MANNI Alumi Relations Corps of Former Cadets

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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photo courtesy of c/ Marcus Lovato

December | 2014

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!



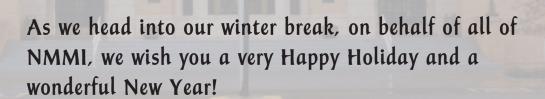
Check out the store website: http://www.nmmi.edu/alumni/benchesbricksandflagpoles.htm







Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Alumni Relations Staff!



View our holiday greeting <u>here</u> and see what a "gift" NMMI has been for our cadets in 2014--thanks to all of you.

Many warm regards!

New Mexico Military Institute

Alumni and Supporters of NMMI:

We have just completed a Holiday Video where our Cadets express their "thanks" to NMMI for the "gift" of attending. The Cadets were not prompted or scripted; the comments are their true feelings about being able to attend such an incredible school as NMMI.

This will be Shawn and my sixth Christmas at NMMI. Our time has been a wonderful experience. We experienced the birth of our third grandchild and the joy that comes with them living only 70 miles from us. We have dealt with the personal tragedy of losing a family member and thanks to the tremendous NMMI Family and support network, made it through that event.

I am most proud of the performance of NMMI over the past five and half years. For five consecutive years we have averaged 942 students. Our GPA is at the highest point in school recorded history. The CORPS GPA has improved and the individual classes have improved. In May we graduated 207 Cadets with an average GPA of 3.06. CNN/Money magazine conducted a comprehensive study of over 700 community colleges across America. NMMI was rated Number 2 in graduation rate and our Cadets going on to four year universities. Also in May we witnessed our first ever simultaneous graduation from high school and junior college. What is even more amazing is not one but two Cadets achieved this feat. To add to that incredible story is the fact that one of the graduates was the Valedictorian of her high school and her junior college class at the same time. She is now attending The University of California at Berkley majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

This is the season of thanks and Shawn and I want to thank all of you for the support you have shown us. We wish you a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year.

Jerry W. Grizzle, Ph.D. Major General (USA Retired)

Alumni Updates



Congratulations to **Garrett L. Bascom 2009 HS** and his wife Amber on the birth of Baylee Reese, born on 13 November 2014. Congratulations to **Garth E. Bascom 1980 HS** and his wife Robin, the proud grandparents!



Congratulations to **F. Gerardo Juvera Valenzuela 2003 HS** and his wife, Christina on new baby Santiago. He was born on 13 November 2014.



Congratulations to **Ricardo Lujan Elias 1995 HS** and Elva Camacho on the birth of baby girl, Ximena. She was born on 13 November 2014. Future Cadet?



Congratulations to **Jack C. Southern 2007 HS** and his wife, Jacci on the birth of Baylor Grace. She was welcomed to the family on 4 December 2014. She is baby number three for Jack and Jacci!



Congratulations to **Christina E. (Geraci) Garcia 2005 JC** and husband Tony on the birth of son, Jaxen on 19 November 2014. Jax joins the family with big brother Vinny.



Congratulations to **Kanarith "Kan" Mam 1998 HS** and his bride, Gina Kwack on their 6 December 2014 wedding.

Alumni Updates



Congratulations to **Hector M. Holguin Rubalcaba 2003 JC** and his bride Alejandra Ochoa. They were married on 28 November 2014.



Update from **COL Arnold V. Strong, ORARNG 1987 JC**. What a wonderful day! Met up with one of my oldest friends, **COL Christopher S. Forbes, USA 1987 JC** at the CNAS Conference at The Willard, across from The White House. Listened to the biggest brains in defense, especially, the Honorable Michelle Flournoy, CEO of CNAS.



Update from **COL Rodney L. Kaneaster, USA (Ret) 1981 JC**— Graduated from NMMI 1981. Served in Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada) 1983, SOTHCOM (Central America) 1988, Operation Just Cause (Panama) 1989, and Operation Desert Storm

(Iraq) 1991 . Advisory to Israel Defense Force-Operation Desert Shield (2002). Retired from Active Duty in 2009. Currently Owner of R&M Automotive - Ft. Worth, Texas.



Update from **E. Stephen Fullman 1970 JC**— My wife and I now live in Gatesville, TX as we both work in the State of Texas Prison System. I am now a retired Law Librarian III and she is an Educational Librarian that supervises ten library's as well as

personally working at three of her own. I worked at several Texas prison units located in El Paso, Austin, Hondo, Rusk and Gatesville. I retired in February of this year after two major back surgeries. I miss working but I stay busy helping my wife keep up with six grand children with the seventh coming in 2015! She will retire in August of 2015 as well. Once we welcome the new grand baby and he or she is no longer in need of us we plan on doing some traveling in the states we haven't been to as yet!



Update from **Howard Neil "Stu" Stewart 1976 HS**— I attended NMMI for 1 year, 1973-74, and I was in D Troop. I graduated from Principia College in 1981. I married a lovely woman, Beth Nebel Stewart, in 1987, and had 2

sons (1990 and 1992). Beth passed in 2005. My sons have both graduated from college and have started lives of their own. I'm now the CEO and owner of AGM Container Controls, Tucson, AZ. I'm also currently serving as the Chair of the United Way Workplace Campaign Cabinet of Tucson and Southern Arizona. If anyone would like to get reconnected, email me!



Update from **LtCol Richard D. Hoyt, Jr,. USAF (Ret) 1990 HS**— Retired from the USAF in June 2014. Currently employed by Southwest Airlines as a First Officer.



Update from **Wellington Y. Hom, USA (Ret) 1976 JC**—Retired from the U. S. Army with 30 years service, 22 years of active duty. Retired from Law Enforcement after 21 years with the Pierce County Sheriff's Department in Washington.

Chapter Updates

NMMI Chapter—Albuquerque, NM

Hello everyone!

Mark your schedule: All are invited to visit with the NMMI cadets as they await travel at the Albuquerque International Sunport - during this Holiday Season's Sunport Cadet Receptions!

The Reception Room is at the far eastern end of the Departure Level (Ticket Counter Level) of the Sunport - just look for the NMMI Signage! Parking passes for Short Term will be available - so you can visit at no cost!

Special thanks goes out to **Roy Huddleston, II 1969 JC** and his son, Roy "Three" Huddleston, III, who are doing the brunt of the work for this season's receptions.

Dates for future receptions are as follows:

<u>Friday, December 19th, 2014</u>: We'll set up starting at 8am, with the cadets arriving by NM-TX Coaches Buses around 0900 - We'll pack up and be out of the reception room by 2-3pm.

<u>Sunday</u>, <u>January 11th</u>, <u>2015</u>: We'll set up starting at 10am, and will be in the room until the buses depart for Roswell - probably 6-7pm

Anyone wanting to help with the workload related to setting up, maintaining, and tearing down these events can contact Jordy via reply email.

Anyone wanting to donate towards the costs of these events can send a check to: NMMI Alumni - ABQ Chapter - 9012 Las Camas Road NE, Abq, NM 87111

Hope you can make it to converse with the current Corps of Cadets!

Best regards, Jordy Wommack 1980 HS Abq Chapter Webmaster www.nmmialumni-abq.com (505) 459-8226

Thanksgiving holiday travel for Cadets made more fun! Sunport Reception continues for the Winter Break. Join them!



Chapter Updates

NMMI Chapter—Phoenix, AZ

Alumni Gathering:

Friday, January 9th, you are invited to join the Phoenix alumni of NMMI at a Meet 'n' Greet with MG Jerry Grizzle, LTC Jim Lowe, Director of the Alumni Relations Office and Kris Ward, Advancement and Development Officer. General Grizzle will present "NMMI Today and Tomorrow" and have an open discussion with those present. **Contact Robert R. Drobel 1968 JC at teamdrobel@gmail.com or 602-550-8901**

NMMI Chapter—Tucson, AZ

Alumni Gathering:

<u>Saturday, January 10</u>, you are invited to join the Tucson alumni of NMMI at a Meet 'n' Greet with MG Jerry Grizzle, LTC Jim Lowe, Director of the Alumni Relations Office and Kris Ward, Advancement and Development Officer. General Grizzle will present "NMMI Today and Tomorrow" and have an open discussion with those present. **Contact Bryan W. Welch 1977 JC at bryanwelch1764@me.com or 520-401-3625**

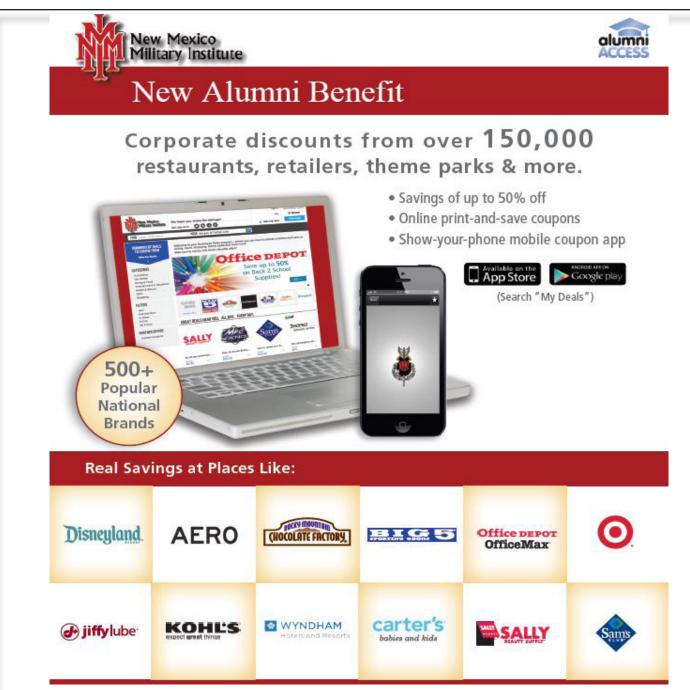


NMMI Corps of Former Cadets Alumni Challenge coin. Now available for \$10 at our office or \$12.50 on the web and includes shipping. Get yours today!

Shop here!

CS Ranch

Trail Ride 2015 is in the works! It will be held in Angel Fire, NM at the C.S. Ranch at the American Creek Camp 23 – 27 June 2015 More information to come soon!



New Mexico Military Institute has partnered with a national discount program to offer alumni access to product and service discounts accesible by mobile app and online computer.

The mobile app is GPS driven so regardless of business or personal travel you will be in touch with "valued discounts" every day.

To log in online:

- 1. Go to https://nmmi.accessdevelopment.com/home
- 2. Call 575-624-8250 or email alm_svcs@nmmi.edu for the Shared Secret
- 3. Use that shared secret to register and start your discount deals!

To download on your mobile (IPhone or Android)

- 1. Download the My Deals App
- 2. Call 575-624-8250 or email alm_svcs@nmmi.edu to get the mobile password
- 3. Use that mobile password to register your phone and start your discount deals!