

Graduates Recognized By MMA Trustee Mr. C. Lynn Lowder

Seventy-six seniors crossed the stage during graduation ceremonies held recently. The Marine Military Academy's 39th commencement exercises took place on Saturday, May 22, 2004, in the Philip J. Yeckel Memorial Auditorium.

Marine Military Academy Board of Trustees member, Mr. C. Lynn Lowder, was selected this year to give the commencement speech to the proud cadets, their families and friends.

"It is an honor today to have as our speaker for the class of 2004, Mr. Lynn Lowder. He is a unique individual who has done many great things with his life," stated MajGen Wayne E. Rollings, USMC (Ret), President of the Marine Military Academy, during his introduction of Mr. Lowder.

"As MMA graduates, you are well prepared to succeed in education and in life by virtue of what you have learned, seen and experienced here," stated Commencement speaker Lynn Lowder. "You've had a solid, excellent educational experience, backed by what many schools do not even approach – CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT."

"Nothing is more important to our



MR. C. LYNN LOWDER, Board of Trustees member at MMA speaks to the seniors during Commencement Exercises.

country or to you than your character – your ability and willingness to do the right, moral and ethical thing, especially when no one else is looking," added Lowder. "Our country's character is simply a reflection of ours – yours and mine together. There has never been a more important time in our nation's and world's history for people of strong character to come forth than right now."

Mr. Lowder was born and raised in Illinois where, upon graduating from high school, he attended Northern Illinois University on a football scholarship. During 1964 - 67, he was a standout defensive

safety for the Northern Illinois football team. He further continued his education receiving a BA degree from University of Illinois in 1976. In 1980, Mr. Lowder received his law degree from DePaul University.

Mr. Lowder is currently a lawyer with Piper Rudnick, a national and international law firm in Chicago, Illinois. He is a senior trial lawyer with over 20 years of trial experience in state and federal courts.

Prior to joining the Piper Rudnick Firm, Mr. Lowder served as chief operating officer at Colt's Manufacturing, an \$80 million international company with 500 employees, and as executive vice president and general counsel for Mail Boxes Etc., the largest non-food franchise system in the United States.

Mr. Lowder developed his exceptional leadership skills through 16 years of military experience. Between 1967 and 1983, he served in the U. S. Marine Corps, rising from the rank of private to major. His service included 10 years in the infantry and Force Reconnaissance and six years as judge advocate. He earned several distinguished awards, including the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Navy Commendation Medal for combat service in Vietnam.

An author and public speaker, he is frequently asked to speak to health care, insurance, military, religious and other organizations on leadership and litigation-related matters.



VALEDICTORIAN Hang Li gives his commencement address during the 39th graduation ceremony.

MMA Board Member, MajGen Walter H. Baxter, III, Passes Away

The Marine Military Academy lost a wonderful friend and supporter recently when Major General Walter "Buz" Baxter III, who flew 225 combat missions and later served in command assignments throughout the world, passed away after a gallant battle with cancer. He was 77 years old.

Born July 26, 1926, in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, he graduated from high school in his hometown of Weslaco, Texas, in 1943. He attended what is now the University of Texas at Arlington before enlisting in the Army Air Forces in 1944.

After the war, he received a commission to the United States Military Academy in West Point, where he graduated in 1950. Baxter commanded Air Force units at every organizational level. In 1952, as a lieutenant with the 18th Fighter Group, he served as a flight commander and assistant squadron operations officer, and led Mustang attacks deep into North Korea.

After his combat duty, General Baxter transferred to Langley Air Force Base in Virginia, where he wrote many of the plans and procedures for tactical mobility that are still in use today.

In 1954, he married Lila Waldrop of Bessemer, Ala. He taught at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs during its formative years, from 1958-1961. He served two tours of duty in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. He was promoted to Brigadier General in 1974 and to Major General in 1978.

General Baxter commanded the 13th Air Force advance echelon at Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, where he played a significant role in the withdrawal of U.S. forces. He commanded an Air Division in

Okinawa, Japan, the 24th North American Air Defense Command and 24th Aerospace Defense Command Region in Montana and served as air deputy with NATO's Northern European Command in Kolsas, Norway.

In 1982, he ended his 32 years of service as the Commander, 3rd Air Force, U.S. Air Force, Europe, headquartered in Suffolk, England.

His many military awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster and Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters. For his service on Okinawa, he was awarded the 3rd Order of the Rising Sun by the Japanese government.

After his retirement, General Baxter returned to Weslaco, where he took over and ran his father's business, the Walter Baxter Seed Company, for 13 years. During that time he served his community in many ways, including on the Texas Aviation Board, the Board of Directors of Texas State Bank, the Falcon Foundation at the Air Force Academy, as well as serving as a trustee of the Marine Military Academy since 1996.

He was named the Texas Fruit and Vegetable Association Man of the Year and also served a term as the association's president. Buz also served on the Rio Grande Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Chamber of Commerce, the Texas and American Seed Trade Associations, the Rotary Club, and on committees at the First United Methodist Church in Weslaco. He was a 32nd degree Mason.

In 2001, he received the Distinguished Alumni Award in Military Science from the University of Texas at Arlington.



In 1996, the Baxters moved to Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas. A lifelong Methodist, Gen. Baxter became a Stephen Minister in 1999.

"General Baxter was a dedicated Christian man who loved his family, his many friends and his God," stated Chaplain Leo McDonald, USN (Ret). "Included among those friends were the cadets, staff and faculty of the Marine Military Academy."

Chaplain McDonald added, "Everyone at the Academy who knew General Baxter grew to appreciate and love him. He is sorely missed and every sympathetic thought of which we are capable is extended to his loving family."

General Baxter is survived by his wife, Lila; daughter, Maurie and her husband, Robert DeWitt; sons, Bud, Scott and his wife, Betsy; daughter, Rosemary and her husband, Cliff Baker; grandchildren, Rory, Will, Julia, Emma and Sara; brother, Cash; sister-in-law, Betty; niece, Catherine Eristoff; and cousins, Patrice Doerries and George Baxter.

Teacher of the Year Selected by Corps of Cadets

The Academy each year selects a Teacher of the Year, who is presented with a \$1,000 check and has his or her photo and name engraved on a plaque in Coleman Hall.

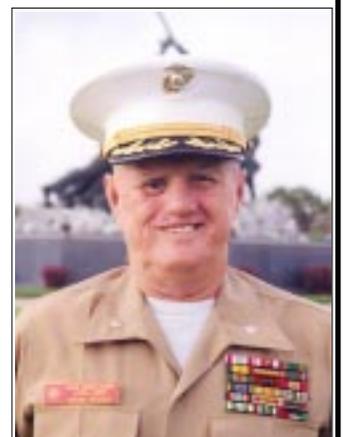
This year, the Corps of Cadets selected, by way of secret ballot, US and World History teacher Col Ed Lewis, USMC (Ret).

Lewis, originally from Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, joined the United States Marine Corp in 1960, and spent over 37 years as a Communications Electronics Maintenance Officer.

After retiring from the Marine Corps, Lewis graduated from the University of Central Florida with a Master's degree in Social Science Education. Lewis served as a principal at a charter school in Houston, Texas

before coming to MMA three years ago.

In addition to teaching, Col Lewis helps out with Boy Scout Troop 22 and the Mariners Club.



TEACHER OF the Year for 2004 is Col Ed Lewis, USMC (Ret).

MMA LEADER

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MMA Boy Scout Troop Completes Another Busy Year

Boy Scout Troop 22 at the Marine Military Academy, under the direction of Mr. Steve Gerber and SgtMaj Jim Poe, has been very busy this year.

Throughout the school year, over 300 merit badges were earned and there were approximately 80 rank advancements. The troop also participated in nine weekend camping trips, and held over 30 weekly troop meetings. According to Mr. Gerber, the scoutmaster, thousands of man-hours of service were done during Eagle projects and other community service activities supported by MMA's Troop 22. The troop provided several color guards as well.

With the help and support of many individuals, the troop was able to conduct special programs to help boys earn Law, Rifle Shooting, Indian Lore, Swimming, Shotgun Shooting, First Aid and Lifesaving Merit Badges this year.

"The troop is grateful for the special support received from Col Glenn Hill, SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, SgtMaj Jim Poe, LtCol Ed Lewis, Dr. John Butler, SgtMaj David Miller, parents Rob Bowen and Ted Behrens," stated Mr. Steve Gerber at the recent Eagle Scout ceremony. "Each of these men actively participated throughout the year to make the Scouting program possible at MMA."



This May, thirteen members of the Marine Military Academy's Boy Scout Troop 22 stood proudly with their parents as they received their Eagle Scout badges during a ceremony held in Philip Yeckel Memorial Auditorium.

Cadets Stephen Cooper, Sean Darby, Jason Green, Jared Faulk, Alex Driscoll, Kostas Lazanas, Jeremiah Lowe, Sean McCarver, Spencer Mennis, James Ohara, Bendel Rushing, Cody Steves and Charles Wulz all completed rigorous and demanding requirements, as well as a community

service project, in order to receive this most honored badge.

Mr. Gerber praised these thirteen scouts on their dedication and commitment to scouting, and noted that they were among the elite few who ever complete their Eagle Scout badge. He noted that only three percent of scouts ever reach this level.

It was especially nice for the young

(LEFT) FORMER SCOUTMASTER Steve Gerber was recognized by the area council during the Eagle Scout ceremony held recently.

men receiving their Eagle Scout Award from Mr. Gerber, as he recently took over a new position in Miami, Florida. He now serves as the new Deputy Executive there. He returned to MMA just to award them their badges.

Mr. Gerber had been the scoutmaster for over seven years at the Marine Military Academy, building the troop up to over 80 young men.

In addition to serving as MMA's scoutmaster, Mr. Gerber served the entire Rio Grande Valley as the Executive Director.

In recognition of his loyal and devoted service to the Rio Grande Valley Boy Scouts program, the RGV Council presented Mr. Gerber with a frame declaration during the Eagle Scout ceremony. Replacing Mr. Gerber as scoutmaster is SgtMaj Jim Poe.

NEEMA NAZIF (below) receives one of many merit badges from Scoutmaster SgtMaj Jim Poe during a recent Court of Honor.



Cadet Corner

Fifth-Year Cadets Awarded Planks During Senior Banquet



Thomas Victor Smay
Landing , New Jersey



Aubrey Harmon Snider
Spring, Texas



David Holverton Square
Tampico, Mexico

The Plankholder Award is presented to MMA cadets who have completed all of the grades offered at the Academy, which are eight through 12.

MMA Alumni Outstanding Cadet Award



Christopher Boyles-White received the MMA Alumni Outstanding Cadet Award for 2004 from Craig Matteson, Class of '79 and MMA Board Trustee during the Senior Banquet .

Christopher is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen E. Boyls of Fairfax Station, Virginia. He will be attending Virginia Military Institute this fall and is accepting a Navy ROTC- Marine option scholarship.

During his time at MMA, Boyles-White participated in Boy Scouts, Rotary Interact and served his company as the Company Executive Officer.

Additionally, Boyles-White was on the Leatherneck Baseball team and ran cross-country for the Academy.

Christopher received the Dean's Award, the American Defense Preparedness Association Award, the TAWANI Charitable Foundation, Inc. Award - Best Overall and the Reserve Officers Association Award.

National Merit Scholarship Finalist

Over one million students entered the 2004 National Merit Program by taking the 2002 PSAT. From that group, approximately 16,000 program entrants qualified as semifinalists this past fall. This enables them to continue in the competition to earn one of only 8,000 Merit Scholarship awards.

The Academy is proud to announce the selection this spring of Cadet Nicholas Lugo as a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program.



NICHOLAS LUGO received the National Merit Scholarship Award during an awards ceremony held recently at the Academy.

Cadets of the Month for April

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 April 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)
Academy Sergeant Major

ALPHA COMPANY

JUSTIN PAUL TOTH

Junior - Conroe, TX

"He has done an absolutely superb job in Alpha Company. He is everything that we hope to see in our best cadets. I have enjoyed working with Justin." - 1stSgt Bruce McPeters, USMC (Ret)



BRAVO COMPANY

CARLOS DE LA O

Freshman - Torreon, Mexico

"De La O has the ability to accept responsibility and take care of the other cadets. He is always willing to help in any time of need" - MSgt Clifton Jones, USMC (Ret)



CHARLIE COMPANY

ROSS WILLIAM THOMPSON

Sophomore - Sugar Land, TX

"Cadet Thompson has demonstrated outstanding growth potential. He is a hard worker and is a good example for all students - from 8th graders to seniors." - SgtMaj Al Szczepeck, USMC (Ret)



DELTA COMPANY

SAMUEL VERNON EDWARDS

Junior - Yonkers, NY

"He has displayed a level of maturity and leadership that is far above and beyond that of a young man of his age. He is always ready and willing to lend a hand." - SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



ECHO COMPANY

SPENCER SHEFFIELD

LOGAN

Freshman - Houston, TX

"Logan is an excellent cadet who is dedicated and very loyal. He has an incredibly positive attitude and work ethic and is a model cadet." - GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)



GOLF COMPANY

RICHARD LEE BURROWS

Sophomore - Tucson, AZ

"Cadet Burrows is very impressive in uniform and accomplishes tasks in the absence of orders.

He is and will be one of the leaders in Golf Company." - SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



BANDSMAN

HARRISON CHARLES

TRUSCOTT

Senior - McDonough, GA

"He has always been a strong team player and is certainly one of the best musicians in the band. He hasn't missed a day, been late, or given less than 100 percent in the 3 years he has been here. He will be hard to replace." - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



DRILL TEAM/COLOR GUARD

WILLIAM TODD BALLANCE

Sophomore - Grapevine, TX

"He has displayed the best and most improved attitude on the team this month. This cadet is one that I can truly depend on and I look for great things from him." - MSgt Clifton Jones, USMC (Ret)





Reserve Officers Association Award

Awarded to a first-year cadet who has demonstrated an outstanding combination of military, academic and athletic achievements during the academic year.

Cadet Cpl Nicholas Maldonado

Association of Military Schools and Colleges of the United States Award

Awarded to a cadet who has demonstrated to a high degree, the combination of academic and military excellence and leadership potential.

Cadet Capt Mark C. Kettenhofen

American Defense Preparedness Association Award

Awarded to a member of the senior class who distinguished himself through superior performance in the "Leadership Education" phase of the MCJROTC curriculum, and through outstanding proficiency and achievement in all other facets of the MCJROTC program.

Cadet 1stLt Christopher M Boyls-White

The Retired Officers Association Award

Awarded to a member of the junior class who is in the top ten percent of his class, has an "A" in military science, holds a staff noncommissioned officer billet with the capability and expectation of being promoted to a cadet officer rank in his senior year.

Cadet SSgt Arturo Brana

National Rifle Association Club Championship Award

Awarded to a cadet for excellence in marksmanship as a member of the General Vernon E. Megee Rifle Club. This award can only be received once.

Cadet SSgt Daniel L. Taylor

The Weisenberger Distinguished Marksman-ship Trophy

Awarded to the outstanding overall shooter on the MMA Varsity Rifle Team.

Cadet PFC Walter R. Sweeney

John Philip Sousa Music Award

Awarded in to a cadet who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and interest in instrumental music, singular merit in loyalty and cooperation, and who has displayed those high qualities of conduct that school instrumental music requires.

Cadet LCpl Harrison C. Truscott

Colonel H. Wm. Card Jr., USMC (Retired) Inspirational Leadership Award

Awarded to the graduating cadet officer who best personifies the qualities of honor, integrity, responsibility and loyalty to subordinates so essential to effective leadership.

Cadet Capt Jeremiah A. Lowe

Society of Colonial Wars Award

Awarded to a member of the senior class who has the intent, desire and best chance of becoming a career commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps. This is a cadet who we believe will actively endeavor to perpetuate those sound principles and patriotism so evident in our early patriots.

Cadet 1stLt Bannon L. Lomahquahu

The Military Order of the World Wars Medal
Awarded to the most-improved cadet in the unit, who has advanced both his military and scholastic grades, and who has shown, by his achievements, a desire to serve the United States of America.

Cadet 1stLt Troy W. Yerian



MAJGEN WAYNE Rollings, USMC (Ret), and Mr. C. Lynn Lowder take the pass in review during the Graduation Parade. This is the final parade for the class of 2004.

CADET SGTMAJ Andrew Winney (below) receives this year's Commandant of Cadets Award from Academy SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret).



(ABOVE) AT THE Graduation Parade, Cadet 1stLt Matthew J. Darby was awarded the Echo Company Drill Instructor Award. Each company Drill Instructor selects a cadet who is worthy of special recognition. Presenting the award is GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret).

MILITARY AWARDS



The Women Marines Association MCJROTC Award

Awarded to the most outstanding second-year MCJROTC cadet with excellent academic accomplishment and citizenship, with the highest leadership education grades for his group.

Cadet Capt Ling Bo Chang

The Third Marine Division Award

Awarded to a member of the senior class who has demonstrated an outstanding combination of military and academic achievement, given in the name of those who have served under the banner of the Third Marine Division.

Cadet Capt Spencer J. Mennis

The Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution Award

Awarded to a cadet, 18 years of age or younger, who has participated in school and community activities, fulfills the qualities of honor, service and courage, exhibits leadership ability, is patriotic, understands and appreciates his American heritage and the sacrifices necessary to gain and keep his American freedom; is in good standing militarily and academically at the time of presentation of the award.

Cadet Capt Aubrey H. Snider

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Award
Presented to a cadet who has demonstrated an outstanding degree of leadership potential and ability.

Cadet 1st Sgt Jarod R. Faulk

The Noncommissioned Officers Association JROTC Award

Awarded cadet noncommissioned officer who has consistently exhibited the best military bearing, personal appearance, deportment and leadership ability for the current academic year.

Cadet Sgt Stephan Cooper

Drill Instructor's Award

Awarded to a cadet, selected by his Drill Instructor, who is worthy of special recognition.

- Company A Cadet SSgt Earle E. Frye
- Company B Cadet Sgt Federico Flores
- Company C Cadet Cpl Pedro Diaz de Rivera Summers
- Company D Cadet 1st Sgt Jose R. Cortina
- Company E Cadet 1st Lt Matthew J. Darby
- Company G Cadet 1st Lt Michael A. Harnden



TAWANI Charitable Foundation, Inc., selected Cadet 1st Lt Christopher Boyles-White as "Best Overall." Presenting the award was Mr. Bill Hudson. A long-time supporter of the Academy, Mr. Hudson ran up Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima to honor the memory of those who fought in one of the bloodiest battles in the history of the U.S. Marine Corps and to raise money for the Iwo Jima Museum, located on the Academy's campus.

TAWANI Charitable Foundation, Incorporated

Awarded to cadets in grades 9 through 12 who best exemplify the concept of the "Citizen Soldier" through academic achievement, physical fitness, community service and military knowledge.

9th Grade

Cadet Cpl Adam H. Harris

10th Grade

Cadet Sgt David A. Miller

11th Grade

Cadet Sgt Heng Chen

12th Grade

Cadet 1st Lt Christopher M. Boyls-White

Best Overall

Cadet 1st Lt Christopher M. Boyls-White



CADET BANNON Lomahquahu was awarded the Society of Colonial Wars Award by Col Glenn Hill, MMA Chief of Staff. It is awarded to a member of the senior class who has the intent, desire and best chance of becoming a career commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps.



ACADEMIC AWARDS

Valedictorian Plaque

Given to the graduating senior cadet who has attended MMA the last three or more years, with the highest grade point average.

Hang Li

Salutatorian Plaque

Given to the graduating senior cadet who has attended MMA the last three or more years, with the second highest grade point average.

Aubrey Snider

Colonel Phil Yeckel, USMCR, Award for Athlete of the Year

Presented to the graduating senior who has contributed the most to the athletic program of MMA and who has been enrolled at the academy for at least two years. The name of this year's recipient will be added to the plaque on a trophy permanently displayed at the Academy.

Emmanuel Hawkins

USMC Scholastic Excellence Award

Presented to a cadet who has consistently distinguished himself in the arena of academics and whose personal traits of courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership serve as an example for younger cadets.

Aubrey Snider

CARL FOSTER (below) receives the Mariner of the Year Award. Foster distinguished himself by being the first MMA mariner to cruise more than 250 nautical miles at sea during the fourth quarter alone.

USMC Distinguished Athlete Award

Presented to the junior athlete who is the best role model for younger cadets, and who best exhibits the personal traits of courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership.

Andrew Winney

President's Athletic Award

Presented to the cadet who is an unselfish team player, a tireless worker and an individual who has parlayed sheer hustle, sacrifice and intestinal fortitude into recognition and respect as a two-sport varsity athlete.

Leo Deng

Dean's Award

Presented to the senior who, in the opinion of the Dean, has demonstrated the most improvement scholastically, over the three or more years he has attended MMA. His name will be added to a plaque permanently displayed in Coleman Hall.

Christopher Boys-White

Mariner of the Year Award

Presented to an MMA mariner who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, seamanship and personal courage during marine science boating activities.

Carl Foster

Rolls-Royce Trophy for Excellence in Aerospace

Presented to the cadet who exhibits an outstanding devotion to his aerospace studies.

Jonathan R. Hood

Daughters of the American Revolution Thomas Barlow Chapter American History Award

Presented to the cadet who exhibits maximum effort in his class in American History.

Stephen Cooper

Rensselaer Mathematics and Science Award

Given by the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to the junior class cadet who is the most outstanding student in mathematics and science, and who demonstrates the potential for success in science or a technologically oriented profession.

Yiming Wang

Top Students in Subject

English	Nicholas Dante Lugo
Mathematics	Nicholas Dante Lugo
Science	Aubrey H. Snider
Social Studies	William W. Elliott, IV
Foreign Lang.	David H. Square
Computer Science	Marcos Americus

Top Students in Class

Eighth	Nathaniel Keegan
Freshman	Adam Harris
Sophomore	Stephen Cooper
Junior	Jarod Faulk



AUBREY SNIDER of Spring, Texas (above) is announced as the 2003-2004 Salutatorian. Presenting his certificate is Major General Wayne E. Rollings, USMC (Ret), President of the Academy.

★ ★ ★ ★ ACADEMIC AWARDS

★ U.S. Naval Academy Appointment

Hang Li
Brandon Pina
Aubrey Snider

★ U.S. Military Academy Appointment

Hang Li

★ U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Appointment

Jeremiah Lowe

★ Air Force ROTC Scholarship

Aubrey Snider

★ NROTC Scholarship, Marine Option

Christopher Boyles-White
Hang Li

★ Army ROTC Scholarship

Karl Enriquez

★ Mastery of Leadership Studies Award

Awarded to cadets who have achieved Mastery of Leadership Studies by successfully completing all four years of the MMA Leadership Program, consisting of leadership and ethics, theory and the nature of leadership, leadership as a behavioral science and operational leaderships

Christopher Boyles-White
Ling Bo Chang
Christopher Duggins
Beau Flowers
Joshua Gasaway
Michael Harnden
Jonathan Hood
Mark Kettenhofen
Bannon Lomahquahu
Benjamin Osadchey
Brandon Pina
Troy Yerian
Abraham Yuen
Alex Zamora-Legoff

★ Red Cross Award

Presented by the National Honor Society to a cadet for outstanding work and leadership during the 2003-2004 school year blood drives.

Aubrey Snider



EMMANUEL HAWKINS receives the Colonel Phil Yeckel, USMCR Award for Athlete of the Year from General Wayne E. Rollings, USMC (Ret), President of the Academy, during the Academic Award Assembly.

★ MajGen Robert E. Friedrich Award

Awarded to a senior who has the most outstanding record in both academics and military science.

Nicholas D. Lugo

★ Christopher Heard Scholarship Award

Presented to a junior or senior cadet who maintains at least a 3.0 GPA for one year and demonstrates character, leadership and esprit de corps.

Carl Foster

★ US Marine Corps' "Semper Fidelis" Music Excellence Award

Presented to the cadet who has exhibited the personal traits of diligence, dedication and music excellence while performing as a bandsman or soloist.

Jeremiah Lowe

★ Rotary Interact Club Scholarship Award

Presented to the cadet(s) who participated in Rotary's Interact Club and who demonstrates exemplary performance as a member of the Corps of Cadets.

Bannon Lomahquahu
Mark Kettenhoffen

★ National French Contest Award

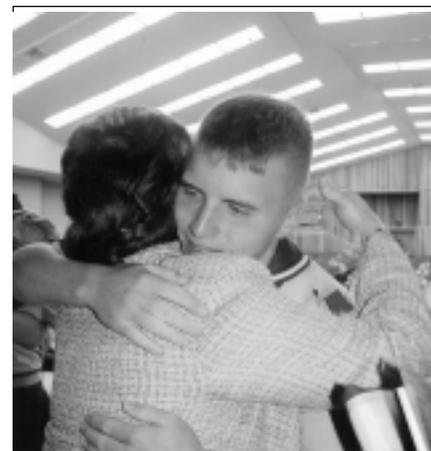
Earned by the highest-ranking student who participated in the 69th annual National French Contest. They were also among the highest in the South Texas Chapter, thus are eligible to receive Fraternite pin.

Alex Medina

★ South Texas French Contest Award

This award is presented to the cadet who placed in the 90th percentile nationally, scoring in the top above one hundred and eight Rio Grande Valley Competitors. This cadet also received a National Bronze Medal, a Laureat pin, a Laureat du Chapitre certificate

Jefferson Thacker



SEAN MCCARVER, a new Eagle Scout, gives his mother a hug after the Eagle Scout ceremony.

The Senior Class of 2004 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Marcos Americus-Ortiz
 Rodrigo Arrillaga-Sanchez
 Ruben Bordes-Grippin
 Christopher Mathew Boyls-White
 Matthew Lamar Burns
 Lingbo Chang
 Rui Chang
 Gary Michael Clifford III
 Mathew Joel Darby
 Sean Darby
 David Warren Davis
 Alfredo Cesar De La Fuente
 Joshua Kane Denney
 Christopher Joseph Dietz
 Christopher Carlin Stokely Duggins
 Michael Carl Ehlenburg
 Karl Enriquez
 Joshua Gavin Graves
 Edmundo Guajardo-Rosas
 Michael Andrew Harnden
 Emmanuel Huchel Hawkins
 Mario Ricardo Hernandez-Saro
 Jonathan Robert Hood
 Robert Charles Houser IV
 John Foster Hurley
 Evan Michael Hye
 Alberto Jasso-Sanchez
 Herbert Vonzell Johnson II
 Nicholas Jay Keating
 Mark Charles Kettenhofen
 Matthew John Kinder
 Matthew Molene Labit
 Hang Li
 Bannon Loren Lomahquahu
 William Alexander Loveless
 Jeremiah Alexander Lowe
 Nicholas Dante Lugo



SENIOR MEMBERS of the Battalion Staff, Alberto Pina, Hang Li, Herbert Johnson, Karl Enriquez, Matthew Burns and Alex Zamora-Legoff salute MajGen Wayne E. Rollings , USMC (Ret) during pass in review for the last time.

Christopher Ivan Maldonado
 Navid James McGee
 Farry Alexander Medina
 Jose Roberto Mendez
 Luis Miguel Meneses-Avalos
 Spencer James Mennis
 Morgan Ryder Cavanagh Merrill
 Michael Clayton Muhlbauer
 Chad Samuel Myers
 Jason Nicolas Myers
 Ryan Patrick Nash
 Jose Angel Negrete-Frebault
 William Stewart Nelms
 Andrew James Nickerson
 Hiroyoshi James Ohara
 Benjamin Natan Osadchey
 Raul Pacchiano-Torres
 Jose Humberto Perez-Garza

Alberto Brandon Pina
 Stephen James Plainte
 Victor Manuel Quinones
 Sterling Taylor Roberts
 Wenceslao Romo-Rodriguez
 Alex S. Rosolovsky
 Felipe Heriberto Sanchez-Saavedra
 Edward Frank Sherer II
 Thomas Victor Smay
 Shawn Patrick Smith
 Timothy Cody Smith
 Aubrey Harmon Snider
 David Holberton Square-Nunez
 Huachen Sun
 Jorge Enrique Talamas-Tafich
 Harrison Charles Truscott
 Carlos Manuel Ulloa Gomez

Alberto Yamin Rocha
 Troy Wesley Yerian
 Abraham Yuen
 Jorge Alejandro Zamora-Legoff



THE 2004 Seniors stand at attention one last time as a cadet of the Marine Military Academy. 11

2003-2004 Eighth Grade Graduation

Jeffrey Lewis Alexander
Coppell, Texas

Mauricio Alvarez-Maldonado
Mexico City, Mexico

Alexander William Barlow
Austin, Texas

Jonathon Michael Brackin
Pineland, Texas

Taylor Colt Christian
Southlake, Texas

Dallas Marshall Coleman
Houston, Texas

Alex Boyd Cooke
Austin, Texas

Christopher James Dougherty
Richland, Texas

Travis Ryan Duncan
Houston, Texas

Christopher Joseph Fleming
Katy, Texas

David Anthony Frascella
West Haven, Connecticut

Logan Richard Frazier
Coppell, Texas

Kyle Thomas Gannon
Denton, Texas

Sam Gasaway
Mercedes, Texas

Samuel Elliot Gordon
Austin, Texas

David Heng
Corsicana, Texas

Pablo Huerta
Laredo, Texas

Christopher Allen Hughes
Edcouch, Texas

Jorge Ricardo Inigo
Edinburg, Texas

Blake Louis Martin Kaelin
Austin, Texas

Sho Kaneko
Yuji-Shi, Japan

Nathaniel Edward Keegan
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Daniel Bryan Knox
Carrollton, Texas

Jeffrey Thanh Lam
Rohnert Park, California

Hunter Worth Logan
Udhailiyah, Saudi Arabia

David William Martens
Kerrville, Texas

Ryan Lee Mayfield
Rowlett, Texas



Receiving the "Top Student in the Class" award for the Eighth Grade Class was Nathaniel Keegan.

Emmanuel McDougal
McAllen, Texas

Shayne Neal McRae
Alexandria, Virginia

Jonathan Taylor Meeker
Ft. Worth, Texas

Gannon Gordon Mennis
Miami, Florida

Robert Brandon Motheral
Kerrville, Texas

Neyyum Nazif
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Abdur Kahman Olajuwon
Sugar Land, Texas

Philip Fred Parkey
Ft. Worth, Texas

John Hancock Porter
Bonita Springs, Florida

Tony L. Prosser
San Antonio, Texas

Damian Kyle Joseph Ravnik
Tracy, California

Saul Romero
Laredo, Texas

Mario Alberto Rubio
Sugar Land, Texas

Virgilio Olmos Sanchez
Xalapa, Mexico

Collin Cameron Shook
Frisco, Texas

Stephan James Robert Smith
Leesburg, Virginia

Casey McCarter Stavert
Los Alamos, New Mexico

Edgar Elliot Steeg
Palm Desert, California

David Anthony Stokes, Jr.
Bedford, Texas

Daniel Thomas Stone
Tracy, California

Adam Barclay Tarver
Rosebud, Texas

Kenneth Taylor
Downey, California

Juan Pablo Toussaint
Guadalajara, Mexico

Fernando Villar
Brownsville, Texas

Chasen Patrick Zorb
Temecula, California



Sports Wrap-up

A Word from Coach Morton



Spring football practice began April 26 and ended May 13. During a three-week period, which included 10 practice sessions, Coach Tom Morton and his staff (Mike Morton, Scott Swinnea, Amos Salas and Ron Lang) drilled and evaluated 32 players. These cadets will form the nucleus for the 2004 Leatherneck team.

After spending five months in the off-season weightlifting program, it was very obvious of the overall team strength and speed.

Returnees on the offensive line will be Brian Simpson, Peter Jager, Adam Gilles and Andrew Winney. Sophomores-to-be, Zack Bowen and Szymon Czerniak will play key roles on offense as well.

Mid-term enrollees, A.J. Shirm and Michael Colton were very impressive and will contribute both on offense and defense.

The backfield will consist of Michael Sanchez at quarterback, Josh Gasaway and John Thomas at fullback, and Jason Quinn and Sean McCarver at the halfback position.

The defensive side of the ball will be led by linebacker returnees: Josh Gasaway, Andrew Winney and Scott Miller.

On the line, Alvaro Johnson, Michael Colton, Donald Speiring and Peter Jager were hustlers and consistent at picking up new stunts.

Leo Deng, Jared Perry and Sean McCarver will be in the secondary. Sophomore-to-be John Thomas had a "solid" spring and will bid for a starting position in the fall. Newcomer Luis Perez looked very impressive at fullback.

"It was a good spring session and with a few new faces and no attrition, the Leathernecks will be solid in 2004," said Coach Tom Morton.

Gilles Places at State Meet in Track



AFTER PLACING first in the shot put and second in the discus at the T.A.P.S. District track meet on April 3, Adam Gilles (above) traveled to Waco, Texas with head track coach Mike Morton. On May 7th and 8th, Gilles competed in the State meet where he was 4th in the shot and 5th overall in the discus.

Hawkins Is Southwest Minnesota Bound



(ABOVE) Emmanuel Hawkins, a cadet at the Marine Military Academy, signed a football letter of intent recently at the school. Witnessing the signing were Head Football Coach Tom Morton and Major General Wayne E. Rollings, USMC (Ret), President of the Academy.

Hawkins, a 5'10", 185-pound running back, signed with Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, Minnesota and plans to attend there this fall.

Hawkins, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Emile H. Hawkins, was awarded Player of the

Week (2 times); voted Most Valuable Player - running back (3 times); selected by the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools for the 1st Team All-District as a running back (3 times) and was also selected by T.A.P.S. for All-State (2 times).

While a sophomore at the Academy, Hawkins rushed for 964 yards, plus 12 touchdowns. His junior year, he would rush for 1,375 yards and 17 touchdowns. As a senior, Hawkins rushed for 1,010 yards and 13 touchdowns.

MANY GENEROUS DONATIONS OF TIME, GIFTS AND EQUIPMENT ARE GIVEN TO THE MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY ANNUALLY.

WITHOUT THESE, MANY NEEDS OF THE CADETS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY WOULD NOT BE MET.

THE ACADEMY WISHES TO THANK ALL OF ITS FRIENDS, FAMILY, ALUMNI, CADETS, TRUSTEES, FACULTY AND STAFF WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND DONATE TO THE MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY.

HOSTS - Helping One Student to Succeed



(Above) Mrs. Earline Folsom (center), a Marine Military Academy Board of Trustees member and loyal supporter, has organized and assisted in the HOSTS program for over five years. Thanking her for her support and help is (left) Mary Schoepner, HOSTS Coordinator and MajGen Wayne E. Rollings, USMC (Ret), President of the Academy.

Athletic Equipment



(Left) Mr. Louis Howard, grandfather of Cadet Peter Jager, and MMA Board of Trustees member Mike Forrester recently donated valuable weightlifting equipment and t-shirts for off-season football training to the MMA athletic program. Posing with their new shirts and equipment (a neck machine and 2 Olympic weight bars) are the off-season coaches and football players.

Museum Donation

Red Cross Blood Drive



(Above) Cadets Mennis and Mendez donate the "gift of life" during a National Honor Society sponsored blood drive.



(Above) Often, the Visitors Center receives donations of personal collections from friends and supporters of the Academy, to be displayed in the Museum. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Tyler recently donated a large portion of their extensive collection of metal toy soldiers to be enjoyed by visitors to the Museum.

Alumni News

Where are they now?

'76

Eric L. Harry - Eric.Harry@elpaso.com (832) 676-7410 Named senior vice president and general counsel of Production and Non-regulated Operations. Will be responsible for all legal functions for El Paso's production operations as well as the company's other non-regulated businesses, which include mid-stream, power, and marketing. Was most recently vice president and associate general counsel for Apache Corporation. Has previously worked with the law firms of Bracewell & Patterson and Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin. Holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University, a Masters of Business Administration from Vanderbilt Graduate School, and a law degree from Vanderbilt Law School.

'78

Jim Garman, LtCol USMCR, - 6 Greenwood Circle, Seymour, CT 06483 jgarman82@sbcglobal.net. Just released from active duty after completing a 2-year activation/mobilization with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 772 (HMH-772 a Reserve CH-53E squadron) in support of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Turned over command of HMH-772 on January 24, 2004 after having had command of the squadron for 2.5 years, completing a very successful deployment in support of ONE, OEF, and OIF. Recently selected for promotion to Colonel. On the civilian side, has returned back to work with Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in Stratford, CT and is still working in the Engineering Department within the Advance Design group currently assigned to the CH-53X project.

'81

Anthony (Fred) Frederick - 5618 Schoolfield Ct., Centreville, VA 20120-2963 Home:(703) 266-6873 (home) Cell: (703) 499-4409 Beeliner86@aol.com Post Graduate; Been married now for going on 12 yrs., with two daughters (10 and 6). Met wife while stationed in the Philippines. "I've been to way too many places to list, a lot of them overseas. We're in Washington DC area now learning to speak Burmese en route to an assignment to the Embassy in Burma as the Air Attache. I'm a Lt Col in the US Air Force, and as a navigator (and procrastinator in not getting my Air War College done) I'll probably retire as a Lt Col, but I've enjoyed life in the Air Force a lot." Bet MMA's changed. "I've always wanted to go back and visit, but it's seems so far out of the way. In that

one PG year MMA shaped me and properly prepared me for life at USAFA. I am forever grateful." Moved back from Okinawa, Japan in January after three years there.

'97

Jack Hightower - Called from Iraq to inform Academy that he is a Sergeant serving in the 3rd Battalion 4th Marine Division with Lima Company and plans to return home in July 2004.

'03

Corey (Tyler) Freeze - Corey.freeze@USMA.edu - Called to check in and see how everything is going. Doing well at West Point. Looking forward to "no longer being a plebe."



(Below) LtCol Jim Garman, class of '78, receiving the squadron colors from my SgtMaj, SgtMaj Johnson, just prior to passing them off to the new CO.



(Above) Photo taken of LtCol Jim Garman, class of '78, while posted in front of my squadron saluting the MAG-49 CO just prior to receiving a Meritorious Service Medal for service during my command tour.



Calendar of Events

June		August	
27	Summer Camp '04 Registration English as a Second Language '04 Registration	1	Band/Drill Team Camp Football Camp Leadership Orientation
		7	Registration for First Year Cadets
July		8-12	Military Orientation for Plebes
23	Field Day	8	Check-in for returning cadets
24	Summer Camp/ESL '04 Graduation	11	Classes begin

Continued from page 1

An avid supporter of Marine Military Academy, Mr. Lowder is an MMA Trustee having served on the Board of Trustees and Advisors since 2000.

After Lowder closed, certificates of completion were handed out to the cadets. The first cadet to cross the stage was Valedictorian, Hang Li with a cumulative GPA of 4.60, followed by the Salutatorian, Aubrey Harmon Snider. He graduates with a cumulative GPA of 4.40.

Li, a 3-year cadet from Houston, Texas, will be attending the United States Military Academy (West Point) in the fall. He is the son of Mr. Yonghu Li and Ms. Peihua Li.

When asked about MMA, Li stated, "MMA has helped me and given me the opportunity for a better future and has helped me to be the best that I can be."

In his commencement address, Cadet Li stated, "We've learned important skills, such as how to rely on others and how to deal with others. I know that my accomplishments could only have been achieved with the help of many others."

During his three years at the Academy, Li received the Cadet of the Month award, the General McGee Award, the USMC Scholastic Leadership Award and the Women Marine Association MCJROTC Award. He participated in varsity swimming and weightlifting.

Snider, son of Mr. John Snider and Ms. Nanette Gowan, all of Spring, Texas, will be attending Texas A&M University - College Station. He hopes to one day work in research development with the United States Air Force.

Snider, a 5-year cadet, has received the Cadet of the Month award, as well as the John Phillip Sousa Music Award. He also earned his Eagle Scout ranking while a cadet at the Academy.

Snider participated in such extracurricular activities as Boy Scouts, National Honor Society, Rotary Interact, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Mighty Leatherneck Band.

"MMA has taught me that I have it within myself to succeed," stated Snider. "I never knew what I was capable of until I was challenged as a student here at MMA."

"Friendships here are forged from values like

Memorials

Mary Mo Belchak
Mary Dell Burkholder
SgtMaj Walter E. Bussey, USMC (Ret)
Donald S. Callahan
Jearl (Jerri) Clark
Maj George Dodge, USA - MMA '69
Paula Frizzell
Pfc Roger Gonzalez, USMC
Col Edmond P. Hartsock, USMC (Ret)
Richard Hey
Joseph Hoffman
Wes Lepper
Frank Lisk
Col William A. (Bull) Miller, USMC (Ret)
Col and Mrs. Floyd R. Moore, USMC (Ret)
Col H.P. Mosca
LtCol Charles Nettles
Mendel H. Perry
Wilma Eugenia Rushing
LtGen Adolph G. Schwenk, USMC (Ret)
Lincoln Bonn Shea
LtCol Frank H. Simonds, USMC (Ret)
John M. Vanderscoff

In Honor
Of:
Robert Seymour - MMA '98

loyalty, honesty and integrity," added Snider. "Most of us will go off to school and meet new friends and people. Those that share our values and ideas will probably become new friends, but they can never replace the friendships created here from scratch."

The Academy extends its sincerest congratulations to the graduating class of 2004 and their families. Good luck in the future.