

The Skirmisher

Winter 2014

St. John's Military School



FEATURED

*The people who help make St. John's a special place
The classes of the 50s plan a celebration
at commencement*

The Skirmisher

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Meet some of the folks that make St. John's a special place

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THE SJMS CLASSES OF THE 50s PLAN AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DURING COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND

Plan to join us for special Alumni events and the graduation of the 127th Senior Class

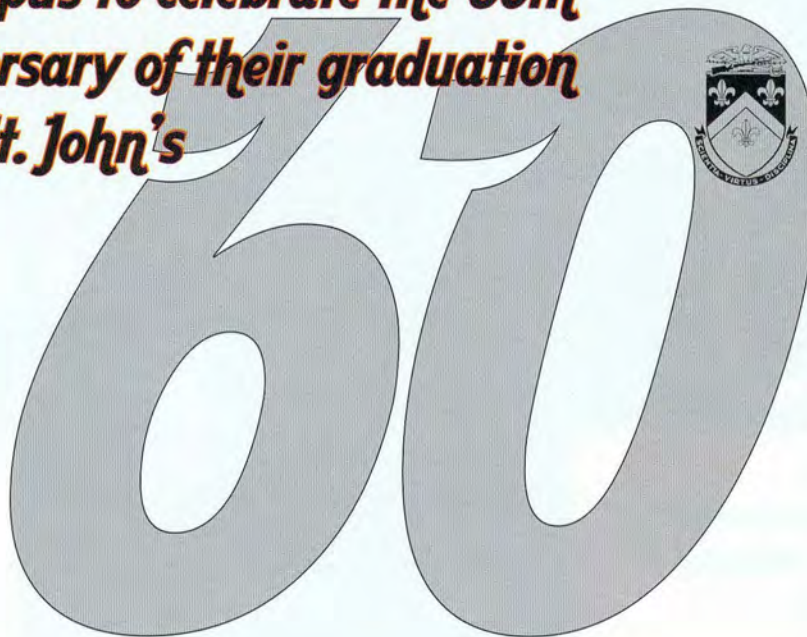


SJMS CADETS DESIGN PATCH THAT HITCHES A RIDE TO THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Mrs. Kraus inspires Cadets to reach for the stars



The SJMS classes of the 50s return to campus to celebrate the 60th anniversary of their graduation from St. John's



SPECIAL ALUMNI EVENTS

Thursday May 7, 2015

ALUMNI DINNER

Martinelli's Little Italy

Friday May 8, 2015

FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

"F" TROOP

SJMS Teardrop

BLESSING OF THE ALUMNI OF SJMS

Armstrong Chapel

ALUMNI RECEPTION

La Quinta Inn

Saturday May 9, 2015

GRADUATION OF THE 127th

CORPS OF CADETS

HANDLE CEREMONY

Jack Vanier Hall Impact Area

CLASS OF THE 1950s DINNER

Brookville Hotel

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This issue of the Skirmisher features some of the people that make St. John's a special place.

D. Dale Browning, class of 1955, said, "It's not the bricks and mortar that sets St. John's apart from other schools. It's the staff and faculty making a difference in the lives of countless Cadets over the years that makes St. John's a special place."

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The Final Roll Call Ceremony Photo by Scott Wiedeman

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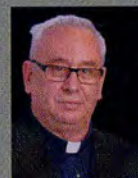
The People

During the past 31 years (my tenure at St. John's), it has become very apparent that St. John's is special because of one constant: it's the people who make a difference. The campus is stunning, the grounds are manicured, and the buildings ship shape...but it's the folks who manage the day-to-day business of helping turn boys into men that really matter. Paula Wilton and Marc Polzella reach the boys on many levels...first and foremost in the quest for learning. Steve Young guides the Cadets during the hours they spend in the barracks. Father Randy McIntosh ministers to their spiritual needs. Linda Payne and her staff keep the Corps well-fed. Judy Casstevens makes sure the Cadets are dressed and looking their best. Each of these staff members contributes to the well-being of the Cadets and finds the rewards of working at St. John's to be immeasurable. These staff members together have over 109 years of service. On the following pages you will gain a bit of insight into what it means to work at St. John's and learn that St. John's is a special place... because of the people.

Wendy Stein

FATHER RANDY MCINTOSH

Trusted spiritual advisor to the Cadets



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Keeps the Cadets in line and in step



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Dalton Wilson says, "Father Randy really takes the time to listen and is truly concerned about our welfare."



Father Randy McIntosh

Father Randy started his association with St. John's "by hanging out with Cadets back in the 1960s when we moved to Salina from California. I found that the Cadets understood me better than the kids of Salina." In 2010, when Chaplain Viel was here, Father Randy would come out and help with special services when needed. In 2012, McIntosh was asked to become the part-time St. John's Military School Chaplain.

McIntosh says, "I think I started to realize how special this place was when about half way through my first school year, the Cadets started to come to me with little problems they were having. The Cadets started to trust me, as someone they could confide in."

Father Randy relates that the most rewarding parts of the job are when he sees that he can make a difference in the life of the boys one at a time, and when the boys come up to him and say how important he has been in helping them make the right choices.

McIntosh finds it very rewarding when, "In the summer I get a call from one of the boys, just to say hi and to check in on how I'm doing." The best part of his job is "getting to work with the Cadets and watch them grow, learning to set the values of their lives."

Father Randy intends to stay until he retires; the church stipulates that he has to retire at the age of 72. His response to this requirement is, "God willing, I will be here for a long time to come."

Prior to joining the SJMS staff, McIntosh worked for Ashby House, and the Church of the Incarnation where he still ministers, and spent 14 years at Christ Cathedral. His career also involved time as a Surgical Tech and an EMT.

McIntosh earned his EMT degree through K-State. He trained to become a member of the clergy through the Diocese of Western Kansas, taking classes at Nashotah House in Wisconsin and the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas.

AT E A C H E R ' S

Mrs. Wilton was born in Ellsworth, Kansas, but has lived in Lincoln, Kansas, all of her life. Her early years were spent growing up on a farm with her parents and younger brother. She attended college at KSU in Manhattan and graduated from Kansas Wesleyan University in 1993 with a degree in Elementary Education. In 2006, she received her Master's Degree from Emporia State.

She substituted at several schools for two and a half years before getting her first full-time teaching job in Bennington, Kansas, where she taught middle school language arts, current events, and social studies. She was also an assistant girls' basketball and volleyball coach and the quiz-bowl coach.

"I developed my teaching style when I was substituting in several different school districts. Kids everywhere usually act up for a substitute and I decided if I didn't learn how to control a classroom, I was going to be pretty miserable," she said.

In 2005, Mrs. Wilton returned to her hometown and taught third grade for a year and then moved to second grade where she taught for seven more years.

"One day I realized I was ready for a change and wanted to go back to working with middle school age students. St John's Dean of Students Devon Walter asked if I wanted to come teach at SJMS. I was really nervous about it and didn't even get to visit the school due to a flood that year and the early release of school. I am so glad I came here though. I love working with the boys and the staff is the best. They are like my second family," she explained.

At SJMS, Mrs. Wilton currently teaches seventh and eighth grade reading and English. She has also taught eighth grade American History and high school World History.

"I like the small classes here and the time I have to get to know and help each student with their academics. I think it's very important to instill a love of reading in my students. If I can convince them that reading a book can be better than watching

the same story through a movie, I feel like I've really made a difference. I work hard to pick books the boys will enjoy and learn something from reading. If they buy in to the lesson, it makes a huge difference in how hard they work in my class," she said.

Mrs. Wilton believes that St. John's is a very unique and special place and most people do not understand what it's really about until they have had the opportunity to be affiliated with the school.

"I enjoy watching the boys who come here get another chance at improving their lives. The bonds that develop here are life-long and it's inspiring to know that I might be making a small difference in someone's life that can get them on the right track," she explained.

Another important part of Mrs. Wilton's school day is her dog Flynn. He is a one-year-old Havanese that comes to school with her almost every day. It's a common sight to see Flynn prancing through the hallway greeting other teachers and the Cadets.

"I've had a lot of people ask me if Flynn is a therapy dog. I guess he kind of is. He is a friend to the boys, a comforter, a reminder of a pet at home, and something they look forward to seeing every day," Mrs. Wilton explained.

Outside of school Mrs. Wilton's life revolves around her two children Bailey (19) and Layne (14).

"I think part of the reason I push my students to do their best is because this is the way I've raised my own children. They both have been lucky enough to find a passion in life and I've always taught them not to do anything half-way. Give it your all. You get out of life what you put into it."

Paula Wilton



"The best part of my job is helping a student be successful in school and seeing him develop a sense of pride in his academics."

Paula Wilton



When Paula Wilton began her teaching career 20 years ago, she did not imagine herself teaching at an all boys' military school. "I had only been to St. John's twice in my life prior to coming to work here. I was here during middle school when my hometown played St. John's in football and the other time I was teaching in Bennington and I brought my quiz bowl team here for a tournament," Mrs. Wilton remembers. Now she couldn't imagine teaching anywhere else and she loves her job.



MAJOR *Marc Polzella*



Marc Polzella received a call late one Wednesday night in February, 1996, from COL Faerber, explaining that due to a medical emergency, SJMS was desperately searching for a substitute teacher for the next morning. Becky, Marc's wife, remembers hearing her husband tell COL Faerber, "I don't do kids." But after some persuasive discussion, Marc agreed to come in just for that Thursday and Friday. This year will mark Polzella's 20th graduating class at SJMS.

Rocket scientist turned SJMS math teacher

When Polzella first came to SJMS, the math program he taught consisted of pre-algebra, algebra and geometry. Over the years, he has expanded the curriculum to include trigonometry, probability and statistics, calculus, and algebra-based physics. He has chaired the Math Department, represented SJMS at the state level with QPA, sponsored the Nicomachean Society, and served as the Officer in Charge of the SJMS Honor Code Program.

In 1997, Polzella and MAJ Stelljes started soccer at SJMS. In the eight years they coached, they guided the soccer team from one of the worst to one of the best teams in the state.

Polzella was born and raised in Bristol, Connecticut. He attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute his freshman year of college, knowing that he wanted to attend the best engineering college in the nation. After campaigning for both the Republican and Democrat Senators, Polzella received two nominations to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point. He graduated in 1975 with a degree in Nuclear Engineering, emphasis in Nuclear Physics.

The next five years were spent fulfilling his military obligation, which he served with pride and a passionate sense of duty to his country. Four of the five years were spent stationed in Schwabish-Gmund, Germany, with the 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery, home of the Pershing Missiles. The Pershing Missiles Battalions were the largest, most powerful and most responsive battalions in the US Army during the ongoing continental European conflict that lasted from 1945 to 1991. The Pershing was one of the most survivable theater nuclear weapons ever deployed in Europe. CPT Polzella was the Assistant Operations Officer (S-3) of the 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery during the Iranian Hostage situation that lasted over 13 months. The Iranian Hostage situation and the ever-present Russian Cold War tensions made the United States

ever aware of the clear and present dangers the military faced during this time of "guarded peace." Polzella served eight years in the Army reserves after finishing his five years of active duty.

Marc met his wife Becky during his last year in Germany. She was teaching with the Department of Defense DODDS program. When they returned to the United States in 1980, they were married in Becky's hometown of Abilene, Kansas. They moved to Texas where Marc was employed with Texas Instruments. Then they moved to Colorado when Polzella was offered a position with Martin Marietta Aerospace outside of Denver. Becky still remembers the one sentence she knew about his top-secret level work: "He does nuclear survivability of computer hardware in space." And that was all she was allowed to know! Later she learned his official title was Director of Radiation Effects on Electronics (Nuclear Hardness and Survivability Group). He worked on projects for the Department of Defense (Pentagon, NASA, and Special Classified Projects).

When asked who his favorite students are, Polzella doesn't hesitate to answer: "Those boys who give me 100%. They don't have to be the best students, but they give me their personal best every day." Marc's sincere love of math and his ability to listen and counsel others make him a perfect fit with SJMS. Why has he stayed at SJMS all these years? "I truly believe I am at SJMS as a calling from my Lord. He has placed me where He knows I am needed the most. It has meant financial sacrifice for my family, but I know I am doing what I was trained to do; every one of these fine young men are worth it. I used to help create nuclear weapon systems, now I help create successful young men."

Marc Polzella

Captain **STEVE YOUNG**



"Over the past 14 years I have been fortunate to have met and developed a good relationship with many Cadets. I value the times that I spend with them."

CPT Steve Young

I grew up in the small town of Tescott, Kansas. When I say small, I mean really small only around 300 people call Tescott home. I attended high school there graduating in 1993. Despite the size of our town, I loved where I grew up and the people in the community were great. We were a close group of people and would always help each other.

Growing up, according to my mother, I liked to terrorize my older sister which to this day I vehemently deny, but in truth I probably did exactly that. I was like most kids my age who grew up in a small town in the country. I played a lot of sports (football, basketball, and baseball) with my friends all year long, and I was always hunting and fishing. When I was younger, one of our favorite things to do on the weekends was to play "war" in the woods behind my house. We would put on our camo, paint our faces, and build forts.

Family was a big thing for me as a kid. I grew up with a lot of immediate family around me: grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. We spent plenty of time together, especially on Sundays. One of my fondest memories as a kid is going over to my Grandma Young's house after church where she would cook for the entire family. We would play games, watch sports, and then watch all the guys play a card game called "Rook." The card games were always very competitive and fun to watch. Family friends were invited to come over and they did, especially for my grandma's chicken and noodles.

Despite the small size of our town, I loved where I was raised. After high school, I attended Hutchinson Community College where my intention was to play basketball. Unfortunately, due to a shoulder injury, my spot had to be filled by someone else,

and I was released from the team. I finished out the spring semester and did not return. In 2005, I began attending Kansas State University in Salina where I graduated in 2007 with an Associates of Science Degree in Business. That same year, I began attending Kansas Wesleyan University. In 2009, I received my Bachelor's Degree in Business, and in 2011, I earned my Master of Business Administration Degree.

What I like most about my job at St. John's is working with the Cadets and my best friend of 22 years, Cpt. Mike Reid. I consider the SMA's, MA's, and faculty more than just my coworkers; they are my friends.

During my time here, I have had days where I thought that some of the Cadets would drive me crazy, and I truly wondered if I was helping them. However, when you see a Cadet begin to mature, do well in school, and move up the ranks, and then thank you for what you did, that is a great feeling. It will make you forget some of the tough times.

A few years ago, I began making wine at home just for something to do. It may sound a bit strange, but believe it or not, I like the chemistry and the process involved. The best part is sharing it with others and getting their opinions.

I also enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I like to travel and see new places, especially other countries and cultures. Watching sports and going to sporting events, especially KU basketball, is another favorite pastime of mine. GO HAWKS!

When summer break comes, I like to go fishing with my stepfather. I have been painting here at the school during the summers with Mrs. McCoy. We have a good time, and it makes for an enjoyable summer job. She puts up with my sarcasm like a champ!

Steve Young

LINDA'S Kitchen

Feeding the family

From left: Taresa Gardenshire-Slayton, eight years; Gary Edgerton, eight years; Linda Payne, nine years; Cindy Cline, ten years; Julie Bousaid, four years; and Alicia Harris, one month.

Linda Payne runs the kitchen at St. John's with help from a dedicated staff of longtime employees. The folks who serve food to the Cadets have a combined total of more than 45 years of service to St. John's. Each member of the kitchen staff has a specialty, and together the staff serves the Cadets food that nourishes and pleases the Corps.

Taresa Gardenhire-Slayton loves working at St. John's and explains, "SJMS has been a great part of my life, because they are like a second family to me. I really enjoy being part of our Cadets' journeys." Gardenhire-Slayton specializes in creating tasty desserts!

Cindy Cline cooks and makes sure the salad bar is fully stocked. "I love being around the boys; they are very polite and respectful." Cline goes on to say, "It's like having an extended family, and that's why I arrive early to make sure my boys have a hot breakfast."

Joyce Clark (not pictured) said, "Most of the people here are like a part of your family." Clark has been cooking meals at St. John's for four years. Clark's demeanor matches that of her kitchen team; she has a positive can-do attitude that is reflected in her smile.

Linda Payne, Food Service Director, guides her staff with a quiet, gentle voice. To even the most casual observer, Payne has the respect of both the kitchen staff and the Cadets she serves. She believes, "SJMS



is home for Cadets, but it becomes home for all of us." She proudly proclaims, "I love this school."

Gary Edgerton primarily works weekends, cooking and doing whatever else it takes to keep the kitchen running. Edgerton is active in the Mom and Mr. Mom club and can be seen attending athletic events with his wife, Debby, Administrative Admissions Assistant.

Julie Bousaid describes her position as "dish maintenance" and says, "I enjoy serving the Cadets."

Denene Price-Barr (not pictured) joined Linda's staff in mid-January of 2015 and chose to work here because "kids are the future."

Steven Slayton (not pictured) son of Taresa Slayton, is described by Linda Payne as a "good worker who communicates well with the Cadets."



Quartermaster

Casstevens says the most rewarding part of her job is "Watching the boys grow into amazing young men." When asked what surprised her about St. John's when she first arrived she said, "I was amazed at how kind they were and how they can make my day."



Judi Casstevens joined the staff at St. John's in June of 1998. Her predecessor, Lilian Faerber, had been the Quartermaster for many years, which meant that Ms. Casstevens had very big shoes to fill...and fill them she did. The Quartermaster store is stocked with both the uniform issue and anything else a Cadet could possibly need during the school year. Classroom supplies are issued through the Quartermaster and St. John's T-shirts, cups, totes, sweaters, jackets, blankets, and coffee mugs are also available

for purchase. Ms. Casstevens is responsible for ordering enough stock to make it through the school year. She has to be somewhat of a fortune teller to maintain inventory while not having an abundance of extra items sitting on the shelves. As Quartermaster of the school, Casstevens is tasked with outfitting each Corps of Cadets in their uniform issue. Casstevens takes dressing the Cadets very seriously and wants the boys to "look and feel their best." Whenever special events take place on campus, Casstevens and her assistant, Teresa Bellerive, spend many extra hours making sure everyone has what he needs.

Ms. Casstevens stated that her preparation for the job came in the raising of her oldest son. "I could write a book," she said. Casstevens knows boys, having raised three on her own, and is ready for anything the Cadets can think of doing.

The atmosphere in the Quartermaster is one of unconditional love with the understanding that each Cadet meet the standards of a military school. When the Cadets approach the window to order an after-school snack or purchase uniform accouterments, Ms. Casstevens demands respect and the Cadets know they must be on their best behavior.

PARENTS' WEEKEND

A promotion ceremony, drill team performance, the color guard presenting the colors, and parents' receptions all helped to make the weekend a smashing success.

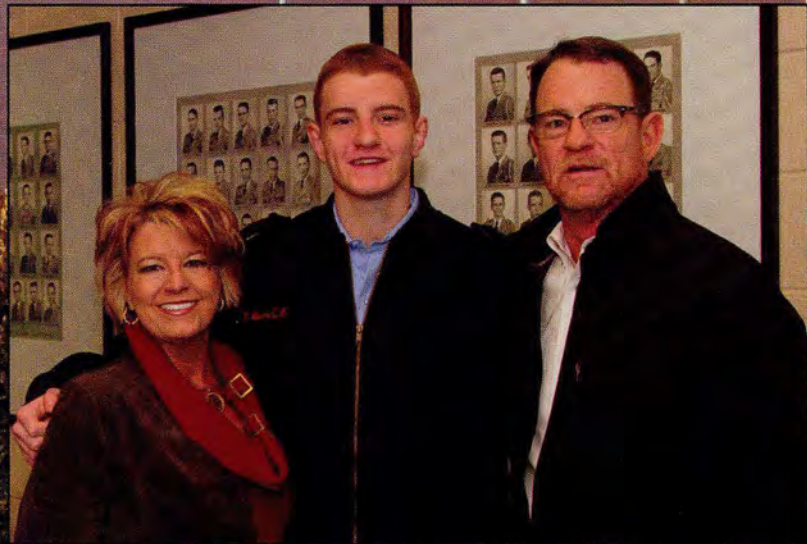


Roman Smyslov becomes an "Old Boy" while his parents, David and Olena Clarkson, stand behind him.



Daniel Wei performs an individual drill while Drill Team Commander Lester Ostertag observes.

the 127th ...puts on a show



Cameron Williams and his parents, Tania and Gary, get a chance to visit in the Vanier Academic Center.



Mary and William Sheldon help attach their son Nicholas' new rank on his shoulders.

Xinyang Du

a changed man



Rank: Command Sergeant Major
Academic Honors: Blue Beret
National Honor Society
Activities: Soccer, Futsal,
Raiders, and AMS



Xinyang Du came to St. John's four years ago at the insistence of his aunt and uncle. He had been exhibiting in his own words, "bad behavior, bad grades, and a bad attitude towards school." His Aunt Lihua Cox explains, "My husband and I were extremely worried about Xinyang's future. He arrived in the U.S. in August 2011 and attended a private boarding school. Xinyang attended the boarding school for two months earning straight "F's" in all his classes. He slept during classes and went online to chat with friends in China during the night. He did not speak or learn English because the majority of the boarding school's students and teachers were Chinese. "My husband, Bradley Cox, was in the Navy before he went to college. He believes military structure, discipline, and motivation can change people's lives. He found St. John's Military School which we have come to believe is the best military school to help kids like Xinyang. We transferred Xinyang to SJMS in October 2011, which was the best decision we have ever made for Xinyang and our family."

Like many young men who find themselves at St. John's, Xinyang was not happy when he arrived on campus. Xinyang says, "I hated it and didn't want to be part of the strict regulations."

Lihua explains, "Xinyang was unhappy and very rude to us during his first few months after being transferred to St. John's Military School. So many teachers and military advisers tried helping Xinyang during that time when he was lost. After six months, we could see Xinyang start to change; Xinyang's grades went up and he changed the way he talked to us. By the end of Xinyang's first year at St. John's, he showed some appreciation for what we did for him by helping us with some yard work during his school break, and cleaning up after himself, which had never happened before."

Though it was difficult to send Xinyang so far away from his home in China, the family feels the sacrifice was well worth the price. Xinyang's family explained that "Xinyang is the only son

and the Du family's only boy to carry on our family name for generations. He had a lot of fun when he attended the boarding school (computer games, shopping, movies, online chat), but he was also destroying his future."

When asked what they expected Xinyang to learn at St. John's, his aunt and uncle replied, "We wanted Xinyang to gain the knowledge that success comes from team effort and achievement requires hard work. We also wanted Xinyang to understand that being a successful team leader requires commitment, compassion, and integrity." Xinyang feels that "The structure of a military school environment has kept me out of trouble and taught me to manage my time and my attitude."

The family atmosphere and teamwork attitude which permeates the staff and faculty at St. John's has served the Du family well. During Cadet Du's four years at St. John's, many people have worked to help him reach his potential. The combined efforts of the St. John's Military School staff is helping Du reach his goals. Uncle Bradley and Aunt Lihua said, "We feel great appreciation for President England, Ms. Terry Plumberg, and the St. John's teachers for helping Xinyang with his college applications, ACT preparation, and ACT test. It was always Xinyang's dream to attend the Virginia Military Institute, and everyone is helping with it, and we support it without question."

Du recently learned of his acceptance to Virginia Military Institute. Following in the footsteps of SJMS President E. Andrew England, Xinyang will be a member of the prestigious first year Rat-Line in August of 2015.

The message the Du family would give to parents considering St. John's is this: "If you want your son to be a successful young man with a bright future, SJMS is the place! Please make the right decision for your son, which can change your son's future and also change your life."

Luis Garcia Quintanar

Finds a second family at St. John's



Rank: Major - Executive Officer

Academic Honors: Dean's Honor Roll

Activities: Soccer/Futsal



"The staff and faculty at St. John's has helped me over the past three years on everything; they are always there when I need them. Here at St. John's I found my second family; they always worry about everybody in this school and you don't find that in a public school."

Luis Garcia Quintanar

Luis Garcia Quintanar, Battalion Executive Officer of the 127th Corps of Cadets, thinks of St. John's as a second family. Before he arrived at St. John's, he had chosen to relax his attitude towards school and had failed the tenth grade. His parents, Gabriel and Mayra, wanted to find a school that would have high academic standards and also a place to help instill values and principles that could serve Luis well in the future.

The family believes the decision to send Luis to St. John's has assured a bright future for their son. They explained, "We are not only proud of Luis but also thankful for the imprint SJMS has left on our lives."

While they missed having Luis at home, in the words of his mom, "It was very difficult the first few months. In the end it helped us value ourselves as a family and today we can say that Luis is an example of perseverance, commitment, and strength."

The family was hopeful Luis would turn his life around and feel very proud of what he has accomplished at St. John's: receiving scholarships, earning good grades, achieving a high rank, becoming the second in command of the Corps, earning medals, being selected to the all-tournament team in soccer, and changing from a typical teenager into a responsible man with goals and objectives.

The experience has been very positive for Luis and he feels like his closest friends Gian Falossi, Xinyang Du, and Jacob Gengler are like brothers. He credits the St. John's faculty and staff with "Always being there when I needed them and always being concerned about my welfare."

This third year at St. John's has proved to be his favorite. The leadership skills he's learned while a Cadet have served him well in his position on the Battalion Staff. The experience of being on Battalion Staff has made Luis feel this way, "My brothers on Battalion Staff, we are like a family. I learned more about St. John's, enjoyed having more opportunities, and learned lessons from running the Corps of Cadets."

His parents sum up his three years like this: "Our experience has been very rewarding. Luis has shown, tenacity, and courage. We can say that this was the best school for Luis. The love that each of the people working at St. John's shows towards the Cadets is incredible. During our visits to Kansas on parents' weekends, we always appreciated the warmth shown to us. Graduation is memorable because when you witness the ceremony, you can feel the satisfaction of accomplishment, merit, and effort from both the Cadets and their families."

Luis plans to return to Mexico following his graduation from St. John's, attend college studying industrial engineering and business administration, and eventually join his father and brother in the family business.

Pam Kraus encouraged her students to reach for the stars



"The Teachers in Space program in partnership with SSEP offered my students an amazing opportunity to write a real, scientific research proposal that was evaluated by professional scientists. We were so excited to have our experiment selected as a top three finalist, and although it was not selected to be the TIS experiment for Mission 5, we were very happy to have our Mission Patch design selected to represent TIS and SJMS. Very few people can say their design has flown on the ISS and these five young men can be proud of that accomplishment!" Pam Kraus



Eli Harmon Levi Harmon David Schmaus Adam Walther Jacob Weise Graduates of the 126th Corps

Third time really was a charm for former Cadets Eli Harmon, Levi Harmon, David Schmaus, Adam Walther, and Jacob Wiese. The mission patch they designed finally made it to its destination—the International Space Station—on January 12, 2015! The five Cadets from the 126th designed the patch that was selected to represent St. John's Military School and Teachers in Space. The patch was originally slated to fly to the ISS on May 1, 2014, with the Student Spaceflight Experiment Program's (SSEP) Mission 5 experiments, but the launch was rescheduled eight times, finally launching on July 13.

However, due to the confusion caused by all of the changes, the Mission 5 patches were inadvertently left off the flight. The revised plans called for the patch designed by the SJMS Cadets to fly on Mission 6 in October. The Mission 6 launch was rescheduled six times, finally taking place on October 28. Unfortunately, the Orb-3 rocket and the entire payload contained in the Cygnus spacecraft that launched that morning, including the SJMS patch, was destroyed in an explosion upon launch. All student-designed experiments and patches, along with supplies for the astronauts onboard the ISS, were reconstructed in preparation for a December 16 launch on a Space-X rocket. After four delays, the patch finally left Earth

aboard the Dragon spacecraft on January 10, 2015, arriving at the ISS two days later!

Eli, Levi, David, Adam and Jacob designed the patch as part of their Chemistry 2 class in conjunction with the SSEP experiment and mission patch contest. The experiment they designed, "The Effect of Microgravity on the Germination of Space-Exposed and Earth-Based Cinnamon Basil Seeds," was selected as one of three finalists in the national competition and their patch was selected to represent the Teachers in Space program on SSEP Mission 5.

The patch features the school colors as the backdrop for a scene of the International Space Station orbiting the earth. The sponsoring organizations NCSSE and SSEP are acknowledged alongside the ISS in space. The American flag embodies the spirit of exploration that the Student Spaceflight Experiments and Teachers in Space programs promote in American youth. Upon return of the patch from the ISS, individual copies of the patch will be presented to Eli, Levi, David, Adam, and Jacob.

Pam Kraus

Academic Honors

Blue Beret

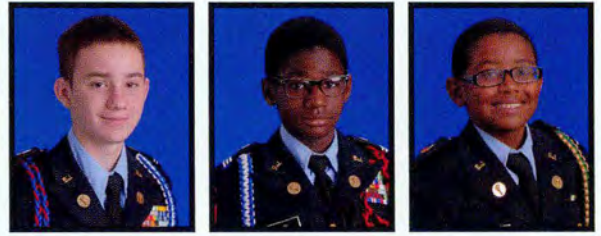
The Blue Beret Cadets are also members of the Dean's Honor Roll!

High School



Xinyang Du Brandon Swain Yixiu Li Yifan Xu

Middle School



Brandon Burrage Jackson Brinn Isaiah Saya

High School

Dean's Honor Roll



Jack Glasgow Luis Garcia Quintanar Jake Whitting Edmund Sykes Carver Patterson Logan Murtha Isaac Nagel Blase Whitting



Chase Rose Sean Udofia Miles Pappas



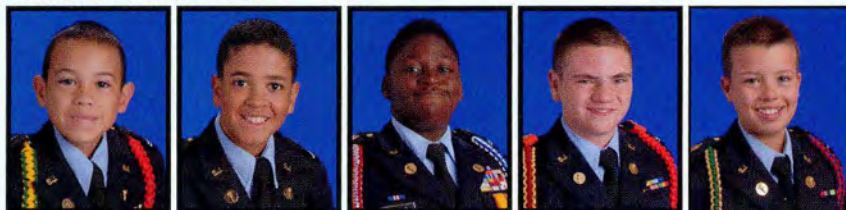
High School

Honor Roll



Gian Falossi ZiYue Zeng Daniel Wei Caelon Tautz QiongLin Huang HaoRan Zhang Dalton Wilson Alexander Weber HongYu Wu

Middle School



Robert Conde Reed Mark Pearsall Bryan Udofia Cameron Ojennes Dawson Odegard

*Celebrate with the Classes of the 50s and the
Seniors of the 127th Corps of Cadets*



**COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND
127th CORPS OF CADETS
MAY 7-9 2015**

Commencement Schedule

* **Bold Denotes Alumni Activities**

Thursday May 7, 2015

8:00 – 9:00 am	Breakfast for Cadets Only	Stevens Center
9:00 – 11:30 am	Registration for Parents	Vanier Academic Center Porch
	Parent Teacher Coffee/Informal Discussion with Faculty	Vanier Academic Center Library
	(Re-Enrollment Desk Open and in Linger Hall)	
10:15 am	Boy Scout Court of Honor	Armstrong Chapel
11:30 am	Pass-in-Review	Teardrop
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch for Cadets & Families	Stevens Center
1:30 – 3:30 pm	Academic/Military Awards Ceremony	Banes Gymnasium
	(Re-Enrollment Desk Open in Linger Hall following Ceremony)	
3:30 pm	Pass Gate Open
3:30 – 4:30 pm	St John's History/Alumni Room Open	Linger Hall
	Tours arranged for Jack Vanier Hall
5:30 – 6:00 pm	Photo Opportunity for Parents at Prom	Salina Country Club
5:30 pm	Alumni Dinner	Martinelli's Little Italy
6:00 – 9:00 pm	Junior/Senior Prom	Salina Country Club
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner for Cadets Only (optional)	Stevens Center
9:30 – 11:30 pm	After Prom	Stevens Center
10:00 pm	Pass Gate Closed for Cadets Not Attending Prom	
11:00 pm	Pass Gate Closed for Cadets Attending Prom	

Friday May 8, 2015

9:00 am	Flag Raising Ceremony	Teardrop
	Final Roll Call	
9:45 am	Pass-in-Review	Teardrop
	Forming of "F" Troop	
10:00 am	Continental Breakfast Parents/Families	President's Backyard Deck
	Old Boys Breakfast	
10:00 am	Breakfast for Cadets Only (mandatory)	Stevens Center
11:00 am	Scholarships/Distinguished Awards Ceremony	Banes Gymnasium
12:00 pm	Lunch for Cadets & Families	Stevens Center
1:30 pm	Drill Team	Grinder
2:00 pm	Blessing of the Alumni	Armstrong Chapel
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Alumni Reception	LaQuinta Motel
2:00 pm	Pass Gate Open	
5:00 pm	Dinner for Cadets without Parents	Stevens Center
7:00 pm	President's Recognition Ceremony	Salina Bi-Centennial Center
	Ring Ceremony Class of 2015	
	Farewell Class of 2014 Battalion Staff	
	Attendance Mandatory for All Cadets	

***** Dress Code - Jacket Required**

12:00 am Pass Gate Closed

Saturday May 9, 2015

7:15 am	Breakfast for Cadets Only	Stevens Center
	Breakfast for Seniors Hosted by Old Boys	Browning Reception Room
8:30 am	Senior Eucharist	Armstrong Chapel
	Mandatory for Seniors	
	(Parents and other Cadets welcome to attend)	
10:00 am	Freedom Tree Ceremony	Teardrop
10:30 am	Graduation – Class of 2015	Jack Vanier Hall - Impact Area
	Final Pass-in-Review	Browning Parade Field
	Dismissal of the 127th Corps of Cadets	
	BBQ for Alumni and their Families, Staff/Faculty	President's Backyard Deck
	(Following Graduation Ceremonies)	

Members of the 127th Corps of Cadets are required to attend all ceremonies during commencement weekend!

St. John's Military School
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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

*Parents' Weekend
February 2015*



Alexander Weber leads the color guard while posting the colors during the promotion ceremony.



Drill Team Commander Lester Ostertag displays his skills.



Edmund Sykes presents arms after executing individual drill.

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