



VALLEY FORGE

MILITARY
ACADEMY & COLLEGE

NEWS FROM THE FORGE February/March 2014

NEWS

Gold and Silver Star Dinner

February 18, 2014: The Alumni Board of Directors sponsored an academic award dinner to honor those cadets who achieved academic excellence by earning their gold and silver stars. Opening remarks were made by our President Stacey Sauchuk, Ph.D. and she was followed by a special address from Paul Lea IV '87, '89C Masters, Ph.D. and former Regimental Commander. COL Jeffery Brown, Headmaster of the Academy and COL Nan Hood, Dean of the College made the star presentation. We extend a special "thank you" to the parents for their attendance, showing that when the alumni, school and parents work together, we can produce greatness in our students. Great food, inspiring speeches, and life-long friendships come out of these functions. This is another successful event sponsored by our Alumni Association Board of Directors.



50 for the Forge Report

The Alumni Association Board of Directors has launched the Program "50 for the Forge" as part of its commitment to recruit 50 new cadets for the Academy and College. "50 for the Forge" Committee Chairman, Greg Copeland '56 has reported the following in his contact with the African Union of the United Nations:

- There are fifty-three member nations each having an ambassador to the UN.
- Each country has a least ten ministers attached to its embassy.
- The reason for the importance of this presentation is because the hundreds of families associated with the delegations need a safe place to send their children.
- VFMA&C provided all the needs. We are a perfect fit.
- We can't wait to tell them how good we are at training youth to be good citizens.

Student Enrollment and Recruitment

We are happy to report that enrollment as of March 25th, 2014 is 566 cadets. But, we need to do more to ensure the legacy of the Long Line of Gray. To that end, the Offices of Admission published the "Alumni Ambassador Program Handbook" (AAP) as a tool for alumni recruitment. Become an Ambassador today! 2LT Robert Devonshire, PAARNG, '11C is presently the point of contact. He can be reached at 610-989-1304 or rdevonshire@vfmac.edu.

Valley Forge Winter Sports News

Join us in congratulating Coach Noon and Coach Haughey in qualifying two of their Academy wrestlers on Saturday to compete in the *PLAA Regional AA Wrestling* tournament being held at Wilson West Lawn HS this Friday and Saturday, March 1. The following wrestlers qualified on Saturday at the AA District Tournament which was hosted by Springfield Township High School:

120 lbs.	Dominick Bilardo	3rd place
126 lbs.	Justin Black	3rd place

2013-2014 VFMC Women's Basketball Season in Review

This season marked the return of women's basketball being played in Price Hall. New Head Coach Nate Ware was given the charge to restore the program to activity. VFMC has joined the National Junior College Athletic Association. This season was a provisional year. Coach Ware's goal was to field a team to play all of the scheduled games and to represent VFMC well. The goal was met as the team finished with a 0-11 record. Next season, VFMC will be at full status in Region XIX of the NJCAA, with a schedule of 26 or more games.

This season's roster included 11 student-athletes. Joyce Boone (2 games, 1.0 points per game), Aja James (9g, 13.8ppg), Ayanna Jones (11g, 1.6ppg), Lillian Kohl (11g, 0.4ppg), Samantha Kutcher (3g, 1.0ppg), Anushka Mendez (7g, 1.5ppg), Franshaska Rosa (11g, 0.0ppg), Naomi Seaton (4g, 0.0ppg), Camille Waelbroeck (8g, 1.5ppg), Faith Wallace (4g, 0.0ppg), and Felicia Watson (5 , 1.4ppg) all made great contributions to enable us to keep building toward the future.

Aja James was the standout of the season. The 5'11" center practically played every position. While consistently doubled and tripled team, she was able to score 22 or more points in three games. She was also a tremendous rebounder and shot blocker throughout the year.

James will return next year and will be joined by a large recruiting class. Coach Ware plans to be able to compete at a very high level next season in Region XIX.

2013-2014 Swimming Team Season in Review

The 2013 started on a high note, but ended with a 1-4-1 record. Despite practice time limitations in December, the team move forward, after having to skip three December meets. A last relay victory gave an undermanned VFMA squad a fine win over Glen Mills. Next, the team lost to Abington Friends. This was followed by a hard earned tie, again in the last relay against Springside-Chestnut Hill Academy. Holy Ghost Prep was then snowed out (twice) Harriton and Perkiomen were more than complete in wins against a scrappy, small VFMA team, this caused by illnesses and absence. In a heartbreaker against Barrack Hebrew Academy, with most cadets swimming in four events, the team narrowly lost.

Outstanding during the season was Young Sheng (co-captain) who in qualifying for the Districts and was very close to a school record after having dropped 7 seconds since last year in the 100 butterfly. The other co-captain., Nick Nuila, did very well in numerous freestyle events volunteering to swim in any event needed. Vlad Korol swam distance, freestyle, and relays, scoring consistently in meets. Jersey Chen swam butterfly and breaststroke and was constantly a high point scorer. Dianshou Zhang, while becoming

eligible late in the season showed much future promise and was a winner in two meets. Other swimmers who contributed in various events and relays included Ethan Goldstein, Chris Minick, Devon Williams and Henry Garcia.

The 2013-14 VFMA Wrestling Campaign

The 2013-14 VFMA wrestling campaign showed tremendous progress in rebuilding a once proud program. This year's Trojan team had wrestled to higher team rankings in all but one tournament entered from a year ago. Led by team MVP and team captain, Justin Black, the young squad introduced themselves to the PIAA and the Bicentennial League in which they will be contenders for years to come.

Four wrestlers have qualified to compete in the District One AA tournament on 22 February at Springfield/Montgomery County. Dominick Bilardo (Junior, 120 Lbs), Justin Black (Senior, 126 Lbs.), Benjamin Johnson (Junior, 132 Lbs.), and Emmanuel Ahoua (Freshman, 152 Lbs.) will be wrestling to be the first VFMA athletes to represent The Forge in a PIAA state tournament.

With only one senior graduating from the 2013-2014 squad, the coaches and returning wrestlers are eager and have high hopes to compete in the competitive Bicentennial League in 14-15.

The 2013-14 Academy Varsity Basketball Season

The Academy Varsity had a very successful season under first year Head Coach Francis Bowe. The Trojans completed their season at 10-10, one of the best records the school has recorded in many years. The Trojans will have 3 starters returning for next year, which can only have the program heading for more success in the future.

Special thanks to our Senior Captains: Daymar Rosser and Aaron Still-Lock. These fantastic leaders took our program to new heights.

Valley Forge Military Academy Basketball will come back stronger than ever next year!

38th Military School Band Festival

Please join me in congratulating the selected cadets from the Band and Choir that performed this weekend for the 38th Military School Band Festival at Randolph Macon Academy in Front Royal VA. The days were very long and each and every cadet represented themselves and VF in the upmost professional way.

There were over 120 cadets in the concert band, 75 in the choir and 18 in the Drum Majors competition.

1st chairs were competed for on the first morning and VF did well with Meghan Duell getting her 1st chair for Clarinet and concert master for the band, Young Sheng for Alto Sax, Joseph Oliver for Bass Trombone and Jackson Baker for Mallet Percussion. The majority of 2nd places were awarded to members of VF which was fantastic placement. Fransheska Rosa was just picked to the post for a solo in the choir but she and Sandy Saddler performed in the choir with great gusto and enthusiasm.

BAKER – PERCUSSION 1st out of 4
DUELL – CLARINET 1st – concert master out of 17
FUOCO – BASS CLARINET 2nd out of 5
HENRY – TIMPANI 2nd out of 4
HUDGINS – TRUMPET 6th out of 15
KIM – DRUM MAJOR 4th out of 18
LI – ALTO SAX 2nd out of 14
MOONEY C. – TENOR SAX 2nd out of 5
MOONEY S. – BARI SAX 2nd out of 5
OLIVER – BASS TROMBONE 1st
RAMIREZ – ALTO SAX 4th out of 14
ROSA – CHOIR
SADDLER - CHOIR
SCHOENHALS – TUBA 2nd out of 9
SHEN – TRUMPET 3rd out of 15
SHENG – ALTO SAX 1st out of 14
SHALAT – TRUMPET 7th out of 15
SMITH H – TROMBONE 2nd out of 10
SMITH T – TRUMPET 9th out of 15

The High School members from VF were awarded the Top Award for the best high school and that was no mean feat as there were 18 visiting school from all around the USA. The college got a VERY close second just losing out to Norwich Union College from Vermont by half a point.

I think the best and most rewarding news for me was the Drum Majors competition. Terry Kim was determined to win this year as a VF drum major has never won the Drum Majors competition thus he put all his heart and soul into his judging performance on the Saturday night in front of the panel of 5 judges. For the past two days the two senior Drum Majors from the US Navy Band in DC worked with the entire group teaching and helping with advice and one on one instruction. Cadet Kim unfortunately did not win the competition, in fact he was placed 4th by the judges (who are NOT drum majors....this is going to change for the next festival). I am sure that after the position announcement Cadet Kim felt very down, but this was going to change. The two Navy Drum Majors called Cadet Kim out of the concert band performance and they both told him that he was, by a mile, the best drum major of the whole weekend even the competition. They even told him that when they returned to their hotel room after the competition they independently wrote down who they thought was the best and they both chose Kim. So even though he did not walk away with the gold medal, he walked away with so much more – the top kudos from the top US Drum Majors. Master Chief Joe Brown has even said to Kim that he will help in any way to get him into the Naval Academy and he was more than welcome to stay at his home and be his guest.

So all in all a great weekend for VF and even though the college award just slipped through our fingers, I am so very proud of each and every one of these cadets and I thank them all for all their efforts.

Phil Evans
Band Master

THE DOUGLAS MacARTHUR CADET OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Awarded by the MacArthur Memorial Foundation to a First Classman and College Sophomore who have exemplified the best improved performance in academics, athletics and leadership.

JOHN R. ENSLE (First Class)
JUSTIN D. SCHALLER (College Sophomore)

In addition to the medal awarded at this ceremony, these cadets will receive a medallion, a check (\$50.00 for Cadet Ensle and \$100.00 for Cadet Schaller), and the book "*The General: MacArthur and the Man he Called Doc*" written by Roger Olaf Egeberg, M.D.

EVENTS

Third Annual 1LT Theinert Memorial 5K 5 Cornerstone Run, Saturday, April 5, 2014

Please join us as we honor the memory of alumnus and hero, 1LT Joseph J. Theinert '06C, TAPS, at the third annual 1LT Theinert Memorial 5K 5 Cornerstone Run on Saturday, April 5 on post. Joe was killed in action on June 4, 2010 while serving in Afghanistan, when his platoon came under heavy fire. He and his platoon were forced into an area mined with IEDs. Joe disarmed one and was working on a second one when it exploded. He was able to warn the 20 men with him before the device went off. Joe paid the highest price to be called an American. Joe's family has created a scholarship for a College cadet in Joe's honor and memory.

Proceeds from the Theinert Run support Joe's scholarship at Valley Forge. If you can't attend this extremely worthwhile event please consider sponsoring a cadet. For registration materials please visit: www.3rdannualtheinertrun.eventbrite.com.

Retirement Ceremony for VFMAC Alum

March 28, 2014, Fort Belvoir, Virginia: COL Manuel T. deGuzman, USARMY OCAR (US) '84C. Retirement ceremony will be officiated by our own BG Walter T. Lord, USA '84C.

Cadet Officers and Sergeant Majors Dining In Event

Tuesday March 18, 2014 at 6:30 pm in Eisenhower Hall the Alumni Association Board of Directors is sponsoring the Cadet Officers and Sergeant Majors Formal Dining In. This event is open to all Alumni, the Commandant's Staff, TAC Department and the Cadet Officer Corp including the 4 Command Sergeant Majors. The dress for this evening is Full Dress Uniform or Black Tie. This is a traditional event and we encourage Alumni participation. The President of the Mess will be our own David Esqueda, President of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Homecoming 2014

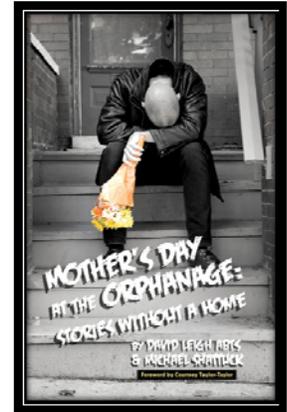
Reservations have begun to come in for Homecoming Weekend, Friday, April 25 to Sunday, April 27. Be sure to put it on your calendar. If your graduating year ends in 4 or 9, this is your five year reunion! So clear your calendar and make your reservation now by calling the Alumni Office or signing up on-line at Eventbrite. We

need your help to make this the best ever Homecoming. If you or someone you know would be interested, contact us in the Alumni Office at 610-989-1329 or tgoldblum@vfmac.edu. See you in April, if not before!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1999 Alumni Is Published and Making a Nationwide Book Tour

A new book by David Leigh Abts VFMA Class of 1999, E-Battery, and recipient of the Order of Anthony Wayne, with co-Author Michael Shattuck, editor Leslie Blodgett has been critically praised by established creative experts from New York City to Portland, Oregon. Mother's Day at the Orphanage: Stories without a Home is a collection of anecdotes, misadventures and pop stories told with a distinctive voice that has been compared to Keillor, Vonnegut and Sedaris by top thinkers in Indie music.



The collaborative nature of the project matches the pace of the book, which takes David through a series of breakthroughs, setbacks, risks, rejections, rewards, and regrets, accompanied by a motley cast of characters.

Mother's Day at the Orphanage: Stories Without a Home is available to order online at www.mothersdaystories.com.

Alumni Website:

The Valley Forge Website (<http://www.vfmac.edu>) is the place to go for alumni information, sporting events and anything else you might want to know about what is happening on post. For alumni information, click on Academy or College, and then click on "Alumni & Friends" at the top or bottom toolbars. For convenience, please add the following link to your bookmarks: <http://www.vfmac.edu/alumni-friends/>.

"The Long line of Gray at 85"

Remember to order your commemorative 85th Anniversary DVD from the Alumni Office. Reminisce and relive the heritage that is Valley Forge. Just \$25 will bring back memories and help support the activities of the Alumni Association.

TAPS

It is with sadness we note the names of the members of the Long Line of Gray who have passed or whose passing we have learned about since June 4, 2013:

We pray as once be prayed. Valley Forge for thee.

Prefix	Last Name	First Name	Middle	Suffix	School Year	Date of Death	Place of Death
Mr.	Beebe	Calvin	S.		'51, '53C	12/28/2013	Mullica Township, NJ
Mr.	Eberhart	Joseph	W.		'61	01/04/2014	Reading, PA
Mr.	Gardine	William	J.		'64	11/28/2013	Jacksonville, FL
Mr.	Magor	John	L.		'53	01/10/2014	Spring Garden, PA
Mr.	Marcoux	Roderick			'89	12/25/2013	Versailles, CT

Mr.	Cooke	Donald	S.	'53	01/23/2014	Scott Depot, WV
Mr.	Lamont	Joseph	F.	'46	01/24/2014	Altoona, PA
Mr.	Palermo	Frank	P.	Sr. '50	01/19/2014	Orwigsburg, PA
Mr.	Summers	Paul	D.	Jr. '46	01/18/2014	Charlottesville, VA
Mr.	Douglas	Allen	M.	'56C	02/03/2014	Sun City West, AZ
Dr.	Mapleton	Felix	A.	'50	02/01/2014	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Mr.	Goodman	Richard	A.	'70	02/09/2014	Lansdale, PA
Mr.	Jelen	Edward	J.	'48	unknown	Marietta, GA
Mr.	Schneider	William	J.	'61	01/30/2014	Greensboro, NC

Alumni Contacts

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