keegan, Flint Yerian, Kyle Gannon and Jonathan Webster. Way to give a hoot, Scouts! OORAH!!! 🇺🇸



MMA’s Boy Scout Troop 22 Cadet-Scouts **Christopher Egan, Arturo Cerna, and Trenton Jackson** qualified for the **Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge** award the weekend of April 6-7. Serving as primary merit badge counselor for this exciting event was **Dr. John Butler**, MMA’s Academic Dean and Business Office Director. How did they accomplish this? No small task...these Scouts demonstrated knowledge of firearm safety, identified shotgun parts and functions-including proper cleaning of the weapon, and attain a passing shooting score by hitting at least 24 (48 percent) of 50 targets (clay pigeons). They passed ...with flying colors! Each gained additional experience by firing a good quantity of practice rounds in addition to qualifying. Dr. Butler, no stranger to competitive shotgun shooting, touts a more-than-adequate background including prior membership on the Texas A&M Trap and Shooting Team, and competition at national and world level skeet shooting matches. Troop 22 Scouts camped overnight as part of the event, participating in Scout skills and activities such as camping, cooking & cleanup, campfire, and strengthening the bonds of Scouting. 🇺🇸

# PARENTS, CADETS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS... AT EASE!

Spring Fling



Parents Organization

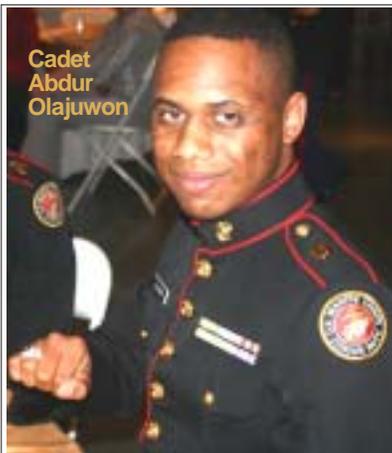
**Spring Parents Weekend** took on an exciting new twist the weekend of April 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, beginning with **Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Casino Night** in none other than MMA's Neuhaus Mess Hall.

Parents' Weekend, held April 12th-14th, dubbed a spectacular **SUCCESS...see for yourself!**



compliments of the Marine Military Academy Parents Association. The Planning Committee, headed by parent Elizabeth Tipton, threw a shindig that could draw the envy of Las Vegas-style casinos. As parents, their sons, MMA staff and faculty ventured in to the well-lit Mess Hall, they were mesmerized by the transformation from Chow Hall to Casino "Royale"...in utter completeness. Oh yes, there was a little bit of everything: Gaming—Texas Hold 'Em, Black Jack, and Craps; a yummy Mexican-styled hor's deuvres buffet, tons of Silent Auction items to bid on...including exquisite jewelry, abstract art...even a Bass Fishing Trip; Raffle Drawing; and, of course, an extremely-motivated Live Auction of Prizes in Exchange for Casino Chips from winnings. Cadets' prize of choice – an IPOD, although towards the end of the evening Milk Duds and snack packs became prime commodities of choice. Marine Military Academy Parents Organization Planning Committee included: *Elizabeth Tipton, Event Chair; Monica Bates; Rhonda and Catherine Bowen; Paul & Pam Cox; Gracie Egan; Tina Fasolak; Terry Gannon; Dana Hanchey; Jan & Mark Hutchinson; Cyndi Mino; Bob Parrott; Dana Hanchey; Alison Ruffin; Cony do Vale; ...and the many MMA staff, faculty and friends who helped make this event a ROARING SUCCESS!*

**TAKIN' TO THE TURF** bright and early Saturday morning, parents first breakfasted with their sons in the 'transformed-back' Chow Hall, then mustered for **Academy Games aboard MMA Campus** – Back 40 Events, C.O.P.E Course, Climbing Wall, Obstacle Course, Paint Ball Course, Rapelling Tower, Rifle Range, Zip Line...even a Basketball Shootout, Ping Pong and Tennis Tournament! Hunger pains propelled all to join in for a down-home, Texas-style BBQ Lunch Right smack-dab in the middle of Battalion Street, then those brave souls that hadn't reached their physical limits in the morning went right back at Academy Games. Shine on!



Cadet Abdur Olajuwon

**BAND OF BROTHERS.** Saturday evening took on an air of elegance as parents, juniors and seniors gathered in the Cadet Activity Center for the traditional Junior-Senior Ring Ceremony. A guitar duo played in the background as Juniors and Seniors raised their grape-juice filled glasses in salute to all great things past, present, and future. Gold scarves wafted from ceiling beams, and tables draped in fine white linens and dressed up in gold tones left no doubt in anyone's mind...the evening of **Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**, would remain in the memories of all in attendance as nothing less than magical.



Truly an outstanding weekend in Marine Military Academy Parents' Organization history. **Be sure to check out MMA's web site "WHAT'S NEW" (www.mma-tx.org) for full photographic coverage. Well done, MMAPO...OORAH!**

## Marine Science Class Nets Navigational Aid

The Marine Science students are learning “hands-on” how to navigate vessels at sea, thanks to the generosity of Designer/Builder Keith Shantz of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Power Squadron.

The multi-concept piloting model was designed and constructed to not only introduce but also demonstrate near-shore piloting and positioning concepts of the established piloting course. The model enhances the course by making concepts clearly visible and allowing the cadet to gain practical hands-on “helm” experience for improved understanding. Mr. Shantz explains, “Before arriving at the final model, four prototypes were built to find the right sizing, quality of materials, workability, and appearance...Use of this model demonstrates these concepts of the piloting course: magnetic, true, compass, relative, beam bow-on, danger, and collision bearings; variation; deviation; compass error correction; deviation table construction; cross bearing fix; navigation aid fix, distance-off fix (double the angle); running fix (advance the line); estimated position; and so much more.”



**TEXAS-SIZE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM...Try strapping this beaut to your dinghy! Designer and Builder Keith Shantz of Lower Rio Grande Valley Power Squadron presents a navigational piloting model to MMA President BGEN Cheney, USMC (Ret) during April 2nd 5th Period - Dr. Jada Thacker's Marine Science Classroom. Pictured, L-R: Cadet Enos; Dr. Thacker; Cadets Thomas and Fuqua; BGEN Cheney, USMC (Ret); Cadet Flowers; Designer/Builder Keith Shantz; Cadet Musa; and Project Consultant Peter P. Pranis, Jr.**

## CADETS LEARNING BY DOING

Dr. Jada Thacker, an MM Alum hailing from Class of '71, not only talks the talk but has walked the walk...or, rather, sailed the seas! Earning his master's degree at Texas A&M University and holding a United States Coast Guard Masters License, with Sail, Auxiliary Sail, and Radar endorsements, Professor Thacker is a graduate of Naval Aviation Schools Command, a former naval officer and current member of the United States Power Squadrons, holding advanced certification. He's a commercial charter captain in the Gulf of Mexico with 20 years experience in marine education and operations. Thacker brings all that and more to MMA's Marine Science classroom, a full-year science credit course introducing MMA cadets to advanced concepts of marine operations and navigation.

duty aboard U.S. Coast Guard vessels are featured activities for the advanced cadet...just another day in the Marine Science classroom - what a deal!

Field trip participation almost every weekend throughout the school year is mandatory, graded...and FUN. Cadets take to the water aboard 16-foot sloops and skiffs in two- or three-man crews. After they have mastered the basics in protected waters, they venture into the Laguna Madre to test their skills in more challenging waters. Near the end of the academic year, top marine science students participate in a long-distance offshore cruise aboard a 28-foot sloop.

Cadets also study piloting, radar navigation, marine physics and engineering and become certified by the United States Power Squadrons. All MMA Mariners qualify as recipients of the **United States Power Squadrons** certification, and the top cadet is recognized at year's end as **MMA Mariner of the Year**. Upon successful completion of the program, MMA Mariners earn one full elective science credit. MMA's Marine Science course is the only course of its kind among military academies and most secondary schools. 🇺🇸



Mr. Shantz and Project Advisor Peter Pranis, Jr. donated the Piloting Model to MMA on April 2nd, just days before Mr. Shantz departed for his summer home in Ontario, CANADA where he is a member of the Bracebridge Power Squadron, District 17, Ontario CPS. Hmm...Could this be the beginning of an international exchange of maritime technology?

Obviously never dull and always motivational in nature, the course applies laws of mathematics, geometry, physics and astronomy to the wide world of maritime. Principle operational topics include stability and flotation, aerodynamics, and naval architecture, and principle navigational topics encompass advanced piloting, electronic navigation, computerized radar plotting...even an introduction to celestial navigation! There's more: Sail training aboard a square-rigged ship, offshore navigation exercises, and sea

*“Where it's wave over wave, sea over bow  
I'm as happy a man as the sea will allow  
There's no other life for a sailor like me  
But to sail the salt sea, boys, sail the sea  
There's no other life but to sail the salt sea.”*  
-Excerpted from “Wave Over Wave” by Jim Payne

Be sure to stay tuned...there's always something 'afloat' in Dr. Thacker's Marine Science Class!

# Announcing...

## Marine Military Academy's exciting new referral program -



### CURRENT CADETS and PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

- Receive a one-year \$1,000 tuition reduction for each new cadet you refer to Marine Military Academy following the referred's first full semester on board the Academy.

### ALUMNI and FRIENDS OF THE ACADEMY:

- A one-year \$1,000 tuition reduction will be designated in your name as you so direct for each cadet you refer to Marine Military Academy following the referred's first full semester on board the Academy.

Keep in mind acceptance to the Academy is based on a number of factors — prior academic history and curriculum, health history and potential.

For further information contact MMA's Admissions Department:

Phone: (956) 421-9251 / E-Mail: [admissions@mma-tx.org](mailto:admissions@mma-tx.org)

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your choice of tuition reduction recipient below:

Current Cadet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Incoming Cadet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# LEATHERNECK SPORTS



**TOM MORTON**  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

*"Taking Care Of Business"*



Baseball • Basketball • Boxing • Cross Country • Football • Golf • Judo • PFT • Soccer • Swimming • Tennis • Track and Field • Volleyball • Wrestling

Soccer • Swimming • Tennis • Track and Field • Volleyball • Wrestling • PFT

• Baseball • Basketball • Boxing • Cross Country • Football • Golf • Judo • Physical Fitness Training • Soccer • Swimming • Tennis • Track & Field • Volleyball • Wrestling •

## LEATHERNECK GOLF

Matt Yates, Head Coach



Pictured above, L-R: HEAD COACH Matt Yates; Cadets Charles (Corey) Stephenson, Alexander Bosque, Christopher Egan, Bryan White, Cole Bearden. Not pictured: John Abercrombie III.

**T**he Leatherneck Golf Team advanced to District Play on April 1st at El Paso Cathedral, finishing up the season in grand Leatherneck spirit with Alexander Bosque finishing just two strokes shy of State qualification. **HEADS UP!**

## LEATHERNECK TENNIS

Paul Jesudasan, Head Coach



Pictured above, Left to Right: HEAD COACH Paul Jesudasan; Cadets Andrew Gonzalez, John Hefele, Jake Jacobs, Alexander DeLape, and Fan Yang.

**T**he Leatherneck Tennis Team advanced to District Quarter Finals despite competing throughout the season severely outnumbered. Most teams enter 15 competitors, the Leathernecks only needed 5 courageous, committed CADETS!

## LEATHERNECK TRACK HEATS UP THE VALLEY

Mike Morton, Head Coach

**T**he Leatherneck Track Team's most recent last track competition was held March 30th, Rio Grande Valley's "Meet of Champions" at Rio Hondo High School. The Meet highlight was Cadet Lloyd Hamilton placing Second in both the 100 and the Long Jump.

Leatherneck Track Team's next meet is the 6-AAAAAA District meet in Brownsville {St. Joseph Academy} on Friday April 27th, followed by the 6-AAAAAA State Track Meet in Waco, Texas on May 4th-5th at Baylor University.

# LEATHERNECK BASEBALL

Head Coach Albert Esparza • Assistant Coach Brett Esparza

“A great season” is putting Leatherneck Baseball Team’s accomplishments this year quite mildly...this Team is **Tabasco-HOT!**

Photograph courtesy of Cadet Olejwton 17 April 2007



Head Coach Albert Esparza, Cadets Smith A, Nordbak, Houser, and Wick, McDonough, Stuhlmler, Klein, Newman, Yellin, Vrettos, Abercrombie, Kuhr, Fletcher, Landin, Allen-Barker, Bracken; and Assistant Coach Brett Esparza.



**CHECK THIS OUT!** The Rolls-Royce of catcher’s equipment, powered through the generosity of MMA Parent Bob Parrott...Leatherneck Baseball Coach Esparza is ecstatic! The equipment is a product of Mizuno, the same type gear worn by catchers in Major League Baseball...a GREAT addition the Leathernecks will put to use in playoff action - the first time in over a decade!!! Pictured above is Head Coach Albert Esparza, Cadet Benjamin Newman, and Assistant Coach Brett Esparza.

According to Leatherneck Baseball Head Coach Albert Esparza, “We closed up the regular District season with a 11-1 victory over Laredo St. Augustine. With six returning lettermen from last year’s season, the Leathernecks recruited players to build what would become a solid, experienced baseball team. Senior Captains Tate Landin and Cameron Nordbak, along with Kevin Houser, Robbie Bracken, Kellen Stuhlmler, and Tyler Klein anchored the team with STRONG leadership. We added Assistant Brett Esparza as Pitching Coach this season, and his expertise benefitted the

Leatherneck Team’s success.” Coach Esparza continues, “I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of this team this year. Hard work, strong work ethics made the difference in the unity of the Leathernecks. What’s next for the Team? How about making the State T.A.P.P.S. Play-offs for the first time in over ten years? I believe the last State Championship for Marine Military Academy in Baseball was 1991! Thanks to all who have joined us in this great season. It is good to see all the fans in the stands cheering us on!” **We thank YOU, Coach Esparza, and the Leatherneck Baseball Team for heating up a sizzling hot season...OORAH!**

## LEATHERNECK BOXING

SgtMaj Fred Robertson, Head Trainer and GySgt Jose Villareal, Coach

JUST IN...MMA 2005-6 Grad/Boxer Trae Miller finished 2nd in National Boxing Tourney, representing U.S. Naval Academy.

The Leatherneck Boxing Team took three Leathernecks to the second tourney of the season at El Campo. Match-ups took place at two of the three weights, and the Boxing Leathernecks would emerge with more ‘gloves-on’ practice under their belts than victories. You’ll get ‘em next round, Leathernecks!

The V.I.S.A. Softball Team seized 1st place honors in their regional competition, and this year’s competitors were **TOUGH!** The V.I.S.A. program (Valley Independent School Association) provides yearlong competition in volleyball, basketball, softball and track and field for eighth grade cadets who are not yet permitted to participate in TAPPS competition.

## VISA SOFTBALL

Chaplain Chris Elliott, Head Coach



L-R, Front: Cadets Parrott, Licardo, and Henserling. Back: Cadets Walker, Hamilton, Crum, Chervonoshtan, Koedyker, Maley, Chavez; Head Coach Chaplain Elliott; Cadets Blocker, Breen, Jackson, Salto, and Heidt.

# Alumni News

Fresh off the wire...

'83

Mark McGinness –  
[marksprimary@gmail.com](mailto:marksprimary@gmail.com) - new e-address

Brian Reddy – [reddyb@verizon.net](mailto:reddyb@verizon.net) - living in Irving, TX working as an independent petroleum landman, one son

## Subject: My son Jared Proffitt MMA Class of '86

My son Jared attended MMA and graduated the summer of '86. I think he was in Bravo Company....Jim Stelzenmueller was Valedictorian of his class and his best friend. Jared showed up there with 1/2 his head shaved and a black leather jacket...the officer I turned him over to would not even shake his hand and I thought he would follow me back to Fort Worth Texas on the next plane...but he didn't and two years later he emerged a changed young man. He went on to serve in the Marines.

Jared died October of an accidental death and the Marine Honor Guard was at his funeral - folded and presented the flag to us. I am very grateful to MMA for the time that many different persons invested in my son as it gave him the tools he needed to be a better man.

--Janice Proffitt ([jgpacific@msn.com](mailto:jgpacific@msn.com))

*MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY extends heartfelt condolences to the Proffitt family.*

'87

Thad Ostrewich –  
[ostrewich@peoplepc.com](mailto:ostrewich@peoplepc.com) - works for a prison system in Mich., married thirteen years, 2 daughters

'97

Michael Arroyo –  
[musician2111@cox.net](mailto:musician2111@cox.net) - a deputy sheriff with the San Diego County Sheriffs' Dept. and a sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserves assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion, married seven years

'88

George Armstrong –  
[CWArmstrong@west.com](mailto:CWArmstrong@west.com) - works for West Corporation

'03

Thomas Sharkey – [sharkeyt1@citadel.edu](mailto:sharkeyt1@citadel.edu) - returned last Sept. from Iraq where he served with his MMA roommate Justin Meaders in the same battalion

'06

LCpl. Steven Park –  
[stevepark0311@yahoo.com](mailto:stevepark0311@yahoo.com) - a member of a scout/sniper team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Special Operations Battalion at Camp Lejeune, NC

**Charles Edwin Peavy III**, age 43, passed away Sunday, March 25, 2007 in Springfield, Missouri. Born in Pascagoula, Mississippi on October 14, 1963, Charles attended the Harlingen Marine Military Academy where he received several honors including Marine Cadet of the Year. He later attended Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. Charles also served in and was honorably discharged from the United States Army. He was preceded in death by his mother, Clara Mason Peavy. He is survived by his father, Charles E. Peavy II; his daughters, Rachel Peavy Kirmis, Scarlett Peavy Agricola; and his son, Charles E. Peavy IV; granddaughters, Natalie Ella Kirmis; grandson, Timothy Elliot Agricola; sisters, Debra Wallace of Austin and Bridget La Rosa of Nashville, Tennessee; brothers-in-law, Stephen Wallace and Mark La Rosa; and four nephews and three nieces.

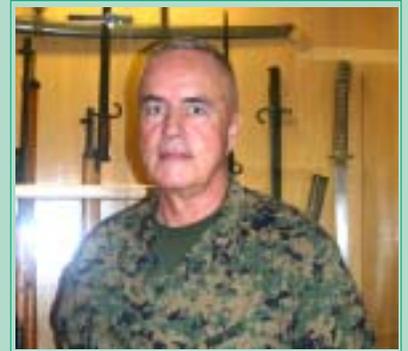
*MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY extends heartfelt condolences to the Peavy family.*

**ALUMNI: Be sure to E-Mail your updates to [pickens@mma-tx.org](mailto:pickens@mma-tx.org) for inclusion in the Leader! Wait, there's more...E-Mail your favorite photos, too: [wieland@mma-tx.org](mailto:wieland@mma-tx.org). We're GLOBAL...Tell US, we tell the world!**

Need to find out what's going on with a fellow alum? Get on board MMA's on-line "Alumni Bulletin Board". Fill out the Alumni Information Request form located on-line: <http://www.mma-tx.org/alumni.htm> or call Connie Flores at (956) 421-9232.

**Get on Board: ALL ALUMNI, ALL THE TIME!**

## “FALL IN!”



**Colonel Tom Hobbs, USMC (Ret)**  
**MMA Alumni Director**  
**Ph: (956) 421-9232**  
**E-Mail: [hobbs@mma-tx.org](mailto:hobbs@mma-tx.org)**



**Sean Dubose, MMA Class of 2002**

**Sean Michael Dubose**, 23, of Spring, TX was born February 13, 1984 in Arlington, TX and died in Spring, TX Wednesday, March 28, 2007. He was employed with the Boy Scouts of America as a district scout executive. He was preceded in death by his father, Major William T. DuBose, US Army, brother, Christopher Timothy DuBose, uncle, George Joseph Cushman, aunt, Sarah Jane Cushman, and grandparents, George James and Mary Elizabeth Cushman. He is survived by his mother, Judith Ann Cushman DuBose of Baytown, TX; fiancé, Catherine Franklin of New York City, NY; aunts and uncles, Peter and Leslie Cushman and their daughters, Savannah and Madeleine, all of Baytown, TX, Lt. Col. C. Benjamin DuBose, US Army (Ret.) and wife Meg and their children Marie and David, all of Atlanta, GA, and Katherine Dubose Bumgarner and husband Greg and their sons, Zachary and Caleb, all of Pelzer, SC; grandparents, Charles and Betty DuBose of Pelzer, SC; and numerous other aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

*MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY extends heartfelt condolences to the Dubose family.*

# *Military Department Promotions*

The following named CADETS have earned promotion to the Rank/ Billet indicated below: \*

## ECHO Company

- ADAIR II, ASA-Cadet Corporal/Company Education SNCO
- BAUER, THOMAS-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- BREWER, MICHAEL-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- GEORGE, NICHOLAS-Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
- GONZALEZ DE LEON, ANGEL-Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
- HILLARD, STEVEN-Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
- KEYES, ANDREW-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader
- NOEL, AUSTIN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- OROZCO, MATTHEW-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- PEREZ, MIGUEL-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- RAY, TYLER-Cadet Staff Sergeant/Company Guidon Bearer
- REYNOLDS, JOSHUA-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SACK, DYLAN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SALAMUN, ANTHONY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member

- SHIN, DONG-Cadet Sergeant/Squad Member
- SMITH, AUSTIN-Cadet Corporal/Platoon Guide
- SWAN, COREY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member

## FOX Company

- ALLEN, JOSHUA-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- BREEN, BRIAN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SACCO, BRYAN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SOOBY, DEREK-Cadet First Sergeant/Company First Sergeant
- STITT, TIMOTHY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- VANCE, SETH-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- VILLARREAL, ANGEL-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- WANG, HANZI-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- WILLIAMS, DAVID-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- WRIGHT, LANE-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member

## GOLF Company

- BRUNDRETT, PAUL-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- CHRISTENSEN, NICHOLAS-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- CRUM, HAYDEN-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- EGAN, CHRISTOPHER-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- FOSTER, KYLE-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- FUQUA, JAMES-Cadet First Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
- GURGANIOUS, KEVIN-Cadet First Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
- GUTTA, SHAUN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- HILL, NIKKI-Cadet First Lieutenant/Public Affairs Officer
- HILLIARD, JOHN-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- HOWELL, SILAS-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- HUTCHINSON, CODY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- JANTHO, CONNOR-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- JEROME, DAVID-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member

- KARPUS, MICHAEL-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- KOEDYKER, JACK-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- LA CAVA, NICHOLAS-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- LUGO, ANDREW-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- MALOON, TYLER-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- PALOS, MARIO-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- PAUL II, BRYAN-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- PEREZ-GARCIA, GABRIEL-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- PHILLIPS, ZACHARY-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- RUFFIN, ANDREW-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- TIPTON, WILLIAM-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- TOBIAS, JASON-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- VILLANUEVA MAXIMOTO, JOSE-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- WICK, JAMES-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member

\* List complete as of April 19, 2007

## A Matter Of HONOR, COURAGE and COMMITMENT

### 3rd Quarter Company Competition Results:

- 🏆 **GOLD GUIDON: ALPHA (3 consecutive quarters!) and ECHO Companies**
- 🏆 **ACADEMICS: ECHO Company**
- 🏆 **ATHLETICS: ECHO and GOLF Companies**
- 🏆 **MILITARY: ALPHA Company**

Pictured to Right (l-r): Cadet Commander Vincent Cervassi; MMA President General Cheney, USMC (Ret); ALPHA Cadets Major Genoff and Sergeant David Rodriguez, GOLF Cadet Captain Zach Bowen looking on.



# Memorials In Honor Of:

- Catherine Bowie
- General James T. Conway, USMC
- Raymond Eugene Davies
- CWO3 Edward D. Harris, USMC (Ret) - MMA A-Co. DI
- Sean Dubose - MMA '02
- Todd A. Wayne - MMA '98
- B. J. (Bobby Joe) Hendricks
- SgtMaj Albert S. Wilson, Jr., USMC (Ret) - MMA G-Co. DI
- Dr. A. G. M. Martin
- Walter Guy "Wally" McBride
- John H. Stevenson, USN, WWII
- Diecki Vega

*To make a donation to Marine Military Academy in memory or honor of, contact Ester Reyes at (956) 421-9231 or e-mail: [reyes@mma-tx.org](mailto:reyes@mma-tx.org).*

## Calendar of Events

### May

- 5 SAT
- Re-Enrollment Contracts Due
- 12,14-16 Second Semester Exams
- 16 Financial Aid Applications Due
- 17 Graduation Rehearsal
- 18 Eagle Scout Ceremony
- Academic Awards & 8th Grade Graduation
- 19 Graduation Parade, Awards Graduation

### June

- 27 Cadet Instructors report by 1800

### July

- 1 Summer/ESL Camp Registration
- 28 Summer/ESL Camp Graduation



Cadets Christopher Egan and William Tipton, Golf Co.; and Thomas Parrott, Fox Co. received well-deserved nomination as scholars, representing MMA in fine fashion at the National Young Leaders State Conference (NYLC) held in Houston on March 22nd-25th. The NYLC is designed to instruct and enrich promising students in a hands-on, experiential atmosphere while preparing them for a lifetime of leadership...sounds like an ordinary day aboard MMA, right? The Conference offers students the opportunity to talk about current events and issues with top policy makers smack-dab in the middle of where it all happens - Washington, D.C. - while also analyzing concepts, then putting newfound knowledge to work in creative and challenging decision-making simulations. 🇺🇸

**STREETS ALIVE!!!** MMA'S Leatherneck Band represented MMA in fine Leatherneck fashion at this year's Mardi Gras celebration in nearly-recovered New Orleans. Led by MMA's Bandmaster CWO3 Ed Harris, MMA Band includes: Cadets Patrick Davis, Kyle Foster (Alto Sax); Jared Ray, Jacob Witz, Michael Nye, Jonathan Webster, Cotey Tackitt, James Corsentino, James Flowers, Andrew Martinez (Percussion); Richard Cook (Sax/Bassoon); Jonathan Jackson, Robert Potter, Austin Shuffield (Trumpet); Justin Frantz, Marshall Hearn (Trombone); Wiley Greene, Robert Bracken (Tuba); Justin Shelton (Clarinet); John Walantas (Baritone); Travis Duncan (Tuba & Drum Major); and Michael Karfunkle (Clarinet). 🇺🇸

## YOUR Opportunities to Support MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY

There's a number of options available to you in support of MMA:

- 🇺🇸 **Scholarship Programs**
  - General Scholarship
  - Endowed Scholarship Fund
- 🇺🇸 **Planned Giving**
  - Charitable Gift Annuities
  - Establishment of Trusts
  - Bequests
  - Gift of Residence with Right to Use the Property
- 🇺🇸 **Naming Opportunities**
  - Brick Pavers
  - Memorial Trees
  - Athletic Equipment
  - Tax-Deductible Cash Donation

Visit personally with staff to determine which opportunity best fits your lifestyle by calling (956) 421-9231 or simply send your e-mail request to [development@mma-tx.org](mailto:development@mma-tx.org). Credit card and check donations can be made anytime by visiting <http://mma-tx.org/opportunities1.htm> for on-line TAX-DEDUCTIBLE gifts by credit card.

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**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER**  
Debbie L. Wieland