



Colorado Newsletter August, 2009

Welcome Aboard June Meeting



Welcome Aboard, Class of 2013

The Colorado Plebe Candidate Class of 2013 was welcomed aboard during a meeting and picnic held at the Heimrock's home on June 27. About 100 people attended the party to welcome the plebes and their families. Plebe Candidates pictured from left are: Michelle Piper, Katie Schmidt, Jim Ensz, Nick Dyer, Nate Gorham, Grant Johnson, Philip Acosta, John Lee, Mikkel Tophoj, Beau Trigsted, Christopher Kinney, and Casey Cannon.

Incoming Co-Presidents Mike and Alesia Schirber and Mike and Jan Mussler, confer with past presidents Jill and Larry Svoboda during the June 27th Welcome Aboard meeting.

Outgoing Colorado Presidents Jill and Larry Svoboda seem pleased with the Colorado plaques presented to them by the club in appreciation for their service.





Nine Colorado midshipmen managed to get home in time to attend the June Welcome Aboard picnic and they are photographed at left with 12 of Colorado's new incoming class of 2013.

Welcome Aboard plebe families! We are glad you are part of our proud USMMA family.

The traditional "Welcome Aboard" cake pictured below, greeted the incoming plebe candidates as they entered the Heimrock home for the barbecue luncheon.

DON'T FORGET THE COLORADO MEETING DURING PARENT'S WEEKEND!!!

**Friday, September 11, 2009,
12:30 to 1 p.m.
Land Hall on the
Kings Point campus**



Over 100 Colorado Club members attended the June 27 Welcome Aboard meeting. At left they took advantage of the shade as they listened to state officers discuss fundraising, membership dues, name badges, Parent's Weekend, the new Colorado Website, and what can be expected during indoc.

Co-Presidents Mussler and Schirber also requested volunteers to fill the open positions of treasurer and secretary for this club year. Any-one interested in serving in those offices should contact any of the state Co-Presidents as soon as possible.

The President's Corner

By Mike & Jan Mussler, Mike & Alesia Schirber

This is our first opportunity to speak to you through the Parents Association Newsletter as your new USMMA Colorado Parents Association Co-presidents. We'd like to thank the previous Co-presidents, the Svobodas and 2008-2009 Parent Association board members for their tireless efforts on our behalf the past two years and for making the transition to our new roles a smooth one. The Colorado Chapter is recognized as one of the best in the country and our sons and daughters have benefitted from their leadership and from your participation as parents in our organization. We have big shoes to fill continuing the program but you have our commitment toward making you and your midshipman's Kings Point experience a positive one.

Speaking of challenges, the Plebe Candidates have completed their Indoctrination Period. In addition to the usual challenges in store for the Plebe Candidates and for the Upperclassmen who participated in Indoctrination, the flu outbreak and subsequent quarantine were added to the list this year. We've followed their progress through the photos on the Academy's Parent web site and through conversations we've had with their parents. We can all be proud of our Plebe Candidates and Upperclassmen who ensure the Academy traditions passed on and upheld. Congratulations for achieving this significant milestone in your lives as Kings Pointers!

Fall Trimester Classes are underway and the next major event ahead of us is the annual Parents Weekend. Parents Weekend is a great opportunity for families to experience their son's, daughter's, brother's and sister's lives as Kings Point midshipmen. Besides being the first opportunity for Plebe Candidates and their parents to visit since they entered the Academy, tour the campus and perhaps meet a new room mate, favorite instructor or coach, the Plebe Candidates are accepted into the Regiment of Midshipmen as the Class of 2013.

The formal Acceptance Day Parade and Ceremony occurs on Saturday September 12. Other Parents Weekend activities include a Friday morning memorial ceremony for the September 11 terrorist attacks, the Beat Retreat Friday evening, and the home football game Saturday afternoon. This year the Mariners host their arch rivals, US Coast Guard Academy and it promises to be an exciting contest between two well-matched teams. Sunday wraps up the weekend with religious services held at the Kings Point Chapel.

Parents Weekend is the first over-night liberty opportunity for the plebe class. Families of Plebes who aren't able to travel to the academy for Acceptance day are encouraged to contact us or one of the other parents and we will make sure your son or daughter has a chance to leave the academy during their liberty. If you would like to attend Parents Weekend but have not made reservations, you are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The USMMA Web Site has a schedule of events and information on purchasing tickets for meals and the events that will occur throughout Parent's Weekend.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Heimbicks for hosting the Welcome Aboard Picnic at the end of June again this year. Their hospitality and excellent barbecue fare provided a great setting for new and veteran parents to meet and get to know each other. Following several weeks of rainy weather in June, the weather couldn't have been better for the picnic again this year.

There is an opportunity for a family to host the fall meeting following Parents Weekend. We'd like to hold the meeting during October. As many of our members live along the I25 corridor, a location somewhere in the Denver or Colorado Springs area would be ideal. If you are interested please contact one of the co-presidents and we can work out the details.

Other opportunities for you to participate include the All-Service Academy Ball committee, Membership and Mentoring Committee and we need two volunteer to fill the Treasurer and Secretary positions on our Board. Your participation at any level would be greatly appreciated and will benefit our midshipmen.

Parents Weekend Meeting Details:

Jan and I hope to meet and get to know each of our Colorado Parents and their midshipmen who will be attending Parent's Weekend at Kings Point next month. We will have a table set up as a meeting place during the day on Friday. Please look for our association banner, stop by to say hello and check out the items our Fund Raising Committee has on sale there. We have scheduled an informal meeting from 12:30 to 1 PM at Land Hall as another opportunity to meet everyone between the other activities scheduled on Friday.

A number of you expressed an interest in sitting together in the stands during the football game on Saturday. As you know the Plebes won't be permitted to leave their section of the stands during the game so establishing a Colorado parents section to cheer the Mariners on to victory over Coast Guard is a great idea! We could outdo the noise that will be coming from their side of the stands. Is anyone up for doing push-ups for the touchdowns? We can finalize details for the football game at the Friday meeting.

One last reminder – if you can't make it to Parents Weekend and your son or daughter would like an opportunity to leave the Academy during their liberty, please let us know and we will make sure that happens!

Parent's Weekend Registration Deadline

The deadline for parents to register for and purchase Parent Weekend tickets is 23:59 on 2 September 2009. Please notify all of your members that they need to register and purchase tickets by then. No tickets will be sold at the door for lunch and dinner so it is imperative that the parents get registered by the deadline. The preferred method is on-line, and this can be done by going to <http://www.usmmanationalparentsassociation.info> and clicking on the register on-line tab at the top of the page. You do not have to be a member of paypal to use the service. Thanks, and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Suzanne Graboski (Alexander 11)

USMMA National Parents Association

suzanne@usmmanationalparentsassociation.info

<http://www.usmmanationalparentsassociation.info>

Colorado All Service Academy Ball Fundraiser

The Colorado All Service Academy Ball (CASAB) Committee is selling Old Chicago Pizza Palz certificates. The certificate is good for one large pizza (maximum value \$22) at any Old Chicago restaurant Sunday through Thursday. The certificates are also good for take-out orders.

Pizza Palz certificates can be purchased for \$11 to support the Colorado All Service Academy Ball. This event honors the young men and women attending the five service academies: USMA, USNA, USCAGA, USMMA and USAFA.

The profits are used towards the expenses incurred by the CASAB Committee including decorations, favors, coins, printing costs and ballroom rental. Old Chicago Pizza Palz are a delicious way to support your midshipman!



Welcome
Aboard
Class of
2013!

Mark Kelly, KP'86, returning to space!!

NASA has assigned the crew for space shuttle mission STS-134 to the International Space Station and that crew includes USMMA 1986 Graduate Mark Kelly as Commander of the mission. The flight will deliver the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer, or AMS, to the space station. The AMS is a state-of-the-art cosmic ray particle physics detector designed to examine fundamental issues about matter and the origin and structure of the universe.

Navy Capt. Mark Kelly will command the STS-134 mission. Retired Air Force Col. Gregory H. Johnson will serve as the pilot. Mission Specialists are Air Force Col. Michael Fincke, Greg Chamitoff and Andrew Feustel. European Space Agency astronaut and Italian Air Force Col. Roberto Vittori also will serve as a mission specialist. The flight will include three spacewalks and the installation of the AMS to the exterior of the space station using both the shuttle and station arms. The AMS will be attached to the right side of the station's truss, or backbone.

Kelly previously served as the pilot of STS-108 in 2001 and STS-121 in 2006, and commander for STS-124 in 2008. He was born in Orange, N.J., and considers West Orange, N.J., to be his hometown. Kelly has a bachelor's degree from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N.Y., and a master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Academic Stars

Congratulations to following Colorado students (and their parents!) who have received academic stars for the past term: Gold: (3.5 GPA or above) Gary Richard Kuehn, '10; Patrick Ambrose, '10; Derien Jastrzebski, '11. Silver: (3.25-3.49 GPA) Ana Victoria Fuschetto, '11; Sarah Elaine Smith, '12; Glenn Skyler Neil, '12. Good work, mids!

New Name Badges

Julie Tulenko reports that new name badges have been received and she will bring those to the USMMA Parents Weekend Sept. 11-13, so that people who ordered them can pick them up there.

Service Academy Forum

USMMA Football Mom Lisa Trigsted, (Beau 2013) writes to let all know about the Service Academy Forum: <http://www.serviceacademyforums.com/>

"Hey all, the above link is a great way to hear what's going on via other parents of USMMA....I know you upper class parents probably already know about it, but I wanted to let all the 2013 parents in on it...go in and sign up for an account...my husband has found great tidbits of information and also great pics of the Plebe Parade last Friday."

Notes from our Mids



Midshipmen 2nd Class Jacob Schirber, 2011

My second year of sea duty started with a sixty- seven day run on the SS Maui going to California, Washington, and Hawaii. While in Hawaii, I was able to go snorkeling and surfing. During our port time in Washington I was able to meet up with Forest Perkins, a 2007 Kings Point graduate who I knew from school. After that run, I was able to return home and visit family and friends for about three weeks. Then off to England, Belgium, and Germany on the Philadelphia Express for a 35 day trip. After that run, I was able to go home again for a short time between ships. I am currently on the oil tanker Alaskan Frontier traveling to Alaska, Washington, and California. My mom grew up in Valdez, Alaska and I spent some of my childhood there too, so it is really interesting to go back and see how things have changed since I last was there. It seems everywhere I go, I run in to a KP grad and

they are all so generous and welcoming. I am enjoying my adventures at sea, but look forward to getting back to KP to finish school.

Andy Tulenko, 2012

Julie Tulenko reports that son Andy, (2012), left on Saturday July 31st, on the Noble Star (Sealift, Inc. is the company) from Lake Charles LA, headed to the West Coast of Africa for his first sea duty. At this time, he knows he'll have three stops along the West Coast, in Camaroon, Togo and Benin. but we don't have a lot of other information at this time.



Jim Ensz and Kathryn Schmidt, 2013,

Lisa Ensz sent in a photo of son Jim Ensz, 2013, at left, with his KP 100 class. Jim Ensz is third from the right, back row and Kathryn Schmidt is fourth from the left. Jim said that he spends about 75% of his time with this group of plebe candidates.



Four Colorado Volleyball Team Members

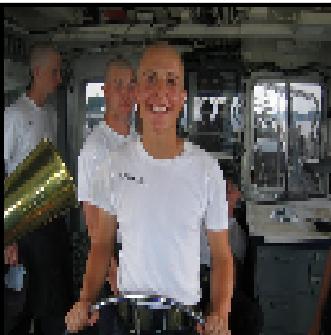
The four Colorado members of the USMMA volleyball team pose for a quick photo during their first field trip of the year to the Fire Island lighthouse, followed by a picnic at the volleyball coach's home. Clockwise at right, from upper left are M/N 2/C Ana Fuschetto, Swink, CO; M/N 2/C Derien Jastrzebski, Lafayette, CO; M/N 2/C Janelle Kibler-Silengo, Frisco, CO; and M/N 3/C Kim Glore, Highlands Ranch, CO. There are more Colorado volleyball players on the USMMA team than from any other state. (See additional team photos on pp. 8 & 9.)

Notes from our Mids

Grant Johnson, 2013

Mom Jolene writes, "Grant seems to be doing great and adjusted. He said Indoc, the physical part, he was in good shape for. The mental part, he is glad the yelling has backed off with Indoc over. His roommate is quarantined, so he has not had a roommate since classes started. He made the Color Guard team. He is right rifle man. He said he was too short for flags but that is good, rifles look cooler. The pictures with the USO girls were taken last Saturday. The Color Guard team got to go off campus for a veterans celebration at Eisenhower Park. Boy, does he look different already!"

Classes: he did great on his math placement tests. We have already sent him a new TI89 calculator. He has been going to the Chapel Bible study and services; and Monday's the Christian Fellowship Club. In his letters he said I'd love the Chapel Services. That's encouraging! He thinks he has lost about 10 pounds. We appreciate the calls we have received from the Parents Association, checking on Grant. It is such a bittersweet time for our family. We miss Grant so much, yet could not be any prouder of him."



P/C Casey Cannon, 2013

Proud mother of P/C Casey Cannon, pictured far right in the photo below, submitted this photo of him marching with the color Guard.



M/N 3/C Robert Mussler

Proud Dad Mike Mussler writes, "Bob was paid off the SS Curtis in San Diego and caught his present ship, the M/V Liberty Eagle in Houston. It is a break bulk ship and they are currently loading in Lake Charles Louisiana, bound for parts of Africa later this month. He likes the ship and crew. The First and Chief Engineers are both Kings Pointers and he and his sailing partners are being kept busy. Hopefully that includes their sea projects. Well that is the latest from the Musslers. I hope all is well with you and yours!"

Notes from our Mids

Ryan Moorman, 2013



Proud mother, Sue Cirocco, sent these three (above) pictures of her son, Plebe Candidate Ryan Moorman, USMMA 2013.

DI'S Kacey Rohloff, Kim Glore and Sarah Smith represent Colorado well

Carol B. Smith sent in photos of Colorado midshipmen Kacey Rohloff, Kim Glore, and Sarah Smith - three of the six female DIs. "It seems that Colorado had a good showing in the DI group," Carol writes.



Pictured in action, from left to right in the top row, are our Colorado female DI's, Sarah Smith, Kacey Rohloff, and Sarah Smith and Kim Glore. In the second row from left to right are: Kim Glore, Sarah Smith, Sarah Smith and Kacey Rohloff. And pictured at lower left is Kim Glore.

Notes from our Mids

P/C Philip Acosta, 2013

Proud Mom Carisa Acosta, submitted the photos below of son, Philip Acosta. The photo at left is Philip marching in the Indoc Parade on July 24th, and the photo at right is of Philip in the hallway during indoc.



M/N 2/C Alex Whitaker from Annapolis, MD, visited Colorado in July and is shown here with M/N 2/C Ana Fuschetto as they toured Mesa Verde at left and Great Sand Dunes National Park at right.



OCTOBER MEETING LOCATION NEEDED

There is an urgent need for a host location for the October USMMA meeting. If you live somewhere in close proximity or along the I-25 corridor or in the general vicinity of the Denver metropolitan area, please contact Mike or Jan Mussler at mmussler@wispertel.net or Mike and Alesia Schirber at schirbers@msn.com.



USMMA volleyball players, including Janelle Kibler-Silengo, Kim Glore, Ana Fuschetto, and Derien Jastrzebski, from Colorado, enjoyed a field day at Fire Island recently. Head Volleyball Coach Allyson A. Ramey provided photos on this page and the next page.

Notes from our Mids

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Volleyball TM



Colorado All Service Academy Ball

Carla VanDenBerg
USMMA Colorado Parents' Association
Academy Point of Contact
303.696-1930
vandberg1@comcast.net

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2009

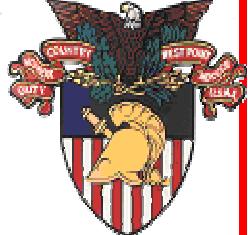
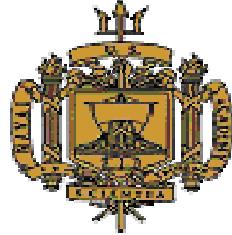
The 27th Annual Colorado All Service Academy Ball (CASAB) will be held Monday, December 28, 2009, at The Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs. This is an exceptional opportunity to honor Colorado's service academy cadets and midshipmen.

On behalf of the U.S. Air Force Academy Colorado Parents' Club, we take this opportunity to notify you of this event, so that you can reserve this important date. A formal invitation will be sent in November.

The Broadmoor has generously given us, your family and friends, a reduced room rate. You may reserve your room at any time once you receive your invitation. Please mention that you will be a guest at the Colorado All Service Academy Ball.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend this memorable event and visit with these young men and women of our nation's service academies. If you have any questions, please contact the people listed on this notice.

See you at the Ball!



Roster of Board members and committee chairs for 2009-2010

COLORADO PARENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS FOR NEXT TERM:

Co-Presidents: Jan and Mike Mussler (Robert '11) 303.258.7952; Alesia and Mike Schirber (Jacob '11) 970.493.3935; **Co-Vice Presidents:** William and Susan Brunhofer (Aaron '12) 303.338.8098; Susan and Scott Jerlow (Adam '12) 303.961.3166; Mary and Chris Nicholl (Preston '12) 303.717.5101; **Secretary:** Open **Treasurer:** Open

NATIONAL OFFICERS: Current National Co-Chairs Sept. 2007-2009: Ann Hall, Colorado Springs, ann_hall 42@qq.com; and Mary Silva, Portsmouth, NH, moms11@comcast.net; **Incoming National Chairs:** (2009-2011) Rocco and Mary Jane Fuschetto, rmjfuschetto@yahoo.com, Swink, CO. Several new national regional vice-presidents will also take office in September. They include Mike and Jan Mussler, CO; Suzanne Graboski, VA; Joe Bailey, KY; Alice Clausing, WI; Maryann Jones, IL; Kevin Billings, VA; Brett and Deana Wingate, AZ; and Jerry and Judy Gilmore, CA.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD: Ann Hall, Mary Silva, Mary Jane Fuschetto, Peter Meyers, smeyers@optonline.net; Suzanne Graboski, kpmom2011@yahoo.net; Jerry Hajduk, hajdukj@verizon.net; Terry Gray, laserocket@aol.com.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Class 2010 Parents: Open; **Class 2011 Parents:** Alesia and Mike Schirber (Jacob '11) 970.493.3935; **Class 2012 Parents:** William and Susan Brunhofer; Susan and Scott Jerlow; Mary and Chris Nicholl; **Newsletter:** Mary Jane Fuschetto (Ana '11) 719.383.0797; **ASAB:** Carla VanDenBerg (Aaron '10) 303.696.1930; **Fundraising:** Bev Halbach (Nicholas '11) 303.403.9292; Julie Rohloff (Kacey '12) 970.568.3531; **Webmaster:** Carol and Jim Smith (Sarah '12) 303.423.0972; **Boodle Bags:** Paul and Bonnie Diamond (Philip '11) 303.681.3322; **Hospitality:** Open; **Cards:** Shannon O'Connell (Dan '10, Derien '11) 303.665.2969; **Alumnae Liaison:** Open; **Senior Gift:** Alesia and Mike Schirber ; **Membership:** Open; **Cookie Café:** Christine Neil (Glenn '12) 970.988.5342