HELLO CADET PARENTS, GUARDIANS & SPONSORS:

Wow, what a wonderful weekend! We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Thank you to all who attended the Parents Reception! Your participation in the purchase of raffle tickets and casino game vouchers, bidding in the Silent and Live Auctions, and your outright cash donations toward the Giving Tree was appreciated more than you know. We hope you enjoyed the evening and your winnings! The Corps of Cadets will benefit greatly from your generosity.

If you still wish to make a donation, we would greatly appreciate adding it to the total for the cadets. Just click on our donation form, fill it out and send it in. If you wish to join us for the Golden Sword Reception at Crossed Sabres following the Tattoo Performance, you may do so by making a donation of $1000 by November 21. Calling with a credit card number would be best to ensure you are included this year and next. We are grateful for all you do for not only your Cadet, but Cadets of all parents.

We were very happy to host a record breaking crowd of cadet families and friends on Sunday and thrilled to see not a seat left in the Chapel or on the bleachers on the Parade Field. We trust you had a wonderful afternoon and evening with your cadet.
Please feel free to check our online photo gallery for both the Crucible, Join the Ranks Ceremony and more events throughout the current school year.

In addition, portrait photos were taken during the Sunday breakfast, check the link to view and make your purchase.

EVENT AND LEAVE ITINERARY AT A GLANCE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 2014:

- **Gold and Silver Star Dinner** – 10 Nov., 6:30 PM - Eisenhower Hall - *This time is new since the last posting.*
- **Military Tattoo Performance** – 21 Nov., 4:30 PM – 6:15 PM - Price Gym
- **Academy Thanksgiving Leave** – 21 Nov., 7:00 PM – 30 Nov., no later than 6:30 PM
- **College Thanksgiving Leave** – 25 Nov., after class – 30 Nov., no later than 6:30 PM
- **Winter Holiday Concert** – 5 Dec., at 5:00 PM - Mellon Hall – all are welcome
- **Christmas Vespers** – 7 Dec., Chapel – all are welcome – religion specific celebrations are held in various campus locations simultaneously
- **Wreaths Across America** – tentative – Chapel
- **Cadet Holiday Meal** – 11 Dec., Mess Hall, 11:00 AM
- **College Winter Holiday Leave** – After Last Exam, 13 Dec., - 6:30 PM 11 Jan., 2015
- **Academy Winter Holiday Leave** – 4:00 PM 18 Dec., - 6:30 PM 4 Jan., 2015
  Details for Winter Holiday Leave will be forthcoming but are similar to those below. Please do not schedule leave outside of the Leave periods.

RING CEREMONY:
We look forward to seeing many Academy senior and College sophomore guests beginning at 5 PM in the Chapel, for the Ring Ceremony. This will last about 1-1 ½ hours.

RING DANCE:
Immediately following the Ring Ceremony, all Academy Seniors, College Sophomores and their dates are invited to the Ring Dance at 6:30 – 10:00 PM in the Mellon Hall Ballroom.

GOLD AND SILVER STAR DINNER:
E-invitations have been sent to the parents of Academy and College Gold and Silver Star Cadets. The dinner will take place on Monday, November 10 at 6:30 PM in Eisenhower Hall. Please feel free to contact Tom Goldblum at TGoldblum@vfmac.edu.

MILITARY TATTOO:
This year’s Military Tattoo performance will be on Friday, 21 November at 4:30 PM in Price Gym. All are welcome!

Parking will be permitted on the Parade Field through gate E2 on Eagle Road. Following the performance, parents many take their Academy Cadets on Thanksgiving Leave. College Cadets do not begin Leave until the following Tuesday, 25 November. Please see the Thanksgiving Leave policies below.

SOCIETY OF THE GOLDEN SWORD:
Directly following the Tattoo Performance, members of the Society of the Golden Sword will join the President for a reception as a thank you for their generous donations of $1000
or more in a year’s period. The reception will be held at the President’s house, Crossed Sabres, which is directly across the street from the Main Area. Parents who join the Society may also invite their cadets to accompany them to the party.

While the Society of the Golden Sword recognizes the school’s leadership supporters, all donations, large, small and in between, benefit the Corps as a whole, are tax deductible and very much appreciated! Please contact Lini Stevens at Lstevens@vfmac.edu.

THANKSGIVING LEAVE:

**Academy Leave** begins no earlier than 7:00 PM following the conclusion of the Tattoo Performance, 21 November, 2014. There will be a shuttle bus to the Philadelphia International Airport leaving VF following the performance at 7:00 PM and also the next morning on Saturday, 23 November at 7:00 AM for the Academy cadets. Return time is no later than 6:30 PM on Sunday, 30 November 2014.

**College Leave** begins no earlier than after last class on Tuesday, 25 November, 2014. There will be a shuttle bus to the Philadelphia International Airport leaving VF at 5:00 PM for the College cadets. Return time is no later than 6:30 PM on Sunday, 30 November, 2014.

- No early or extended Leave requests will be granted.
- Cadets who make travel arrangements outside of these Leave periods are subject to disciplinary action.
- Please check with your cadet’s TAC Officer to find out exactly when he or she may leave before making travel arrangements.

If making airline reservations, please allow for at least a 45 minute ride to the Airport.

Because cadets return at various times there will be no shuttle bus returning to VF. Cadets have 2 options to find transportation back to VF:
- They can easily find a taxi outside of the baggage claim area to find transportation back to VF. If you would like to reserve a taxi for your cadet, please see the list in the Parents Hand Book on page 46.
- Cadets also have the option of getting a train from the airport to 30th Street Station in Philadelphia and from there get the Septa Rail Line Paoli/Thorndale to Wayne. It is a short walk from the Wayne Station to VF.

If your cadet is an unaccompanied minor (15 for train and 14 for airlines) you must have your cadet’s travel information to the TAC, not later than 30 October 2014 to allow staff time to arrange accompaniment for your cadet. If you wait until too close to the departure or arrival date, there is no guarantee of staff availability.

**Parents of International Cadets:**

We strongly suggest that you schedule airline flights to and from the Philadelphia International Airport which is just a 45 minute drive to Valley Forge. Travel time from New York or New Jersey Airports will take another 3 hours on the road for your cadet. However, if you already have made your reservations to New York or New Jersey airports, please see below:
If your cadet is traveling back and forth from Newark, NJ, LaGuardia or JFK International Airports, New York City, NJ, Super Trans Philly Shuttle Transportation provides transportation for $65.
Please go to: http://supertranspa.com/jfkandnewarkairport.aspx or call 215-333-1441 or Priority Shuttle at: http://www.priorityshuttle.com/
If you have questions, please email Col. Ken Seitz, Adjutant: KSeitz@vfmac.edu.

COMMANDANT RECOGNIZES:
1. To be Cadet First Sergeant: Cadet Keith Davis, H Company
   To be Cadet Master Sergeant: Cadet Michael Edwards, H Company
   Cadet Andrew Smith, H Company
   To be Cadet Sergeant First Class: Cadet Sean Hill, H Company
   Change of Rank and Duty Position: Cadet Keontay Gaines, H Company to be Sergeant First Class with the duty position of Ordnance NCO and additional duties of Assistant Supply NCO

2. Best Companies for October: Academy Infantry - A Company
   College Infantry – G Company
   Mounted – Band

3. College Football team won 28-0 over Williamson Trade
   Women’s Volleyball team for showing great improvement from last year
   Academy Cross Country team for placing 8th in the district
   Cadet Mouhammed Camara for winning the Widener Leadership Award

ACADEMY CADETS ENJOY HALLOWEEN:
The Parade of Silly Walks took place on Friday, October 31 on the Main Area. Academy Cadets who wished to participate, made up a costume or borrowed a uniform from another cadet or staff member. The cadets, staff, and onlookers had a great time. Even our international Cadets who are not familiar with this tradition, got into the act!
Later that afternoon, Cadets from grades 7, 8 and 9 were able to trick and treat at various office Halls at VF.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL NEWS:
VFMC’s Football team outdid themselves in the driving rains and winds last Saturday, 1 November! VF won 39-13 against Stevens Tech and made Sea Board Champion, 2014!

To recap:

**Cadet Andrew Smith** had an 18 yard catch for a touchdown;

**Cadet Christian Summers** had a 17 yard catch for a touchdown;

**Cadet Hakeem Stillman** had a 27 yard and a 50 yard run for a touchdown;

**Cadet Keith Davis, Jr.** had a 15 yard run for a touchdown;

**Cadet Gabe Yuille** had a 40 yard catch for a touchdown;

**Cadet Carlo Thomas** threw 4 touchdown passes.

Congratulations for an excellent season and awesome win!

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

TO: Dr. Stacey R. Sauchuk, President
   COL Richard Piscal, Commandant of Cadets

I am writing to you in recognition of a fine young man currently attending Valley Forge Military Academy. This gentleman's name is Cadet Sargent Marco Malak from Connecticut.

On Friday, October 10th my husband and I were traveling on the Blue Route and experienced a flat tire. As we pulled over to the shoulder a young man pulled behind and approached our vehicle. Sargent Malak offered his assistance in helping my husband change the tire. He was the most well mannered polite young man I have met in a very long time and am I grateful for his help. What was most impressive was his response to us as we tried to offer him gas or lunch money: "No thank you Sir / Ma'am this is what we are trained to do at Valley Forge Military Academy --- help people."

It is rare in today's society to experience an act of kindness from a total stranger and it is obvious that you all are instilling honesty, integrity and compassion in the young men you are teaching at your academy.

**ACADEMY CADETS CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY:**

The Academy will be celebrating Veterans Day on Monday, 10 November.

They day will begin at 7:30 AM with a ceremony and a chapel presentation pertaining to Veterans Day. Immediately following, the cadets will move towards to Shannon Hall where the veterans will have the opportunity to share their personal experiences with the students, offering them some insight into what it truly means to serve the nation.
The Academy cadets placed photos and special memorabilia in the Shannon Hall Display Case in honor of Veterans Day, 11 November. The case is in the main hallway just up the first set of steps.

**PLEBE CRUCIBLE:**
Among the exercises and obstacles the plebes had to overcome during their Crucible event, Sunday 26 October were PT tests, Ropes Course, Obstacle Course, VF National Park Ruck March and much more. Perhaps it sounds grueling to us, but the plebes worked hard and persevered to accomplish all exercises to the best of their ability and felt a great sense of pride and achievement in doing so!

Most surprise themselves on how well they have done!

**ACADEMY LATIN:**
In September, Latin Classes began with the cadets’ selection of ancient Personae, reflecting the historical, military, and cultural interests of the cadets. Enrolled in 2014-2015 Latin classes are: Hector, Odysseus, Aeneas, Paris, Leonidas, Xerxes, Plato, Hannibal, Scipio Africanus, Spartacus, Julius Caesar, Gaius Octavius Augustus, Hadrianus, and Marcus Antonius.

In conjunction with the Personae Project, students have constructed a CLASSICUS MURUS FAMAE, i.e. a Classical Wall of Fame, in the classroom illustrating an image of each Persona arranged in chronological order.

During the first quarter, students will be introducing themselves formally, in the first person, to their peers and essentially role-playing and interacting with the other Personae throughout the academic year.

Also, in first quarter, Latin students created “Etymology Trees,” consisting of Latin or Greeks roots at the base of the tree with English Derivatives in the branches. This project helps to reinforce the vocabulary-building benefits of language study. The hall wall outside room 216 is decorated with the students’ trees.

On Wednesday, 19 November, the Latin classes will travel to Wilmington, Delaware to view the Etruscan artifacts which were stolen and later recovered by Italian authorities. We will meet Emiliano Guerra who is curator of the exhibit currently housed at the Wilmington Grand Opera House.
In November, “The Classical World Film Series VII,” begins, consisting of “a night at the movies” at the Boodle Cinema, highlighting films relevant to antiquity. The first film will be Wolfgang Petersen’s TROY which loosely documents the Trojan War, ca. 1194-1184 B.C. Five films, in chronological order, will be shown throughout the school year in the Film Series. For $3 admission, students fund the purchase of nutritious and delicious snacks from Whole Foods.

In December, Joe Balmos, founder and director of “A Day With Ancient Greece, and Rome,” will bring to VFMA his collection of authenticated replicas of artifacts of Ancient Greece and Rome. Cadets may handle the objects and try on the various clothing items demonstrating material culture.

The visit from “A Day With Ancient Greece and Rome,” will coincide with the annual Saturnalia festival in late December, marked by the enjoyment of ancient Roman foods, songs, and games. During the ancient Saturnalia, slaves and their masters exchanged roles, gifts were given, and great feasts of merriment were celebrated in honor of the golden age of Saturnus.

Nota Bene: All Latin cadets are enrolled annually in several competitions:
1. The Philadelphia Classical Society Arts & Literary Contests [contest rules available November, 2014; Entries due February 1, 2015]
2. PCS Exam Competition [February, 2015]
3. National Latin Exam [mid-March]
For more information, contact Mary Brown at mbrown@vfmac.edu

CHAPEL, PARADE AND OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE:
All services, Chapel Parades on the Main Area, and Regimental Reviews on the Parade Field are open to the public. Chapel begins at 11:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Religion specific services will be held at various locations at VFMA&C simultaneously unless otherwise noted. Chapel Parades and Regimental Reviews occur directly following the Chapel Services when the Corps is set.

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<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>College Admissions Open House Gold and Silver Star Dinner in Eisenhower Hall</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade Academy Admission Open House</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>Academy Open House</td>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Chapel Service Regimental Review Academy Open House</td>
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<td>December 5</td>
<td>Holiday Concert in Mellon Hall 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>April 25 (Saturday)</td>
<td>Alumni Chapel Service Regimental Review</td>
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<td>December 7</td>
<td>Christmas Vespers at 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade</td>
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<td>January 18, 2015</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>(Mothers Day) Chapel Service Regimental Review</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade</td>
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**EMERGENCY INFORMATION ALWAYS AVAILABLE:**
A voice and text emergency notification system is available for parents and guardians of our cadets. You may sign up by submitting the form found on the Emergency Information page on the website, link provided below. Messages are primarily text based, and therefore you should submit a cell phone number that can receive text messages. You will be subject to any fees or limits set by your cell phone provider for text messages and minutes used, based on your current contract conditions. International texts are not obtainable at this time.

In the event of any emergencies, we encourage you to access the VFMA&C Emergency Info page on our website which is updated as needed.

**3RD ANNUAL VFMA&C CHAPEL MISSIONS TRIP, JAMAICA:**
If your cadet is interested in this exciting trip, please contact Captain Hale at GHale@vfmac.edu.

**2014-2015 CROSSED SABRES YEARBOOK ADS FOR SALE:**
Purchase a yearbook ad for your business or a special message to your graduating Cadet! Please contact CPT Irvan at jirvan@vfmac.edu or call him at 610-989-1417.

**PARENTS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**
Jay and Chris Cary, Chairs: Jaycary@verizon.net 610-918-056
Parena and Eoin Mooney, Vice Chairs: Parena1970@gmail.com 302-897-7714
Bill and Nancy Minich, Secretary/Treasurer: nminich@comcast.net 609-504-1154

**TAC CONTACT INFORMATION:**
Lafayette Hall:       610-989-1273 or LHTAC@vfmac.edu
Younghusband Hall:    610-989-1270 or YHTAC@vfmac.edu
Von Steuben Hall:     610-989-1248 or VSTAC@vfmac.edu
Rose and Hocker Halls:610-989-1286 or HHTAC@vfmac.edu
Martin Hall:          610-989-1280 or MHTAC@vfmac.edu

**ACADEMY GUIDANCE CONTACT INFORMATION:**
Cadets last names from A-M: Paul Noon PNoon@vfmac.edu or 610-989-1287
Cadets last names from N-Z: Megan Sullivan MSullivan@vfmac.edu or 610-1384
Registrar: Kathryn Ford: KFord@vfmac.edu or 610-989-1380

**COLLEGE COUNSELORS:**
Please get the counselor’s contact information from your plebe or cadet.

**NEED COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS?**
Official or unofficial transcripts, please go to: www.getmytranscripts.com
Enrollment verification, please go to: www.studentclearing.org.

**HOTEL INFORMATION:**
Please check the previous Parents Newsletters on www.vfmac.edu, click on Academy or College photo, click on Parents and Family, click on Newsletters for all current issues.

**YOUR PLEBE/CADET IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY?**
Just call the Cadet Store a few days ahead of the great event at 610-989-1542 or 1540 to place a cake or cookie cake order if you wish.

Lini Stevens  
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