USMMA COLORADO PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Representing Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming

Newsletter

Summer 2017

Congratulations Class of 2017

Class of 2017 taken at the Welcome Aboard gathering in June 2013. Could this group even begin to imagine all the changes they would experience over the next four years!

This year's graduation festivities begin on Wednesday, June 14 with events such as a dinner cruise, barbecue, and Formal Graduation Ball and will culminate Saturday, June 17 with Colors Formation and Commencement Ceremonies.

Graduates from the Mountain West Region include:

Sencer Blauw
Emily Finnin
Danielle Garcia-Lance
Michael Havenar
Marjan Martinovic
Patricia Ormond

Spencer Blauw will be one of the few in his class graduating with 180 credits, studying Shipyard Management and Marine Engineering. He will graduate with a PIC, USCG 3A/E License, and a commission as a Strategic Sealift Officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve

During his time at the academy, Spencer played 4 years of varsity football while finishing off his senior year playing varsity baseball.

During his time at sea, Spencer went to various countries in northern Africa, as well as spending time in Hawaii and South Carolina. Upon graduation, Spencer plans to sail as an engineer with AMO while hoping to eventually work on an oil rig or in the oil and gas industry.

Emily Finnin of Littleton, CO, is graduating with a B.S. in Marine Engineering and Shipyard Management .

She is sorry to be saying goodbye to the Colorado mountains as she relocates to San Diego as a Production Associate at the NASSCO facility starting in June of this year.

Emily is looking forward to connecting with one of her cousins located nearby and beginning her professional career with General Dynamics its Professional Development Program.

Congratulations Class of 2017

Danielle Garcia-Lance's time at Kings Point started out with her on the cross country team her first year and a newfound love on the climbing team, as well as the Carnegie Council Student Ambassador her last years. She earned both gold and silver academic stars for her GPA's.

Her sailings took her to Hawaii, Guam, Japan, China, California, and the Gulf of Mexico. She made lifelong friends on her ships and at the USMMA. She served as the Regimental Supply Officer, as a squad leader and her section leader, and two terms as the Company Human Relations Officer, where she helped many with a myriad of issues.

Danielle is graduating with her Bachelors of Science degree in Marine Transportation and her Coast Guard 3rd Mate's License. She will be a commissioned officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve. Upon graduation she will return to college to expand on her degree to open up career opportunities with the National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Coast Guard, or the Alaska Marine Highway.

Marjan Martinovic fell in love with the sea on his family trip to Croatia in 2007. In 2013, he joined the class of 2017 in hopes of becoming a mechanical engineer and spending more time on the sea. All his life he has loved music. He started when he taught himself to play guitar and went on to learn numerous instruments, including bagpipes and fife.

Throughout the years, he tried many new things, such as sailing and rugby. Marjan's senior year he became Regimental Band Master and was instrumental in organizing band retreat and homecoming.

Marjan will be graduating with a bachelor's degree in marine engineering and a 3rd Assistant Engineer License. He will become a mechanical engineer for NAVSEA in Philadelphia, PA.

Michael Andrew Condie Havenar is graduating from USMMA as a Marine Transportation Major and with a Coast Guard 3rd Mate Unlimited tonnage license. During his time at Kings Point, Michael participated on the swim team and on the CDX (Cyber Defense) competition team.

As a member of 1st Company, Michael has served in many capacities including CX and Company Commander. Michael began his first sailing upon the US Greenpoint in Thailand, which was a very special ship to Michael. He learned a great deal from the captain and immediately felt an unbreakable bond with this crew. Michael had the opportunity to travel all through Japan, Thailand, China, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, extensively in South America including Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Venezuela, Brazil, Panama, and French New Guiana. Second sailing found him in Florida running to Haiti and Cuba, and throughout Western Africa and Indonesia.

Michael served his internship at Port Canaveral, Florida working with the Harbor Pilots Association under the tutelage of Capt. Grimmeson and was able to assist in bringing in several Canadian subs to port along with many large commercial vessels. He was also treated to a private viewing of a rocket launch by the Harbor Pilots. After graduation, Michael plans to join the AMO union and sail. He wants to increase his license to capacity quickly. His ultimate goal is to become a harbor pilot in a large bustling harbor.

Congratulations Class of 2017

Regimental Executive Officer Patricia D. Ormond, MIDN CDR, is graduating with a B.S. in Marine Engineering, a U.S. Coast Guard License as a 3rd Assistant Engineer - Unlimited Horsepower, and commissioning as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy as a Strategic Sealift Officer.

She will be joining MEBA, Marine Engineer's Beneficial Association, where she had several paid internships. She even learned to use a thermal lance, by slicing and dicing an engine block. Patricia plans to stay in the New Work City area for 3 months post-graduation. Her goal is to be hired by MSC, Military Sealift Command, and sail on her license and become a Chief Engineer by the time she turns 27.

Patricia thoroughly enjoyed her time at Kings Point, spending all 4 years in Band Company. She competed as a member of the Women's Varsity Track & Field Team. She belonged to the Auto, Shotgun, and Mixed Martial Arts Clubs. From her INDOC in 2013, to being an EMT at INDOC 2014, and planning INDOC 2016 she has held a number of positions culminating with her selection as Regimental Executive Officer in the fall of 2016. A major highlight was leading more than 160 Midshipmen in the Inaugural Parade in January of 2017.

During Sea Year, Patricia was on several ships, voyaging to a number of countries. She was chosen to be part of the original MSC crew for the maiden voyage of the USNS Lewis B. Puller, T-ESB 3 from San Diego, CA to Norfolk, VA. The Puller is a new type of Expeditionary Mobile Base ship. To get to Norfolk, it had to sail through the Straits of Magellan; which are located at the southern end of South America. The Straits and their approaches are known for their extremely violent weather. The Puller ran into multiple storms, where several watertight doors were destroyed by the force of the waves and wind. They had to stop in the Straits and spend a day making emergency repairs. Patricia received an Award for Performance during Emergency Damage Control Operations aboard the Puller. She also received a Plank Owner's certificate; and became a member of the Exalted Order of Magellan, and Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of Shellbacks, from the Puller

Welcome Aboard Class of 2021

Denver Council of the Navy League Dinner Honoring the Candidates of the Maritime Service Academies in ceremonies conducted on May 19, 2017. Photo by Dan Puleio, Navy Denver Public Affairs. Denver Council Navy League President

Daniel Garcia graduated from Eldorado High School in Albuquerque, N.M., in 2016 and received an appointment to USMMA last year. He suffered an injury during his first trimester at Kings Point, and was sent home on a medical leave of absence to recover from knee surgery. He has since been medically cleared for duty and has received orders to report to indoctrination and join the Class of 2021.

He is a jazz musician and an athlete, and will be rejoining Band Company and the USMMA's rugby team. He plans to major in engineering.

Alexander Mueller, born and raised in Colorado, has dreamed of being a ship's captain since the age of 9. He has been involved in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps since the age of 13, serving in multiple leadership roles and earning a number of honors, including an NSCC Commendation and NSCC Citation Ribbon and Cadet of the Year from the Denver Council of the Navy League's Lexington Division. Last fall, Alexander represented the USNSCC's Lexington Division in an International Exchange Program, traveling to India with three other youths from across the country to learn how others view their place in their country's sea service defense and its future.

Alexander is a 2017 graduate of Front Range Christian School in Littleton, where played soccer, served on student council, was an ambassador for students interested in attending the school and was involved in a musical this past spring. He also has performed with his brother's dance studio.

Marissa Saacer is a 2017 graduate of Thunderridge High School in Highlands Ranch. She is the younger of two children.

Marissa participated in the National Honor Society, the Chinese National Honor Society, FCCLA, High Schoolers for Heroes (veterans volunteer club) and was a manager for the boys varsity and junior varsity basketball teams.

Welcome Aboard Class of 2021

Kitara Smolinski is a graduate of Olathe High School on the Western Slope (where the sweet corn comes from). She plays the trumpet in band and loves to sail, although there is no "big water" here.

She excels in academics and loves a good challenge. She has wanted to join the military for a long time and is excited to begin her career at the

Dawson Tong grew up in Aurora and currently lives in Colorado Springs. He is a 2016 graduate of Colorado Early Colleges in Parker and attended New Mexico Military Institute this past school year as a self-prep for USMMA.

Dawson is a third-degree black belt in taekwondo. He was a taekwondo instructor and demo team captain who has won multiple state and district championships. In his free time, Dawson enjoys golf and snowboarding and, during frequent trips to California, surfing and boogie boarding.
He looks forward to the challenge of the engineering program at USMMA and exploring the world during his time at sea.

Jourdin S. Thompson was born and raised in Brighton. She graduated from Prairie View High School in 2016 and spent the past school year at the New Mexico Military Institute, where she got a taste of what the academy will be like.

Jourdin has always been tenacious in everything she does from school to sports. Over the years, Jourdin was a member of competitive teams for cheerleading, soccer and volleyball, and at one point was doing all three in addition to taking AP and college courses and keeping her grade-point average up. She hopes to play volleyball at Kings Point.

In her spare time, Jourdin loves to ride her horse and spend time with her other animals. She is the youngest of four children and all of her siblings and cousins on her mother's side are boys, so she learned very early how to stand up for herself. One of her brothers is currently serving in the Navy and stationed in San Diego. She is definitely excited for this next adventure.

Nick J. Valentine is the middle child of five. His twin sister is a rising sophomore at Taylor University, his other sister is a sophomore at Embry Riddle, Daytona, his older brother is a junior at Arizona State, and his younger sister is a rising fifth-grader at Foothills Elementary in Colorado Springs.

Nick attended New Mexico Military Institute for three years, two as a high school boarding student, one as a self-prep for USMMA. While at NMMI, Nick rose to the rank of third squadron commander, was president of the ski club and hike/photo club, and participated in Colt baseball. Nick is an Eagle Scout. Nick's activities include photography, skiing, hiking, camping, and serving. Nick is looking forward to being on the USMMA crew team and serving his country as an officer in the USN. His parents, Mary and Alex, are very proud of him.

Midshipman Journeys

John Kirk, Class of 2016, is currently sailing for Crowley Maritime as a 3rd Assistant Engineer aboard M/V *Louisiana*, one of four new Jones Act tankers in the Crowley Fleet. *Louisiana* joins two Crowley sister ships, *Texas* and *Ohio,* as the first tankers to receive the American Bureau of Shipping's LNG-Ready Level 1 approval, giving Crowley the option to convert to liquefied natural gas for propulsion. (*American Maritime Officer*, June 2016.) Prior to signing on with *Louisiana*, John spent four months with Crowley aboard USNS *Victorious* (T-AGOS-19) in Subic Bay, Philippines, and Sasebo, Japan.

In between assignments, he asked for Suzanne Marion Abrams' hand in marriage. Date and details are forthcoming.

Martin Dubois (2019) Working on USNS Trenton

DDG 63 at Sea

Martin Dubois (2019) Departing Guam on USS Stethan, DDG 63

Enjoying Eels in South Korea on weekend leave from USS Stethan

DDG 63 at Sea

KP Sports!

Emily Finnin

Colorado athletes played a big role for the USMMA women's lacrosse team this spring. Defender Emily Finnin, a senior from Littleton, started all 12 games for the Mariners and was fourth on the team in controlling ground balls with 20. The Lakewood High School graduate also scored one goal.

Midfielder Sarah Milafsky, a junior from Aurora, scored four goals and assisted on three others to help the Mariners go 5-7 overall and 3-5 in the Skyline Conference. Milafsky, a graduate of Smoky Hill High School, was USMMA's sixth-leading scorer. She started seven games.

Sarah Milafsky

Spencer Blauw

Colorado was well-represented on the Kings Point baseball team, too. Junior pitcher Justus Martin from Eaton went 3-4 with a 3.29 earned-run average for the Mariners, who went 15-19 overall and 9-9 in the Skyline Conference. Martin, a graduate of Northridge High School in Greeley, made nine starts and pitched 52 innings, striking out 24 batters and walking 11.

Spencer Blauw, a senior infielder and pitcher from Strasburg, batted .154 with two doubles and two RBIs. Blauw, a graduate of Strasburg High School, pitched five innings in four games, striking out three, walking three and allowing six earned runs.

Justin Martin

Austin Haire

Austin Haire, a junior from Ignacio, competed in the throws for the USMMA track and field team this spring. The graduate of Ignacio High School had three top-six finishes. His season-bests were 34 feet, 10 3/4 inches in the shot put, 107-5 in the discus and 65-4 in the javelin.

KP Life!

Greg Royal and Zachary Polliard Recognition Day

Spencer Blauw with USMMA Baseball players and Red Sox World Series Trophy wearing three rings brought by Red Sox owner Thomas R. DiBenedetto

Greg Royal, Recognition Day

Micah Grissom, Recognition Day

Aboard the USS Zephyr (PC8) on May 24, 2017 at the USMMA

Greg Royal, Cookie Cafe

Fundraisers for USMMA Colorado Parents' Association

Help provide boodle bags, birthday cards, gifts, graduation bells, and CASAB to our midshipmen through purchasing the items below!

To order, or for a complete list of products/prices/descriptions, go to **http://www.usmmaparents.com**

King Soopers / City Market

Reloadable Grocery Cards. These prepaid cards carry no additional cost to you. Our association receives 5% of each card's value! It's an easy way to raise money to support our Midshipmen!

Sterling Silver Jewelry

Hand crafted keychain, zipper pull or pendant created by local Colorado Artisan Veronica Willingham and go-designed by parent Glant Havenar. Up to **50%** of all sales are donated to the Colorado Parents Association.

USMMA Flags

Available in two sizes: 2' x 3' and 3' x 5'.

amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.

Shop at AmazonSmile.com and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to our association. The USMMA Colorado Parents' Association is a registered 501© non profit. Use this link for your purchases. http://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-2485360 or Click the Amazon Smile Button.

Spyderco Knives

Made in Golden, CO, these knives make a great gift for your midshipman who is headed out to sea or if you want the best kitchen or hunting knives possible. Their knife sharpening system is ingenious and keeps them razor-sharp!

Hand stamped key-chain in copper, nickel or brass.
4 Styles available:
ACTA NON VERBA
USMMA
USMMA Mom
USMMA Dad

USMMA Students: CO, NM, UT, WY

Class of 2017	Hometown	Co.	Major	Split	Sports/Extracurricular
Blauw, Spencer	Strasburg, CO	3rd	Engine	A	Football, Baseball
Finnin, Emily	Littleton, CO	3rd	Engine	B	Lacrosse
Garcia-Lance, Danielle	Evergreen, CO	1st	Deck	B	
Havenar, Michael	Palmer Lake, CO	1st	Deck	B	
Martinovic, Marjan	Aurora, CO	Band	Engine	A	
Ormond, Patricia	Littleton, CO	Reg Row	Engine	B	Track & Field, EMT, Ambulance Driver
Class of 2018					
Barton, Alexander	Centennial, CO	4th	Engine	A	
Dietz, Kyle	Loveland, CO	1st			
Gramer, Emily	Denver, CO	3rd	Deck	A	Volleyball
Groen, Alexander	Arvada, CO	1st			
Haire, Austin	Ignacio, CO	2nd			
Hartman, Tyler	Washington, UT				
Hegarty, Patrick	Parker, CO	4th	Deck	B	
Macdonald, Douglas	Littleton, CO	2nd	Engine	A	KP Endurance Club
Martin, Justus	Eaton, CO	3rd			Baseball
Milafsky, Sarah	Aurora, CO	2nd			Basketball, Lacrosse
Strand, Charlie	Boulder, CO	1st		A	
Class of 2019					
Baer, Henry	Santa Fe, NM	Band		B	Pistol Team
Blauw, Tyson	Strasburg, CO	2nd	Engine	A	Football
Bouchot, Andrew	Castle Pines, CO	3rd	Engine	B	
DuBois, Martin	Longmont, CO	3rd	Deck	B	Rugby, EMT
Klingman, Devon	Manitou Springs, CO	1st	Deck	A	
Lyell, Patrick	Fort Collins, CO	Band	Deck	A	Sailing
Simoneaux, Corey	Broomfield, CO	4th			Sandhurst, Praise Band, CFC
Sucher, Christian	Colo. Springs, CO	4th	Deck	A	
Class of 2020					
Bonney, Axel	Canon City, CO	4th			
Grissom, Micah	Parker, CO	1st	Deck	B	Pistol Club, Sailing, CFC
Heimbrock, Keith	Littleton, CO	3rd	Engine	A	Football, CFC
Henderson, John (JC)	Meeker, CO	4th	Engine		Wrestling
Kappas, Kyleigh	Parker, CO	1st	Deck	A	Volleyball
Martinovic, Filipa	Aurora, CO	Band			
Polliard, Zachary	Brighton, CO				
Pruneda-Castro, Ricardo	Highlands Ranch, CO	1st	Engine		
Royal, Greg	Evergreen, CO	3rd	Deck	A	Football
Weller, Mitchell C.	Layton, UT	1st	Deck	A	Offshore Sailing

Midshipmen Leadership Roles

First, Second, & Third Rotation

Garcia-Lance, Danielle [1st R]	1CHRO	**1**st **C**ompany **H**uman **R**elati**o**ns
	2PC3	**2**nd Company **P**latoon **C**ommander Flight Deck
	4CWO	**4**th **C**ompany **C**ompany **W**atch **O**fficer
	BAO	**B**attalion **A**cademic **O**fficer
	BC	**B**attalion **C**ommander
	BOPS1	**O**perations **O**fficer
	BX	**B**attalion E**X**ecutive Officer
	CAO	**C**ompany **A**cademic **O**fficer
Havenar, Michael [3rd R]	CC1	**C**ompany **C**ommander 1st. Company
	CHBC	**C**ompany **H**onor **B**oard **C**hairman
	CTO2	**C**ompany **T**raining **O**fficer 2nd Company
Ormond, Patricia [1st R]	CX	**C**ompany E**X**ecutive Officer
	EMS	**E**mergency **M**edical **S**ervices
	PO	**P**etty **O**fficer
	RAO	**R**egimenta**l** **A**cademic **O**fficer
Martinovic, Marjan [1st, 2nd, 3rd R]	RBM	**R**egimental **B**andmaster
	RC	**R**egimental **C**ommander
	RCGC	**R**egimental **C**olor **G**uard **C**ommander
	REO	**R**egimental **E**valuations **O**fficer
	RESCO	EMS **C**ommanding **O**fficer
	RESOPS	EMS **O**perations **O**fficer
	RTO	**R**egimental **T**raining **O**fficer
	RTOA	**R**egimental **T**raining **O**fficer's **A**ssistant
	RWO	**W**aterfront **O**fficer
	RWX	**W**aterfront **E**xecutive **O**fficer
Ormond, Patricia [2n R]	RX	**R**egimental E**X**ecutive Officer
	SEAL/ EOD	**SE**a **A**ir **L**and / **E**xplosive **O**rdinance **D**isposal **C**lub
	SSO	**S**trategic **S**ealift **O**fficer
	STCW	**S**tandards of **T**raining, **C**ertification and **W**atch-keeping
	Zombo	Midshipman Ensign

Board and Chairs 2016-2017 Academic Year

President**: Susan Wolbrueck,** susan@caferace.com, 719-685-2475

Vice President**: Wenonah MacDonald,** wenonahm80127@gmail.com, 303-933-7997

Treasurer**: Chris Simoneaux,** chris.simoneaux@gmail.com, 720-245-5941

Secretary**: Glant Havenar,** realtormomrocks@gmail.com, 303-246-4552

Committee Chairs:

Cards-

Newsletter-Lynne & Kelly Lyell, lynnelyell@yahoo.com, 970-214-1338

Boodle Bags-Jeannette Jones, jeannetteajones@comcast.net, 303-618-2413

Cookie Café-Dede Ormond, ormondll@gmail.com, 303-972-2551

Facebook-Lynne & Kelly Lyell, lynnelyell@yahoo.com 970-214-1338

Webmaster-Regina Miller, mregina@comcast.net, 303-484-8744

Recruitment Chair–Robert Miller, robxmiller@comcast.net, 303-484-8744

Colorado All Service Academy Ball (CASAB) Point of Contact (POC)-Karen Heimbrock, five5ks@aol.com, 303-931-3113

Nominations Chair- open

BOLD=board member (4 officers, Nominations chair and 4 committee chairs)

Useful Links

Colorado Parent Association Facebook Page:
https://www.facebook.com/USMMAColorado?fref=ts

Colorado Parent Association Web Page:
http://www.usmmaparents.com

CO USMMA Parents Association Membership:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/1672451942974399/

USMMA Parent, Alumni, Friends Information Page:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/usmma.parents.class.of.2018/

2016 Colorado All Service Academy Ball
https://www.facebook.com/groups/1557770654514632/

Kings Point Cookie Café:
http://kpcookiecafe.com/

Long Island Railway/Bus reloadable card:
https://www.easypaymetrocard.com/vector/static/accounts/index.shtml

Ship tracker:
http://www.marinetraffic.com

USMMA:
http://www.usmma.edu/

USMMA Alumni Association and Foundation:
http://www.usmmaaf.com/s/1175/hybrid/start.aspx

Announcements

Birthday Cake for your plebe or midshipman may be ordered from Crystal Enterprises, at 516-321- 9896 Cakes will be delivered at lunch Monday through Friday. Cost is $21. Credit cards are accepted or a check can be mailed to: Crystal Enterprises, Inc. USMMA, 300 Steamboat Rd., Kings Point, NY 11024-1699

Michael Havanar

IMPORTANT DATES:

JUNE

- Welcome Aboard Gathering– June 10, 8L30 am
- June 10 @ 8:30 am
- Saturday, June 17—Class of 2017 graduation ceremony
- Monday, June 19—Class of 2019(B) assigned to Shipboard Training for sea duty
- Monday, June 19—Summer session classes begin
- Tuesday, June 27—Indoc begins for class of 2021

JULY

- Saturday, July 15—Summer session ends
- Sunday, July 16—Classes of 2017, 2018(A), & 2019(A) report
- Thursday, July 20—First term classes begin

SEMPTEMBER

- September 1-3—Parents weekend

For more information go to: ttps://www.usmma.edu/