MOUNTAINEER OTHER ALUMNI

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CADET TO CADEE

Caleb Johnson graduated from the Mountaineer Challenge Academy's first class in 2008. As a cadet, he describes himself as average, but he served as an Ed Group Leader, Assistant Platoon Leader and a Platoon Leader. After graduation, Caleb started his new life. He started working the Monday after graduation and hasn't stopped since. At the end of 2016 he returned to MCA as cadre, because he wanted to try and help cadets the way he was helped and to help change their lives for the better.

When asked how the Mountaineer Challenge Academy impacted his life, he said it was life changing and he is very thankful for his time here. He doesn't know what he would be doing with his life without MCA.







We are excited to announce that we are working on the next reunion. Currently, our time frame is to celebrate 30 years of cadets at the Mountaineer Challenge Academy, which would be in 2023. It may seem like a while away, but it will be here before you know it, and we are looking forward to seeing YOU!

Please make sure you reach out to our Graduate Specialist, Roxanne Bright with your up-to-date information so we can send you the reunion information once it has been finalized. Roxanne can be reached at 304.791.7926 or by emailing her at roxanne.l.bright@wv.gov.

THE ROAD to success



Trevor Maxwell (Class 3 -1996)

Former Cadet Maxwell retired from the Navy last year after serving 20 years and is now working in financial services in Norfolk, VA. He recently started his own real Estate investment company.

Charles Fields (Class 1-2014)

Former Cadet Charles Fields graduated from Navy boot camp October 3, 2014. He is serving aboard the USS Arleigh Burke Destroyer.

Enlisting as a Fireman Apprentice, he is currently striking for a rate, learning and working in different areas of the ship to include the Engineering Department, Hull Maintenance, Machinist Mate and HVAC. He is currently stationed at Norfolk, Va.





Angela (Estel) Sturm (Class 2-2007)

Former Cadet Sturm is currently working as a black hat underground coal miner.



J.S. Turner (Class 2-2014)

Former Cadet Turner is serving as a Corrections Officer with the West Virginia Department of Corrections and plans to pursue a career in the corrections field.

Want to be featured in our next Alumni newsletter? Contact Roxanne Bright (roxanne.l.bright@wv.gov) and let her know what you've been up to since you left MCA. We love to hear how well our graduates are doing!



Our cadets say that the food at MCA is one of their <u>favorite</u> things here. Here is one of their favorite recipes, straight from the DFAC!

Lemon Ricotta Pancakes

1 cup ricotta cheese
1 cup whole milk
3 eggs, separated
1/4 cup of sugar
1 lemon, juiced and zested
1 1/2 cups flour
1 TBSP baking powder
1/2 tsp salt

Mix egg yolks, ricotta, milk, sugar, lemon zest and juice until creamy.

Beat egg whites until soft peaks form.

Mix the flour, baking powder and salt together. Mix in to the ricotta mixture and fold in the egg whites.

Heat griddle to 350°. Spray the griddle with nonstick cooking spray. Ladle pancakes with a four ounce ladle or use half cup. Once the batter starts to harden around the edges, flip the pancake over and finish cooking until golden brown. Serve with whipped topping and berries or syrup.



"Success is not in what you have, but in who you are" - Bo Bennett

Did your time at Mountaineer Challenge Academy have a positive impact on your life? Would you like to come back and share your success with our cadets and inspire them? We love to have our alumni return and share their story with our cadets and show them that MCA is stepping stone to a better future.

Contact Roxanne Bright at 304.791.7926 for more details.



Interested in mentoring future cadets? If you live in West Virginia and are at least 25 years old you could qualify. Contact the RPM Office at the Mountaineer Challenge Academy at 304.791.7384 for more information.