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The MMA LEADER is a quarterly publication for patrons of Marine Military Academy. To receive a digital version via email, send your address to editor Kristin Luckey. Her email address is: Luckey@MMA-TX.org. or call: 956.421.9225.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear MMA families and Donors,

As I reflect on the accomplishments of our Corps of Cadets during 2021 and look forward to what 2022 will bring, I am appreciative of the rich traditions and unequaled esprit de

corps that makes Marine Military Academy (MMA) stand apart from similar schools. MMA is a dynamic ever evolving body that is borne from the fortitude of our past leadership and carried forth through the breath of our talented educators and dedicated military department, and we are inspired by our outstanding alumni and fueled by the kindness of our thoughtful and generous donors. The past two years have been challenging in more ways than I care to recount, but I have always been able to count on the encouragement and financial support of our donors. I cannot thank you enough! Every dollar donated makes a significant difference for our school.

This issue of the "Leader" highlights the great accomplishments of our Corps of Cadets which would be extremely impressive before COVID-19 but are made so much more impressive by the challenges and sacrifices our Corps of Cadets have endured over the past two years.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at some of our upcoming events. Please check the MMA website for our school calendar for the list of events.

God bless and thank you for your support.

Semper Fidelis,

Christopher S. Dowling

Colonel, US Marine Corps (Ret)

President, Marine Military Academy





BIRTHDAY BALL

Happy 246th Birthday!























BIRTHDAY BALL













On October 30, 2021, Marine Military Academy hosted its 56th Annual Birthday Ball celebration at the Harlingen Convention Center. With over 800 guests in attendance, it was a special night to remember for the cadets and their families.

The cadets and their families and dates enjoyed the ceremonial presentation of the birthday cake by the cadet battalion staff and then sliced by President Col Christopher Dowling. The first piece of cake was served to Guest of Honor Patrick Moore, Class of 2001. The following pieces were served to the youngest cadet, Gregory Pierre of Alpha Company and the oldest cadet, Junseo Nam, also of Alpha Company.

The keynote speaker was 2001 MMA Alumni Patrick Moore. Mr. Moore served as Commanding Officer of Echo Company his senior year. Upon graduation from MMA, he attended Texas A&M University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Development with an emphasis in Economics. He is a proud member of the Aggie class of 2005, and even prouder member of the Corps of Cadets, Company E-2. After working in sales for several years, Patrick decided to attend law school, graduating from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2013. He began his legal career working for Anadarko Petroleum Corporation in Denver, Colorado. He currently resides in McAllen, TX, where Patrick practices real estate law.

The night ended with the traditional mother and son dance. Then the cadets and their guest danced the night away!



MMA ATHLETICS

Cross Country



On September 11, we competed at the Mercedes Invitational Cross Country Meet Cadet Flores placed 9th and Glass and Hurley placed 27th and 49th out 65 runners. It was our first meet of the season. Since it was our first meet, our runners were somewhat nervous and did not know what to expect.

On September 17 this was a great meet where Cadet Flores came out and showed everyone that he was an elite runner in the valley. Cadet Glass also performed well.

On September 25 in Lasara we came together as a team and performed very well. Cadet Flores placed 1st again and the rest of our runners contributed greatly and helped place 4th as team out of 15 schools.

At our Regional meet at Camp Rio in Brownsville October 13, our team performed outstanding. Our runners which were Cadets Flores, K. Jones, L. Phillips, Glass, Montes, Hurley did awesome. As well as Cadet Rowley running JV. We placed 2nd as a team, and we almost won the meet out of 16 schools.

Finally, on November 2 Our team headed to Webberville Texas to compete at our State Meet. It was our first time to attend a state meet for quite some time. It was quite an accomplishment. Our runners were nervous and did not know what to expect. Our runners Flores, Jones, Phillips, Glass, Montes and Hurley gave it their all and performed well considering there were over 50 fast runners at this state meet. We ended up placing 5th.

Overall, the 2021 MMA Cross Country team was yet another Leatherneck success!

Football



The 2021 football season was a historic season for the Fighting Leathernecks of the Marine Military Academy. Two years removed from a 1 win and 7 loss season, the Leathernecks put together 9 wins against 2 losses season. MMA also joined a conference, the Texas Charter School Academic & Athletic League, and the Leathernecks went undefeated in their division and advanced to the inaugural TCSAAL State Football Playoffs. After a Quarter-Finals bye, as the Champion from their division, the Leathernecks won a stirring Semi-Finals Championship against Houston KIPP Sunnyside in Georgetown, Texas, where our boys showed unbelievable resolve and advanced to their first State Championship game since 1977. The Championship game was played at Gupton Stadium in Cedar Park against the Legacy School of Sports Sciences (Spring, TX). After a difficult game, MMA finished the year as State Finalists, with each cadet receiving a TCSAAL State silver medal. This incredible accomplishment was also covered by RGV Sports, the Valley Morning Star and RioSportsLive, bringing more positive state-wide exposure to our great school. Also, it should be noted that the cadets logged an incredible 2,200 miles for road games in Corpus Christi, Houston, Georgetown, and Cedar Park. Coach Morton and his staff are very proud of the hard work and commitment by our cadets this long season, especially in learning how to NEVER GIVE UP! We are also very grateful for all the encouragement from our Academy, especially from Carlos and our wonderful Mess Hall for all our road "snacks" and meals, as well for the support of Mrs. Luckey and the cheerleaders, SgtMaj Smythe and our Military Dept, Dean Hidalgo and her staff, and of course, Colonel Dowling for all he provided for our boys. What a GREAT year by our Leathernecks!

MMA ATHLETICS

Swimming



Our cadets had another impressive showing Saturday, 12-4-21, in Weslaco. They started off swimming the 200 yd Medley Relay, something we had not entered originally, but the meet host had inadvertently entered us in it and we took advantage of the opportunity. Ikenaga led off with Backstroke, Baeza next with Breaststroke, Glass punching in the Butterfly and Freestyle anchor was Bolisetty. Placed fifth out of eight teams. First individual performance was team Captain Mikhail Ikenagas 200 yd Freestyle, bettering his best time by 4.54 seconds and placing second. In the 50 yd Freestyle, Glass in eleventh and Bolisetty in twenty third out of 34 swimmers, both swimming best times by several seconds. Swimming the 100 yd Freestyle, Freshman Baeza won third place behind a Weslaco junior and senior with his new best time of 1:03.53. MMA Varsity Swimmings newest addition joining just last week from Cross Country, Hunter Glass, won fourteenth place of 28 competitors with his new best time of 1:11.49. Captain Ikenaga finished third in his 500 yd Freestyle distance in 7.17.06. The four cadets teamed up again for the 200 yd Freestyle Relay winning seventh of ten teams in 2:04.95. In our final individual event, the 100 yd Breaststroke, Octavio Baeza took third in another best time of 1:24.11 and Arush Bolisetty finished eighth in 1:46.42. Really impressed with their swims and character. Lots of improvement, best swims and the team placed fifth overall with four cadets competing against teams with thirty to forty

This competition was the last chance meet to qualify for Pre-Regionals in Brownsville on, 12-11-21. Cadets that attended were Mikhail Ikenaga, David Knowlton, Octavio Baeza and Hunter Glass.

Volleyball



Congratulations to our VISA Volleyball team! The team ended their season with a third-place win in district play. Looking forward to next season already!

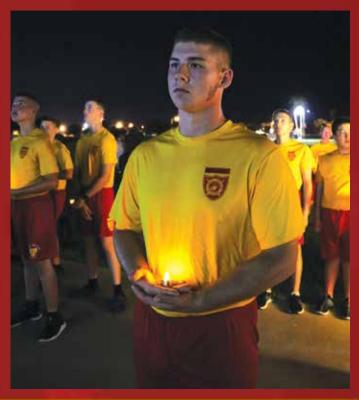


ACTIVITIES

Candlelight Vigil at MMA



Saturday, September 11th at 9 pm, MMA held a candlelight vigil at the Iwo Jima Monument to honor those that passed away on 9/11 and all of those that passed away in battle throughout the conflict. Col Dowling and SgtMaj Smythe both spoke to the cadets and the guests in attendance about honoring the victims of 9/11 and soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice by making a difference in someone's life in their honor.



Blood Drive Total Success!



On October 27th, cadets and staff attended the blood drive at King Gym. NHS and NJHS clubs contributed in the process to recruit staff and cadets to donate. It was a very successful event and was featured in the local Valley Morning Star newspaper. 82 staff members participated donating 111 units, great job!



ACTIVITIES

Beast Competition



On October 18th, the cadets participated in the Beast Competition event at Bowman Stadium. The Beast Competition is comprised of several athletic and mentally challenging events put together where each company competes against the others. This year's competition was won by Delta Company!



NHS and NJHS Induction Ceremony



On September 17th, MMA welcomed 14 new members into the NJHS and NHS. During the ceremony, the new officers were installed as well.

President - Nam, Junseo - Alpha; Vice-President - Stilwell; David - Echo; Secretary - DeViney, Dylan - Delta; Historian - Webb, William - Echo; Parliamentarian - Liang, William - Echo.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have a GPA of 3.50 cumulative scholastic average and have 10 or more volunteer hours of school/community service to be invited into the NHS or NJHS. To remain in NHS, members must maintain a 3.5 GPA at the end of every academic quarter.



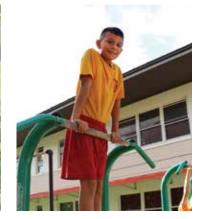
ACTIVITIES

























ACADEMICS

CyberPatriot



The results are in from the CyberPatriot State round for the Marine division. MMA's Team 1 Placed 2nd and Team 2 placed 13th. Team one will be going on to Semifinals Round. The Semifinals will be on January 22, 2022. They all worked hard to make it this far and should be congratulated for their efforts in these grueling rounds. Wish the boys luck on this next round of competition only the top two teams will be going on to the Nationals.

What is CyberPatriot?

CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future. At the core of the program is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, the nation's largest cyber defense competition that puts high school and middle school students in charge of securing virtual networks. Other programs include AFA CyberCamps, an elementary school cyber education initiative, a children's literature series, CyberGenerations –a senior citizen cyber safety initiative, and a Tech Caregivers program designed to encourage cyber-savvy volunteers to give back to their communities. get more info at https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/.



Boy Scouts Troop 22



MMA Boy Scouts Troop 22

Newly Minted Eagle Scout - Life Scout Cadet Lieutenant Charles Drapela of Delta Company passed a rigorous board of review examination and earned the coveted title of Eagle Scout on Wednesday, December 15th . Cadet Lieutenant Charles Drapela is a highly motivated young man who accepts challenge with both a smile and very positive attitude. He worked hard to earn the title of Eagle Scout. For his community service project, Cadet Drapela built a plexiglass covered bulletin board for the local food pantry Loaves and Fishes. Congratulations Cadet Drapela!



ACADEMICS

Flight Program Success!



Photo by Stephanie Huerta Photography

I'm happy to announce that the Flight Program at Marine Military Academy took off to a great start this year. We have enjoyed seeing the cadets grow in skill and knowledge this past semester in the flight program. We have seen how their hard work and dedication has paid off.

Most of the class has applied and received their student pilot certificates and are working hard to achieve their first "solo" flight!

We are proud of all our cadets but would like to recognize cadet Harvey ,cadet Jones, cadet Terry, cadet Bugnone, and cadet Himes for their achievement in successfully taking off and landing unassisted in the flight simulator and in the aircraft (under the supervision of their flight instructor) and soon to accomplish their first solo flight.

Also like to recognize cadet Adam for successfully completing his solo flights and passing his private pilot written test.

Everyone has done a great job so far and we hope to see more accomplishments this coming semester.

-Mitri Garib Chief Flight Instructor Marine Military Academy Valley Wings Flight School

3.0 Lunch



On Monday, September 13th ,MMA cadets were treated to a Subway sandwich for lunch for earning a GPA of 3.0 or higher with no failures in any subject for the academic quarter.

Academic Bowl



One of the main goals of the JROTC Academic Bowl is to prepare students for state exit/graduation exams as well as college entrance exams, such as the SAT and ACT. Questions cover language arts, math, and science in each level of the competition. The JROTC curriculum questions in Level I will focus primarily on leadership preparation, wellness and fitness, group/team dynamics, and communication skills. A few questions about current events are also included – focusing on national and international news, particularly international relations, politics, business, and science. All of the current event's questions are taken from major media available on television, the internet, and in daily newspapers

ACADEMICS

(see suggested resources below). Level I includes 25% JROTC questions, 65% SAT/ACT-type questions, and 10% current events questions. Level II includes 90% SAT/ACT-type questions and 10% current events questions. NOTE: There will be no JROTC curriculum questions in the Level II test.

The following cadets participated and advanced to Level II of the competition. They will now compete for an opportunity to go to Washington, DC.

Cadet Liang, Cadet Amune, E., Cadet Omey, Cadet Boyer, Cadet Jones, I, Cadet Polonsky, Cadet Webb, Cadet Copenhaver, Cadet Greene, Cadet Jones, K, Cadet Divinia & Cadet Lamb.

Plebe Graduation



On September 10th, these young men marched onto the parade ground as "plebes" and became cadets. These young men have officially joined the Marine Military Academy Corps of Cadets at the Introductory Training Graduation Parade. At the parade, the plebes took the MMA Cadet Oath and then joined the MMA battalion as cadets. They marched alongside their company "brothers' in the parade pass in review witnessed by their families and friends in attendance.

VETERANS DAY

PARADE



On November 11th, Marine Military Academy paid tribute to veterans at the annual Veterans Day Parade. During the parade pass in review, servicemen and women from all branches and all wars lined up on the parade field to be honored by the MMA corps of cadets.



Public Notice Asbestos Plan

IN ACCORDANCE with 40 CFR Part 763 of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Section 736.93 pertaining to the Asbestos-in-School Identification and Notification Rule, Marine Military Academy hereby notifies all concerned parties of the availability of an Asbestos Management Plan. The plan and copy of inspections and assessments are available for review during office hours, Monday through Friday, in the Central Administrative Office. Should any interested parties desire to view the plan, contact the MMA Facilities Department at (956)423-6006, ext 244, or facilities@MMA-TX.org.

HOLIDAYS

Halloween,
Bonfire,
Thanksgiving
&
Christmas

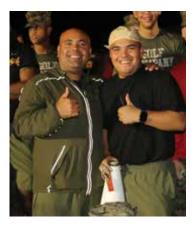






















HOLIDAYS





























JUN 25 TO JULY 23

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GUEST SPEAKERS



MMA guest speaker, Prime Hall started the presentation with breathing exercises to get the cadets awake, alert, and ready to focus.

He began the presentation by speaking about his best friend, that he met at MMA and is still one of his closest friends. He spoke about the bonds made while at MMA and how they can last a lifetime.

After leaving MMA Hall joined the U.S. Marines and became part of the elite Marine Raiders which started in WW1 and then disbanded. They were brought back in 2006 and officially brought back in 2009. Hall spoke about a situation he was in while in Afghanistan, surrounded by the enemy and trapped in a compound with injured soldiers. He spoke about "Gung Ho" which means working together and how this mentality and action is what got him and his fellow soldiers out of the bad situation. Hall spoke about the importance of everyone must carry their share of the load to be successful. Not only in situations of battle but, in daily life. He retired in 2017 with a medical retirement after taking on RPG fire and causing concussions that required his medical discharge.

After retirement, he trained others in water survival and performance training. He is currently working with Deep End Fitness and Underwater Torpedo League. He also attended USC School of Business, was nominated as a top 100 business graduate in the country in 2019. Hall graduated with an MBA from USC in 2019. Prime asked that the cadets take away this from his presentation:

F.R.E.E. Your Mind - Focus, Relaxation, Economy of Motion, Efficient Breathing.

Servant Leadership - Some of the cadets spoke about what they thought Servant leadership is: A leader who leads from the front. A leader that puts their men before themselves. Someone who sets the example. (Answer: A Servant Leader's priority is to serve those they lead)
Obstacles = Opportunities - Being at MMA is an opportunity! You can think it's hard or difficult and challenging or take it as an opportunity to prepare you for life's bigger challenges.



Officer Steven Benitez, of the K-9 unit, from the City of Harlingen, spoke to the cadets about integrity and that it means doing what's right even if no one is watching.

He also spoke about marijuana, THC, edibles, and vaping and he answered several questions from the cadets including the difference between possession and distribution charges. It was a very informative discussion between Officer Benitez and the cadets. The cadets ended the presentation with a chance to meet Officer Benitez's K9.



GIVING DONATIONS IMPORTANT DATES

MEMORIALS 6/1/21 -12/31/21

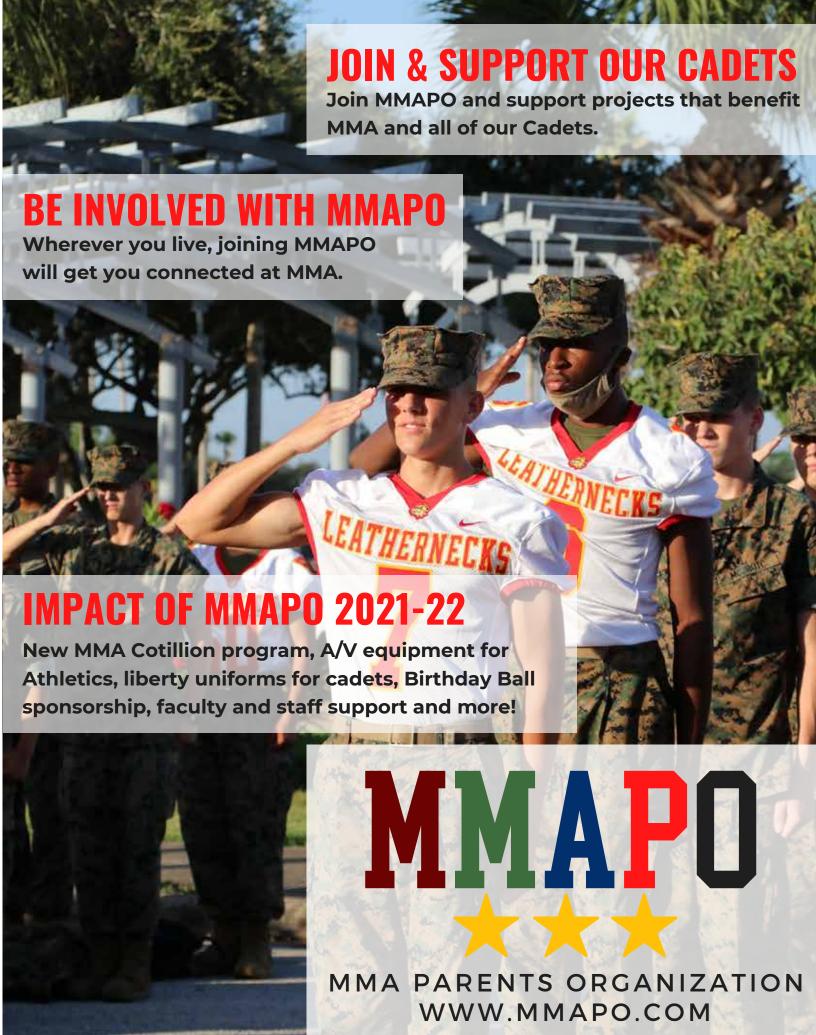
- Maj John H. Austin, USMC (Ret)
- Velma R. Bowman
- Jack H. Brouse VMF 422
- Sgt David Fuller, USMC (Ret) - 9th Marines RVN
- Marvin L. Hendrix
- LtCol John M. Holt, USMC (Ret)
- Maj Edward T. McGee, USMCR (Ret)
- Thomas G. Ringer MMA *
- Richard Spann VMF 422
- Sgt John Haddock Stevenson, IV, USMC
- SSgt Dennis Studenny 5th Marines, RVN
- SSgt Edward L. Walsh "Knobby", USMC – 7th Marines, Korea
- Dr. Gerald R. Whitson "Jerry"
- LtCol James B. Armstrong, USMCR
- Sue Bither
- Waldo J. Bither
- Robert E. Bloedorn "Bob"
- Gabriel Paul Darnall -**MMA '15**
- Robert J. Dole "Bob"
- Joyce Eastlund
- Ron Fukuoka
- Chris Heard MMA '99
- Dr. E. Bruce Heilman
- Jack Hiromi Ikenaga, Sr.
- John Thomas Kula
- Howard Lombard "Lee" -MMA '76
- Raymond T. Odierno
- Paul K. Olson MMA '85
- Colin L. Powell

- Harry M. Reid, Jr.
- **Charles Schwertner**
- Brian D. Sicknick
 - Maj John Curtis Thomson, Jr., USMCR (Ret) "Curt"
 - Steven Doyle Wieland "Steve"
- SgtMaj Albert S. Wilson, Jr., USMC (Ret)
- Col Jerry C. Wulf, USMC (Ret)
- Kevin Martin Yerian "Marty"
- IHO:
- Felicia Carlisle
- **Betsy Word Drapela**
 - Capt Thomas M. Parrott, USMC "Topper"
- Col Christopher S. Dowling, USMC (Ret)
- **Norbert & Ruthie Ewers**
- John P. Heiner and Jean Heiner - Merry Christmas!
- **MMA Staff**
- **Nancy Wise**

November 6 SAT 11 Veteran's Day Parade 19 Begin Thanksgiving Break depart after 28 End Thanksgiving Break return by 29 All Classes Resume	0800 1600 1600 1800 0800
December 4 SAT	0800 0800 1200
January 7 Cadet Instructors Return	By 1800 0800-1200 By 1800
February 4 Academic Awards Ceremony 5 MMA Parents Organization Meeting 5 Introductory Training Graduation (Plebes) 12 ACT 19 Iwo Jima arade 25 TECOM	1430 0830 1000 0800 1000 0800-1300
March 4 Leadership Forum	0800-1200 1200 1800 1800
April 2 ACT 1-3 Alumni Reunion April 1 – April 3 1 Alumni Parade 22-24 Spring Fling Family Weekend	0800 1400
23 Jr./Sr. Prom Spring Fling Ball	1900
May 7 SAT	0800 1000 1330 0900 1100 1300
June 21 Summer Camp Instructors Report By 2022 Summer Camp 25 Summer Camp Registration	1800 0800-1200
July 22 Family Social	1700

23 Summer Camp/Graduation

0900



CADET OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER



Erik V. Brody of Cypress, TX-

Delta Company Rank: Cadet 1st Sergeant



Will Jacob Shardonofsky of San Antonio, TX -Alpha Company Rank: Cadet Private Grade: 10th, Activity: Tennis/Cyber Patriot Education Goals: Graduate with at least a 3.75 GPA and go to U.S. Air Force Academy. Study Medicine.



Alpha Company
Rank: Cadet Sergeant
Grade: 11th, Activity: Drill Team / Baseball
Education Goals:
Graduate with at least a 3.75 GPA and go to University of
Texas A&M. Study Computer Science.



Kade Mora of Rancho Viejo, TX - Delta Company
Rank: Cadet Private First Class
Grade: 8th, Activity: VISA, Swim Team, Cross Country
Education Goals: Make Dean's or President's List, eventually getting selected for National Junior Honor Society, National Honor Society, and attend Texas A&M University to become an attorney.



Grade: 11th, Activity: Weightlifting

Education Goals:

Maintain an excellent GPA, and be in the top 10% of my class. Attend Texas A&M University in College Station and eventually get a law degree.

Gilberto Flores Gamboa of Oaxaca, Mexico -



Joseph Tran-Nguyen of Richardson, TX Echo Company
Rank: Cadet Lance Corporal
Grade: 11th, Activity: Soccer, and weight lifting
Education Goals: Graduate from MMA and attend a College in the United States.



Jesus Padilla-Pederzini of Mexico City, Mexico -Echo Company Rank: Cadet Lance Corporal Grade: 10th, Activity: Soccer/weight lifting Education Goals: Graduate from MMA and attend a College in Mexico.



Ubaldo Flores of Primera, TX Golf Company
Rank: Cadet Lance Corporal
Grade: 9th, Activity: Cross Country
Education Goals: To be top 10 in my class. Graduate
from MMA and attend Texas A&M university.



Murphy Spurgeon of Alexandria, VA -Golf Company Rank: Cadet Private Grade: 9th, Activity: Football Education Goals: To Graduate MMA.

Desi Canals of Mission, TX -



William Bozell of Noblesville, IN Fox Company
Rank: Cadet Private First Class
Grade: 10th, Activity: Weightlifting
Education Goals: Achieve a 4.35 GPA this school year.



Fox Company
Rank: Cadet Private
Grade: 11th, Activity: Tennis
Education Goals: My education goals are to graduate at
the top of class with straight A's.



Maximus Breger of Jonestown, TX-Alpha Company Bandsman Rank: Cadet Corporal Grade: 8th, Activity: Band Education Goals: Go to college to major in medicine/ dentistry.



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Daniel Yakobson of Ames, Iowa -Fox Company Rifle Team Rank: Cadet Lance Corporal Grade: 12th, Activity: Rifle Shooting Team Education Goals: Graduate in the top 6% of my class and get accepted to MIT of Stanford for Engineering.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER 35 S NOVEMBER



Gilberto Flores Gamboa of Oaxaca, Oaxaca-English
Delta Company
Rank: Cadet First Sergeant
Grade: 11th, Activity: Weightlifting
Education Goals: Graduate from MMA and attend Texas
A&M in College Station, TX.



Dalton Faath of Orlando, FL-English Golf Company Rank: Cadet Private Grade: 12th, Activity: Football Education Goals: To get my pilot's license

Tenzin Hurtado of Tucson, AZ-

Foreign Languages



James Patrick Shanklin of George West, TX-Foreign Languages
Echo Company
Rank: Cadet Corporal
Grade: 11th, Activity:Basketball
Education Goals: finish high school.



Rank: Cadet Staff Sergeant
Grade: 9th, Activity: Golf/ Jiu Jitsu
Education Goals: To attend a service academy or another university with a good engineering program.



Mako Smith of Corpus Christi, TX-General Studies
Alpha Company
Rank: Cadet Lance Corporal
Grade: 11th, Activity: CyberPatriot
Education Goals: Graduate from a university.



General Studies
Fox Company
Rank: Cadet Private
Grade: 9th, Activity: Study Skills
Education Goals: To have a 3.5 GPA before I finish high school and go to a fitting college.

Jagger N. Mitchell of Grand Junction, CO-



Zane Kester of Austin, TX-Math
Golf Company
Rank: Cadet 2nd Lieutenant
Grade: 11th, Activity: JuiJitsu
Education Goals: To get a bachelor's degree from Texas
A & M Corpus Christi



Maximo Andre Montes of Tampico, MX-Math
Alpha Company
Rank: Cadet Private First Class
Grade: 10th, Activity: Tennis
Education Goals: Finish High School. Improve my English, and give my best effort.



Desmond Patrick Rohanna of Naples, FL-Science
Delta Company
Rank: Cadet Private First Class
Grade: 7th, Activity: Volleyball /Aerospace
Education Goals: maintain a 4.0 and eventually get a 5.0 average. Be an amazing student in general.



Kenneth Jones of Sugarland, TX-Science
Echo Company
Rank: Cadet Gunnery Sargent
Grade: 11th, Activity: Basketball, Aerospace, Track, Cross Country
Education Goals: Major in Biochemistry or Biology.
Attend and Ivy League University



Cirdan Matthew Wang of Sunnyvale, CA-Social Studies Studies
Golf Company
Rank: Cadet Lance Corporal
Grade: 8th, Activity: Rifle Team
Education Goals: I want to get a bachelor's degree. Still undecided on major.



Aitegin M. Mussin of Cannes, France-Social Studies
Delta Company
Rank: Cadet Private First Class
Grade: 10th, Activity: Weightlifting, Rifle Team
Education Goals: Get better grades and graduate and study engineering.

IN MEMORIAM



Major General Wayne Evan Rollings, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, died in St. John's County, Florida at the Bailey Family Center for Caring on January 3, 2022. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Gwen, his four children, Gina Rollings, Buck Rollings, Lisa Pascoli (Sean), Brittany Rollings, and also his six grandchildren, Katrina, Jake, Stephen, Evan, Austin, and Bella.

Major General Rollings was born on January 11, 1941, the son of George and Lena Rollings in Orangeburg, S.C. After graduation from high school, he enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1960 and subsequently completed Marine Corps Drill Instructor School serving for two years as a DI at Parris Island, SC, before being released from active duty in 1965. While a Drill Instructor at Parris Island in 1964, he met one of his recruit's sisters, Gwen, and they married in 1966.

He was accepted into the University of Georgia on a track scholarship in 1966. During the summer of 1967, he attended Officer Candidate School. After graduation from UGA in 1968, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the USMC and then attended The Basic School in Quantico, VA, for six months receiving recognition as an Honor Graduate.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in this world. The Marines don't have that problem." Neither did Major General Rollings. He spent the next three decades making a difference. After two Viet Nam tours, he was awarded the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars, a Bronze Star, and two Purple Hearts.

He commanded Infantry Units at every level as well as Commanding Officer of Second Force Reconnaissance. His military career culminated as Commanding General of III Marine Expeditionary Unit in Okinawa, Japan and then Commanding General of II Marine Expeditionary Unit in Camp Lejeune, N.C. where he retired in 1999. Major General Rollings was consistently recognized for his leadership abilities, but he was most admired throughout the Marine Corps as the Marine who always looked out for everyone within his commands.

Following retirement from the Marine Corps, Major Gen-

eral Rollings became President of the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen, Texas, where he served until 2005.

As a talented athlete, he competed and placed as a top finisher in the JFK 50 mile run over the Appalachian Trail. He also broke the World's Sit-Up Record in 1981 by completing 40,000 consecutive, nonstop sit-ups over the course of 16 hours while assigned as the Marine Officer Instructor, NROTC, University of South Carolina.

Major General Rollings without a doubt made a difference in the world.

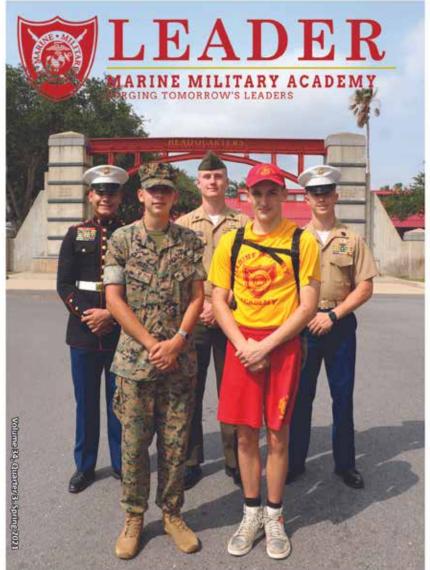
The internment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Alzheimer's Association.



SIGN UP HERE





DIGITAL EADER

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