HELLO CADET PARENTS, GUARDIANS & SPONSORS:

We decided to post this newsletter early so you would have the information prior to the Winter Leave. Have a wonderful celebration for Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanza and New Year’s

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 2015:
- College Winter Online Courses - December 20, 2014 to January 23, 2015
- **Winter Holiday Leave ends no later than 6:30 PM, Sunday, 4 January for:**
  - Academy Cadets
  - College Mid-year Plebe Trainers
  - College Men’s and Women’s Basketball Teams
- New College Mid-year plebes report on Tuesday, 6 January
- **Winter Holiday Leave ends no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, 8 January for:**
  - College Wrestling Teams
- **Winter Holiday Leave ends no later than 6:30 PM, Sunday, 11 January for:**
  - Remaining College Cadets
- New Academy Mid-year plebes report on Monday, 12 January
- Dr. Martin Luther King Day – No classes
- Academy and College non-training weekend, 24 and 25 January
- Wrestling Tournament, 31 January beginning at 9:00 AM in Price Gym
- Ski Trip to Vermont – Tentatively scheduled. Please check with Student Activities for details at LWochok@vfmac.edu or 610-989-1262.
- Gold and Silver Star Dinner on Monday, 9 February in Eisenhower Hall – details tbd
- Winter Ball – Valentine’s Day on Saturday, 14 February in Mellon Hall – details tbd
- President’s Day and Academy Open House in Mellon Hall and College Open House to be held in Eisenhower Hall at 9:00 AM, 16 February.
- Military School Band Festival at St. John’s Northwestern Academy in Delafield, WI. 19-22 February
- Mid-year crucible for plebes
- College Spring Leave begins at 6:00 PM on Friday, 27 February and ends on Sunday, 8 March no later than 6:30 PM.
- Mid-year New Cadet Recognition Ceremony and Reception in Eisenhower Hall – details tbd

ACADEMY PARENTS:
The Health Center will be closing at 4:30 PM on 18 December. Please pickup medication or call to release medication to their child.
Phone: 610-989-1519
e-mail: dhammer@vfmac.edu
THE COUNSELING CENTER HAS A GUEST:
Baron, a therapy dog, has been at the Counseling Center for the cadets to visit if they wish during their reading days. Pet therapy programs at schools and nursing homes are emerging across the nation in an effort to extend a calming influence toward students and the elderly. Baron visits nursing homes twice weekly allowing patients to interact with his sweetness, eager paw shakes, licks and wags.

Also, the Counseling Center is implementing a new program for upper classmen academy cadets called Junior Peer Education. Junior “Peer Ed” began at the request of the academy cadets and work alongside our established college Peer Educators. Our Peer Ed group stems from the nationally recognized Bacchus Network Certified Peer Education program. The Junior Peer Educators will complete a training that works to develop leadership, outreach, listening, intervention, and programming skills. This training prepares students to raise awareness and knowledge of high-risk behaviors amongst fellow peers and to promote mental health and wellness on campus. Upon completion, students will put their leadership abilities to work by collaborating with the Counseling Center staff and the college Peer Educators to create awareness events on campus and continue their education on outreach and mental health topics.

THE HOLIDAY CONCERT:
On Friday, 5 December, cadets, cadet family members, staff, and faculty enjoyed a lovely concert performed by our own Field Music drummers, Choir and Regimental Band. The beat from the drums did much to get us “in the holiday mood” and the gorgeous music put us “in the spirit!” Well done, performers and Bandmaster Evans!

COL Temperton, Dr. Sauchuk and COL Piscal enjoy the Carols

Then in the Rotunda there arose such a clatter, we all looked back to see what was the matter! A jolly old elf dressed in white and red came through the audience with elves whom he led! He delighted Dr. Sauchuk with a photo of her Christmas wish (a Lamborghini) as his elves handed out cookies, much to the delight of the cadets and guests!

Santa assists the Bandmaster!
CHRISTMAS VESPERS:

On Sunday, 7 December, our lovely Chapel Choir led the guests in singing our favorite Christmas Carols. Choir Director, Mr. Harry Sokol sang the Mass called “Simple Song” beautifully, soloist Cadet Samantha Barnes (left) sang “O Holy Night,” a favorite among the guests, and Violin Soloist, Cadet Zongda Che performed a lovely “Sicilienne and Rigaudon,” pictured below.

Cadet readers each read one of Eight Lessons and Dr. Sauchuk read the final Ninth Lesson of Christmas. In 1880, the Nine Lessons of Christmas was first used on Christmas Eve in England. Since 1928, the service has been broadcast over the radio annually. Sometime in the early 1930’s the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programs even during WWII. Since 1963, a shorter service, still containing the Nine Lessons of Christmas has been filmed periodically for television.

CADETS COME TO THE RESCUE:
Cadets Jaden Kelly, Liam Knight, Brandon Lawrence and Omar Tahar found an injured dog in the General Parking Lot. He appeared to possibly have been hit by a car. The cadets carefully took the dog to Lee Hall and asked Mrs. Reiff to assist in finding the owner. The cadets comforted the dog while waiting for the owner to take it to the veterinarian.

THE COMMANDANT’S RECOGNITION:
1. To be Cadet Sergeant First Class - Cadet Sandy Saddler, FM, to be Supply Sergeant
2. To be Cadet Staff Sergeant - Cadet Private Bethuel Eliacin, FM, to be Squad Leader
   - Cadet Private Jerome Hay, FM, to be Squad Leader

LATIN STUDENTS RIDE AGAIN!
On 19 November, the VFMA Latin Classes visited Emiliano Guerra, Italian curator, and Alexandra Thomas, docent and translator, of the “Treasures and Tales of Italy’s Guardia di Finanza Art Recovery Team” exhibit currently available at The Grand Opera House in Wilmington, Delaware.

The show is described as “Treasures of inestimable value on exhibit outside of Italy for the first time.” Mosaics, statues, jewelry, a fresco, and ceramics are among the 120 Etrusco-Creco-Roman art masterpieces recovered from unscrupulous art traffickers, by Guardia di Finanza, Italy’s Art Recovery Team. In the last 100 years, Italy’s A.R.T. has recovered almost one million stolen Italian artifacts from all over the world. The tales of recovery are more captivating than fiction.
Following the tour, the entourage walked to the Hotel DuPont for a delicious luncheon in the historic Green Room and back on campus, Wolfgang Peterson’s “Troy” kicked off the Classical World Film Series, now in its seventh year, held at the Boodle Cinema.

Latin students have also selected the types of projects based on ancient Greece, Etruria, or Rome, which they will create as part of the 76th Annual Latin Week Competition, sponsored in February by the Philadelphia Classical Society.

**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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<th>Date</th>
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<td>January 18, 2015</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade</td>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Chapel Service Regimental Review</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade</td>
<td>April 25 (Saturday)</td>
<td>Alumni Chapel Service</td>
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<td>Regimental Review</td>
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<td>February 16</td>
<td>Academy &amp; College Admission Open House, M and E Halls</td>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Chapel Service Chapel Parade</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
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<td>May 10 (Mothers Day)</td>
<td>Chapel Service Regimental Review</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 the bottom of the home 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
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.

PHOTO GALLERY ONLINE:
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.

IS YOUR CADET 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.

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