



# USMMA COLORADO

August 2006

## WELCOME CLASS 2010



Nickolas Alexander	3rd Co
Patrick Ambrose	1st Co
Jerry Coleman-Dodson	4 <sup>th</sup> Co (not pictured)
Dan Gamito	2nd Co
Elisabeth Haines	3rd Co
Tyler Hatecote	3rd Co (not pictured)
Barett Howell	1st Co
Christine Jaszlics	2nd Co (not pictured)
Gary Kuehn	4th Co
Victor Price	4th Co
Daniel Shjandermarr	4th CO
David Svoboda	Band Co
Aaron VanDerBerg	Band Co

# Survival Tips – Parents' Weekend

We hope all Plebe Candidate parents are planning to attend Parents' Weekend at Kings Point, Friday, September 1 through Monday, September 4. It is so important to the kids! Not to mention fun and interesting for parents!! Who can't wait to see their Plebe Candidate in uniform? If you are not able to attend, be sure your Plebe Candidate has someone to leave Kings Point with - a roommate or friend, another Colorado family, or a sponsor family. Let Judy Tumblin know if your son or daughter will be alone, and she will be sure to stop by for a visit.

It can be HOT at Kings Point in September. Remember to wear a hat, comfortable walking shoes, and sunscreen, and carry a water bottle. Finding bottled water for sale can be a bit tricky at Kings Point!! **Remember your camera!!** You will be allowed into the barracks. Pictures of those well-organized quarters are priceless!! Find out your Plebe Candidates schedule for Friday and arrange a meeting place. The lawn by the grinder (asphalt area where they form up) or the flag pole are good areas, better yet, meet at our club's table. On Friday our club will have a table set up with a white board for messages. Judy Tumblin will be leaving for Kings Point Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup>, please send her your flight info and schedules, so she will have that info when you son or daughter stops by the table. The Midshipmen and Plebe Candidates will sit together at Beat Retreat, Acceptance Ceremonies and at the football game. Be sure to arrive early at all events, as seating is first-come, first-served. Try to make Colors (flag rising) one morning. This is a very memorable event. If your Plebe Candidate is agreeable, you can attend one classroom session. Tour the Simulator and the Kings Pointer if you have the opportunity! Be sure to visit the ship's store and all the state parents' organizations tables where great Kings Point logo stuff will be for sale. Most of the state parents' organization tables take cash only; the ship's store takes cash, checks and credit cards.

Maps of the campus are available on the Academy website, and can also be picked up as you enter the grounds. This is a great opportunity for Plebe Candidate parents to get to know one another, and to pick the brains of the "veteran" parents!

The Acceptance Day Ceremony, as part of the Regimental Parade on Saturday morning will mark the acceptance of the Class of 2010 into the Regiment and will no longer be Plebe Candidates, but now a Plebe. Another very important step in the process in becoming a midshipman. Find out where your son or daughter will be standing during the parade and Recognition ceremony; you want to get the best pictures possible! They will also be sworn in to the United States Naval Reserve.

Friday night's BEAT RETREAT shouldn't be missed. This is an ancient military ceremony dating to 1554 when drum beatings were used to summon outlying troops back to camp. The Kings Point Beat Retreat will showcase the talent of more than 200 midshipmen, including the Regimental Band, the Color Guard and the Star Spangled Banner Brigade. The guest appearance by the Pipe and Drum Corps of the Nassau County Police Department will be great! Arrive early; seats go quickly and bring water as it can be very hot in there!

Your Plebe will be able to leave Kings Point with you after the football game on Saturday, returning on Monday evening. Don't plan too many activities. Experience tells us he or she will want to sleep, visit with you, eat junk food and shop a

little. Remember how few items he or she was allowed to take in July? After Acceptance, your Plebe will be allowed a few more creature comforts. Be prepared to haul some "stuff" (especially their favorite civilian clothes!) from home, as well as shop while in NY. He or she may need more personal hygiene items, school supplies, a fan, possibly an iron. If you can obtain a street map of Long Island ahead of time, your driving will be much easier. The Long Island (New York City to Montauk) and Nassau County maps have been invaluable! They are available at most gas stations and hotel gift shops, as well as at [www.hagstrommap.com](http://www.hagstrommap.com)) A cell phone or calling card is a great idea - your Plebe will want to spend some time calling friends and family. Be sure to return your Plebe to Kings Point on time! Traffic can be a problem; we recommend dinner near the Academy.

**Be sure to meet up with other Colorado parents on Friday at 3:00 for a brief Parent's Meeting.** Judy Tumblin will be at Kings Point Thursday through Saturday. You can reach Judy on her cell phone at 303.638.5835. If you have any questions about Parents' Weekend, be sure to call Judy. Have a great time with your Plebe Candidate soon to be Plebe at Kings Point!

**FROM LA GUARDIA OR JFK AIRPORTS**

Long Island Expressway (I-495 East) to Exit 32 (Little Neck Parkway).

North on Little Neck Parkway.

Go about 3/4 mile on Little Neck Parkway and turn right on Northern Blvd/25A.

Proceed east through village of Little Neck and many traffic lights to intersection with Great Neck Road. (There is a Shell gas station on the right, a four-story, brown office building on the left, and two left turn lanes here. You want to be in the left turn lanes.)

Turn left on Great Neck Road and continue straight at second traffic light (Great Neck Road bears to the right).

Continuing northwest, the road is now Bayview Avenue which changes names further to West Shore Road.

At end of West Shore Road, turn right onto Kings Point Road.

Left at the next stop sign onto Steamboat Road to Academy front gate.

## Club Meeting

**All Colorado parents will meet at 3:00 p.m. Friday, September 1, at the Colorado Parent's Club fundraiser table on the green near the flagpole for a very brief meeting.**

Our Colorado parents will once again be selling flag pins and jewelry (US on one side, USMMA on the other) as a fundraiser. Classes 2008 and 2009, if you plan to attend Parent's Weekend, please contact Judy Tumblin to sign up for an hour or so to man the table, this is for Friday only! Class of 2007 parents you have worked hard for the past 3 years, now enjoy your 1/c year! You've earned your break! This is a great opportunity to support your Parent's Club, and can be accomplished while your M/N is in class, or otherwise occupied! Be sure to stop by our table to visit and buy a pin. Show that pin off to other parents and direct them to our table!! This is our major fundraiser of the year.

## Parent Club Membership

We encourage all USMMA parents to become members of the USMMA Colorado Parents' Club. At the June picnic the members voted to raise our annual dues to \$65 per year for Classes 2007, 2008, and 2009. This includes \$30 for boodle bags, \$10 per trimester including postage. Class of 2010 will remain \$35. It was decided that with all the additional first year expenses, that the club would waive the boodle bag fee, however, donations for boodle bags are always welcome. The decision to include the fees for boodle bags was made to insure our boodle bag chair Gaye Vasquez will have an establish budget for each trimester and be able to provide a good healthy but fun bags of treats for our kids and pay for the postage to ship the goodies. Midshipmen appreciate the boodle bags that they receive from us.

Benefits to our midshipmen:

- We donate \$10 per midshipman and plebe out of the club dues to the NY Parents Club regardless whether your family is a member of the club or not. The NY Club supports our kids as if they were their own. The sponsor many costly events for our midshipman.
- Pay for our midshipman to attend the Colorado All Service Academy Ball (approximately \$50 each)
- Booodle bags (substantial treats for finals) for all 3 trimesters
- Birthday, holiday and get well cards

Remember, whether you are a member or not your son/daughter receives all the benefits of being a member, so won't you please support our club and send in your membership soon. Please send your dues to the address listed below:

Make checks out USMMA Parents Club of Colorado  
c/o Peggy Kirchner  
PO Box 683  
Indian Hills, CO 80454

Additionally, thanks to Webmaster, Bob Rossi, you can now pay your annual dues via credit card on our USMMA Colorado Parents website!

[www.usmma.parents](http://www.usmma.parents)



# Helpful Hints to Plebes

(Compliments of former Plebes!)

Now that you have survived Indoc, and begin your Plebe year at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, things in your life are going to change! In case you haven't already noticed, (from the time spent in Indoc and as the first few weeks of class commence) this is no ordinary college. Yes, while your friends and family will be home carrying on with their day-to-day lives, your struggle through four years of difficulty has only begun. The important things to focus on are the positives; these are the things that will keep you going when it seems as if you just can't make it. Knowing that school is basically free, you are 20 minutes from the most happening city in the world, that sea year is right around the corner, and that everyone else is dealing with the exact same circumstances as you are, should be somewhat of a relief. After Acceptance Day, when you are entitled to some freedom on weekends, and the opportunity to go out and actually enjoy your Saturdays, things begin to look up. Working through your Plebe year will be a test of your mental and physical stamina and an excellent chance for you to learn more about yourself! The academic rigors will challenge you like you have never before been. It is essential to practice good study habits and time management. If you study well in groups, get classmates from your section to meet every night for a study session; if you perform better in an individual setting, make sure you get away from all distractions and places that could potentially disrupt your study time. The most important bit of advice is to seek out the tutors. They are there to help and to guide you through your course work with a much more personal touch than your regular professors can offer in the classroom setting. This brings up another good point. DO NOT be afraid to contact your professors for extra help! You will learn that the teachers at the Academy have your personal success in their highest interest. They want to see you succeed, but this can only happen if you have the desire to learn and make it apparent and you can, by seeking their help. There are always facilities available to you, whether it be one of the academic buildings in a classroom, or down in the ACE, a good place to study can be found, you must only seek it out. Your education here is truly what you make of it. It is up to you to determine your own future and success at this school. Good luck and always remember, ACTA NON VERBA.

## Mark Your Calendar

December 28, 2006 at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs will be this year's annual Colorado All Service Academy Ball (CASAB). All 5 Federal Service Academy's will be attending. This is a wonderful time. More information will be available soon. The primary fund raiser for the ball is selling Pizza Pals . The cost is only \$11 and can be redeemed for any pizza even those that cost \$22. If you are interested in purchasing them, please contact Carol Mast, [cpmast@comcast.net](mailto:cpmast@comcast.net) or 303.271.0069

## Newsletter Input

Please send items of interest about our Colorado midshipman to [patricia\\_barber@comcast.net](mailto:patricia_barber@comcast.net) for future newsletter publications. What are we looking for? Any accomplishments, academics, sports, intramural activities, sea duty....ANYTHING! We want to share your good news about your midshipman with the rest of the club and nation. We post our newsletters on our webpage, so brag about your midshipman's accomplishments!

## Parents' Club Fundraisers

Activities Coordinator, Bev Halbach, will be selling flag pins and name badges at the Welcome Aboard Picnic in June. Pins are also available on our website, at [www.usmmaparents.com](http://www.usmmaparents.com).

Two other ongoing fundraisers are always present on our website. They are the Sierra Trading Post and Spyderco Knives.

The Sierra Trading post is offering 5-10% of your order total to be donated to the USMMA Colorado Parent's Club, on purchases made through their link on our website. Through September 7, they are offering free shipping! The Sierra Trading Post is a great source of outdoor apparel and gear.

Spyderco Knives, of Golden, is offering top quality marine and rescue knives at a greatly discounted price to our midshipmen and their families. Additionally, a portion of each order will be donated to our Parent's Club.



## 2006-2007 Club Officers

President: Judy Tumblin	303.678.1181	<a href="mailto:beaglescout@comcast.net">beaglescout@comcast.net</a>
Co-president: Trisha Day	303.424.1256	<a href="mailto:days7@aol.com">days7@aol.com</a>
Secretary: Dawn Cooley	970.613.1051	<a href="mailto:dawn.cooley@hfwholesale.com">dawn.cooley@hfwholesale.com</a>
Treasurer: Janelle Marriott	303.431.5242	<a href="mailto:laluna_azul@comcast.net">laluna_azul@comcast.net</a>
Newsletter: Patty Barber	303.740.7488	<a href="mailto:patricia_barber@comcast.net">patricia_barber@comcast.net</a>
Hospitality: Kerry Reul	303.425.6452	<a href="mailto:preul@comcast.net">preul@comcast.net</a>
Promotional: Bob Dufault	719.591.9533	<a href="mailto:mcdufault@yahoo.com">mcdufault@yahoo.com</a>
Boodle Bag Chair: Gaye Vasquez	303.770.6583	<a href="mailto:glvasquez@comcast.net">glvasquez@comcast.net</a>
CASAB Chair: Momi Dufault	719.591.9533	<a href="mailto:mcdufault@yahoo.com">mcdufault@yahoo.com</a>

## USMMA

The United States Merchant Marine Academy, founded in 1943, is a federal institution operated by the Maritime Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Its mission is to train young men and women from across the nation as merchant marine and naval reserve officers and awards them a Bachelor of Science degree. Midshipmen are required to spend one year of the Academy's four year program training at sea aboard U.S commercial vessels. Midshipmen must then pass a comprehensive third mate written examination, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard, for licensing as a deck officer, QMED (Qualified Member of the Engine Department), or engineering officer.