

MMA Leader

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



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

CELEBRATING 41 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

20 Pages

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Going The Distance

Amidst an overflow crowd of well-wishers comprised of family, staff, faculty, and friends, the Marine Military Academy hosted its 41st Graduation Parade and Commencement on Saturday, May 19th.

MMA's Leatherneck Band took the Parade Deck at 9 a.m., stepping lively and regaling the appreciative audience with patriotic renditions. Academy Sergeant Major Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret) flipped the microphone switch on at 9:10 a.m. sharp, sounding attention followed by the Corps of Cadets marching onto the Parade Grounds. General Cheney addressed the crowd, recapping a successful year aboard MMA. A farewell salute for Academy Chaplain and MMA



OUTSTANDING! MMA President General Cheney grips Cadet Colonel Vincent Cervassi's hand in congratulatory salute as Mr. Earl Adams, presenter of the Peacock Military Academy Alumni Association Award, and Guest of Honor Colonel Metzger (far right) looks on. Cadet Cervassi is this year's recipient of the MMA President's Award.

Director of Planned Giving Capt Leo J. McDonald "Chaplain Mac" CHC USN (Ret) and wife Shirley, longtime MMA supporters, drew a standing ovation from the crowd. Chaplain McDonald and Guest of Honor

Colonel Peter T. Metzger, USMC (Ret), *Vice Chairman of Christian & Timbers* joined General Cheney in Parade Review of MMA's Corps of Cadets. As seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen made their way down Iwo Jima Boulevard - some for the last time as a MMA cadet - parents and loved ones scurried after them, eager to capture the moments photographically and be the first to shake their hands on a year well-done.

With an ample abundance of pomp and circumstance, Commencement got underway at 11 a.m. in the school's Phil

Yeckel Memorial Auditorium. MMA President Brigadier General Stephen Cheney, USMC (Ret) led the processional comprised of Guest of Honor Colonel Metzger, Academy Chaplain McDonald; Academy Dean Dr. John Butler; Academy Sergeant Major Ford Kinsley; drill instructors; and faculty down the aisle and up onto the auditorium stage. Dr. John Butler stepped forward, "Ladies and Gentlemen...Marine Military Academy's Graduating Class of 2007!" Graduating seniors made their way to the rows of reserved seating, led by an ever-smiling Valedictorian Zachary Bowen.

"Here is my single piece of advice: Find out what you love to do....and DO IT!"

—Colonel Peter T. Metzger, USMC (Ret)

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Guest Speaker Colonel Metzger rendered a stirring address, wrapping up with, "Here is my single piece of advice: Find out what you love to do....and DO it!" (You can view Colonel Metzger's speech and photographic coverage of Graduation on MMA website located at: <http://www.mma-tx.org/images/whatsnew/graduation07/index.htm>)

Salutatorian Andrew Davis, son of Bruce and Terri Davis of Aurora, Colorado stepped forward and received the Sylvia and Major Mike Lewis Achievement Award for Academic Excellence. (*Major Lewis was a former Dean and instructor at MMA, passing away on Wednesday, May 30, 2007.*) Besides excelling academically, Andrew has earned several military honors including the Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States Award, U.S. Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence, American Legion Bronze Medal for Scholastic Excellence, TAWANI Charitable Foundation, Inc. Best Overall, and U.S. Marine Corps' Scholastic Excellence Award. Andrew also earned selection by the National Merit Scholarship Program as one of 800 nation-wide Black American high school seniors winning National Achievement Scholarships provided by over 50 corporate organizations, professional associations, and by the national Merit Scholarship Corporation. Andrew plans to travel to Germany to participate in the Bundestag Youth Exchange for one year, then return to the United States to attend Yale University on scholarship, then plans to join the Peace Corps and participate in the Doctors Without Borders program.

Valedictorian Zachary Bowen, son of Robert and Rhonda Bowen of Harlingen, Texas was summoned to stage to receive the **Sylvia and Major Mike Lewis Achievement - Valedictorian Award** for academic excellence. In the five years he

has attended MMA, Zachary has earned several military honors including U.S. Marine Corps Athlete of the Year Award, Cadet of the Month, Daughters of the American Revolution Citizenship Award, National Sojourners Americanism and Tawani Charitable Foundation Awards as a junior; also attaining the rank of Company Commander, and Cadet Captain. Zachary participated in Rotary Interact Club (this year as President), Boy Scouts of America (attaining Eagle Scout ranking, the highest possible achievement in scouting), National Honor Society, and Leatherneck Varsity Football and Wrestling. Zachary is this year's recipient of the **Colonel H. Wm. Card Jr. USMC (Ret) Inspirational Leadership Award** which honors a graduating cadet officer who best personifies the qualities of **honor, integrity, responsibility and loyalty to subordinates which is so essential to effective leadership**. Zachary has earned scholarship to and will attend Texas A & M University in Fall 2007, then plans to pursue a career as an Engineer or take an active role within the family business. Zachary delivered the following address, "Before I say anything, I would like to thank all the people who helped me make the best of the past five years; people who, without their help, I would not be up on this stage today. First of all, and I'm sure all the cadets in Golf Company can agree with me, I would like to thank Sergeant Major Wilson, who has been there since my first day of Summer Camp to push me to and beyond what I may have thought was my best; Staff Sergeant



Valedictorian Zachary Bowen addresses the audience during MMA's Class of 2007 Graduation.

Jaramillo, who has always been there, and who this past semester has been preparing me for 'real world' leadership; all the teachers, for passing on all your knowledge to myself and my fellow seniors; all the staff, military, academic, maintenance, who do more behind the scenes than any one of us could understand. Last, but not least, I would like to thank my friends and my family, my family who has always been there to support me; and my friends who were always there with anything I needed...from a cheerful smile to a helping hand...thank you for being there. And thanks to everyone else who was around to help...for anything - no matter how little...thank you. **To the junior cadets present and anyone else still in high school, always, always, always do the right thing, and never, ever quit.** And, in parting, to my fellow seniors, a Gaelic blessing that was special to my grandfather:

*'May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.'*

Colonel Peter T. Metzger, USMC (Ret) - Vice Chairman, Christian and Timbers

- Graduated University of CO, 1969, B.A. International Relations
- Commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant, USMC Served as Rifle Platoon/Scout Sniper Platoon Commander - Republic of Vietnam
- Returned to MCRD - San Diego serving in various commands
- Served from 1978-79 as Amphibious Operations Office of ROK/US Combined Forces Command - Korea
- Graduated with honors from Marine Corps Command and Staff College in 1982
- Served in White House as Marine Corps Aide to President Reagan
- Served in First Marine Division as Executive Officer
- Graduated from Inter-American Defense College

- Accredited as Delegate to Inter-American Defense Board and Joint U.S.-Mexican Defense Commission while assigned to HQ-USMC
- Commanded 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, serving as Commander, Landing Force, U.S. 6th Fleet; Commandant NATO Task Force 504; Commander, Landing Force U.S. Central Command off Somalia coast
- Qualified Military Parachutist
- Graduated Amphibious Warfare School
- Fellow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Seminar XXI (1990-91)
- Personal decorations include: The Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit with Gold Star; Bronze Star with Combat "V"; Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Combat Action Ribbon

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A hearty round of congratulations goes out to **Dr. Jada Thacker**, MMA Social and Naval Science Instructor, earning his **Ed.D. in Educational Leadership** through Texas A&M Kingsville, graduating May 11, 2007.

- Number of Semester Hours/Time Required: 69
- Postgraduate Semester Hours: 4 years to completion (2003-2007)
- Other Education: B.A. Political Science, University of Texas-Arlington; M.A. Political Science, Texas A&M University
- Dissertation Title: "A Study of a Theme-Based Curriculum for Secondary American History Education"
- A lifetime of learning: PRICELESS! 🍷

MMA Corps of Cadets Names English Instructor Sheila Figueroa Teacher of Academic Year 2006-2007

Each year MMA Corps of Cadets selects the **Teacher of the Year** through a candid ballot process. The teacher selected is presented with a \$1,000 check and has his/her photo and name engraved on a plaque which resides in Coleman Hall.

For the 2006-2007 Academic Year, the Corps of Cadets selected English Instructor Sheila Figueroa. Please join MMA's Corps of Cadets in extending congratulations to Mrs. Sheila Figueroa.

Ooh-Rah! Ooh-Rah! Ooh-Rah!



MMA'S 2006-2007 Teacher of the Year Mrs. Sheila Figueroa receives a dozed red roses and a check from MMA President General Cheney on behalf of MMA Corps of Cadets. 🍷



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Summer Reading List for Juniors and Parents

Recently I began looking at some of my personal reference books concerning college research and college guidance and it occurred to me that some parents and their cadets might benefit from reading them also. Below are several books that I feel would be of great use for rising juniors. Reading them, I hope, will prompt some thought regarding his college selection. I also feel that these books will encourage decision-making with regard to finding a college "fit". The last book mentioned, *Letting Go: A parent's guide to understanding the College Years* is good reading for parents of juniors and graduating seniors. Good Reading! Mrs. Farris, *The "College Room Lady"*

Less Stress, More Success: A New Approach to Guiding Your Teen Through College Admissions and Beyond by Marilee Jones and Kenneth R. Ginsburg - Co-written by a top college admissions dean and a leading pediatrician, this book "delivers strategies for surviving the admissions process while

COLLEGE ROOM CORNER

strengthening parent-child relationships, managing the stress of applying to college, and building resilience to meet challenges today and in the future. *Less Stress, More Success* is just what parents and teens need to thrive during this important rite of passage into adulthood."

College Unranked: Ending the College Admissions Frenzy by Lloyd Thacker - College Unranked is a collection of 20 essays all by college presidents, deans, directors, and others in admissions and higher education. The editor, Lloyd Thacker, wrote the introduction, four sets of "Editor's Stories," and the summary and recommendations. The theme of the book, which runs through the essays, is that "Commercialism's intrusion into college admission has transformed a uniquely American educational experience into a problematic American commercial exercise." Bob Laird, former Director of Undergraduate Admission, University of California, Berkeley states "*College Unranked* is the most important effort yet to yank back the college application/admission process from the grasp of college rankings, commercial guidebooks, and expensive private consultants, and to restore it where it belongs: in the hands of students and their parents. The voices of the book's contributors are a calm, thoughtful force propelling us through the national blast of anxiety that dominates college selection and admission."

Colleges That Change Lives: 40 Schools You Should Know About Even If You're Not a

Straight-A Student by Loren Pope - Pope discusses 40 colleges, mostly in the Northeast, South, and Midwest. It highlights schools that select students who have a wide range of abilities, not necessarily the cream of the crop academically, but who exhibit a desire to learn. The atmosphere at these institutions is collaborative rather than competitive and they feature close interaction between students and faculty. Overviews of academic standings, admission requirements, quotes by faculty and students, points of geographic interest, and strengths in relation to other schools are given for each selection.

Letting Go: A Parents' Guide to Understanding the College Years, Fourth Edition by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treeger - *Letting Go* is about what it feels like for parents when their kids go off to college. The authors provide a compassionate approach, practical information, and advice about the physical and emotional processes of letting go. They discuss the college-age child's search for identity, independence, and intimacy; give a succinct and accurate description of how college life has changed over the decades; and provide a year-by-year breakdown of what to expect. In addition, you can read about typical and not-so-typical problems including crime, drug and alcohol use, and sexual issues. Of special note is the focus on orientation and the freshman year, including the disorientation parents feel once the drop-off has been made. 🍷

Cadets of the Month for April '07

Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for 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)

ALPHA COMPANY

DEREK HURLEY

Senior - Chicago, IL

"Cadet Hurley has made huge strides in both the areas of leadership and maturity in general. It's been a great pleasure to see the lights come on in this young man's mind. He's become very reliable, loyal, and most importantly RESPONSIBLE. I'm proud of Derek for having the mental and moral strength to affect the changes he's made in himself. He has truly earned this prestigious recognition." - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



CHARLIE COMPANY

JACOB CRABTREE

Junior - Lompoc, CA

"Cadet Crabtree has come a long way and done a great job. He demonstrates solid leadership skills while maintaining good military conduct at all times. During CCQ he ensures academic subjects are conducted in an outstanding manner. Cadet Crabtree sets a fine example for all to follow." - GySgt Antonio Aguilar, USMC (Ret)



DELTA COMPANY

JOHN ROY

Junior - Harlingen, TX

"Cadet Roy has contributed greatly not only to the success of his platoon but also Delta Company. He exhibits excellent work ethic, a 'can-do' attitude, and consistently sets an excellent example for subordinate cadets." - SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



ECHO COMPANY

MICHAEL KUHR

Sophomore - Wichita, KS

"Cadet Kuhr is a 1st-year cadet who has matured and done a great job as Squad Leader. He's always willing to learn more about his job and takes care of his men in his platoon. He's earned the billet of Company Guide, and I look forward to his assuming more leadership roles within Echo Company."

- GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)



FOX COMPANY

ANGEL MUNOZ CORONA

Sophomore - Jalisco, MEXICO

"Cadet Munoz has made great strides in both academics and the style of leadership he consistently displays, especially for a 1st-year cadet. Assigned to 1st Platoon as Squad Leader, he demands a teamwork environment, taking pride in self and that of Fox Company. His initiative and 'can-do' attitude earned him selection for this prestigious recognition." - MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)



GOLF COMPANY

JAMES FUQUA

Senior - Corpus Christi, TX

"Cadet Fuqua has led Golf Company in two billets - as Platoon Sergeant and as Platoon Commander and has done an exceptionally fine job at both. He can be depended on to get the job done regardless of what the task may be."

- SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



BANDSMAN

JAMES FLOWERS

Sophomore - Colleyville, TX

"Cadet Flowers has consistently flourished in the MMA Band. Throughout this past school year he has set himself apart from his peers as a true and genuinely-concerned leader. He strives to improve himself, his section, and the overall capabilities of the Band. He has earned selection as incoming Band Drum Major, and I look forward to his continued leadership in the years ahead."

- CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



DRILL TEAM/COLOR GUARD

SCOTT GRIFFIN

Sophomore - Ovilla, TX

"Cadet Griffin is a 2nd-year cadet who strives for excellence and continues to be focussed on MMA's vision. His 'team player' attitude and will to compete is a direct reflection of the Drill Team's outstanding performance. His willingness to take the initiative and 'can-do' mindset has earned him this outstanding recognition." - MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)



Military Department Promotions

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

CHARLIE Company

- COX, LYNDESEY-Cadet Staff Sergeant/ Platoon Guide
- CRABTREE, JACOB-Cadet Sergeant/ Platoon Sergeant
- EISELE, LOGAN-Cadet Sergeant/ Squad Leader
- HENG, DAVID-Cadet Staff Sergeant/ Platoon Sergeant
- JUAREZ SALAZAR, ALEJANDRO-Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
- LOPEZ, JUAN-Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
- RUBIO, PEDRO-Cadet Staff Sergeant/ Platoon Guide
- TREVINO, EMILIANO-Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Guide
- BREWER, MICHAEL-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member; *and then to* Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader
- CEPEDA CARDENAS, MARIO-Cadet Sergeant/Company Laundry NCO
- GEORGE, NICHOLAS-Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
- GONZALEZ DE LEON, ANGEL-Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
- HILLARD, STEVEN-Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
- JACKSON, JONATHAN-Cadet Sergeant/Squad Member
- KEYES, ANDREW-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader; *and then to* Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
- KUHR, MICHAEL-Cadet Sergeant/ Company Guidon Bearer
- LEDESMA-VILLARREAL, FERNANDO-Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
- MARSHALL, TREY-Cadet Corporal/ Platoon Guide
- NOEL, AUSTIN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member; *and then to* Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- OROZCO, MATTHEW-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- PEREZ, MIGUEL-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- RAY, TYLER-Cadet Staff Sergeant/ Company Guidon Bearer; *and then to* Cadet Second Lieutenant/Public Affairs Officer
- REYNOLDS, JOSHUA-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SACK, DYLAN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SALAMUN, ANTHONY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- SHIN, DONG-Cadet Sergeant/ Squad Member
- SMITH, AUSTIN-Cadet Corporal/ Platoon Guide
- SWAN, COREY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- PERRY, CHARLES-Cadet Corporal/ Squad Leader
- SMITH, AUSTIN -Cadet Sergeant/ Platoon Sergeant
- SWAN, COREY-Cadet Lance Corporal/ Squad Leader
- VIERS, PATRICK-Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Commander

DELTA Company

- ANDERSON III, JOHN-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- BLANCHARD, VICTOR-Cadet First Sergeant/CO First Sergeant
- CROWLEY, OISIN-Cadet Sergeant/ CO Education SNCO
- DAVIDSON, GARY-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader
- DE LA GARZA, ALFREDO-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- DE SANTIS, CRAIG-Cadet Staff Sergeant/CO Supply Sergeant
- DUGRENIER, CODY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- FLORES, MOISONY-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader
- GAO, PENG-Cadet Private First Class/ Squad Member
- GARCIA, PHILLIP-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- LEMONS, JACOB-Cadet Lance Corporal/Fire Team Leader
- MALEY, ROBERT-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- NEWTON, MICHAEL-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
- OTTOVEGGIO, JEREMY-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
- ROY, JOHN-Cadet Sergeant/Company Clerk
- YANG, FAN-Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Guide

ECHO Company

- ADAIR II, ASA-Cadet Corporal/ Company Education SNCO
- ARANDA, DIAMOND-Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader
- BAUER, THOMAS-Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member; *and then to* Cadet Lance Corporal/Fire Team Leader

GOLF Company

- MEYER, PRESTON-Cadet Captain/ Battalion Staff Officer

BATTALION PAO, SOUNDING OFF...



Finally, the end nears...as of this writing. At this time of the year, seniors are dying to graduate. Even though the academic year is almost over, we still have few events to attend: Semester Finals, Eagle Scout Ceremony, and Graduation Parade. Summer Break is the best, but before cadets taste its sweetness, they taste the bitterness first: Second Semester Finals. Semester Finals are demanding; but for those seniors who obtained the "A" for both semesters, they are exempted. On 2nd weekend of April, cadets had Parent's Weekend. We enjoyed a few great events: Casino Night, Barbecue Party, and "Back Forty" trials. Even though the courses were demanding, parents were eager enough to take on the rappelling tower, rock climbing, and zip lines. They truly showed their courage. I believe parents enjoyed the weekend more than cadets! Along with Parent's Weekend, the Corps also had the Sports Banquet, and Cadets who accelerated in athletic abilities were prized.

On the 27th on April, the French Class had a special night, preparing many French cuisines for competition on the following day at the University of Texas Pan American. Along with students, I also participated in this whole process. It was very nice to see all working together. On the following day, the competition was also very successful; Cadet Hobby placed 3rd in sight-reading and Cadet Hume placed 3rd in recitation.

At the same time with Summer Break, Summer Camp is coming up. Summer Camp instructors already finished their training. For them, after a month of short break, they will report to their company on June 27th.

This is the last column for the Leader this year. However, I, along with many others will be returning next year. I can assure you that we are all kicking it in and working hard. Until then, OOOO-RAAAHH. 🇺🇸

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

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

CLASS OF 2007 CELEBRATION

The 41st edition of Marine Military Academy's Senior Banquet got underway on Friday, May 18th, 6 p.m. in the Florence King Athletic Center. Class of 2007 seniors, parents, siblings, grandparents, Academy staff and faculty were greeted by MMA Social Directress Monica Bates and her two lovely daughters, then treated to a sumptuous banquet of plank steak, vegetable medley, baby red potatoes, chocolate mousse and New York cheese cake. MMA Corps of Cadets Commander **Vincent Cervassi** served as emcee for the evening's events, smoothly moving through each order of end-of-the-year "Senior" business. Each year, MMA selects and presents the **Marine Corps Officer's Mameluke Sword**. MMA Alum Class of '79 and Board Trustee **Craig Matteson** was on hand to present the traditional **Marine Corps Officer's Mameluke Sword** to deserving senior Cadet **Kellen Lloyd Stuhlmiller**.

GOING THE DISTANCE



GOING THE DISTANCE

Mr. Matteson surprised the Seniors during his "Senior Address", reading from a book by Dr. Seuss with simply-stated, yet ingenious observations on life such as "*Young cat, if you keep your eyes open enough, oh, the stuff you would learn! The most wonderful stuff!*" **Five-year Plankholders** received a plaque and well-deserved (and earned!) standing ovation from the audience in recognition of 'staying the course' and truly 'going the distance': **Cadets Zachary Bowen, Christopher Latos, Frederick Hoff III, Craig Warner DeSantis**.



Plankholder Zachary Bowen



Plankholder Craig Warner DeSantis



Plankholder Frederick Hoff III



Plankholder Christopher Latos (left) and Cadet Battalion Commander Vincent Cervassi (right)



Brother, I'll Meet You By the Old Oak Tree...

On Friday, May 18th, 8:30 a.m. in MMA's Memorial Gardens located behind the IWO JIMA Monument, MMA's Class of 2007, represented by Cadets **Vincent Cervassi, Andrew Davis, Tyler Secret and Preston Meyer**, planted a live oak tree, a sapling grown from acorns harvested from the Stephen F. Austin Tree located on the site of where Austin drew his last death, aboard the Brazoria County plantation now owned by Billy F. Price. This tradition of dedicating a live oak tree in honor of MMA's graduating class began forty-one years ago with MMA Class of 1966, and each sapling has been a product of The Stephen F. Austin Tree. Each graduating class is not only a part of MMA history but also the great state of Texas! **Returning MMA Class of 2007 ALUMNI: Drop by the Memorial Garden frequently to check the growth status of YOUR oak tree...and don't forget your camera!**





Marine Military Academy President's Award

Awarded to a member of the senior class who has demonstrated outstanding leadership ability, excellence in scholastic achievement, active participation in extracurricular activities, and who best personifies the most outstanding cadet in the academic year.

Cadet Colonel Vincent R. Cervassi

American Legion Bronze Medal for Scholastic Excellence

Awarded to a member of the senior class who has achieved scholastic excellence in all academic courses to include JROTC subjects. This cadet must have demonstrated qualities of leadership and actively participated in student activities such as student organizations, constructive activities or sports.

Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Davis

American Legion Bronze Medal for Military Excellence Award

Awarded to a member of the senior class who has maintained an excellent academic standing, including all JROTC subjects, and who has demonstrated outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character and citizenship.

Cadet Lieutenant Richard J. Powell

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 First Lieutenant Christopher A. Ruwaldt

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 First Sergeant Derek W. Sooby

Marine Military Academy Commandant of Cadets' Award

Awarded to a member of the junior class who has demonstrated outstanding leadership ability; excellence in scholastic achievement, active participation in extracurricular activities, and who best personifies the underclass cadet with the most potential for leadership in the next academic year.

Cadet Sergeant Major Edgar E. Steeg

The Military 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 non-commissioned officer billet with the capability and expectation of being promoted to a cadet officer rank in his senior year.

Cadet Gunnery Sergeant Colt T. Marcyan

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 Staff Sergeant Joseph P. Tannehill

The Weisenberger Distinguished Marksmanship Trophy

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

Cadet Captain William M. Musa

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 Gunnery Sergeant Travis R. Duncan

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 Captain Zachary C. Bowen

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 First Sergeant Victor C. Blanchard

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 Staff Sergeant William C. Akin

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 First Lieutenant William M. Hardee

The Noncommissioned Officers Association JROTC Award

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

Cadet Sergeant Lionel Rodriguez

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Award

Presented to a cadet who has demonstrated an outstanding degree of leadership potential and ability.

Cadet Captain James P. Corsentino

Drill Instructor's Award

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

Company A

Cadet Corporal Jonathan G. Webster

Company C

Cadet First Sergeant Andrew E. Alexander

Company D

Cadet First Lieutenant Eric M. Harrison

Company E

Cadet First Sergeant Manuel A. Sierra

Company F

Cadet Corporal Angel Munoz Corona

Company G

Cadet Sergeant Flint C. Yerian

Sons of the American Revolution Award

Awarded to a cadet who has good character, adherence to military discipline, leadership ability, and patriotic understanding of the importance of JROTC training.

Cadet Sergeant David Rodriguez

Daughters of the American Revolution Award

Awarded to a cadet with an excellent academic record, who has demonstrated dependability and good character, adherence to military discipline, leadership ability, and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of JROTC training.

Cadet Sergeant James D. Flowers

Veterans of Foreign Wars Award

Awarded to a cadet who has shown the most overall improvement in academic and military standing during the current school year.

Cadet Staff Sergeant Thomas B. McDonough

Senior Marine Instructors Award

Awarded to a cadet who distinguishes himself through superior performance, outstanding proficiency and achievement in all facets of the MCJROTC program.

Cadet Captain Tate R. Landin

The Marine Corps Association Award

Presented to member of the senior class who is the honor graduate of his JROTC unit.

Cadet First Lieutenant Carlos N. Torres-Gonzalez

MILITARY AWARDS, cont'd. 8th Grade Graduation

The Naval Reserve Association Award

Awarded to a senior who has demonstrated superior achievement during the academic year.

Cadet First Lieutenant James Rodriguez

National Sojourners Americanism Award

Awarded to a member of the junior class who has demonstrated, by his actions and attitude, outstanding patriotism and Americanism, as well as noteworthy leadership within the Corps of Cadets.

Cadet First Sergeant Kyle T. Gannon

Semper Fidelis Award

Awarded to a first year cadet who has been faithful to his school; displayed selfless, steadfast spirit and devotion to the MCJROTC program, as well as the school and its activities; maintained excellent academic achievements; and demonstrated outstanding citizenship habits.

Cadet Sergeant Oisin Crowley

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 Corporal Jonathan G. Webster

10th Grade

Cadet Sergeant Daniel Khalil

11th Grade

Cadet First Sergeant Andrew E. Alexander

12th Grade

Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Andrew J. Davis

Best Overall

Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Andrew J. Davis

Scouts of the Year

9th Grade

Cadet Corporal Jonathan Webster

11th Grade

Cadet Corporal Patrick Davis

Academic Awards, cont'd.

The Rotary Scholarship Award

Awarded by Rotary Club to an Interact student who exhibits strong community regard through active community service, and who maintains high academic standards.

Cadet Andrew James Davis



Pictured on left receiving certificate: Cadet Thomas Parrott; on right: Trenton Jackson.

On Friday, May 18th, 1:30 p.m., in MMA's Phil Yeckel Auditorium, the following twenty-five 8th grade cadets stepped forward and received certificates of 8th grade completion, culminating their first academic year aboard Marine Military Academy:

- Bennett Lee Blocker •
- Brian Duncan Breen •
- Elijah J. Brown •
- Alan Chavez-Oseguera •
- Dmyro Chervonoshtan •
- Nicholas Xavier Christensen •
- Richard Kramer Cook •
- Hayden Alexander Crum •
- Alfredo Issac De La Garza •
- Kyle Avery Foster •
- Javier Alejandro Garcia •
- Nicholas Allen Gerhard •
- Curtis Carter Hamilton
- Logan Dean Heidt
- Oliver Abernathy Hensarling
- John Vlad Hilliard
- Trenton Cordell Jackson
- Jack David Koedyker
- Mauricio David Licardo
- Robert Lee Maley
- Tyler Patrick Maloon
- Thomas Mitchell Oliver Parrott
- Ruben Julian Perez
- Jose Antonio Chiunti Salto
- David Anthony Walker •



OORAH to these students, their parents, and instructors on accomplishing this very important milestone!!!



Many, Many Heartfelt Thanks To:

A supportive **Parents' Organization**. These parents pitch in and support the Corps of Cadets with many different endeavors...from birthday and pizza parties to off-campus field trips and generous contributions. They offer great support to MMA Faculty and Staff--they're an integral part of MMA.

PRESIDENT & DELTA Company Parent:

Leigh DeSantis

VICE-PRESIDENT, SPRING FLING

Chairman & GOLF Company Parent:

Elizabeth Tipton

SECRETARY & DELTA Company Parent:

Dana Hanchey

TREASURER & GOLF Company Parent:

Terry Garcia-Gannon

PARLIMENTARIAN & ECHO Company

Parent: Tracy Nordbak

ALPHA Company Parent: Marion Cervassi

CHARLIE Company Parent: Pam &

Paul Cox

FOX Company Parent: Linda Motheral

GOLF Company Parent: Rhonda Bowen



LABOR OF LOVE. MMAPO President and DELTA Company Parent Leigh DeSantis receives Certificate of Appreciation and a well-deserved pat on the back from MMA President BGen Cheney. **OORAH!**

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.
Cadet Zachary Chandler Bowen

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.
Cadet Andrew James Davis

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.
Cadet Tate Ryan Landin

USMC Scholastic Excellence Award
Presented to a cadet who has consistently distinguished himself in the area of academics and whose personal traits of courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership serve as an example for younger cadets.
Cadet Andrew James Davis

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.
Cadet Jonathan Thomas Jackson

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.
Cadet William Michael Hardee

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.
Cadet Victor Calise Blanchard

U.S. Marine Corps' Music Excellence Award
The U.S. Marine Corps' "Semper Fidelis" Music Excellence Award is presented to the cadet who has exhibited the personal traits of diligence, dedication and music excellence while performing as a bandsman or soloist.
Cadet Travis Ryan Duncan

Mariner of the Year Award
Presented to an MMA mariner who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, seamanship and personal courage during marine science boating activities.
Cadet William Mauro Musa

Rolls-Royce Trophy for Excellence in Aerospace
Presented to the cadet who exhibits an outstanding devotion to his aerospace studies.
Cadet Austin Garrett Shuffield

Major General Robert E. Friedrich Award
Established in memory of Major General Robert E. Friedrich, longtime supporter of MMA, who left a bequest that will, each year, provide award to a senior who exhibits the most outstanding record in both academics and military science.
Cadet Christopher Aaron Ruwalt

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.
Cadet Patrick Allen Viers

Daughters of the American Revolution American History Essay Contest Award
Presented to the cadet who exhibits maximum potential in American History essay.
Cadet Robert Lee Maley

Rensselear Mathematics and Science Award
Given by the Rensselear 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.
Cadet Nathaniel Edward Keegan

Top Students in Subject
English **Cadet Nathaniel Edward Keegan**
Mathematics **Cadet Andrew Alexander**
Science **Cadet Nathaniel Edward Keegan**
Social Studies **Cadet Andrew Brown Thomas**
Foreign Language **Cadet Eric Michael Harrison**
Computer Science **Cadet Jose Mario Martinez**
Band **Cadet Travis Ryan Duncan**

Top Students in Class
Eighth **Cadet Thomas Mitchell Parrott**
Freshman **Cadet Ricardo Rodriguez**
Sophomore **Cadet Michael David Karfunkle**
Junior **Cadet Bert Peter Mouler**

Chris Heard Scholarship Award
Established in memory of former cadet Chris Heard. Awarded each year 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.
Cadet Kyle Thomas Gannon

Earning Army ROTC Four-Year Scholarship and Accepting Virginia Military Institute:
Cadet Tyler Ryan Secrest

Earning Army ROTC Four-Year Scholarship to Texas A&M Kingsville:
Cadet Tate Ryan Landin

Receiving Scholarship to Universities other than Service Academies*:
Cadet Aadil Alidina
Cadet Dylan Boldt
Cadet Zachary Bowen
Cadet Arturo Cerna
Cadet Vincent Cervassi
Cadet Andrew Davis
Cadet Eric Harrison
Cadet Nikki Hill
Cadet Kevin Houser
Cadet William Musa
Cadet Raby Plank
Cadet Richard Powell
Cadet James Rodriguez
Cadet Christopher Ruwaldt
Cadet Tyler Secrest
Cadet Kellen Stuhlmiller
Cadet Justin Watters
Cadet Zijian Yang

* MMA recognizes that other senior cadets will receive scholarships that are not listed here.

Dustin Wade Tallichet Scholarship Award
Established in memory of Dustin Wade Tallichet, 1993 MMA and eventual Texas A&M graduate. Awarded to a senior cadet of good moral character and leadership who will be attending Texas A&M University.
Cadet Tate Ryan Landin

National Merit Scholarship Award
Given by National Achievement Scholarship Program to outstanding Black American students to be used for undergraduate study at regionally accredited U.S. colleges and universities.
Cadet Andrew James Davis

National French Contest Awards
The organization for the National French Contest is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French.

Earning **Laureat Medallion and Laureat Pin** for performance at National French Contest, earning 1st Place in Local Chapter and 9th place in Nation:

Cadet Geoffrey Alexander Hobby
Earning **Fraternite Pin** and **Certificate** from South Texas Chapter for 2nd Place in French Level Four:

Cadet Eric Harrison
Earning **Fraternite Pin** and **Certificate** from South Texas Chapter for 3rd Place in French Level Two:

Cadet Carlos Torres-Gonzalez
Earning a **Certificat de Reussite** for scoring among the top 50% of the 104,000 students taking the National French Exam:
Cadet Alejandro Juarez-Salazar: French 1
Cadet Mario Cepeda: French 2
Cadet Angel Gonzalez de Leon: French 2

Valedictorian



Zachary Chandler Bowen, son of Mr. & Mrs. Rob Bowen of Harlingen, TX
 •TX A&M U.: College Station*
 •Baylor U.
 •S. Methodist U. (SMU)

MMA CLASS OF 2007...

***** *Colleges Applied To and Accepted At* *****



Aadil Alidina, son of Mr. & Mrs. Nooruddin Alidina of Los Angeles, CA
 •Stetson U.*
 •Jacksonville U.
 •Aurora U.
 •U. of the Pacific

Arturo Antonio Cerna, son of Mr. & Mrs. Arturo Cerna of Lower Lake, CA
 •Norwich U.*
 •Sonoma State U.
 •The Citadel



Vincent Reno Cervassi, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Cervassi of St. Louis, MO
 •U. Of Houston: Main*
 •Webster U.-MO
 •U. of MO at Columbia
 •Lamar U.
 •U. of Nevada at Las Vegas



Jimmy Glen Enos, Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Enos of Fort Worth, TX
 •TX A&M U. Galveston*
 •Tarrant County College

Serge Dusheyko, son of Mr. & Mrs. Serge Dusheyko, Sr. of Alameda, CA
 •San Francisco State U.*
 •CA State – Hayward
 •San Jose State U.

Eric Michael Harrison, son of Ms. Sherry Harrison of Tucson, AZ
 •U. of Arizona*
 •N. Arizona U.



Nikki Lee Hill, son of Ms. Sharmarie Hill & Mr. Melvin Hill, both of Phoenix, AZ
 •Norwich U.*

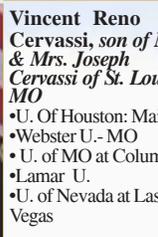
Daniel Elliot Bertalot, son of Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bertalot of Sugar Land, TX
 •TX A&M U.: Corpus Christi*
 •Lamar U.
 •TX A&M U.: Galveston



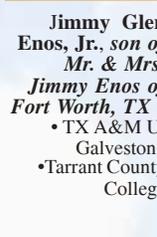
Victor Calise Blanchard, son of Mr. & Mrs. Judith Blanchard of Houston, TX
 •U. Of Houston: Main*



James Peter Corsentino, son of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Corsentino of Napa, CA
 •Napa Valley College*



Michael Duffy Cureton, son of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cureton of Colleyville, TX
 •West TX A&M U.*
 •Tarleton State U.



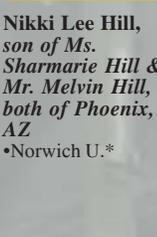
Tyrel Lyle Genoff, son of Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Genoff of Kingwood, TX
 •TX State*
 •TX Tech*
 •Baylor U.
 •U. of Houston: Main
 •U. of Wyoming
 •U.S. Military Academy Prep School



James Travis Fuqua, son of Dr. & Mrs. Burcham Fuqua, Jr., of Corpus Christi, TX
 •U. TX Austin*
 •S. Methodist U. (SMU)



Fredrick Charles Hoff III, son of Ms. Margaret Hoff of Plainfield, IL
 •College of Dupage, IL*
 •Purdue U.: Calumet Campus



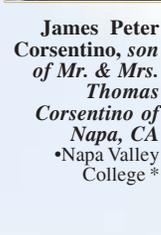
Grant Ryan Hohman, son of Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hohman of Houston, TX
 •Blinn College Of Bryan*



Dylan Michael Boldt, son of Ms. Marsene Boldt of Seabrook, TX
 •U. Of Tulsa*
 •Baylor U.
 •Trinity U.



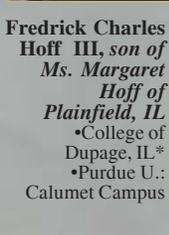
Robert Anthony Bracken, son of Mr. & Mrs. Andy Bracken of Ambridge, PA
 •Collin County Community College*



Tian Wen Dai, son of Mr. & Mrs. Guo Wei Dai of CHINA
 •Johnson & Wales U. - Rhode Island*
 •U. of Houston: Downtown
 •U. TX Pan American



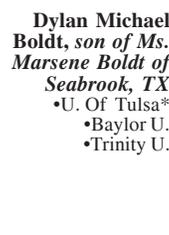
Ricardo Grappin Del Rio, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ricardo Grappin Crespo of San Rafael, Vera Cruz MEXICO
 •Mexico - Returning For College*
 •The Citadel
 •U. of AZ



Kevin Joseph Houser, son of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Houser of Scottsdale, AZ
 •Virginia Military Institute*
 •Northern Arizona U.
 •The Citadel
 •U. of AZ



Derek William Hurley, son of Mr. & Mrs. William Hurley, Jr. of Chicago, IL
 •U. of Alaska: Fairbanks*



Paul Ryan Brundrett, son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Brundrett of Scurry, TX
 •TX Tech U.*
 •East Texas Baptist U.
 •Lubbock Christian U.



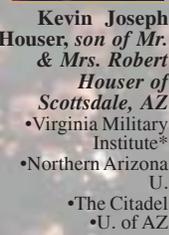
Ryan Clyde Day, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Day of Richmond, TX
 •TX Tech U.*
 •TX A&M U. Corpus Christi
 •U. of Houston : Main
 •U. of North TX



Kevin Nicolas Gurganious, son of Ms. Kathleen Reeves of Missouri City, TX & Mr. Rod Gurganious of Needville, TX
 •U. TX Austin*



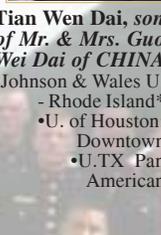
William Michael Hardee, son of Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Hardee of Sugar Land, TX
 •Texas Lutheran U.*
 •Angelo State U.



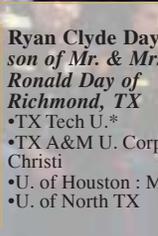
Tate Ryan Landin, son of Mr. & Mrs. Victor Landin, Jr. of Brownsville, TX
 •TX A&M: College Station*
 •Dallas Baptist U.
 •TX Tech U.
 •TX A&M Kingsville



Daniel Allen Bryant, son of Ms. Margie Allen of San Antonio, TX & Mr. Daniel Bryant, also of San Antonio, TX
 •TX Tech U.*
 •Johnson & Wales U. - Denver
 •U. TX: San Antonio



Craig Warner De Santis, son of Mr. & Mrs. Kent De Santis of Anaheim, CA
 •Humboldt State U. - CA*



**KEY: * Indicates College of Choice
 U. = University**

...GOING THE DISTANCE

*****Colleges Applied To and Accepted At*****

Andrew James Davis, son of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Davis of Aurora, CO
 •Yale U.*
 •Swarthmore



Christoffer George Latos, son of Mr. George Latos of Cotaw de Caza, CA & Ms. Hallie Latos of Torrance, CA
 •Marymount College - CA*
 •Whittier U. - CA

Luis Antonio Paz, son of Mr. & Mrs. Marco Paz of San Juan, TX
 •UT Pan American*



Angel David Roldan, Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Angel Roldan, Sr. of Chicago, IL
 •Northeastern IL U.*
 •Northpark U.
 •Concordia U.

Andrew Brown Thomas, son of Mr. & Mrs. William Thomas, Jr. of Jacksonville, NC
 •E. Carolina State U.*
 •U. of NC: Ashville



Max Joseph Maimone, son of Mr. & Mrs. Mark Maimone of Huntington Station, NY
 •Military: USMC*



Raby Burgess Plank, son of Ms. Heather Plank of Wayzata, MN & Mr. Raymond Plank of Houston, TX
 •Montana State U.*
 •U. of CO - Boulder
 •Western State College of CO

Christopher Aaron Ruwaldt, son of Mr. & Mrs. Gary Ruwaldt of Broomfield, CO
 •Angelo State U.*
 •Abilene Christian U.
 •N. AZ U.
 •TX A&M: Corpus Christi
 •Schreiner U.



Carlos Noe Torres-Gonzalez, son of Mr. & Mrs. Noe Martinez of Monte, Tamaulipas MEXICO
 •Mexico - Returning For College*



Jose Mario Martinez, son of Ms. Marcie Alvarado of Plano, TX
 •U. TX Arlington*
 •TX A&M: Commerce
 •U. of Houston: Main

Richard John Powell, son of Mr. & Mrs. John Powell of Phalaborwa, South Africa
 •Texas State U.*
 •Baylor U.
 •Norwich U.
 •Stephen F. Austin U.
 •TX A&M: College Station
 •The Citadel
 •VMI



Juan Manuel Saldivar-Gonzalez, son of Mr. & Mrs. Juan Saldivar Rodriguez of Cd. Mante, Tamaulipas MEXICO
 •Libre De Derecho: Mexico*
 •U. TX San Antonio

Robert Boyden Underwood IV, son of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Underwood III of Ft. Worth, TX
 •MS State U.*
 •AZ State U.
 •Savannah College of Arts and Design
 •U. of Manitoba, CANADA



Preston Quintard Meyer, son of Mr. & Mrs. David Meyer of Dallas, TX
 •U. TX Austin*
 •Indiana U.



Tyler Wesley Ray, son of Ms. M. Ray of Deer Park, TX & Mr. Gary Ray, also of Deer Park, TX
 •San Jacinto Community College*

Tyler Ryan Secret, son of Dr. & Mrs. Joel Secret of Ft. Wayne, IN
 •Virginia Military Institute*
 •Loyola U. of Chicago
 •Marquette U.
 •Norwich U.
 •Seattle U.
 •St. Michael's U.
 •Walsh U. of OH
 •Bellarmine U. of KY



Justin Anthony Watters, son of Mr. Jeffrey Watters of Grapevine, TX & Mrs. Sherry Watters of Colleyville, TX
 •Tarrant County College*
 •McMurry U.
 •Midwestern State U.
 •Sul Ross State U.
 •W. TX State U.



William Mauro Musa, son of Mr. & Mrs. William Musa of East Stroudsburg, PA
 •Valley Forge Military College*



Ronald Reyes, son of Mr. & Mrs. Rosali Reyes of Lake Worth, FL
 •Nova Southeastern U. - FL*



Austin Garrett Shuffield, son of Dr. & Mrs. Rodney Shuffield of Carrollton, TX
 •TX Tech U.*
 •Embry Riddle U.
 •TX A&M: Corpus Christi
 •U. of N. TX

Zijian Yang, son of Mr. & Mrs. Guochang Yang of Beijing, CHINA
 •St John's U., NY*
 •Baylor U.



Cameron Tait Nordbak, son of Mr. & Mrs. John Nordbak of Downey, CA
 •Cal State U. Stanislaus - CA*
 •Humboldt U.



Bryant Thomas Roark, son of Ms. Sharon Roark of Houston, TX & Mr. Sean Roark of Spring, TX
 •TX A&M: College Station*

Phillip Gabriel Spingola, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Spingola of Chicago, IL
 •Savannah College of Arts and Design
 •College of Santa Fe



Kameron Zachary Yellin, son of Mr. & Mrs. Keith Yellin of McKinney, TX
 •TX A&M: Commerce*



Sapan Praful Patel, son of Mr. & Mrs. Praful Patel of Sugar Land, TX
 •Johnson & Wales U. - RI*
 •Northwood U. - Dallas
 •U. of Houston: Downtown
 •U. TX San Antonio

James Rodriguez, son of Mr. & Mrs. Jaime Rodriguez of Sylmar, CA
 •Woodbury U. - CA*
 •Notre Dame de Namur U. - CA
 •The Citadel



Kellen Lloyd Stuhmiller, son of Mrs. Andrea Lloyd of Humble, TX & Mr. David Stuhmiller of Woodlands, TX
 •TX A&M: College Station*
 •U. of Houston
 •U. of MD: College Park

Haotian Zhang, son of Mr. & Mrs. Yongyi Zhang of Shenyang, CHINA
 •U. TX Austin*
 •TX A&M: College Station
 •TX A&M: Corpus Christi
 •U. of Houston: Main
 •U. TX San Antonio



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 U. = University**

Vive l'Académie, vive le français!

Culinary Adventures Abound In Dr. Ricciardi's FRENCH Class!

Friday evening was a string of almost-disasters. When cadets prepare food for the RGV French Competition cuisine event, we use MMA's Mess Hall kitchen. But because the Mess Hall is set up to prepare food for hundreds of people at a time, and most of our recipes are designed to serve six, I always bring my own collection of pots, pans and other utensils of the proper size to deal with the quantities we are going to prepare. I also bring the ingredients, which are generally not things the Mess Hall has in stock, even if we wanted to use Mess Hall supplies, which we don't do except in emergencies. But because I am transporting prodigious amounts of miscellaneous items, I have been known on occasion to forget something. This time it was the okra for the shrimp gumbo New Orleans style. So we made filé gumbo instead. That was the first disaster, narrowly averted—the filé gumbo was excellent, as it turned out.

I have a few basic rules for cadets in the kitchen, and they are surprisingly close to the rules for cadets in science labs: wash your hands first and

was a little odd, the flavor was great and the remaining cadets happily volunteered to eat the

disposed of them. "No problem," he said cheerfully. "There was dough left over, we'll just use that and make a new batch. All we need are 1 or 2 for the judges." He went in search of the leftover cookie dough, only to return looking puzzled: it was nowhere to be found. Meanwhile, in the process of cleaning up the cookies, I had dropped a bottle of cayenne pepper on the floor and it had shattered, so he helped me clean that up too. As we were aiming a dustpanfull of broken glass and cayenne pepper into the garbage, Davis spotted the missing cookie dough—in the garbage can. It was now covered in pepper and broken glass. "Guess we'll skip the cookies,"



Geoff Hobby "AJ" Davis Zachary Hume

mistake. Davis returned in time to assist in destroying the evidence. The kitchen was starting to smell really good.

we said more or less in unison.



Lionel Rodriguez

frequently; read the instructions before you start and refer to them during the process; if you spill something, clean it up; if you move something, put it back; when you finish using it, wash it; if someone needs help, help him. We may be producing two dinners, but we are one team. Cadets have enormously good intentions, but they are also teenage boys, some with short attention spans, and there is a lot of turnover in a typical evening. Cadet A.J. Davis began making Cadet Martin's mom's famous crawfish cornbread, then had to leave to do an online orientation for his upcoming stay in Germany. Two pans of cornbread came out perfect; the third as it was baking began to look, as Martin put it, "just plain weird." It turned out that one of the ingredients, creamed corn, had been omitted from that batch. Even though the texture

David Jerome

Cadet Jerome's French 2 class had carefully prepared Belgian lace cookie dough the day before, in the classroom, because it was supposed to be refrigerated at least overnight before baking. That also had been a near-disaster: I forgot to bring the butter, Jerome made a mid-morning dash back to his DI's apartment, and Sgt. Major Wilson saved the day. When the time came to bake the cookies, the cadets carefully arranged rounds of dough on two baking sheets and popped the sheets into the preheated oven. "How long are they supposed to bake?" I asked the cadet in charge of that step. "Four to five minutes," he replied, referring to the recipe. "They need to be checked after four minutes," I said, and went to help another group of cadets engrossed in a completely different project. Some time later—much more than four minutes—I became aware of a smoky odor. Tracing the smell to the oven, I yanked open the door to discover that both cookie sheets were still there and that both sets of cookies were thoroughly incinerated. Grabbing an oven mitt, I removed one smoldering tray, only to realize that someone had let the oven mitt get wet. As any science teacher will confirm, water is an excellent conductor of heat. I made it to the counter with the first tray but ended up dropping the second tray on the floor. Cadet Davis appeared with a broom and dustpan, scraped the remains of the cookies off the cookie sheets and

Others had started a bread pudding: they had torn up the sourdough bread and carefully combined it with two kinds of sugar, milk, and eggs. The recipe called for nutmeg, and I knew I had brought some, but I couldn't find it. "Just use some cinnamon," I told them. Someone came with a question about a procedure on the recipe he was trying to follow, and I went to have a look at it. Then I noticed a large pile of dirty pots and utensils, and told a group of cadets who seemed to be standing around doing not much to please wash them. They hurried to comply. There were three or four pots of Belgian and Cajun food simmering on the stove, with several people tending them. I walked back to the area where they had been making the bread pudding to find it completely abandoned. Looking at the recipe, I noted that it still needed raisins, nuts, and a can of sliced peaches, drained and chopped. I placed the three ingredients near the baking dish where the pudding was being assembled, and moved to the next table to check on what was happening there. Cadet Martin came by. "Isn't anybody doing that?" he asked, popping open the can of peaches. Next thing I knew, he had dumped the entire contents of the can into the baking dish, which was now full to overflowing. "This is making way too much, Ma'am," he observed. "Did you read the directions?" I asked calmly. "The peaches were supposed to be drained and chopped first." A look of pure horror crossed his face. "Oh, no!" he breathed. "Don't worry," I said. "We'll just start over. This is a learning experience, right?" I plunged my hands into the slimy mess and began to fish out the peaches, plopping them back into the can. "Go put the rest of this down the garbage disposal, please!" Soon Martin was back with the empty bowl, which he had also washed. He started tearing up bread. This time, the chopped peaches went in first. The second

bread pudding was assembled in record time, we improvised a bain-marie with a big open kettle, and into the oven it went. I started to straighten up a messy area on the kitchen counter, and there I discovered the missing nutmeg. At that point my composure frayed and I hope that my comments were not recorded. Martin and I ended up laughing hysterically. It was all right. The bread pudding turned out delicious.

The Belgian Dinner chefs were making chicken braised in beer. I had brought one bottle of beer, which I carefully kept in my pocket. When it was time to add that ingredient I opened the bottle and made sure that every drop went into the Dutch oven. The cadets watched intently. We added back the pieces of pre-browned chicken and a wonderful aroma began to develop. The pot was covered and the chicken left to cook until tender. This time there was no inattention. When it was done, they had perfectly braised chicken and the beginnings of a rich sauce. After the cadets chose the three prettiest pieces of chicken for the plate that was to be presented to the judges, they reduced the sauce and poured it lovingly over their masterpiece.

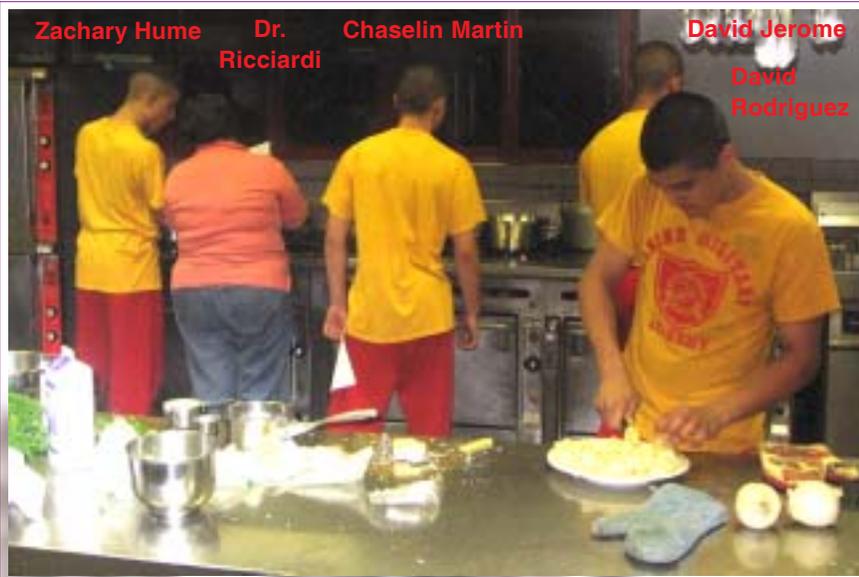
Then they converged on the remaining pieces of chicken. Cadet Jerome, whose recipe it was, declared that it looked and tasted just like what he had eaten in fancy Belgian restaurants. It disappeared in record time, and they all wanted copies of the recipe.

Meanwhile, the Cajun Cuisine team had achieved an extremely tasty jambalaya and the Belgian chefs had produced a picture-perfect tomato stuffed with shrimp and crabmeat. They put away the portions that were going to be entered in the competition the next day and began sampling the leftovers. Soon all the Fox Company cadets had to leave because their company trip was departing very early the next morning and they still had a lot of work to do in the barracks to get ready. The remaining cadets were tasked with producing the crawfish créole. It wasn't as complicated as some of the other dishes and went together rather quickly. We started to clean up.

By 2330, all of the food was in the refrigerator, all the pots and pans and spices and leftover ingredients were packed up and stowed in my pickup truck, the kitchen was clean again and the cadets had headed back to their barracks. I stopped to let the SDO know that we had finished, and went home to offload the entire contents of my kitchen and put it back more or less where it belonged. When I finished, it was after one in the morning; reveille for me would be 0530 and at 0715 we would be on our way to Edinburg. I was really glad that Ms. Charrey would be driving the van.

French Students Excel in 2007 Competition

This has been a momentous weekend for French students at MMA. Besides competing in the Rio Grande Valley French Competition, we received the results from the National French Exam given back in March, and the Best-in-Level Awards given by the Rio Grande Valley French Club. MMA has a winner in the National French Contest! Cadet Geoff Hobby, a sophomore in Echo Company from Houston, has ranked ninth nationwide in Level 1 on the National French Exam, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. This exam is given



Zachary Hume

Dr. Ricciardi

Chaselin Martin

David Jerome

David Rodriguez

annually and in 2007 enrolled more than 103,000 students in six different levels. Cadet Hobby of course placed first in South Texas and will receive a Lauréat pin for that achievement as well as his bronze medallion from National. Cadet Hobby has always wanted to study other languages and chose French this year, but has also been dropping by after school as time permitted for individual lessons in Italian. He hopes someday to study German and perhaps other languages as well. Félicitations et bon travail!

Two of our senior Cadets also did very well at the chapter level on the National French Exam. Cadet Eric Harrison, senior in Delta Company from Arizona, placed second in South Texas in Level 4 and Cadet Carlos Torres-González, senior in Echo Company from Mexico, placed third in South Texas in Level 2. **Undergrads, take note!**

Rio Grande Valley French Competition 2007 was hosted by the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg on Saturday, 28 April. This competition, which had its start at Marine Military Academy some 15 years ago, has grown and this year added three schools that had never competed before: San Benito High School, Harlingen South, and PSJA North. Two Brownsville schools, Lopez and Hanna, were strong contenders as were the three Edinburg schools, Mission, Harlingen South and Weslaco East. We don't have exact statistics, but in recent years the competition has involved more than 200 students and it certainly looked as if there

were at least that many, if not more, this year.

In the Cuisine event, our cadets competed in a field of 17 entries. The Cajun Feast created by Cadet Chaselin Martin and the Belgian Homestyle Dinner by Cadet David Jerome didn't win, but judges pronounced them delicious and the cadets who helped with the preparation and presentation had no trouble packing away the crawfish and jalapeño cornbread, shrimp gumbo, sausage jambalaya, crawfish creole and bread pudding that constituted the Cajun meal, or the seafood-stuffed tomatoes, Flemish onion soup, chicken braised in beer, asparagus served with a butter-and-egg sauce, and Belgian chocolates featured in the Belgian dinner. A number of cadets learned some basic cooking skills in the process. Recipes are available on request! *Our thanks to Carlos and the staff of Neuhaus Dining Hall for permitting the cuisine team to use the kitchen to prepare our entries, and to the mothers of Cadets Martin and Jerome, who provided the recipes and the inspiration for our culinary efforts.*

Because of conflicts, our pétanque team had to compete without the most experienced players. They advanced several rounds, but were finally defeated. However, every member of the team was also cross-registered in other events, and from those events MMA

collected **two third-place trophies: Cadet Zachary Hume in Recitation, Level 1, for reciting from memory the Jacques Prévert poem Pour Toi, Mon Amour, and Cadet Geoff Hobby in Sight Reading Level 1**, an event that requires students to read aloud a passage in French that they have never seen before. A huge number of students register for both of these events, so our cadets' success is significant. Both students remarked upon receiving their score sheets with the judges' comments: *"Now that we know what the judges are looking for, we think we can do much better next year!"* Cadets in 2nd-year French had also prepared a skit, but were unable to perform it because they had to keep playing pétanque. Dr. Ricciardi is very pleased that cadets in their first year of French have done so well in events with an academic slant and hopes that this trend will continue as these cadets move up the French curriculum at MMA.

Every year the Rio Grande Valley French Club honors outstanding students from each Valley French program at each level. Awards are based on a combination of grades, attitude and effort and teachers do not always nominate students if no one measures up. This year's medals and certificates went to:

- Cadet Geoff Hobby for French 1
- Cadet Carlos Torres-González for French 2
- Cadet A.J. Davis for French 3
- Cadet Eric Harrison for French 4

Vive l'Académie, vive le français!
(Article submitted by Dr. Mary Ricciardi; photographs courtesy of Cadet Olajuwon)

Around Campus...



HANG ON TIGHT TO YOUR CALCULATORS, WE'RE HEADED FOR ZERO GRAVITY! Science Day at Fiesta Texas, San Antonio - a day devoted to the study of the science, mathematics, and engineering technology behind all the supersized fun amusement rides aboard the Park. Faculty members Kathryn Charrey and Kevin Coleman donned their chauffeur/chaperone caps and accompanied AP Physics and Chemistry Cadets Dusheyko, Gurganious, Meyer, Boldt, Duncan, Flowers, Bosque, Secrest, A. Davis, Paz, Alexander, Landin, and Harrison, bravely going where faculty and cadets HAVE gone before, just not armed in quite the same way! The Park closed to the general public for the day, allowing access only to school-sponsored groups. Each student was issued a workbook, calculator, and measuring device to conduct scientific observations and calculation, answering questions like... how many g's am I experiencing at the top of the loop-de-loop of the monster rollercoaster...how fast am I travelling when my body (and mind!) reach the bottom of the whoop-de-doo...As Faculty Advisory Kevin Coleman states, "Best of all cadets experienced the results FIRST HAND, and what a great time was had by all!" 🍷

SENIOR CLASS TRIP...DESTINATION: NEW YORK CITY - 19 seniors and Chaperones Ms. Bates and MSgt Quilit departed for NY City at midnight, on Friday, April 27th taking in all of the sights and sounds of "The Big Apple." Traveling by bus to San Antonio, then airborne into Newark, NJ the group was met by Tour Guide Dave. Cadets checked in to their hotel, located in Koreatown. Then, it's off to explore and eat in Times Square! The next day began with a subway ride to Battery Park, then catching a ferry to Ellis Island to see the famed Statue of Liberty up close and the place where millions of immigrants came seeking a better life. Next, Ground Zero where all stood in awe of the vast emptiness of where the World Trade Center once stood. From there to Trinity Church and NY Stock Exchange. Later on, it's through the subway turnstiles and off at Canal Street to shop in Chinatown and Little Italy. After eating and (of course!) purchasing souvenirs for family and friends it's back to the hotel for the night. The next morning, catch the subway, then walk across the famed Brooklyn Bridge... amazing to think that bridge was 1st built in 1875. Then, trek over to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to gaze upon works by the famous Matisse, O'Keefe, Rodin, Pollock, and Warhol, in addition to exhibits on ancient Egypt, China, and Rome. Afterwards, on to Central Park to roam the Park and its surroundings. After dinner it's off to the famous "Blue Man Group." To complete the magical evening, it's up the Empire State Building to view NY City...at night... from the 82nd floor! A bite to eat sends all sleepy to their rooms. Bright and early Monday...everyone's awake, heading to Rockefeller Center's "The Today Show," passing by Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall. Upon arrival, cadets meet Al Roker and Meredith Vieira. It's "Spiderman Week" and NY Mayor, Michael Bloomberg, along with the cast of new movie, Spiderman 3, are all here.! Next, a tour of United Nations. The cadets see the General Assembly and Security Council chambers and lots of exhibits. No trip to NY is ever complete without a brief stop made to Grand Central Station..." The splendor and history of that building was so impressive!" says MMA Senior Tyler Secrest. A great wrap-up to an equally great Senior Trip. Time to leave...check-in at the airport, flights back to San Antonio, bus ride back to Harlingen... The cadets arrived at MMA at 3 a.m., tired but happy with a myriad of wonderful memories. 🍷

Welcome to the **MMA-Parent Organization (MMA-PO)** section of the MMA Leader. **MMA-PO** recently held the 1st Annual Spring Fling Family Weekend aboard MMA campus. The event was a GREAT success and included a Casino Night, Silent and Live Auction, Academy Games and B-B-Q Lunch. All in all the weekend events helped raise approximately \$36,000...**OORAH!**



Parents Organization

Money raised will be used on the MMA Cadets. **MMA-PO** extends THANKS to ALL **MMA-PO** members, families, staff /administration, volunteers and to the Cadets for supporting the Parents Organization—**We Could Not Do It Without Your HELP!** Election results for **2007-8 MMA-PO Board of Directors: President-Elizabeth Tipton (Golf); Vice President-Bob Parrott (Fox); Secretary-Cyndi Mino (Alpha); Treasurer-Alice Oliver-Parrott (Fox); Parliamentarian-open; Merchandising Coordinator-Cathy Brown (Fox); California Rep-Suzanne Plasse (Golf); DFW Rep-Gracie Egan (Golf) and Paul/Pam Cox (Charlie); RGV Rep-Cony do Vale (Alpha); Houston Rep-Jan Hutchinson (Golf).** The **MMA-PO** looks forward to your continued support next year.

See ya in August 2007! —Gracie Egan



USMC JROTC WESTERN REGIONAL 3- POSITION AIR RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIPS. The March 2-5 match was well-attended by over 300 JROTC shooters from the Western United States region. Cadets Joseph Tannehill (Golf Co.) and Cadet William Musa (Delta Co.) both qualified to shoot this match in the precision class individual category. Accompanied by SGTMAJ. Wilson, Golf Co. drill instructor, Cadet Tannehill and Cadet Musa arrived in Colorado Springs, CO mid-afternoon, and spent the afternoon at the Olympic Training Center getting acclimated to the altitude and practicing for the upcoming match. This match was 3 days long consisting of one practice day, and two competition days. Cadets Tannehill and Musa shot for record on Day 2 of the event, placing 17th (Tannehill) and 19th (Musa) out of twenty-nine other Marine Corps JROTC shooters. Cadet Tannehill and Musa had to shoot three positions with two targets in each position; Prone, Standing, and Kneeling. They both shot extremely well with all scores reaching into the high 80's to high 90's. Although not placing in the top 8 of their class, Cadets Tannehill and Musa represented MMA very well and Cadet Tannehill will be a "sure shot" to return to Colorado next year. 🍷

SOARING WHERE ONLY THE EAGLES DARE FLY

Hear ye, Hear ye! Eagle Scout Court of Honor is now in session...

On Friday, May 18th, 10:00 a.m. in MMA's Phil Yeckel Auditorium, four Troop 22 Life Scouts advanced to the highest attainable rank in Scouting: Cadets **Nathaniel Keegan, Kyle Gannon, Travis Duncan, and Patrick Davis**. MMA Corps of Cadets and their parents, family, friends, and MMA staff and faculty were on hand to witness the ceremonious event.

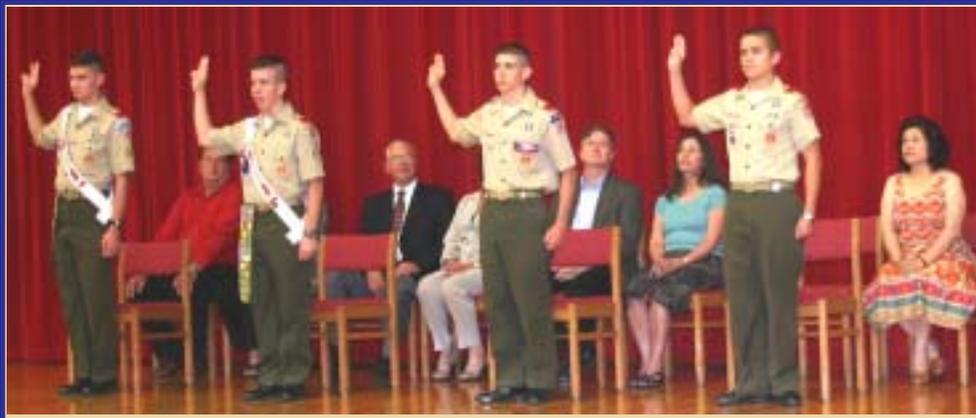
Nationally, only about 3 percent of all boys who ever join Boy Scouts will eventually earn the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. Says Troop 22 Scoutmaster Jim Poe, "This is a *tremendous achievement!*" Eligibility for Eagle requires first becoming a Life Scout (one rank below Eagle). Life Scouts then must take charge, plan, and successfully execute a Council-approved Eagle Scout

Leadership Service Project for a school, church, or other worthy community group. The project template serves as an adult level responsibility and is designed to test the young man's leadership capabilities. They then must pass a rigorous board of review conducted by adult leaders from the local council. Eagle Scouts rise up from a select group of young men who have exhibited noteworthy traits of leadership and personal initiative. They must consistently maintain high benchmarks of individual dependability and moral courage while overcoming the many challenges associated with the title of Eagle Scout. Check out the resumes of many Fortune 500 company CEO's and you'll be amazed to see how many list "Eagle Scout" among their accomplishments.

A special National Boy Scout Council **Heroism Award** was presented to Cadet Patrick Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Boris Davis of Brenham, Texas for saving the life of a fellow cadet, bringing the crowd to their feet in a standing ovation salute. OORAH! 🇺🇸



Above: Eagle Scout Patrick Davis receives a congratulatory hand shake from MMA President BGen Cheney, then newly-installed Rio Grande Council Scout Executive Ernesto Carballo and, with an additional pat on the back and an emphatic "WELL DONE" from MMA Superintendent Colonel Glenn Hill.



Left: "ON MY HONOR..." At Scout Executive Ernesto Carballo's prompt, Eagle Scouts recite the Eagle Scout Oath as proud parents look on. A most spectacular day aboard Marine Military Academy Campus... OORAH!

Eagle Scout
Patrick Davis

Eagle Scout
Travis Duncan

Eagle Scout
Kyle Gannon

Eagle Scout
Nathaniel Keegan

Troop 22 Wraps Up An Incredible Year in MMA Scouting

MMA Troop 22 wrapped-up the second semester with a Court of Honor dinner held the evening of May 8th. An impressive formal ceremony recognizing individual Scouts for rank advancement and other achievements, this event is held with an audience of family, friends, invited guests, chartered organization officials, troop leaders, and Scouting peers...and this year's event was no exception!

Troop 22 Scouts earning recognition:

Eagle Palm (Bronze): Travis Duncan, Patrick Davis, William Akin; **Life Scout:** Charles Morrison, Andrew Lug; **Star Scout:** David Rodriguez; **1st Class Scout:** Michael Nye, Jonathan Webster, David Rodriguez; **2nd Class Scout:** Thomas Linton, Michael Nye, Jonathan Webster; **Tenderfoot Scout:** Justin Shelton, Jonathan Webster, Michael Nye; **Animal Science Merit Badge:** Nathaniel Keegan; **Astronomy Merit Badge:** James Flowers; **Art Merit Badge:** David Rodriguez; **Citizenship**

in the World Merit Badge: Christopher Egan, James Flowers; **Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge:** Christopher Egan, Lionel Rodriguez; **Climbing Merit Badge:** Brian Stillion, Riley Spicer, David Rodriguez, Anthony Filice, Lionel Rodriguez, Travis Duncan, Thomas Linton, David Rodriguez; **Communication Merit Badge:** Christopher Egan, Lionel Rodriguez, David Rodriguez; **Computer Merit Badge:** Lionel Rodriguez; **Cycling Merit Badge:** Phillip Garcia; **Dog Care Merit Badge:** Christopher Egan; **Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge:** Nathaniel Keegan; **Family Life Merit Badge:** David Rodriguez, Kyle Gannon; **First Aid Merit Badge:** Kyle Wagener, Michael Nye, James Martinez, Jonathan Webster, Lionel Rodriguez, David Rodriguez, David Jerome, David Walker, Justin Shelton, Nathaniel Keegan; **Indian Lore Merit Badge:** Lionel Rodriguez, David Rodriguez, Christopher Egan, Jonathan Webster; **Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge:** Christopher Egan, Trenton Jackson, Arturo Cerna; **Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge:** James Flowers; **Traffic Safety Merit Badge:** James Martinez, Jonathan Webster, Christopher Egan, Michael Nye, Patrick Davis, Kyle Gannon, Nathaniel Keegan;

Personal Fitness Merit Badge: David Rodriguez, Nathaniel Keegan, Andrew Lugo, James Flowers, Lionel Rodriguez; **Personal Management Merit Badge:** Kyle Gannon, Nathaniel Keegan, James Flowers, David Rodriguez; **Public Speaking Merit Badge:** Christopher Egan, Lionel Rodriguez; **Traffic Safety Merit Badge:** William Akin, James Martinez, Jonathan Webster, Christopher Egan, Michael Nye, Patrick Davis, Kyle Gannon, Nathaniel Keegan, Brian Stillion, Jeremy Ottoveggio, Arturo Cerna, Tyler Green, Thomas Patriquin, Charles Morrison, Robert Potter, Logan Eisle, Thomas Linton, Riley Spicer, David Bass, Ryan Pinto, Travis Duncan, James Flowers, Matthew Fraser, Michael Newton, Joseph Tretter, David Rodriguez, Kirkland Baen, Jacob Carter, Thomas Gallardo, Justin Shelton, Trenton Jackson, Gabriel Mora, Anthony Filice; **Woodwork Merit Badge:** Ryan Pinto, Nicholas Gerhard, Jacob Carter, Tyler Green, Jonathan Webster, Brian Stillion, Thomas Linton, Arturo Cerna, Kyle Gannon, Patrick Davis, Robert Potter, Riley Spicer, Logan Eisle, David Walker, Phillip Garcia, Jeremy Ottoveggio, Gabriel Mora, Michael Nye, Kirkland Baen, Joseph Tretter, Lionel Rodriguez, Trenton Jackson, Justin Shelton, James Flowers. 🇺🇸

LEATHERNECK SPORTS 2006-2007 BANQUET

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

Marine Military Academy Athletic Director (A.D.) Tom Morton, former Atlanta Falcon football player, graduate of Texas A & I University, teacher and coach (including head **LEATHERNECK** Football coach) welcomed cadets, parents, staff and faculty to the 2006-2007 Sports Banquet shortly after 6 p.m. on Friday, April 20th. There was absolutely no mistaking school colors – MMA’s Neuhaus Dining Facility mirrored the **LEATHERNECK** and Academy with **RED** and **GOLD** theme throughout! Following a royal banquet dinner of roast beef, potatoes, gravy and as many desserts as a young man’s eyes and accompanying appetite will allow, A.D. Morton congratulated all **LEATHERNECK** Coaches and Teams on yet another outstanding year in Marine Military Academy athletics.

A.D. Tom Morton



LEATHERNECK Baseball - Captain and MVP award: Tate Landin; Captain and Offensive MVP award: Cameron Nordbak; Defensive MVP award: Angel Villarreal; Newcomers award: Jon Jackson and Taylor Smith; Most Improved award: Kellen Stuhlmiller. *A special thank-you goes out to Cadet Parent Bob Parrott for the generous contribution of state-of-the-art catching equipment.* HEAD COACH ALBERT ESPARZA, ASSISTANT COACH BRETT ESPARZA.

LEATHERNECK Cycling HEAD COACH EARL GANDER and team took to the open road and were unable to attend the Banquet.



LEATHERNECK Basketball - MVP: Malique Graham; Leadership award: Billy Hardee; Hustle award: Xavier Soto; Most Improved award: Rory McDonald. HEAD COACH ERASMO MOLINA.

Malique Graham



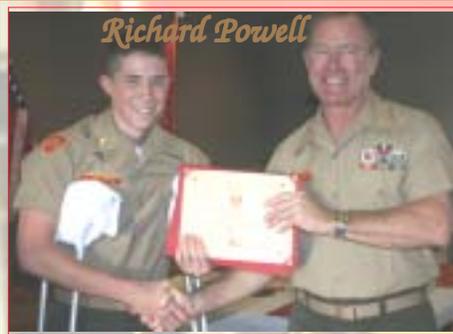
LEATHERNECK Boxing – Team Captain award: James Rodriguez, David Rodriguez; Certified Fighters: Psalm Ullrich, Jacob Carter, Edwin Lee, Patrick Viers, Lionel Rodriguez, Garrett Paylor, James Rodriguez, David Rodriguez. HEAD COACH and TRAINOR SGTMAJ FRED ROBERTSON, GYSGT JOSE VILLAREAL.

James Rodriguez



LEATHERNECK Cross Country – MVP award: Richard Powell. HEAD COACH BILL HINKLE.

Richard Powell



LEATHERNECK Football – MVP award: Billy Hardee; MVP Offensive Line award: Zach Bowen; MVP Defensive Line award: Trey Marshall; MVP Offensive Back award: Tate Landin; MVP Defensive Back award: Andrew Ruffin; Most Improved award: Robert Motheral. HEAD COACH TOM MORTON; DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR SCOTT SWINNEA; OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR MIKE MORTON; ASSISTANT LINE EDGAR MARTINEZ; SECONDARY COACH TITO AGUIRRE; ASSISTANT COACH RUBEN GARCIA.

Billy Hardee



LEATHERNECK Golf – MVP award: Allie Bosque; Most Improved award: Bryan White. HEAD COACH MATT YATES.

Bryan White



LEATHERNECK Judo – Team Captain award: Andrew Davis. HEAD COACH SENSEI CHARLES ROBERTSON; ASSISTANT COACH SENSEI SANDRA MARTINEZ.



LEATHERNECK Rifle Team – Captain *award*: William Musa; Co-Captain *award*: Joseph Tannehill; Letter *award*: Nicholas LaCava, Thomas Patriquin. **HEAD COACH** SGTMAJ AL WILSON.



LEATHERNECK Soccer – MVP *award*: Axel Bierbaum; Offensive *award*: Tyler Ray; Defensive *award*: Vincent Cervassi; Defensive *award*: Fernando Ledesma; Most Improved *award*: Kyle Austin; and The Hustle *award*: Brent Middleton. **HEAD COACH** ANSELMO APARICIO.



LEATHERNECK Tennis – MVP *award*: Jake Jacobs; Most Improved *award*: Andrew Gonzalez. **HEAD COACH** PAUL JESUDASAN.



Check out **FULL PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE** of Sports Awards on MMA WEB SITE'S "WHAT'S NEW"... www.mma-tx.org

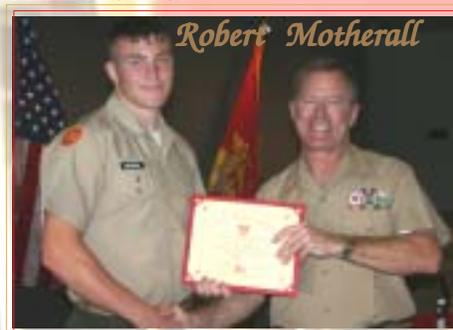
LEATHERNECK Swimming and Diving – MVP *award*: Tyrel Genoff (Swimming) and Wesley Cox (Diving); Most Improved *award*: Juan Pablo Lopez; Austin Cactus Challenge Triathlon *award*: Zachary Hume placing 4th in Zachary's age group. **HEAD COACH** SSGT CALEB HOOD.



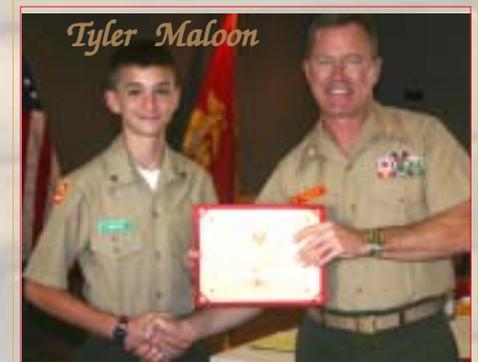
LEATHERNECK Wrestling – MVP and Team Captain *award*: Zachary Bowen; Co-Captain *award*: Kyle Gannon; Most Improved *award*: Kevin Gurganious. Also receiving Wrestling honors: Eric Harrison, James Liantonio, and Thomas Linton.



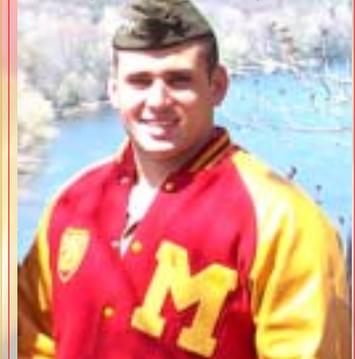
LEATHERNECK Track – Team Captain *award*: Robert Motherall. **HEAD COACH** MIKE MORTON.



V.I.S.A. program (Valley Independent School Association), which provides opportunity for yearlong competition in volleyball, basketball, softball and track and field for eighth grade students who, because of their youth, are not permitted to participate in TAPPS competition – MVP Volleyball *award*: Alfredo De La Garza; MVP Basketball *award*: John Hilliard; MVP Softball *award*: Tyler Maloon. **HEAD COACH** CADET CHAPLAIN CHRIS ELLIOTT.



OORAH, LEATHERNECKS, OORAH!



Alumni News

Fresh off the wire...

'81



Anthony W. Williams, MMA '81
Commander, Helicopter Unit
Dallas Police Department

(Anthony is on the right, just in case you're wondering!)

'84

Christian Iversen – christian@iversen-cpa.com - a CPA in Houston, two daughters in college, one son in the Corps, and one son beginning 8th grade next term

'86



LtCol R. R. Scott, USMC-2nd Battalion, RTR (MMA '86) putting his Nike's to the test at the California 70.3 IM on March 31st - first time out with a 6:12 finish time. Those hikes through MMA's Back 40 really paid off in the 'long run'!

'89

Manuel Guzman – manuelguzman509@yahoo.com.mx - in real estate, construction and decal making businesses in Mexico City, married ten years, two children

Don Hinderliter –

dhinderliter@sbcglobal.net - new e-address

Jose Moreno –

jmoreno@firststatefl.com

Matt Sanders –

msanders@issupport.com - proud papa of a new daughter born 8 May

'90

Maj. Christopher Jones USA – christopher.p.jones@us.army.mil - Nuclear Research Officer with Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Kirkland AFB, NM, married, three children

'91

Brent Rohde –

brentdrohde@hotmail.com - has been out of the loop for some time and wants to “reconnect with the MMA family”

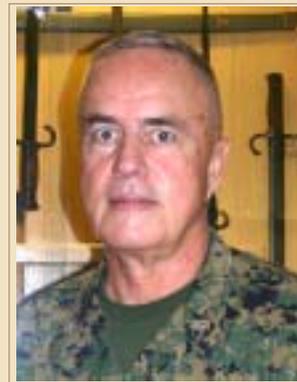
Jason Smith – erj-140@mindspring.com

- with AT&T Flight Operations as the captain of a Falcon 50EX business jet, married, three children

'98

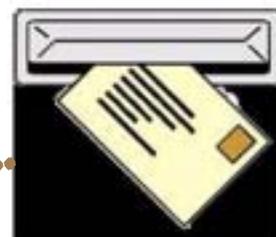
Ben Jacobs – ben.jacobs@eds.com - Managed Care Provider Representative for the Kansas Medical Assistance Program in Topeka

“FALL IN!”



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

Mail Call...



Deb,

Good to hear from you. I hope all is well. If you could put a plug in for the **Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund** I would be grateful. The Fund provides financial assistance to Marines injured in combat and training, to other service members injured while in direct support of Marine units, and to their families to help defray expenses incurred during hospitalization, rehabilitation, and recovery. Their goal is to alleviate the financial burden placed on the family so that their focus can be on their loved one's recovery. Today the Fund continues to succeed in their efforts to help Marines and sailors, assigned to Marine units. They have given out over \$10 million dollars in financial assistance, assisted 8 Marines and sailors with purchasing modified transportation, and covered \$20,000 of the cost of home modifications for 6 Marines and sailors. This assistance allows the families to concentrate on their loved one's healing. The Fund's web address is www.semperfifund.org. Thanks again. Semper Fi,

LtCol R. R. Scott, USMC
2nd Battalion, RTR
robert.r.scott@usmc.mil

ALUMNI: Be sure to E-Mail your updates to pickens@mma-tx.org for inclusion in the Leader! Include graduation year or last year of attendance, and very importantly, we need your express permission to print home addresses, wives' names and children's names/ages! Thanks, Mickie Pickens

Wait, there's more...E-Mail your favorite photos, too: wieland@mma-tx.org. We're GLOBAL...Tell US, we tell the world!

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

Get on Board: ALL ALUMNI, ALL THE TIME!

ON TO TBS - THE BASIC SCHOOL: Providing newly commissioned or appointed officers with professional knowledge and leadership education to prepare them for duty as a company grade officer in the Operating Forces...OORAH!



MILE MARKERS ALONG LIFE'S PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE. MMA Superintendent Colonel R.G. Hill, USMC (Ret) travelled to Annapolis over Memorial Day 2007 weekend to take part in graduation events for MMA Alum Jared Spencer and Andre Testman. Pictured above, L-R: Col Hill; John McNabb, '02, TBS/Infantry; Jared Spencer, '03, TBS-bound/Aviation; Andre Testman, '02, TBS-bound/Infantry; Richard Martinez, '02 TBS/Engineering; and Lucius Clay Spencer, '02 TBS/Artillery, and David "Trae" Miller, '06 (upper left corner). There's absolutely no mistaking these young men, even in a crowd...the few, the proud, the MMM Alumni...brothers for life!



On April 21st-22nd 'then'-Cadets Tyler Secret and Kevin Houser visited the Virginia Military Institute ... two days worth of sleeping in the barracks, meeting with current cadets and teachers, and getting an overall feel for the school. While there they met up with MMA grad Christopher Boyles-White (MMA Class of '04). Tyler said that, "His advice and insights were very beneficial...he helped solidify my decision to attend VMI." Kevin stated, "We met several alumni and their love for the school was very impressive." Both cadets recommend the Open House program and were quite impressed by the facilities, cadets, and faculty. Both Secret and Houser will attend VMI, matriculating in late August. Best wishes to MMA's newest Alums Tyler and Kevin! P.S. WRITE!

ATTENTION: ALL Marine Military Academy Alumni 19 - ??? years of age:



Who: MMA Alumni, family, friends
When: 09:30 Saturday 14 July 2007
Where: MMA Cadet Activities Center
Why: (1) View activities with invited Media of over 300 Summer Campers navigating the Back 40 during ACADEMY MEDIA DAY. (2) FREE MMA traditional Saturday Hamburger lunch for all alumni, their family, and guests. (3) Update MMA experience memories and identify those Rio Grande Valley Alumni who were unable to manage their time!

RSVP: NLT 12 July 2007 to flores@mma-tx.org or 956-421-9232

Once again...Scratch your way to the top...or join the others in the dust. Take Command of YOUR day at Marine Military Academy's Summer Camp 2007... 14 July 2007. Don't miss out on reliving the adventure of YOUR life... RSVP ... TODAY!!!

MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY
 320 Iwo Jima Boulevard/Harlingen, Texas 78550
 (956) 421-9232/ www.mma-tx.org



Memorials In Honor Of:

•Sean Dubose - MMA '02

•Rob & Rhonda Bowen

•Pete Flourney

•SgtMaj Larry J. Carson, USMC (Ret)
- MMA D-Co. DI

•Darlene L. Gebers

•Cap Leo J. McDonald, CHC USN
(Ret)

•B. J. (Bobby Joe) Hendricks

•Myrtle Mason

•Edwin & Corinne Swaney

•Gabriel Rodriguez, Jr. - MMA '98

•Barry Zale

•Mary Frances Senterfitt

•Capt Robert J. Shirk, USMC

•John H. Stevenson, USN, WWII

•Walter Waldrop

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

Calendar of Events

June

27 Cadet Instructors report by 1800

July

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

August

4 Football Camp
5 Band/Drill Team Camp
Leadership Orientation Check-in
11 Registration for 1st-yr Cadets
12 Check-In for Returning Cadets
Military Orientation for Plebes
13-14 Teacher In-Service
15 Classes Begin

September

7 Academic Awards Ceremony
MMAPO Parents Meeting
8 Introductory Training Graduation

TAPS...



Major C. H. "Mike" Lewis, Jr.
1921-2007

C. H. "Mike" Lewis, Jr., age 85, passed away on May 23, 2007 at his residence in Hillsboro, Texas. Mike was attending Middle Tennessee State Teachers College when the attack on Pearl Harbor occurred. Major Lewis started his military career in Naval flight training, then was assigned to the Marine Air Group flying corsairs, B-52 bombers, and helicopters from the Pacific in WWII, to Korea, and finally Vietnam before retiring in 1963. Upon earning a Masters Degree from Texas A&M at Kingsville, **Major Lewis taught World History, Latin American History and Aerospace at Marine Military Academy, and also coached Tennis and Junior Varsity Football, before assuming post as MMA Dean.** Following his second retirement, this time from MMA, he and his wife moved to the Hill Country where he served as substitute teacher, on the volunteer fire department, Deacon, master of San Benito Masonic Lodge charter member of Al Amin Temple of the Shriners - Corpus Christi, National Sojourners, MMOA Foreign Wars, The American Legion, Veterans Foreign Wars, Marine Corps League, and Phi Delta Kappa member. He is survived by: Daughters, Ivel Sylvia Moore of Hillsboro, Melissa Lewis Young and husband, David, of Hillsboro; Sisters: Jayne Lewis Bernard of Memphis, TN, Barbara Westlake of Pegram, TN; Son-in-law: Ben Yudesis of San Benito; Grandchildren: Leigh Wilson and husband, Shaun, of Lafayette, LA, Chris Moore and wife, Becky, of Tulsa, OK, Mike Moore and wife, Savannah, of OK, Jim Moore and wife, Lisa, of OK, Michele Tigelaar and husband, Brian, of Albuquerque, NM, Deborah Lozano of Hillsboro, Larry Phillips and wife, Irene, Mission, TX; 12 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. **Marine Military Academy sends heartfelt condolences to the Lewis family on their loss.** Says MMA Alum Phil Hazelton, Class of '71, "Major Lewis was a great inspiration to me while at the Academy, a wonderful man....We need more good men like him in this world." 🇺🇸

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