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ON THE COVER

Graduating cadets stand in attention at their graduation ceremony.

ON THE BACK COVER

The senior class of 2025 enjoys the traditional hat toss.



The class of 2025 celebrates their success

PRESIDENT'S Reflection



Dear MMA family and friends,

The 2024-25 school year was another successful year for the record books. It was packed with remarkable achievements and notable activities across the Corps of Cadets.

I want to salute our recent graduating class of 2025. This class has 52 seniors and two postgraduates. Remarkably, our graduating class received scholarships totaling over \$11 million. From this class, we have two men attending the United States Military Academy this fall and another two students attending the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Additionally, we have one young man attending the US Naval Academy Preparatory Foundation School, and another young man

attending the US Military Academy Preparatory School. This fantastic class also has one student attending college on a Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Scholarship with a Marine Corps option. We have three other young men who received U.S. Army ROTC Scholarships. Seven young men are enrolled in the Simultaneous Membership Program - a joint program offered by the Army National Guard, the Army Reserves, and the U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). It allows students to participate in both the Guard and Reserves, as well as the ROTC program, simultaneously. In addition, we have a young man heading to Oklahoma State University on a Varsity Bass Fishing scholarship. We have multiple young men who distinguished themselves by being offered multiple scholarships at most colleges to which they applied for the 2025-2026 school year.

Our activities are also awe-inspiring this year. MMA won the state Double championship in Tennis, numerous Texas State Championships in track and field, and the Texas State golf championships as well. Our basketball team performed well as did our other activities.

Two of our graduates also earned their Eagle Scout awards this year. We also have several students who have earned their Private Pilot's license, as well as their Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Drone license.

I encourage our alumni to reconnect with MMA and to support this institution. As a nonprofit school, we rely heavily upon donations from our alumni and friends of MMA. We are grateful for all of our generous donors and all they do to help keep MMA competitive.

Finally, I sincerely appreciate the privilege of serving as president of this incredible school, and I would like to extend my most heartfelt thanks to all of you.

Christopher S. Dowling
Colonel, US Marine Corps (Ret)
President, Marine Military Academy



Leader - Spring 2024-25

DECA HEADS TO STATE

The MMA DECA team participated in the Texas District 1 Conference in McAllen in January. They competed in events from marketing to finance and even business management. Cadets Lawson Mairie, Patrick McBrien, Sebastian Hellmund, and Kushal Raj advanced to the state conference in Dallas, Texas. These fine cadets kicked off their Spring Break week competing at the State Conference and although the competition was tough, our cadets did great! Congratulations to all of our DECA team members! What an incredibe year!







CADETS JONAH COX AND JACK JENKINS EARN 2ND PLACE FINISH IN ITALY

Cadet Jonah Cox and Cadet Jack Jenkins competed in the International Forum for Peace, Security and Prosperity in Italy. Rising high, these young men took a second place finish in the competition. Mayor Palermo Roberto Lagalla stated, "This is an initiative that brings

together sensitive elements of our society, and seeks to make young people aware." Supporting the mayor's words was President of the City Council,

Giulio Tantillo.

The topics presented in the international competition were aimed for high school students and were high profile topics and deeply felt. Three fundamental themes highlighted the entries: Hybrid war; The protection of children in conflicts; The evolution of human security.

In the video presentation portion, "The Innocence of Children" took first prize, while Jonah Cox and Jack Jenkins Marine Military Academy Harlingen, TX, USA, "Hybrid Warfare" took second prize. Closing out the top three was Gaia De Luca, Lino Faenza and Stefano Tapparo, Air Force Military School "Giulio Duohet" Italy with "Hybrid Warfare."



LEARNING MODERN DAY AGRICULTURE

Cadets had the opportunity to visit Tellus Equipment – John Deere in Weslaco, Texas for an eye-opening look into modern agriculture. Cadets spoke with CFO Kirk Angelle about careers in agriculture, business, and engineering, and heard from Mayor Adrian Gonzalez on the Rio Grande Valley's vital agricultural history and the vital role agriculture in the RGV plays in produce.

Farmer Dan Vogel shared how farming has changed over the last 50 years, and cadets got hands-on experience with advanced John Deere equipment.









Mrs. Martinez's English classes enjoy reading. This time, to go along with their respective class novels, they completed a very creative project to go with it. Our middle school class, created a detailed 3D model of Brian's shelter from the novel *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. Meanwhile, our high school classes, designed a tribal mask representing the transition from civilization to savagery based on the transformation of a selected character from *Lord of the Flies*.

Hands on learning, in addition to reading, made for an exciting time in English!







FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



TORIN KNACKSTEDT English



YOEL LEE Math



EMILIO VEGA Science



COLIN NGUYEN
Social Studies



SKY A. BAYLESS General Studies



ALEXANDER ROSEMEIER Foreign Language

MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



COOPER SCOTT English



VIN DUC TRAN PHAN Foreign Language



PATRICK MCBRIEN

Math



MAGNUS VELEZ General Studies



GRADY O'ROURKE Social Studies



NICHOLAS ANDERSON Science

APRIL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



HUNTER BURKHOLDER English



JACK JENKINS Foreign Language



FRANCISCO VILLALOBOS

Math



CHUN CHEUNG YU General Studies



JUAN FERNANDO FLORES
Social Studies



ALEXANDER FLOW Science





FEBRUARY CADETS OF THE MONTH



TRENTON LLOYD
Delta Company



AIDEN GENT Echo Company



TREVOR CHRISTIANSEN
Fox Company



ROCCO ALIOTTO Golf Company



ANDREW BOHNING MCJROTC



JACOB IRWIN Band

MARCH CADETS OF THE MONTH



DANIEL CASTRO
Delta Company



KURSHAL RAJ Echo Company



SKY BAYLESS Fox Company



ALBERTO CARBAJAL Golf Company



WADE CASSADY MCJROTC



COLIN MCCLURE Band

APRIL CADETS OF THE MONTH



ANDREW TO Delta Company



LEONARDO PEREYRA Morales Echo Company



RYAN JOHNSON Fox Company



JACOB MONTEZ Golf Company



DIEGO ARANEDA MCJROTC



MASON NESSLEIN Band





COLLEGE CORNER



WITH MRS. RODRIGUEZ



Mrs. Carmina Rodriguez 956-421-9216 crodriguez@mma-tx.org

CADETS TRAVEL TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY FOR VISIT





Upperclassmen cadets interested in attending the Univeristy of Texas A&M had an opportunity to visit the campus for an overnight stay to speak with college representatives and well inform themselves of the requirements to earn an acceptance. The cadets had the opportunity to ask all their questions, as well as tour and be an Aggie for a day. What a great experience for our young men!



RISING SENIORS BEGIN SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

Our rising seniors have begun the process in applying for the NROTC Marine/Navy option scholarship. Our cadets created their NetFocus accounts and learned more about the endless opportunities that being awarded a four year scholarship provides. These fine young men are ready for the challenge that awaits them!





A LOOK AHEAD FOR TESTING

SAT Test Dates

August 23, 2025 September 13, 2025 October 4, 2025 November 8, 2025 December 6, 2025 March 14, 2026 May 2, 2026 June 6, 2026

ACT Test Dates

July 12, 2025 September 6, 2025 October 18, 2025 December 13, 2025 February 14, 2026 April 11, 2026 June 13, 2026 July 11, 2026

CYBER PATRIOT TAKES ON NATIONALS IN D.C.



Our CyberPatriot team competed in the CyberPatriot Nationals competition in Washington, D.C., held in

March. The team competed against the top 13 teams out of 1,406 nationwide, and showcased exceptional skills in two challenging competition stages.

Stage 1: The Network Security Master Challenge had the team secure and defend multiple systems from Red Teams (hackers) over a 3.5-hour period.

Stage 2: The Cisco NetAcad Challenge and Boeing Cyber-Physical Challenge involved four distinct competitions, which were completed within a 1.5-hour timeframe.

After intense competition, the team finished with an impressive 6th place overall! This is a remarkable achievement, and we couldn't be prouder of their performance.

During their time in D.C., the team had the honor of meeting Conrade Franke, a distinguished MMA alumnus, who currently works in the D.C. area. Conrade visited the team, offering a motivating pep talk on the importance of cybersecurity, and gifted each team member with a special cybersecurity-themed souvenir.

To wrap up the trip, three team members, along with their coach William Beckman, enjoyed some sightseeing in downtown D.C.

Team members include: Leandro Ampudia Vieth (Team Captain), Sotirios Amitsis Randolph, Torin Elek Knackstedt, Artem Serhiyovych Logvynenko, John Fred Slemko.

The music makers of A

The beat of the drum...the Marines' Hymn...the morning reveille...all sounds of our amazing MMA Band! Each and every year our band continues to grow in size and talent. Under the direction of Mr. DiSantis and Mr. Lester, the band has become one of the greatest we've had at the Academy! These talented musicians dedicate their time and begin before the school year learning new music and preparing for the fall favorite football games.

They continue community and have of the became a wonderful attraction. We are proud sounds we hear when we see them marching

Paction of the beautiful down Battalion Street!

MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY

GENERAL H.M. SMITH

ANNUAL DINNER











The annual General H.M. Smith dinner is always such a joyous occasion as we celebrate the evening amongst staff, alumni, donors and community members honoring the Academy and all its success.

This year, we had the pleasure of

inducting Mr. Brian McGee as an H.M. Smith Fellow. We also inducted Steven J. Gerber in honor of his memory.

The evening would go on with a fabulous address from our guest of honor, Colonel Robert Glenn Hill, USMC (Ret). Col Hill spoke of freedom and the importance of taking full advantage of our freedoms and serving others. Col Hill was presented with the Iwo Jima Leadership Award for his time and dedication to the Academy.

We always enjoy the special time with our guests as we talk and share memorable moments of the Academy. We look forward to celebrating all of the coming success again next year!







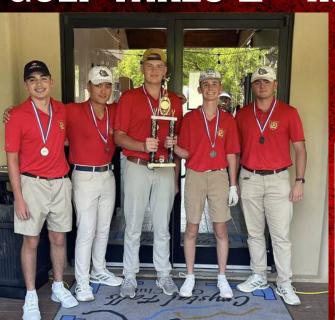








GOLF TAKES 2ND IN STATE TOURNAMENT



Congratulations to our phenomenal golf team for capturing state runner up at the TCSAAL State Golf Tournament in Cedar Park, Texas! After a great season with multiple tournament wins in the Rio Grande Valley, the team competed tough and claimed their 2nd place team prize! A memorable season indeed for these talented golfers!



TRACK AND FIELD HEAD TO STATE

The Leathernecks showed up big at the State TCSAAL Track and Field Meet in San Marcos!

Brandon Smith took 4th in state in the 100 meter dash! Relays are always competitive, but the Leathernecks took 2nd in the 4x100m relay and 3rd in the 4x200m and 4x400m relays respectively. Murphy Spurgeon took 5th place in discus while Grady O'Rourke took 11th in shotput. We had some amazing jumpers this season taking a commanding portion over the rest of the state qualifiers as Scott Ford took 2nd in the long jump, Alexis Duffy taking 5th and Phillip Rogers taking 7th. Ford and Rogers didn't finish there as they took 3rd and 5th in the triple jump. The MMA Track and Field team took home a 3rd place finish overall and left some unfinished business for next year!









★ MMA ★ Track & Field



TENNIS TEAM EARNS GOLD AT TCSAAL STATE MEET



SERVING THE Community

When it comes to serving the community, the MMA cadets are second to none with service hours. From beautification projects to community events, our cadets are always ready to lend a helping hand within the community. Many local organizations look to our cadets as a pillar of support and know they can always count on them to not only assist, but represent both MMA and their organization in a great way. We are proud of our cadets and all the time they dedicate to the community that has welcomed them!











This quarter, two cadets, with the help of fellow scouts, completed their Eagle Scout projects. Cadet John Slemko and Cadet Lawson Mairie carefully planned their projects, managed their time and project budgets to accomplish their project goals. On April 26, Eagle Board of Review at Camp Perry in Rio Hondo, were held for both cadets. This achievement is the culmination of hundreds of hours of work involving numerous merit badges, years of dedication, demonstration of Scout spirit, ranks, service, leadership, and their community service project. Cadets Slemko and Mairie join Cadet Octavio Baeza and Cadet Patrick McBrien on the 2024-25 Eagle Scout list. Congratulations to all!







RANGE OUALIFICATIONS CADETS HEAD TO THE RANGE TO QUALIFY FOR JROTC PROGRAM

We are so proud of our LE3 cadets who qualified at the shooting range as part of the JROTC program! 1stSgt Barrios runs a strict, yet smooth, range allowing the cadets to focus and excel in meeting the qualifications they need for JROTC. Congratulations to all of our cadets for their hard work and accomplishments!







LEATHERNECKS HOST JROTC SKILLS MEET

OVER 10 JROTC PROGRAMS COME TO MMA TO SHOWCASE THEIR SKILLS

In April, MMA hosted a JROTC meet for programs from all over South Texas! From marksmanship to the obstacle course, these teams competed to show off their skills! Brownsville Pace High School took first place against the others. Our cadets and drill instructors did an amazing job hosting, running each competition and ensuring a smooth and successful meet for these programs. Great work, Leathernecks!









ACADEMY CELEBRATES

Spring Awards

The Academy held its 2025 Spring Awards Ceremony in front of families and staff. The event celebrated the achievements of cadets in academics and military leadership during the 2024-25 school year. Held during the Academy's final week of festivities, the ceremony recognized cadets who exemplified excellence and discipline across various areas. Highlights included awards for Top Students, Eagle Scouts, various Leadership awards and even college scholarships.



Battalion Commander, Magnus Velez, receives the Outstanding Senior Alumni Award presented by Col Dowling and Mr. Silva.



Valedictorian, Chen Cheung Yu, receives his valedictorian medal and plaque from Col Dowling and dean, Dr. Butler.



Cadet Magnus Velez and Cadet Kevin Chen are presented with Peacock Academy Leadership Awards.



Mr. and Mrs. Heard present the Christopher Lee Heard Memorial Scholarship in honor of their son, MMA Alumni, to Cadet Jacob Montez.



Mrs. Rachel Martin was honored as Teacher of the Year for her outstanding dedication to the cadets.









Cadets receive Wreath and Star awards as well as various academic excellence, athletic and military awards.

GRADUATION PARADE

ACADEMY OPENS GRADUATION FESTIVITIES WITH A PARADE



As tradition runs deep at MMA, nothing sounds off the opening of graduation festivities like a parade! As we welcome the families and friends of our graduating cadets, we honor the timeless tradition of the Corps of Cadets parade! Each company marches onto the parade grounds to the exhilarating sound of the MMA Band! As the onlookers cheer for their cadets, a sense of pride fills the air. Bittersweetly, some families will be watching their senior cadet march for the last time. A beautifully unique welcome to a wonderful celebration weekend!



Celebratury SENIORS

Celebrating a graduation is not solely for the cadet, but for the family and friends, as well. This year, we held a senior celebration reception for all seniors and their families. Families had the opportunity to mingle one last time with one another, exchange information and chat about all the amazing things that will come next. The success of a cadet reaching their graduation milestone is the success of the village of people it took to get there. Teachers, drill instructors and faculty were able to say their goodbyes and well wishes before the big day.













MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY Oppmencement 2025

Graduation from the Marine Military Academy marks a significant achievement for young men who have completed a rigorous program of academic, physical, and character development. MMA instills the values of discipline, leadership, and perseverance and these fine young men are ready to take their next steps and use what they have learned to accomplish their goals.

The graduation ceremony is a proud and emotional event, celebrating the transformation of cadets into confident young leaders. Families and faculty gather to honor the graduates' dedication and hard work. More than just a school, MMA prepares its graduates for success in college, military service, and later for civilian careers, equipping them with the resilience and discipline to lead in any field. Graduation from MMA is not an end, but a beginning of a lifetime guided by the core values learned in their time here. We congratulate the Class of 2025 and look forward to hearing about their future success!



Commencement speaker, Captain M. Logan Medica, MMA Alumni of the Class of 1991, gave the cadets his words of wisdom once having been in this very seat.



Cadets recieve their diplomas from the President of MMA, Col C.S. Dowling, USMC (Ret), at the traditional graduation ceremony.







...A New Chapter

This year's class salutatorian, Jeffrey Zhe Yu Lin from Fox Company, found himself thriving at MMA with involvement in the DECA and Engineering clubs and logging a total of 73 community service hours. To study Finance, Lin will find himself in good company at the University of Texas in Austin as our valedictorian, Chun Cheung Yu of Echo Company, will be attending as well. Yu, an MMA 5 year plankholder, made his mark at MMA with involvement in Tennis, Robotics, Engineering and Math teams. As a member of the National Honor Society, he gave a total of 75.5 service hours to the community. In Austin, Yu will major in Mechanical Engineering.



Top: Cadet Jeffrey Lin (left) and Cadet Chun Yu (right), deliver their commencement speeches to their fellow cadets, family, friends and faculty.

Bottom: Cadets and families celebrate the graduation milestone.



MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY



JAVIER RAUL ALVAREZ



LEANDRO AMPUDIA VIETH



DIEGO ADOLFO ARANEDA



OCTAVIO BAEZA-TERRAZAS



ALEXANDRE RYAN BENEY



LANDON ISAIAH BOGAR



ANDREW WAYNE BOHNING



JUAN PABLO BOURS-ORDUNO



ADITYA ANIL BULCHANDANI



ALBERTO C CARBAJAL RODRIGUEZ



CARLOS CARDENAS Z ZEPEDA



DAMON JEON CONNER



CHUN CHEUNG YU
Valedictorian



AARON JOSEPH DAVIS



JOHN MICHAEL DAVIS



ALEXIS DE LA GIRAUDIERE



ALEXIS ANDRES
DUFFY



BROCK MICHAEL FAGAN



JUAN FERNANDO FLORES LUGO



SCOTT ALEXANDER FORD



FRANCISCO FRANCO CAST<u>ILLO</u>



SEBASTIAN HELLMUND MELGUIZO



COLTON PIERCE HENRY



VICTOR MANUEI HERNANDEZ



TENZIN WANGYAL HURTADO



TORIN ELEK KNACKSTEDT



PETER SILAS KOMINAK

SENIOR CLASS OF 2025





KRAHULIK



MARV ARLAND LAROSE





LOZANO



NAM KHANH MAI



JACKSON KYLE MALCOLM



MCBRIEN



MIKENDEL PAUL



WESLEY COOPER PAULSON



FELIPE PAZ



RICHNER



ROGERS



JUSTIN ALEXANDER ROZUM



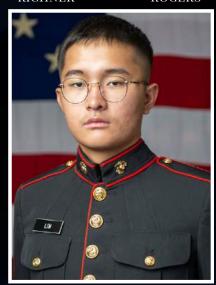
MICHAEL EGON RUF II



CASH BARROWS SANFORD



ISAAC RAHIM SHARP



JEFFREY ZHE YU LIN Salutatorian



ALEXANDER SPRAGUE



MURPHY PIERCE SPURGEON



TREVOR NATHANIEL TAYLOR



PHAN TRAN



WENDELL



MARIO HUMBERTO GUERRA



LKHAGVADORJ



DANTI ALEXANDER **TREVINO**



VIHAR **UPPALAPATI**



VELEZ



A Spottight

ALUMNI HEAD TO SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

Alumni Reunion is always such a great time. The alumni come together to reminisce, laugh, and remember their own moments here at MMA. They begin with morning colors and are reminded of their own mornings here at MMA. They enjoy meeting with current senior cadets over lunch and have a pinning ceremony to welcome them to the alumni club. They give them words of wisdom and advice as they embark on their



mext journeys. The alumni enjoyed a traditional parade, before heading to South Padre Island to enjoy time of camaraderie and fun! Alumni enjoy a nice seafood dinner, then head out on a sunset cruise. They wrap up the weekend with a dinner at Margaritaville resort where they get to talk, laugh and plan the next one!





ALUMNI, BRIAN PRITCHARD, COMMISSIONS AT VMI

Brian Pritchard, graduate of the class of 2020, now the 2025 Regimental Commander of Virginia Military Institute, was recently commissioned into the Marine Corps. Colonel C.S. Dowling, USMC (Ret), president of MMA, had the honor of swearing Pritchard into the Marine Corps.

Once Battalion Commander at MMA, Pritchard has had a lifelong desire to serve in the military, more specifically the Marine Corps. Pritchard chose VMI because he wanted the challenge. We are proud that MMA gave him the tools he needed to succeed in fulfilling that desire!





Giving Nonations

February 20 - May 29, 2025

Memorials

Sgt David Fuller, USMC (Ret) – 9th Marines RVN
Steve Gerber
Iodi Hill

Sgt Richard Patrick Holgin, USMC (Ret) Maj Edward T. McGee, USMCR (Ret) Sgt John Haddock Stevenson, IV, USMC SSgt Dennis Studenny – 5th Marines, RVN SSgt Edward L. Walsh "Knobby", USMC – 7th Marines, Korea



In Honor of

Dan S. Davis - US Army, Vietnam James A. Davis - US Navy, Vietnam Dr. Fred J. Duffy, Jr. Family William H. Dunn - US Army, World War II

LEADER

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(956) 423-6006

IMPORTANT DATES

JUNE

	П	П	П	П	٦	W	
_				П	- 1	W	

JULI				
01 I	Orill Instructors Return for Summer Campreturn by 1800			
02	Cadet Instructors Report for Summer Campreturn by 1800			
06	Summer Camp 2025 Registration0800-1200			
AUGI	T2I			
02	Summer Camp Graduation0830			
16 I	Orill Instructors Returnby 1200			
17 L	eadership Camp (Invitation Only)by 1800			
17 F	ootball Camp (Athletic Director Approval)by 1800			
17 E	land Camp (Band Director Approval)by 1400			
23 F	legistration / Check in for First Year Cadets0800-1200			
24 (Check in for Returning Cadetsby 1800			
24-26 Military Orientation for Plebes				
25-26	i Teacher Inservice Days			
27 I	Fall Semester Classes Begin			
SEPT	EMBER			
13 S	SAT Exam (Hosted by MMA)0800			
19 I	IJHS / NHS Inductions			
20 F	all Plebe Graduation0830			



CELEBRATING THE ACADEMY'S



ANNIVERSARY

Save the Date

PARENTS WEEKEND OCTOBER 16-18, 2025

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 herby 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 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.



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