

# *NMMI Alumni Relations*



*Corps of Former Cadets*

Wow, what a ride!

This year's event, held at the Christmas Ranch at Wagon Mound, NM, was very well attended. Because of recent rains and hail the site was very lush and green. There were even campfires for the first time in years! Brad and Becky Christmas and their family were gracious and hard-working hosts and really helped make it a great experience for everyone! There were 37 RAT Riders this year whose names went into a hat for the free ride next year. Congratulations to **Harold B. "Skip" Palmer, II 1965 JC** who won the drawing! This year's recipient of the Terrance Brown RAT Rider Award was **Jordan M. King 2008 JC**. Terry is an artist and adds his framed sketches to the Friday night auction which funds the scholarship.



Left to right: **William L. "Bill" Arrington 1952 HS, LTC Seth R. Orell, USA (Ret) 1962 JC** and **W. L. "Buck" Arrington** are the only Trail Riders to have attended all 25 rides. Congratulations!



**Jordan M. King 2008 JC**, the 2014 Terrance Brown Rat Rider Award.



The 2014 Trail Ride "Top Hand"  
**Nickie A. Vigil 1981 JC**.



Nightly retreat in front of the Mess Tent led by Alumni Director **LTC James D. Lowe, NMMI 1967 JC**.

The 2015 Annual Alumni Trail Ride will be held at the CS Ranch, American Creek Camp, at Angel Fire, NM 23 - 27 June 2015. Thanks to **Randolph S. Davis 1976 HS**, his mother Linda, the matriarch of the Davis clan and the rest of the family for allowing us to be their guests next year!



## Put your mark on NMMI



The DeSanders Alumni Memorial Plaza has Benches, Bricks and Flagpoles for dedication. Please call our office at 575-624-8250 if you have questions or just want to discuss the options!

Check out the store website:

<http://www.nmmi.edu/alumni/benchesbricksandflagpoles.htm>



NMMI Corps of Former Cadets Alumni Challenge coin. Now available for \$10 at our office or \$12.50 on the web and includes shipping.

Get yours today!

[Shop here!](#)

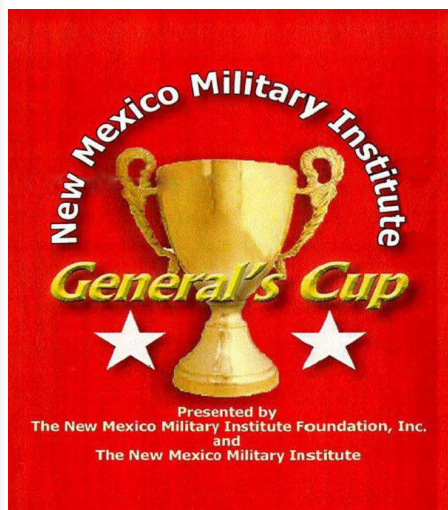


We still have a few 2014 Silver Anniversary Trail Ride Buckles left. They are \$75 at our office or \$83.50 on the [web](#) and includes shipping. While they last!

Trail Ride Caps are still available for \$12 in our office or \$19.50 on the [web](#). You can still order the Trail Ride shirts on the [web](#). Prices include shipping.



# The General's Cup/The President's Challenge



In just two short years the General's Cup has become the single largest fundraising vehicle for NMMI. The first year we netted over \$75,000 for scholarships. We made the decision to start an endowment and placed \$50,000 of the \$75,000 into an endowment. The remaining money was given to Admissions to use immediately for incentive scholarships for the 2012/2013 school year.

The second year we netted \$57,000 and elected to follow the pattern from the first year by placing \$50,000 into the endowment and providing the rest to Admissions for incentive scholarships for the 2013/2014 school year.

The way the tournament is structured, we plan to spend the entire entry fee, back on the golfer to provide them an incredible golfing experience. We supplement the remaining costs of the tournament with the generous support

of our sponsors. Each year we spend approximately \$55,000 to put on the tournament. The net of all money, after expenses, goes directly to support scholarships for the Corps of Cadets.

There is probably no other event where I can assure you that every dollar you donate, after expenses, goes directly to the Corps of Cadets. One of the largest donor blocks each year has been as a result of the President's Challenge. Each year I start the donation process with a \$1,000 donation from Shawn and me. The first year, 2012, there were 34 participants that met my challenge. The second year, there were 28 that accepted my challenge. The great news is that 18 have met the challenge both years.

The General's Cup is set for 19 - 21 September. It is not too early to match my challenge. If you have an interest in participating, please contact Ma Eva Heacox at the NMMI Business Office, 575-624-8089. Start early, donate \$100 a month for 10 months, \$250 for four months or match the entire \$1,000 in one donation.

Listed below are those who have participated in the President's Challenge for the last two years. Without their support we would not have been able to create an endowment that is already in excess of \$100,000. Will you join us in supporting the Corps of Cadets? - **Jerry W. Grizzle, Ph.D. (Major General, Retired)**

Will Cavin (2012/2013)  
Bill Cutter (2012/2013)  
Mark Dow (2012/2013)  
Steve Elliott (2012/2013)  
Hot Shot Hendricks (2012/2013)  
John Henderson (2012/2013)  
Glede and Teresa Holman (2012/2013)  
Phil Ingram (2012/2013)  
Jim and Joy Lowe (2012/2013)  
Joe Matakas (2012/2013)  
Rudd Marlowe (2012/2013)  
Steve Paternoster (2012/2013)  
Jesus Salazar (2012/2013)  
John Savage (2012/2013)  
George Tubb (2012/2013)

Dennis Wood (2012/2013)  
NMMI Alumni Albuquerque Chapter (2013)  
Bill Armstrong (2012)  
Paul Arnold (2012)  
Lance Benham (2012)  
Dr. Randy Brown (2012)  
Jock Brownfield (2012)  
Clarke Coll (2013)  
Frank Duncan (2012)  
Jesse Eckel (2012)  
Bruce Ellis (2013)  
Eddie Galloway (2013)  
Kim Greaves (2012)  
John Harvard (2012)  
Jim Hitch (2012/2013)

Tim Jennings (2013)  
Sylvester Johnson (2012)  
Stan Johnston (2012)  
Michael Keleher (2013)  
Charles Lewis (2013)  
Skip Palmer (2013)  
Steve Perkins (2012/2013)  
Jim Raymond (2013)  
Bryant Riffe (2012)  
Frank Spencer, III (2012)  
Tom Tinnin (2013)  
Frank Turner (2012)  
Dick Varnell (2012)  
Dick Waggoner (2012)

# Alumni Updates

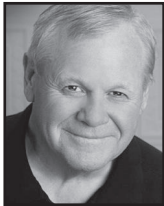
NMMI Homecoming 2014! [View](#) the Hall of Fame kiosk. (starts with sound)  
Do you know an NMMI Alumnus who qualifies for the NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame?

View the criteria [here](#). Click [here](#) to go to the nomination procedure.

Deadline for 2014 nominations is 15 August 2014.

**2013**

## Hall of Fame Recipients



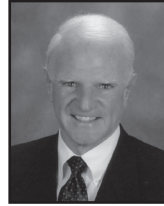
Eminence

F. Rick Galles 1967 JC  
[Citation](#)



Service

James C. Geibel 1976 JC  
[Citation](#)



Eminence

Harold B. "Skip" Palmer 1965 JC  
[Citation](#)



Flag Officer

BG Kurt S. Story,  
USA (Ret) 1978 JC  
[Citation](#)



George Ward Memorial  
Charles H. "Chuck" Coll, II  
1955 HS  
[Citation](#)

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## Save the Date! 9-12 October 2014!

NMMI 2014 Homecoming. Honoring classes ending in "4" and all other classes that attended.

If you are interested in becoming a class representative or just calling up old classmates and friends,  
please call our office at 575-624-8250 and talk to one of our staff.

Although planning is still in the early stages, it promises to be a great Homecoming!

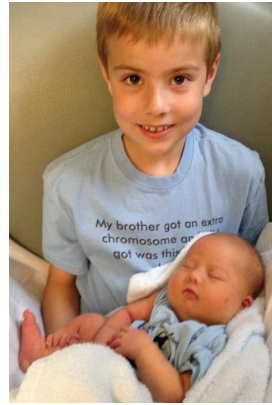


**Hope to see you there!**

# Alumni Updates



Congratulations to **Frank X. Spencer, III 1996 HS** and his bride Monica. Frank and Monica were married on 18 May 2014. We wish them the best!



Congratulations to **Shana (Houghton) Anderson 1996 HS** and husband Jason on the birth of their second son, Reeve. He is pictured here with big brother Colby right after his birth on 8 May 2014.



Congratulations to **Constance R. (Barela) Williams 2003 HS** and her groom Blake Williams on their marriage. They were married on 14 June 2014. Wishing them many happy years together!



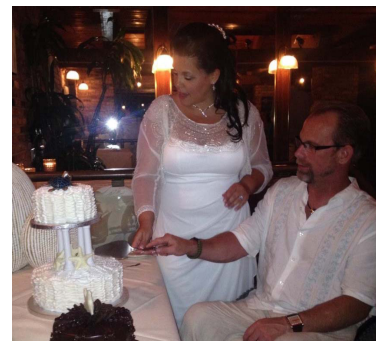
Congratulations to **LTC Andras M. Marton, USA 1991 JC** and his wife Gina on the birth of their son, Andras Alexander. Andras was born on 17 May 2014. The family will be moving to Fort Rucker, AL, where LTC Marton will assume the duties for Staff Judge Advocate. They plan to attend Homecoming in October.



Congratulations to **Isoma M. Copes 2000 HS** on the birth of daughter Zafirah Ijeoma on 21 May 2014.



On 17 May 2014, **LTC Cloyd A. Smith, Jr., USAR 1992 JC** and Erin were married. We wish them all the best in their future.



Congratulations to **Ryan W. Armstrong 1992 JC** and Amy Solomon who were married on 14 June 2014. We wish them all the best!

# Alumni Updates



**CPT Robert H. Lightfoot, Sr., USA (Ret) 1950 HS** went into the army as a second lieutenant following graduation from NMMI. His first assignment was Fort Hood, TX, as a platoon leader then assistant operations officer. At the end of eighteen months he went to fixed wing school then to Korea for a year. After Korea he served four years at Fort Ord, CA, as an engineer battalion flight leader then operations officer for an aviation company. Next he attended the career officers course then served as an engineer heavy equipment company commander. In 1961 he flew through some high tension wires in Verdun, France and retired from the Army. He went into the automatic fire sprinkler business in 1970 and is still operating Chero-key Piping Company. He has a son and daughter and is married to Carolyn Andrews Lightfoot.

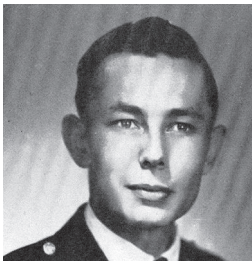


**PO1 Christopher R. Flores, USN 1983 JC** — United States Navy, Cryptologic Technician Interpretive, Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX. University of Texas at San Antonio, May 2011-Present, Major in Political Science, Minor in Spanish.



**Tanya A. "Siller" Peacock, Ph.D (LTC, USA)** graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a PhD in International Management on 17 May 2014. This summer she will begin teaching at the Army-Baylor Graduate Program

in Health and Business Administration, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.



**Clyde Collins Snow 1947 JC**  
NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame  
Member passed away on  
16 May 2014.



**Ronald L. Bouchier 1951 JC**  
NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame  
Member passed away on  
3 June 2014.



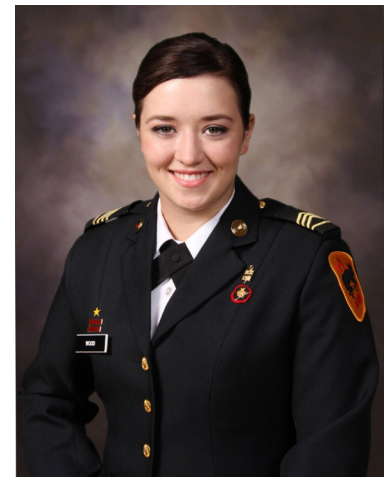
NMMI mourns the loss of **Robert S. Terry 1953 SC**. Bob was well known by many alumni who got to know him during his time working at the Institute. Bob passed away on 9 June 2014.

# Alumni Updates

The 2014 graduation at NMMI made history by having two Cadets graduate with dual degrees. **Ashley D. Wood 2014 HS and 2014 JC** and **Susanna I. Pesonen 2014 HS and 2014 JC**. NMMI is very proud of these young women. Ashley is a third generation alumnus, preceded by her grandfather **Robert A. Stuart, Jr. 1939 JC** and her father, **Dennis D. Wood 1967 HS and 1969 JC**. Susanna was co-valedictorian of both her high school and junior college classes. Congratulations and job well done!



Susanna I. Pesonen 2014 HS - 2014 JC



Ashley D. Wood 2014 HS -2014 JC



**COL Johnny K. Davis, USA 1990 JC** has assumed command of the 3rd Regiment "Old Guard" as their 80th Regimental Commander. He and his wife **Stacy A. (Northop) Davis 1991 JC** have five children.



View the YouTube video [here](#). You can hear an interview from NBC news done while Colonel Davis was in Kandahar [here](#). The Change of Command ceremony was held at Summerall Field, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, VA, 18 June 2014.

COL Davis was the director of the U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program based in Alexandria, VA.





# Alumni Updates



**J. Stevens Berry 1956 HS** fourth book *The Twelfth Victim: The Innocence of Caril Fugate in the Starkweather Murder Rampage* will be issued in June and can be purchased in bookstores or on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).

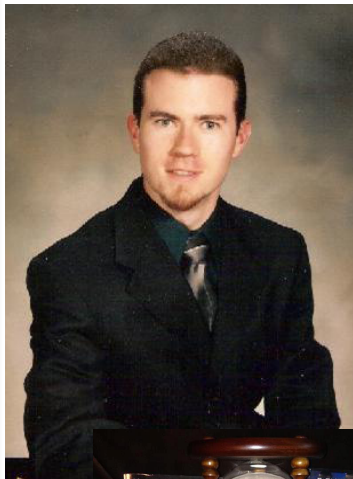
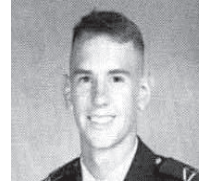
The Berry Law Firm, which was founded in 1965, is doing well and has offices in Omaha and Lincoln. **MAJ John S. Berry, Jr., NEARNG 1993 HS** is both the managing partner and the chief trial attorney for the firm. John is an Airborne Ranger who commanded a company in Iraq and is now a lieutenant colonel in the Nebraska National Guard.



His younger brother, **Dr. Christopher G. Berry, USAF 1996 HS** had the Air Force pay his way through medical school, and so he is still an officer in the Air Force, and has just returned from six months in Afghanistan as a medic. John and Chris are both married, each has two kids.

His son Rory is an entrepreneur in Southern California and had served as a Naval Officer after Stanford. He is a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve and recently was attached to the Army for a one year tour in which he was in Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Jordan. This was a few years after his sea duty in which he had received the Surface War Officer pin.

His daughter Laura is a reporter/anchor on television news and his wife Margaret is an active artist who has exhibited her work and conducted workshops in encaustic paintings on both coasts.



Award-winning author **Daniel James "Danny" Birt 1999 HS ~ 2001 JC** was born about three decades ago in Washington State to Irish and Californian parents, and has since lived in Idaho, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Hawaii, Virginia, and North Carolina. He attended high school at New Mexico Military Institute, studied music therapy and psychology at Loyola University New Orleans and most recently graduated from Shenandoah University with his Master's Degree in Music Therapy.

Danny has been a contributing author to several sci-fi, fantasy, and professional magazines, anthologies, and journals. Formerly, he was an editor for Flashing Swords Magazine and Ancient Tomes Press, and is now a freelance editor. His fantasy series "*The Laurian Pentology*" is being published through [Dark Quest Books](http://Dark Quest Books), starting with "*Ending an Ending*." His first children's/YA novel "*Between a Roc and a Hard Place*" won recognition with [The National Parenting Center's 2010 Seal of Approval](http://The National Parenting Center's 2010 Seal of Approval), [Creative Child Magazine's 2010 Seal of Excellence](http://Creative Child Magazine's 2010 Seal of Excellence) and was named one of [Dr. Toy's Best Picks](http://Dr. Toy's Best Picks) of 2010.

In addition to literary publication, Danny composes classical and folk music, such as his nonstop hour-long piano solo "*Piano Petrissage*," and the ever-peculiar album "*Warped Children's Songs*." Danny's humorous music has been featured on radio and internet programs such as [The Dr. Demento Show](http://The Dr. Demento Show) and [The Funny Music Project](http://The Funny Music Project).

[READ MORE](#)



# Alumni Updates



**Charles B. Ramsden 1939 HS** graduated from high school at NMMI in 1939 and is proud to say that during the five years it took him to get through high school, he remembers practically every day he spent there.

“My age is now 95 and thanks to the one up above, my mind is still in good shape but my body is ailing. I get the NMMI Dispatches and read about how the Institute has progressed, changed, but still hangs on to the old traditions. All of my friends, roommates and fellow cadets are now passed away, but I still remain. I feel that the military ambient has helped me live this long. I can still brace and stand erect which is a blessing at my age.”

He served in the Army during WWII and fought in Europe for two years having finished his tour of duty in Germany in 1945. He was sent home to his wife and two children who are now grown up and have families of their own.

He was born in Mexico of American parents and at 18 years of age, he declared myself a U. S. Citizen at the American Embassy in Mexico City, took the oath of allegiance and was given papers indicating his choice of citizenship. He got a passport so he could go school in the U. S. He was short on English, since his primary language was Spanish, reason for taking so long to complete High School. Since then he has graduated from CAL Tech and has a degree in Industrial Mechanical Engineering which has helped him in his work over the years. He and his son were in business together before his son took over. His daughter left home to join her friends in San Francisco, CA in the early 1960s. She has a Masters in Art Therapy and is married, but no children.

[READ MORE](#)



**Daniel J. Maslowski 1991 JC** was appointed Director of Enterprise Systems and Storage Software at Citi, Inc. in 2012. He leads technical development world wide for engineered systems and storage software. As part of this initiative Mr. Maslowski is working with the largest fortune 100 technology companies to design and develop the next generation data center and high performance computer platforms.

Mr. Maslowski was appointed Vice President of Storage Software at Data Direct Networks, Inc. (DDN) in 2012. He was responsible for leading technical development world wide for software. He was also responsible for business development and finding profitable growth by discovering emerging businesses that add value to DDN's existing portfolio. His expertise extends to managing cross-divisional issues, opportunities, and evaluating new technology. Additionally, Mr. Maslowski was responsible for championing Mobility, Management and Monitoring (3M), which is a major shift in the way enterprise class organizations, are managing massively scalable software solutions. Mr. Maslowski was also responsible for briefing the executive committee, potential investors and marquee customers world wide.

Prior to DDN, Mr. Maslowski was appointed Director of Storage Systems Software Engineering at Oracle in 2010. He was responsible for technical development and was the executive in charge of numerous M&A activities. Mr. Maslowski has more than a decade of international Fortune 500 experience and he is a recognized expert in storage, files systems, mobile computing and core development.

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**New Mexico Military Institute!**

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