

# NMMI Alumni Relations

*Corps of Former Cadets*



September | 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>



### **Attention all former Pixies!**

Make plans to attend Homecoming this year and be part of the NMMI Alumni Band. Check out the schedule of events. We will be having a memorial service in the Band Hall to honor two of our past Band members who gave their life in the service of our country and community.

Past Bandmasters, COL Michael Donovan 1970 HS, LTC Rush, and MAJ Tuttle will be in attendance for the weekend and will participate in the pre-game and halftime performances. Contact CPT Christina Allison-Parsley (1996 HS -1998 JC) at [parsley@nmmi.edu](mailto:parsley@nmmi.edu) or CPT Bill Lamb, Regimental Bandmaster @ 575-624-8442 for more information and music. Schedule;

Thursday, October 9	Silver Taps @ 1900
Friday, October 10	Band Rehearsal @ 0750
	Memorial Service @ 1630,
	Pizza Social @ 1900, (Jam session to follow)
Saturday, October 11	Parade on Stapp @ 1100
	Football game with Alumni participation @ 1400
Sunday, October 12	Informal Breakfast at IHOP @ 0800

Come back to the Post and reconnect with your fellow bandmen.

Have you served in any of these conflicts? We would like to update our information! We have records for WWI and WW2, but have incomplete information about the following conflicts.

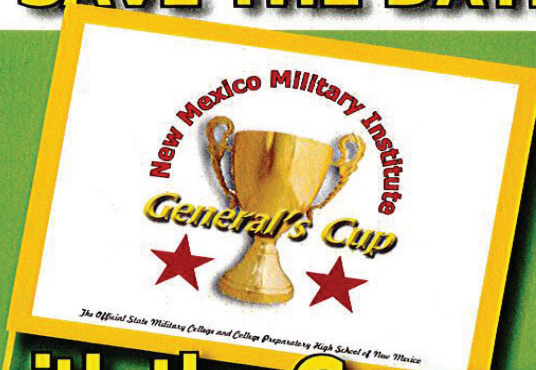
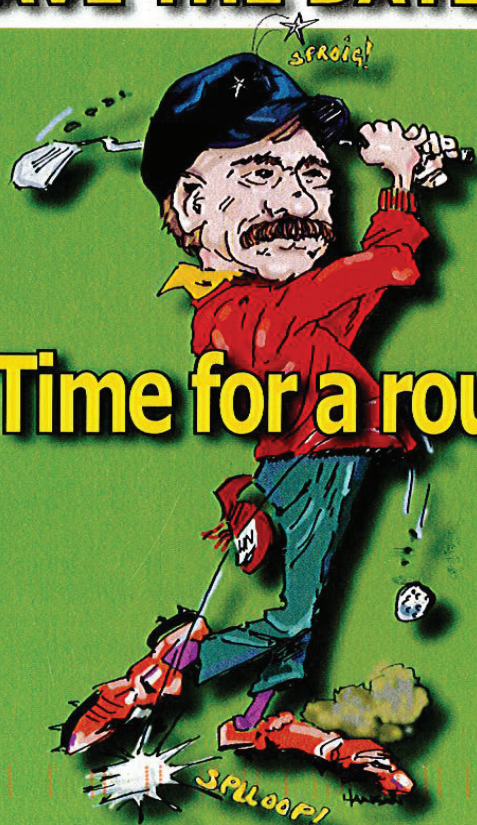
Korean War  
Somalia  
Vietnam  
Bosnia/Kosovo  
Grenada  
Iraq  
Panama  
Afghanistan  
Persian Gulf War  
Other

Let us know at [alm\\_clrk@nmmi.edu](mailto:alm_clrk@nmmi.edu)

If you feel that we have missed anything in this list, please give our office a call at 575-624-8250.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**



# Time for a round with the General!

## The General's Cup!

Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament & Gala

**September 19-21, 2014**

**New Mexico Military Institute Golf Course**

**Proceeds benefit cadets through  
NMMI's General Scholarship Fund**

If you would like to become one of the "General's 100" or a sponsor  
please call Kris Ward at [wardk@nmmi.edu](mailto:wardk@nmmi.edu) or call 575-624-8158.

### **NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame**

**Join us for the 2014 NMMI Alumni Luncheon! This year during  
the Luncheon, there will be six former cadets inducted into  
the NMMI Alumni Hall of Fame.**

**BG Richard T. Drury, USAF (Ret) 1944 HS (Flag Officer)**

**Edmundo A. Gonzales 1964 JC (Eminence)**

**Eugene R. Hardman 1962 JC (Service)**

**John M. Henderson, III 1964 JC (Service)**

**Victor A. J. Van Lint 1947 JC (Eminence)**

**LtCol Jordan A. Wommack, USAF (Ret) 1980 HS (Service)**



# Alumni Updates

## "ATTENTION IN THE AREA"

NMMI Homecoming is just 21 days away. NMMI, the Alumni Relations staff, Alumni Advisory Group and many others have worked to provide a memorable experience for alumni and guests.

With on-going construction in Lusk Hall, Bates and using VMV for cadet uniform issues we ask you bring "Patience" and "Flexibility". Several of the events are planned to be outdoors so weather becomes a factor. Parking will be a challenge. Parking will not be available in some areas on Post due to the on-going construction. Carpooling, use of motel shuttle and walking from motels close to NMMI may be a good idea.

Registration will be located at JRT in the Cadet Activity Room (see link below for map). Signs will be posted to lead the way with Handicap access. The Alumni Luncheon and HOF Ceremony is planned for the Alumni Plaza under a beautiful sky. The Roswell Civic Center will be the site for the Friday and Saturday evening alumni events.

We wish everyone a safe travel!

Corps of Former Cadets – Come Home

LTC James D. Lowe, NMMI 1965 HS 1967 JC

**HOMECOMING  
REGISTRATION IS  
NOW**

**OPEN!**

**CLICK HERE  
FOR FREE REGISTRATION**

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!](#)

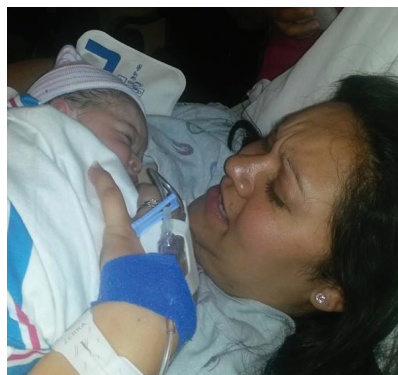


**Get your homecoming shirts today!  
Click [here](#) to purchase!**

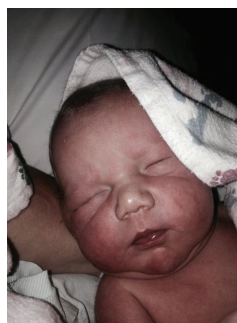
# Alumni Updates



Congratulations to **Ana Mariposa (Sanchez) Belew 2002 HS** and husband Chad on new baby boy, Jett Lawrence. He arrived on 19 August 2014.



Congratulations to **Christina R. (Vigil) Lauritzen 2005 JC** and her husband **CPT Paul A. Lauritzen 2004 JC** on the birth of their second child. Zoey Maria Lauritzen was born on 26 August 2014. She joins the family with big brother Xavier.



Congratulations to **LTC Christopher T. Link, TXANG 1991 JC** and his wife Bonny on the birth of son, Christopher Joseph on 27 August 2014.



Congratulations to Summer E. Segovia Allen and her husband Joshua Allen on the birth of baby girl, August, born on 11 August 2014.



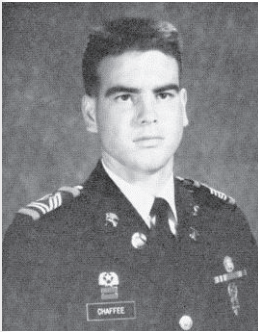
**John A. Dermody 1983 JC** and his bride, Maritess Camcam were married on 11 June 2011. Congratulations to them both!



**MAJ Joetta (Makay) Khan, USA 1999 HS** was promoted to Major on 1 July 2014. Pictured here with husband, **CPT Saleem A. Khan, USA 2000 JC** and daughter Mina. Congratulations!



# Alumni Updates



**LTC Neil T. Chaffee, USA 1990 JC** relinquished command of the 15th MI Battalion based at Fort Hood, TX, on 7 August 2014. He served as the Nighthawk Commander for two years. The battalion employs RC-12N Guardrail turbo-prop aircraft and MQ-5B Hunter systems.

LTC Chaffee will assume duties as the Deputy Commander of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade in September.



**LTJC Steven T. Weatherly USN 1992 HS** lives in Virginia with his wife, Megan, and daughter, Alexandra. He currently works for the Office of Naval Research.



**LTC Morris M. Fontenot, USAF 1993 JC**

It is with a profound and deep sense of sadness to hear of the passing of a fellow United States Air Force Academy Falcon Foundation and fellow New Mexico Military Institute cadet, who I was pleased to have known and called a brother. As the only senior and Officer cadet of that year of Falcons, I always looked at myself out of the 33 of us as their mentor and father figure. Morris, thank you for your tireless service, your dedication and most of all for your friendship. - **Gilbert F. A. Maestas 1992 JC.**

Colonel Fontenot passed away on 27 August 2014.



**John J. Shelstad 1965 JC** flew helicopters and airplanes for a career. Retired in Lake Havasu City, AZ. What a beautiful life!!



From Daniel O'Connell, Head Coach of JC Women's Tennis at NMML is proud to announce that his son, **William A. F. O'Connell 2011 JC** (pictured) has been appointed as Men's Head Tennis Coach. "A thrill for me to work with William. We will feel right at home, with five Pacific tennis

players on the NMML men's and women's teams. It is going to be another fun year at NMML! Pacific power! Go Bronco's!"

# Alumni Updates



## A Trip to Remember

By **Ryan Geraci 2014 JC**

In the fall semester of my sixth year at NMMI, I was accepted into the National Security Studies Program at the University of New Mexico. This program prepares young men and women for future careers in various governmental agencies ranging from the State Department to the Central Intelligence Agency. With a deep interest in this field, I was chosen to take part in a two week long overseas trip to Europe with other students in the program. While the trip unfortunately conflicted with the commencement ceremony in May, forcing me to graduate early so that I could go, it was certainly worth it. The trip essentially for us to get our feet "wet" as well as experience potential careers we may have interests in. [read more](#)



**E. Bush Hayden 1938 HS** passed away on 14 November 2013. His wife, Lori, sent a couple of pages from his memoirs of his life, which included NMMI. Enjoy!

Frankly, I would rather that someone else write this, but Lori has assigned me to it (she's the publisher you know), so here it goes.

Probably my most outstanding characteristic has been my absence. I ran away the first time at four years old. After that, I did it 14 more times before I was fourteen years old, and my parents quit pursuing me.

[read more](#)



**Hollis Alan Day 1957 HS** (far right, pictured with his sister, Sandra Day O'Connor) and I were roommates our rat year, 1955-56. I never saw nor heard

from Alan after we left school that year. My wife Faith and I read in the Washington Post that the Library of Congress Book Fair this year had among the books being featured one entitled *The Horse Lover* by H. Alan Day. So we went to the Book Fair today to see if this might be my roommate. We purchased a copy of his book and waited in the book-signing line.

When we arrived at the table, I handed the book to Alan for signature and said, "I am your roommate from NMMI." He looked up, a big smile crossed his face, and he said "Hello, Jim", followed by hearty handshakes.

Also enjoying this reunion with us, right alongside her brother, was retired Justice of the Supreme Court, Sandra Day O'Connor. I am donating a signed copy of the book to the NMMI Library. You never know what may become of a roommate!

**LTC James K. "Jim" Hitch, USA (Ret) 1958 HS, 1960 JC**



**Harris E. Kerr 1971 JC** was awarded The 2014 Alumni Award from the University of Texas School of Law.

Honorary Order of the Coif,  
Harris E. Kerr, '75

Kerr was born and raised in Midland, Texas. He attended

New Mexico Military Institute, where he graduated from high school and junior college (A.A., 1971). Harris received his B.A. (history, 1972) and law (J.D., 1975) degrees from The University of Texas at Austin. Since 1975 he has practiced law in Midland, mostly with several family firms with his grandfather, father, uncle and brother, and a number of other great lawyers. That firm is now Kerr, McCulloch & McLaughlin PLLC, where Harris and his uncle, Ted Kerr, are privileged to practice with Kathleen McCollum McCulloch and fellow UT Law alum, Brian T. McLaughlin.

Kerr's family has been practicing law in West Texas since W. W. Hubbard, a Harvard trained lawyer, arrived in Barstow in 1903 from New York City and set up his law practice in Pecos, Texas.

Kerr has been very fortunate to have served on the Board of Directors of the UT Law School Alumni Association, serving as President in 1994-95. He also served on the Board of Directors of the NMMI Alumni Association on two different occasions, as its President once, and has served for many years on the Board of Trustees of the NMMI Foundation.



# Alumni Updates



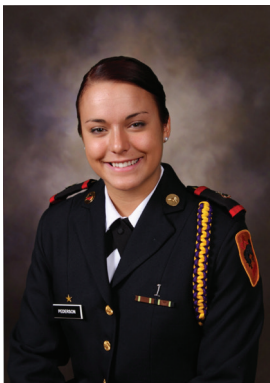
Thanks to LTC Jordan A. Wommack, USAF (Ret) 1980 HS for heading up the NMMI Golf Course Sculpture. The large tree, hit by lightning, was scheduled to be removed. It is now a work of art thanks to the donors and to artist Cam Dockery. Read the full story in the Winter Sally Port due out in January 2015.



This video, made by Stuart L. Altman 1993 HS from Homecoming 2013 is the second installment in the [Goss Rifles Project](#). Stu is an award winning short films, commercials and music videos producer. You can see some [here](#). If you haven't seen the first installment, you can view it [here](#).



The Goss Rifles Regulation Drill Team earned the 1st place trophy in the armed exhibition performance at the New Mexico State Military Skills meet attended by teams from twenty-four high schools throughout New Mexico in the Spring of 2014. Way to go, Goss!



My Merchant Marine experience thus far has been challenging but very rewarding. I've almost had an unfair advantage coming out of NMMI because it taught me organizational and time management skills that most of the other kids have yet to possess. I was put into Band Company and at first was very doubtful. As time progressed, the candidate's camaraderie grew on me and I knew that this was the company to be a part of. The band company has the highest GPA's as well as the lowest dropout rate, which is really something to be proud of. Indoctrination was full of ups and downs for me. Staff made an example out of me and seemed to push me harder than most. My favorite day thus far was the "Away Day", where we were able to choose any ship or boat to take out for the day. I chose a 42 foot fishing boat called the Euphoria. The Euphoria is a small recreational yacht equipped with an engine room, a small kitchen, and a bedroom with a full bath. I was able to assist with changing the

oil and other small run down maintenance issues. We then left the dock and drove about 30 minutes out, when suddenly the skipper handed the wheel over to me and told me I could take over till we got to Lady Liberty. That was the best day of my INDOC experience and something I will always treasure. This past weekend was our acceptance day where we took our Navy Reserve oath and were recognized as Plebes. I was recognized as one of ten candidates who received honor plebe, two of us being from the New Mexico Military Institute. The Commandant, Captain John J. Kennedy, shook my hand and said that I was off to great start at the Academy. I am blessed to already have these great experiences and I have the New Mexico Military Institute to thank for it! I look forward to my future experiences here at the Merchant Marine Academy and hope to have many more accomplishments to come.

Plebe Cassandra M. Pederson 2014 JC  
USMMA 2018  
Band Company



# Alumni/Chapter Updates



Save the Date! 16 October 2014

The Midland, TX Chapter is planning a Tattoo at the Greentree Country Club in Midland on 16 October at 6:30 pm. The location is 4900 Greentree Boulevard, Midland, TX, 79707. If you would like to get more information or RSVP for the event, please contact one of the representatives below.

**Jay W. Isaacs 1976 JC** at [jay4659@aol.com](mailto:jay4659@aol.com)

**Harris E. Kerr 1971 JC** at [harris@permianabstract.com](mailto:harris@permianabstract.com)

**Judge Robert A. Junell 1967 JC** at [rob@junell.net](mailto:rob@junell.net)

**Dan M. Leonard 1966 HS** at [dan@jtdresources.com](mailto:dan@jtdresources.com)

**Ryan S. Davis 2002 JC** at [Ryan.davis@aimdir.com](mailto:Ryan.davis@aimdir.com)

MG Grizzle, **Jim Lowe 1967 JC** and Kris Ward, new Development and Advancement Officer will be in attendance for all three of these events. This will kick off the Alumni Tour.



Save the Date! 17 October 2014

The San Antonio chapter is planning a get together at Tomatillos Café y Cantina on 17 October 2014 at 5:00 pm. The location is 3210 Broadway Street, San Antonio, TX 78209. If you would like more information or RSVP for the event, please contact one of the representatives below.

**Jock Brownfield 1966 JC** at [coltjock64@gmail.com](mailto:coltjock64@gmail.com)



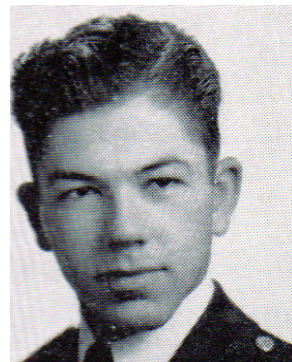
Save the Date! 18 October 2014

The Dallas chapter is planning a get together at Bistro 31 on 18 October 2014 at 5:00 pm. The location is 87 Highland Park Vlg # 200, Dallas, TX 75205. If you would like more information or RSVP for the event, please contact one of the representatives below.

**Eddy Lynton 1990 JC** at [ejlynton@txwes.edu](mailto:ejlynton@txwes.edu)



**MG Franklin E. Miles, USA (Ret) 1944 JC** was born in 1923 in Tucumcari, New Mexico. His father was Governor John E. Miles of Cherokee descent. His mother, Susie C. Wade, was a member of the Choctaw Nation. In 1939, he attended the New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, NM and received an Associate Degree upon graduation. Returning from World War II, Miles attended The University of New Mexico (UNM) and received his degree in Business Administration in 1950. ([read more](#))



# Chapter News

Hello N.M.M.I. Alumni, Families, Patrons & Friends!

Our Annual Fall BBQ was a great success, once again hosted by Phill 1967 HS & Nancy Ingram, and co-Sponsored again by Gary 1967JC & Kathie Williams. Chapter Member Jim Hill 1991 HS - 1993 JC provided most of the beer & wine, and Chapter Members Spence 1973 HS & Pres Lewallen brought some awesome chips and dips for pre-feast munching. We had over 90 attendees, making this the largest non-Institute sponsored event in our Chapter's history. Treasured Chapter Member Dick Moore 1957 HS, who passed away two days before the event, had a seat of honor designated, and his wife, Julie, attended, along with his son Richard, and wife Stacey, and his daughter Andrea and husband, Eric. MG Grizzle attended and briefed the crowd on the academic, athletic, and military numbers from the last year - these indicators showed a very successful year at the Institute. Jim Lowe 1965 HS -1967JC (Alumni Relations Director) attended, along with Kris Ward (Advancement & Development Officer), and with Challenges for the General's Cup, Jordy hawking the Golf Course Sculpture, Silent Auction proceeds, attendance fees and other contributions, we brought in over \$5000 for the Chapter and its causes.

We will once again meet the General's Cup Challenge as a Chapter, along with several individuals who met the \$1000 on an individual basis. We will also be donating \$500 to the Annual Fund from this event, and the Chainsaw Sculpture on Hole #5 of the NMMI Golf Course is now a reality. The remainder of money collected will enable the Albuquerque Chapter to continue the tradition in honor of Chapter President Greg Rumbaugh 1968 HS - the Albuquerque Sunport Cadet Receptions beginning with the Thanksgiving Holiday Break in November.

Once again, our thanks go out to the fantastic event sponsors and hosts, all attendees, and all who contributed to the event's success! To view photos from the event, visit our [Website](#) or [Facebook Page](#).

Hope to see you soon,

Jordy

Jordy Wommack '80HS

Abq Chapter Webmaster

[www.nmmialumni-abq.com](http://www.nmmialumni-abq.com)

(505) 459-8226

## NMMI ALUMNI CHAPTER CONTACTS

**To check out the list of chapters click here!**