

Vol. 26 No. 1 Fall 2015

CorpsReview

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Magazine







A picture in time: Built in 1900, the old section of Brodie Hall (left), formerly called Barracks No. 3, momentarily stands next to Lane Hall in their original configuration. In 1957, Brodie was remodeled, and a new section was added.

CorpsReview

Fall 2015, Vol. 26, No. 1

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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.

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Front cover: Maj. Stanley Cohen '49 stands in front of a 70-year-old C-45 aircraft—named “Hokie Pokie”—that was purchased by Virginia Polytechnic Institute after World War II and is now owned by the Tri-State Warbird Museum of Batavia, Ohio. For the past six years, Cohen has sponsored the museum’s vintage-aircraft flyovers at numerous home football games in Lane Stadium. Photo by Scott Pearl '84.

Back cover: The fall semester’s regimental staff gathered inside the tunnel that runs through Burruss Hall. Photo by H. Pat Artis VT'71.



Col. Wesley Fox stamp

Col. Wesley Fox, U.S. Marine Corps (retired), who served in the military for 43 years and then as the deputy commandant of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' 1st Battalion from 1993 to 2001, is among the 48 Medal of Honor recipients depicted on the prestige folio stamp sheet for the U.S. Postal Service's Medal of Honor: Vietnam War forever stamps. At a June ceremony honoring Fox at the Blacksburg post office, he said that he “moved through the ranks by showing care while being a leader.”



A four-star alumnus!

On July 28, Carlton D. Everhart II '83 (right) was confirmed by the U.S. Senate for appointment to the grade of general in the U.S. Air Force with assignment to Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, where he assumed command on Aug. 11.

As a cadet, Everhart was a member of H Company, carried the flaming “VT,” and served as regimental executive officer during his senior year. He is the third graduate of the Corps to attain the rank of general.



Hokie Gold Legacy Program: Share the tradition

Current Virginia Tech students and alumni are always proud to wear the tradition. Alumni can also share the tradition by designating their class rings as “Hokie Gold” and donating them to be either displayed by the university or melted at the Virginia Tech Foundry Institute for Research and Education

HOKIE GOLD

Alumni Class Ring Donations

Share the tradition

www.alumni.vt.edu/hokiegold

(VT-FIRE). At a special ceremony with the junior class’s ring design committee, donated rings are melted, and the gold is added to the new class rings.

To sustain the tradition, the program is accepting class ring donations to be included in future Hokie Gold melts. For more details on how you can share the tradition, visit www.alumni.vt.edu/hokiegold.

Announcements



Corps alumnus takes command in Baltimore

Col. Edward P. Chamberlayne '93 (holding flag) became the 67th commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, during a July change-of-command ceremony at Fort McHenry, Maryland. As commander

and district engineer, Chamberlayne will oversee engineering, construction, and real estate activities for the Army and Air Force and other defense activities in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, southern New York, and northern Virginia.

After graduating from Virginia Tech with a B.A., Chamberlayne was commissioned into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in August 1993. He earned an M.S. in civil engineering from Tech in 2002, an M.S. in engineering management from Missouri University of Science and Technology, and a Ph.D. in industrial and systems engineering from Tech in 2011.



50th anniversary of the official granting of the Corps' coat of arms

Heartfelt thanks are extended to Mike O'Meara '66, the Corps regimental intelligence officer (S-2) for the 1965-66 academic year, for reminding us that this fall marks the 50th anniversary of the Corps' receiving its coat of arms on Nov. 16, 1965.

Because of the initiative and tireless efforts of Col. Harry Temple '34, chief of the Army's Institute of Heraldry at the time, the coat of arms was designed and awarded to the Corps with an official grant. The Corps became the first unit outside of the regular Army to receive a grant of a coat of arms from the Army. And even though this first was disputed by Virginia Military Institute, who claimed to have received its coat of arms in 1961, Temple set the record straight: The Keydets received theirs two months after Tech.



Rep. Rob Wittman '81 named an honorary Marine

In July, Corps alumnus Rep. Rob Wittman '81 (second from left), who represents Virginia's 1st Congressional District, was formally made an honorary Marine by U.S. Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Joseph Dunford to acknowledge the congressman's commitment to the sea services and his care for wounded warriors.

An avid hunter and fisherman, Wittman has participated in events with Project Healing Waters, an organization that takes wounded and disabled troops and veterans on fly-fishing excursions as a form of relaxation and therapy. He also holds annual hunting trips near his Virginia home for smaller groups of wounded troops.



The new "Voice of the Hokies" visits the Corps

Jon Laaser, the new "Voice of the Hokies," visited with the Corps in August and even tried out the rappelling tower with some of the new cadets. The Minnesota native joined Virginia Tech after four years as a television and radio broadcaster for Virginia Commonwealth University basketball, and his résumé also includes a broadcast stint with the Richmond Flying Squirrels, the Double-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants, and various television assignments. During his broadcasts of Hokie football games on the IMG Radio Network, Laaser shares short biographies of our "Hokie Heroes," Corps alumni serving in deployed locations. Welcome, Jon!

Tip for active duty and veteran alumni

Please check with your cell phone provider to determine if discounts for your military service are offered; several providers offer discounts up to 15 percent. Thanks to Jess Fowler '64 for the tip!



Company E:

Kept Alive by E '65

by Richard "Dick" Commander '65

"It was the best of times; it was the worst of times."

If you were a sophomore in the Corps of Cadets in the fall of 1961, it was the best of times: no more dragging right; no more uniform inspections checking for shined shoes, properly tucked shirts, or polished brass; and no more speaking up, "Good morning, sir." Gone were the fearful dining experiences and growly calls, too.

If you were a freshman, aka "rat," it was the worst of times. Not only did you experience all of the above, you also endured memorizing the cadet manual and various ditties, standing in the mess line with a sophomore in front of and behind you, eating with a sophomore on each side of and in front of you, trying to leave the mess hall without incident or gazing, studying in the hall outside the phone booth as "phone rat," and much, much more.

My E '65 class arrived in September 1961, 40-plus of us. We lived in the elbow of Rasche Hall; may she rest in peace. The rooms in Rasche that faced alumni mall were occupied by F Company, who had won the Gold Cord the previous year and had the ego to prove it. The rooms that faced Schultz Dining Hall, which was under construction, were occupied by G Company. Golf Company and Eager, I mean Echo, Company were in a fight for third place, maybe not exactly a fight, but someone had to be last.

Every morning and evening—rain, snow, or shine—the "rats" of E Company would give the growly calls and run down the stairs and out the front door of Rasche. We would fall in at our spots and await inspection by some eager sophomore. Then, the 2nd Battalion would

march, as best we could, down the steps, into the road, past Newman Library to Owens Mess Hall. (The mess hall was located next to the lower quadrant, and most of the Corps was in the upper quadrant at that time.) Upon dismissal by class, the rats last, we would give our cheer: "Company E is kept alive by the Class of '65!"

In the mess line, each one of us, between two sophomores, would be quizzed about VPI and Corps facts and a few other inquires:

Sophomore cadet: How low are you rat??!!

Rat: Sir, I am lower than whale blubber on the bottom of the ocean, sir.

The formal freshman meetings (FFMs) were held each Monday evening in the meeting room that, until recently, was the home of the Corps Museum.



Freshmen cadets, many still without a uniform, prepare to march to dinner.

Our executive officer was 1st Lt. Carl Spain. FFM's were the bane of all freshmen, a time of strict uniform inspection, "yellucation," and meaningful instruction (enough said on that topic). "Suck in that chin, rat!"

Between all of those Corps activities, we marched or dragged right to class along the well-worn cement path of previous "rats." All turns were squared. We spoke to everyone we passed, and we did not dare to gaze. Fortunately, in 1961, there was much less to gaze at in an all-male environment. When we arrived at class, we could finally relax, though many relaxed too much, especially in the freshman chemistry class auditorium. So many had to "take it twice with Brice."

Although E Company did not win the Gold Cord, the company contributed much to the Corps. Members of our company planned and set up the hat tricks at football games. In the early 1960s, the games at VPI were held in Miles Stadium, and the Corps marched into all home games and sat together, just as the cadets do today, though fewer in number—2,300 cadets then versus some 1,000 cadets today. We carried our white hat covers with us and, under the leadership of E Company men, were directed to change from blue to white as indicated by the card on our seats. Sitting as a corps at football games is a special memory.

Football games were a great time of freshman privileges. If we won a particular game, we did not have to perform our "rat requirements" that Saturday night. Homecoming weekend also gave us privileges and a chance to show our creative skills by constructing a homecoming display.

Located on the roof over the entrance to Rasche Hall, E Company's display featured the HokieBird roasting the opposing team's mascot. Although it was designed to rotate, the motor failed immediately. We still beat G Company.

Another special memory was the Thanksgiving Day football game pitting VPI against Virginia Military Institute at Roanoke Stadium. The Corps traveled by train and then marched through town from the train station to the stadium.

Most went home for break, ate some turkey, came back for exams, and returned home for Christmas: one quarter under our "rat belt"!

Ahhh, winter in Blacksburg and our second quarter as "rats" brought even more fun. The sophomores stole our black belts so we could never become upperclassman. There was the freshman duty of bringing the battalion reports to regimental staff in the tower of Eggleston Hall—very frightening, to say the least! Another daily treat was marching down the stairs and hill to the mess hall in the many, many snows: Uniform was overcoats; marching command was route step.

During our freshman year, E Company had another honor in the person of Rigdon Isaac, aka the "Grossest Rat in the Corps." Rigdon was a blessing to us fellow "rats" in E Company because he received a lot of attention from the upperclassman. A picture of his demerit page in the "Rat Book" (see page 7) proves this point.

Rigdon was known to have stayed up all night shining his shoes, but only shined one shoe. He had a horrible smoker's cough, which serenaded E Company at each formation. Legend has it that he was caught dragging right to class with a radio playing in his hat. He was late to the changing of the guard and fell in to the wrong company.



E Company marching to Miles Stadium: Note the company's size, typical for the early 1960s.



E Company planned and led the hat tricks performed by the Corps in Miles Stadium.

Having said all that, Rigdon was a very nice guy. We have no idea about Rigdon's life, for he did not return after his freshman year, and none of us has heard about him since. But in Rigdon's favor, he did survive all three quarters of his "rat year," which I am sure made him a better man, as it did all of us survivors: two quarters under our "rat belt"!

While the sophomores can be a worrisome group, the juniors led E '65 astray. They convinced us that we should throw the sophomores into the showers, assuring us that it would be fine and that the seniors were onboard. As freshmen, we trusted the juniors!!!

All of the freshmen had been gathered on the third floor by the sophomores. They had us sit on the floor with our backs against the wall and our arms and legs straight out. After a while, the ranking "rat" decided there'd been enough of this nonsense and yelled, "'65 to the showers." Mayhem ensued.

Our commanding officer, Capt. James "Buch" Buchanan, was less than pleased with this event.

After the seniors strongly indicated that they really were not on board with

this antic, we were called to the meeting room and put at braced attention. Buchanan came into the room and said these immortal words, "Santa Claus just died." All of us served tours for two weeks, which meant having our rooms and uniforms readied for inspection every afternoon and studying at attention at our desks for two hours each day: three quarters under our "rat belt"!

Spring in Blacksburg can be wonderful, especially if you are no longer a "rat." Not all of our freshmen made the long

trek from September to May, but those who did were better for doing it. I know I am very grateful for my coming-of-age experience as a freshman. To this day, I do not know how I made it.

Corps epilogue

My freshman year, F Company won the battalion cord. With the increasing size of the Corps, H Company was added to the 2nd Battalion and won the battalion cord the next two years. Our senior year, E Company had a large



The 1961 homecoming display created by E '65 presiding on the overhang above Rasche Hall's front door

number of seniors, if not the largest number of any company in the Corps. That many seniors is likely a death knell to winning the cord.

Winning the cord would be possible only with the cooperation of the E '65ers, now seniors.

As commanding officer, aka Cmdr. Commander, I asked them if they were "with me" on going after the cord. They said that they would not be the cause of our failure to achieve our goal. As long as we were in the running, they would behave—and they did. In 1965, E Company was named the best company in the 2nd Battalion.

E '65 epilogue

In 1967, sitting in my bachelor officers quarters, I thought about the bond our "rat class" had made and wondered how E '65 could stay in touch. I initiated a Christmas newsletter, and last Christmas marked the 48th edition. We also have gathered every five years at VPI, aka VPI/SU, aka Virginia Tech, aka Tech, to reconnect as a class and have endowed a Corps scholarship with special consideration given to E Company cadets. No matter how our lives have progressed, each time we gather, we are still "rat year" survivors. In my opinion, the E '65ers have done well in life's journey—and I know many, many other "rat" survivors have done well, too.

155AC, R.K. QUIT FRESHMAN YEAR

Date	No	OFFENSE	NAME	Initials
5 Jan '61	8	Wearing collar up in hall	Walt	W.H.
1-5-62	3	INATTENTION IN HALL	Chauvin	R.B.C.
1-7-62	8	GAZING (4 TIMES)	GUSTAFSON	D.J.G.
1-9-62	4	FAILURE TO SPEAK	GUSTAFSON	D.J.G.
1-9-62	3	SLEEPING IN S.A.B DURING C.Q.	MESSERSMITH	8-8-71.
1-12-62	9	TALKING IN HALL WITHOUT PERMISSION	THORNETT	H.D.T.
1-12-62	8	GAZING IN MESS HALL	THOMAS	J.G. 1st.
1-14-62	3	TALKING ON THE WALKS (Reported by someone from another Co.)	GUYNN	4.C.9.
1-15-62	6	FAILURE TO SOUND OFF CALL PROPERLY	MARTIN	J.E.71.
1-15-62	9	FAILURE TO SPEAK	GUSTAFSON	D.J.G.
1-15-62	6	UNMILITARY SOUND OFF (I.E. VERY SLOW)	TINDOLA	R.U.T.
1-17-62	8	GAZING IN FORMATION	GARETTE	L.A.F.
1-18-62	8	LAUGHING IN MESS HALL	THORNETT	H.D.T.
SUM. EXEC. #1				
1-22-62	9	LAUGHING WHEN SPOKEN TO	TINDOLA	R.U.T.
1-23-62	9	" " " "	TINDOLA	R.U.T.
1-23-62	6	UNMILITARY SOUND OFF (I.E. SLOW AND HUMPHLET)	TINDOLA	R.U.T.
1-25-62	4	FAILURE TO SIT FRESHMAN TOURS	DAUGHERTY	R.P.
1-25-62	4	FAILURE TO SPEAK	HAMILTON	W.L.H.
1-29-62	4	FAILURE TO USE NAME	GUSTAFSON	D.J.G.
1-24-62	8	GAZING IN MESS HALL	THORNETT	H.D.T.
2-8-62	9	LAUGHING WHEN SPOKEN TO (2)	TINDOLA	R.U.T.
MAX. TOURS MERITS				
9-1-62	8	LAUGHING IN MESS HALL	GUSTAFSON	D.J.G.
4-30-62	3	INATTENTION ON WALK	COMBER	R.A.L.
5/6/62	4	FAILURE TO SPEAK UP	MESSERMIN	8-8-71.

This page from E '65's "Rat Book" features the company's own "Grossest Rat in the Corps" Rigdon Isaac

In memoriam

Three of our number have died: Bob Emory (Band and E '65, Vietnam), Tom Belt, and Tom Starkey.

Fifty years later

In October, 17 members of E '65—100 percent of the company's surviving members—attended our 50th reunion and were inducted into the Old Guard.

Company E is kept alive by the Class of '65.

ILLIGETIMUS NON CARBORUMDUM



Cmdr. Commander led E Company through Roanoke to the 1964 football game against Virginia Military Institute.



The blue-and-gold cord won by E Company in 1965: "Best in the Battalion"

Memories of My Return to Tech

by Joseph P. Dempsey, E Company, Class of 1968



The Skipper cannon, limbered and with the team in harness, follows the Corps down Alumni Mall during the 1974 Homecoming parade.



Pvt./Platoon Guide J.P. Dempsey III (standing, far left) at Basic Infantry Training, Fort Benning, Georgia, 1967



Pfc. Dempsey, 3rd Infantry Division, Kitzingen am Main, West Germany, 1968

My biggest regret as a cadet was that I did not graduate with my class. While at Virginia Tech, I was very focused on the Corps, but I was not, unfortunately, focused enough on my studies. (Current cadets reading this, please take heed!)

I was forced to leave VPI during my third year as a cadet; however, my official standing was still as an academic sophomore. Two weeks after the Class of 1968's Ring Dance, I enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned as a rifleman with the 1/30th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, in West Germany. I was a "dog-face soldier," and the Cold War was real.

My ultimate goal was to return to Tech and complete my degree, but circumstances placed that objective on hold for a while. Midway through my deployment, I received orders to Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where I attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Military Intelligence Corps in October 1968. I served three more years on active duty, attaining the rank of captain.

The fragile Corps

I returned to Virginia Tech in fall 1972, and one of my first stops upon

arrival was the commandant's office. Although the commandant was out of town, Col. James H. McCann '33, a familiar face, was in. He had been the 3rd Battalion assistant commandant during my cadet days.

I told Col. McCann that I was considering returning to the ranks of the Corps, and I wanted to know if my return would be permitted. He was somewhat surprised and, quite frankly, a little nonplussed. He did not understand—who would?—why a commissioned officer would want to re-enter the cadet ranks, but he appreciated my devotion to the Corps. Granted, my request was unusual, but I told him that I considered the Corps my family and that I could not envision attending VPI outside of the Corps.

He thought it interesting at best and unconventional at worst. Would I wear my Army uniform or the cadet uniform? What would my status be? Attached

commissioned senior? He thought out loud and thought it a possibility. He said he would take up my request with the commandant upon his return.

Of greater concern was the steady decline of Corps enrollment. We talked about the near-demise of the Corps after World War II. I learned that the university had decreed a new policy allowing a cadet to drop out of the Corps in mid-term and to remain enrolled as a civilian, a move that had an extremely deleterious effect. Following the debacle of the 1964 decision to make participation in the Corps optional, one of the pillars of Corps policy had been that a cadet who withdrew from the Corps could not remain enrolled at VPI for the remainder of the school year.

The Vietnam War had dragged on, entering its eighth year, and public support was teetering. Younger people and virtually no high school graduates were interested in any kind of regimentation, much less a military lifestyle. Corps enrollment had been in continuous decline since the "Happy Corps" days of 1964.

By 1972, Corps enrollment was in the neighborhood of 450 to 500. The



2nd Lt. Dempsey on commissioning day at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, 1968



The Skipper support team (i.e., regimental staff) in the 1974 Homecoming parade

organization’s future was tenuous at best, fragile at worst. I was later told by newly appointed President William E. Lavery, a purported Corps ally, that the Department of Defense had threatened to cease funding Tech as a “Distinctive Military College.” Luckily for all of us, that did not come to pass. And although I ended up not rejoining the Corps, my connections to it would not end.

A groundbreaking move

Fall 1973 marked the first time in U.S. history that women were admitted to the ranks of a military college’s corps of cadets. At Tech, an all-female L Squadron was added to the Corps. Although not welcomed by all, the groundbreaking event got little, if any, attention or credit in Virginia or nationally.

At the time, I was a member of the Army Reserve and assigned to the 2174th U.S. Army Garrison based at Radford Army Ammunition Plant in Radford, Virginia. Because there was no intelligence billet in the unit, the commander assigned me the public information/recruiting officer duties.

During this period, the Army Reserve Command initiated a command-wide recruiting competition, and the member who brought in the most recruits would receive an award. I remembered a former West Point cadet who had been in Officer Candidate School with me. His circumstance was similar to mine, except

that he had military service longevity that included his years at West Point before he had dropped out.

It occurred to me that if VPI cadets enlisted in the Reserve while in the Corps, they would build longevity that would increase their base pay once they went on active duty. As those who have served know, a second lieutenant with two years prior service receives a much larger paycheck than one with no prior service. I thought this concept might make the Corps more attractive to incoming Virginia Tech students, so I spoke about the opportunity to as many cadets as I could.

Eleven women enthusiastically signed up, no males! When I showed up at the arsenal with these bright-eyed, enthusiastic women, the unit commander said, “Dempsey, what the hell are you doing?” I replied, “I was told to recruit.” “What are we going to do with them?” he retorted, somewhat exasperated. “Enlist them, and swear them in!” was my response.

The unit won the competition, and I was later awarded the Army Reserve Achievement Medal for bringing on-board the most reservists recruited by a single individual.

At homecoming some 15 years later, I was approached on the Drillfield by one of the former cadets who thanked me for recruiting her into the Army Reserve. The additional pay had funded her graduate studies after her active duty tour

had been completed. That compliment made it all worthwhile.

The Skipper/Conrad Cavalry link

When I was in the Corps, the Skipper was pulled in parades and to football games by a vehicle, as is the case today. I thought that might be okay for an M101 or 105mm howitzer, but not a 12-pound Napoleon, which Skipper was fashioned after.

The proper means of draft of field artillery is by a team of horses. The first order of business would be to find a limber—a wagon, not to be confused with a caisson—to which a team of horses could be hitched in order to draw the cannon.

In spring 1973, I happened through a campground at Harper’s Ferry, West Virginia, and noticed a Civil War limber in the parking lot. Gold mine! At the beginning of fall quarter, I approached the regimental commander and the leaders of the Conrad Cavalry and the Skipper detail. I had found a team of horses broken to harness, and there was a cadet from Big Stone Gap, Virginia, whose grandfather still had some old work harnesses and trees required for a hitch. “Would the Corps be interested in hitching horses to Skipper?” I asked. They all liked the idea.

I agreed to pay for half of the cost of the limber if the Corps could raise the



Homecoming, 1974: Limbered Skipper on the Upper Quad

other half. The cadets would also have to refinish the limber to match the mahogany-stained finish of Skipper's carriage. As usual, the Corps came through. With a month remaining before homecoming, the Corps purchased the limber.

Upon arrival on the Upper Quad, the limber was disassembled and taken into the lobby of Brodie Hall. The task facing the Corps was the removal of 115 years of paint! For several weeks, cadets from all companies took turns around the clock, scraping and sanding no fewer than 12 coats of paint (and weather), ranging from gray, black, green, and even yellow, down to bare wood.

Meanwhile, a pair of draft horses was brought to the stables where training began for the cadets to learn how to drive. It was also necessary for the horses to get into shape after years of non-work and, more importantly, to become acclimated to strange noises that horses are not accustomed to, such as cheering crowds and booming marching bands.

Since there were only two horses, we mounted a driver on each. Normally,

a driver is mounted on the nearside, or left-hand side, horse of each pair of a three-pair team. During the training sessions, we arranged for people to stand on the outside of the ring and bang trash can lids, wave flags, and create noise. Part of the drum section from Band Company came out and provided the requisite drum beat.

The day before homecoming, Skipper was brought to the stables and hitched up to the horses for the same drill in the ring. All went well, so they headed

for Main Street. With a vehicle in front and behind serving as escorts, they drove Skipper the mile to town, down Alumni Mall, around the Drillfield, and then back to the stables. That was a big workout for those horses, which the cadets had been "feeding up" to put on some weight and muscle.

The big day came, and the Skipper, led by the horses, joined the homecoming parade, falling in behind the Corps. It was a sight to behold. After the parade, they parked on the Drillfield, and hundreds of people visited the horses before taking Skipper to Lane Stadium. The horses were a big hit, and I believe turned out to be a badly needed public relations success for the Corps.

Fall quarter 1974 was my last at Virginia Tech. Another pair of horses was loaned to the Corps and put into service. Training and the homecoming parade were repeated with much success, but the new tradition ended the next year, and 1975 was the last of Skipper in harness.

As I completed my studies and departed Blacksburg at the end of 1974, the future of the Corps continued to weigh heavily on my mind. Many years later, in 1989, I met Henry J. Dekker '44 at a Virginia Tech reception in Northern Virginia. He was also worried about the Corps, as it was still on fragile footing. As we know, Dekker and similarly minded Corps alumni began the fight in the early 1990s to bring the Corps back to the rock-solid standing it has today.



Homecoming, 1974: Passersby admire the Skipper and team, along with Conrad Cavalry.



This sculpture of a cadet by Rosina Carter's late husband, Dean Carter, a well-known artist and dedicated Virginia Tech faculty member, is among his artwork that fills the Carter family home. The sculpture can also be found in the commandant's office.

Forever Entwined

by Annie McCallum

Living in Blacksburg in the 1950s and 1960s, the Carter family remembers a sleepier town, though one still intertwined with Virginia Tech and its traditions, including the Corps of Cadets.

In 1950, when Rosina Carter arrived in Blacksburg with her husband, Dean Carter, who had joined the Virginia Tech faculty, being a cadet was mandatory for all students. Not surprisingly, her family's memories are dotted with recollections of the Corps.

Although much has changed at Virginia Tech and in Blacksburg since then, Rosina Carter's dedication—to her children, her town, and the university—has not. Still a Blacksburg resident, she is a committed member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, keeps in touch with her husband's former students, and has made significant gifts to the university.

A mother of five, Carter also inspired her own family to be generous. Her children—Frances Carter Stephens,

Katharine Carter Kerrane, Clem Carter, Tom Carter VT '81, VT '83, and Mary Carter Farrell—all give to Virginia Tech. In addition, Tom Carter has served as president of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association Board of Directors.

In recognition of his parents' service-oriented lives, Clem Carter recently endowed a scholarship within the Corps. He said that he and his wife, Georgia, wanted to honor his father's service in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and his mother's dedication to helping others.

Clem described his mother as someone who, even now, is always thinking of others, and she remains strong, humble, and engaged. Those characteristics are encouraged by the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Dean and Rosina Carter En-

dowed Scholarship, which is earmarked for cadets who embody the guiding principles of its namesakes.

"Lots of people are kind of collectors of accomplishments," Clem said. "My mom is not that. My mom is the person who visits people in the hospital and cooks for funerals. She helps people. She's there when people need her. She's just remarkable."

Helping students

Rosina Carter has always been remarkable, her family said, even in those early years in Blacksburg, raising young children while her husband helped establish Virginia Tech's art department, later serving as its head.

Katharine Carter Kerrane remembers that her parents were always entertaining, while she and her siblings were enlisted to help. She said that her mother was active in the faculty wives' club and also regularly hosted students at the fam-



Rosina Carter in her Blacksburg home

ily home where Rosina Carter still lives today. The house, which Dean Carter designed and built in the 1960s, frames the mountains and is itself a work of art overlooking Ellett Valley. The space is filled not only with artifacts of his career, but also with paintings and sculptures.

A dedicated member of the Virginia Tech faculty, Dean Carter, who died in 2013, was a well-known artist, and his work can still be found across campus, including a very detailed sculpture of a cadet in an overcoat, which resides in the commandant's office.

Kerrane said that helping students was always important to her parents. Her father went to college on scholarships and the GI Bill, support that meant a great deal to him. She noted that he, in gratitude, wanted to help fund scholarships for students, and Rosina Carter made that wish possible.

"Mom was an excellent money manager," said Kerrane, explaining how her parents saved, lived modestly, and were able to give generously. In 1992, they established the Dean and Rosina Carter Scholarship, which is awarded to outstanding visual arts students in their junior year. More than 50 students have received funds.

Reluctant to talk about her own accomplishments, Rosina Carter said that her late husband always wanted to provide scholarship money to help students.

A different Blacksburg

Rosina Carter, whose small physical presence belies her forceful and passionate demeanor, met her future husband aboard a ship to France. They had fallen in love by the time they had returned to the U.S., but she told Dean Carter that he needed a job before they could get married. She typed letters to schools all over the country, which led to his position at Virginia Tech.

Even though there wasn't much to Blacksburg back then, it was an inexpensive place to live, and Dean Carter could pursue his work, Rosina Carter said.

Of course, the Corps permeated the small town. There were cadets in wool uniforms who stood at attention near the War Memorial, and Sunday dinners included Dean Carter's nephew, a cadet, who would come wearing his dress blues, Kerrane recalled.

That cadet, Tom Carter '64, remembers those dinners well. "I went over there as often as I could when I was a freshman," he said. "In the Corps of Cadets, particularly at that time, your freshman year was pretty tough. It was a real treat for me and a break from the routine, from being a 'rat.'"

One especially vibrant memory from those Sunday afternoons is how valued Rosina made him feel. Those visits helped him, he said, and today, whenever he travels from his home in San Antonio

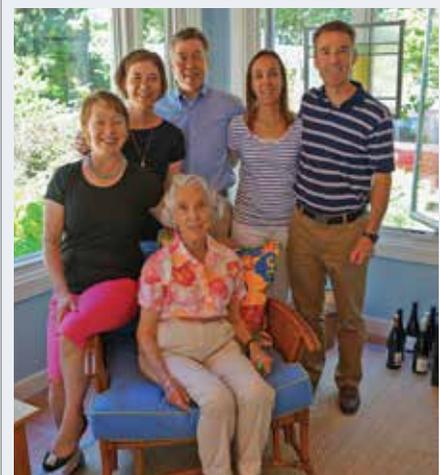
to Blacksburg, he visits with his aunt when their schedules allow.

"Rosina appreciated what I was going through as a student," Tom Carter said. "I was in engineering courses. It was tough for me. I had to study long after my roommates went to bed. She's so loving and giving. What an amazing woman."

Those who have met Rosina Carter are familiar with her caring nature. Her kindness is unforgettable.

And through the scholarships that she and her husband not only endowed, but also inspired, their generosity will benefit students for generations to come.

Annie McCallum is the Web editor for University Development.



Rosina Carter (seated) with her children, (from left) Frances Carter Stephens, Katharine Carter Kerrane, Clem Carter, Mary Carter Farrell, and Tom Carter VT'81



Our Virginia Tech, Our Corps of Cadets

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

As I write for this edition of the Corps Review, the scaffolding is coming down from around Pearson Hall, and we are in the midst of planning the move of 1st Battalion and most of 2nd Battalion into the first of the Corps of Cadets' (VTCC) two new residence halls. By the time you read this, we will be in place in our new quarters, and everyone is quite delighted. The foundation work has already begun on the second residence hall, and we are looking forward to occupying those spaces next year.

The regiment once again grew from last year: The incoming class numbered 348, and the total Corps checked in at 1,085, the fourth consecutive year of more than 1,000 cadets in the program!

President Timothy D. Sands and his wife, Professor Laura P. Sands, joined the Class of 2019 during New Cadet Week on one of our morning runs around the Drillfield and also attended the New Cadet Parade that took place at the end of the week.

Another large number of our cadets traveled around the globe this summer, and I'm excited to note that we are beginning a new initiative to add additional opportunities for cadets to travel and learn abroad. With continued alumni support for the Commandant's Priorities Fund, we plan to launch our first trip to Europe next summer.

Initial plans include a visit to Normandy to study the D-Day invasion at strategic, operational, and tactical levels of war. Of course, no trip there would be complete without a visit to the Norman-

dy American Cemetery and Memorial and the final resting place of Lt. Jimmy Monteith '41.

But we won't be looking at just history. The cadets will also explore how international relationships operate across a spectrum of diplomatic, information, military, and economic areas, so time will be spent visiting today's institutions in these realms.

When we shared this exciting information with the regiment at our first gathering of the semester, we also unveiled a surprise for next year. You've no doubt heard that there will be a special matchup in next fall's football schedule with the Hokies taking on the University of Tennessee at Bristol Motor Speedway in Bristol, Tennessee. And the Corps will be attending!

With support from the VTCC Alumni Board of Directors and our alumni, we are working closely with the athletic department to transport the entire Corps to the game. We'll have more details regarding possible special activities—e.g., Highty-Tighties and Skipper—so stay tuned. More importantly, you may want to purchase your tickets soon so that, besides watching the game, you can be part of an attempt to set the Guinness World Record for largest audience to view a collegiate game. Talk about a tailgate!

With all that excitement, we are also pleased to note that Charles Phlegar VT'78, son of Corps alumnus Archie Phlegar '52, has joined the university as the new vice president for advancement. We are delighted that the Corps was one of the first organizations that he met with



(From right) Virginia Tech President Timothy D. Sands and Gen. Fullhart visit with the regimental executive officer following the new cadet parade on the Drillfield.

to discuss how together we can continue to strengthen our engagement and relationships with our Corps alumni. By the way, Phlegar has been spotted numerous times sporting a VTCC necktie.

In addition, a Gallup-Purdue Index report was recently released, and nearly 14,000 Virginia Tech alumni, from 1950 to the present, participated, including many of you. The poll sought to understand how alumni viewed their experiences while at the university, how the university prepared them for their careers, and how a sense of well-being benefited them in their careers. Well-being was measured across five indices: purpose, social, financial, community, and physical well-being.

Not surprisingly, Virginia Tech did very well compared to the national average and peer universities. The following are some highlights:

- 16 percent (one in six) of Virginia Tech alumni are thriving in all five elements of well-being, compared to 10 percent nationally, 11 percent at other research universities, and 12 percent at State Council of Higher Education for Virginia-approved peer institutions.
- Corps of Cadets alumni are highly likely to be thriving in all elements of well-being: 73 percent are thriving in purpose well-being, and 74 percent are thriving in financial well-being!



Gen. Fullhart beside the statue of the Corps' first cadet, Addison Caldwell

- More than 52 percent of Corps alumni respondents strongly agree that their university prepared them well for life after college, compared to 43 percent for all Virginia Tech alumni and 29 percent nationally.

For many of us, these results are not surprising because they have long been reflected in the stories that Corps alumni have shared for decades. Nonetheless, it is gratifying to see that level of well-being so boldly highlighted in the study, a

result that reinforces our commitment to the Corps' principles, the leader development that we provide our "alumni-in-residence" (today's cadets) and future generations of cadets, with your strong help and support.

That said, be involved, be here whenever you can, and be proud that you are part of and supporting one of the finest institutions in the country!



Capt. Snyder (back row, right) and Olmsted cadets in Colon, Panama, in front of a women's shelter and primary school where they completed building maintenance and cleanup and interacted with Panamanian children

Cadets Complete Cultural Immersion Educational Opportunity

by Deputy Commandant of Cadets Capt. James Snyder, 2nd Battalion, 540-231-8595, jasnyde1@vt.edu

Headquartered in Falls Church, Virginia, the George and Carol Olmsted Foundation has long supported educational programs that help active duty military officers, as well as cadets and midshipmen at the U.S. service academies, gain a better understanding of foreign cultures.

While assigned to China during World War II, Gen. George Olmsted discovered that American military leaders lacked exposure and sensitivity to foreign cultures. This experience, coupled with his lifelong dedication to U.S. security, compelled him to establish the Olmsted Foundation to execute foreign resident-study programs for commissioned officers.

In 2004, the foundation's board of directors established the Olmsted Cadet Travel and Cultural Immersion Program to enable "academically and socially qualified commission-tracked ROTC Cadets" at each of the U.S. Code Title X Senior Military Colleges, including Virginia Tech, to travel to non-English-speaking nations. The program helps prepare future military officers for international assignments and strengthens our nation's ability to function efficiently and effectively in and with foreign countries.

An initial \$10,000 grant from the foundation allowed the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) to send three rising senior cadets to Rio de Janeiro for two weeks in 2005. Since then, recogniz-

ing the Corps' efforts to optimize cadet participation by its aggressive liaison with U.S. embassies, the Olmsted Foundation has awarded grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to support cadet travel to Santiago, Chile; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Panama City, Panama.

Although no grants were distributed in 2010 because of the economic downturn, the Olmsted Foundation resumed grants to Norwich University, Virginia Military Institute (VMI), and the Corps for cadet travel in 2011 and 2012. In light of the VTCC's robust trips in previous years, VMI requested to join our efforts for the 2011 and 2012 trips to Panama, sending four VMI cadets to accompany our cadets.

In 2013, the Olmsted Foundation's undergraduate scholar program was expanded to include two historically black colleges, Hampton University and Norfolk State University, which sought the Corps' assistance in launching their first cultural immersion trips. Two Army ROTC cadets from each institution joined the VTCC contingent for the 2013 and 2014 trips to Panama. This year, two cadets from Norfolk State University Army ROTC accompanied the VTCC group.

In mid-May, Virginia Tech senior cadets and Olmsted Foundation Undergraduate Scholars Benjamin Dwyer (Air Force), Brian Engelmann (Marines), Walter Gonsiewski (Air Force), Kylie Himmelberger (Air Force), Collin Morris (Army), and James Turbyfill (Army), along with Natasha Laramie (Citizen-Leader Track), who was sponsored by a grant from the Rice Center for Leader Development, represented your Corps,

Virginia Tech, and the nation on a trip to Panama. The group's activities included tours of the capital city and commerce port city of Colon, the Panama Canal, a tropical jungle area and native community, and the San Blas Island natural habitat area.

The cadets, who also completed three community service projects, attended a country brief with the U.S. Ambassador to Panama Jonathan D. Farrar. Attendance at the Memorial Day ceremonies at the U.S. National Cemetery in the former Panama Canal Zone provided cadets another opportunity to speak with Ambassador Farrar.

Upon returning stateside, Cadet Gonsiewski wrote that "visiting the city of Colon was easily the highlight of my experience in Panama. While visiting Colon's poor district, I quickly realized the harsh conditions people were living in every day. In fact, I believe they were not living; they were surviving. Through this

visit to Colon, I realized how fortunate I am to live in the United States. I now catch myself complaining about trivial shortcomings, and I remember how privileged I am to have the life I have."

Cadet Laramie shared that she experienced "incredible history, architecture, stunning beaches, a proud culture, and exceptional food. I was greeted by the ambassador with kind words and was welcomed into the home of [a Panamanian matriarch] for dinner. My most memorable experience was the feeling of helplessness in the city of Colon. While doing a service project for the distressed women and children's community center, I saw broken toys for the many children, low medical supplies, shattered windows, and only a few available water sources. All of these memories, experiences, and learning moments would have been impossible for me if not for the generosity of the Rice Center."



Old Guard Reunion Weekend

featuring anniversary dinners for the classes of '46, '51, '56, and '61

May 18 – 20, 2016

Registration opens early 2016
www.alumni.vt.edu/oldguard

The Old Guard Reunion provides a wonderful opportunity to visit with classmates and other Hokies and learn about exciting things happening at Virginia Tech today. Don't miss this chance to meet some of Virginia Tech's impressive faculty, staff, and students as you reconnect with other alumni. Make plans now to celebrate with the Old Guard in 2016!

VirginiaTechforlife
 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Events: Late Spring–Early Fall

Corps activities and events were at full throttle in late spring through early fall. The annual Old Guard reunion weekend was held in May, reunions and chapter events were held throughout the summer, and preparations for the beginning of a new school year were ongoing.

Homecoming week, which arrived early in the fall semester, included a Gunfighter Panel featuring three alumni who shared military and civilian career experiences with the regiment. On Friday, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni (VTCCA) board met, while the cadet leadership dinner was held that evening at The Inn at Virginia Tech.



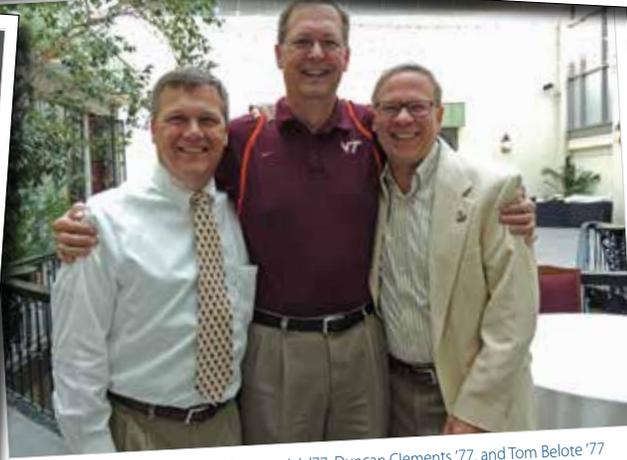
World-renowned artist and philanthropist P. Buckley Moss presented a beautifully framed print of her new Lane Hall painting to Gen. Fullhart during the Old Guard reunion weekend in May.



P. Buckley Moss with members of the Old Guard: (from left) Ray Carmines '51, James J. Owen '49, Sam Lionberger '62, Moss, Jess Fowler '64, Hill Shiner '62, and Danny Mills '64.



In June, Gen. Fullhart was the guest speaker at the scholars dinner held by the Alumni Association's Baltimore chapter at the Engineers Club in downtown Baltimore's historic Garrett-Jacobs Mansion.



D Company members (from left) Bob Derrick '77, Duncan Clements '77, and Tom Belote '77 met up when the commandant spoke to the Alumni Association's Baltimore chapter.



In early summer, members of S Squadron '71 gathered for a weekend of camaraderie and fun, an event masterminded by Rock Roszak '71 (front row, holding flag).



Ben Miller (center, in Civil War uniform) of the Miller Cannon Company spent time with the Skipper crew members to help them learn how to improve care and operation of the Corps' cannon.



Fall Gunfighter Panel participants (from left) Maria Robison '02, Capt. Joshua Waddell '08, and Lt. Col. Jasper Jeffers '96 returned to campus to share with the regiment how their Corps experiences prepared them for life's challenges and opportunities.



During the fall meeting of the VTCCA board, the Corps' deputy commandants and senior enlisted advisors presented updates on the three battalions.



VTCCA board chairman J. Pearson '87 presented an engraved Brodie Hall brick to outgoing Recruiting Task Force chairman Bill Swan '66 for his dedication and his efforts to raise and maintain a Corps of greater than 1,000 cadets.



Corps alumni gathered during Corps Homecoming weekend: (from left) Liz and Kevin '90 Turner, Brenda and Bill '90 Pugh, and Haynie '90 and Paige Mayhew.



During Corps Homecoming's cadet leadership dinner, regimental commander Samantha Reed, Class of 2016, spoke about the Corps' significance in her life and her career plans.



Maj. Gen. Tommy Thompson '56 led attendees in singing "God Bless America" at the donor breakfast.



We Are One Corps

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

Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni (VTCCA) board member Jess Fowler '64 sent Gen. Fullhart a concept called "One Corps." Upon reviewing it, Gen. Fullhart and I liked the concept, and I want to share it with you here.

During a class I participated in at the Ford Motor Co. headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan, the "One Ford" concept was discussed, so I was already somewhat familiar with the idea. It was explained that, before the 2008 recession, many business units within Ford were not cooperating with each other: North America, for example, would not help Europe, and Europe would not talk to Brazil. You get the picture.

During the last recession, Ford leveraged everything the company had in order to survive, without taking government or taxpayers' money. The company had to cut costs, break apart the "kingdoms," and work together as "One Ford, One Team, One Plan, and One Goal." Ford has since performed very well.

The primary goal of Fowler's "One Corps" idea is to build lifetime membership and continued service to the Corps. As proposed, the concept puts forth a structure comprising three regiments: cadet, alumni, and Old Guard. Each regiment would have its unique mission, objectives, and leadership structures, but one cohesive brand for the entire Corps would be established, whereby giving back is essential.

Due to the low numbers of cadets in the Corps at the end of the Vietnam War and through the early 1990s, we will face many lean years of Corps alumni

membership in the near future. Although the Corps has experienced tremendous growth since those years, we must remain diligent in keeping all members, new and old, engaged.

Twenty years ago, the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors discussed doing away with the Corps. During the Battle of the Bulge, Gen. Patton said, as the 101st was saved, "We can still lose this war!" Similarly, we alumni cannot afford to be under the spell of a "halo effect" and think we will never see those lean days again. We cannot allow ourselves to be broken into separate "kingdoms" as happened at Ford. Unity is key.

Becoming and creating "One Corps" will require great dedication. We need our cadets and alumni to be relentlessly

engaged with our Corps. We must create an environment in which students feel as if they are a part of something larger—larger than just themselves, their company, their battalion, or even the entire regiment.

Our cadets need to feel they are part of that group that has gone before them with the same goals and ambitions. To that end, the junior and senior cadet class alumni functions that have been held the past two springs successfully explain the need for graduates to stay connected.

We now need to build on those functions by engaging every cadet, from freshmen to Old Guard members. As alumni, we must stay engaged; we must remember to "participate, communicate, and donate." Everyone has something to



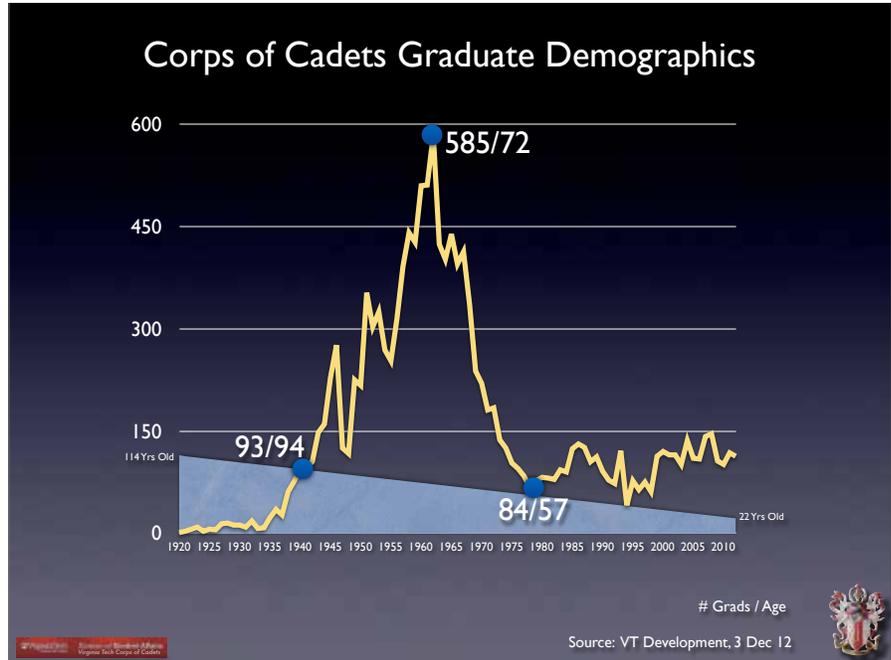
J. Pearson '87 marched onto the Lane Stadium field with other K Company alumni during Corps Homecoming.

contribute. Whether it is critical financial support, making internships available to cadets, or wisdom like Jess shared in his letter, each one of us can add value.

Jess, thank you for your suggestion. We plan to discuss it with the VTCCA board, and I will report how the idea was received and how we will take the next step toward implementation.

I hope that all alumni know that my ears and eyes are always open. I live by the notion that “If it ain’t broke, then let’s break it and make it better.”

Go, Hokies! *Ut Prosim.*



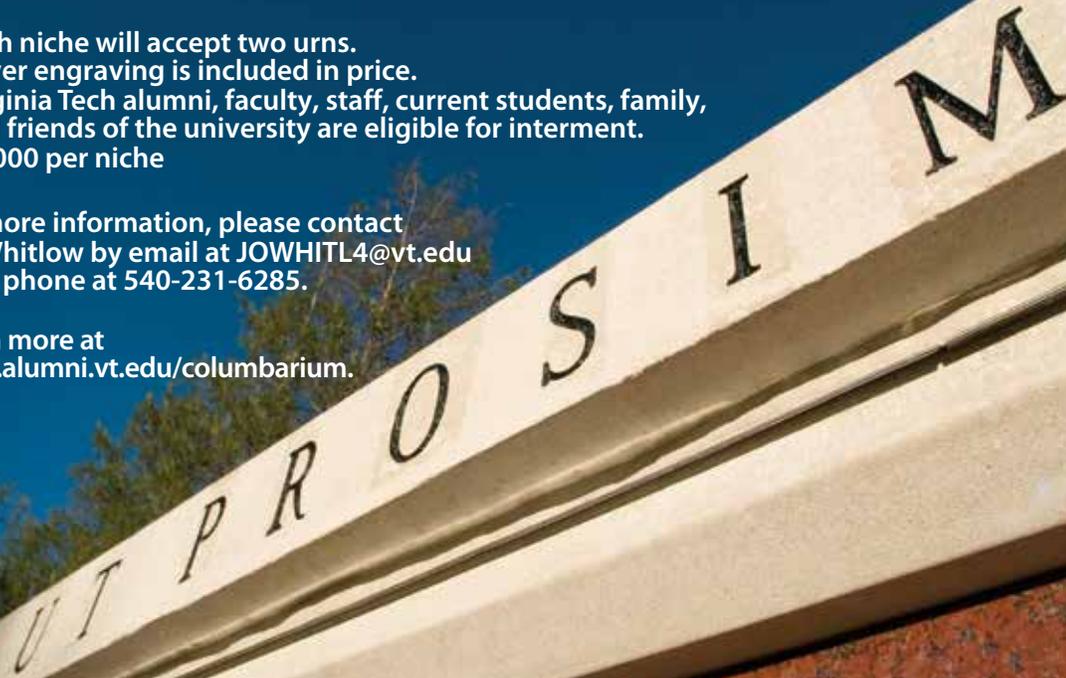
Virginia Tech Columbarium

The Virginia Tech Columbarium, built and managed by the Alumni Association, is located in view of the Duck Pond just beyond the terrace of the Holtzman Alumni Center. The structure has 120 individual niches that can accommodate up to two urns each. Each niche has a maroon granite cover, which can be engraved much like a traditional gravestone with individual names, class year, and birth and death years.

- Each niche will accept two urns.
- Cover engraving is included in price.
- Virginia Tech alumni, faculty, staff, current students, family, and friends of the university are eligible for interment.
- \$5,000 per niche

For more information, please contact Jay Whitlow by email at JOWHITL4@vt.edu or by phone at 540-231-6285.

Learn more at www.alumni.vt.edu/columbarium.



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 first half of this year's football season.



Capt. Bryan Spear '09, USA
Jalalabad, Afghanistan



Cmdr. Nikki Phelps '98, USN
Djibouti, Africa



Capt. J. Art De Laura '09, USAF
Kabul, Afghanistan



Capt. Chris Horsfall '06, USAF
Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan



Capt. Joe DiCocco '10, USAF
Southwest Asia

Capt. Sarah Bowles '05, USAF
Kabul, Afghanistan



Capt. Ryan Morris '09, USAF
Bagram, Afghanistan



1st Lt. John Goodman '13, USA
Camp Buehring, Kuwait

Senior Cadet Commanders, Fall 2015



Regimental Commander **Samantha Reed**

Cadet Col. Samantha Reed, of Manassas, Virginia, is pursuing a degree in meteorology with a minor in leadership studies and plans to commission in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation. She

joined the Corps for the opportunity to be in a military environment with the benefit of interacting with civilian college students. Cadet Reed served as a cadre and platoon sergeant during the fall 2014 semester and as Bravo Company first sergeant in the spring. Proud to serve the regiment, Cadet Reed is a recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



First Battalion Commander **Nathaniel Foote**

Cadet Lt. Col. Nathaniel Foote, of Fairfax, Virginia, is pursuing degrees in construction engineering and management with minors in 21st-century studies and leadership studies

and plans to commission in the U.S. Army upon graduation. He joined the Corps in order to challenge himself beyond the regular ROTC experience. Cadet Foote served Charlie Company as a cadre sergeant, squad leader, and platoon sergeant, as well as Alpha Company commander for the Army ROTC Battalion. For his service to the Army battalion, Cadet Foote was recognized with the Military Officers Association of America Award. Excited to serve 1st Battalion, Cadet Foote is a recipient of an Army scholarship.



Second Battalion Commander **Augustine Lieu**

Cadet Lt. Col. Augustine Lieu, of Woodbridge, Virginia, is pursuing a major in mechanical engineering with minors in biomedical engineering

and leadership studies and plans to commission in the U.S. Navy upon graduation. He joined the Corps for the constant opportunities to challenge and better himself. Cadet Lieu served as Foxtrot Company first sergeant and Navy battalion S-4 during the fall 2014 semester and as 2nd Battalion sergeant major in the spring. Thrilled to lead 2nd Battalion, Cadet Lieu is a recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



Third Battalion Commander **Troy "Drew" Smith II**

Cadet Lt. Col. Troy Smith, of Warrenton, Virginia, is pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering with a minor in leadership studies and plans to commission

in the U.S. Army upon graduation. He joined the Corps to carry on a family tradition and to prepare for service in the armed forces. A proud member of Ranger Company, Cadet Smith served as Kilo Battery first sergeant during the fall 2014 semester and as Third Battalion sergeant major in the spring. Honored to serve the great Americans of 3rd Battalion, Cadet Smith is a recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

Command Staff, Fall 2015



Regimental Executive Officer
Joseph Holman
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Gastonia, North Carolina
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Adjutant
Garrett Treaster
Packaging Systems and
Design
Carlisle, Pennsylvania
Air Force



Regimental Public Affairs
Officer
Andrew Mitchell
Public and Urban Affairs
Radford, Virginia
Army



Regimental Operations
Officer
Josiah Jeffers
Political Science
Winston-Salem, North
Carolina
Army



Regimental Supply and
Finance Officer
Conor Quigley
Political Science
Fairfax Station, Virginia
Army



Regimental Academics
Officer
Liam McGurn
History
Warren, New Jersey
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Sergeant Major
David Robison
History
Chesapeake, Virginia
Air Force



Regimental Inspector
General
James Pryor
Economics
Chesapeake Beach, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



Executive Court Chair
Joshua Milot
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Yorktown, Virginia
Air Force



Honor Court Chief Justice
Andrew Schoka
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Fairfax, Virginia
Army



Regimental Historian
Charles Zadd
Psychology
Norfolk, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



VPI Battalion Commander
Madeline Guillen
Electrical Engineering
Chantilly, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track



Army Battalion Commander
Michael Bolls
Environmental Horticulture
Kingwood, Texas
Army



Navy Battalion Commander
Naveen Gupta
Aerospace Engineering
Annandale, Virginia
Navy



Air Force Battalion
Commander
Walter Gonsiewski
Mechanical Engineering
Lebanon Township,
Pennsylvania
Air Force

Command Staff, Fall 2015



Alpha Company Commander
Matthew Gulotta
Aerospace Engineering
Mount Airy, Maryland
Air Force



Bravo Company Commander
Gabriel Palencia
Mechanical Engineering
Woodbridge, Virginia
Army



Charlie Company Commander
William Vician
Construction Engineering and
Management
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Air Force



Delta Company Commander
Patrick Butler
History
Broadlands, Virginia
Army



Echo Company Commander
Kylie Himmelberger
Accounting
Sterling, Virginia
Air Force



Foxtrot Company
Commander
Patrick Jourdan
Civil Engineering
Arlington, Virginia
Army



Golf Company Commander
Leah Roberts
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Air Force



Hotel Company Commander
Wesley Russell
International Studies
Chattanooga, Tennessee
Army



India Company Commander
Brendan Craig
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Chesapeake, Virginia
Navy



Kilo Company Commander
Eric Jordan
Aerospace Engineering
Vienna, Virginia
Air Force



Lima Company Commander
Joshua Craft
Electrical Engineering
Lexington Park, Maryland
Navy



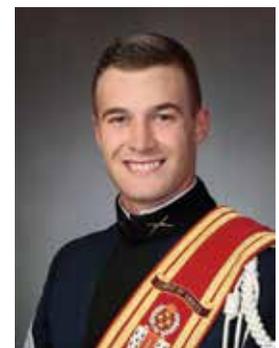
Band Company Commander
Anthony Carella
Aerospace Engineering
Mercerville, New Jersey
Air Force



Band Alpha Commander
Sherry Kim
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Army



Band Bravo Commander
Natasha Laramie
Consumer Studies
Sterling, Virginia
Citizen-Leader Track
Army



Regimental Drum Major
Dixon Johnson
Material Science and
Engineering
Shelby, Ohio
Army



The Color Guard prepares the flags prior to stepping off for a parade on the Drillfield.

Presenting the Colors

by Maj. Carrie Cox VT'99, U.S. Air Force Reserve, Corps executive officer

It's well known that the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) Color Guard presents the colors at university sporting events, at Corps parades, and at a range of other campus and community functions. Less well known, however, is the impact that these cadets, each of whom is passionate about teaching flag etiquette to the next generation, have on local children.

"Our outreach to the community is our way of putting service before self and showing our appreciation for the opportunities our country has given us," said Air Force ROTC Cadet Forrest Doss, Class of 2017, the 2014-15 Color Guard commander.

"Visiting elementary schools allows us to teach children, who are the future of our nation, the importance of the flag, what it represents, and how it impacts their lives," said Doss, a junior majoring in computer science. "In addition, by performing various flag details

for university and community events, we hope to instill in others an appreciation for this country and the people who brought us all here today."

For the past three years, Color Guard members have worked with the fifth-grade safety patrol at Kipps Elementary School in Blacksburg. Among other duties, these young students raise and lower the U.S. flag at their school each day.

Kipps teacher Kelly McPherson VT '98 appreciates that the cadets are eager to reach out and set an example for elementary students. "The Color Guard comes in and teaches our children the importance of the flag, how to care for it, and why," she said. "This lesson provided by the cadets helps our kids understand their duty when they raise and lower the flag each day. I am thankful for the partnership that we have built and hope to continue it for years to come."

During the 2014-15 academic year, Color Guard members also taught at an after-school program for third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders at nearby Dublin Elementary School; shared their expertise with a Girl Scout troop; visited a preschool; and taught flag etiquette for an elementary school field trip to Virginia Tech, as well as a visit by a homeschool group.

"Personally I've never felt more honored than with this opportunity to safeguard the U.S. flag, which represents all Americans who live, have lived, and have died for her," Doss said. "I owe absolutely everything to America and the freedom and opportunity she offers, and now, through our Color Guard duties, I am able to show my gratitude every day."

A dedicated group of 12 to 17 cadets, the VTCC Color Guard is responsible for the flag that is raised and lowered over the Upper Quad each day,

represents the Corps and the university at events on campus and around the country, and maintains all flags and equipment to make these details possible.

The cadets of the Color Guard call it a faceless organization because when they present the colors, their faces most often are hidden by the flags themselves—exactly how they want it to be. Although each cadet may not be known individually, the impact the Color Guard has on campus and in the community is significant, and the group is one of the most recognized symbols of the university.

“I joined Color Guard because I wanted to challenge myself as both a person and a leader,” said VPI Battalion Cadet Adam Moritz, Class of 2017, a junior majoring in chemical engineering. “Since becoming a member, I not only have gained confidence and experience as a leader, but have become a member of a close-knit family that I will remain in contact with for life. We do everything as a group, and having an experienced group that stands behind you in everything that you do is what makes Color Guard unique and enjoyable. It is a privilege to be able to honor our nation’s flag with my closest friends.”



Color Guard members teach Blacksburg fifth-graders the proper way to fold a U.S. flag.

Properly retiring U.S. flags

Photos by Bryson Hicks



Last year, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Color Guard started a new initiative, partnering with the Corps’ Eagle Scout Association, to properly retire U.S. flags.

Throughout the year, cadets collected worn and damaged flags, and at the end of each semester, they performed a



ceremonial burning of the flags. There was such demand that the cadets had nearly 30 flags for the spring 2015 event.

The Color Guard plans to continue this service each semester and welcomes flags looking for a final recognition of their service.



Cadets in VPI Battalion head out on an early-morning run.

VPI, Do or Die!

The Citizen-Leader Track's physical training program

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

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! Every weekday morning around 5 a.m., alarm clocks squawk throughout the residence halls, alerting hundreds of cadets that they have less than 30 minutes to get across campus for physical training (PT) formation. Smacking the snooze button, the weary remind themselves that they chose this life. Some may be wondering, “Why?”

For most of the regiment, the answer is pretty clear: to graduate from a prestigious senior military college and commission into the armed services, where fitness standards, readiness, and an early-morning work ethic are highly valued. In many cases, military careers hinge on performance during physical training. That's plenty of incentive to get up and out the door.

Because military commissions aren't

hanging in the balance for VPI Battalion cadets, why PT as a group, so early, so often? The simplistic answer is that the Corps is a military-style program, and we will train like the military. While true, this view is too narrow, especially when the end goal is civilian-sector employment. The real answer is rooted in the fact that VPI Battalion cadets join this organization because they aspire to lead others.

The Citizen-Leader Track's vision is to “graduate leaders with the character, confidence, and wellness to lead successful lives in service to others.” VPI Battalion's PT program may have different objectives from the ROTC units', but the program is nonetheless a vital part of our leader development model.

The ROTC units are commissioning future infantry officers, fighter pilots,

and the like. VPI Battalion is graduating civilian leaders with life-long fitness habits and work ethic. Although attitude and character will carry the day in board rooms and across our communities more than push-up count, personal fitness is an important aspect of overall wellness. Holistically, sound bodies lead to sound minds and self-confidence. Confidence is intangible.

Since the Citizen-Leader Track institutionalized PT nearly 15 years ago, it's been a source of pride and frustration for cadets. Cadets plan and lead their PT program, and they take pride in knowing they've chosen the road less traveled, with discipline and dedication to a long-range vision. Morning PT embodies dedication and gives the chain of command an opportunity to practice face-to-face

servant leadership: getting to know their people, motivating them to exceed goals, cultivating unit camaraderie, and working through challenges that arise. These are transferable experiences in the civilian sector.

The program is not without its critics, and no gripe is original at this point. I do want to address one occasional grumble: Why not disenroll cadets who don't maintain weight and fitness standards?

First, this is a university program centered on leader development, and Virginia Tech is a diverse and inclusive institution. There are no weight standards to becoming a leader, and the Corps would never discriminate in a world that needs more leaders of character.

There is, however, accountability in the fitness program. Cadets receiving an Emerging Leader Scholarship must pass a fitness test each semester of their junior and senior years to retain the scholarship. For an out-of-state senior, that amount is up to \$4,000 per year. If a cadet loses the ELS, he or she can earn it back with a passing score the next semester. VPI Battalion uses the Navy's scoring tables for pushups, crunches, and the 1.5-mile run to assess fitness standards.

The fitness program is led by the physical training instructor (PTI) and his or her staff of assistants. This fall, Cadet Brandon Ward, Class of 2017, is the battalion's PTI. Ward, who is a biochemistry major and aspires to a career in military medicine, is also a member of the Corps' EMT staff and works part-time at a fitness facility on campus.

"Between exercising in the mornings with VPI, lifting weights on my own, and working at the campus gym, fitness has become an integral part of my life," Ward said. "The physical rewards of an active lifestyle are great, but the mental satisfaction is even better. My goal as PTI is to push cadets beyond what they thought that they were capable of, thereby improving their confidence in whatever else life throws at them."

This past year, cadets created a program to incentivize higher fitness performance, increase schedule flexibility, and encourage small-group activity. The program is linked to each cadet's standing on a tiered fitness scale. For example, those failing the fitness test follow the Tier III schedule of three morning PT sessions and one individual PT session per week. Those passing the fitness test follow the Tier II schedule of two morning PT sessions and two individual PT sessions per week. Those surpassing an "Excellent" standard follow the Tier I schedule of one morning PT session and two individual PT sessions per week.

Fitness is tested at the beginning and mid-point of the semester to allow

cadets the chance to score higher and to move to a more desirable tier. Rarely does a cadet regress to a lower tier after the mid-semester test. Accountability mechanisms log individual sessions, and the overall fitness level of the battalion has significantly improved. Moreover, unscheduled individual PT sessions often become impromptu group exercise, such as a squad run, a Huckleberry Trail bike ride, or a session at the "Ranger pit."

Most Corps alumni recall those early alarms and bone-chilling walks across the Drillfield to War Memorial Gym for PT. It's hoped those memories match an appreciation for the benefits of lifelong fitness habits and the camaraderie from their time as cadets.



Cadet Brandon Ward, physical training instructor, leads VPI Battalion in a physical fitness test.



Col. Dave Miller presides over change of command for VPI Battalion.

Passing the Guidon

by Col. Dave Miller, U.S. Army (retired), Ph.D., director, Maj. Gen. W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Development

As I tell the senior class each year, “This is your year of lasts. You will go to your last homecoming, last football game, last military ball, and all the other great events you participate in as a cadet.” My message is to enjoy these experiences because time is fleeting, and we don’t get a do-over.

This is my semester of lasts. Suzanne and I decided it was time to start working on the bucket list, so I will retire at the end of the fall semester. I will leave with a decade of service to the cadets, the Corps, and the university.

I’ve been asked many times by cadets, “What’s the best job you ever held during your career?” And my reply is always, “The one I am in.” I say this because I want cadets to understand that attitude will determine how satisfied they will be with any assignment. Life is good if you can say so and mean it, and I can truly say that serving the Corps has been extraordinarily satisfying, the highlight of my 36 years in uniform.

I began my career at Virginia Tech as the 3rd Battalion deputy commandant for one year, then transitioned to deputy commandant for leader development, adding the duties of Corps recruiting officer for two semesters, then adding oversight of the “Corps-only” program for several years and serving as the director of the Maj. Gen. W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Development.

In these roles, I experienced many facets of our program. I can attest firsthand that not only have our numbers grown, but also that the quality of our program has increased significantly. Corps graduates can be confident they are as well prepared, and in most cases better prepared, than any of their peers beginning their careers.

I can also attest that the commandant and the staff of your Corps are the most dedicated and hardworking group of professionals with whom I’ve ever had the pleasure to serve. Helping cadets launch successful careers and working with such

a professional staff are two things that I will miss most.

One thing I won’t worry about is the academic component of our program. We are very fortunate to have as our new director Elaine Humphrey, who earned a Ph.D. from Tech in 2008 and brings significant experience in the area of student success and academic achievement. She served in Virginia Tech’s Center for Academic Enrichment and Excellence for a number of years before she was hired as the director of Virginia Military Institute’s academic center. She comes to the Corps with a passion for helping cadets achieve their dreams and plenty of good ideas to keep them marching forward. I am absolutely confident that the Corps’ academic program is in good hands.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have served in what I believe is the best corps in the country. Thank you for all your kind words and support over the past decade. I’ve been truly blessed.

Ut Prosim!



Bill Sterling '80 presented an Emerging Leader Scholarship certificate to Morgan Davenport, Class of 2019, at Freedom High School in South Riding, Virginia.

We're All Recruiters

by Lt. Col. David Williams '79, U.S. Army (retired)

It's a great time to be associated with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC). If you're reading this column, chances are you're a cadet, the parent of a cadet, an alumnus of the Corps, or a friend of the Corps. Assuming you fall into any of these categories, we welcome you to the recruiting staff—because all of us are recruiters.

Recently, I mentioned that VTCC recruiters believe that the Christmas season actually begins in mid-September with the opening of college days and college fairs! Potential students' interest in Virginia Tech is never higher than it is between September and December.

During this particular quarter, we have the advantage of potential applicants seeking out Virginia Tech rather than us trying to separate them from

all the high school seniors applying to thousands of colleges nationwide. There is no better time to tell the Corps' story than when high school seniors are finalizing their college application decisions over the coming few months. Better yet, Tech's admissions office has asked Corps alumni for help in representing both the Corps and the university at 34 separate college fairs this fall!

I need to take a break here and thank my predecessors, John Cahoon '59 and Bill Swan '66, for their service as the Recruiting Task Force leaders. Both have done extremely valuable work in organizing Corps alumni into geographic "areas" and actively recruiting former cadets to lead those teams of alumni in the various areas—hence the term "Area Team Leaders," or ATLs.

As the ink in this article dries, an email message is being sent to ATLs to ask them to cover down on the 34 college days/fairs that will start soon. If you want to become more involved in recruiting for your Corps, please let me know. I can be reached directly at daveandliz.williams@gmail.com or through the commandant's staff at Virginia Tech.

If we don't have an ATL in your area, we'd be happy to have you fill that duty position. If there is already an ATL in your area, we will share your contact information with him or her.

There is no such thing as having too many VTCC recruiters.

Ut Prosim.

Commandant's Staff Welcomes New Members

Elaine Humphrey VT'00, VT'08

Elaine Humphrey is the new director of the Maj. Gen. W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Development.



Having worked more than 17 years in higher education, Humphrey served as assistant director for academic support and associate director for research and assessment for the Student Success Center at Virginia Tech, as well as director of the Miller Academic Center and director of teacher education at Virginia Military Institute. She has taught at both the undergraduate and

graduate levels.

While at Virginia Tech, Humphrey served as the graduate student representative to the Board of Visitors and was selected as a Virginia Tech Multicultural Fellow. She currently serves on the executive board of the National College Learning Center Association as the certification officer and is a member of a number of professional organizations, including the National Association for Developmental Education and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. She also served the Virginia Association for Developmental Education as the four-year institutional representative.

Humphrey earned a B.A. in elementary education from the College of William and Mary, an M.A. in education in higher education and student affairs from Virginia Tech, and a Ph.D. in educational leadership and policy studies from Virginia Tech. She was awarded the distinction of Certified Learning Center Professional—Level 4 (Lifetime) by the National College Learning Center Association.

Kerry Meier VT '11, VT'15

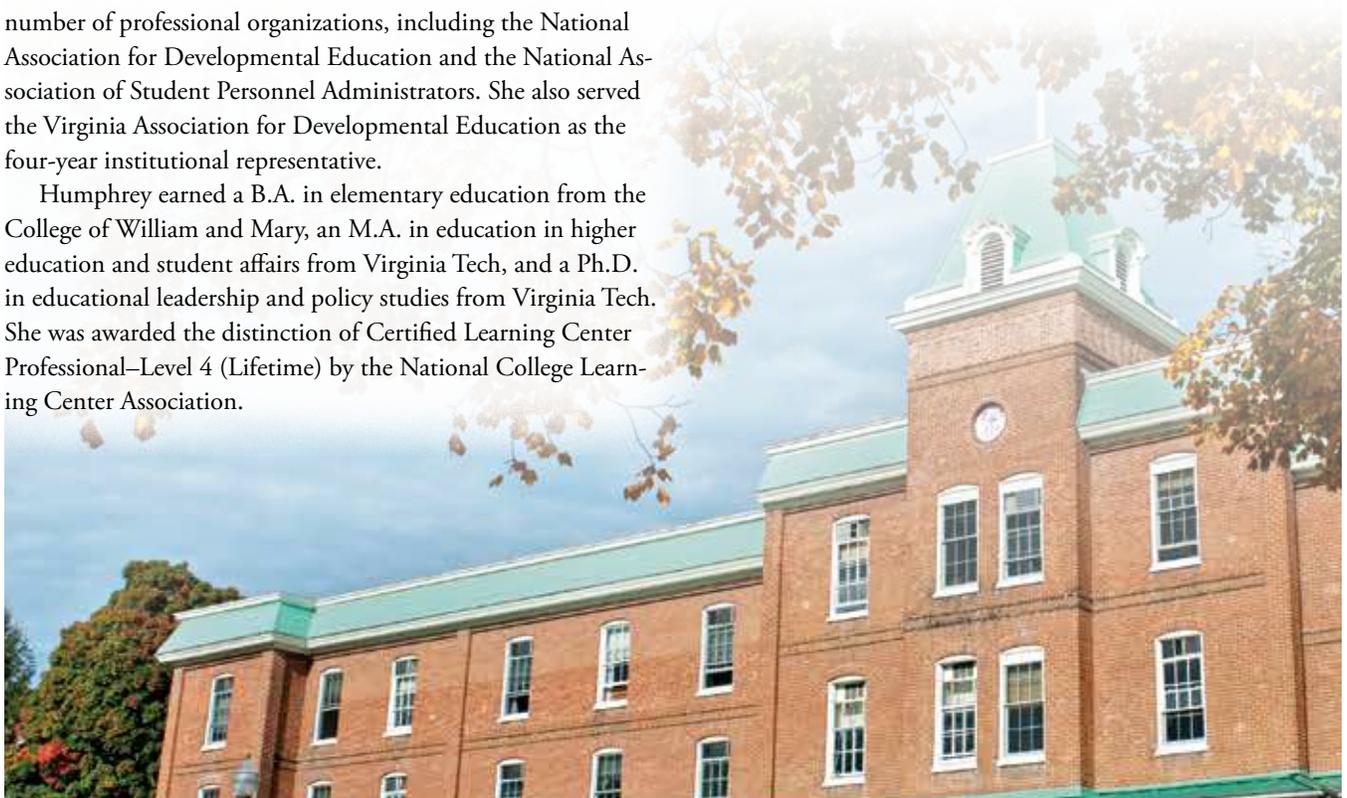
The new development associate for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, Kerry Meier earned an M.B.A. from the Pamplin



College of Business in 2015 and a B.S. in horticulture from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 2011.

Being a Hokie is a family affair for Meier, whose mother VT'04, sister VT'05, brother '08, and brother-in-law VT'15 all earned degrees from Virginia Tech. Her brother is a 2008 alumnus of the Corps' Echo Company.

Meier brings a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to her new job with the Corps and looks forward to meeting many more Hokies. She is enjoying life in the New River Valley with her puppies and spends many hours each fall with 66,000 of her closest friends cheering the Hokies to victory in Lane Stadium.





Master Gunnery Sgt. Jones (left) advising then-Cadet Maj. Ray Pereira '15, now a second lieutenant

Passion for Leading the Future

by Master Gunnery Sgt. Lance Jones, U.S. Marine Corps (retired), 2nd Battalion senior enlisted advisor

As I sat at my desk during the count-down to the end of my active duty career, a question filled my thoughts: “What will I do after retirement from the U.S. Marine Corps?”

I thought back to the commander in chief’s speech in which he’d tasked veterans to give back to this nation that had stood by them during the global war on terrorism. I knew it was my calling and passion to continue to coach, teach, and mentor young men and women.

The opportunity with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) seemed to be the perfect fit. Once hired, I didn’t realize just how special this role is and how much energy was needed to meet the task of mentoring future leaders, but I knew such work was my passion, and I was excited for the challenge.

Each morning during Cadre Week as the wake-up call was sounded, junior and senior cadets sought knowledge and wel-

comed the presence of the battalion’s senior enlisted advisors. Cadet leaders want to learn, so they seek information and training from us, and they strive to learn something new each day. Their enthusiasm keeps me on my toes and motivates me, for I know that the knowledge I have garnered over decades is being passed to the next generation of warfighters and is appreciated.

The battalion cadre are very receptive to new leadership ideas and strategies, and these cadets’ hunger fuels my passion. The cadre wanted to be prepared for New Cadet Week and to inspire the new cadets, instilling in them the desire and discipline needed to succeed in the VTCC.

As the week played out, I was gratified to observe that leadership techniques passed to the cadre were used. These cadets are America’s future leaders in action, and I hope my passion as a mentor

has made a difference in their leadership progression. My work has just begun, however.

During Cadre and New Cadet weeks, only one-third of the battalion is on campus. The first morning of class, 230 more cadets were motivated to see what direction and leadership skill sets are in store for them. Each cadet is at a different level, and each has a variety of needs and goals.

As I try to help cadets discover who they are as a leader, I am excited about this job every day. It sometimes takes two or three tries, but to help cadets succeed is well worth it. Cadets see this in our eyes and hear it in our tone, and they know we want to help them create their future. What a privilege it is to work with the amazing young men and women in the Corps!



Col. Kevin Milton (second row, far right), professor of military science, with newly contracted cadets

Army ROTC News

Many of our returning Army ROTC cadets enjoyed a rewarding summer with a mix of military training, overseas training programs, and military internships.

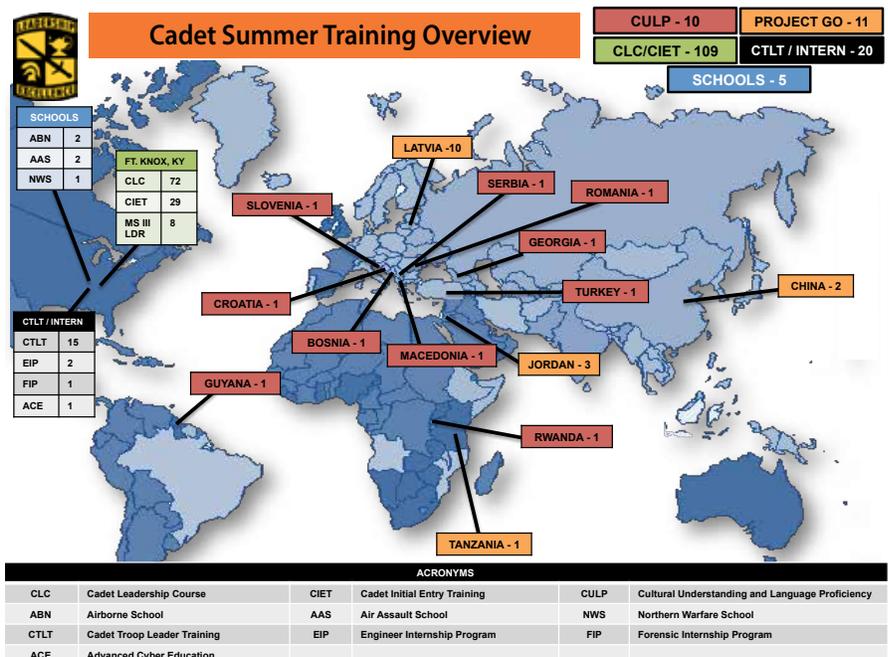
Twenty-six cadets studied or trained abroad with the ROTC Cultural Understanding and Language Program or the Department of Defense-sponsored Project GO (Global Officer). Five cadets completed Airborne School, Air Assault School, and Northern Warfare School. Fifteen cadets attended Cadet Troop Leader Training, during which they fulfilled second lieutenant duties with active-duty units. Seven cadets participated in Army-sponsored internships, working in engineering, forensics, cyberspace, and manufacturing and technology fields.

Army ROTC's main summer training, the newly implemented Cadet Initial Entry Training (CIET) and the Cadet Leader Course (CLC) were held at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The updated program aims to provide more military training over the summer to better prepare cadets to lead units in an increasingly complex and ambiguous operating environment.

Twenty-nine cadets attended CIET, which establishes a common baseline for cadets seeking entry into an ROTC pro-

gram after their first or second year of college. The training also provides cadets with an opportunity for leadership experience.

Each platoon was mentored by a newly commissioned second lieutenant and a seasoned drill sergeant, assisted by MSIII cadet squad leaders who participated in CIET before or after attending CLC. Eight of our MSIII cadets participated in this program, providing extra support in training and coach-



ing the CIET cadets and gaining valuable leadership training themselves.

While CIET teaches basic military skills with a focus on preparing and assessing cadets to plan and execute missions as a squad, the cadets executed a platoon operation on their final day. Cadets were allowed a short amount of time to plan the mission, without formal training on how to coordinate and conduct operations at the platoon level.

Throughout the summer, the cadets demonstrated impressive problem-solving skills to execute successful platoon-level missions, never failing to combine their own creativity with what they had learned and rehearsed at the squad level.

Seventy-two Virginia Tech cadets graduated from the CLC, Cadet Command's premier training event, which provides a training progression similar to CIET, but culminates at a higher level.

Cadets began the course with basic soldier-skills training, such as cadet rifle training and tactical combat casualty care, before progressing to team-level training, including team rifle and machine gun training, "call for fire" exercises, and team-movement technique drills.

Cadets progressed to squad- and platoon-level training by working together through a complex problem-solving and decision-making exercise and a nine-day field training exercise, involving both squad and platoon tactical operations, which tested their tactical knowledge, teamwork, critical-thinking, and leadership skills.

Training culminated in a 48-hour company level out-of-sector mission, which tested knowledge, endurance, and leadership skills gained throughout training. Cadet graduates greatly improved their critical-thinking, communication, and tactical skills, as well as gained an appreciation for the complexity of company-level operations in the modern Army.

The expanded program at cadet summer training will better prepare Army officers to work through ambiguous, complex problems and excel at the platoon level.

The Class of 2016's cadet battalion command and staff for fall 2015 has quickly set the pace for a rewarding semester. Battalion Commander Michael Bolls, of Kingwood, Texas, along with his deputy commanding officer, Clay Thompson, of Columbus, Ohio, and his sergeant major, John Paul Cook, of Chantilly, Virginia, have guided the battalion through the semester's ROTC training. They are supported by the cadet battalion staff, which is coordinated by the executive officer, Ryan Barney, of Manhattan Beach, California.

The staff includes S1 (adjutant) Casey Ward, of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania; S2 (intelligence) Andrew Schoka of Fairfax, Virginia; S3 (operations and training) Tom Lamm, of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; S4 (logistics) Conor Quigley, of Fairfax Station, Virginia; Public Affairs Officer Sherry Kim, of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; S6 (signal) Joe Tarascio, of Forest, Virginia; Civil Affairs Officer Lindsey Hobbs, of Stafford, Virginia; and Battalion Physical Training Instructor Luke Birch, of Fairfax, Virginia.

With cadre guidance, the cadet battalion staff plans and prepares the semester's training events, thereby learning a great deal about planning and executing training, essential skills for Army officers.

The Army ROTC department has been reinforced with a strong group of new cadre, nearly bringing the detachment to full strength and improving our capacity for focused leader development.

New officers include Capt. Mathew Wright '07, a military intelligence officer; Capt. Andrew Holler, field artillery; Capt. Andrew Hascher, logistics; and Capt. Demetrius Haeffner, signal. Captains Wright and Holler are the instructors for the freshmen. Capt. Haeffner, teamed with Sgt. 1st Class Culpepper, has taken over as the primary instructor for the sophomores. Capt. Hascher has taken over as our S4, logistics officer, and assistant operations officer.

Our juniors are served by two veteran instructors, Capt. Ray and Sgt. 1st Class Twine, while Col. Milton serves as the primary instructor for the seniors, ROTC's main effort in academic instruction. Sgt. Maj. Marc Stevenson, armor, also joined our team as the chief military science instructor and senior enlisted advisor.

In addition to cadre teams serving as primary instructors, we have cadre teams responsible for the supervision and leader development of each of the cadet companies, focusing on physical training and labs.



Battalion commander Michael Bolls, Class of 2016, with his staff

Naval ROTC News

Virginia Tech's Naval ROTC (NROTC) battalion began the fall semester with nearly 300 midshipmen divided between four Navy-option companies—Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta—and one Marine-option company, Raider. The freshman class alone accounts for 106 motivated midshipmen.

The NROTC unit at Tech continues to commission a large number of officers into the fleet and receives roughly 10 percent of the two- and three-year scholarships awarded annually to midshipmen. High academic standards and hard work from the midshipmen contribute to the battalion's success.

The NROTC unit reinforces the values taught by the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC), concentrating on the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment.

Commissioning

Thirty-five Navy and Marine Corps officers were commissioned into active service this past school year. The unit commissioned 10 ensigns to serve as surface warfare officers: Joseph Acevedo '15, Daniel Chasse '15, Eric Chowning '15, Ryan Costa '15, Joanna Cruz '15, Kristina Dewbre '15, Jessica Hawkins '15, Erica Mattern '15, Gregory Sherwood '15, and Benjamin Welch '15.

The following ensigns were commissioned to serve as naval aviators or naval flight officers and reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida, for flight training: Conner Blair '15, Jonathan Bressette '14, Justin Creighan '15, James Dwight '14, Wendy Zehner '15, Matthew Hughes '14, Jonathan Lewis '15, Garrett Webster '15, and Michelle Williams '15.

The following ensigns were commissioned to serve as submarine officers and reported to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, South Carolina: Joshua Gruspier '15, Sean Cunningham '14, Matthew Hitchcock '14, and Wesley Royston '15. Lee Matheson '15 commissioned into the special warfare community and reported to Basic Underwater Demolition School in Coronado, California.

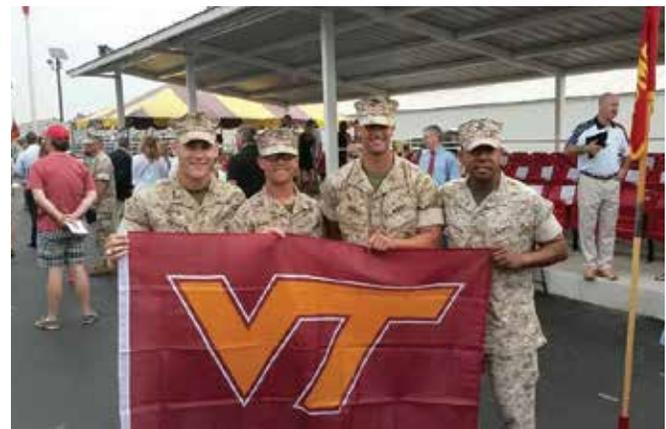
Eleven students were commissioned as second lieutenants in the Marine Corps and proceeded to The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia: Jeremy Boone '15, Brian Burgos '14, Richard Butryn '15, Austin Dickey '15, William Farrar '15, Jason Gurrister '15, Andrew Lee '14, Christopher Miller '14, Eric Satterthwaite '14, Joseph Skopowski '14, and Shane Wescott '15.

Honor graduates

Named for the Virginia Tech graduate who was killed in action during the 1983 bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, the 2nd Lt. Maurice Edward Hukill Award is presented each year to a Raider Company cadet who best upholds the high standards expected of a Marine Corps officer. This year's recipi-

ent is 2nd Lt. Austin Dickey '15, a management major who served as the Corps of Cadets' regimental commander during the spring.

The NROTC battalion also awarded its annual Chief of Naval Operations Distinguished Midshipman Graduate award to Ensign Lee Matheson '15 for having met the highest standards of leadership, academic excellence, and military performance. Ensign Matheson, who majored in civil and environmental engineering, recently began naval special warfare training at Naval Base Coronado, California.



(From left) Midshipman 1st Class John Snyder, Midshipman 1st Class Sean Evans, Midshipman 1st Class Michael Simolke, and Maj. Ahmad Martin

Officer Candidate School

The first proving ground for future Marine Corps officers is Officer Candidates School (OCS) in Quantico, Virginia. The six-week course includes instruction on tactics, history, and numerous physical and leadership evaluations. Six midshipmen from Virginia Tech NROTC successfully completed the course this year.

The six Class of 2016 graduates—Jon Buford, Bryan Engelmann, Sean Evans, Brett Jones, Mike Simolke, and J.P. Snyder—will begin their Marine Corps careers at The Basic School following graduation from the Corps of Cadets and receiving their commission.

European rendezvous

by Midshipman 1st Class Stillwell, Class of 2016

For my summer cruise, I was aboard the USS Ross, DDG 71, stationed out of Rota, Spain. After traveling 20-plus hours, I met the ship in Romania, and everyone on board was very welcoming.

We conducted routine operations in the Black and Mediterranean seas, and I learned about the different parts of the ship, its mission, and the people who helped make the USS Ross the recipient of the 2014 Arleigh Burke Trophy.



Midshipman Stillwell in front of the Phalanx Close-In Weapon System

All on board were more than happy to talk to me about their jobs. Being able to witness such activities as under-way replenishment operations, live fire exercises, and helicopter operations was both eye-opening and exhilarating. My time aboard the USS Ross solidified my decision to enter the surface warfare community.

Fast-attack fun

by *Midshipman 1st Class Ide, Class of 2016*

My summer cruise was on board a Los Angeles-class attack submarine, the USS Boise, which I met in Port Canaveral, Florida.

Before getting underway, we were given a day to explore the area. Most of that time was spent at Cocoa Beach, where we were able to watch a Delta IV rocket launch from Kennedy Space Center.



Midshipman 1st Class Ide (second from left) with friends during a swim call aboard the USS Boise

While underway, we spent seven days transiting from Port Canaveral to Mayport, Florida, and witnessed many training exercises. Some of the drills we observed and participated in included various engineering-plant casualties, damage control, launching torpedo water slugs, and tracking simulated surfaced and submerged contacts. Additionally, all midshipmen were given a mock qualification card that allowed us to explore the ship and to qualify at different stations.

Some of my most memorable experiences from cruise were beating the captain and executive officer at cribbage, being on the bridge during a surface transit, and swimming off the boat in the middle of the ocean! Overall, it was an excellent cruise that gave me an in-depth understanding of life on a submarine.

Welcome aboard!



Lt. Chet Fearon, U.S. Navy

Lt. Fearon, who assumed duties as Charlie Company advisor in May, joins the NROTC unit from the World Famous Golden Eagles of Patrol Squadron Nine in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Lt. Fearon is a P-3 Orion pilot with over 1,250 pilot hours and 781 combat flight hours.



Master Sgt. Scott Keith, U.S. Marine Corps (retired)

Checking onboard in January, Scott Keith is the Navy ROTC unit's supply technician, handling supply and budgetary issues.

A retired master sergeant who served as a weapons and tactics instructor, air defense controller, and drill instructor during a distinguished 20-year career in the

Marine Corps, Keith, who is a native of Riner, Virginia, also served as the assistant Marine officer instructor at Virginia Tech from 2009 to 2012.



Michael Holland

Michael Holland has been integral in the handling of the unit staff's administrative needs since arriving in November 2014. A native of Roanoke, Virginia, he is excited to be a part of the NROTC team at Virginia Tech.

Farewell

Lt. T.J. Franklin, U.S. Navy

Lt. Franklin, who transferred from the NROTC unit in August, served as the Charlie Company advisor and as the command fitness leader, among other responsibilities, and earned a master's degree in natural resources during his tour of duty. Franklin's next assignment is as the tactical actions officer onboard the USS Ronald Reagan. Best wishes!

Air Force ROTC News



Professional Officer Course cadets teach urban operations tactics.

This past spring, the Air Force ROTC Detachment (Det) 875 was in for a surprise when the wing staged the Air Force Training Exercise (AFTX)—24 hours, two locations, six training stations, and one final test—that challenged, motivated, and educated cadets.

The lead for the event, Cadet Jordan Schafer, Class of 2016, explained that the exercise's purpose was to “build and display air expeditionary force (AEF) knowledge specifically in the areas of urban operations ... in order to develop and test future Air Force officers for summer training and active duty AEF scenarios.” Despite the intense atmosphere, cadets calmly completed each scenario, increasing morale with each event.

The first part of the training exercise sought to simulate a deployed environment. Upon arrival, cadets divided up by squadron and set up camp. Each squadron worked through the six stations: urban operations/military operations in urban terrain training, weapons safety, self-aid buddy care, suspect procedures, squad tactical movements, and combat road crossings.

The training's second part—a final surprise test—required cadets to apply what they had learned. Squadrons grouped up and were sent to a separate, unknown location. The cadets worked together to accomplish a mission that simulated a hostage situation involving enemy forces.

Thanks to the commitment and effort invested, the exercise was a rewarding experience for the entire wing.

Over the summer, cadets demonstrated why Det 875 is the best alive with their performance at field training. Not only does field training determine entry into the Professional Officer

Course, but it evaluates the leadership potential, readiness, and discipline of Air Force ROTC cadets across the nation, arguably the biggest milestone each cadet must pass in order to pursue a career as an Air Force officer. In addition, the training must be earned because a limited amount of slots are handed out based on unit commander rating, Air Force Officer Qualifying Test scores, and physical-training scores, among a few of the requirements.

With a graduation rate of 98 percent, Det 875 cadets proved how well the wing had prepared them for the challenge. Tested in such areas as physical fitness, drill, and airman knowledge, the cadets were presented with a range of opportunities to display excellence. The training, which included military briefings, physical training, and constant leadership discussions and exercises, proved to be an intense and competitive atmosphere, but a huge emphasis was placed on team-building and helping fellow wingmen.

As future Air Force officers, cadets will face many new and challenging leadership opportunities. Cadet Leah Roberts, Class of 2017, highlighted how she will be able to face those challenges: “I was surprised by how much I learned about leadership from field training, especially after everything I've learned in the Corps. I was able to bring back a lot of what I learned to apply here and eventually in my Air Force career.”

A big congratulations to those cadets who successfully completed field training and are on their way to becoming exemplary leaders!

Commissioning



2nd Lt. Raymond Pereira '15 during his swearing-in ceremony

In May, Det 875 celebrated the end of another successful year and, more importantly, the beginning of Air Force officer careers. Graduating cadets took their oath and proudly pinned on their second lieutenant bars, commemorating their initiation as U.S. military leaders. Having commissioned the



most cadets—40 second lieutenants—among all detachments in the nation, Det 875 applauds its newest lieutenants.

For the past two semesters, these cadets worked diligently behind the scenes and led from the front to make another successful year possible. Det. 875 is extremely proud of these new officers taking their courageous leadership from our wing to the next, throughout their Air Force careers and beyond.

Project Global Officers

Project Global Officers (GO) exemplifies that learning expands much farther than the classroom. A fully funded scholarship that doesn't require prior language knowledge, the program focuses on strategic languages spoken in the Middle East, Asia, or Africa.

Det 875, which sends more cadets to Project GO than any other AFROTC detachment in the country, has the largest Project GO Russian program. Several Det 875 cadets were able to take advantage of this wonderful study abroad program in Daugavpils, Latvia.

The participating cadets were immersed in both the language and the culture of the country. Second Lt. Keegan Newton '15, who participated as a cadet, articulated the beneficial structure of the program: "Without a doubt, I can say that my knowledge of Russian language and customs improved

dramatically even though it's only an eight-week program. We were able to experience a 24/7 learning environment by living with host families and visiting various attractions and neighboring countries."

These invaluable lessons will help cadets evolve into more cultured and well-rounded leaders. Cadet Erika Koenig, Class of 2016, noted that "living and learning in a foreign environment helped me grow as an individual. I understood the varying opinions, fears, and tensions associated with life in a Baltic state after the Soviet regime."

Whether in Blacksburg or halfway around the world, Det 875 cadets constantly find unique opportunities to better themselves as wingmen, leaders, and warriors!

Contributing writers: Cadet Mary Claire Ragan, Class of 2018; Cadet Jonah West, Class of 2017; and Cadet Sebastian Alb, Class of 2017.

Note: As the Corps Review went to press, Det 875 was notified that it had been named No. 1 among 16 large AFROTC detachments in the Southeast region for 2014-15, and is moving forward to compete for recognition as the best detachment in the country.



Cadet Erika Koenig, Class of 2016, learned valuable life skills during her Project GO experience in Latvia.

Corps Homecoming

Corps Homecoming and the weeks surrounding it were filled with great events for cadets and alumni alike. A formal retreat on the Upper Quad included a flyover by a B-25 from the Tri-State Warbird Museum, and the alumni march-on before the football game was a time not only to remember how to stay in step, but also to catch up with old friends. Virginia Sen. John Watkins '69 spoke at the homecoming lunch; and Lt. Gen. Tom Travis '76 was inducted into Virginia Tech's Aviation Wall of Fame several days later.



Class of 1974 buds (from left) Jim Moore, Gary Arnett, and Mike Whitaker gathered on the Upper Quad to observe the formal retreat.



Fellow 1963 class officers and avid Corps supporters David Lowe (center) and Reed Schweickert (right) greeted each other with a warm handshake outside Lane Stadium before the alumni march-on.



The Corps alumni regiment was led onto the field by Scott Pearl '84 and guidon bearer Allie Laclede '15.



Commander Mike Whitaker '74 and guidon bearer Floyd Massey '65 led G Company alumni onto the field.



Under the command of Ray Yount '68 and guidon bearer Sandy Seay '66, H Company looked sharp.



Led by Don Robertson '67 and guidon bearer Bob Harrison '70, K Company stood tall.



M Company alumni represented their unit in top-notch fashion.



Commandant of Cadets Gen. Fullhart performed pushups following a Tech touchdown.



Corps alumni and their families enjoyed the game from the southeast stands, next to the regiment.



Corps alumnus Maj. Stan Cohen '49 (second from left) and the Tri-State Warbird Museum crew—(from left) Phil Rountree, Paul Redlich, and Ray Hughes—were recognized after performing pregame and halftime flyovers in the B-25.



Virginia Sen. John Watkins '69 spoke at the annual Corps Homecoming meal before the football game against Furman University.



Lt. Gen. Thomas Travis '76 (center) in front of the Virginia Tech Aviation Wall of Fame after his induction into its ranks: A command pilot with 1,800-plus flight hours, Travis retired this past summer after three years as the Air Force surgeon general.



News from the Development Office

by Dave Spracher '70, director of development, 800-533-1144, dlsprach@vt.edu

Here we are beginning a new school year. Traffic has increased exponentially, and you can expect to encounter lines again at restaurants in town.

We welcomed 1,085 cadets this semester, making it the fourth year in a row that our Corps has numbered over the 1,000-cadet mark. This achievement is a testament to the vision of the alumni who started the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) Alumni Inc. more than 25 years ago. They refused to let the Corps die, and they started us on the path to the success we are benefitting from today.

We recently received a letter from the parent of a cadet that I found so inspiring that I asked the author's permission to reprint a portion here:

"With sincere appreciation, our family thanks yours for your generous gift that benefits our son, a junior in VTCC's VPI Company. The alumni funding that enables the Emerging Leader scholarships demonstrates Ut Prosim on multiple levels. While the financial impact of a gift is apparent to the ELS awardee's family, perhaps less obvious are the aspects of optimism for the future, leading by example, and belief in a program like the Corps and Virginia Tech.

The Emerging Leader Scholarship award is a wonderful gift to our family. We are thrilled that our son was awarded, and we hope you know how much the assistance is truly appreciated.

We'd like to thank you, however, for more than "writing the check" that benefits our son and the young people that will follow. Directing your generosity towards scholarships demonstrates your optimism

for the future and the value that you place in our young people. Despite the myriad of compelling funding options offered by every university and organization, you chose to contribute to developing the young people in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. Thank you for this. We hope you have the opportunity to spend some time with these future leaders. The talent and skills may be raw, but the potential is obvious, and the energy and enthusiasm of youth is contagious."

I echo her sentiments. Starting from \$0 just 25 years ago, we now have in excess of \$30 million in our endowment to support scholarships for our cadets. For the past two years, we have been able to award every qualified freshman an Emerging Leader Scholarship (ELS).

Unfortunately, we expect to drop back below 100 percent within the

next couple of years as our new ELS program that rewards retention is fully implemented. To avoid this problem, we need to keep building our scholarship endowment. We hope you will help by endowing a scholarship either in your name or to honor someone else over a five-year period. Or you may choose to direct a portion of your Annual Fund gift to your class ELS or some other Corps scholarship. If you have questions, please call or write.

We still have naming opportunities available in the planned Corps Leadership and Military Science Building. If you or a group, such as your class, company, or squadron, wishes to help with this project, please call or write to discuss possibilities—the minimum is \$25,000. Donors will be recognized on their specific rooms and on the Wall of



Maj. Gen. Jim Archer '72, U.S. Army Reserve (retired), chats with a senior cadet at the Corps donor breakfast.

Honor to be located in a significant place in the building.

Since the last edition of the Corps Review, the following alumni have committed to name rooms:

- Bill Holtzman '59
- J.B. Jones '45
- Dawn VT'73 and Gary '72 Lerch
- Ray '68 and Kathy Yount

Annual Fund

By Randy Holden,
director of annual giving

A member of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is much more than the average college student. Corps members are also offered a world-class leadership laboratory 24/7, running from New Cadet Week until Corps graduation. During each leadership phase, these cadets are groomed to become effective leaders in either the military or the civilian sector.

Alumni support could be considered the final phase of Corps leadership: leading by example through time, talent, and treasure. Many alumni give back to Virginia Tech and the Corps through their volunteer activities. Others share their talents by working directly with cadets in leadership laboratories or by hosting internship programs.

Lastly, alumni lead by example by giving back to the Corps through donations, but we need to do more. Corps alumni's participation in the Annual Fund campaign last year was 12.4 percent, better than the university's rate of 11.3 percent, but not nearly as high as we hope to reach in order to ensure the longstanding excellence of Corps programs.



Georgia Robair-West and nine of the cadets benefitting from the scholarships that she and her late husband Stew '36 endowed.

Donor Breakfast

Our annual breakfast for scholarship donors and the cadets who benefit from their generosity was held in conjunction with Corps Homecoming on Sept. 12.

Major Gifts (\$25,000 and above)

Dr. and Mrs. Paul H. Farrier have made a gift of real estate to the Virginia Tech Foundation that will partially benefit the Corps. When the property is sold, they have directed that the VTCC portion of the proceeds go to the Lt. Col. George R. McNeil Scholarship for a High-Tyghty.

Jeffrey Rudd, who graduated from Virginia Tech in 1983 with a B.A. in philosophy, and his brother, Steven Rudd, who graduated from the University of Virginia in 1986 with a B.S. in commerce, have committed to endow a Corps scholarship to honor their father and his service to our country. After graduating from college in the late 1950s, Glenn Rudd served in the Marine Corps, achieving the rank of first lieutenant. He left the Marines and worked for the Air Force in Washington, D.C., as a civilian. In 1984, he served as deputy director of

the Defense Security Assistance Agency until retiring in 1994, having received two Presidential Distinguished Service Awards. This scholarship gives preference to a cadet majoring in philosophy or some other degree within the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, or a cadet who is a member of an underrepresented population at Virginia Tech.

On a personal note, this is my last posting as your director of development. I plan to retire in February 2016, after completing 16 years working for you. This position has been more of a calling than a job, and I consider myself lucky to have been able to work for an outstanding organization about which my whole family is passionate. I was fortunate to meet and get to know so many incredible Hokies and friends—people who are dedicated to our mission of educating young leaders for the future.

I thank each and every one of you for your generosity, friendship, and support throughout the years. I look forward to joining you in the alumni ranks at Corps Homecoming next fall.

Ut Prosim,
Dave

The Calendar's Ticking

by Judith Davis, Office of Gift Planning

Dec. 31 will soon be here and, as my dad used to joke, “The calendar’s ticking.” To maximize the tax benefits of your 2015 support to the Corps, here are some things to keep in mind.

Appreciated assets can be better than cash. Your direct transfer of long-term (owned at least one year) appreciated securities or real estate can bypass capital gains taxes otherwise due. Your charitable income tax deduction typically will be based on the full market value of your gift, regardless of purchase price.

Real estate gifts take extra time, so notify Virginia Tech as soon as possible if you wish to complete a gift of real estate during tax year 2015. Your gift of real estate typically is considered complete on the date a signed deed is delivered to Virginia Tech.

Year-end giving guidelines are online at <http://bit.ly/yearendguidelines>, where you can find the information you need to help you make a gift that will count for tax year 2015.

Will there be a 2015 charitable IRA rollover? As of this writing, we don’t know, but it remains a possibility. Visit <http://bit.ly/irarollover> for updates and information about this popular way for individuals, age 70 1/2 or older, to exclude qualifying charitable transfers from taxable income and to count them toward the required minimum distribution.

Simplify your life: Act now. Before your calendar is overwhelmed with year-end to-do’s, consult your financial advisor to compare the tax advantages of different gifts you are considering in support of the Corps. Touch base with Dave Spracher or Scott Lyman to be sure you have the information you need. Make a gift that will make a difference—for the Corps *and* for your 2015 taxes.

For more information about supporting the Corps with any charitable gift, contact the Corps development office at 540-231-2892 or email dlsprach@vt.edu.

In Memory

Dr. William E. Harman '38
1917 – 2015



Dr. William E. Harman died May 18. Born in Floyd, Virginia, Harman graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in biology in 1938 and received

a medical degree from the University of Virginia in 1942. He entered the U.S. Army as a medical officer in 1943, serving in the Battle of the Bulge under Gen. Patton. As the first pediatrician in Staunton, Virginia, he made many house calls and in the early 1950s was responsible for the desegregation of the nursery and mothers' wing at Kings Daughters Hospital. Harman is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and two daughters.

Daniel Green Shawhan '40
1918 – 2015



Daniel Green Shawhan died June 1. Born in Washington, D.C., Shawhan graduated from Virginia Tech in 1940 with a degree in civil engineering.

He served in World War II as a lieutenant colonel in the 31st Engineering Combat Battalion, 7th Army. Preceded in death by his wife, Jessie, Shawhan is survived by his five children.

Richard A. Perkins Jr. '42
1921 – 2015



Richard A. Perkins Jr. died May 12. Born in Washington, D.C., Perkins graduated from Virginia Tech in 1942 with a degree

in business administration and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He served during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, retiring as a lieutenant colonel after 28 years of service. He then served as a director in the Miami-Dade County, Florida, Parks and Recreation Department, retiring in 1979. Perkins is survived by his wife, Shirley; a daughter, a son, and stepsons. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Jean; their three children; and his second wife, Peggy.

John. W. Mayhugh '53
1931 – 2015



John W. Mayhugh died July 27. Born in Greenwich, Virginia, Mayhugh graduated from Virginia Tech in 1953 with a degree in poultry

science. During his senior year, he was captain of the Highty-Tighties, and his proudest accomplishment was the band's winning the Gold Cup in President Eisenhower's 1953 inaugural parade. After two years of service in the U.S. Army, Mayhugh worked as an independent

agricultural consultant, affiliated with Brookside Farms Laboratories, until his death. A captain in the Virginia National Guard, he was instrumental in founding the National Guard unit in Warrenton, Virginia. Mayhugh is survived by his wife, June; a son and a daughter.

Ray Harman Rule '56
1934 – 2015



Ray Harman Rule died May 24. Born in Clifton Forge, Virginia, Rule graduated from Virginia Tech in 1956 with a degree in electrical

engineering. A captain of Company B, he was a member of Tau Beta Pi, Scabbard and Blade, and Omicron Delta Kappa. After three years of service in the U.S. Air Force, he worked for C&P Telephone Company in Richmond, Virginia, where he retired after 34 years. Rule is survived by wife, Elizabeth; his daughters and sons-in-law.

Greene A. Jones '58
1935 – 2015



Greene A. Jones died June 3. Born in Norton, Virginia, Jones graduated from Virginia Tech in 1958 with a degree in civil engineer-

ing. He worked for the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation

in Washington, and the Environmental Protection Agency, from the agency's inception until his retirement. Influential in protecting our wetlands, he was proud of his contributions to the environmental program. Jones is survived by his wife, Monica, and daughters.

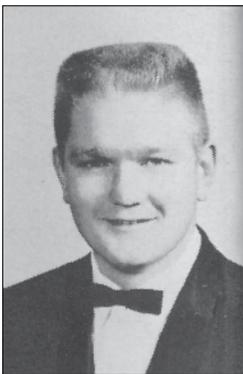
Charles E. "Charlie" Horner '61
1940 – 2015



Charles E. "Charlie" Horner died July 22. A native of Henrico County, Virginia, Horner graduated from Virginia Tech in 1961 with a degree in electrical engineering.

An Army veteran and a retired engineer with Philip Morris, he volunteered in the health care industry, overseeing the construction of Memorial Regional Medical Center. He was a former member of the Hanover County Planning Commission and served on the Richmond Memorial Health Foundation's first board of trustees. Horner is survived by his wife, Carolyn, and three sons.

William Lee "Bill" Bradley Sr. '63
1941 – 2015



William Lee "Bill" Bradley Sr. died Aug. 2. Born in Augusta, Georgia, Bradley graduated from Virginia Tech in 1963. From 1984 to 2000, he owned and served as CEO

of Bradley Davidson Inc., a textile supply company in Fort Mills, South Carolina.

An avid Virginia Tech fan and athletic program supporter, he rarely missed a home football game or bowl game. Bradley is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three children.

Joseph Cabel Love Jr. '63
1942 – 2015



Joseph Cabel Love Jr. died Aug. 7. A native of Kenbridge, Virginia, Love graduated from Virginia Tech in 1963 and

was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army, serving in Vietnam. Following his military service, he worked for Philip Morris International, retiring as a director. Deeply devoted to the Corps of Cadets, he served on the alumni board of directors and the Gold Cord committee, was the Class of 1963's class chairman for more than 10 years, and established two Emerging Leader scholarships. Love is survived by his wife, Patty, and a daughter.

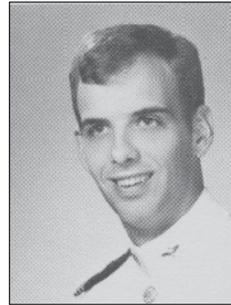
Thomas Alan "Tom" Wilson '65
1943 – 2015



Thomas Alan "Tom" Wilson died July 7. Born in Bristol, Virginia, Wilson graduated from Virginia Tech in 1965 with a B.S. in accounting and served in the U.S. Air

Force. After a distinguished career as an accountant, he retired from Z.V. Pate Inc. Wilson is survived by his wife, Hattie, and a daughter.

Stephen Clay "Steve" Chapman '71
1949 - 2015



Stephen Clay "Steve" Chapman died May 24. A proud graduate and then staff member of Virginia Tech, he continued to work for his alma

mater after his retirement, providing professional consulting services under contract. He will be remembered for his participation in and contributions to decades of projects, both professionally and with family and friends. Chapman is survived by his life partner, Dorothy Seymore, and a son.

John H. "Jake" Tweedy '74
1951 – 2015



John H. "Jake" Tweedy died June 7. A native of Hampton, Virginia, Tweedy graduated from Virginia Tech in 1974 with a degree in economics. Upon

graduation, he began a career in the U.S. Air Force, earned a master's degree in international relations, and retired as a colonel after 26 years of service, including weapons and tactics instructor, fighter pilot, operations officer, and three-time fighter squadron commander. A graduate of the prestigious Air Force Fighter Weapons School, he flew such aircraft as the T-38, F-4, F-15C, and F-15E and was a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours. Following his Air Force retirement, he joined Whitney, Bradley & Brown in Hampton as senior manager in weapons systems integration. Tweedy is survived by his wife, Susan, and a son.

LEST WE FORGET

Philip Ransome Cosby '37, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, 2/4/15.

Henry S. Surface Jr. '37, Tazewell, Virginia, 6/7/15.

Jacob H. Covington Jr. '41, Beaumont, Texas, 5/10/15.

Edwin L. Abbott '42, Hinckley, Ohio, 5/9/15.

Richard H. Hardesty III '42, Griffin, Georgia, 8/3/15.

Reece Aloysius Taylor Jr. '42, Waynesboro, Virginia, 8/23/15.

Clifton M. Ryan '45, Rochester, New York, 5/11/15.

Ralph F. Thompson Jr. '45, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 5/10/15.

Anthony F. Bentivegna '46, Williamsburg, Virginia, 5/21/15.

Harry W. Holland Sr. '46, Greenville, South Carolina, 5/23/15.

Daniel Flippen, Jr. '49, Kirkwood, Montana, 6/16/15.

John C. Baker '51, Surry, Virginia, 5/13/15.

William N. Colonna '51, Parksley, Virginia, 5/3/15.

Frederick W. Sherman Sr. '51, Charlottesville, Virginia, 7/6/15.

Wilbur M. Whitson '51, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 6/1/15.

Phillips C. Emmons '53, Huntington, West Virginia, 5/11/15.

Pompey E. Virgili '55, Norfolk, Virginia, 5/5/15.

Gerald Wilkinson '55, Richmond, Virginia, 7/14/15.

Samuel B. Howard '56, Atlanta, Georgia, 5/26/15.

Clyde E. Burton '57, Annapolis, Maryland, 5/11/15.

Lewis A. Micou Jr. '57, Cleveland, Virginia, 7/7/15.

Milton M. Phillips '58, Chesapeake, Virginia, 5/5/15.

Robert D. Higgins '59, Richmond, Virginia, 8/1/15.

Floyd E. Jones Jr. '59, Richmond, Virginia, 5/1/15.

Harvey L. Williams III '59, Mathews, Virginia, 6/30/15.

William M. Eckroade '60, Elkton, Maryland, 6/8/15.

Edward D. Smith '60, Suffolk, Virginia, 5/31/15.

Aaron H. Obier Jr. '60, Warsaw, Virginia 5/15/15.

Irvin B. Boaz Sr. '61, Houston, Texas, 5/23/15.

William I. Barnard '68, Sanford, North Carolina, 8/5/15.

Editor's note: As we went to press, we learned of the unexpected passing of Charles O. Cornelison '67, whose dedication to the Corps of Cadets and the High-Tighties was instrumental in ensuring the Corps' continued existence. More about Cornelison will appear in the spring edition of the Corps Review.





Tom Trombold '57 (center) presented his Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets saber to Cadet Regimental Sgt. Maj. David Robison (left), Class of 2016, and Maj. Gen. Fullhart (right) in front of Lane Hall. Like many other alumni, Trombold donated his saber to the Corps for future cadet use.



Much gratitude is extended to the many local Corps alumni and family members who helped staff the hospitality tents on new cadet arrival day in August.



This year marked the 20th anniversary of the annual E Company tailgate hosted by (from left) Libby Carpenter, Rich Carpenter '67, and Hal Schneikert '65. Thank you, Libby, Rich, and Hal!



Bill Sterling '80 presented an Emerging Leader Scholarship to Jessica Leskovek at Wakefield Country Day School in Huntly, Virginia.



In the spring, Nancy Lyon-Stadler '84 presented an Emerging Leader Scholarship to Kevin Jennings, Class of 2019, at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland. With Kevin is his father, Kieran Jennings.



The Corps reaches around the world! In Stuttgart, Germany, Gary Obermeyer '86 (second from left) presented an Emerging Leader Scholarship to incoming cadet Tana Putnam, as her parents looked on.



Scott Pearl '84 presented Nathan Boggs '09 with a framed piece of the door to Brodie Hall's Room 211, which Boggs shared with roommate Matt LaPorte '09, who was killed during the April 16 tragedy on campus. Pearl, who handmade the frames, also created a memento for LaPorte's parents.



Virginia General Assembly Delegate Rich Anderson '78 presented Emerging Leader Scholarship awards to Gordon Rudd (left) and Clark Shotwell (right) at Forest Park High School in Woodbridge, Virginia.



Assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, (from left) Capt. Bryan Spear '09 and Capt. Sean Kiley '06 are deployed to Forward Operating Base Fenty, Afghanistan.



Good friends (from left) Capt. Micah Hafich '11 and 1st Lt. Jonathan Smythe '11 both served in the Combined Air Operations Center in Southwest Asia earlier this year. While in the Corps of Cadets, Hafich was the regimental commander in fall semester 2010, and Smythe was the regimental chaplain.



Lt. j.g. Christopher Sturgill '13, pictured in the cockpit of a P-3-C Orion, is a Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization (NATOPS)-qualified copilot undergoing tactics training in Jacksonville, Florida.

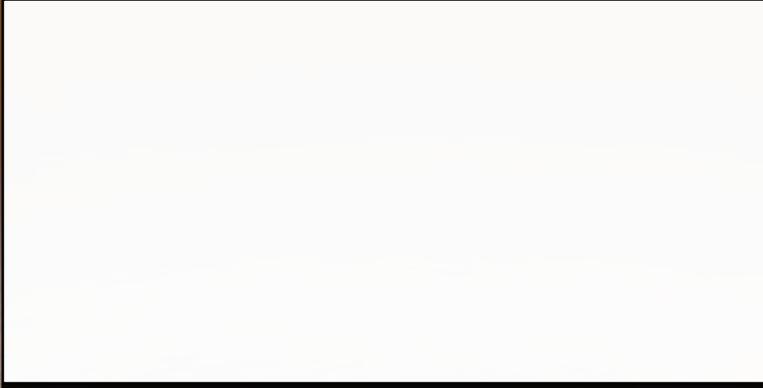


Corps of Cadets classmates (from left) Col. Doug Hall '92, Col. Noel Smart '92, Col. Ed Chamberlayne '93, and Col. Geoff Stewart '92 reunited this summer when Chamberlayne took command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Baltimore District.

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