

MMA Leader

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



CELEBRATING 42 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

20 Pages

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2007-2008 Presidential Welcome

“Every young man who attends this academy is transformed into a better student and person”

Academic year 2006 - 2007 was one for the record books for the Marine Military Academy. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' accreditation team pronounced MMA “the best of 80 schools” they had evaluated in two years. We enjoyed record attendance at three annual fundraising dinners (featuring, in Chicago, General James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps; in Harlingen, Ambassador Richard Fisher, President of the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank; and, in San Francisco, Major General Jay Paxton, Commanding General of the First Marine Division). Fifty-eight graduates are headed to some of the world's finest colleges, including Yale and Texas A&M. I could not have been more pleased with my first year at the helm of this unique institution.

But we are not resting on our laurels. We will continue to find ways to inspire our cadets to even greater achievements. Historically, most of our cadets raise their grade point average by a point during their first year here; we aim to help them make even larger improvements. We intend to help them make more dramatic gains in their SAT scores. And while we cannot increase our cadets college acceptance rate (already 100 percent), we propose to help them obtain more scholarship assistance.

What sets the Marine Military Academy apart from other military college preparatory schools? We are the only school founded on the ideals and traditions of the United States Marine Corps. Our military department is the only one comprised solely of Marines, most of whom served more than 20 years on active duty. We pride ourselves on wearing the Marine uniform. We are home to the largest Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps unit in the country. But don't



DON'T LET THE BACKPACK FOOL YOU...IT'S THE YOUNG MAN IN THE MIDDLE THAT'S 'IN' FOR THE EDUCATION OF HIS LIFETIME. MMA President General Cheney USMC (Ret) welcomes incoming Plebe Joshua Knauer (middle) and his father Mr. Daniel Knauer (left). Next stop? MMA Barber Joe Handy's shop!

be misled: we do not seek to make Marines of our cadets. Our mission is “to develop disciplined, morally strong, college-ready young men who are prepared for responsible leadership.”

Every young man who attends this academy is transformed into a better student and person by virtue of learning and living in a challenging – and immensely rewarding – environment. By instilling our cadets with the Marine Corps' values and discipline, the Marine Military Academy offers graduates an unparalleled advantage as they move on to institutions of higher learning. Our 142 acre campus is meticulously maintained. Our climate is temperate, and

we offer some 19 sports and activities. We are easily accessible by air (Southwest and Continental) and highway; in fact, we are located adjacent to Valley International Airport, so cadets can walk to and from the terminal. Please come see what we have to offer. Your young man will be the ultimate beneficiary!

Semper fidelis,
(the Marine motto, Latin for
“always faithful”)

Stephen A. Cheney
Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)
President, Marine Military Academy

A LIFETIME OF LEARNING SWINGS INTO FULL ACTION FOR 330+ YOUNG MEN

You know that ‘deer caught in the headlights’ look when the lightbulb turns on inside a young man’s brain? More than 330 bulbs are burning brightly aboard the Marine Military Academy (MMA), bulbs originating from over 29 states and seven foreign countries. Each student, prior to gaining acceptance to MMA, has passed through a rigid admissions process wherein their past academic and physical performance, including school and public conduct, are evaluated by MMA’s Admissions Board. The yearly tuition, room and board for Academic Year 2007-2008 is \$25,350, and that price tag includes those smart-looking U.S.M.C.-styled uniforms and shiny black shoes you’ll see in airport terminals worldwide during holiday seasons. Each student (cadet) becomes a certified member of the Marine Corps JROTC--in fact, MMA is the ONLY secondary educator in the world that maintains 100% Marine Corps JROTC participation.

Besides a stringent academic core curriculum, MMA offers advanced placement and honors courses--even a Dual Enrollment arrangement with next-door TSTC where up to 40 credits earned in specific courses can count towards college. Additionally, MMA offers an aerospace program wherein completion of the four semester curriculum land the accomplished cadet an FAA private pilot’s license. Also offered is Marine Science, a seamanship class lasting two semesters covering topics ranging from memorizing basic knots used in navigation to applying laws of mathematics, geometry, physics and astronomy to the challenges of the marine world. Cadets apply their nautical knowledge during weekend sailing jaunts from Entry Point Port Mansfield to Destination Port Isabel.

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In a MMA Corps of Cadets Officer Promotions Ceremony held Friday, August 10th, in the school’s Phil Yeckel Auditorium, MMA’s President Brigadier Stephen Cheney, USMC (Ret) and MMA Commandant SgtMaj Ford Kinsley administered cadet officer promotions, congratulating the chosen few who will provide the military structure support for the approximately 330 member Corps of Cadets:

Battalion Commanding Officer is **Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Edgar Steeg**, son of Florence Dewarin of Palm Desert, California. Edgar entered MMA in 2003 and participates in Boy Scouts of America--in fact, earning the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout just last year; Key Club and National Honor Society providing support for many community-minded projects such as the Jerry Lewis Telethon, Harlingen Trash Bash, American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life, Rio Fest, Cemetery Clean-up, and H.O.S.T.S. (Help One Student To Succeed); among several other projects, and competes competitively on the Leatherneck Swim Team. You’ll see Edgar on the front line at all MMA Parades, reporting directly to MMA President Brigadier General Stephen A. Cheney, USMC (Ret)...easy to spot, he’s head of the pack touting a glistening gold sword!

Battalion Executive Officer is **Cadet Major Travis Duncan**, son of Marcia Zimmerman of Houston, Texas. Travis entered MMA in January, 2004 and leads MMA’s Leatherneck Band as Band Drum Major. You’ll see the flash of Travis’ gold mace at the head of MMA’s Marching Band at all MMA Parades as Travis directs where to march, what to play, and what time to keep. When Travis is not working with the Band, you’ll find him extra-curricularly participating in Boy Scouts of America--he joined the prestigious few holding the rank of Eagle Scout last year with completion of his habitat construction project in support of Rio Grande Valley’s endangered ferruginous pygmy owl; Key Club and National Honor Society providing support for many community-minded projects such as the Jerry Lewis Telethon, Harlingen Trash Bash, American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life, Rio Fest, Cemetery Clean-up, the annual local orphanage holiday party, and H.O.S.T.S.; among many other community-focused projects.

Battalion Sergeant Major is **Cadet Sergeant Major David Rodriguez**, son of Jaime and Laura Rodriguez of Sylmar, California. David participates extra-curricularly in Leatherneck Boxing and in a multitude of community-focused projects.

MMA Corps of Cadets reside in one of six barracks with their drill instructor and his family. These barracks house companies--Alpha, Charlie, Delta, Echo, Fox, and Golf--which are further divided into two platoons. These ca-

dets were named as this year’s responsible company commanders:

ALPHA: Cadet Captain Jason Franks, son of John and Victoria Franks of Houston, Texas. Jason entered MMA in 2004 and participates extra-curricularly in Judo; Rock Climbing; Soccer; the local chapter of Junior State of America and Key Club providing support for community-minded projects such as the annual Ocelot Festival, American Red Cross Blood Drives, American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life, Cemetery Clean-up, and H.O.S.T.S., among other community projects.

CHARLIE: Cadet Captain Andrew Alexander, son of Richard and Kimberly Alexander of Houston, Texas. Jason entered MMA in 2004 and participates extra-curricularly in Football and the Marksmanship Team; National Honor Society, and Key Club providing support for community-minded projects such as the annual Ocelot Festival, American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life, Cemetery Clean-up, and H.O.S.T.S.; among others.

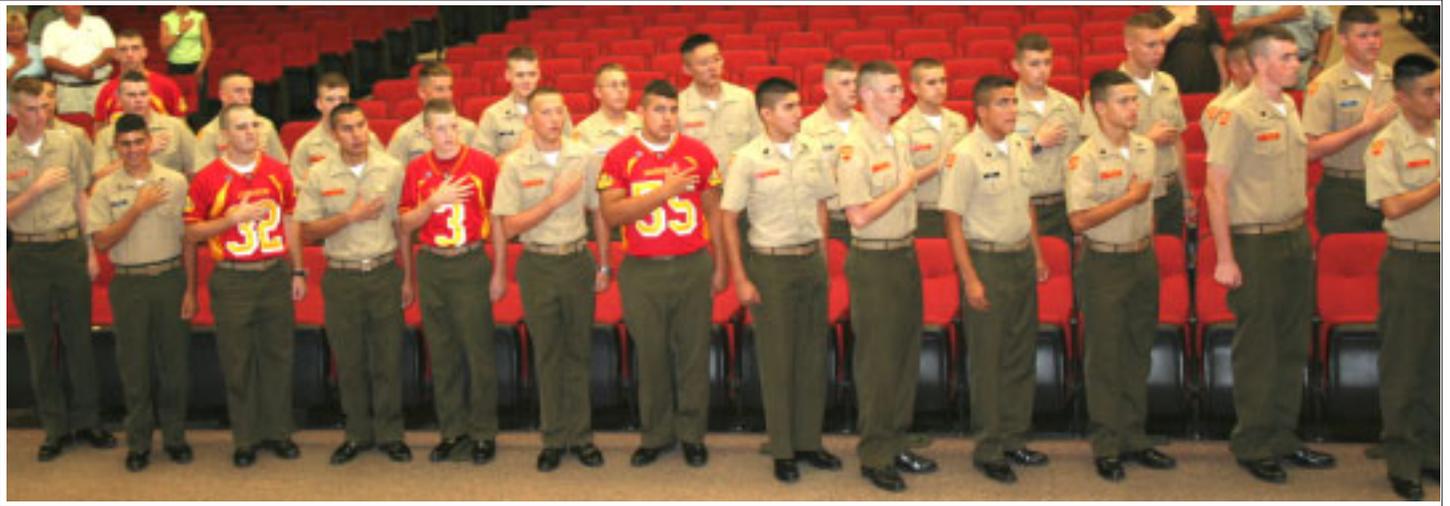
DELTA: Cadet Captain Fan Yang, son of Zhong Yang and Fei Tang of CHINA. Fan entered MMA in 2006 and participates extra-curricularly in Boy Scouts of America and Weightlifting. You’ll see Fan providing support for community-minded projects such as offering a gallant arm and program as he “ushers” in the annual City of Harlingen Holiday Concert.

ECHO: Cadet Manuel Sierra of North Hollywood, California. Manuel entered MMA in 2004 and participates extra-curricularly in Rock Climbing; Weightlifting; and providing support for community-minded projects... most recently for the RIO Fest Pageant and area RV park events.

FOX: Cadet Captain Kyle Gannon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gannon of Denton, Texas. Kyle entered MMA in 2003 and participates extra-curricularly in Wrestling; Weightlifting; Swimming; Boy Scouts of America earning his Eagle Scout ranking in May 2006; the local chapter of Junior State of America, and Key Club providing support for community-minded projects such as Harlingen Trash Bash, American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life, Cemetery Clean-up, and the Jerry Lewis Telethon; among several other community-minded projects.

Golf Company Commander is **Cadet Captain Derek Sooby**, son of Mark and Sally Sooby of Houston, Texas. Derek entered MMA in 2004 and participates extra-curricularly in Football and off-season Football. When he’s not tossing the pigskin, on off-hours and during ‘Liberty’ you’ll find him providing support for community-minded projects such as American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life, lending a gracious arm during Harlingen Arts and Entertainment events; among several other projects. (See associated photos on page 10)

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS



Rolling Out MMA's Red Carpet...Spotlight on Academy Awards 2007

At the beginning of each academic semester, Marine Military Academy recognizes cadets for outstanding academic performance demonstrated in the prior semester. Cadets earning a second semester GPA of 3.75 or above for Academic Year 2006-2007 receive honors and placement on the **President's List**. Cadets with a second semester GPA for Academic Year 2006-2007 between 3.50 and 3.74 receive honors and placement on the **Dean's List**. Cadets receiving a **Gold Wreath** are on the President's List for the first time with a GPA of 3.75 or above, and cadets receiving a **Silver Wreath** are on the Dean's List for the first time with a GPA between 3.5 and 3.74. Those receiving a **Gold Star** have been on the President's List for two consecutive semesters, and those receiving a **Blue Star** have been on either the President's or Dean's list for two consecutive semesters. Those earning recognition for their second semester's academic performance were honored on Friday, 7 September 2007, during MMA's 2:30 p.m. Academic Awards Ceremony held in the Academy's Phillip Yeckel Auditorium. Earning academic honors/commendation from MMA President BGEN Stephen Cheney, USMC (Ret); Dean of Academics John D. Butler, Ed.D.; Assistant Dean Al Sosa.; and Commandant SgtMaj. Kinsley:

ALPHA:



Ryan Fitch; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/Blue Star



Jason Franks; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath/Blue Star



Joseph Tretter; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath

CHARLIE:



Andrew Alexander; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/
Gold Star



William Akin; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



Emmanuel Castro; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/
Gold Star



Alejandro Juarez-Salazar; **Dean's List:** Silver
Wreath/Blue Star



Juan Lopez; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



Ricardo Rodriguez; **President's List:** Gold Wreath

CADETS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS HONORED

Continued from Page 3

CHARLIE - continued from page 3



Taylor Smith; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/Gold Star

ECHO:



Taylor Hudnall; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath/Blue Star



James Flowers; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



Edgar Steeg; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/Gold Star



Austin Noel; **President's List:** Gold Wreath



Nicholas Gerhard; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath

DELTA:



Scott Courtney; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



Dong Shin; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/Gold Star



Thomas Parrott; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath/Blue Star



Oisín Crowley; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



Patrick Viers; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath/Blue Star



Hanzi Wang; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath

FOX:



Fan Yang; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



Travis Duncan; **President's List:** Gold Wreath

GOLE:



Nicholas Christensen; **President's List:** Gold Wreath

CADETS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS HONORED

Continued from Page 4

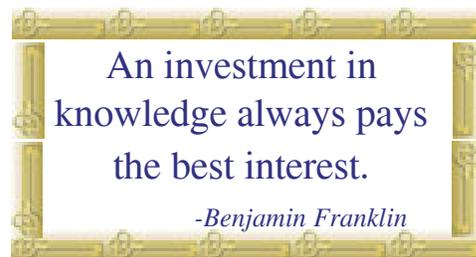
GOLF - continued



David Jerome; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath/Blue Star



Kyle Wagener; **President's List:** Gold Wreath



Michael Karfunkle; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/
Gold Star



Nathaniel Keegan; **President's List:** Gold Wreath/
Gold Star



Andrew Ruffin; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath



William Tipton; **Dean's List:** Silver Wreath/Blue Star

National Honor Society Inductees Take Oath . . .

**“I pledge myself to uphold
The high purposes of the National Honor Society
To which I have been selected,
Striving in every way
By work and deed
To make its ideals
The ideals of my school
And of my Life.”**

National Honor Society (NHS) members are selected with regard to academic merit, integrity and strength of character. NHS strives to create enthusiasm for excellence in academics, stimulate a desire to render service--serving as goodwill ambassadors within the community for MMA, to promote leadership and to develop character in cadets.



The 33 members of MMA's National Honor Society 2007-2008 are: Alexander, Andrew; Castro, Emmanuel; Coleman, Mitchell; Courtney, Scott; Davis, Patrick; Duncan, Travis; Fasolak, Stewart; Fitch, Ryan; Flowers, James; Franks, Jason; Gao, Peng; George, Nicholas; Godfrey, Steven; Hjort, Christopher; Hobby, Geoffrey; Jerome, David; Juarez-Salazar, Alejandro; Karfunkle, Michael; Keegan, Nathaniel; Khalil, Daniel; Marcyan, Colt; Noel, Austin; Rodriguez, Lionel; Rodriguez, Ricardo; Ruffin, Andrew; Shin, Dong; Smith, Taylor; Steeg, Edgar; Tipton, William; Wagener, Kyl; Wang, Han Zi; Webster, Jonathan; and Yang, Fan. Officers slots are filled by: President- Nathaniel Keegan; Vice-President- Travis Duncan; Secretary- Kyle Wagener; and Historian- Michael Karfunkle.

Way to achieve, Cadets...Onward and Upward in your quest for academic excellence...OORAH!

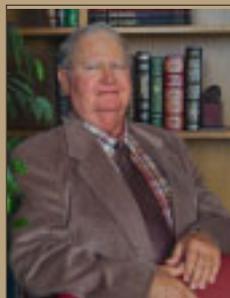
2007-2008 MMA Faculty



David Allen
Science
Ext. 702



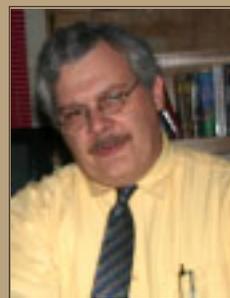
Kyumars Ardalani
Math



John Blackwell
Math
Ext. 746



Kathleen Charrey
Science
Ext. 701



Kevin Coleman
Science
Ext. 710



Cristina Donovan
Math
Ext. 708



Diolanda Dye
English
Ext. 771



Patricia Flores
English
Ext. 745



Ed Harris
Band
Ext. 630, 671



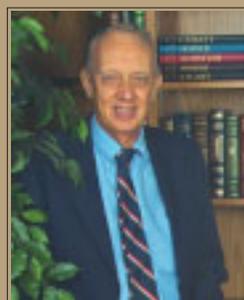
Carla Haynes
English
Ext. 706



John Hinkle
Math
Ext. 716



Caleb Hood
English
Ext. 759



Gary Howard
Math
Ext. 719



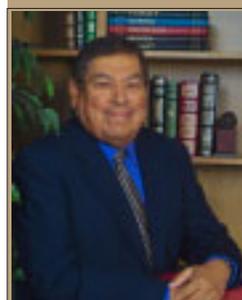
Charles Laycock
Math
Ext. 768



Edgar Martinez
BCAS, BCIS
Ext. 739



Jose Michi
Math
Ext. 721



Erasmo Molina
Social Science/Coach
Ext. 557, 732



Mike Morton
General Services/
Coach
Ext. 727



Stacey Neaville
Foreign Language
Ext. 730



Darrell Nimerick
Science
Ext. 722



Mickie Pickens
SAT Prep & English
Ext. 734

2007-2008 MMA Faculty



Dr. Robert Rhoda
Science
Ext. 756



Dr. Mary Ricciardi
Foreign Language
Ext. 738



Ashley Schuster
Foreign Language
Ext. 704



Phil Senterfitt
English
Ext. 736



Joe Sousa
Social Science
Ext. 758



Jodie Stryker
General Services
Ext. 748



Scott Swinea
Social Science/Coach
Ext. 550



Jada Thacker
Social Science &
Naval Science
Ext. 742

Library Staff



Judy Kutzenberger / Ext. 530, 532
Librarian



William Hinkle / Ext. 531
Ass't. Librarian & Tech. Resources



Maria Beckman / Ext. 530, 532
Assistant Librarian

Academic Department Staff



Al Sosa
Assistant Dean
Ext. 400

Felicia Carlisle
Registrar
Ext. 404

Monika Balboa
Administrative Assistant
Ext. 402

Joseph Palamara
Counselor
Ext. 403



College & Career Counselor
Robin Farris - Ext. 305



2007-2008 Military Staff



Chaplain Chris Elliott,
Academy Chaplain, Ext. 679

Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Krauss,
Academy Sergeant Major, Ext. 602

Sergeant Major Ford Kinsley,
Commandant of Cadets, Ext. 603

**Master Gunnery Sergeant
Raul Garcia,**
*Assistant Operations Chief, LE1 and LE Basic
Instructor, Assistant Lead Course
Coordinator, Ext. 608
Quartermaster, Ext. 640*

Ms. Monica Bates,
*Social Director and Military
Department Administrative
Assistant, Ext. 601, 610*



THE MARINES HAVE LANDED! Senior Cadet Nathaniel Keegan meets with U.S. Marine Corps NROTC Recruiter Sergeant R. A. Negron during the annual RSS San Antonio Executive Officer visit for NROTC (Marine Option) Brief and Interviews. Those who qualify for the NROTC program can receive substantial financial assistance at more than 130 top universities and colleges, while becoming a midshipman in the Program. Additionally, successful candidates gain additional professional military education and leadership experience to become a Marine Second Lieutenant.

Assistant Drill Instructors

Alpha Company



Full Name:
MSgt Efren L. Quilit, "Top";
Hometown:
Waipahu, HI
Age: 47; *Years in Marine Corps:* 22;
Interests: **Playing Texas Hold 'Em Poker;**

Three words to describe self: **Cool, Calm and Confident;** *Most important lesson you can teach cadets:* **"It's not how hard you fall, it's how high you bounce."**

Charlie Company



Full Name:
Sgt Miguel Morales; *Age:* 31; *Years in Marine Corps:* 8;
Interests: **PT, Outdoors, Football;** *Three words to describe self:*
Motivated,

Honest, Loyal; *Most important lesson you can teach cadets:* **"Take advantage of these years, they'll be gone before you know it!** *Additional:* **"I'm happy to be part of the shaping of a young man's life. I just hope they remember me when they're famous!"**

Drill Instructors

Alpha Company

Full Name: Edward D. Harris; **Commonly Used First Name:** Sir; **Hometown:** Vancouver, WA; **Age:** 49; **Years in Marine Corps:** 23; **Rank at retirement:** CWO-3; **Wife's name:** Heidi; **Children/ages:** Brianna-27; Josh-25; Janelle-24;



Candice-24; **Interests:** Golf, Music, Fishing, Hunting. **Three words to describe self:** Confident, Humorous, Hot; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Be honest, responsible and kind. The most important attribute you will ever have is your character. For whatever your character is, it will be your legacy."

Charlie Company

Full Name: GySgt Antonio Aguilar; **Commonly Used First Name:** Tony; **Age:** 46; **Years in Marine Corps:** 21; **Rank at retirement:** Gunney; **Wife's name:** Diane; **Children/ages:** Eddie-28; Jennifer-24; Antonio Jr.-23; Albert-10; **Interests:**



Golf, NASCAR; **Three words to describe self:** Caring, Fair, Firm; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Be responsible for what you do and don't do." **Additional:** "I and my family are happy to be here at Marine Military Academy."

Delta Company

Full Name: Larry J. Carson, Sr.; **Commonly Used First Name:** Larry; **Hometown:** New Orleans, LA; **Age:** 53; **Years in Marine Corps:** 30; **Rank at retirement:** Sergeant Major; **Wife's name:** Gwendolyn; **Children:** Yonika,



Karena, James, York, Lawrence, and Tony; **Grandchildren:** Jalen, Avery, Teya, Xavier; **Interests:** Cooking, Woodworking, Bowling, Golf, Harley-rider, Picture-framing; **Three words to describe self:** Firm, Fair, Consistent; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Get reachable goals and GO FOR IT!"

Echo Company

Full Name: GySgt Frank Martinez, Sr. **Commonly Used First Name:** Frank; **Hometown:** San Antonio, TX **Age:** 49; **Years in Marine Corps:** 20; **Rank at retirement:** E-7 Gunnery Sergeant; **Wife's name:** Veronica; **Children/**



ages: Frank Jr.-23; Mario-16; Elva-12 **Interests:** To become MMA Board Member; **Three words to describe self:** Motivator, Fair, Mentor; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Responsibility and how to become a good citizen."

Fox Company

Full Name: MSgt Robert Fracasso **Commonly Used First Name:** Rob; **Age:** 40; **Years in Marine Corps:** 21 years, 8 mos.; **Rank at retirement:** Master Sergeant; **Wife's name:** Jenny; **Children/ages:** Tres, Dalton, Mauricio, Alonso; **Interests:** NASCAR, Hunting, Fishing; **Three words to describe self:** Loyal, Enthusiastic, Hard Working; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Lesson to CADETS: Know yourself and seek self-improvement."



Golf Company

Full Name: Albert "Al" Wilson, Jr.; **Hometown:** Fort Lauderdale, FL. **Age:** 59; **Years in Marine Corps:** 30; **Rank at retirement:** Sergeant Major; **Wife's name:** MaryAnn; **Children/ages:** 3 girls-22,32,



36 and 1 boy-34; 14 grandkids: 8 girls, 6 boys! **Interests:** Fishing, Motorcycles; **Three words to describe self:** Dedicated, Fair, Understanding; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Be accountable, always do the right thing, not the popular one."

Assistant Drill Instructors

Echo Company



Full Name: GySgt Felipe Landin; **Hometown:** Brownsville, TX **Age:** 57; **Years in Marine Corps:** 20; **Interests:** Spending time with family; **Three**

words to describe self: Hard-charger, Motivator, Dedicated; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Leadership and discipline."

Fox Company



Full Name: Sgt John Joe Elizondo; **Commonly Used First Name:** JJ; **Age:** 28; **Years in Marine Corps:** 4 years; **Wife's name:** Mary Jo; **Child/age:**

Samuel Quintin/1; **Interests:** Sports, Fishing, Hunting; **Three words to describe self:** Motivated, Good Attitude, Determined; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Motivation is the KEY to success."

Golf Company



Full Name: SSgt Jose A. Jaramillo, "Jay" **Hometown:** San Benito, TX **Age:** 51; **Years in Marine Corps:** 18 (2 years-U.S. Army, 4 years TX National Guard); **Wife's name:** Lydia; **Children:** 2

daughters; **Interests:** Challenging my mind and body; **Three words to describe self:** Adapt, Improve, Overcome; **Most important lesson you can teach cadets:** "Be flexible...let time push you when encountering life's problems." **Additional:** "Life has many ways to travel. Only YOU can make that decision."

MMA Cadet Leadership 2007-2008

2007-2008 Battalion Staff Members

Commanding Officer



Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Edgar Steeg

Executive Officer



Cadet Major Travis R. Duncan

Sergeant Major



Cadet Sergeant Major David Rodriguez

Staff Officer



Cadet First Lieutenant Emmanuel Castro

Staff Officer



Cadet First Lieutenant Colt T. Marcyan

Staff Officer



Cadet First Lieutenant Dong K. Shin

Staff Officer



Cadet First Lieutenant Kyle N. Wagener

Public Affairs Officer



Cadet First Lieutenant Dong K. Shin

Band Drum Major



Cadet Gunnery Sergeant James Flowers

Band NCOIC



Cadet Major Travis R. Duncan

2007-2008 Company Commanders

Alpha



Cadet Captain Jason R. Franks

Charlie



Cadet Captain Andrew E. Alexander

Delta



Cadet Captain Fan Yang

Echo



Cadet Captain Manuel A. Sierra

Fox



Cadet Captain Robert Motheral

Golf



Cadet Captain Kyle T. Gannon

The Definitive Edge: MMA's College Placement Room

One of the busiest rooms aboard MMA is always the College Placement Office, staffed by Robin Farris, a full time instructor who provides cadets with individualized guidance on educational planning, scholarship and financial aid guidance, career counseling, and complete college application processing. With hundreds of catalogs and brochures from colleges and universities, over 150 on-campus video tours, dozens of reference books filled with college related information, internet connection for on-line research and applications, the College Room provides cadets complete college processing services. In addition, many college representatives visit MMA each year to visit one-on-one with the cadets. The college placement program itself provides for class and group counseling during the eighth, ninth and tenth grades and individualized scheduled counseling in the junior and senior year. And the plethora of college banners representing leading universities and service academies coast-to-coast adds a colorful incentive for all who enter MMA's College Room.

Anyone would be hard pressed to top College Placement Counselor Robin Farris' enthusiasm, "Preparation for college and the college admission process begins when cadets enter as freshmen. By the time the cadets head off to pursue their future, I want to be sure they are academically and socially prepared for the challenges that will come their way. This is a highly individualized process and I work to make sure that the boys keep as many options as possible open until it comes time to narrow down to a smaller list of selected schools. My goal is to help cadets find the right fit. I am available to cadets to help in their college search—planning visits, preparing for interviews, reading and editing essays, recommendations, general hand-holding, pats on the back and confidence building...that's what I'm here for and am eager to do for each and every cadet."

When asked if all MMA cadets utilize College Placement and at what age a student should begin the college application process Robin replies, "I encourage all cadets to become frequent visitors to the College Room. That includes our 8th and 9th graders. The more familiar they are with the College Room and with me, the less threatening the whole college admission process will be when they are seniors. The College Room is available to cadets throughout the day. It contains a wealth of information on colleges and universities. Books and videos are available for cadets to use in the College Room as well as to check out for use after class hour. Many applications are available in the college files, as well as information on scholarship programs. You will also find financial aid information, SAT and ACT registration packets, college exploration websites, information on the Common Application, and many other useful resources. The College Room is also home to our visiting college representatives. Juniors and seniors are invited to attend to gather information regarding a school, as well as to meet the representatives. Cadets begin to apply to the college of their choice the fall semester of their senior year."

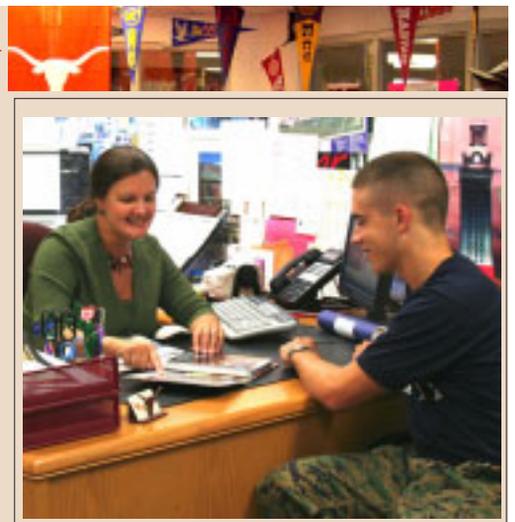
MMA is a testing center for the SAT/ACT exams, which are open to the public. Here at MMA we'll first administer the PSAT in

October, but that date is set aside for only our cadets, 8th through 11th graders, during their first class period. We believe the more times a young man can take a timed standardized practice test, the better he will perform during the actual SAT, which is usually taken during the student's junior and/or senior year. Additionally, the PSAT is used by National Merit and other scholarship agencies." MMA is a designated testing site for the SAT on October 6th, December 1st, January 26th and May 3rd; and for the ACT on October 27th, December 8th and April 12th.

When asked what a prospective college student should concentrate on in order to get universities to consider enrolling the student Robin stresses, "I feel that course selection is one of the most important factors a student needs to consider in order to be accepted to the college of his choice. Colleges want to know that the applicant is 'college ready' when he steps on to their campus. A student needs to take the most rigorous courses available to him because admission decisions for most colleges are usually based on the quality of academic preparation in high school. In addition, admission officers at competitive colleges look beyond GPA and test scores and evaluate the pattern of course work, the level of classes (Honors and AP), sequence of academic courses and the senior year schedule. College admission officers are very aware of what is referred to as the 'senior slide'."

Service academies are yet another college level option for college ready cadets to consider: Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, West Point Military Academy, Merchant Marine Academy and the Coast Guard Academy. Robin explains, "Applying to one of the United States service academies is different in that (a) the application is available the spring semester of the student's junior year – as opposed to traditional colleges and universities applications, which are typically available in the Fall of the applicant's senior year; (b) a student is required to apply for a nomination from their Congressman and/or Senator and the Vice President; (c) a physical fitness test must be passed in order to be admissible to an academy; (d) if accepted, tuition is covered by the United States military; and (e) after graduation, a student is an officer in the military and must serve a determined length of time in active duty. The United State Coast Guard Academy does not require a nomination and is very difficult to get in. Be prepared, application to any of the service academies is extremely competitive."

If all this seems confusing, additional information is only a mouse click away. Robin recommends visiting a particular student and parent-friendly web site, "One of the most comprehensive web sites I recommend to cadets to use is www.collegeboard.com. This web site offers career assessments, college major matching, college information, financial aid information, SAT practice tests and information for parents and guardians. Collegeboard.com is a virtual 'one-stop' college exploration and application web site and is extremely user friendly. In addition to collegeboard.com, a student can 'google' just about any question concerning college exploration and admissions and thousands of web sites will pop up for his or her exploration. And don't rule out your local bookstore. Bookstores are filled with college admissions guidebooks, as well as essay writing handbooks, SAT/ACT workbooks, financial aid



Above: MMA College Placement Counselor Robin Farris, otherwise known as The College Room Lady, discusses college application 'musts' with a junior cadet. Robin stresses the importance of beginning to prepare for college application as early as the 8th and 9th grade.

handbooks, career choice handbooks...you can find books on every aspect of admission, including campus visits, college interviews, and general advice on the entire process. A few of my favorites are Fiske Guide to Getting into the Right College, Colleges that Change Lives- 40 Schools That Will Change the Way You Think About Colleges, Cool Colleges: For the Hyper-Intelligent, Self-Directed, Late Blooming, and Just Plain Different, Looking Beyond the Ivies-Finding the College That's Right for You. "

It's a jungle of college possibilities out there, so what should a student look for when targeting where he or she will spend the next four years of their educational career? Robin offers up this tried and true method, "Well, one of the most important things I tell cadets is to be sure and choose a college environment and philosophy that reflects his individual needs (a good fit school) and not the 'latest greatest name-brand, number one in the latest newsmagazine' college or university. The majority of successful men and women have graduated from colleges and university most people have hardly ever heard of."

For Robin Farris, her role as MMA's College Placement Counselor is a perfect fit. "Each cadet brings to me their own desires, goals, wishes, needs, and so on... and being able to help them pull them all together to find just the right fit for them gives me great pleasure. I am their biggest cheerleader! When a cadet gets a letter of acceptance and I put their name on one of our posters posted outside the College Room, I'm not sure who is more excited, the cadet or me!" Robin Farris' enthusiastic approach to her all-important role as MMA's College Placement Counselor is vividly evident as graduates approach the end of each academic year and realize their college dreams have come true. MMA graduates tout a 100% college placement ratio, year after year...and this academic year is shaping up to be no exception to the rule! Robin's walls are already lined with names of seniors who have earned acceptance at many of the nation's leading universities. Early-on strategic college planning and persistence, coupled with a strong dose of 'Robin Farris enthusiasm' gives each MMA student the competitive edge that sends them straight to the head of the nation's senior graduating class!



LEATHERNECK SPORTS



TOM MORTON
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

"Taking Care Of Business"



VISA Team, left to right: Back Row - Head Coach Chris Elliott; Cadets Farah, Robinson, Portales, Ortiz, Cockins; Cadet L. Cerillo as Assistant Coach. Front row - Cadets Barber, A. Parks, and Agoro.

VISA '07

Head Coach Cadet
Chaplain Chris Elliott

8th graders with Texas-sized HEART! V.I.S.A. program (Valley Independent School Association) is offered at the eighth grade level with yearlong competition in various sports. As they are not permitted to participate in TAPPS competition, This program provides eighth graders the opportunity to participate in volleyball, basketball, softball and track and field.

LEATHERNECK CROSS COUNTRY '07

Head Coach Bill Hinkle



MMA's Leatherneck Cross Country Head 'warrior' Bill Hinkle reports, "The first race of the cross-country season was held on August 25th at San Benito High School a week after the start of classes at MMA. We train five days a week in the hot South Texas afternoon sun focusing on endurance running with a speed workout once a week. We participate in a meet each Saturday morning for seven

weekends. The varsity team has 14 cadets on the run roster. Our run times and placements in the weekend races continue to improve. Three meets remain before our season ends. They include the Hanna, La Feria, and Harlingen High School invitationals." **Cross Country 'warriors' are: Cadets BARROSO, BREWER, CERRILLO A, CHRISTENSEN, COMER, DOUGHERTY, FASOLAK, FRANKS, GORDON, HANRAHAN, JUAREZ SALAZAR, LEMONS, LEVINSON, MALCOM, MILLER C., MILLER M., RODRIGUEZ D., RODRIGUEZ L., ROY, SCHAARF, SHTULMANN, STEPHENSON, TAPIA-CERVANTES, TRETTER, WALDORF, WALZER, WEBSTER, WILSON, YANG, and YERIAN. Onward and upward, Leatherneck Cross Country warriors...OORAH!**

LEATHERNECK CYCLING '07

Head Coach Earl Gander



Bike Team, L-R: Cadets Tretter and Levinson; Head Coach Earl Gander; Honorary member BGen Steve Cheney, USMC (Ret); Cadets Aitken and Karkunkel. Not pictured is Cadet Comer. CRANK ON, TEAM MMA!!!

New! LEATHERNECK CHESS '07-'08

Head Coach Bill Beckman



Chess Team 2007-8: Cadets Agoro, Barber, Bendis, Couch, Dacy, George Jr., Gerhard, Grimm, Haag, Hawkins, Jameson, Ogburn, Orozco, Parks, Stitt, Tahirkheli, Wagener, Wright, Noel, and Yang. Steamin' Tourney Action recap in next issue!

LEATHERNECK FOOTBALL '07



LEATHERNECK FOOTBALL STAFF: TOM MORTON, HEAD COACH and ATHLETIC DIRECTOR; SCOTT SWINNEA, DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR; MIKE MORTON, OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR; EDGAR MARTINEZ, ASSISTANT LINE; TITO AGUIRRE, LINE COACH; MO MOLINA AND BRETT ESPARZA, RECEIVER AND SECONDARY COACHES.

#	Names	Height	Weight	Position	Hometown
2	Courtney, Scott	5'9"	150	WR/CB	Baytown, Texas
3	Smith, Taylor	5'9"	142	WR/SS	Telluride, Colorado
5	Hollis, Duran	5'10"	180	TB/SS	Ft. Worth, Tx
7	Villarreal, Angel	5'10"	152	QB/FS	Chicago, Illinois
8	Bozer, Blake	5'9"	149	WR/FS	San Antonio, Texas
10	Ogburn, Ryan	5'9"	136	QB	Jacksonville, Florida
11	Hillard, Trey	5'7"	135	WR/CB	Longview, Texas
12	Hanne, Hohn	6'0"	128	QB	Austin, Texas
15	Hampton, Andrew	5'4"	125	WR/CB	Chicago, Illinois
17	Honan, Kevin	5'8"	150	FB/LB	Friendswood, Texas
18	Fite, Sam	6'1"	170	WR/FS/K	Harlingen, Texas
20	Sanchez, Austin	6'0"	154	WR/FS	Houston, Texas
21	Owens, Malcom	6'0"	210	WR/CB	Raleigh, North Carolina
22	Whitaker, J.T.	5'10"	175	FB/LB	Lafayette, Louisiana
24	Middleton, Brent	5'7"	143	TB/CB	Houston, Texas
28	Kuhr, Travis	6'0"	173	WR/SS	Wichita, Kansas
29	Linton, Thomas	6'0"	155	WR/SS	Mapleton, Utah
31	Wagner, Chase	6'0"	185	FB/LB	Harlingen, Texas
32	Alexander, Andrew	5'9"	158	FB/LB	Houston, Texas
34	Ruffin, Andrew	6'3"	199	WR/LB	Houston, Texas
35	Trevino, Emiliano	5'11"	180	FB/LB	Houston, Texas
40	Perry, Charles	5'11"	185	K	German Town, Maryland
44	Isern III, Raul	5'8"	165	FB/LB	Beaumont, Texas
48	Morrison, C.J.	5'8"	176	FB/LB	Jarrell, Texas
50	Morales, Fernando	5'7"	175	OL/DT	Brownsville, Texas
51	Sooby, Derek	5'10"	181	OL/DT	Houston, Texas
52	Marcy, Colt	5'10"	167	DE	Chicago, Illinois
54	Cook, Zach	6'0"	246	C/DT	Fort Worth, Texas
55	Rodriguez, Ricky	5'9"	217	OL/LB	McAllen, Texas
56	Tracy, Ryan	6'0"	240	OL/DT	Pearland, Texas
60	Godfrey, Steven	6'1"	179	DE	Jacksboro, Texas
62	Blocker, Bennett	5'5"	199	OL/LB	Houston, Texas
64	Barry, Shane	5'11"	194	OL/DT	Las Vegas, Nevada
65	Wright, Lane	6'4"	257	OL/DT	Houston, Texas
66	Ferguson, Jordan	5'11"	236	OL/DT	Pottsboro, Texas
70	Mora, Mauricio	6'3"	230	OL/DT	Monterrey, Mexico
72	Telor, Dan	6'4"	200	OL/DE	Ridgefield Park, New Jersey
74	Miller, Mike R.	5'10"	209	OL/DT	Arlington, Texas
75	Allison, Jon	5'11"	284	OL/DT	Bakersfield, California
76	Dominguez, Allen	6'1"	239	OL/DT	Abbeville, Louisiana
77	Jackson, Jon	6'1"	220	OL/DE	Plano, Texas
80	Motheral, Robert	6'3"	191	TE/DE	Kerrville, Texas
82	Ullrich, Psalm	5'11"	185	TE	Lake Tahoe, California
85	Clark, Stoley	6'3"	196	TE/DE	Estes Park, Colorado
	Brewer, Mike	Filming			Long Beach, California

2007 Football Schedule

Date	Opponent
Aug 23	Progreso H.S. @ MMA Scrimmage
Aug 31	@ Santa Rosa Santa Rosa 56, MMA 6 <i>Duran Hollis 76 run (2-point run failed) 11:20</i> <i>RUSHING: Duran Hollis 12-157; Angel Villarreal 9-51; Blake Bozer 1-2. PASSING: Angel Villarreal 5-13-0, 21 yards.</i> <i>RECEIVING: Bozar 3-19; Taylor Smith 1-4; Hollis 1-(2)</i>
Sep 7	U. of Tamalipas @ MMA Tamalipas 0, MMA 28
Sep 14	@ Progreso H.S. Progreso 35, MMA 0
Sep 21	Open
Sep 28	@ La Villa
Oct 5	Open
Oct 13	San Antonio Holy Cross* @ MMA
Oct 19	Antonian College Prep* @ MMA
Oct 26	@ St. Joseph Academy*
Nov 2	**U. of Tamalipas @ MMA
Nov 10	@ San Antonio Central Catholic

* District Opponent
**Parents Weekend/Homecoming Birthday Ball

MMA Parents Organization Update



A Very Special Thursday "Night at the Museum"

The Parents Organization of Marine Military Academy invites and welcomes parents and friends of the Academy to Parents Weekend and a **Texas Wines Party on Thursday, November 1, 2007, 6:00 to 8:00pm (or, as they say in the barracks: 1800 to 2000 hours).**



The party will be held on the grounds of the Iwo Jima Museum, the hidden jewel of the Rio Grande Valley. Join us in a great start for Parents Weekend and a wonderful opportunity to

meet and visit with other MMA parents. You'll enjoy fine Texas wine while basking in the glow of the magnificent Iwo Jima Monument after dark. The Museum is located just across Iwo Jima Blvd. from the MMA campus and is adjacent to the parade grounds.



A Word From MMA'S Institutional Director

*We know that all of you are looking forward to Parents Weekend...it'll be upon us before you know it! During the weekend, you'll visit with your sons teachers, watch a winning football team as we play Tamaulipas, view a wonderful Saturday morning parade, attend the Anniversary Birthday Ball--but most importantly, **spend quality time with your son.***

From the moment that you arrive for Parents Weekend you will have the opportunity to bid on items displayed throughout our annual Silent Auction. The purpose of this auction is to raise money for projects that will benefit all of our cadets. Last year, mattresses were purchased for the cadets through the generosity of the Parents Organization, and a new Confidence Course was built. Funds raised at the Silent Auction helped offset both projects.

The goal for this year's Silent Auction is set at \$75,000 in support of funding for future projects benefitting MMA Corps of Cadets. The auction requires a tremendous amount of teamwork from both MMA staff and parents, and we'll work hand-in-hand with you to ensure a successful outcome. With your support this year's Silent Auction will be a success. We need your assistance! The Silent Auction is not a garage sale, and we need donated items that are tasteful and will attract a good price. In addition to merchandise, consider donating such items as time-shares, airline tickets, fishing and guided hunting trips and sports tickets. We'll bundle certain donated items in a package that will make the auction item more appealing.

*Forward your item(s) to MMA's Development Department, Attn: Connie Flores no later than the 2nd of November. Please place a value on the donated item(s) so we can mark each appropriately. We're also contacting each Company Mom and asking that they work with their companies to **make this the most successful Silent Auction ever.** If every family averages spending \$200.00 at the auction we will reach our goal of \$75,000.00, all of which will benefit our cadets.*

***With your donated item(s), together we can reach our goal.** Thank you in advance for your support, and we look forward to seeing you for what we believe will be one of the most enjoyable weekends of the academic year.*



Robert R. Grider
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC (Ret)
Director, Institutional Advancement



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Bob Parrott

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2007 BIRTHDAY BALL / PARENTS' WEEKEND

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

General Information

Thursday, 1 November 2007

All Day Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr Drop off items for Silent Auction
 1800-2000 MMA Museum & Visitors Center Parents Reception hosted by MMAPO "NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM"

Friday, 2 November 2007

0730-0830	Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr	Parent's Reception	Pick up your Cadet's class schedule and nametag
0730-1700	Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr	Silent Auction	
0835- 0845	Front of Coleman Hall	Color's Ceremony	
0850-1205	Various Classrooms	Classroom Open House	Follow your Cadet's Class Schedule:
			0850 - 0905 1 st Class Period (CP)
			0910 - 0935 2 nd Class Period (CP)
			0940 - 1005 3 rd Class Period (CP)
			1010 - 1035 4 th Class Period (CP)
			1040 - 1105 5 th Class Period (CP)
			1110 - 1135 6 th Class Period (CP)
			1140 - 1205 Military Period – Meet with DI's
1215-1400	Neuhaus Mess Hall	2 nd Mess (Lunch)	\$4.00/Cadet Guest
1400-1630	Various Classrooms	Parent/Teacher/DI Conferences	Schedule appointment(s) on sign up sheets on teachers doors
1700-1815	Neuhaus Mess Hall	3 rd Mess (Dinner)	\$4.00/Cadet Guest
1900	Bowman Stadium	Football Game	MMA -vs- University of Tamaulipas
		Liberty call after Game	For Cadets authorized overnight liberty with parent's present- Cadets check-out with Drill Instructor Please make sure you pick up medications if needed

Saturday, 3 November 2007

0730	Company Area	Overnight Liberty Expires	For Cadets authorized liberty with parent's - Check-in with DI
0730-0900	Neuhaus Mess Hall	Pancake Breakfast	\$3.00/ Cadet Guest
0800-0930	Yeckel Hall Auditorium	Parent's Organization Meeting	
1000	Iwo Jima Parade Ground	Cadet Parade	
1100-1900	Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr	Silent Auction	Items may be picked up until 2330
1730	Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr	Flowers	Corsage Pick up until 1900
		Photographs	
		Babysitting	
1730-2000	Neuhaus Mess Hall	Anniversary Ball Reception	Company schedule as follows:
		Hors d'oeuvres	1730 - 1815 Fox and Golf Company
			1815 - 1900 Alpha and Charlie Company
			1900 - 1945 Delta and Echo Company
			Music commences
1830	King Athletic Center	42 st Anniversary Ball	
2000-2330	Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr	Silent Auction Items Pick up	Traditional Cake Cutting Ceremony
2030	King Athletic Center	Anniversary Ceremony	Begins with Mother/Son Dance
2100-2300	King Athletic Center	Dancing	For Cadets authorized overnight liberty with parents present- check out with Drill Instructor
2300	Company Area	Liberty Commences	Please make sure you pick up medications if needed

Sunday, 4 November 2007

0900-1130	Neuhaus Mess Hall	Brunch	\$5.00/ Cadet Guest
1000-1800	Peacher Hall Cadet Activity Ctr	Silent Auction- Pick Up Items	Deadline to Pick Up Items
1300	Liberty Call	For Cadets not with parents	
1730	Neuhaus Mess Hall	3 rd Mess (Dinner)	
1900	Liberty Expires	For ALL Cadets	
1930-2130	Company Area	CCQ	Check-in with Drill Instructor

QUESTIONS? Call MMA Social Directress Monica Bates: (956) 421-6006 Ext. 601, 610 or e-mail: bates@mma-tx.org .

Handy travel information is located on MMA's web site at:

- Hotels: <http://www.mma-tx.org/hotel.htm>
- Rental Cars: <http://www.mma-tx.org/cars.htm>
- Airline Reservations: <http://www.mma-tx.org/airlines.htm>
- Map of Harlingen: <http://www.mma-tx.org/harlingenmap.htm>

Cadets of the Month for August '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 August with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

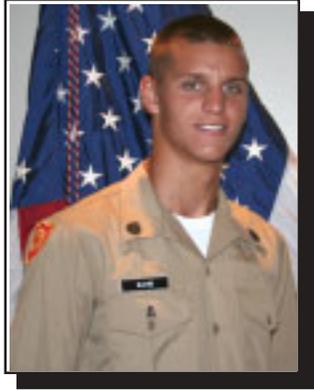
"Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance." - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret)

ALPHA COMPANY ADAM BLAIN

Senior - San Jose, CA

"Cadet SSGT Blaine has worked tirelessly as CI with the 1st semester new joins. He consistently set a superb example and provides sound and consistent leadership for all plebes. He's also the Platoon Sergeant for Alpha, 2d Platoon. Through his tireless efforts, enthusiastic approach to his leadership roles, and commitment to excellence he has set himself apart from his peers and is most deserving of this recognition."

- CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



CHARLIE COMPANY ALEJANDRO JUAREZ

Junior - San Luis, MEXICO

"Cadet First Sergeant Juarez is an outstanding example of exactly what a cadet at Marine Military Academy should aspire to become. He goes out of his way to complete the mission or task assigned..."

- GySgt Antonio Aguilar, USMC (Ret)



DELTA COMPANY MATTHEW FRASER

Senior - Frankston, TX

"Cadet PFC Fraser has demonstrated outstanding potential and has performed his duties as CI in an excellent manner. Cadet Fraser has earned Cadet of the Month recognition as a result of his performance, can-do attitude and unselfish work ethic."

- SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



ECHO COMPANY

JONATHAN JACKSON

Senior - Plano, TX

"Cadet First Sergeant Jackson is a second-year cadet who leads by example by showing his SNCO's in the company how to do their jobs. He has great military appearance, enforces his chain of command to the younger cadets within the company. He communicates well with all, and it's great to have him in Echo Company."

- GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)



FOX COMPANY JEFFREY DRAKE

Junior - Cave Creek, AZ

"Cadet PVT Drake is a first-year cadet who has demonstrated exceptional attitude, a good work ethic, and pays attention to detail. He takes pride in himself and all of Fox Company. His initiative and can-do attitude is why he earns selection for this esteemed recognition. It is an honor to work with him, and I wish him future success."

- MSgt Robert Fracasso, USMC (Ret)



GOLF COMPANY TYLER MALOON

Freshman - Jackson, CA

"Cadet Lance Corporal Maloon is in his second year and again has started the year 'full speed ahead'. He is a self starter and gets things done. He is the future leadership of Marine Military Academy. Cadet Maloon sets his goals and knows what he wants..."

- SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



SOUND OFF: You heard it RIGHT here!

Welcome back! And I express my greetings to the new members of Marine Military Academy. The New Year has already begun! For those who came back or just arrived as seniors, it is a short sprint till the graduation. For the new cadets, you will find MMA very tough. But don't worry; things get better as the time flies by. SAT and ACT are coming up in October. As everybody already knows, these standardized tests are tough. Details about signing up are posted in the College Room. Talk to Mrs. Farris, the college counselor; she will support you with her best. Especially for juniors and seniors I highly recommend college visits. It is always exciting to see ahead what your dream schools are like. This opportunity will give clearer vision for your future. And one more thing, do not forget to reserve an interview with the college staff members. It will give you advantages. Early bird always gets the worm first. It is always great to see how new year is rolling. As I mentioned above, I really am happy to see new faces. Like always, I know for sure that it'll be another good year. **KEEP YOUR HEADS UP!** Battalion Public Affairs Officer Dong K. Shin **-SOUNDING OFF!**

Editor's Note: Cadet Corporal Dong-Kwon Shin is a 3rd-year student at MMA, son of Mr. and Mrs. ChangSoon Shin of Chungcheongnam-do, KOREA.



MMA Cadet Promotions 2007-2008

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

ALPHA

BAEN, KIRKLAND A - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
BLAINE, ADAM E - Cadet Staff Sergeant-Platoon Sergeant
DAVIS, PATRICK A - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Public Affairs Officer
FITCH, RYAN J - Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
FRANKS, JASON R - Cadet Captain/Company Commander
FRITZ, BRANDON M - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
HUME, ZACHARY A - Cadet First Lieutenant/Company Executive Officer
MAJOR, - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Guide
MC DONOUGH, THOMAS B - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
RODRIGUEZ, DAVID - Cadet Sergeant Major/Battalion Sergeant Major
RODRIGUEZ, LIONEL - Cadet First Sergeant/Company First Sergeant
TRETTER, JOSEPH G - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Guide
WEBSTER, JONATHAN G - Cadet Sergeant/Company Guidon Bearer

CHARLIE

ALEXANDER, ANDREW - Cadet Captain/Company Commander
AKIN, WILLIAM - Cadet First Lieutenant/Special Commander
CASTRO, EMMANUEL - Cadet First Lieutenant/Battalion Staff Officer
COX, LYNDESEY - Cadet First Lieutenant/Company Executive Officer
EISELE, LOGAN - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
FILICE, ANTHONY - Cadet Sergeant/CO Guidon Bearer
GARZA, HECTOR - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader
GODFREY, STEVEN - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
HENG, DAVID - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
JUAREZ SALAZAR, ALEJANDRO - Cadet First Sergeant/CO First Sergeant
LANE, CHRISTOPHER - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
LOMAQUAHU, TALON - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
MARCYN, COLT T - Cadet First Lieutenant/Battalion Staff Officer
MCGRAW, MICHAEL - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
MILLER, MICHAEL - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
POON, NICHOLAS - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
SMITH, TAYLOR - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Guide
STEEG, EDGAR - Cadet Lieutenant Colonel/BN Commanding Officer
TREVINO, EMILIANO - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Public Affairs Officer

DELTA

ANDERSON III, JOHN - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
CAMARENA, JOSHUA - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
CARTER, JACOB - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
COURTNEY, SCOTT - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Commander
CROWLEY, OISIN - Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company First Sergeant
DAVIDSON, GARY - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
DOUGHERTY, CHRISTOPHER - Cadet Sergeant/CO Gunnery Sergeant
DUCOTE, COLE A - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
FRASER, MATTHEW - Cadet Corporal/Squad Member
GAO, PENG - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
GARCIA, PHILLIP - Cadet Sergeant/CO Guidon Bearer
GREEN, TYLER - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
KHALIL, DANIEL - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Commander
ROY, JOHN - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Public Affairs Officer
SALTO, JOSE ANTONIO - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
VOGEL, RYAN T - Cadet First Lieutenant/Company Executive Officer
WALDORFF, MASON - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
YANG, FAN - Cadet Captain/Company Commander

ECHO

ADAIR II, ASA A - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
ARANDA, DIAMOND - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
ASPE CASSOLA, SEBASTIAN - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
BREWER, MICHAEL E - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
FULLER, ZACHARY M - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
GEORGE, NICHOLAS D - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Company Executive Officer
GONZALEZ DE LEON, ANGEL - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
GUAJARDO, VIRGILIO - Cadet Lance Corporal/ Squad Member
HASBROOK, WILLIAM - Cadet Lance Corporal/Company Clerk
HILLARD, STEVEN - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
JACKSON, JONATHAN - Cadet First Sergeant/Company First Sergeant
LEDESMA VILLARREAL, JORGE - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Leader
MARSHALL, TREY - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Guide
MIELSCH, JUSTIN - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader

ECHO - continued

PERRY, CHARLES - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
SHELTON, JUSTIN - Cadet Corporal/ Squad Member
SHIN, DONG K - Cadet First Lieutenant/Battalion Staff Officer
SIERRA, MANUEL - Cadet Captain/Company Commander
TAHIRKHELI, ADAM - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
ULLRICH, PSALM - Cadet Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
VIERS, PATRICK - Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
VILLARREAL-CANTU, SERGIO - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
WELDER, PATRICK - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Leader

FOX

ALLEN, JOSHUA L - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
BROWN, ELIJAH - Cadet Private First Class/Squad Member
COLEMAN, MITCHELL - Cadet Corporal/CO Education SNCO
COOK, ZACHARY - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
DUNCAN, TRAVIS R - Cadet Major/Battalion Executive Officer
FLETCHER, GARRETT - Cadet Lance Corporal/Platoon Guide
FLOWERS, JAMES - Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Band Drum Major
GERHARD, NICHOLAS - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
HOFF, THOMAS - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
MALCOM, JOHN - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
MARTINEZ, ANDREW - Cadet First Sergeant/Company First Sergeant
MIDDLETON II, BRENT - Cadet Corporal/Squad Leader
MILLER, JAMES - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
MOTHERAL, ROBERT - Cadet Captain/Company Commander
PASVENSAS, AUDRIUS - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
SEVILLA, AARON P - Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
STITT, TIMOTHY - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Company Guidon Bearer
VILLARREAL, ANGEL - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
WALANTAS, JOHN - Cadet Lance Corporal/Platoon Sergeant
WRIGHT, LANE - Cadet Corporal/Company Education SNCO

GOLF

AHMED, SUFYAAN - Cadet Corporal/Assistant Squad Leader
BARKER, BRANDON - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
CHRISTENSEN, NICHOLAS - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
GANNON, KYLE - Cadet Captain/Company Commander
GRAHAM, MALIQUE - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
GUTTA, SHAUN - Cadet Lance Corporal/Squad Member
HOWELL, SILAS - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
JEROME, DAVID - Cadet Sergeant/Company Guidon Bearer
KARFUNKLE, MICHAEL - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Company Education SNCO
KARPUS, MICHAEL - Cadet Corporal/Assistant Squad Leader
KEEGAN, NATHANIEL - Cadet First Lieutenant/Company Executive Officer
LA CAVA, NICHOLAS - Cadet Staff Sergeant/Platoon Sergeant
LIANTONIO, JAMES - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Public Affairs Officer
LIGUORI, JAMES - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Member
PAYLOR, GARRETT - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
RUFFIN, ANDREW - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
TANNEHILL, JOSEPH - Cadet Second Lieutenant/Platoon Commander
TELOR, DANIEL - Cadet Gunnery Sergeant/Company Gunnery Sergeant
TIPTON, WILLIAM - Cadet Sergeant/Company Laundry NCO
VILLANUEVA MAXIMOTO, JOSE - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Member
VRETTOS, NICOLAOS - Cadet Corporal/Squad Member
WAGENER, KYLE N - Cadet First Lieutenant/Battalion Staff Officer
WALZER, ASHTON - Cadet Sergeant/Squad Leader
YERIAN, FLINT - Cadet First Sergeant/Company First Sergeant

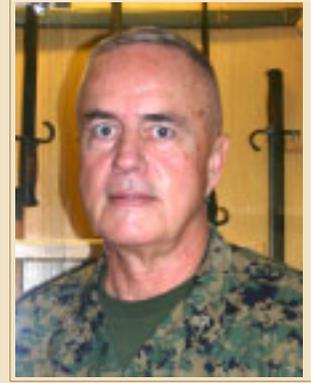
“FOR MANY ARE CALLED, BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN”

Please join us in a hearty round of applause for these young men on accomplishing this auspicious milestone...OORAH!



**BIG Plans Are Brewing...
Mark Your Calendar TODAY
and Don't Miss Out:
MMA Alumni Celebration 2008
March 28th - 30th ***

“FALL IN!”



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

Fresh off the wire.....

HELP WANTED. The Academy's Wall of Honor located in Peacher Hall, Cadet Activities Center, recognizes those MMA graduates who went on to serve their country in a Branch of the Armed Services. The wall was dedicated to LtCol James A. Murphy, USAF (Ret.) by his sons and grandsons. A special thanks to Bill Murphy who had two sons graduate from the Academy, Joe '96 and now a Marine Helicopter Pilot and Ryan '98, and was the individual behind the scenes in making the Wall of Honor a most special addition to the Academy. The wall needs updating for the years 2003-2007 and request alumni or parents please provide full names and Branch of Service, hobbs@mma-tx.org.

'79

Lt.Col. Rob Rood USAF – rob.rood@peterson.af.mil - promoted to Lt.Col.1 May, currently, Chief, SATCOM Systems Branch at Air Force Space Command, Peterson, AFB, CO

'81

Col. Michael Stahlman USMC – kimberlystahlman@yahoo.com - promoted to Colonel 1 July, currently Staff Judge Advocate for the Marine Corps Air/Ground Combat Center at 29 Palms, CA, married, two children

'82

Thaddeus Harden – thaddeus@thaddeusharden.com - professional portrait photographer in New York City

'86

George Reynolds – george1@satx.rr.com - regional manager of A-Z Tire in San Antonio, TX., three children, would like to reconnect with other members of his class

Commander John Zuhowski (USN) – 91usna@cox.net - recently promoted to commander and graduated from the Naval War College with a Masters in National Security Affairs and Strategic Studies,

slated in Spring 08 to take command of the USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49) homeported in Sasebo, Japan

'87

Sgt. Robert Monical (USMC) – sgtmon@msn.com - retiring this month after 20 years in the Corps as an MP, an 07 graduate of the University of Maryland with a Bachelors in psychology

'89

Cesar Arzayus – cesar@arzayus.com - working as an account executive in radio sales for ESPN 97.5 FM in Houston, married, two daughters

Thomas O'Connor (formerly "Chip" Connor) – twinoconnor@yahoo.com - teaching Spanish at Kennett High School in Kennett, MO, interviewed with Ward Billings ('71) the principal of the middle school, both had a good time sharing MMA memories

'00

Matthew Lang – working for the Parsons Corporation and planning to marry in Oct.

'03

Nicholas Lang – working for Valley Forge Engineering as a communication coordinator

Cpl. Nicholas Morgan-Archer USMC – with the 2nd CEB, engr. Unit 7316 on his second deployment to Iraq, based at Camp Faluga



Step On Up!

INTENT TO ATTEND 2008 ALUMNI REUNION

Honor, Courage, Commitment ... Who are The Few and The Proud MMA Alumni who will plan ahead and let it be known they intend to attend the 2008 Alumni Reunion? The first step is to make the intent, and then make it a reality ... or as we all recall--the command "FALL-IN". Add your name to this initial list, which will be updated with each LEADER publication, by notifying hobbs@mma-tx.org; billandmar@aol.com; flores@mma-tx.org; wieland@mma-tx.org.

Attendees, for starters:

- Harold Zurlo '69
- Jim Sproul, MMA '71
- David Dickerson '73
- David Shepard, '77
- Craig Matteson '79
- Barden Ambroze '82
- Christopher Crum '82
- Roger Chappell '83
- Paul Urtega '83
- James Burton '88
- Robert Crider '88
- Servando De La Garza '88
- John Oswalt '88
- Matt Watkins '88
- Jeremy Henwood '93
- Jaime Ortiz Jean '93
- MYSGT McLaughlin
- SGTMAJ Steigerwald
- MYGYSGT Ward

Challenging Class of '98...2008 is your 10 year marker...get with the program! Let's set a record for Alumni attendance with Reunion 2008!

Semper Fidelis

Marine Military Academy sends heartfelt condolences to the Morton family on the loss of **Miriam Elizabeth "Libby" Morton**. Miriam Elizabeth "Libby" Morton passed away on September 9, 2007 at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas. Libby was born in Ridgeland, South Carolina. Morton while in Ridgeland. and the family moved to spent many years "Big Coach" Morton and Academy as a substitute library monitor, and as a Complex Concession Stand. mother, and a surrogate MMA. Libby is survived by her Athletic Director and Football Faculty and Football Coach), Ken Jr. and daughter-in-law Stephanie granddaughters, and eleven great-grandchildren. Libby is also survived by her sisters Hazel Rowell, Doris Plewis, Wilma McGill, and Myra Lee Pepper all of Ridgeland, South Carolina. Libby was preceded in death by her husband, Jim Morton, Sr. **Both Libby and her husband Jim are fondly remembered as beloved friends of the Academy.**



She met and married Jim Jim, a career Marine, retired Harlingen in 1969. Libby assisting her husband Jim the Marine Military teacher, social directress, volunteer at the Athletic She was a devoted wife and mother to many cadets at sons, Tom Morton (MMA Coach), Mike Morton (MMA (Carla) Morton, Jim (Ethel) Morton, Morton, plus ten grandsons and four

'04
Lance Corporal Troy Yerian, USMC
C. Btry, 1st Bn. 12th Marines
On Duty in IRAQ

FIRIN' IT UP! Troy was a 4-year cadet at MMA, called Golf Company 'home'. Present day, his unit furnishes armed escort for convoys. He's the 50 caliber machine gunner in turret on top of the armored vehicle. Troy has been in all parts of Iraq and says you can truly see the good that U.S. has done for this country. He likes 'running convoys'. Originally, the unit went out for 1-4 days at a time, then returned to base for 2 days to repair and maintain the vehicle, then back out again. Now, the Iraq Army is taking over more and more of the convoy security so the unit now enjoys a lot more time back on base. Troy likes the duty and is mulling over extending his tour in Iraq. Troy's younger brother, Flint, is 4th year cadet in...you guessed it...GOLF Company!



MMA hosted a special recognition review on Saturday, September 22nd in honor of MMA's incoming Admissions Director LtCol Antonio Cerrillo, U.S. Marine Corps. LtCol Cerrillo retires from 34 years of service with the U.S. Marine Corps on 1 October 2007. He assumed the post of MMA Admissions Director in August 2007 and resides in Harlingen with his wife Patricia and their four children, three of which are MMA Cadets. Please join us in a hearty round of congratulatory applause for LtCol Cerrillo's accomplishments and all there is ahead. Hip-Hip-OORAH!



Cadet Flint Yerian

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If your parents never had children, chances are you won't, either.
-Dick Cavett



HELP WANTED: Looking for at least two volunteers from each MMA Graduating Class to assist in researching location and contacting their fellow graduates. MMA will provide copy of Academy data. Please e-mail your contact data to:
ATTN: Colonel Tom Hobbs, hobbs@mma-tx.org.
~ Semper Fidelis ~

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!

Memorials: In Honor Of:

- SSgt Rudolph Antonio Gornati, USMC (Ret)
- Mitzie James
- SgtMaj Franklin Jeffcoat, USMC (Ret)
- Miriam "Libby" Morton
- Alice Reviello
- Thomas Robertson
- Gabriel Rodriguez, Jr. - MMA '98
- W. L. Edgar Smith
- Betty Smith Stevenson
- John H. Stevenson, USN, WWII
- Pfc Brian A. Thornton, USMC, KIA ROK 1951
- Col John R. Wismer, USMC (Ret)

- Jay Mancini
- J. Rob Walker's Marine Military Service

As the holiday season approaches, Marine Military Academy stands ready to assist you with unique recognition opportunities designed to keep on giving beyond the holiday season.

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

October

6	SAT
10-12	1st Quarter Exams
17	PSAT
27	ACT

November

1 -3	Parents' Weekend
3	Birthday Parade, Reception, Ball
10	Veterans' Day Parade
16	Begin Thanksgiving Break (1600)
25	End Thanksgiving Break (1800)

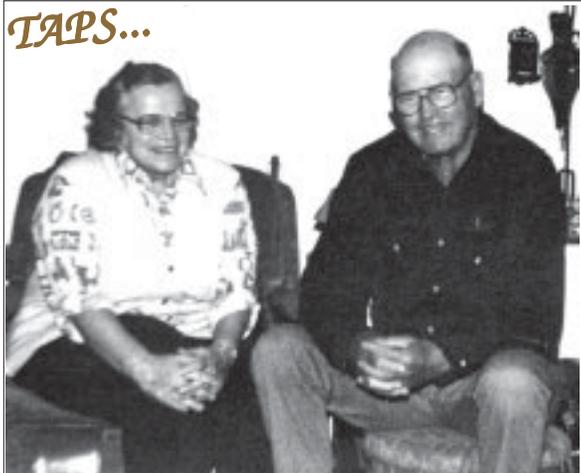
December

1	SAT
8	ACT
11-14	First Semester Final Exams
14	Begin Holiday Break (1200)

January 2008

6	End Holiday Break (1800)
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TAPS...



Mitzie and Harold James

Marine Military Academy extends condolences to the **James family** in the passing of **Jean (Mitzie) Butz James**, 88, who died 18 August 2007 at her home, Deep Well Ranch, Prescott, Arizona. Mitzie and her late husband James were instrumental in funding Marine Military Academy's Bowman Stadium, The Harold James Library, and have been supportive Friends of the Academy since the school's inception in 1965.

Born Oct. 15, 1918 in Chicago, Mitzie matriculated to Scripps College in Claremont, California and upon graduation moved to Wyoming where she met and married Harold. Together, Mitzie and Harold were avid ranchers and philanthropists, taking an active role in a plethora of civic-focussed organizations and projects inclusive of generous philanthropic support of Marine Military Academy. In the entrance to the Academy's Harold James Library stands a large display paying tribute to and in recognition of the James' many contributions to past, present and future Corps of Cadets of the Academy.

MMA's Library was formally dedicated in memory of Harold, "top-notch rancher and American Patriot who believed in the future - especially the future of young people," in September of 1993 by Mitzi. For further information on the Library's display contact the Academy's Librarian Judy Kutzenberger: (956) 423-6006 Ext. 532; kutzenberger@mma-tx.org.

YOUR Opportunities to Support MARINE MILITARY ACADEMY



- Scholarship Programs**
- General Scholarship
 - Endowed Scholarship Fund



- Planned Giving**
- Charitable Gift Annuities
 - Establishment of Trusts
 - Bequests
 - Gift of Residence with Right to Use the Property



- Naming Opportunities**



- Brick Pavers**



- Memorial Trees**



- Athletic Equipment**



- Tax-Deductible Cash Donation**

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

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