

# NMMI

# Alumni Relations

*Corps of Former Cadets*



March | 2015



# Upcoming Events

**The 26th Annual  
NMMI Alumni  
Trail Ride and Rendezvous**

**23-27 June 2015 at the**

**Davis Ranch- hosted by Linda Davis and the Davis Family  
Angel Fire, NM - American Creek Camp**

*Registration will open soon!*

*Registration will open soon!*

## TRAIL RIDE 2015 AUCTION

It's that time of year again and the Alumni Relations Office is looking for donations for the 2015 Trail Ride Silent Auction. In recent years the auction has helped raise restricted and unrestricted funds for cadet scholarships and donated items have varied from paintings, blankets, pocket knives, decorative belts, chaps and much much more. We are making a push this year to get donated items submitted earlier so that we can put a list up on the Internet of all auction items prior to the start of the Trail Ride. If you are interested in donating an item for the auction, please contact Kris Ward at (575) 624-8158 or [wardk@nmmi.edu](mailto:wardk@nmmi.edu). Remember all donations will qualify as a gift in-kind and the donor will receive tax deductible benefits based on an estimated value. We hope to see you all at the Trail Ride. We are looking forward to another outstanding event at the CS Ranch.



**Make your plans to attend. If you need lodging, contact the Angel Fire Resort by calling (855) 318-1081. Ask for the special NMMI rates!**



# Upcoming Events

## GRADUATION 2015

(Please note that the Junior College and the High School have separate graduation ceremonies.)

### Friday, 15 May 2015

0800-0900

Commissioning/2LT Bar  
Pinning Ceremony - Pearson

0900-0930

Commissioning Reception – Band Room

1030-1130

Baccalaureate/Celebration of Diversity  
– Pearson (Mandatory for all 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Class Graduates)

1200

Free DRC

1300

Regent Meeting – Lusk Hall

1500-1700

Academic, Leadership and Physical  
Fitness Excellence Awards Ceremony –  
Pearson

### Saturday, 16 May 2015

0800

Junior College Commencement –  
Pearson

0900-1200

Business Office open

0915

Parents' Club Reception for  
Junior College Graduates  
and Families – Band Room

1000

High School Commencement –  
Pearson

1115

Parents' Club Reception for High School  
Graduates and Families – Band Room



The NMMI Homecoming dates for 2015 are 21-25 October. If your class year ends in "5" you are invited back as an Honored Class member. However, since many NMMI alumni spent numerous years as a cadet, all classes are invited. We hope to see you there!

The credo of New Mexico Military Institute is the guiding principle for the selection of inductees into the NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame. A strong commitment to Duty, Honor, and Achievement must be exemplified by each selectee for induction. The NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame is divided into five categories: Eminence in a Chosen Field of Endeavor, Distinguished Service to NMMI, Flag Officers, Valor, and the George Ward Memorial. You can view the criteria [here](#). If you would like to nominate someone for the NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame, please follow these [instructions](#).

**Deadline for 2015 NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame nominations is 3 August 2015.**

## Put Your Mark on NMMI

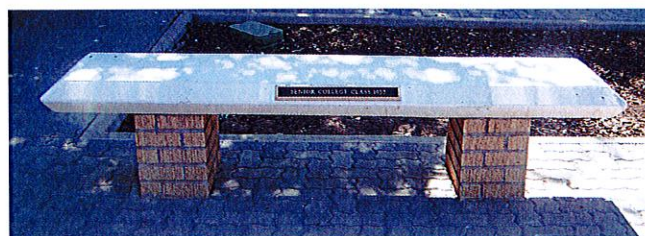
Check out the store website:

<https://nmmi-office-of-alumni-relations.myshopify.com/collections/a-piece-of-the-old-post>

Put your mark on NMMI by purchasing a brick paver, bench or flagpole. Purchasing one or more of these items also updates your membership with the Alumni Relations Office. Make checks payable to:

New Mexico Military Institute  
101 West College Boulevard  
Roswell, NM 88201-5175

For assistance making your donation, call the Alumni Relations Office at (575) 624-8250.





# Chapter Events



**WASHINGTON, DC**  
**LTC J. W. ELLIOTT, USA (RET) 1953 SC**  
**MEMORIAL NMMI ALUMNI CHAPTER**

## 2015 TATTOO

Despite Mother Nature's success in preventing the lion's share of our alumni from attending the Washington, DC, annual Tattoo, those who did attend were still afforded the company of NMMI staff members who turned out in force to brief alumni on the State of the Corps of Cadets.

NMMI Superintendent/President Jerry W. Grizzle, Ph.D., Major General (USA Retired) ensured that alumni in attendance enjoyed the benefit of a full complement of NMMI staff members able to directly address any questions that surfaced during the course of the evening regarding the Old Post. General Grizzle personally took the time to explain in descriptive detail the process and cyclic growth to maturity of NMMI's existing ten-year strategic plan (which in its early stages has produced successful results; not only maintaining, but also improving upon the value of NMMI's accreditation credentials nationwide).

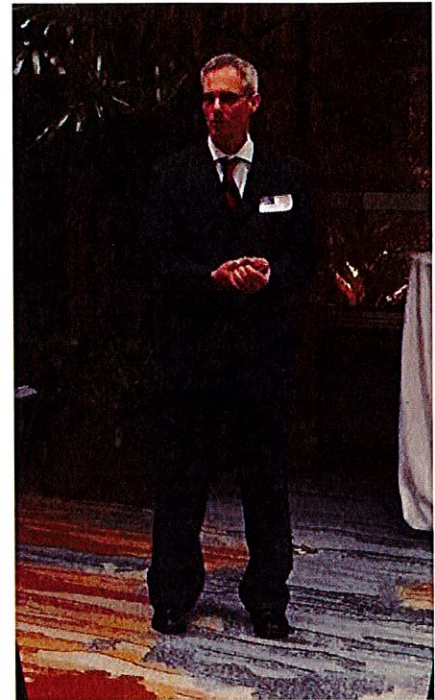
COL Charles M. Chamberlain, USA (Ret) 1953 JC – 1955 SC welcomed NMMI staff members and thanked attending alumni who were able to circumnavigate the awful weather conditions to be in attendance. Colonel Chamberlain additionally took the occasion of the Tattoo to announce that after over 14 years of serving as the chapter's Executive President he is passing the leadership baton to Lawrence J. (Larry) Moon 1983 JC.

Before surrendering the floor to General Grizzle, Moon spoke briefly to itemize the primary objectives (in order of priority) for the Washington, DC, LTC J. W. Elliott, USA (Ret) 1953 SC Memorial NMMI Alumni Chapter. They are:

- *Focus on Supporting the NMMI Corps of Cadets*
- *Mentor and Resource Chapter Building Worldwide*
- *Establish a close-knit and camaraderie-oriented DC alumni base*

As always the social phase of the evening remained an enjoyable experience where each participant leveraged immediate friendship and camaraderie based on the common experiences shared by attending New Mexico Military Institute. While members (who were not able to attend due to weather conditions) were very much missed, the event remained a sound success. Chapter organizers will make every attempt to ensure that subsequent Tattoos are always more successful than the last.

If you are not currently a member of an existing NMMI Chapter and would like to either become a member of a chapter or start a new chapter in your area, please send your contact information to: [nmmi.connect@gmail.com](mailto:nmmi.connect@gmail.com) or contact Larry Moon at [lawrence.moon@gmail.com](mailto:lawrence.moon@gmail.com). We want to invest in the success of your chapter!



**LAWRENCE J. MOON 1983 JC**

### **NEW CHAPTER EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT OUTLINED PRIMARY OBJECTIVES FOR DC CHAPTER**

COL Charles M. Chamberlain, USA (Ret) 1953 JC - 1955 JC announced after over 14 years serving as the DC Chapter's Executive President he is passing the leadership baton to Lawrence J. (Larry) Moon 1983 JC. Moon outlined the primary objectives for the DC Chapter:

- Focus on Supporting the NMMI Corps of Cadets
- Mentor and Resource Chapter Building Worldwide
- Establish a close-knit and camaraderie-oriented DC alumni base



# Chapter Events

## NMMI Tennis, Tennis, Tennis in Southern California

The New Mexico Military Institute's Bronco Men's and Women's Tennis Teams  
are coming to Los Angeles, CA  
for a match against a tough opponent  
**Glendale College on 1 April at 1:00 p.m.**

If you need directions call Rich Davis at (310) 456-6301

Come to meet the team and discuss with other alumni in roundtable fashion the team's very interesting backgrounds. They come from Africa and the Western Pacific attesting to NMMI's attraction.

There will be a no host dinner at the Gaucho Grill on San Vicente Avenue  
Just off the 405 in Brentwood beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Please respond by Friday, 27 March, to Rich Davis 1948 HS at (310) 456-6301 or [rkd@perfdev.com](mailto:rkd@perfdev.com)

*Let's Get Out and Support Your Athletes and Your School!*

## NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE ALUMNI ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER IS PROUD TO PRESENT

# THE SECOND ANNUAL Ragin' Cajun Mardi Gras Spring Fling

### A FREE EVENT!

Join us at 2pm on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> for  
Cajun Vittles & Music at the spacious home of  
Greg Peebles '77JC and Denise Kawas!

10901 Oakland NE 87122

(North of Paseo Del Norte, East off of Eubank Boulevard)

**THIS IS A FREE  
EVENT FOR ALL  
ATTENDEES:  
N.M.M.I. ALUMNI,  
PATRONS, FAMILIES  
& FRIENDS!**



**Please let us know who you are bringing  
for a good headcount & nametags -  
Email: [nmmi.abqalumni@gmail.com](mailto:nmmi.abqalumni@gmail.com)**



# Spring 2015

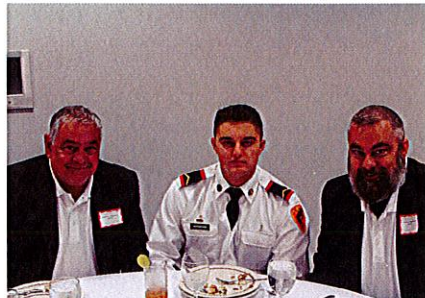


**HOSTS FOR THE SPRING 2015 LEGACY DINNER**  
 (L TO R): Glede W. S. Holman 1981 JC; Eloise Blake;  
 LTC James D. Lowe, NMMI 1965 HS - 1967 JC.

The spring 2015 Legacy Dinner was held on 4 March in the Jack Daniels Room of the Daniels Learning Center. The dinner was well attended. Glede W. S. Holman 1981 JC and Eloise Blake were the guest hosts. There were 30 cadets and 16 alumni in attendance. Each of the cadets stood and told the group of their alumni lineage. The dinner was good; and of course, the ice cream bar is always a hit! We had two 4th generation cadets and five 3rd generation cadets in attendance. A great time was had by all who attended.



**COL HERBERT M. GRAVES, USAR (RET) 1958 HS - 1960 JC AND GRANDSON, CHANDLER W. LENTZ**



**RONALD L. RUTHERFORD 1971 JC, GRANDSON CADET TRAVIS RUTHERFORD, AND SON TRAVIS D. RUTHERFORD 1993 JC**



**CPT PAUL R. LAURITZEN, NMARNG 2004 JC AND MRS. CHRISTINA R. (VIGIL) LAURITZEN 2003 HS - 2005 JC**



**LTC JASON E. GARCIA, USAR 1993 HS - 1995 JC AND HIS FATHER, MAJ RAYMOND F. GARCIA, NMMI (RET) 1962 JC**



**CADET SCOTT P. BROWN AND HIS FATHER, DR. RANDAL W. BROWN 1974 HS**

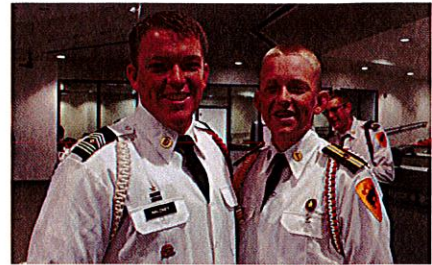


# Legacy Dinner



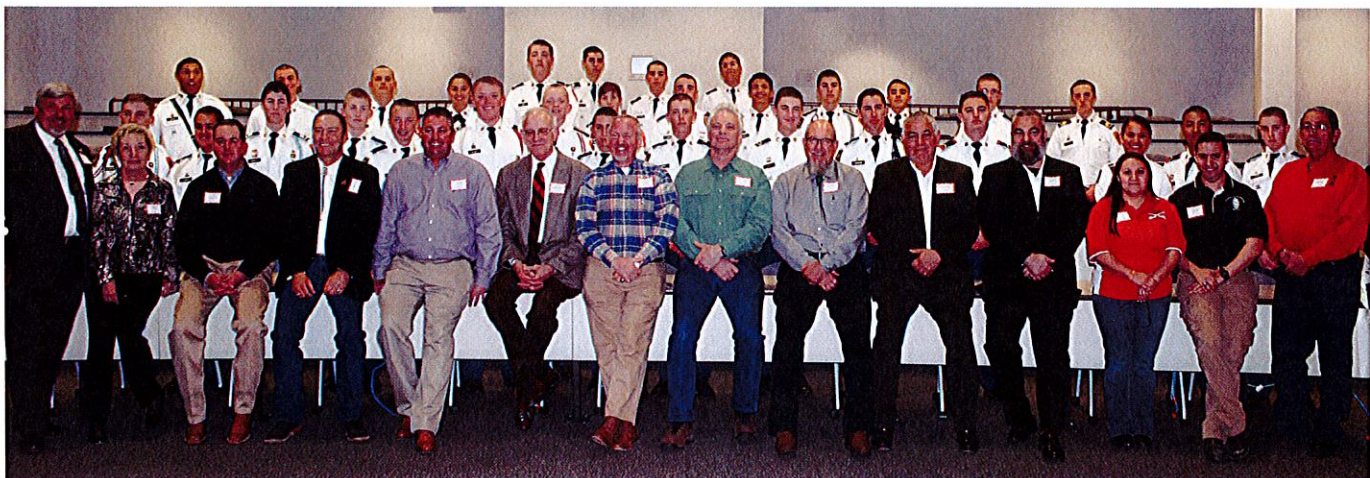
## THIRD GENERATION CADETS

(L to R): Spencer A. Treat - father, Bernarr R. Treat 1982 HS and grandfather, Anthony E. Treat 1957 HS; Garrett J. Watts - father, Dr. Garrett E. Watts 1972 JC and grandfather, BG Clyde J. Watts, AUS (Ret) 1926 JC; Travis C. G. Rutherford - father, Travis G. Rutherford 1993 JC and grandfather, Ronald L. Rutherford 1971 JC; Caleb T. Curtis - stepfather, LTC Jason E. Garcia, USAR 1993 HS - 1995 JC and stepgrandfather, MAJ Raymond F. Garcia, NMMI (Ret) 1962 JC; and Lake M. Keating - father, Kenneth L. Keating 1986 HS - 1988 JC and grandfather, John E. Keating 1961 HS.



## FOURTH GENERATION CADETS

(L to R): Brothers Haden G. Maloney and Gavin T. Maloney - Grandfather, James H. Matchin 1966 HS - 1968 JC, Great Grandfather, LTC Tom O. Matchin, Sr., USA (Ret) 1943 JC, and Great Great Grandfather, James E. Matchin, Sr. 1910 JC.



Alumni and Guests (L to R): Glede W. S. Holman 1981 JC; Eloise Blake; Bernarr R. Treat 1982 HS; Randell G. Major 1980 HS; Jeremy K. Crow 1991 JC; COL Herbert M. Graves, USAR (Ret) 1958 HS - 1960 JC; Dr. Randal W. Brown 1974 HS; CWO4 J. C. Dodd, USAR (Ret) 1978 HS; Robert K. Brown 1978 HS - 1980 JC; Ronald L. Rutherford 1971 JC; Travis D. Rutherford 1993 JC; Christina R. (Vigil) Lauritzen 2003 HS - 2005 JC; CPT Paul R. Lauritzen, NMARNG 2004 JC; and MAJ Raymond F. Garcia, NMMI (Ret) 1962 JC. (Not pictured): LTC Jason E. Garcia, USAR 1993 HS - 1995 JC.



# Alumni Profile



LTC PRESTON A. BUTLER, JR., USA (RET) 1981 JC

Lieutenant Colonel Preston A. Butler, USA (Ret) 1981 JC is currently assigned to the Combatant Command Interoperability Program Office located at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command in San Diego, CA, as the director for the Joint Forces Program Office – Interoperability. Born 22 July 1961, he is a native of Lawton, OK. His educational background includes: an Associate of Arts degree from New Mexico Military Institute, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Reserves after completing a two-year Reserved Officers Training Corps program in May 1981; a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Oklahoma State University in 1994; and a Master of Business Administration from Babson College in 1991. He completed the Ordnance Officer Basic Course in 1984; the Advanced Ordnance Officer Course in 1989; the Combined Arms Service Staff

School in 1991; and the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1997.

LTC Butler retired 1 October 2006 at the completion of his final tour of duty at Space and Naval Weapons Systems Command, located in San Diego, CA, where he served as the director, Joint Forces Program Office. From September 2001 to June 2003, LTC Butler was assigned to the United States Army Contracting Command Korea as the chief of the Technical and Contracting Administration Division and Contract Operations Division. During this tour, he also served as the acting director of Contracting for six months. From August 1999 to May 2001, he was assigned to the Joint Electronic Commerce Program Office as the Deputy Director for Customer Support and Military Service Integration. Prior to this assignment, he was the commander of the Defense Contract Management Command, Dayton-Louisville from July 1997 to July 1999. He was the Contingency Contracting Officer for the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC, from August 1995 to June 1997. During this two-year tour, he spent six months in the Persian Gulf standing up the Army Central Command-Qatar, where he served as the executive officer and chief of Contracting. During this deployment, he was “dual-hatted” as the executive officer and the chief of Contracting. LTC Butler

participated in the Army’s Training With Industry (TWI) program at Rockwell International in Atlanta, GA, from July 1994 to July 1995.

Prior to the TWI assignment, he was assigned to the United States Army South’s Directorate of Contracting in the Republic of Panama as a Contingency Contracting Officer. During this three-year tour, he was temporarily assigned as the on-site Base Operations Administrative Contracting Officer for Joint Task Force Bravo in Honduras for nine months. His first tour of duty was at Fort Sill, OK, where he served as the commander, 133rd Missile Maintenance Detachment, 47th Combat Support Battalion; battalion adjutant, 100th Supply and Service Battalion; shop officer and platoon leader, 225th Maintenance Company.

Awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Air Assault Badge, and Parachute Badge.

In August 1983, LTC Butler married the former Kathryn A. Lawson. They have three children: Chelsi, Preston, III, and Celeste.



# Alumni Profile

## BRIGADIER GENERAL MATTHEW P. BEEVERS

*Assistant Adjutant General - Army, California National Guard*

BG Matthew P. Beevers, CAARNG 1983 JC was appointed as the Assistant Adjutant General –Army, California National Guard by Governor Edmund G. Brown on 16 April 2011. He provides current and future operational oversight to The Adjutant General for Army and Air National Guard matters in the state of California.

General Beevers was commissioned through the Early Commissioning Program at New Mexico Military Institute. He served as a tank platoon leader, Armor Company executive officer, Battalion Support platoon leader, Delta Company commander and Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander with 1st Battalion, 149th Armor, 3rd Brigade, 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized). During his command, he participated in Operation Garden Plot, the response to the Rodney King verdict civil unrest in Los Angeles, CA. After completion of the Armor Officer Advanced Course, General Beevers served as the assistant brigade S3 with 3rd Brigade, 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized). He then served as operations officer with the 69th Press Camp Headquarters, deploying with the 69th Press Camp Headquarters to Bosnia –Herzegovina in support of Operation Joint Forge. General Beevers continued to serve in the 69th Press Camp Headquarters as executive officer and later as commander, deploying to Hungary with Task Force Warrior to train and equip the Free Iraqi Forces in the run up to Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon his return, he was assigned as executive officer, 100th Troop Command and later deployed as the director of Strategic Communications, Combined Forces Command – Afghanistan, Operation Enduring Freedom. General Beevers returned to the 100th Troop Command as executive officer and later served as assistant chief of staff, California Army National Guard. Upon completion of Senior Service College, he was assigned as director, Command, Control, Communications and Computer Systems, J6 and later as director of operations, J3, Joint Force Headquarters - California. General Beevers went on to command the 100th Troop Command, California Army National Guard.



**BG MATTHEW P. BEEVERS, CAARNG 1983 JC**



## *NMMI Annual Fund*



As we near the end of the school year, we want to give thanks for all those who have participated in the 2014-2015 annual fund. To date, the annual fund has generated \$212,637.00 this year. That is an increase over the previous few years:

**2012-2013 - \$199,621.17**

**2013-2014 - \$174,204.22**

This commitment to annual sustained giving provides support for cadet activities and allows those perspective cadets who meet all the qualifications to attend NMMI but have financial shortcomings the ability to still attend and achieve their goals. Without such an outpouring of support, NMMI may have missed out on future leaders within the Corps of Cadets, and life after New Mexico Military Institute. Once again, we want to personally give all who have participated thanks. YOUR gifts, no matter the size, are appreciated and make a huge difference in the lives of cadets. We hope to have your continued support in the future.

If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kris Ward, Development and Advancement Officer at (575) 624-8158, or by email at [wardk@nmmi.edu](mailto:wardk@nmmi.edu).



# On The Hill Update



## NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE

101 WEST COLLEGE BOULEVARD  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO 88201-5173  
575-624-8400  
FAX: 575-624-8459



COMMANDANT OF CADETS  
DEAN OF STUDENTS

MG Jerry W. Grizzle and members of the Staff and Faculty,

1 March 2015

It is with mixed emotions that I must inform you that I will not be seeking a contract for the 2015-2016 school year. Upon successfully completing 10 1/2 years as the Commandant and Dean of Students, I want to take advantage of employment opportunities closer to my children and grandchildren in the Kansas City area. The timing of this letter is to ensure there is sufficient time to select my replacement prior to the start of the next school year. It has been an honor and privilege to serve thousands of cadets during my tenure, and give back to the school that gave me so much! Be assured that until my departure, I will continue to have the Commandant's team work at our usual high operational tempo for the benefit and success of our cadets. I am prepared to assist in any way possible to facilitate a smooth transition to the next Commandant. I am confident that every member of my staff is well prepared for my departure, as I have placed special emphasis on having a detailed transition plan in place.

This is an opportune time to pass the leadership reigns to the next Commandant. I am very satisfied with the operations and support activities within the Commandant's areas of responsibility, and the performance of the Corps of Cadets. The organization, administration, policies, procedures, and training programs are in place to sustain this high level of performance. There is a sense of purpose, culture of discipline, and a positive leadership climate present in the Corps. This can be attributed in a large part to the consistently superb performance of my staff, the close cooperation with the Academic Dean and faculty, and the excellent working relationship with the Athletic Director and coaches. I am particularly proud of the partnerships we have cultivated with our parents and family members, alumni, and the Roswell community. I am very confident that the NMMI team will continue to prepare our cadets to meet the educational, leadership, and social challenges of the 21st century.

I am particularly grateful for the confidence in my leadership and unwavering support for my decisions that you and the Board of Regents have consistently exhibited. That support has been instrumental in our collective success, long list of achievements, and the positive direction that NMMI is heading. I am indebted to every member of my staff, and sincerely appreciate their loyalty, teamwork, hard work and professionalism, not only in support of me, but more importantly in support of the cadets. All are caring individuals who significantly contribute every day to the success of our cadets. The Deputies, Squadron and Troop Leadership Advisors, Counselors and members of the Daniels Leadership Center have been instrumental and very effective in support of NMMI's mission.

I benefited immensely from my association with every member of the NMMI team. With everyone's support, I successfully transitioned from being a military leader to an educational leader. I was able to contribute to NMMI's unique learning environment where all cadets have an opportunity to succeed at a high academic level, while becoming physically fit leaders of character. I depart on the 40th anniversary year of my graduation from NMMI with absolutely no regrets and with a sense of overwhelming pride and accomplishment. I am completely satisfied with my service to the Corps of Cadets, constituents, patrons, parents, and supporters. I have many special memories of my time at the Institute, and will miss the "Old Post" and the wonderful Roswell community.

The value of our military educational model emphasizing "Duty, Honor and Achievement" is as relevant today as it was in 1891. Our graduates are prepared for college, a career and life! I am confident that the school's leadership will continue to maintain NMMI's relevance to meet the constantly changing challenges of our global society and need for high quality leaders of character. I look forward to continuing to support NMMI, the cadets, staff, faculty, and coaches as a proud alumnus. Please don't hesitate to call upon me for advice, support, recruiting, and development activities.

Richard V. Geraci, JCG 1975  
Brigadier General, USA (Ret)  
Commandant of Cadets/Dean of Students



# On The Hill Update

## FROM the desk of SUPERINTENDENT GRIZZLE

### *Hiring Practices at New Mexico Military Institute*

By: Jerry W. Grizzle, Ph.D.

*Major General (USA Retired)*

Since announcing the departure of NMMI Commandant of Cadets BG Richard V. Geraci, USA (Ret) 1975 JC, I have been asked numerous times, what is NMMI's hiring process for replacing key personnel. I appreciate the question and it is even more important right now because we have two critical positions open at the same time, Director of Alumni Relations and the Commandant of Cadets. Both positions are direct reports to me as the Superintendent so I will explain the hiring process, but would add that the process I describe is essentially the same process we use for hiring any of our salaried positions.

The first step in the process is the development of the job description. In regard to the Commandant's position, we have not advertised that position in over ten years, so we started by going back to the job description that was used when BG Geraci was hired. The description is reviewed for its relevance to the requirements of the position in today's environment. The departing employee is also given a chance to review the description, to help capture any points that only the person actually performing the job would be aware of, and to insure those issues are reflected in the criteria and qualifications for the applicants. Once the job description is ready, it is released. Depending on the level of the position and the number of qualified current employees, we will decide how broad of a release we will make. There have been several positions that we believe we had a large pool of candidates from our

own employees, so we released the job announcement as an "in-house" announcement and we did not do an open announcement. The director of Alumni Relations and the Commandant vacancies were given the widest release criteria possible.

The next step in the process is to form a committee to screen the applicants. The committee typically consists of a panel of employees who have the most direct, day-to-day contact with the open position. A chair of the committee is selected and the panel is notified of their participation. As each application is received, a copy is provided to each committee member. We have developed a scoring matrix that is used by each committee member to review and score each applicant. This review is done independently, without conferring with fellow committee members. As each applicant is scored, their matrix is forwarded to the committee chair for reconciliation.

Once all applicants have been scored, and the committee chair has prepared a consolidated spreadsheet of the results, the committee is assembled to discuss each applicant. Scoring variances are discussed, any changes are made to the overall spreadsheet and a final ranking is prepared. At this point the committee will determine where the "cut line" will be established. In the recent search for a new athletic director, we received 75 applications. After scoring, discussion, and any adjustments, the committee drew the line at the top eight. Those top candidates were scheduled for an interview with the committee. Also,



**JERRY W. GRIZZLE, PH.D.**  
**MAJOR GENERAL (USA RETIRED)**

the committee prepares a standard list of questions that will be asked of each candidate.

Once the interviews with the committee have been conducted and a score from the questions is compiled, they are combined with the score from the initial screening process and a new ranking (if necessary) is completed. From this final ranking the committee will decide how many names will be forwarded to the ultimate supervisor for their interview and selection. In the case of the director of Alumni Relations and the Commandant, I am the supervisor of each of those positions and will be the final decision point. In the athletic director search the committee narrowed the final candidate list to five. I interviewed all five and made the selection.

At this point I schedule the final group for a one-on-one interview with me. Let me add that the interviews conducted by the committee may be done by Skype or Go To Meeting and we may not require the candidate to make a visit to NMMI. For the director of Alumni Relations position, being an alumnus of NMMI was a requirement; so, when I get to the interview point, I

*Continued on Page 12...*



# On The Hill Update

## Alumni Relations *History and Evolution*

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

Let me start with a question? What is the earliest recorded reference to an Alumni event in NMMI's history? In 1909, "There was a concerted attempt primarily as a result of the efforts of Hiram Dow to hold the first alumni reunion. The first such banquet was held on May 17 during commencement festivities."<sup>1</sup> The next reference is in the Ed Porter Pictorial History book where it is discussed that at Commencement in May 1922, the first serious attempt was made to organize a formal Alumni Association. Hiram Dow, '05, who was instrumental in earlier attempts, was the speaker at an alumni banquet which proposed an alumni homecoming. "The first Homecoming program was held at Thanksgiving 1923. It became a traditional affair for alumni each Thanksgiving."<sup>2</sup>

Around the year 1947, "The (NMMI) board's decision to approve a full-time secretary and some economic assistance until the Alumni Association became financially sound resuscitated an organization...", which, "...selected F.E. "Ted" Hunt ('18) as secretary...". "Dues were raised to \$5 annually and an ambitious plan was initiated to add alumni chapters throughout the country. By 1949, there were chapters in twenty-five cities and on five college campuses...". "The organization won approval (from the Board of Regents) to award eight tuition scholarships worth \$450 each."<sup>3</sup>

"The Alumni Association had heretofore exercised little power over official policy. That had begun to change and perhaps having had its appetite whetted, the association sought more voice in Institute affairs and requested the governor to

appoint only NMMI alumni to the Board of Regents."<sup>4</sup> There is no record of this request being a requirement and there is no such requirement today.

It is suggested the Alumni Association once again attempted to influence NMMI policy decisions when, in 1954, less than a month after winning the Townsend Trophy and the National Championship, the Regents of NMMI made the decision to discontinue polo.<sup>5</sup> Colonel Ward, NMMI Superintendent, stated "there was no better time to bow out than while champions of the United States."<sup>6</sup>

In 1964, the Alumni Association was formed as a non-profit corporation. The five original signers of the initial application were MG Sam Agee, then NMMI Superintendent, Tom Hall Jr., Charles F. Smith, Charles A. Martin and Ted Hunt. The rationale for forming the corporation was to be able to provide a tax deductible receipt for donations made directly to the Association. However, all the employees remained employees of NMMI, wore a uniform and domiciled in NMMI facilities.

At the Alumni Association meeting in 1965, MG Agee outlined the idea for an Alumni Chapel and challenged the Alumni Association to raise \$600,000 to fund the construction of a Chapel. It took eleven years to raise the money but the money was raised and the Chapel was built and dedicated to the Cadets who died in service of their country.<sup>7</sup>

"Lieutenant Colonel Frederick E. "Ted" Hunt, '18, the first full-time alumni secretary, retired in 1968, ending his fifty-year association with NMMI."<sup>8</sup>

In 1993, the Alumni Association decided that their employees needed to be employees of the Association and not employees of NMMI. The employees ceased wearing NMMI uniforms and went under their own payroll and benefit system. The Association continued to domicile in NMMI facilities, use NMMI addresses, phone and eventually e-mail as well as logos and other NMMI intellectual property.

Also in 1993 the State of New Mexico passed a statute that required that any

state agency, desiring to have a working relationship with a non-profit organization, must enter into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) outlining the nature of the relationship. The statute is very specific in what must be covered by the MOA. The Alumni Association, as well as the NMMI Foundation, and NMMI have been under such an agreement since 1993. There were two revisions of the Alumni Association MOA, one in 2001 and one in 2012 to update and revise the document with current titles and operating procedures.

In 2013, the Regents terminated the MOA with the Association due to the Association not complying with the MOA. A provision of the MOA was that upon termination, the Association would move their operations off NMMI property and cease to use NMMI intellectual property. That occurred in June of 2013.

Also in June of 2013 NMMI returned to the position of responsibility for communicating with its Alumni. To accomplish this task, the Office of Alumni Relations was formed and Jim Lowe, HS 65 and JC 67, was hired to be the Director of Alumni Relations. As a method of staying in touch with the thoughts of the Alumni and soliciting their input on activities and events, the advice of a select group of Alumni was recruited. This group accepted the challenge of developing a mission statement and purpose for the Advisory Group. Of paramount importance was the position that the Advisory Group would be just that, Advisory and would not be expected to or have any direct influence on the policies and procedures of NMMI.

A second responsibility of this group was to suggest the number of members that should be involved in the Advisory Group. At the point that this effort started, it is important to note that there were only four structured Alumni groups functioning: Albuquerque; Houston; Phoenix and Washington, DC. The suggestion from the group was to organize by decade. In other words, have someone represent Alumni from the 40's, 50's, 60's etc. Eventually a slate of potential members was derived and

<sup>1</sup> New Mexico Military Institute A Centennial History, pg. 85

<sup>2</sup> The Pictorial History of New Mexico Military Institute, pg. 46

<sup>3</sup> New Mexico Military Institute A Centennial History, pg. 181

<sup>4</sup> New Mexico Military Institute A Centennial History, pg. 181

<sup>5</sup> New Mexico Military Institute A Centennial History, pg. 206

<sup>6</sup> New Mexico Military Institute A Centennial History, pg. 207

<sup>7</sup> The Pictorial History of New Mexico Military Institute, pg. 135

<sup>8</sup> The Pictorial History of New Mexico Military Institute, pg. 134



# On The Hill Update

## FROM the desk of SUPERINTENDENT GRIZZLE

...Continued from Page 10

may or may not require the candidates to come to NMMI for a visit. The supervisor will interview the final candidates and make a selection.

I have also had questions about the role of the Regents in the hiring process for key positions. By New Mexico Statute, the Regents are only involved in the hiring of two employees, the Superintendent and the Internal Auditor.

In regard to the two positions that I will personally select, we are at the point where I will interview the final candidates for the director of Alumni Relations. Out of a total of 12 applications, I was forwarded 3 for my consideration. I will be interviewing all three as soon as interviews can be scheduled. I hope to have the selection made and the new director on board by 15 April, if possible. We want the new director to have an overlap with LTC James D. Lowe, NMMI 1965 HS - 1967 JC

during all graduation requirements and to be very involved in the planning and execution of the Trail Ride.

The Commandant's position has just been announced. We will leave the announcement open for thirty days. Once the announcement is closed, all of the processes and procedures I have outlined in this note will be applied. To insure that the process for the selection of the next Commandant has the highest level of oversight and involvement I would like to share the composition of the selection committee.

### Alumni-at-Large Representative

*Timothy Z. Jennings 1968 HS*

### Former Commandant Representative

*BG Jack R. Fox, USA (Ret)  
1966 HS - 1968 JC*

### Regent Representative

*Jesse F. Eckel 1967 HS - 1969 JC*

### Academic Representative

*Brig Gen Douglas J. Murray, USAF (Ret)*

### Faculty Senate Representative

*LTC Terry Waggoner, NMMI*

### High School Principal

*COL George E. Brick, NMMI*

### Athletic Director

*COL Jose Barron, NMMI*

### Coaches Representative

*MAJ Shelby Fortchner, NMMI*

### Committee Chair

*COL David West, NMMI*

### Committee Governance and Compliance Representative

*COL Judy Scharmer, NMMI*

I hope this answers the question about our hiring practices.



For a complete listing of employment opportunities at New Mexico Military Institute, [click here](#).

they were contacted to see if they would participate. This group has been the core of the Alumni Advisory Group since its inception.

Now to more of the evolution side of this story. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of Jim Lowe, the ARO staff and the Alumni Advisory Group we now have 27 functioning Alumni Chapters/Organizations/Groups across the country. In an effort to include them in the activities of the Office of Alumni Relations, we believe it is time to expand/reorganize the members of the Advisory Group to include a representative from each Chapter. We would like to ask each Chapter to select their representative and communicate that name to Jim Lowe.

Some of the Chapters may decide that their representative will be the same person that is on the current Advisory group and that is fine. What we are attempting to do is to be able to include someone from every Chapter and to solicit a broad range of input across the country, age groups, interests, etc.

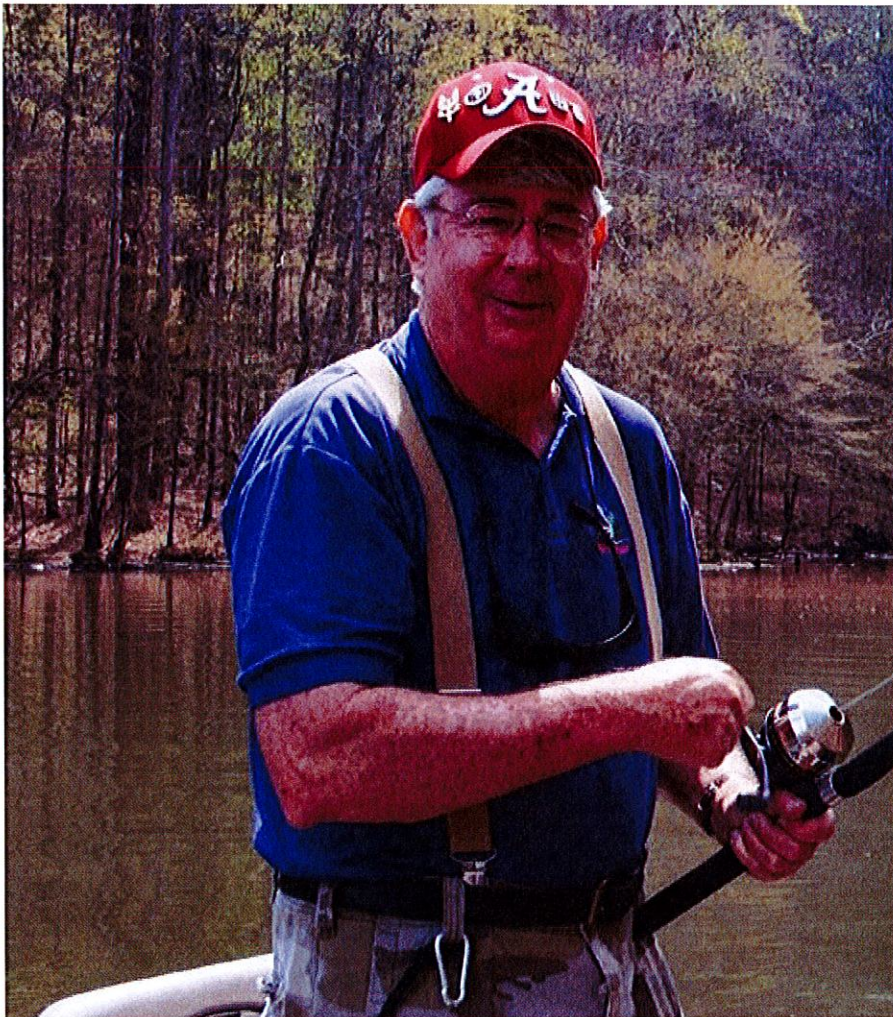
As you know, Jim Lowe will be leaving at the end of this school year, immediately after the Trail Ride. We are advertising now for his replacement and hope to have that person selected and on board so they can do a "right seat ride" with Jim during graduation activities and the Trail Ride. Having a newly formed, expanded Advisory Group, will be a great asset to the new Director as he/she continues

the great work started by Jim Lowe and his entire team in the Office of Alumni Relations.

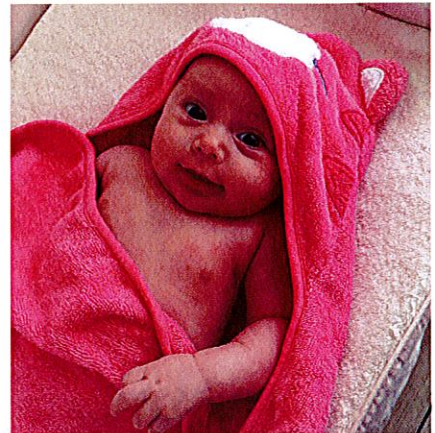
In closing, I would ask that all Chapters decide on their representative and send the name to Jim prior to May 1, 2015. One of the first requirements the new Director will have is to host a conference call with the new Advisory Group. The second request is that if you want to hold a meeting, let us know and we will be there. As you know we have completed seven such meetings and they were all fantastic. The latest was held on February 21, 2015 in Washington, DC. We plan to hold an event in Oklahoma City, OK, on April 24, 2015.



# Alumni Updates



MAJ Nelson A. Miller, Jr., USA (Ret) 1966 HS - 1968 JC is retired from the Army and Civil Service and is farming in Grant, AL.



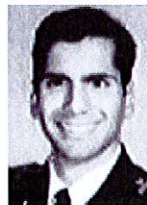
Congratulations to Nick Torokvei 2002 JC and Fabiola Rodriguez on the birth of daughter Vivian Lilly, born on 27 December 2014.



Congratulation to April A. (Wright) Collins 1997 HS and husband Craig on the birth of Coleman Michael. Coleman was born on 17 February 2015.



Congratulations to LTC John G. Sanchez, USA (Ret) 1982 HS who retired on 1 Mar 2015 after 23 years of active duty in the United States Army!



Raonel "Ron" Dominguez 1994 JC was recently featured in the *Wall Street Journal* in a story written by Ralph Gardner. Dominguez is a New York doorman and art collector. Read the article [here](#).

Do you want to share your good news with NMMI classmates and friends? Send your article and photo to Karen Yerby at [alm\\_clrk@nmmi.edu](mailto:alm_clrk@nmmi.edu).



LTC Christopher J. Ward, USA 1994 JC recently completed battalion command of the 2-377 Parachute Field Artillery Regiment. He and his family have relocated to the Norfolk Naval Station in Virginia.

Paul C. Dickson 2008 JC has had a lot happen since his graduation from NMMI in 2008. In the spring of 2013 he graduated from the University of New Mexico with



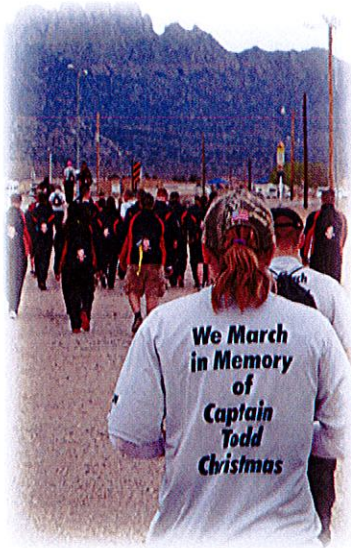
a BA in history and is currently working as an educational assistant at Eisenhower Middle School in Albuquerque, NM. He is also attending Central New Mexico Community College, where he is taking courses to get a teaching license in special education.



# Bataan Memorial Death March

*Editorial Note: This spring alumnus Brad A. Christmas 1970 HS issued a challenge to NMMI cadet recipients of the CPT Todd T. Christmas, USA Memorial Scholarship. He challenged them to participate in the 2015 Bataan Memorial Death March in memory of his son, CPT Todd T. Christmas, USA 1996 HS - 1998 JC. At the completion of the challenge, Mr. Christmas pledged to donate \$1,000.00 to Cadet Activities Fund.*

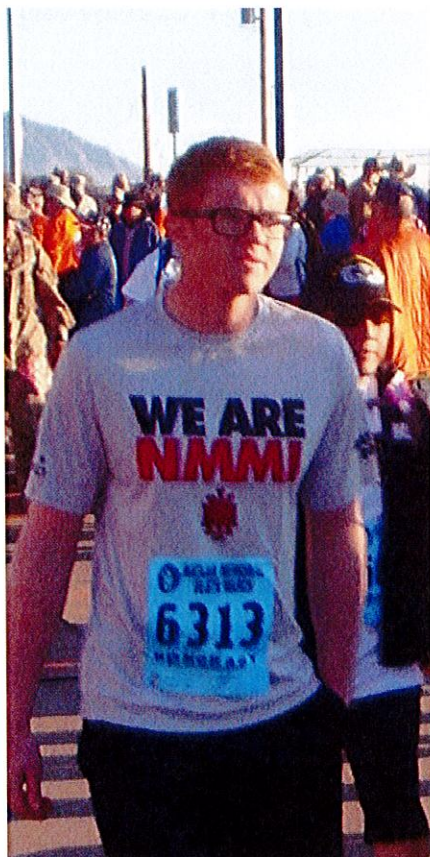
Forty-seven cadets, four faculty and three staff members of the New Mexico Military Institute participated in the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range on 22 March 2015. This year the Bataan marchers from the New Mexico Military Institute marched in honor of CPT Todd T. Christmas, USA. Captain Christmas was a 1996 HS and 1998 JC graduate of



Bataan Memorial Death March honors American and Filipino service members taken captive by the Japanese in early 1942. The prisoners were forced to march 60 miles under punishing and oppressive conditions. Many Americans and Filipino service members died as a result of the forced march. NMMI cadets could choose whether they wanted to run, walk or ruck the course which was either 14.2 or 26.2 miles. NMMI cadets who carried a ruck sack, during the march, carried 35 pounds of dried food goods, approximately 700 pounds of dried food goods was donated, by NMMI cadets, to New Mexico food banks.

NMMI and served in the United States Army until his death in 2004. Captain Christmas was traveling in a Blackhawk helicopter when it collided with a guide wire near Waco, TX, killing all on board. The

*Story and photos courtesy of MAJ Stephan Kaftan, NMMI*





# New Mexico Military Institute has partnered with a national discount program to offer alumni access to product and service discounts accessible 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](mailto: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](mailto:alm_svcs@nmmi.edu) to get the mobile password
3. Use that mobile password to register your phone and start your discount deals!

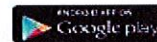


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