

Vol. 26 No. 2 Spring 2016

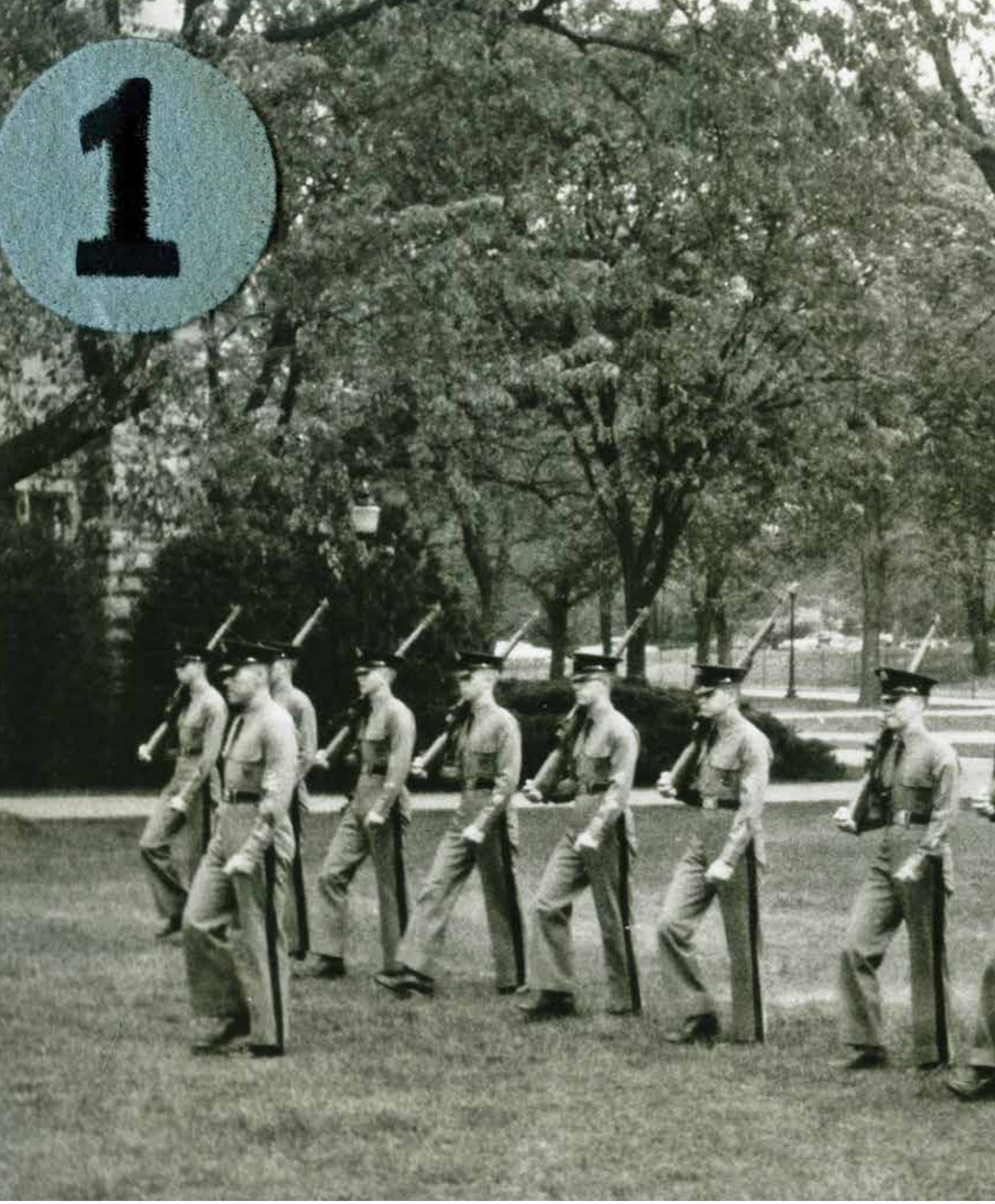
CorpsReview

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Magazine

Living, Learning, Serving

The Corps moves into
the new Pearson Hall

1





Mike Swain '65 (second from right) provided this photo of D Squadron's Eager Squad taken in the spring 1962, when the Class of 1965 cadets were "rats."

D Squadron won the Eager Squad competition that year as the best-drilled squad in the Corps, and its members wore the blue No. 1 patch on their uniform the following year. The squad leader was senior Cadet Aubrey Tarkington '62.

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Alumni

The **Corps Review** is published three times a year by the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Inc. (VTCCA) in cooperation with University Relations.

J. Pearson '87, *Chairman, VTCCA*

Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart, *Commandant of Cadets*

Col. Patience Larkin '87, *Alumni Director and Editor*

David Stanley VT'95, *Art Director*

Juliet Crichton, *Assistant Editor*

Col. David L. Spracher '70, *Director of Development*

H. Pat Artis VT'71; Michael Diersing; Kathy Fullhart; Randal Fullhart; Bradley Larkin; Patience Larkin '87; Allie Oberoi '10; Michael Shroyer; Jim Stroup; Logan Wallace; *Photography*

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Front cover: Pearson Hall, the Corps of Cadets' new residence hall. Photo by Commandant of Cadets Gen. Randal Fullhart.

Back cover: Skipper Crew cadets surround the cannon after moving it into its new home in Pearson Hall. Photo by Commandant of Cadets Gen. Randal Fullhart.



Did you know that the Corps has a parents club?

In 2011, a Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) parents club was initiated by Maj. Gen. Fullhart with the establishment of three chapters. Now, eight parents chapters exist along the Eastern Seaboard, with hopes of adding more.

Founded in 2012, the VTCC Parents Chapter—Hampton Roads, for example, is an active group of nearly 100 members. The chapter's home area covers the Middle Peninsula, the seven cities of Hampton Roads, and the western Tidewater area to eastern North Carolina.

VTCC parents chapters are not, however, limited by geography. Everyone

is welcome to attend chapter events and encouraged to join the various chapters on their open Facebook pages.

Each year, new parents chapters sponsor several events, including a spring social for prospective cadets, a summer send-off event for new cadets, and bi-monthly luncheons. The chapters offer alumni and parents a unique opportunity to connect and to share their experiences with prospective and new cadets.

All alumni are encouraged to seek out a nearby chapter to connect with the next generations of the VTCC family.

Virginia in-state parents chapters

Area

Hampton Roads Area
Richmond/Central Virginia
Western Virginia/Shenandoah

Facebook link*

<http://bit.do/VTCCParentsHamptonRoads>
<http://bit.do/VtccParentsCentralVA>
<http://bit.do/VtccParentsWesternVA>

Out-of-state parents chapters

Area

Baltimore Area
New York/New Jersey/Connecticut
North Carolina
Southeastern Pennsylvania/Delaware
Western Pennsylvania/Ohio/Upper West Virginia

Facebook Link*

<http://bit.do/VtccParentsBaltimore>
<http://bit.do/VtccParentsNYNJCT>
<http://bit.do/VtccParentsNC>
<http://bit.do/VtccParentsSEPADE>
<http://bit.do/VtccParentsWPAOHVV>

* Enter links exactly as printed.

Announcements

Army ROTC to celebrate its centennial!

This year, the U.S. Army commemorates the 100th anniversary of the National Defense Act of 1916 and the establishment of ROTC. In conjunction with this fall's VTCC Homecoming weekend, Virginia Tech's Army ROTC will proudly celebrate 100 years at the university.



We hope you will join us at gatherings during the weekend, none of which will conflict with the Corps' homecoming schedule. We look forward to reconnecting!

Until then, please share your stories on our Virginia Tech Army ROTC Facebook page at www.facebook.com/vtarmyrotc/. We would love to know where you are, where you have been, and what you have accomplished.

More details will appear in the summer edition of the Corps Review.

Career assistance from the VTCC Alumni Inc. board

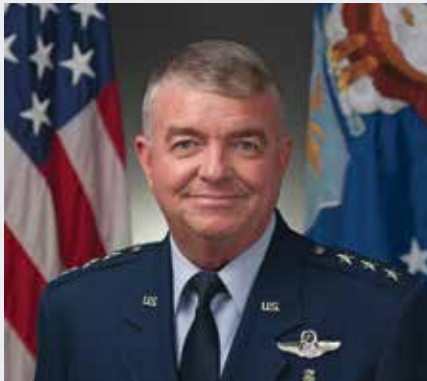
from Scott Pearl '84

Our Career Development Task Force is working to place a link on the VTCC website (www.vtcc.vt.edu) that will lead to a page where job openings and job needs can be posted.

In the meantime, please pass on job or internship opportunities and needs to your class champion and to our task force at vtccalumnijobs@yahoo.com.

At this point, our task force's success in helping folks in the job market is dependent on the Class Champion network.

If you are not getting messages from your class champion, ping him or her! If your class doesn't have a champion, volunteer to serve in that role!



Alumnus named senior vice president of Uniformed Services University

In December 2015, former Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Travis '76 (retired) was named the senior vice president for the Uniformed Services University (USU) of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland.

Travis, who earned a B.S. in biology and an M.S. in physiology from Virginia Tech, earned a medical degree in 1986 from USU, an M.S. in public health in 1991 from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and an M.S. in national resource strategy in 1999 from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Congratulations and *Ut Prosim*, sir!



Moving up in the world

Congratulations are extended to our former VTCC Alumni Director Col. Rock Roszak '71, who was selected to serve as a director on the Virginia Tech Alumni Association Board of Directors. The board oversees the development of both a long-range and an annual plan for the association. Way to go, Rock! *Ut Prosim*.

Class Champions still needed!

A network of Corps classes allowing us to easily pass along information about Virginia Tech and Corps activities to our alumni, the VTCC Alumni Class Champion program is alive and well.

If you are a Corps alumnus and have not been contacted by your Class Champion, please send an email to the VTCC alumni office at vtccalumni@vt.edu.

Volunteer class champions are in place for all Corps class years from 1960 through 2016, except for the following five classes: 1967, 1980, 1995, 1996, and 2003.

Please contact Col. Larkin at patience@vt.edu if you would like to volunteer to serve as your year's Class Champion. If you can send an email, you can do it; it's that easy!



Come back for the annual Old Guard Reunion!

May 18-20, 2016

Special anniversary dinners for '46, '51, '56, and '61
Register at www.alumni.vt.edu/oldguard.



Service in Flight

Col. Mark C. "Plug" Vlahos '82, U.S. Air Force (retired), played snare drum in the Highty-Tighties and saxophone in the Southern Colonels and was a member of Ranger Company and Scabbard and Blade. Upon graduation in June 1982, he was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force and served for nearly 29 years. Vlahos' younger brother, Greg, followed in his footsteps and joined the Highty-Tighties' Class of 1986, graduating from Virginia Tech in 1987.

Immediately after the June 1982 Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets commissioning ceremony, Commandant of Cadets Lt. Gen. Howard Lane turned to the father of newly minted 2nd Lt. Mark Vlahos and said, "If he stays out of trouble, he is going to go far."

Vlahos must have been listening that night. He credits the leadership lessons learned in Brodie's hallways and the work-hard, play-hard attitude of his classmates and the band as keys to his success in both the Air Force and in life.

New graduate Vlahos waited six months to begin undergraduate navigator training at Mather Air Force Base, California; and in the fall of 1983, he received his wings and first choice of aircraft—the C-130. After completing survival training and qualification in the C-130, Vlahos was assigned to the 61st Tactical Airlift squadron (TAS), Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, from 1984-89.

Anyone who flies will say that the first operational flying assignment is the best

and that friends are made for life. "Our squadron was full of young, adventurous aviators just starting out in life," said Vlahos, "with just enough Vietnam-era guys around to not only teach and season us, but provide just enough adult supervision." To this day, the 61st TAS still gets together each year for a weekend in Hot Springs, Arkansas, to watch the thoroughbreds run at Oaklawn Park Race Track.

Back then, life centered around the flying squadron. "If you were in town and not on the schedule or temporary duty," Vlahos said, "you came in to eat lunch with the boys."

Vlahos was a road warrior who flew more than 600 hours his first year in the C-130, an aircraft so versatile that no two missions were ever the same. From airland to airdrop, high level to low level, the aircraft was made to take a beating



Vlahos (left) celebrating his "fini" flight with 314th Airlift Wing Command Chief Rick Turcotte



Vlahos (right) presenting Honorary Vice Wing Commander Joan Zumwalt with her certificate



Meeting the Royal Air Force of Oman's air vice marshal during buildup of Operation Enduring Freedom



Vlahos celebrating his birthday in Seoul, South Korea, with his wife, Julie, and his boss, Adm. Kim, in 2006

and deliver. “One night you would be dropping paratroopers at 3 a.m. at Fort Bragg,” said Vlahos. “Two weeks later, you could be leaving on a three-week Pacific floater delivering mail and supplies to remote islands.”

Tour highlights included the entire squadron deploying to Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, for 75-days each year to support airlift in Europe.

In 1988, Vlahos married his wife, Julie, and their wedding reception was held at the Little Rock Air Force Base Officers’ Club.

Vlahos upgraded to instructor and evaluator navigator during this tour and amassed more than 2,200 flying hours.



Cadet Vlahos’ senior picture, 1982

He also graduated from the Military Airlift Command’s Combat Aircrew Training School—the forerunner of today’s Weapons School—at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

With five years on station, Vlahos knew it was time to move on. In the spring of 1989, he chanced upon an opportunity to interview for a special duty assignment at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, with the 89th Airlift Wing, which provides airlift support to the U.S. president, vice president, cabinet mem-

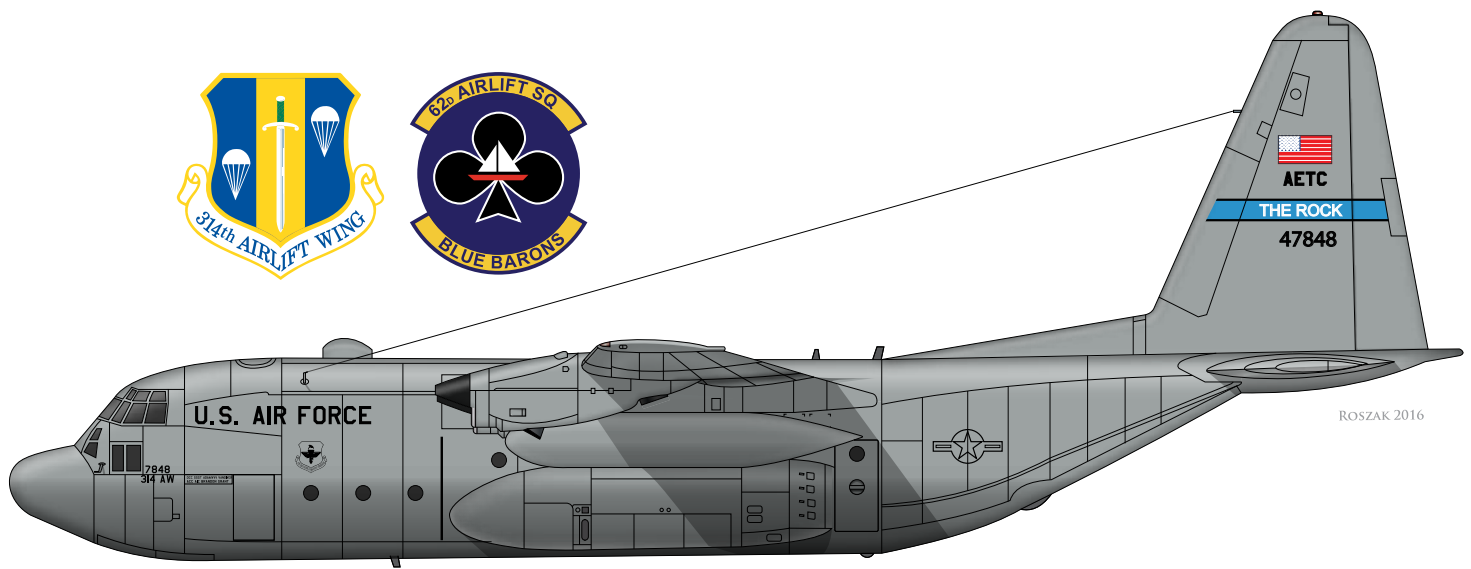


C-130 crew on the ground at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, in 2002

bers, and other high-ranking U.S. and foreign government officials.

In that cycle, Vlahos was one of two navigators selected for duty on VC-135 and VC-137

aircraft flying worldwide shuttle diplomacy missions. From 1989 to 1994, Vlahos’ missions included flights with the vice president, cabinet secretaries, and congressional leaders. He fondly remembers flying former first lady Barbara Bush to Hawaii and meeting her in person. During this assignment, not only did Vlahos fly with Lt. Col. James “JB” Kash ’72—who was featured in the spring 2015 edition of the Corps Review—his wife delivered two children: Benjamin in 1991, and Brooke in 1993.



ROSZAK 2016

*Lockheed C-130E Hercules flown by Colonel Mark Vlahos, USAF
62nd Airlift Squadron, 314th Airlift Wing, Little Rock AFB, AR
Last Flight -- 19 June 2009
Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Class of 1982*



Celebrating with family after “fini” flight hose down

In 1994, after 11 years of flying, came a line number for promotion to major, along with a staff tour at Headquarters U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon. Vlahos worked as a crisis action planner and as a mobility forces basing manager on the operations side of the air staff.

After three years in these two jobs, Vlahos was chosen to work in the Air Force Colonels’ Group and was charged with filling 400 Air Force colonels billets in the greater Washington, D.C., area and running the command selection board process. The wide variety of issues worked and skills obtained from these headquarters’ staff jobs would well serve Vlahos later in his career as a senior officer.

In 1998, after four years at the Pentagon, and with a line number for lieutenant colonel, Vlahos was ready to go back to a cockpit and compete for a squadron leadership position. He headed back to Little Rock Air Force Base for requalification in the C-130 and an assignment to the 62nd Airlift Squadron (AS) as an instructor navigator and assistant operations officer.

With lineage to World War II, the 62 AS trained all crew positions in tactical C-130 operations, including low-level flying, airdrop, and short field landings. In 1999, Lt. Col. Vlahos was selected to serve as the squadron’s director of

operations. In this capacity, he was responsible for the daily operation of 22 aircraft, nearly 200 crewmembers, and 300 maintenance personnel. Because flying occurred nearly around the clock, the assignment was a meat-grinder of a job, albeit thoroughly rewarding. For instance, at the annual “Yacht Club” reunion—the 62d World War II patch bore a sailboat—Vlahos had the honor and privilege of meeting several 62 AS heroes who had led the D-Day airdrops in World War II.

In June 2001, Vlahos found himself on the other side of the world on a one-year remote tour commanding the 763rd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron

(EAS) at Seeb North Air Base in Muscat, Oman. The 763 EAS provided airlift and aeromedical evacuation flights supporting Operation Southern Watch.

The squadron’s mission was forever changed with the events of 9/11. Located just four hours flight time from Afghanistan, the squadron nearly tripled in size, and Seeb North Air Base became a major cargo hub and home of the first field hospital supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. “I’ll never forget the adrenaline rush,” Vlahos said, “as we flew missions prepositioning combat search and rescue forces on the border of Pakistan just prior to the air war commencing on Oct. 7, 2001.”

On the night of Nov. 26, 2001, two 763 EAS C-130s landed on a dirt landing zone named Rhino, and the forced entry of conventional forces to Afghanistan had begun. Under Vlahos’ leadership, the 763 EAS amassed 2,800 combat sorties, flying more than 6,500 flying hours, without loss of life or aircraft.

The squadron transported more than 500 Taliban detainees from pickup points to the first holding camp at Kandahar, Afghanistan. Under direct threat of enemy attack, missions were accomplished utilizing night-vision goggles in hostile terrain. During the war’s early stages, Vlahos was a primary crew member on the first C-130 to land at both



Relinquishing command of the 763 Expeditionary Airlift Squadron during decommissioning ceremony at Seeb North Air Base, Oman, in June 2002

Bagram and Mazar-I-Sharif airfields, Afghanistan, to deliver combat forces and equipment.

In June 2002, Vlahos was reunited with his family and assigned to Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, as a deputy division chief at Headquarters Air Education and Training Command. In this job, he managed billets for officers and enlisted airmen and ensured that all Air Force flying and technical training pipelines had enough qualified instructors to meet production demands. Barely two years into the job, Vlahos was selected to attend a year of senior service school at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) at Fort McNair, Washington, D.C., and his promotion ceremony to colonel occurred in the middle of the school year.

Upon graduation from ICAF in 2005, Vlahos was sent to Yongsan Garrison, Seoul, Republic of South Korea, for a joint, two-year accompanied tour. Working for an Army four-star general, Vlahos served as the director of personnel and manpower for 29,000 soldiers,

sailors, airmen, and Marines and their dependents as part of United States Forces Korea. In by far the most challenging job of his career, Vlahos had both a U.S. military chain of command and worked for a Korean admiral in a joint and combined chain of command. The U.S. contingent exercised hard with its Korean counterparts, as a “state of war” technically still existed. Nonetheless, the Vlahos family managed to take a USO trip to Beijing, to see the Great Wall of China, and to vacation on Guam.

In 2007, after two years in Korea, the Vlahos clan was ready to return to the U.S. For his hard work, Vlahos was selected to serve as the vice wing commander of the 314th Airlift Wing at Little Rock Air Force Base. Thrilled to again fly the C-130, Vlahos oversaw a base with 88 assigned aircraft and more than 5,000 people on 5,000-plus acres.

While at Little Rock, Vlahos surpassed 4,000 flying hours in the C-130. The “E” models that he had flown throughout his career were being retired, and he personally flew two on their last

flights to the boneyard. In addition, Vlahos helped the Jacksonville Museum of Military History obtain a surplus C-130E that was destined for the boneyard. Now on static display, the aircraft can be seen as travelers on U.S. Route 167 pass the air base.

In 2009, Vlahos was assigned to serve as the director of operations at Headquarters 19th Air Force, Randolph Air Force Base, leading a staff responsible for the execution of nearly all of the Air Force’s flying training, which included more than 19,000 students, 23 different aircraft, and 579,000 flying hours. He also played a major role in establishing the new navigator school (now called combat systems officer) at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida. For this training, he flew as initial instructor cadre on the T-1A modified.

With nearly 29 years of service, Vlahos retired on May 1, 2011. He and his family happily reside on 5 beautiful acres in the Hill Country outside New Braunfels, Texas.



On a tour of Seattle’s Boeing factory as part of Vlahos’ ICAF seminar, spring 2005

Charles O. Cornelison '67 Remembered

by Bert Kinzey '68



In a photo taken by Kathy Fullhart, Cornelison had just witnessed the Corps' pass in review on the Drillfield during the Highty-Tighties' 2015 homecoming weekend.



Cornelison's senior picture from the 1967 edition of "The Highty-Tighty" yearbook



In surely one of his proudest moments, Cornelison presented his son, John '11, with the cadet's Highty-Tighty White Citation Cord on Cord Night.



Kimberly Leshner '10 receiving the Charles O. Cornelison Senior Service Award

Having graduated from Cave Spring High School in Roanoke, Virginia, Charles O. "Charlie" Cornelison arrived on the Virginia Tech campus in August 1963. The 1963-64 academic year was the last in which membership in the Corps of Cadets was mandatory for most incoming male students.

A baritone player, Cornelison was assigned to the regimental band as part of the Highty-Tighty Class of 1967. Thus began his life-long passion for the Highty-Tighties, a dedication that resulted in service to the band and to the Corps that would last until the day he died.

Cornelison excelled as a freshman cadet, and upon his return to the band the following year, he was promoted to the rank of cadet private first class, a promotion that was relatively rare in the Highty-Tighties during that time. The freshmen in the Highty-Tighty Class of 1968 came to know Cornelison as a demanding sophomore with very high expectations, but he was also recognized for his fairness and integrity.

Over the next two years, his leadership abilities continued to develop, and Cornelison was selected to lead the Highty-Tighties as the Band Company commander during his senior year. In those days, cadet leaders were given considerable latitude in making decisions for

the units they commanded, and Cornelison became known for making what he truly believed was the right choice rather than the most popular one. He took great pride in his leadership of the band; and throughout his entire life, he fondly recounted events and accomplishments from that year.

Following service in the U.S. Army, Cornelison completed law school and became an attorney in Roanoke. In 1975, three Highty-Tighty Old Guard alumni from the 1920s—Herman Lemuel "Lem" Pritchard '24, H.L. "Red" Slempp '25, and William "Bill" Goodloe '23—became concerned about Virginia Tech's decision to ban the Highty-Tighties from participating at football games and other athletic events. In spite of the amazing record of first-place awards that the regimental band had received in parades and other venues dating back to 1893, the decision by Tech's administration also sought to end the Highty-Tighties' representation of the university at off-campus events.

Remembering how much their experiences as cadets in the Highty-Tighties had meant to them more than fifty years earlier, and realizing that this decision would quickly spell the end of the band and the Corps, Pritchard, Slempp, and Goodloe called other Highty-Tighty alumni together for a meeting in Roanoke to decide what action should be taken in response to the policy decision made by Tech's administration. It was the group's goal to ensure that the Highty-Tighties would remain on campus so that generations of cadets to come could have the same experience.

At the time of that meeting, Cornelison was out of town on a trip that had been long scheduled. Upon his return, he learned that he had been elected president of the newly formed alumni organization.

Although Cornelison was still a few months shy of his 30th birthday, and only eight years had passed since he had commanded the regimental band as a cadet, his leadership qualities and his passion for the Highty-Tighties made him the natural choice to serve as president of the new organization.

As an attorney, Cornelison filed papers to incorporate the Highty-Tighty Alumni as a nonprofit corporation in the



Charles O. Cornelison '67

Commonwealth of Virginia. Then, upon letterhead he had printed for the new corporation, he wrote a letter to Tech's president to challenge the decisions made regarding the Highty-Tighties.

In the letter, Cornelison stated that the Highty-Tighty Alumni Inc. represented not only Highty-Tighty alumni, but also alumni of the Corps of Cadets, and that the decision to prevent the regimental band from performing at athletic events and representing the university at off-campus events was not acceptable.

The letter resulted in a meeting with the administration and representatives of the university's music department, and a two-band policy was adopted. The Highty-Tighties would be allowed to participate at athletic events, along with the newly formed civilian band. Furthermore, the Highty-Tighties were designated to represent the university at all off-campus events except away football games. This action did nothing less than preserve the regimental band and the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech.

For 27 years, Cornelison served as president of the Highty-Tighty Alumni Inc. Under his leadership, funds were created to provide scholarships and other financial assistance to Highty-Tighty cadets. He also began the "Realize the Vision" campaign to rebuild the regimental band to 150 cadets, the size it had been in the 1950s and early 1960s. Because membership in the Corps of Cadets was no longer mandatory and the university environment had changed considerably since the 1960s, the undertaking was

challenging. Although it would take many years and great effort from numerous individuals, the goal was reached, and the vision was realized: The Highty-Tighties numbered more than 150 cadets in the 2014-2015 school year.

Fifteen years after the establishment of the Highty-Tighty Alumni Inc., Cornelison was instrumental in the creation of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni, Inc., and he served two terms as the organization's chairman.

Following his service as president of the Highty-Tighty Alumni Inc., Cornelison was honored with president emeritus status; and following his two terms as chairman of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Inc., he was awarded chairman emeritus status. His dedicated service is also recognized by the highest award a Band Company cadet can receive, the Charles O. Cornelison Senior Service Award, which is given each year to the Highty-Tighty senior cadet whose services to the regimental band are deemed the most outstanding.

Even after stepping down from leadership positions with both alumni organizations, Cornelison continued to be influential in supporting the Highty-Tighties and the Corps. After retiring from the bench as a judge in Roanoke, he worked in the Virginia Tech Office of University Development in gift planning. Upon retiring from that position in 2014, he moved to Florida, but his love of the Highty-Tighties and the Corps

brought him back to campus on a regular basis.

Visiting Virginia Tech for Highty-Tighty Homecoming this past October, Cornelison passed away. It still seems fitting that the last event he attended was a review by the Corps of Cadets on the Drillfield.

The following day, Charlie was designated a Distinguished Highty-Tighty Alumnus by the board of directors of the Highty-Tighty Alumni Inc. A black streamer flew from the guidon of the Highty-Tighty Alumni Band, and a special announcement about his death was made during the pregame performance by the combined Highty-Tighties and Highty-Tighty Alumni Band.

In addition to the Highty-Tighties and the Corps of Cadets, Cornelison was also incredibly proud of his daughter, Anne Cornelison Murphy; and his son, John Cornelison '11, who followed in his father's footsteps and was a cadet in the Highty-Tighties.

Charles Cornelison's passion for the Highty-Tighties and his love of the Corps of Cadets were combined with his vision and leadership abilities to provide lengthy and outstanding service to both organizations throughout his life. All who were privileged to know and work with Cornelison in his support and pursuit of excellence for these organizations recognize just how dynamic and influential his efforts truly were. He will be greatly missed.



In 2012, Cornelison (left) recognizing Charles B. Moore '48 as the Distinguished Highty-Tighty Alumnus



Hokies are represented at college fairs across the globe, including Vicenza, Italy!



In June 2015, Corps alumna Dee Morris '76 presented Emerging Leader Scholarship certificates to incoming Class of 2019 cadets Gavin Moore and Marissa Einhorn at Thomas Jefferson High School in Alexandria, Virginia.

Recruiting During the Gray Days

by David Williams '79

As I write, winter has arrived, and we have entered into what the Corps used to call “the gray days”—at least that’s the term my dad used in his stories of Corps life from 1948 to 1952. As he told it, Blacksburg winters were consistent: The sky was gray, the buildings were gray, the clothing was gray, the food was ... well, you get the idea.

So what do recruiters for the Corps do during the gray days? We work on closing the sales that may have been made during the fall college fair season.

If you have friends or acquaintances with high school seniors headed to Virginia Tech, now is a great time to gently tell the Corps’ story. I say “gently” because, chances are, they have already been exposed to the Corps’ message. In other words, we need to be persuasive without pressing too hard.

If these students have already applied to Virginia Tech as a potential cadet, that’s great. But if they’ve applied as a civilian student, your conversation may open the way for the commandant and his staff to try to sway uncommitted

freshmen during New Student Orientation held on campus during the summer.

The gray days are also a great time to work up a short narrative to present at high school awards ceremonies in the spring when Virginia Tech Emerging Leader scholarships (ELS) are awarded.

Since some high schools no longer allow organizations to make scholarship presentations because of long-winded presenters, brevity is key. Besides congratulating the ELS winner, your presentation should include a brief snapshot—that means less than a minute—of the Corps’ program. There are usually parents and younger siblings in the audience, and we never want to pass up the opportunity to tell the Corps’ story.

If you want to participate in the awarding of a Corps scholarship this spring, please contact both Capt. Oberoi (aoberoi@vt.edu) and me. I will be happy to share with you several versions of short remarks that some of us have used in recent ELS presentations.

As a recruiter, I also use the winter and spring to gradually begin to focus on high school juniors. It’s a great time to have conversations with high school teachers, guidance counselors, and high school band directors. These folks are potentially force-multipliers because they know their students. And if they know the benefits of being a cadet and, most importantly, believe in the program like we do, then they become an extension of our recruiting.

These situations only work, however, when there is a relationship of mutual trust and respect. They also call for a gentle touch; in other words, we need to be persuasive without pressing too hard.

As we Corps recruiters work through the gray days, here’s hoping for an early arrival of spring, a successful close to the academic year, and a highly successful recruiting year for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Ut Prosim!

Pearson Hall:

Honoring the Old, Celebrating the New

Alumni, faculty, staff, and friends gathered on Nov. 20, 2015, to celebrate the dedication of Pearson Hall, the 101,422-square-foot home for about half our cadets. The university's first new residence hall since 2009, Pearson Hall is the first building completed as part of a sweeping overhaul of the Upper Quad. It is being followed by construction of a second residence hall and the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building. Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. Randy Fullhart has said that changes to the Upper Quad, including Pearson Hall, symbolize "the commitment of the university and its alumni to the Corps of Cadets and its leader-development mission."



J. and Renae Pearson

In recognition of a generous donation made to the Corps of Cadets and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Pearson Hall is named for alumni couple James "J." '87 and Renae '90 Pearson of Lavonia, Georgia, pictured at the building's dedication.

Exterior back

Built in the traditional Collegiate Gothic style, Pearson Hall is the first of three new buildings planned for the Upper Quad. The project will create a distinctive location that highlights the history of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and the rich military tradition that dates back to the university's earliest days.



Moving in

Hundreds of cadets relocated to their new rooms in Pearson Hall on Nov. 14, 2015. Dubbed Operation High Ground, the carefully planned move involved the hard work and coordination of individuals and resources from throughout the Corps and the university.



Floor tiles

Special features specific to the needs of Corps members abound in Pearson Hall. For instance, spaced the exact width of the desired stride length for cadets, colored floor tiles line each hall, helping new cadets develop their marching skills.

Laundry

Pearson Hall includes a laundry room with 16 washing machines and 16 dryers—the first ever in a Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets residence hall. Students may use their Hokie Passport Accounts to cover expenses associated with the laundry facility.



Mud room

Equipped with utility sinks, water spigots, wire shelves, and floor drainage, a basement mud room allows cadets to properly clean and care for equipment following outdoor training activities or inclement weather.



Kitchen

Common spaces, such as lounges, study rooms, and a kitchen, create opportunities for social gatherings, study groups, and working together, further developing the camaraderie and spirit of the Corps. During finals week, Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart (left); his wife, Kathy (right); and Sgt. Maj. Dan Willey used the Pearson Hall kitchen to prepare a special breakfast for cadets.

Company insignia

Company insignia are featured prominently on each hall, reflecting the pride and character of the companies and individuals in the building.



Executive committee meets in Company Room

Located on the first floor, the Company Room, which can accommodate up to 60 people, offers multipurpose meeting space for groups, such as the executive committee of the VTCC Alumni Board of Directors (pictured).



Carolers from the Highty-Tighties

Pearson Hall's open lounge provided the perfect location for members of the Highty-Tighties to entertain cadets and visitors during the holiday season.



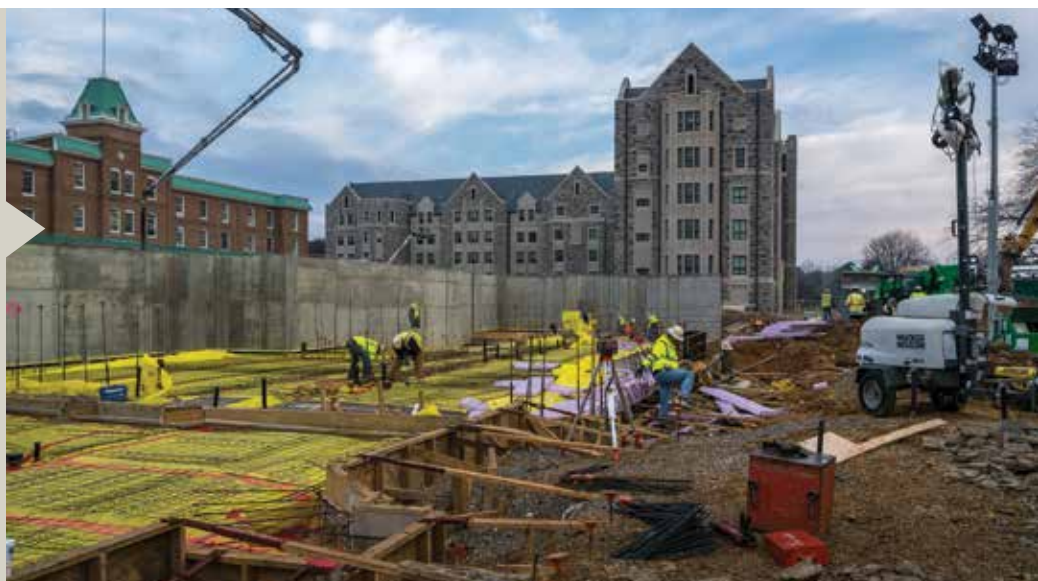
Skipper's home

Visitors to the Upper Quad can view Skipper, the Corps' cannon, through the large display windows of a dedicated room on Pearson Hall's first floor. The room is lit around the clock.



Construction of second new hall, to replace Brodie

Construction of the second new residence hall, which will replace Brodie Hall, is well underway and expected to be complete in 2017.





All in This Together

by Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal D. Fullhart, U.S. Air Force (retired)

I looked up, and it's the start of a new year and a new semester—and planning is already underway for the next class of cadets.

What's on the horizon? In the next few months, Corps activities include Shadow Day; mentor pairings; our annual blood drive; attendance at several Hokie games; the Jaffe Eager Squad and individual competitions; the Platoon Tactical Challenge; our leadership conference; Ring Dance; Senior Banquet and Military Ball; a meeting of the Rice Center Board of Advisors; our Leaders In Action speaker series; our Gunfighter Panel featuring alumni speakers; the Highty-Tighties' participation in the Savannah, Georgia, St. Patrick's Day Parade; the Cutchins Lecture; the second leg of the Caldwell March; our graduation parade and change of command; our annual awards ceremony; and Corps graduation and joint commissioning.

Oh, and that's not to mention our hosting alumni reunions, visiting alumni chapters, working with our parents chapters and other organizations around the country, and cadet companies' completing numerous projects.

How is carrying out this hectic schedule of events possible? Our efforts start with a dedicated and committed staff, mixed with motivated and professional young men and women, all supported by alumni and friends like you who underwrite everything that we do. We're all in this together!

Since your last edition of the Corps

Review, we have moved into the first of two new residence halls, Pearson Hall, which houses all of 1st Battalion and most of 2nd Battalion.

In the meantime, the construction of our second new residence hall is ongoing next door. In addition, I'm very excited to report that the Board of Visitors has approved—and we are moving forward with—the preliminary design phase of the new Corps Leadership and Military Science Building. We are working with our ROTC partners and the architectural firm that designed the residence halls to take the plan to the next level of specificity. Once those plans are completed and approved, we will be ready to seek the commonwealth's support to accompany the support we receive from our alumni.

Campus-wide, the university has launched a new construct to better serve our community of alumni and friends, a restructuring that is vital to our success. Called "advancement," this new model unites the traditional development component of our fundraising efforts with the Alumni Association and University Relations. The restructuring means that all of you will experience improved opportunities to become aware of, share in, and support the success of the university and the Corps going forward.

It is gratifying to report that Virginia Tech alumni in general, and Corps alumni in particular, are demonstrably more dedicated to our institution than most graduates of other schools are to theirs. As a result, we aim to reward that



Construction of the Corps' second new residence hall for cadets has begun.



The commandant happily signed 600-plus letters to cadets who had achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher for the fall 2015 semester.

dedication with outreach that is worthy of our alumni's loyalty—and our efforts won't be played out in isolation.

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Inc. and the Highty-Tighty Alumni Inc. are working hard to help keep our graduates and families connected, which can be as simple as ensuring that we have your current contact information, working to help develop our travel plans around the country, along with the events we host in Blacksburg. Helping us connect cadets with potential internships and post-graduation career-entry jobs is, of course, of utmost importance.

Please keep in touch with your Class Champion and ensure we know how to reach you. If you don't know who is serving as your Class Champion, just ask us.

We don't want to leave anyone behind, and we need everyone to help.

Elsewhere in this edition, you'll learn about one of our new initiatives, the Global Scholars Program. In keeping with our aim to develop global, ethical leaders, now more than ever, we are introducing a leader-focused trip in May. Deputy commandants Don Russell and Chuck Payne will be taking cadets to France to visit the site of the Normandy Invasion. The trip will include meetings not only with our alumni currently serving in the European Command headquarters, but also with members of the U.S. delegation to France.

Your financial support of the Corps, especially the annual campaign and the Commandant's Priorities Fund, has made this initiative possible. With your

help, we hope to expand this program to support more cadets visiting more locations.

We have also begun more-detailed planning for taking the entire Corps to the September football game against the University of Tennessee at Bristol Motor Speedway. Look for more details in coming days.

As you can see, your Corps is active, engaged, moving forward, and creating the infrastructure and the programs to carry your organization well into the next century. Thanks for all that you do and all that you contribute to help make our work possible. We look forward to seeing many of you in the months ahead and sharing the good news that is your Corps of Cadets!

Cadets in formation in front of Lane Hall—
then-Barracks #1—in 1895



History, Honor, Pride: The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Museum

by Samantha Parish

At 7:30 a.m. in a Torgersen Hall classroom, I am preparing to teach the history of Appalachia. Normally quiet at this morning hour, the campus suddenly comes alive with the calls of cadence echoing outside. I pause at the window to watch as cadets of different ranks and military branches march to the beat of their commanders' voices.

This display of unity and pageantry, along with the elegance of the dress uniform, always leaves me awestruck. Whenever I encounter a cadet in a dress uniform—tidy blue blouses adorned with gleaming cross belts and breast plates—my heart swells at how honored I am to work with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' (VTCC) collection of memorabilia.

In January 2015, during my second semester in Tech's Material Culture and Public Humanities Program, I undertook an independent study working on the Corps of Cadets Museum collection. My duties have included unboxing the collection's hundreds of objects, as well as categorizing, identifying, and grading the artifacts for the museum's database. The final step, packing the objects in acid-free containers, will assure their preservation.

With a career in the antiques and auction industry spanning over 25 years, I quickly realized that extensive work would be required to prepare the Corps' collection to recognized standards. Although sorting through stacks of garrison caps and piles of headlights is crucial, the care of a museum collection

involves much more than routine maintenance. Collection research and exhibition design, both within the purview of a museum professional, are central to the core mission of every American military museum, and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Museum is no exception.

As I become more involved with VTCC history, I envision a day when the museum serves the Corps and the community on a larger scale. For example, traveling exhibitions could be constructed to promote the Corps at events across the country. Events produced by museum staff for alumni gatherings could highlight the history of Virginia Tech, underscoring the esprit de corps of our current cadets. All of this



Weapons training in the white helmet

can be achieved with the use of current museum studies and public history scholarship, coupled with the use of technology.

Crucial to the museum's mission is maintaining and presenting a comprehensive display of Corps uniforms, which span the history of Virginia Tech. In the 1895 Bugle yearbook, the very-first edition to be printed at the school then known as Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College, a passage captures the regret of some of the senior cadets who had waited too long to order their dress uniforms: "... for what is it to be a senior without the uniform?" Written over a century ago, the sentiment still holds true today.

One of the more critical aspects of maintaining a museum collection is to conserve those objects that have suffered damage. While assessing the collection, I

have compiled a list of items that I deem important to maintain, the majority of which are uniform pieces. Conservation is expensive, but in order to preserve rare, historical objects of material culture, there are limited options.

A survey of the Corps' artifact collection points to 1895 as especially relevant because of the white, cloth-covered helmet chosen to complete the cadets' dress uniforms. This particular cover was worn for one year and was replaced in the fall of 1896, and there is only one in the collection. Needless to say, this cover is incredibly rare and a significant piece of Corps history that should be preserved. At more than \$1,300, the cost for professional preservation of the white helmet may seem excessive, but it is a small price to ensure the preservation of a historically valuable object in the Corps' collection.



The 1895 white helmet in the Corps collection shows damage.

My work on the collection has stretched into this academic year, with tasks that will keep me busy for the foreseeable future. The planned expansion of the Corps museum, which will be located in the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building to be constructed behind Lane Hall, will necessitate full-time oversight by a professionally trained museum staff member.

Although much work remains, the results will be fulfilling, ensuring the museum's success and preserving the history of the Corps, which is, after all, the history of Virginia Tech.

Samantha Parish is pursuing a graduate degree in material culture and public humanities in Virginia Tech's Department of Religion and Culture.



Cadets training in 1895: Look closely to see the cupola of Lane Hall in the background.

A Fall Full of Memories

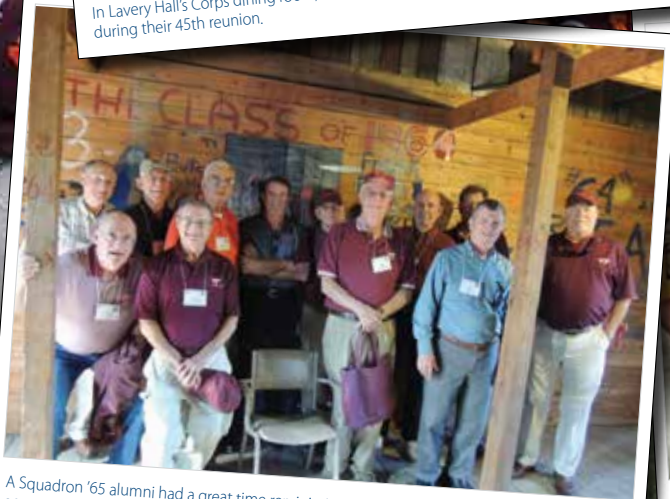
Fall 2015 was a time for returning to Blacksburg and reuniting with old friends and classmates. The Class of 1970 enjoyed its 45th reunion, featuring a presentation by the commandant and a demonstration by the Gregory Guard. Reunions for the Class of 1965 and the High-Tighties were held during Virginia Tech's homecoming weekend in October. Inducted into the Old Guard, the Class of 1965 enjoyed lunch with the commandant, attended a moving remembrance ceremony for classmates, and watched a superb pass-in-review by the regiment. For a second year, members of A Squadron made a special visit to the attic in West Eggleston to reminisce. High-Tighty alumni marched in the Homecoming Parade, enjoyed a pregame lunch with band cadets, and marched together with them in the pregame show.



In Lavery Hall's Corps dining room, the commandant briefed members of the Class of 1970 during their 45th reunion.



Gen. Fullhart made the rounds at the Class of 1965's reunion luncheon, then presented a brief on the Corps's status.



A Squadron '65 alumni had a great time reminiscing and checking out the graffiti left 50 years ago on a wall in West Eggleston's attic.



Class of 1965 alumni and guests gathered for a remembrance ceremony in the War Memorial Chapel.



Regimental staffs from the classes of 2016 and 1965 stood side by side after the pass-in-review that honored the incoming Old Guard class. John Grigg '65 (fifth from right) spoke to the regiment, and Bill McAllister '65 (second from right) "trooped the line" with the commandant.



All of the Class of 1965's original members of the Gregory Guard attended their 50th reunion.



Hightly-Tighty alumni David Williams '79 and Chuck Rowell '71 warmed up in downtown Blacksburg before the 2015 Homecoming Parade.



After the Homecoming Parade, Ranger Company cadets stopped by the Drillfield so that Hightly-Tighty alumni could touch the game ball for luck.



Hightly-Tighty alumna Kim Meyers Hale '91 and Class of 2017 Cadet Cassie Davis shared a story on the sidelines before the combined Hightly-Tighties' pregame performance.



Drum majors from the Class of 1965, Alex Josey and Herb Cox, helped Class of 2016 Drum Major Dixon Johnson lead the combined regimental band of alumni and cadets in the pregame show before the Hokies' game versus Duke University.



A favorite Corps tradition, Halloween formation endures, with Charlie Brown and Linus attending in 2015.



At one of the football team's last practices led by Coach Frank Beamer '69, hundreds of cadets surprised him by showing up with gifts, including a framed photo of the Corps and an honorary Gold Cord.



Senior Chief Bean directing the Highty-Tighties during rehearsal

Six Months with the Corps of Cadets

by Senior Chief Petty Officer James Bean, U.S. Navy (retired)

What is a Hokie, what is the Corps of Cadets, and, for that matter, what the heck is a Highty-Tighty? Those were just a few of the questions I asked my wife, Kathryn, last year after she'd found the job posting for the Corps' regimental band director.

At the time, I was completing a master's degree at Towson University, and I was prepared to put my student days behind me. Having been a trumpet instrumentalist in the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) Band from 1985 to 2007, and a public school teacher from 2007 to 2013, I was interested in trying something new, though not unfamiliar: college-level teaching.

Years ago, after winning an audition with the USNA Band, I had enlisted in the Navy and was eventually named the principal trumpet of this permanent-duty organization. Seeking more involvement, I volunteered for collateral duties in the band's operations office and the library and finally as ceremonial band leader and marching and ceremonial band supervisor, ultimately earning the rank of senior chief petty officer.

Those duties provided me the opportunity not only to conduct high-level engagements for various dignitaries, but to work with civilians, students, shipmates, midshipmen, and officials up and down the chain of command. That experience, along with my years of public school teaching, has proven invaluable for teaching music and directing the Highty-Tighties.

The past six months as the Highty-Tighties' band director have been exhilarating—what a great group of young men and women! Words like squared-away, respectful, intelligent, and dedicated are just some of the positive descriptions that come to mind when I mention the Corps to friends and family.

Since my arrival in July 2015, I am continually impressed with the cadets' can-do spirit and positive attitude, as well as their sense of duty and service. Not only have all the students welcomed me, but the staff—from the general to the senior enlisted advisors—have been a great source of guidance and inspiration. Our students are truly fortunate to learn from and be

mentored by some of the best our armed services have to offer.

Additionally, through kind words and actions, Highty-Tighty alumni have been especially supportive. With any ongoing musical organization, instruments need continuous upkeep; and upon my mentioning the expense to some alumni, I received an overwhelming response of ideas and suggestions, including donated instruments from past players. A 2007 band alumnus even purchased two brand-new trombones, a huge individual donation!

I feel extremely fortunate to be part of this unique program, and I look forward to continuing the Corps' tradition of excellence. I've discovered that *Ut Prosim* is not simply a saying in the Corps; it is a way of life.

Now, in response to my initial questions—what is the Corps of Cadets? What is a Hokie? What is a Highty-Tighty?—I can proudly say, "I am!"

Senior Cadet Commanders, Spring 2016



Regimental Commander **Anthony Carella**

Cadet Col. Anthony Carella, of Mercerville, New Jersey, is pursuing a degree in aerospace engineering with minors in math and leadership studies and plans to commission in

the U.S. Air Force as a pilot upon graduation. He joined the Corps for the opportunity to grow as a leader in a military environment while benefiting from the challenges presented by a renowned university. Cadet Carella served as a cadre and squad leader during the fall 2014 semester, platoon sergeant during the spring 2015 semester, and Band Company commander during the fall 2015 semester. Honored to serve the regiment, Cadet Carella is a recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



First Battalion Commander **Matthew Gulotta**

Cadet Lt. Col. Matthew Gulotta, of Mount Airy, Maryland, is pursuing a degree in aerospace engineering and plans to commission in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot upon

graduation. Joining the Corps in order to be as rigorously prepared as possible before leading our nation's airmen, he viewed the Corps as an opportunity to develop himself as a leader and person and, most importantly, to surround himself with loyal and motivated friends. Cadet Gulotta previously served as Alpha Company first sergeant, flight commander for Air Force ROTC, and Alpha Company commander. Excited to lead 1st Battalion, Cadet Gulotta is a recipient of a four-year Air Force scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



Second Battalion Commander **Joseph Holman**

Cadet Lt. Col. Joseph Holman, of Gastonia, North Carolina, is pursuing a degree in industrial and systems engineering with minors in green

engineering and leadership studies. With plans to work in technical sales for an engineering company upon graduation, he joined the Corps in order to test and grow his leadership skills on a daily basis. He previously served as cadre and first sergeant for Foxtrot Company, as well as the regimental commander during the fall 2015 semester. Thrilled to serve 2nd Battalion, Cadet Holman is a recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



Third Battalion Commander **Brendan Craig**

Cadet Lt. Col. Brendan Craig, of Chesapeake, Virginia, is pursuing a degree in industrial and systems engineering with minors in green engineering

and leadership studies. Planning to commission in the U.S. Navy as a surface warfare officer upon graduation, he joined the Corps in order to challenge himself in a distinguished atmosphere and to gain the experience necessary to enter the Navy as a successful leader. He previously served as India Company first sergeant and company commander, chief petty officer and battalion S-1 for Navy ROTC, and commanding officer of the Surface Warfare Society. Proud to serve 3rd Battalion, Cadet Craig is a recipient of a three-year Navy scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

Command Staff, Spring 2016



Regimental Executive Officer
Sherry Kim
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Army



Regimental Adjutant
Daniel McIlhane
Building Construction
Yorktown, Virginia
Army



Regimental Public Affairs
Officer
Brittany Slaughter
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Chesapeake, Virginia
Navy



Regimental Operations Officer
Brett Romig
History
Staunton, Virginia
Army



Regimental Supply and Finance
Officer
Stephen Rozansky
Aerospace Engineering
Jackson, New Jersey
Air Force



Regimental Academics Officer
James Blunt
Business Information and
Technology
Chesapeake, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Sergeant Major
Bridger Johnson
Political Science
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Army



Regimental Inspector General
Michael Newton
Meteorology
Stafford, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Recruiting Officer
Andrew Sheen
Engineering Science and
Mechanics
Virginia Beach, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Athletics Officer
Caleb Carney
Building Construction and Real
Estate
Midlothian, Virginia
Army



Regimental Historian
Dixon Johnson
Material Science and
Engineering
Shelby, Ohio
Army



VPI Battalion Commander
Natasha Laramie
Consumer Studies
Sterling, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



Army Battalion Commander
Nathaniel Foote
Construction Engineering and
Management
Fairfax, Virginia
Army



Navy Battalion Commander
Logan Whitmire
Computer Engineering
Virginia Beach, Virginia
Navy



Air Force Wing Commander
Trevor Schmidt
Math
Ashburn, Virginia
Air Force

Command Staff, Spring 2016



Alpha Company Commander
Matthew Moser
Political Science
Gainesville, Virginia
Army



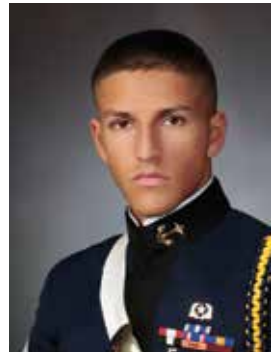
Bravo Company Commander
Andrew Wise
Electrical Engineering
Alexandria, Virginia
Navy



Charlie Company Commander
Clay Thompson
Finance
Columbus, Ohio
Army



Delta Company Commander
Nancy Bateman
Sociology
Alexandria, Virginia
Army



Echo Company Commander
Naveen Gupta
Aerospace Engineering
Annandale, Virginia
Navy



Foxtrot Company Commander
Ryan Smith
Political Science
Mount Airy, Maryland
Army



Golf Company Commander
Walter Gonsiewski
Mechanical Engineering
Lebanon Township, New
Jersey
Air Force



Hotel Company Commander
Brittany Sellers
Human Development
Cottageville, West Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



India Company Commander
Josiah Jeffers
Political Science
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Army



Kilo Company Commander
Christopher Simmons
Mining Engineering
South Hill, Virginia
Navy



Lima Company Commander
Brandon Mrvan
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Chesterfield, Virginia
Army



Band Company Commander
Bryan Engemann
Civil Engineering
Westminster, Maryland
Marine Corps



Band Alpha Commander
Andrew Ide
Physics
Hingham, Massachusetts
Navy



Band Bravo Commander
Kyle Goggins
Aerospace Engineering
Ashburn, Virginia
Air Force



Regimental Alumni Liaison
Officer
Leah Roberts
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Air Force

Late-Fall and Winter Happenings

On Veterans Day, Virginia Tech conducted a series of events led by the Corps of Cadets and the ROTC departments, as the next generation of leaders honored past generations and their shared military heritage. December brought graduation and commissioning for a number of cadets, as well participation in Blacksburg's annual holiday parade. Military Ball was again held on the weekend closest to Valentine's Day and was a great success.



VPI Battalion cadets engaged in conversations with veterans before the 2015 Virginia's Veterans Parade in Roanoke.



VPI Battalion's V Company saluted in front of the reviewing stand in downtown Roanoke during Virginia's Veterans Parade.



The Gregory Guard performed a marching manual for the Veterans Day crowd.



The reviewing party for the 2015 Virginia's Veterans Parade included Virginia Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Tim Williams '84 (left) and his wife, Cheryl '86, and Commandant Randal Fullhart (right) and his wife, Kathy.



For Veterans Day at Virginia Tech, cadet leaders, along with President Tim Sands, placed a memorial wreath near the cenotaph at War Memorial Court.



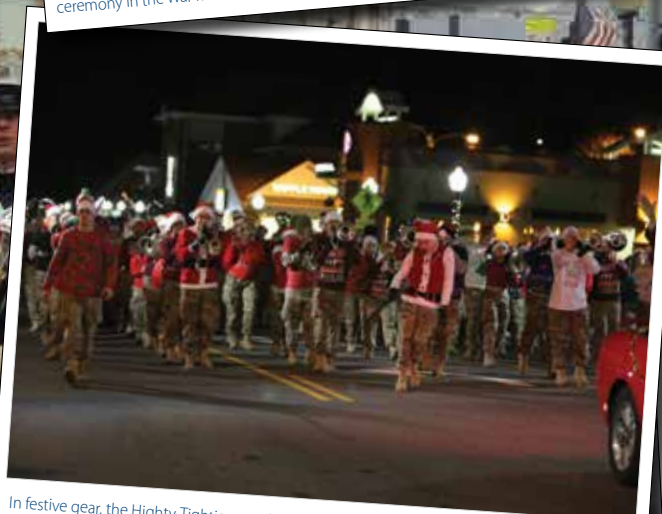
Remembering those who have gone before us



Newly graduated cadets gathered one final time at the Corps' December 2015 graduation ceremony in the War Memorial Chapel.



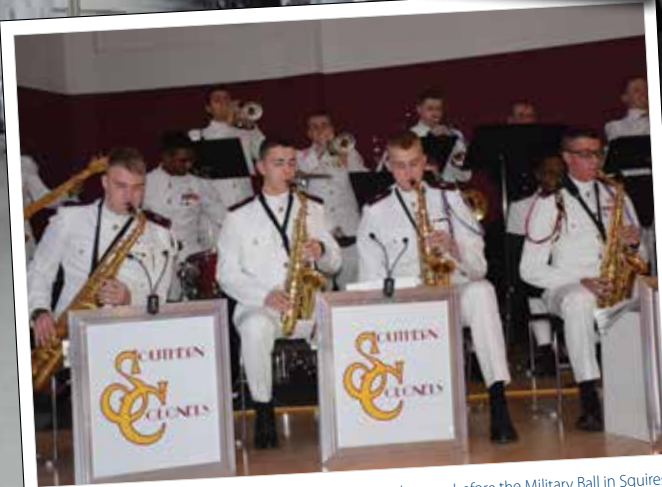
A new batch of military officers was christened as Corps graduates commissioned into their separate services upon graduation in December 2015.



In festive gear, the Highty-Tighties marched down Main Street during Blacksburg's 2015 holiday parade and received first place for their performance.



Cmdr. Mike Weaver '88 and three cadets joined keynote speakers Ruben Navarrette (left) and Michelle Malkin (right) at the College of the Ozarks' 2015 Fall Forum.



The Southern Colonels charmed the crowd with smooth tunes before the Military Ball in Squires Hall.



The Military Ball audience was captivated by the Gregory Guard's precise routine.



The Upper Quad Transformed

by J. Pearson '87, chairman, Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Inc.

Pearson Hall's dedication on Nov. 20, 2015, proved to be one of the best-attended dedication ceremonies in campus history. On a sunny, chilly day, the crowd spilled outside the large tent erected behind Lane Hall, and the ceremony perfectly heralded the official start to the ongoing transformation of the Upper Quad.

I think all will agree that it's only fitting for the Virginia Tech Corps of

Cadets (VTCC) to receive the most modern dorm on campus—some 101,000 square feet with 234 residence rooms that can house up to 550 cadets. And there's another on the way!

Commandant Maj. Gen. Randy Fullhart kicked off the ceremony by introducing the guest speakers, who included Regimental Commander Cadet Col. Joseph Holman, Class of 2016; Eleanor Finger, director of housing

and residential life; Patty Perillo, vice president for student affairs; President Tim Sands; and my wife, Renae '90, and me. Also on hand were the Board of Visitors' Rector Deborah Petrine and several other board members.

After introducing my family, the commandant introduced the building and construction team, which was a nice touch because, though construction was behind schedule, quality was not sacri-



At a November 2015 dedication ceremony, President Tim Sands unveiled the plaque commemorating Pearson Hall.

ficed. Tom Winborne '75, the CEO of the Clark Nexsen design group, worked closely with Gen. Fullhart to design the nuances of the building, such as its heraldry, its mud room, and its space for the Skipper cannon.

President Sands spoke sincerely about the Corps' integral place in the university community—his love of the Corps shows and is growing. Incidentally, later that night after dinner, he stopped by to visit with my family, on a football weekend no less. His gesture showed his dedication to the Corps.

At the ceremony, Renae and I spoke about our time at Virginia Tech and what the Corps means to us. Having met in Rasche Hall in the fall of 1986, we have now been married for 25 years and have two wonderful children. We are both grateful to have been led to Virginia Tech and the Corps of Cadets.

At the close of the ceremony, cadets formed a saber arch as we walked through the building's back entrance. Refreshments were served in the Pearson Hall Company Room, and cadets gave tours of the building. Gen. Fullhart and his team shared with visitors how the Corps operates within their new residence.

All in all, it was a great afternoon for the Corps and a proud day for my family and me. To view a video of the ceremony, go to <https://vimeo.com/146909565>.

As you know, Pearson Hall was built to benefit our students. Living-learning communities are now highly popular on campuses nationwide, and student success rates have climbed since the implementation of this type of residence housing. It's worth noting that the Corps has used this type of housing community since 1872, but now that Pearson Hall is occupied, the Corps can take the concept to a higher level. In fact, the new dorm includes an apartment and an office for a full-time residential learning coordinator.

In the recent Gallup-Purdue Index Report—which compiled the responses of some 14,000 Virginia Tech alumni through an Internet survey—more than

52 percent of VTCC respondents strongly agreed that the university prepared them well for life after college, a percentage that is nearly double the national average. (To view the full report, go to www.vtnews.vt.edu/documents/2015-08-gallup.pdf).

The combination of the Corps experience and the Rice Center's minor in leadership studies will enable the Corps to continue to increase our cadets' preparedness and to exceed our mission for generations to come: "To graduate leaders of exemplary character who are instilled with the values and skills essential for leadership success in the service of our nation."

Corps enrollment continues strong at 1000-plus cadets. Besides a new dorm and a second one under construction, there is another new Corps building on the horizon, the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building (CLMS). Planned to be the heart of the Upper Quad, this structure will house the Commandant's staff, ROTC offices, the tailor shop, a band practice room, a library, the Corps museum, many classrooms, and other much-needed spaces.

During our conversation, President Sands mentioned how excited he is about this future building and what a great recruiting tool it will be for both the Corps and the university.

Not only will the CLMS Building help bring in new federal dollars to the university, it will create interest in the Corps, much like athletics' new practice facility does for the university's sports teams.

Because we have raised our initial \$20 million goal, the Board of Visitors approved moving ahead into the design phase. Meanwhile, our fundraising efforts continue in order to ensure the needed expansions of Corps programs and scholarships.

When you visit campus, please stop by Pearson Hall. Note the heraldry, insignia, and names etched onto the building's exterior; then go inside, where you are always welcome, and ask the cadets or staff to show you around this wonderful residence hall.

Lastly, please remember to participate, communicate, and donate. *Ut Prosim* and Go, Hokies!



J. Pearson '87 led the December 2015 VTCC Alumni Board of Directors' Executive Committee meeting, the first to be held in Pearson Hall.



Current and recently graduated VPI Battalion cadets gather on campus.



In December 2015, Corps alumni (from left) Jim Bigwood '78, Scinju Gadamssetty '12, and Manasi Mehta '13 returned for a panel discussion and shared their insights with VPI Battalion cadets.

Past, Present, and Future

by Deputy Commandant of Cadets Lt. Col. Don Russell, U.S. Air Force (retired)

This past fall, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' (VTCC) Citizen-Leader Track peaked at 272 cadets in its ranks, the largest VPI Battalion ever. For context, there were some 190 cadets in VPI when I assumed this position in fall 2012.

There are a number of dynamics at play behind the battalion's growth, but one thing is clear: This unique leader development program is becoming the crown jewel of the Corps.

Recruiting into VPI Battalion is up. Retention of VPI cadets is up. Individual and organizational successes abound. Employers are taking notice of the value our cadets bring to their organizations, and we are producing outstanding graduates, all leaders of character, for the public and private sectors.

Community Service

Cadets carry out our *Ut Prosim* motto by nature, and VPI Battalion was actively engaged in serving others during the past fall semester.

Not only do VPI cadets continue to support the university's athletic department, performing duties at football, soccer, wrestling, and basketball events, they also led the effort to raise another \$4,900 for the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia. They have continued to organize campus blood drives, collecting well over 600 units of blood this semester, and they returned to H.L. Price Park, located west of Blacksburg, to carry on their work with the Price Family Historic Society to restore and develop hiking trails. And

in November, VPI Battalion again led the way at Virginia's Veterans Parade in downtown Roanoke.

These examples merely touch the surface of the community service that our VPI cadets accomplish as they develop leadership, organization, and communication skills amongst their other demanding academic, Corps, and extracurricular activities.

Pro Lab

The staff continues to refine the VPI Pro Lab curriculum to keep it fresh, relevant, and timely for our cadets. First-year cadets jump right into the program, receiving candid résumé critiques as they prepare to attend their first career fairs held just weeks after the semester's start.



VPI cadets participated in the restoration of the hiking trail through Price Park.



VPI Cadet Brandon Boccher, Class of 2019, accepts the flag during a pregame cadet tradition.



During the Dressing for Success fashion show, VPI Battalion cadets demonstrated the do's and don'ts of business attire.

In addition, we've perfected our annual job search exercise, JOBEX, which simulates the entire competitive process over a seven-week period: creating and posting job descriptions, résumé applications, screening, in-person interviews, and then final selection. This battalion-wide experience is regularly touted as one of the most valuable programs we conduct.

Meanwhile, seniors gain the in-depth fundamentals of managing projects, which hones teamwork and introduces soon-to-be graduates to the types of challenges they'll face after graduation. One of those senior projects was to add a new spin on an old topic: dressing for success. To wide acclaim and even a little levity, cadets organized and produced a phenomenal "dressing for success" fashion show this year.

Opportunity knocks

With their involvement in education abroad, internships, and undergraduate research and their securing post-graduate employment, cadets continue to amaze, and it is impossible to highlight our cadets' every recognition.

VPI cadets participated in summer experiences in Russia, China, England, Peru, Latvia, and Panama. Notably, Cadet Alex Neblett, a Class of 2016 mechanical engineering major who spent his summer in Germany as part of an automotive engineering research program, has already received a handsome job offer from a major defense contractor and is concurrently applying for graduate school. His future, as well as many others', looks very bright.

Because internships receive heavy emphasis in VPI, cadets' summer experiences were wide-ranging, including placement in congressional offices, law enforcement departments, IT/software, marketing, finance, real estate, biochemistry, construction management, defense, and more. Five VPI cadets, for instance, had internships with the FBI.

Several cadets engaged in undergraduate research in medical, human devel-

opment, and engineering fields. Cadet Kristine Mapili, a Class of 2016 civil engineering major, spent her summer at Virginia Tech conducting research on copper pipe corrosion. Other cadets are contracted in the Marine Corps' Platoon Leaders Course or as members of the National Guard.

While most graduating VPI seniors secure their post-graduate plans in the spring, launching their careers, gaining acceptance to graduate schools, or preparing to enter the military, several have already secured their future as we go to print. For example, Cadet Natasha Laramie, a Class of 2016 consumer studies major and this semester's VPI Battalion commander, has accepted a position as a consultant with Accenture. Natasha took over from Cadet Madeline Guillen, Class of 2017, who is the recipient of a Northrop Grumman Military Leadership Scholarship and is in final coordination for a paid internship with the company this summer.

VTCC Global Scholars Program

Because of our alumni's generosity, the Corps is building its own education abroad program—the VTCC Global Scholars Program—to advance its vision of global, ethical leaders.

Twelve rising junior and senior cadets were competitively selected from across the regiment for a 15-week special study course on the Allied invasion of Europe during World War II. The intent is applied history to open wider discussions about current leadership and national security challenges.

In May, the class will take a one-week trip to France to visit the sites of the D-Day landings and other battlefield and cultural sites. The cost of travel and lodging will be covered by the Corps.

Future issues of the Corps Review will include a trip report, and the success of this first trip, along with the commitment of additional resources, will determine the program's expansion in future years.



First-year Cadet Andrew Nguyen, Class of 2018, created a rock bridge on the trail in Price Park.



Junior VPI cadets participated in an interview panel for JOBEX.



Cadet Natasha Laramie, Class of 2016, accepted command of VPI Battalion for the spring semester.



Cadet Matt Crotty, Class of 2016, led his company through Roanoke during the Virginia's Veterans Parade.

Hokie Heroes

Started in 2006 by IMG College, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Hokie Hero program honors Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumni who are currently deployed. Recipients of this honor are highlighted during the radio broadcasts of Virginia Tech football games by Jon Laaser and Mike Burnop, on the Corps of Cadets website, and in the Corps Review magazine. Shown here are the Hokie Heroes featured during the last half of the 2015 football season.



Lt. Col. Kelly Dickerson '95, USA
Kuwait



Lt. Col. Roy Selvidge '93, USA
Iraq, Jordan, and Kuwait



Capt. Derrick Anderson '06, USA
Middle East



Capt. Jerry Andes II '06, USA
Doha, Qatar



Maj. Scott Porter '00, USA
Kabul, Afghanistan



Col. Charles Roede '92, USA
Afghanistan



Capt. Nicholas Nelson '08, USA
Sinai, Egypt



2nd Lt. Rebecca McAfee '14, USA
Eastern Afghanistan



Seniors Cadet Andrew Mitchell and Kate Mountain after being announced 2015 Homecoming King and Queen

Andrew Strong: Helping our VeTerans

by Cadet Andrew Mitchell, Class of 2016

Nearing the end of my junior year, friends encouraged me to run for Virginia Tech's Homecoming King. Viewing the election as primarily a popularity contest, I was reluctant, but I agreed to attend a meeting for interested participants.

I was pleasantly surprised, for the 2015 Homecoming Court had shifted its focus away from simply candidates' popularity. In keeping with the university's motto, *Ut Prosim*, all candidates would run on a campus or community betterment platform, and the winners would be given a \$1,000 budget to implement their campaign.

After a deliberative interview process, I was selected as one of eight male candidates and thus began what has proven to be one of my most fulfilling collegiate experiences.

During a busy summer of Army ROTC training, I brainstormed a betterment program. Times of misunderstanding or misperception I had experienced with civilian students on campus soon came to mind, and I realized that Homecoming offered a public platform to bridge that gap.

In its formative stages, my campaign looked to bring cadets and civilian students together by way of the Corps' more accessible training events, such as the obstacle course. Upon reading Eric Greitens' "The Heart and The Fist" for Virginia Tech's 2015 Common Book Project, however, I added another element.

Through his foundation, The Mission Continues, Greitens' work to assist veterans transitioning out of the military challenges them to find new missions to serve their communities, a refreshing, unique approach. I decided that if I won, I would donate the \$1,000 to The Mission Continues.

With my service platform established and the approval of my slogan—"Andrew Strong: Helping our VeTerans"—I wanted to formulate an engaging campaign for the Corps. I approached Maj. Gen. Fullhart with the idea of cadets' wearing a campaign T-shirt as a modified uniform during the two weeks before Homecoming. The commandant approved, and more than 250 cadets wore "Andrew Strong" T-shirts.

I also sought to similarly engage the rest of the campus. The Army ROTC office supplied a pop-up tent, banner, and Army ROTC swag to distribute. I reached out to the National Guard in Christiansburg, Virginia, and the unit helped staff my campaign booth and provided one of the more memorable facets of my campaign: an up-armored Humvee parked on the Drillfield.

Upon being named Homecoming King during halftime of the Homecoming game, I became more appreciative of Virginia Tech, the Corps of Cadets, and my amazing friends and family. I honestly take no greater pride than knowing I am part of an institution that has consistently produced great leaders whom I can only hope to emulate.

I don't know that I can ever fully express my gratitude to everyone who supported me on this journey, but I can always live in a manner that demonstrates the love I have for my country, my family and friends, and my alma mater and her motto, *Ut Prosim*.



Army ROTC cadets at the 2015 1st Brigade Ranger Challenge Competition at Fort Knox, Kentucky

Army ROTC News

Virginia Tech's Army ROTC department completed another great semester with a continuing focus on leader development. As we adapt to transitions in the U.S. Army and Cadet Command, one thing remains consistent: great cohorts of cadets that promise a strong future for our Army.

Ranger Challenge

by Cadet Austin Fuller, Class of 2016, Ranger Challenge co-captain

The 2015 1st Brigade Ranger Challenge Competition at Fort Knox, Kentucky, was a weekend packed with excellent training that tested every team's ability to work together as a cohesive unit.

Day one began with a physical fitness test in the morning, followed by team-shooting behind barriers and a 25-point land navigation course. These three events were graded and used

to determine starting times for the official Ranger Challenge competition the following day.

The second day of the challenge included more technical and physical tests, highlighted by an adventure course that included eight events. Each team was given a map of Fort Knox and grid coordinates in order to locate each event.

Although the challenge was one of the most physically grueling competitions ever held by 1st Brigade, the Tech team performed impressively throughout the two days. As the team's co-captain, I felt a strong responsibility to make sure we were represented well. Placing fifth overall among 17 teams, the Tech team earned the highest team average Army Physical Fitness Test score, along with the highest male score.

Team captain, Cadet Hatala, Class of 2016, and I were very proud of the team and honored to have the opportunity to coach and train our fellow cadets.

The Army Ten-Miler

by Cadet Tom Lamm, Class of 2016; and Cadet Pierce Baker, Class of 2016; team co-captains

The 2015 Virginia Tech Army ROTC Ten-Miler team had a great time training for and competing in the race held in Washington, D.C. Proud to represent both Army ROTC and Virginia Tech, every runner on our team was motivated anew with every hearty chant of “Go, Hokies!” or “Go, Tech!” Needless to say, the experience of running in our nation’s capital was also a monumental privilege.

As a team, we improved our long-distance running and experienced an event that reminded us all of the camaraderie and selfless service of our future profession. The cadets were especially grateful for the efforts of the Army ROTC unit and the cadre staff who made our participation possible.

Fall leadership development exercise

Roughly 430 Army ROTC cadets conducted the fall leadership development exercise (LDX) held at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant on Oct. 16-18. The cadet battalion did an excellent job with this large exercise that required a significant amount of planning and preparation involving all levels of the cadet chain of command.

Senior Cadet Michael Bolls, Virginia Tech’s Army ROTC battalion commander, noted that “LDX is our culminating event, so all the work that the cadets put into every Army lab throughout the semester is tested during this weekend. We’ve reviewed individual movement techniques, patrolling, squad-level tactics, and basic soldier skills. All those have come together for this event to test the cadets’ knowledge and skills on land navigation, patrol base operations, and orienteering.”

Cadets also negotiated the field leadership reaction course, which served to assess their problem-solving abilities and skills. One of the cadets deeply involved in planning and executing the LDX, senior Tom Lamm said that “it’s more of an assessment of the cadets and their ability to think on their feet, their ability to solve problems with a lack of resources.”

Cadets participating in the lower levels of the chain of command said the exercise was successful and offered vital training opportunities. “It was the best one we’ve had in my time here,” said senior Cadet Josh Conyers. “The weather was some of the best, and the scheduled training events gave each of us a chance to develop our individual skills, as well as to work with a team. Both the cadre and cadet leadership did a great job making sure it was a positive training environment, and morale was high throughout the weekend, even in the cold.”

Cadet Nikkole Lenardson shared similar sentiments about the training weekend: “The cold weather conditions and long duration of the exercise were challenging, but I learned a lot. I just entered Army ROTC, and it’s kind of like learning a language. Complete saturation into the Army culture at LDX forces you to absorb a lot of information quickly.”

Overall, the exercise was deemed a success. “Commanders did a great job out there. My whole staff did an amazing job putting this together,” Bolls said. “I was really surprised with the freshmen’s performance, and they got out there and had a good experience. The subordinate level leadership had a good training exercise, too, some of them leading squads, platoons, or as first sergeants for the first time. It was a great overall leadership event.”



Army cadets competed as a team in the 2015 Army Ten-Miler.



Midshipman 3rd Class Joshua Porter carries Midshipman 1st Class Stearney during the Steel City Challenge.

Naval ROTC News

Virginia Tech's Naval ROTC (NROTC) battalion experienced a fall semester filled with numerous activities and professional laboratories that helped elevate the program's status.

In competition, the unit won the First Annual Steel City Challenge and finished in the top 20 in the Army Ten-Miler.

In pro lab, the unit learned about the explosive ordnance disposal community and became familiar with shipboard damage-control procedures and close order drill. In addition, the unit conducted ethical-decision games and received helpful briefs on driving safety from the Virginia Tech Police Department.

Raider Company completed its annual fall field exercise, and the Naval Aviation Society toured an F/A-18 Super Hornet, while the Submarine/ Nuclear Society toured the USS Newport News (SSN-750). The Surface Warfare Society conducted extensive training on the use of nautical charts and rules of the road.

The NROTC unit continues to achieve its mission of developing midshipmen mentally, morally, and physically.

Specifically, significant improvements were made in physical fitness as more than 50 midshipmen earned physical fitness awards, including nine midshipmen who scored the maximum points possible on the fall physical fitness tests.

Steel City showdown

by Midshipman 2nd Class Acevedo, Class of 2017

On Oct. 17, 2015, 34 NROTC members participated in the first annual Steel City Challenge. Hosted by Carnegie Mellon University's NROTC in Pittsburgh, the games consisted of sub-competitions, including precision drill, color guard drill, swimming and running, Highland games, and a reconnaissance challenge.

Tech's teams began practicing for their events months earlier, and the time and effort spent in preparation paid off. The VPI midshipmen took first place in drill, first place in swim and track, first place in the reconnaissance challenge, second place in the Highland games, and first place overall! Needless to say, we are immensely proud of the midshipmen who participated and helped earn the top spot.



The color guard retires the colors following the presentation of the service songs.

240th Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball

On Nov. 7, 2015, the NROTC unit held its annual Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball, an event attended by hundreds, including many from other services and ROTC units at Virginia Tech, as well as Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart and Col. Cameron Torrens, the Air Force ROTC commander and professor of aerospace studies.

This year's guest of honor was Rear Adm. Scott Stearney, commander of the Navy Warfare and Development Command. A graduate of the Navy's Fighters Weapons School—commonly known as Topgun—Stearney is a distinguished naval aviator with more than 4,500 flying hours. His remarks focused on how quickly a 30-plus-year career can pass by and the significance of the oath of office taken by each midshipman at commissioning.



Midshipmen gathered after the Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C.

Army Ten-Miler

by Midshipman 4th Class Rendon, Class of 2019

Sixteen Virginia Tech midshipmen traveled to Washington, D.C., on Oct. 11, 2015, to run the 31st edition of the Army Ten-Miler, which attracted more than 35,000 civilian and military participants.

On a beautiful fall day, the Virginia Tech midshipmen broke into two separate teams, an "A" team and a "B" team, following a course that passed by landmarks such as the Lincoln Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, and the Washington Memorial.

Among more than 600 ROTC teams from across the country, the "A" team finished in 14th place, and the "B" team finished in 40th place. Well done, Hokies!



After taking the oath of office, Ensign Fogwell '15 shakes the hand of Capt. Robert James.

Commissioning

by Midshipman 1st Class Engelmann, Class of 2016

The Naval ROTC battalion was proud to commission four midshipmen on Dec. 18, 2015, alongside 13 of their peers commissioning into the Air Force and the Army.

The joint ceremony featured guest speaker Col. Edwin H. Oshiba, U.S. Air Force (retired), who offered wise words on the importance of developing a balance between work and family life. Following Col. Oshiba's remarks, each commissionee individually swore the oath of office in front of family and peers.

The ceremony concluded with the traditional first salutes for the newly commissioned junior officers, who headed off to various stations and bases to begin training or service.

Second Lt. Andrew Neuman reported to The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, for Marine Officer Training; ensigns George Fogwell and Bryant Throckmorton reported to Pensacola, Florida, to begin training as naval aviators; and Ensign Kris Rodriguez reported to the USS Pearl Harbor in San Diego to begin service as a surface warfare officer.

The NROTC battalion wishes its December graduates well as they prepare to lead men and women in service to the nation.



Cadets got competitive with some morale-building events at their biennial combat dining-in.

Air Force ROTC News

Virginia Tech's Air Force ROTC Detachment (Det) 875 worked tirelessly to execute training exercises, uphold traditions, and boost the wing's morale throughout the fall 2015 semester. No week went to waste, and every cadet put forth an effort to help better the detachment and achieve its goals.

With its training exercises, Det 875 provides some of the best opportunities for cadets to practice their leadership skills. In the fall, the wing tackled Warrior Day to help gain combat skills, an experience full of learning and progression as leaders for the freshmen and sophomore cadets. Not only did upperclassmen play a primary role in preparing for the day, they also evaluated the underclassmen in order to guide them to more efficient and successful leadership.

The cadets' objectives were the successful completion of knowledge tests and leadership problems in fields essential for future Air Force officers. Some stations worked in technical areas, while others required that a creative leader step forward and assist the flight through a formidable problem. Challenges cadets faced ranged from self-aid buddy care, moving in formations, calling in nine-lines (combat rescue), and, of course, classic group leadership problems. There was also

ongoing field training preparation that included marching practice, dorm maintenance, and knowledge of the Field Training Manual.

On Sept. 14, 2015, 10 Det 875 cadets attended the Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition in National Harbor, Maryland. A variety of knowledgeable Air Force officers and civilian leaders spoke on pertinent issues faced by the Air Force and the entire aerospace sector, including such topics as Congress and national security, the state of cyberwar, Air Force energy, and the quest for a new airpower strategy, among others.

The conference provided an outstanding hands-on leadership and learning experience, along with opportunities to hear from those who have taken the same journey on which our cadets plan to embark. The speakers shared valuable insight and information, and the entire conference provided an impressive environment to broaden knowledge related to the future of air power.

Det 875 takes great pride in its traditions, particularly those that commemorate memorial events such as 9/11 and Veterans Day. On Sept. 11, 2015, the entire wing met at Lane Stadium and proceeded to run the stairs of the east stands. Each step



The wing receives a briefing from other cadets about their study abroad experiences.

climbed symbolized a life lost in the attacks; and the cadets, whose bodies were put to the test, would feel every one of those 2,977 steps for days after the exercise. The wing truly came together that day, each wingman pushing every other wingman onward to honor and remember lives lost. Two months later, the entire detachment volunteered for a full 24 hours on Veterans Day to guard The Rock, the Corps' memorial for Virginia Tech alumni who died in World War I.

For other events, Det 875 takes special care in creating activities that lift the wing's morale even higher. For Halloween, another "Zombie Run" was held, allowing volunteers to get together and create a spooky, thrilling atmosphere for runners.

On the evening of Nov. 14, 2015, Det 875 gathered for a fun-filled night at the unit's biennial combat dining-in. Braving cold temperatures, cadets formed up for the warrior run to the Virginia Tech airport and arrived at their destination with plenty of motivation and high spirits. Many were dressed to look "tacti-cool," wearing shemaghs, load-bearing vests, Kevlar, or face paint.



Col. Cameron Torrens revealed the No. 1 Large Detachment Award to the wing.

Sharing his Army experiences, a retired colonel presented a motivational, informative speech that put into perspective the sincerity of the business our cadets will be a part of in the near future.

In addition, an arm-wrestling contest and mechanical bull provided for fierce competition and good camaraderie. Later, as the detachment enjoyed burritos, Class of 2016 Cadet Alex Stone and Class of 2017 Cadet Austin Shumate roasted the commissioning cadets. One of the biggest hits of the night was the lip-syncing battle that allowed the cadets to represent their respective squadrons—and the cadre staff to put their hidden talents on display.

Many months of planning by Cadet Eric Warrell, Class of 2016, and his staff paid off handsomely for a great night of fun. Thanks are extended to everyone who made the event possible!

Proving itself to truly be the best alive, Det 875 was recognized as the No. 1 large detachment in the country, finishing on top for production, having commissioned 40 second lieutenants and five distinguished graduates. Thanks to the detachment's physical fitness officers and everyone's hard work in training, Det 875 also rated first in physical fitness assessment scores and came out on top academically with an average GPA of 3.197, besting the nation's other senior military college detachments. Every member of the wing should be proud of the accomplishments achieved both individually and collectively.

Other events, including service projects, squadron dinners, and motivating physical training sessions, contributed to the amazing work carried out at all levels in the wing, most of which was under the control of the cadets with guidance from cadre. Their commitment to making Det 875 "The Best Alive" never goes unnoticed. For future leaders in the U.S. Air Force, there's no better place to prepare.



Cadets push it out in some motivating partner PT.



News from the Development Office

by Scott Lyman '84, assistant director of development, 800-553-1144, rlyman@vt.edu

Writing this article, I realized that Dave Spracher '70, whose retirement is imminent, will no longer be serving as the director of development for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) when the next Corps Review is published.

Over the past 16 years, Dave has given much to our university and our Corps of Cadets, and every one of us should be grateful for all that his hard work has helped the Corps accomplish. During the next several years, Virginia Tech will be preparing for its next major capital campaign, which will require every Corps graduate to give what he or she can to ensure the campaign's success.

Campbell Thunder Fund

When Dr. Wayne W. Campbell '65 lost his battle with cancer in May 2013, his widow, Dawn, asked for donations to the Campbell Thunder Fund benefiting the Corps of Cadets. Though not a cadet, Wayne had close associations with many cadets through the German Club and developed an appreciation for the leader development that is the Corps' mission. He and Dawn believed that the Corps of Cadets—a program that teaches ethics, honor, and leadership within a superior academic environment—is the one thing separating Virginia Tech from its peer institutions.

In addition to a love for the Corps, Wayne and Dawn loved bagpipes, a reflection of the Campbell clan's Scottish roots. At Wayne's funeral and memorial services, a piper performed "Amazing



Cadet Huggins, Class of 2018 and Dawn Campbell in front of the Luray Singing Tower, officially known as the Belle Brown Northcott Memorial, in Luray, Virginia. Photo courtesy of Gage Lackovitch

Grace" and "The Campbells Are Coming," along with other selections.

Wayne had visions of a Virginia Tech piper who would be available to play



Dawn and friends celebrate the \$5,000 first place prize. Photo courtesy of Gage Lackovitch.

at such events in the future. After her husband's death, Dawn requested memorial donations to the Campbell Thunder Fund in lieu of flowers, and she continues to seek out additional ways to grow the fund.

In September 2015, Dawn invited Dave Spracher to bring Cadet Piper Bren Huggins, Class of 2018, to the Luray Downtown Initiative, an event in Luray, Virginia, that would award a prize to the group with the largest participation at a tailgate party.

Dawn, who had invited friends and relatives from as far away as Maryland and North Carolina, won the \$5,000 first place prize. Along with donations from many people, that prize money increased the Campbell Thunder Fund to \$32,785. Since then, a generous friend has donated enough to endow the fund.

The fund paid not only for the kilt that Cadet Huggins is pictured wearing, but also for a set of bagpipes. Eventually,

a second set of pipes will be purchased, and other costs for the pipers will be funded. Dawn intends to continue to add to the endowed fund to provide a scholarship for at least one piper and other expenses.

Corps Leadership and Military Science Building naming opportunities

Since the fall 2015 Corps Review, the following donors have taken advantage of Corps Leadership and Military Science Building (CLMS) naming opportunities:

- Kelso Baker '51
- Bill '75 and Betsy '77 Cook
- Mabel B. and David H. Driver '62
- Robert C. Luckner '68
- David Minichan '51
- Nancy and Vince Snidow '61
- Deanita and Brig. Gen. Thomas Verbeck '73
- John C. Watkins '69

Annual Fund

By Randy Holden, director of annual giving

Each year, 24 percent of all Corps alumni give back to Virginia Tech, a participation rate that more than doubles the university participation rate of 11.4 percent. For each of you who have given to the Commandant's Priorities Fund, Emerging Leader Scholarship Program, Rice Center for Leader Development, CLMS, or other areas, thank you. Because of your generosity, your cadets continue to benefit from abundant opportunities to develop leadership skills, grow as individuals, and excel inside and outside the classroom. It is clear that many of you acknowledge the importance of encouraging cadets and recognize the value in the character development that is at the core of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the dedication and service of my retiring colleague and friend Dave



Cadet Huggins led the procession of participants during the Luray Downtown Initiative

Spracher '70. It has been my pleasure to serve alongside him on behalf of the Corps of Cadets. Dave believes in the Corps and used his personal conviction to orchestrate the financial support necessary to build leaders of our future. His positive impact on your Corps of Cadets is immeasurable. Thank you for your service to the Virginia Corps of Cadets. I, along with many others, salute you, Dave Spracher.

Major Gifts (\$25,000 and above)

Margaret L. Anthony pledged to support the **VTCC Dorothy Anthony McCarson Endowed Scholarship** to honor her mother, Dorothy Anthony McCarson.

Gary '86 and Jill '87 Boward established an estate gift that will add to their existing **VTCC Gary D. '86 and Jill J. Boward '87 Scholarship**.

Karen and James Everett III '66 made a gift to establish the **VTCC Everett/Gwaltney Family Scholarship**. Jim and his son, Andrew '92, along with 20 cousins and two uncles in the Gwaltney family, are all proud graduates of Virginia Tech. Their gift will support a Citizen-

Leader Track cadet whose major is in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

Margaret Fulton, daughter of Betty and James T. Fulton '45, made a pledge to support the **VTCC Betty S. and James T. Fulton '45 Scholarship**.

Margaret wishes to honor her parents and to provide expanded opportunities for members of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets in perpetuity.

S. Cary Gill '67 pledged to fund the **VTCC S. Cary Gill '67 Citizen-Leader Scholarship**, the second scholarship he has provided to benefit a cadet in the Citizen-Leader Track.

Evelyn A. Gordon, wife of Charles O. Gordon Sr. '42, made a gift to fund the **VTCC Charles O. Gordon Class of 1942 Scholarship Endowment Fund**. Charles, who was the president of the German Club during his senior year and a member of the 5th Battalion staff, wanted to provide for a cadet in good standing, with preference based on scholastic achievement, good character, financial need, and demonstrated potential for leadership.

Gary Greer, a longtime friend of Dawn and Wayne Campbell '65, made a

generous gift to the **Campbell Thunder Fund**, endowing the fund so that it can support the Corps of Cadets in paying for expenses such as kilts and bagpipes.

Steve and Connie Mitchell, parents of the late Capt. D. Seth Mitchell '01, made an additional pledge to support the **VTCC Capt. D. Seth Mitchell '01 Memorial Scholarship** that honors their son who was killed in a 2009 helicopter accident in Afghanistan.

Peggy and Russell Schwartz '62 made additional gifts to their **VTCC Esther and Russell Schwartz Scholarship** and to the Commandant's Priorities Fund.

Fay Street made another gift to the **VTCC Nicholas D. Street '53 Endowed Scholarship**. Fay first funded the scholarship in 2004 as a surprise for her husband, Nick, and they continue to support more cadets.

Harvey L. Sutton '59 made a gift towards the future **VTCC Agnes and Harvey L. Sutton '59 Endowed Scholarship**.

James E. Vass '64 pledged to fund two annual scholarships for current recipients of the scholarship that his estate will create after his death. A member of K Company, Vass served in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and rose to the rank of commodore.

Cmdr. Michael Weaver '88, a VTCC deputy commandant of cadets and senior mentor to 1st Battalion, established an estate gift to eventually fund the **VTCC Commander Mike Weaver '88 Scholarship**.

As the Corps moves forward into a new era, it is important, now more than ever, that we pay it forward. If there is anything that I can do to assist you in determining how you would like to support the Corps, please contact me at 540-231-2085 or at rlyman@vt.edu. Join the honored list of those who are helping to ensure the future of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Ut Prosim,
Scott

New Members of the Corps Alumni Board

Danny R. Mills '64

Danny R. Mills '64, who graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in ceramic engineering, was a cadet in M



Company during his freshman and sophomore years and in H Company during his junior and senior years. A member of the Pershing Rifles/Gregory Guard, serving as finance officer; the Society of Military Engineers, serving as president; the Association of the United States Army; and Scabbard and Blade, he also served as H Company commander and was a distinguished military graduate.

After graduation, Mills served two years of active duty in Vietnam with the 1st Infantry Division's 701st Maintenance Battalion, followed by four years of reserve duty. He worked in the refractory industry as a process engineer, plant manager,

and group manager of manufacturing and served on the original faculty of Rappahannock Community College as an instructor in the pre-engineering department. After 21 years of service, he retired in 2008 as vice president of regional operations for the Virginia Center for Innovative Technology, a Virginia non-profit focused on economic development of the commonwealth's technology sector.

Mills returns to the Corps alumni board after having served from 1995 to 2009, when he stepped down to avoid any conflict of interest as he designed and developed products that promoted Corps traditions; the business was closed in 2013. He continues service to the Corps as co-chair of the fundraising effort for the Class of 1964's Emerging Leader Scholarship, which has raised more than \$150,000 to date.

Mills recently moved to Christiansburg and enjoys Hokie sports, mountain hiking, and model-boat building. He and his wife, Joan, have two sons, both of whom were cadets: Todd '96, a U.S. Navy Reserve commander; and Nathan '99, a senior buyer for Volvo Trucks.

Jordan McCauley '12

Jordan McCauley '12 was born and raised in Lynchburg Virginia, where he attended E.C. Glass High School and



Central Virginia Community College before coming to Virginia Tech. A 2012 graduate of the Corps' VPI Company, he earned a B.A. in sociology with a concentration in crime and deviance. As an undergrad, he was vice president of VT Students for Concealed Carry and was the executive officer of Bravo Company as a senior.

Now working for the Virginia Tech Alumni Association as an assistant director for alumni relations, he spends most of his free time lifting weights, shooting, or riding motorcycles. He is an avid fan of Hokie sports, an alumni advisor for the Motorcycle Club at Virginia Tech, and a member of the Pistol and Rifle Club.

McCauley is the middle child in an amazing family of seven, including his dad, Greg; his stepmother, Rachel; and his four siblings, Lauren, Scott, Francis, and Isabelle. His mother, Laurie, died in 2008.





In February, the regiment welcomed back alumni (from left) Army Capt. Matthew Wright '07, Bonnie Evangelista '08, and Air Force Capt. Andrew Olson '10, who took the stage in Burruss Hall and shared their experiences since graduation and how the Corps helped prepare them for challenges they've faced.

The Next Chapter

by Elaine Humphrey, Ph.D., director, Maj. Gen. W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Development

In his final article for the Corps Review, Col. Miller was very kind to welcome me as the new director of the Rice Center. I want to thank him for his generous sharing of information and insights during our transition this past semester. The enthusiastic and competent staff and cadets have also made me feel incredibly welcomed and motivated to lead the Rice Center and to maintain its proud status as a vital contributor to the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC).

Now on to the business at hand: a look at the fall 2015 semester and the current spring semester.

The combined GPA of the regiment for the fall 2015 semester was a 3.08, which continues the trend of the Corps' average GPA remaining above a 3.0. Eleven cadets earned a 4.0, and 661 cadets earned a place on the Commandant's List with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. These cadets will be recognized at an academic awards ceremony during the spring semester.

In addition to the standard courses required of the leadership minor, a one-credit course designed to enhance our cadet commanders' leadership development was piloted.

To support our freshmen, the center offered a Group Study Sessions (GSS) program, in which cadet upperclassmen led weekly, voluntary meetings for freshmen enrolled in introductory chemistry and math classes. The participants discussed course material, worked on assignments, and gained insights and motivation to stay focused on academics. Due to positive feedback from cadets who participated in the fall GSS pilot, the program is being offered again this spring.

The fall semester concluded with a graduation ceremony for 12 cadets who had completed their time in the Corps.

In early February, the annual Gunfighter Panel allowed cadets to hear from recent Corps alumni discussing life after graduation. On March 24, the

traditional Cutchins Lecture featured David Brooks, a political and cultural commentator. Then, in early April, the annual VTCC Leadership Conference will be convened for our cadets and students from other military colleges and programs.

I am particularly excited that Lt. Col. Russell and Lt. Col. Payne are leading a new initiative, the Corps' Global Scholars Program. During the semester, a selected group of cadets are studying leadership using the 1944 Allied invasion of Europe as the context. The course will culminate with a trip to Normandy, France, and Paris in late May.

I cordially invite all members of the VTCC family to visit the Rice Center when on campus or to contact me at elaineh@vt.edu with suggestions or questions. I look forward to hearing from and working with you all.

Ut Prosim!

In Memory

Richard H. Brownley '44
1921 – 2015



Richard H. Brownley died Oct. 28, 2015. A member of the Class of 1944, Brownley and many classmates left Virginia Tech in 1942 to serve in World War II.

Upon the war's conclusion, those who returned to finish their degrees were allowed to keep their original class year designations. In spring 1947, both the Class of 1944 and the Class of 1947 graduated, and Brownley earned a degree in civil engineering. Later earning a master's degree in industrial engineering from New York University, he served 30 years on active duty in the U.S. Army and, upon retirement, served 17 years on the Lexington, Virginia, Life Saving Crew. Brownley was predeceased by his wife, Eunice, and is survived by a daughter.

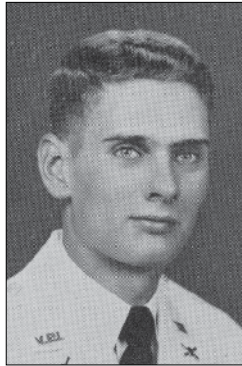
Russell Emerson Berger '45
1923 – 2015



Russell Emerson Berger died Aug. 1, 2015. A 1945 graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in aerospace engineering, Berger worked for Vought-LTV-Lockheed Martin as an

aeronautical engineer project manager on several key programs, designing airplanes, nuclear weapon systems, and the nose cone of the Space Shuttle. He earned a master's degree in business from Southern Methodist University. Berger was preceded in death by his wife, Muriel.

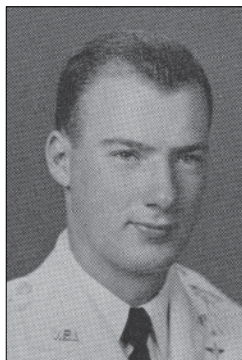
Lawrence E. "Larry" Alff '50
1928 – 2015



Lawrence E. "Larry" Alff died Nov. 1, 2015. Born in Camden, New Jersey, Alff graduated from Virginia Tech in 1950 with a degree in mechanical

engineering. After serving in the U.S. Army in the Korean War, where he was awarded a Bronze Star, he served three years in the U.S. Army Reserves and worked for 40 years at Crown Cork and Seal in Philadelphia. Alff is survived by his wife, Dorothy; a son, and a daughter.

Baird M. Martin '50
1929 – 2015

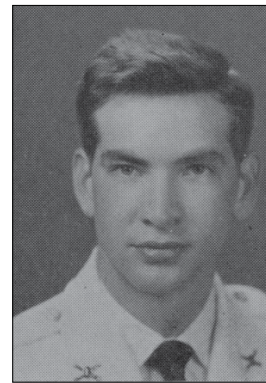


Baird M. Martin died Sept. 9, 2015. A native of Oak Hill, West Virginia, Martin graduated in 1950 with a degree in electrical

engineering from Virginia Tech, where he was a member of the Highty-Tighties. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a fighter pilot with more than 200 missions in Korea and Vietnam, and later earned a master's degree in data processing from Stanford University. Martin is survived by his wife, Betty; a daughter and sons.

Milton Thomas Herndon '50
1929 – 2015

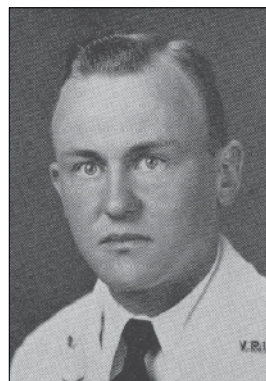
Milton Thomas Herndon died June 27, 2015. Born in Oak Hill, West Virginia, Herndon graduated from Virginia Tech



in 1950 with a degree in chemical engineering and was commissioned in the U.S. Army, serving in the Korean War. After earning a law degree

in 1956 from Washington and Lee University School of Law, he joined the firm of Campbell, Woods, Bagley, McNeer, Emerson, and Herndon, where he practiced law for 51 years, ultimately served as managing partner. Herndon served on the Huntington, West Virginia, city council and as mayor from 1970–72. He is survived by his wife, Jane; and their children.

Carl Overstreet, Class of 1950
1929 – 2015



Carl Overstreet died Oct. 28, 2015. Born in Bedford County, Virginia, Overstreet entered Virginia Tech in 1946 and studied civil engineering.

In 1949, he entered the U.S. Air Force and flew F-84s in the Korean War; in 1956, he flew the first operational flight of the U-2 over the then-Soviet Union. Awarded two Distinguished Flying crosses, Overstreet left the Air Force in 1964 and started a commercial helicopter service on Virginia's Eastern Shore. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; and two sons.

L. Thomas Wilburn, Jr. '51
1928 – 2015

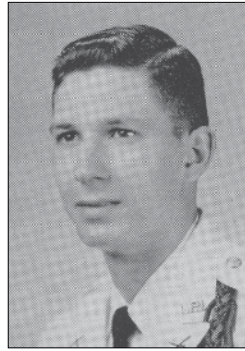


L. Thomas Wilburn Jr. died Dec. 27, 2015. Born in Pocahontas, Virginia, Wilburn graduated from Virginia Tech in 1950 with

a degree in industrial engineering. He served as vice president of Indianapolis Community Hospital, then as CEO of Cincinnati's Bethesda Hospitals for 24 years, and as president and CEO of TriHealth until his retirement in 1998. Under his direction, in 1977, Bethesda assumed sole responsibility for Hospice of Cincinnati, among the first of its kind in the nation; and in 1992, he helped create the Health Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati, one of the U.S.'s first health collaboratives. Among his many honors, Wilburn received the Great Living Cincinnati Award, 2015; and the Healthcare Hero, Lifetime Achievement Award, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Sanda; and their children.

Ernest Davis "Ernie" Seneca '59
1937 – 2015

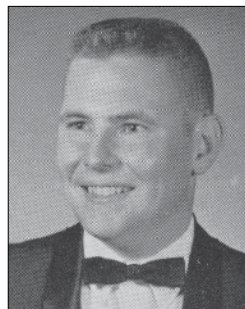
Ernest Davis "Ernie" Seneca died Nov. 12, 2015. Born in Princess Anne County,



Virginia, Seneca graduated from Virginia Tech with a B.S. in forestry in 1959 and an M.S. in wildlife management in 1961. A member of the Corps color guard and Scab-

bard and Blade, he served as G Company commander. Following service in the U.S. Army as a field artillery officer, he earned a Ph.D. in botany from North Carolina State University, where he remained as a professor, ultimately serving as chair of the Department of Botany. His research in coastal ecology was internationally recognized, and his expertise was sought after several oil spills. Seneca is survived by his wife, Peggy; and a daughter.

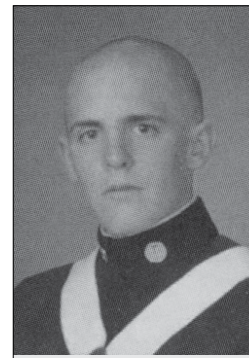
Charles H. Butzgy '62
1938 – 2015



Charles H. Butzgy died January 24, 2015. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Butzgy graduated from Virginia Tech in 1962 with a

degree in industrial engineering. After a career as an industrial engineer for several corporations, Butzgy retired in 2000. He was a lifetime member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers and was active in the Knights of Columbus. An avid hiker and golfer, Butzgy was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Barbara, and is survived by their three children.

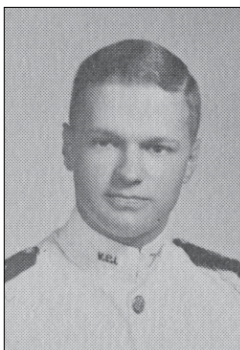
Jason Back '06
1983 – 2015



Jason Back died Nov. 12, 2015. Born in Heidelberg, West Germany, Back graduated with honors in 2006 with a degree in finance from Virginia Tech, where he

was a member of the Corps of Cadets. After commissioning into the U.S. Marine Corps as a second lieutenant, he graduated from the Infantry Officer Course in 2007 and served combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines. Back is survived by his parents, Joe and Mary Kay; a brother, and a sister.

Charles Owen Cornelison '67
1945 – 2015



Charles Owen Cornelison died Oct. 23, 2015. Born in Key West, Florida, and raised in Roanoke, Virginia, Cornelison graduated in 1967 with a degree in political science from Virginia Tech, where he served as the Band Company commander during his senior year and earned the Senior Service Award, which now bears his name.

After graduation, he was appointed a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve and earned a

law degree at Mercer University in Georgia before returning to Roanoke to practice law. A member of the Camp Virginia Jaycees and a past president of the Roanoke Bar Association, he helped found the Roanoke Bar Association Foundation during his tenure.

Named an associate and then a partner at Copenhaver, Ellett, Cornelison, and Derrico from 1971 until 2005, he was appointed to serve as a General District Court judge in Roanoke City from 1980-84. After leaving the practice of law, Cornelison worked as an associate director of gift planning at Virginia Tech. He is survived by his former wife and dear friend, Bobbie; a daughter and a son.

To learn more about Cornelison's influence on the Corps of Cadets, see page 8.

LEST WE FORGET

Richard Murray Perkins '42, Wytheville, Virginia, 10/3/15.

James H. Horner '45, Chester, Virginia, 9/12/15.

Morton Sollod '45, Burbank, California, 11/3/15.

Robert T. Redd '49, Rice, Virginia, 10/2/15.

Howard W. Treadway '49, Seminole, Florida, 11/15/15.

Thomas W. Moss Jr. '50, Greenville, South Carolina, 11/26/15.

William E. Lewis '50, Danville, Virginia, 11/17/15.

Lawrence Southall '50, Norfolk, Virginia, 9/13/15.

Sherman L. Davis '51, Montross, Virginia, 9/24/15.

Edwin E. Lee Jr. '51, Gloucester, Virginia, 11/5/15.

Robert W. Ward '51, Upland, California, 3/9/15.

Richard I. Brinkley '52, Louisville, Kentucky, 11/28/15.

William H. Lassiter Jr. '53, Sunbury, North Carolina, 8/30/15.

Robert S. Davis '54, Statesboro, Georgia, 11/10/15.

Robert "Bob" Stephens Luttrell '55, '56, Martinsville, Virginia, 9/25/15.

Robert F. Warren Sr. '57, Danville, Virginia, 9/21/15.

Thomas D. Watkins II '57, Fayetteville, North Carolina, 9/8/15.

Dean P. Agee '58, Louisa, Virginia, 11/07/15.

Warren S. Sellew '58, Mechanicsville, Virginia, 11/21/15.

Thomas S. Weaver '60, Victoria, Virginia, 8/22/15.

Roger R. Smith '61, Parksley, Virginia, 11/16/15.

William F. Ward '61, Vancouver, Washington, 8/5/15.

Steven H. Hatfield '62, Alexandria, Louisiana, 8/29/15.

Joseph Hodsden '64, Newport, Virginia, 10/3/15.

William H. Russell III '64, Lynchburg, Virginia, 11/18/15.

Kenton S. Gibbs '67, Hinton, Virginia, 9/24/15.

Daniel W. Etzold '71, Easton, Pennsylvania, 11/21/15.





Corps Homecoming • Sept. 16-17, 2016 Virginia Tech vs. Boston College



Come to Corps Homecoming 2016 and Reunite with Old Buds and Classmates!

Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumni, return to campus to celebrate our annual Corps Homecoming! This is a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends who shared the cadet experience that forged in us the importance of values and character.

This year, registration opens on Friday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. The Friday night Cadet Leadership Reception and Dinner at The Inn at Virginia Tech is a coat-and-tie affair where you can meet and hear from today's cadet leadership.

Saturday will feature a homecoming meal at The Inn at Virginia Tech (time TBD). This casual-dress event will include the opportunity to hear from the Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randy Fullhart—who will present an update on facilities upgrades and continuing improvements to the leader development program—as well as an alumnus guest speaker.

Plan to participate in a special annual tradition, the alumni regiment march-on to Worsham Field at Lane Stadium before kickoff. Join your classmates for this unique experience, and rally to your unit guidons!**

** Please register online for Corps Homecoming. The registration site should go live in late April. You can choose the specific events you want to participate in, as well as order Corps alumni hats and polo shirts to be worn during the march-on. Prices for all events and merchandise can be found on the registration site.

If you have any questions, please contact the VTCC Alumni office at 540-231-7431

Corps Homecoming Registration Website
www.alumni.vt.edu/reunion/vtcc/index.html



Cancellation:

- The last day to receive a refund for cancellation is two weeks prior to the event date. If you cancel your event registration, your accompanying request for game tickets will be canceled. Ticket refunds will be processed only if the canceled ticket can be resold. Individual hotel cancellation policies apply. Please see lodging information below.

Game Tickets (when applicable):

- Game tickets purchased as part of event registration are for registered event participants only. The cost of game tickets is TBD, and they are limited in quantity, available on a first-come, first-served basis, and a maximum of four game tickets per registration form. Game tickets will not be mailed. They will be available for pickup with a photo ID at event registration. Everyone who enters Lane Stadium must have a game ticket, including infants.

Lodging at the Inn at Virginia Tech (when applicable):

- Rooms are limited and are offered on a first-come, first-served basis with a two-night minimum stay. Room preferences are not guaranteed. Telephone reservations are not accepted at The Inn at Virginia Tech. Confirmation will be provided by the hotel. Please review this confirmation for accuracy of arrival and departure dates. Room cancellations must be made 30 days prior to event for full refund.

Confirmation:

- Confirmations detailing event registration will be sent prior to the event.



Louis "Hunter" Mense '14 (right) was recently promoted to first lieutenant by his battalion commander and fellow Corps alumnus Lt. Col. Christopher D. Payant '96.



President Tim Sands and Professor Laura Sands signed a banner thanking the sailors on the USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) for their service. Made by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association and available for all Hokies to sign at the Independence Bowl in Shreveport, Louisiana, the banner was then sent to the Truman, which was deployed during the holidays.



Doug Anderson VT'76 presided at a December 2015 meeting of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association's New River Valley Chapter held at Pearson Hall. The group also received a tour of the facility from senior cadets.



U.S. Army Capt. Nathaniel McDermott '10 sent some Hokie pride from the 595th Transportation Brigade, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.



Hightly-Tighty alumni (from left) Allie Oberoi '10, Jason Oberoi '09, and Chris Fetterman '10 finished strong in the Army 10-Miler held in Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C., in October 2015.

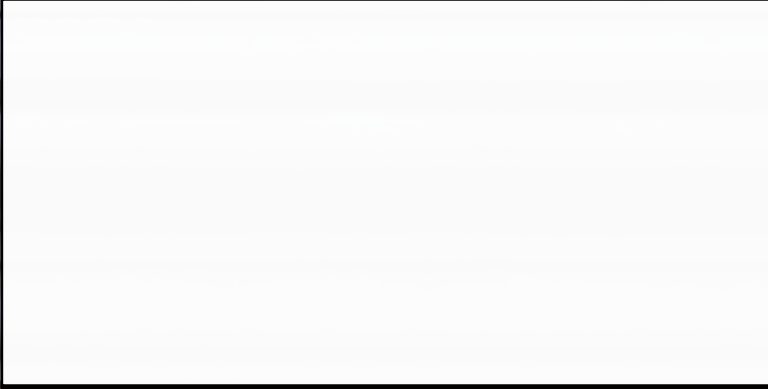
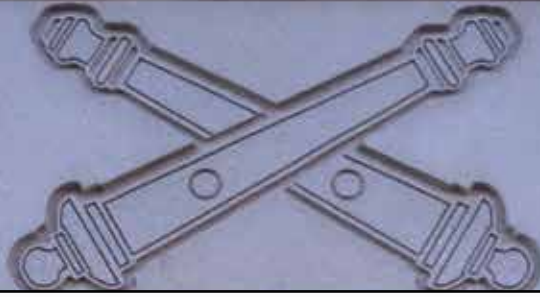


Thanks to Jim Bigwood '78 for donating a Corps of Cadets patch and ensuring that the Mission BBQ restaurant in Perry Hall, Maryland, was displaying the Corps' colors!

VTCC Alumni Inc.

VTCC Alumni Office (0213)
141 Lane Hall, Virginia Tech
280 Alumni Mall
Blacksburg, VA 24061

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