

THE VIRGINIA TECH CORPS OF CADETS ALUMNI MAGAZINE

CORPS REVIEW

VOL. 32 NO. 1 SPRING 2022





The front rank of the color guard stands ready during the April 2022 Change of Command.



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THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR MISSION

When speaking to audiences, including young people who are considering joining the Corps, I often show some current event pictures. These photos include things like rioting in the streets, war and conflict, hot button issues like the effect of climate changes, pandemics, unemployment, and more.

Then I ask why. I ask my audience why those things are happening. If I ask the question enough times, the answer I eventually find is a failure of ethical leadership.

Our mission is to produce the ethical leaders we need to change the world for the better, either through service in the armed forces or in the unlimited career possibilities offered by our Citizen-Leader Track program. We focus on that goal relentlessly, in our programming, our planning, our ceremonies, our curriculum, and in our relationships.

Today, friends and alumni of the Corps will find Upper Quad transformed. New buildings are reaching for the sky, as cadets eagerly await to fill the newly reactivated 4th Battalion when they return in the fall.

We are pleased to note that this year's Corps Graduation and Joint Commissioning official was the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Christopher W. Grady. We were back in Burruss Hall for that incredibly special event, which ended a day of formal commissioning and graduation ceremonies.

The Rice Center for Leader Development, under the able leadership of alumnus Capt. Jamie McGrath, is preparing robust, updated curricula for every class level. Exciting new guest speakers are lining up, and the selection of new cadet leaders and cadre members has been completed.

Our Global Scholars cohorts finished their classes and headed to Europe, one group to Normandy and the other to the Battle of the Bulge. This program, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Don Russell, is as exciting and important as ever. It is also timely with the war in Ukraine, which was examined in

parallel to see what has evolved in warfare and what has not.

Our new head football coach, Brent Pry, has been actively engaged with the Corps. We were his first stop on his first day at Virginia Tech when he joined us at 5:30 a.m. for physical training before heading to the stadium to meet his team. He followed up with a gathering of the entire Corps where he talked about his expectations for his team, and how they match the ethos of the Corps of Cadets.

The Highty-Tighties had a successful trip to a Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans while the Gregory Guard participated in a festival parade in Wilmington. The Corps' Marksmanship Team continued its winning ways with more medals than we can count, and our Obstacle Course Team racked up victories on a challenging course. And again, our Cyber Team bested all other senior military colleges this year by placing fifth in an intense three-day National Security Agency competition.

Prospective new cadets are making their way to Blacksburg for uniform fittings and briefings on what will be expected of them as we prepare for a robust New Cadet Week. It is an exciting time for your Corps and should be for alumni and friends of the Corps as well!

The calendar is filling up for the fall: Corps Reunion, Homecoming, HT Reunion, Caldwell March, and our D-Day Memorial trip. With our record-setting attendance last year, we are anticipating as many participants, if not more, this fall. We hope you will be among them!

This edition of the Corps Review will be the first under our new Communications Director, alumna Katie Mallory. We send many thanks to our previous director, Shay Barnhart, who is now the editor for Virginia Tech, and we look forward to Katie energetically sharing our message for years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RDF'.

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

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The 2022 recipient of the Corps of Cadets' Distinguished Alumni Award is



Mr. Kirk E. Spitzer '67

Mr. Kirk E. Spitzer '67. Kirk Spitzer joined the Corps of Cadets in 1963 as a member of

India Company. He served on the Corps Senate, ran his company's intramural program, and was a member of the Virginia Tech freshman track team. When the Corps became optional for all incoming students his second year, Spitzer stayed, citing its "esprit de corps" and his preference for the structure it provided. He was a member of the VPI Cotillion Club and chaired the senior weekend for the Class of 1967.

Upon graduation, he deferred his service briefly to enroll in a Firestone training program in Akron, Ohio where he met his wife Leila, who was on the faculty at Akron University. Kirk deployed to Vietnam serving in the 4th Infantry Division. He returned as a first lieutenant with a Bronze Star for meritorious achievement.

His civilian career started with American Air Filter and then The Signal Company's Air Correction Division. He later joined Alfa Laval, a world leader within technology areas of heat transfer, liquids and solids separation, and fluid handling. He would become

Alfa Laval's general manager of its thermal division and later selected as the



president and chief executive officer for all of Alfa Laval's operations in the United States until his retirement in 2005.

He has been a consistent supporter of Virginia Tech where he has been engaged with the College of Engineering. He was a founding member of the task force credited with helping create Virginia Tech's Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS).

In his community, he has served on the board of directors of the YMCA of Greater Richmond, was Chairman of the Board of The Cultural Arts Center Glen Allen, served on the executive advisory board of Hilliard House (a program that assists homeless women and children), and as Chairman of the Board for Friends of Barnabas Foundation which oversees medical ministry in Honduras. He is a founding trustee of the engineering school at Virginia Commonwealth University. He serves on the board of directors of McKinney and Associates and the Dupps Company.

Kirk and Leila have two children and four grandchildren.

The Corps Review is published two times a year by the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Inc. (VTCCA).

J. Pearson '87, Chairman, VTCCA

Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart, Commandant of Cadets

Cmdr. Nate Brown '98, Alumni Director

Katie Mallory '04, Communications Director and Editor

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Front cover: Cadets salute during morning formation in April 2022. Photo by K. Mallory '04.

Back cover: A final embrace between senior enlisted advisor and graduating cadet at Change of Command 2022. Photo by K. Mallory '04

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ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE

IMPRESSIVE. As your Alumni Director, I just wanted to take a moment to congratulate you all! I am thoroughly impressed with the passion and participation of our alumni. There have been several instances during this past school year where we have asked for alumni support for university, alumni, and cadet initiatives, and each time our call was answered with your willingness to devote time, energy, and resources to fulfill the need.

We have many examples, such as the willingness of our VTCC Alumni Board members to frequently brave the battles of I-81 to participate in our Alumni Board meetings and our Gunfighter Panel participants that take time off from work to return to campus and provide our Corps with sage advice on what to expect after college. I can't forget our N and O Squadron alumni that devoted time and energy to assist cadets in understanding the historical quirks and lineage of the newest companies that were reconstituted this spring, and the various Corps alumni that have shared their time to mentor our Corps organizations.

With that compliment, comes an "ask." I need every person that is taking the time to read this magazine to reach out and engage with at least one of their classmates that they are not already in contact with. As an alumni community, we are only as strong as the connections that we have with each other. These connections need to be built and maintained.

It remains my commitment to you to ensure that your Hokie experience did not end at graduation, and to provide quality programs and events that allow you to continue to enjoy the camaraderie, school spirit, and connections that we all deserve through our common experience as cadets.

Ut Prosim,
Nate Brown '98
nhbrown@vt.edu



SHOW ME YOUR "MUG"

We want to see your smiling face! Throughout the year, we have several in-person and virtual events that are desperately in need of your participation. Alumni events are no fun without alumni!

As a play on words, we have started a new tradition that we hope you all will participate in. We will be giving out metal camping mugs at the Corps Reunion in September. Along with the mug, you will receive a durable sticker for the mug that shows you attended the reunion. We will be giving out similar stickers for each event throughout the year (Homecoming, Senior Social, etc.). Our goal is that alumni will continue to add these stickers to their mugs as a way of documenting their travels and experiences.



PUSHING AND PULLING

If you are reading this magazine, then we know we have your address correct. But did you know that we are also pushing a monthly email to all Corps alumni that provides information on in-person and virtual events that you may want to participate in? Our goal is to continue pushing out as much information as possible so that you can continue to live your “Lifelong Hokie Experience.”

If you are not receiving this monthly email, it is likely because we don’t have an accurate email address for you. Please send your preferred email address to vtccalumni@vt.edu.

With approximately 8,000 alumni that we are tracking from over 70 graduating classes, there is always the possibility that an email address and contact information is either outdated or incorrect. So, if you are not receiving information that we are pushing, please pull that information by contacting the Alumni Office and letting us know!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 15 Sept:** “Leaders in Contact” Alumni Panel
- 16-18 Sept:** Corps Reunion (register below)
- 14-16 Oct:** University Homecoming and HT Reunion
- 5 Nov:** Georgia Tech Pregame Social on the VT
- 26 Nov:** UVA Pregame Social on the VT
- 9 Feb:** “Leaders in Contact” Alumni Panel

Corps Reunion Registration Website



<https://vtcc.vt.edu/alumni/corps-reunion.html>

Join us for this great opportunity to reconnect with old friends who shared the cadet experience.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Nominations for the 2023 Distinguished Alumni of the Corps are due by December 1st, 2022. Those recommended for this award should serve as inspiring examples for our alumni and cadets and embody the values found on our eight pylons. Nominees must have been enrolled in the Corps of Cadets for a minimum of two years (four semesters or eight quarters). Complete instructions can be found online at vtcc.vt.edu/alumni/distinguished-alumni. Questions should be directed to vtccalumni@vt.edu. The award recipient and nominator will be notified in early February.

A CHANCE TO SOAR

By Maj. Christine Durham '12, U.S. Air Force

Ever since I was little, I remember wanting to be a military pilot.

My dad was a Naval surface warfare officer, and while we were stationed in California, he would take my sisters and me to the U.S. Navy Blue Angels air-shows.

I fell in love with the idea that I could be a pilot that little girls and boys looked up to. Moreover, I loved everything about the military: community, an endless family, opportunity for leadership, and service to our country. From there, my passion for the military and aviation only grew.

In high school, we settled in Northern Virginia while my dad completed his final tours at the Navy Yard and the Pentagon. When I first began looking at colleges, I knew I wanted to participate in Air Force ROTC but didn't know much about the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. To be honest, I don't think I truly understood what the Corps of Cadets meant until I was standing in line on in-processing day!

I wasn't afraid of shining shoes, early wake-ups, or structured living arrangements. In fact, I thrived in them. That's not to say I did not struggle, especially that first week.

It was initially difficult for me to see the freedom my civilian friends had and the seemingly carefree lives they were living. However, as I approach my 10-year reunion, I can say without a doubt that joining the Corps of Cadets was the best decision I made in college.

One of the most unique things about Virginia Tech and the Corps of Cadets is how we attended classes alongside civilian students. Although I'd love to regale

you with all of my stories of how this affected me, I know there is only time for one.

At the start of freshman year, I felt embarrassed by wearing a uniform to all of my classes. As time went on and I saw how the other students treated me, I learned to respect it. I was proud to wear a uniform that resembled something greater than myself. When other students saw me, I felt like they knew I was destined to do something great one day. That respect only grew stronger throughout my time at Virginia Tech.

Even on days when I did not want to go to class, I wanted to sleep in, or I was too tired to study, I knew people were watching me, and that motivated me to be better. Eventually, those external motivations became internal motivations. It's an interesting thing that happens and reminds me a bit of the saying, "Fake it 'til you make it!"

By the time I graduated from Virginia Tech, I was the most confident I had ever been. I was proud of everything I had achieved and was excited for what was next.

Since graduation, each year has been more exciting and more rewarding.

I went to Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. At the time, I had little to no flight experience, so learning to fly the T-6 Texan II was a struggle. However, I found my groove when I advanced to the T-1 Jayhawk and graduated in 2013 with a dream C-17 assignment to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

At Hickam, I volunteered to get qualified in the C-17's airdrop mission, which later took me to joint exercises such as COPE Tiger in Thailand and Red Flag



Maj Christine Durham '12 in the C-17 before a mission.



Durham answers a question from a cadet during this spring's Gunfighter Panel, featuring an all-female lineup. Photo by Camille Roberts '22.



Durham with her Undergraduate Pilot Training class in Columbus, Mississippi.

in Alaska. I also deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve.

After completing my first operational assignment, I was selected to be an undergraduate pilot training instructor in the T-6 at Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

I enjoyed teaching new flight students but noticed that not much had changed since I was a student. This opened up an extraordinary opportunity to be part of a new initiative in 2018 called Pilot Training Next in Austin, Texas.

This program started as part of Air Education and Training Command's larger initiative to reimagine the way we teach and develop our airmen. We gathered 15 T-6 instructor pilots from around the command plus an eight-person permanent party team, and we created a small flying detachment focused on finding innovative ways to create better Air Force pilots more efficiently.

The task was to break down barriers, develop new technologies (to include virtual/augmented/mixed reality devices, live air traffic control, and modern learning methodologies), dig into human physiology, and make every hour of flight training more effective.

We built our own Virtual Reality Immersive Training Devices (ITD) with commercial, off-the-shelf hardware and software. We then tested new measures on flight students, focusing on how the individual student learned instead of forcing all types of students into one mold.

Our little detachment dabbled with everything from heart rate monitors to eye-tracking software and even worked with small businesses to create an artificial intelligence instructor!



Durham flying the T-6A in a virtual reality immersive training device.

I loved my assignment so much that I volunteered to take the job on for another full assignment at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Although not everything we innovated came to scale at the other pilot training bases, the ability to use my creative side in combination with my love for aviation was unbeatable. As an airman, I was allowed to search for answers and not be afraid of failure. As a leader, I was learning how to stand up for what I believed in and how to empower those around me.

The Pilot Training Next initiative has evolved into Pilot Training Transformation. As we move into a future in which technology is increasingly advanced and realistic, the Air Force is working to accelerate the way we do things and harness new technologies and methodologies. Although we're not there yet, I envision an Air Force where virtual reality, augmented reality, and artificial intelligence play a major role in the way we train our airmen.

Additionally, human physiologi-

cal factors and decision-making will be data-driven instead of subjective. There are so many exciting possibilities, and we've only just scratched the surface.

In addition to my official office job, I became very active in the Air Force's diversity and inclusion efforts. I was fortunate to be part of 19th Air Force's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, where we worked to eliminate barriers in flying training based on race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. We worked to identify and eliminate structural biases in 19th Air Force processes and syllabi and foster an environment of dignity, respect, inclusion, and belonging through improved dialog, training, and professional development.

While on this task force, I worked with JROTC and ROTC cadets from underrepresented groups, particularly young women and minorities. I also attended a couple "girls in aviation" days where I marketed the military, aviation, and STEM degrees to school-aged children in the local community. I am very



Durham as a new cadet in 2008, grabs a nap at her desk.



Durham low crawls through the Corps' obstacle course.



Durham served as the 3rd Battalion commander.

passionate in this area and firmly believe that a diverse Air Force is the key to its lethality.

Even more important than all of the amazing initiatives I've been a part of in my career, I've also been lucky to enough to have a supportive family at home. My husband is an Army helicopter pilot turned airline pilot, and we welcomed our first baby girl, Elodie, into the world in 2021. While it's too early to know for sure what her future holds, hopefully she decides to



Durham with daughter, Elodie.

be a Hokie and a cadet one day.

I am appreciative of the lessons I learned while in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and for the leadership skills I gained. My experiences as a cadet started me down the path of searching for ways to better myself and the Air Force. I can honestly say that I don't think I would be where I am today, had I not found my way to Virginia Tech, and I am forever grateful for my time there.



OUR CORPS ALUMNI KEEP GROWING

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

This May, we had 292 seniors graduate from the Corps of Cadets and 145 were commissioned as new officers. Compared to the pandemic years, this year's future leaders are joining the military and work force at a great time. I know they will thrive. Mike Weaver, our VTCCA Secretary, handed key chains with contact information of our alumni office to each graduate at their practice ceremony and encouraged them to stay in touch with us. The goal is for all of them to keep us informed of their email addresses, careers, and where they are going.

We had the best board meeting ever during my chairmanship on April 29. We approved new bylaws to increase diversity on our board and we created the Dekker Society for retiring board members to stay connected and thank them for their service. The professors of military sciences spoke to the board on the success of the ROTC units compared to other senior military colleges and we learned that Virginia Tech is first in commissioning percentage rates. The commandant shared pictures of the new Corps Leadership and Military Science building along with our new residence



Former Regimental Commander Rob Goodson '93 (right) congratulates incoming Regimental Commander Cadet Brooke Johnson after change of command in April.

hall and when they are finished next fall, we will have the best facilities in the country.

On April 30, we had a great change of command pass in review. While it rained a little, it was wonderful to see the Corps activate 4th Battalion, which will be comprised of the newly re-established N and O companies joined by the Highty-Tighties.

I want to thank those of you that called Virginia legislators. The commandant's request for \$400,000 in UMA funding was approved by the state

legislature and governor for two years. This funding will be used for additional personnel, tailor shop inventory, and mandatory health care increases. It will also help us achieve our goal of increasing Corps membership to 1,400.

I look forward to jumping in Lane Stadium, walking around Upper Quad, and watching our Corps in action this fall. Our Corps Reunion is Sept. 16-18 and I hope you can come with your family to reconnect. Help me welcome our new alumni and encourage them to be part of our great organization!

PLEASE REMEMBER, AS ALUMNI WE MUST **COMMUNICATE,**
PARTICIPATE, AND DONATE!

Not only did this 1872 steamer trunk create revenue for preservation; it also created intrigue over its origins.



HISTORY AND MYSTERY

By Samantha Riggan VT'16, Corps museum curator

A trunk in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' museum collection was chosen by public vote as the most endangered artifact in Virginia out of ten finalists in an annual competition by the Virginia Museum Association. Amid such worthy contenders, this victory serves as a testament to the admiration the Corps continues to garner throughout the state and further. Adding to the distinction, a \$2,000 prize was given for the trunk's preservation.

The trunk looks like any typical steamer trunk from the late 1800s, but the clue as to its historical importance lies in a piece of old stationery from the Preston & Olin Institute that was glued to the inside tray. The paper is dated 1872, with the cryptic initials "WHW" in fancy script. Research of Preston &

Olin and its successor, Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (VAMC), does not reveal the identity behind the initials.

Perhaps the trunk was abandoned as a bittersweet leftover for leaders of Preston & Olin after the school's initial award of federal funding on March 14, 1872, was pulled. With the money transferred and the leadership swiftly replaced a week later, VAMC was christened. Thankfully, that experiment in the new educational format was a success.

Quite a few alumni have inquired about what was left inside the Civil War-era trunk. While the trunk is empty of tangible objects, it overflows with history, hope, and the determination of VAMC's pioneer educators and cadets who bucked the odds to prove

their detractors wrong. Today, Virginia Tech, and the Corps of Cadets, are the proud, successful results of what some doomed to fail, and we are all much better for that.

What remains is the question: Who was WHW? Was he a former student of Preston & Olin? The school's president? Maybe the trunk was commandeered by a first year VAMC cadet and served as a welcomed repository for his personal possessions. Did it hold a sweetheart's picture, or another memento of life left behind? The trunk overflows with the unseen treasure of mysteries left behind, making the absence of "stuff" easier to bear.

We may never know who WHW is, but that is okay. Sometimes the hunt is more fun than the reveal.



VPI Battalion cadets support The Big Event, a student-run day of service.

ALL CAN SERVE

By Ken Mallory '06, assistant director of the Citizen-Leader Track/VPI Battalion

Visit Upper Quad on a spring Tuesday for morning formation and you will see cadets in their ROTC uniforms in formation with their ROTC units, saluting as the flag rises in the sky. You will also see hundreds of hands over hearts at the same time. The Corps of Cadets' Citizen-Leader Track stands in formation on Tuesdays dressed for the careers they are chasing alongside those pursuing military service.

Since its formation in 2002, which was based on the fundamental belief that all can serve, the Citizen-Leader Track strives to meet the needs of cadets pursuing a multitude of professional goals including civilian government service,

alternative commissioning paths, and business leadership. Above all, these cadets carry with them a set of values rooted in *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve).

The program has evolved to offer academic courses on business and ethical leadership, project management, personal and professional communication, social and civic responsibility, and personal wellness. Tuesday afternoons, once reserved solely for cadets to train with their ROTC units, now serve as a time for Citizen-Leader Track cadets to practice the high-pressure environments of career fairs, hiring events, and employment interviews, or conduct projects and service events for the community. From

the start, cadets learn the fundamentals of success to finding and securing careers based in global ethical leadership. Upperclass cadets hone these skills by planning and implementing multi-faceted projects, practicing personal, peer, and group leadership, while drawing upon their experiences in the Corps and its military structure.

The program starts during New Cadet Week when cadets are assigned to a company within VPI Battalion, the Corps' designation for the Citizen-Leader Track. Based on their degree of study, cadets are partnered with other cadets pursuing similar paths. This provides mentorship between upperclass cadets

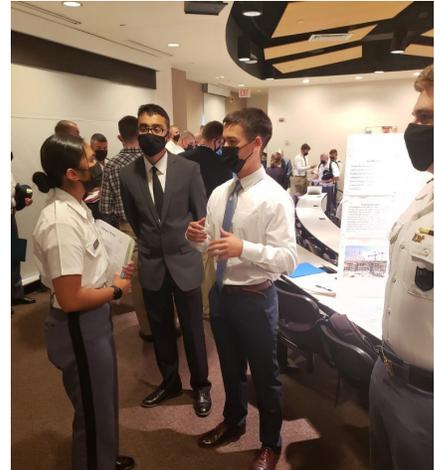
and first-year cadets right from the start, helping to keep new cadets from struggling with academics and Corps life.

A cadet may join VPI Battalion for a variety of reasons. For many, it is a continuation of the structure and camaraderie provided by the Corps of Cadets as a whole. Half will join its ranks as new cadets fresh from high school. For others, the Citizen-Leader Track becomes a welcoming home when plans to commission through ROTC take unexpected turns. Such was the case for Claudia McCarthy, who said moving away from Navy ROTC felt like “years of dreams that went ‘poof.’” After learning that she still had a path to a commission through Officer Candidate School, she realized that “staying in the Citizen-Leader Track was a way to stay in the game.”

For many, the Citizen-Leader Track provides valuable opportunities to enhance the skills learned in the Corps when applied to civilian leadership. McCarthy, for instance, served as VPI Battalion’s executive officer in the fall of 2021, honing what she learned in the Citizen-Leader Track. The Corps and its leadership development program instill the knowledge that success is the result of hard work. The Citizen-Leader Track helps to ensure that success.

“You’re given a problem where everyone around you says ‘no.’ Your peers, your superiors, your friends. But you know it

needs to be a yes. The skills I learned in the Citizen-Leader Track helped me get to the ‘yes’ to really help those I led and to make a difference,” McCarthy said.



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

By Col. Chip Daniels '93, U.S. Army (retired)

I recently had a conversation with a young man after he participated in a week-long camp at a U.S. service academy. He enjoyed the experience and was interested in applying, but then said to me, "I don't know if I want to be all military, all the time." He was interested in joining a regimented military program, but he also wanted to experience a bit of "normal" (his words, not mine) college life. He was quite serious about the military aspect but felt that he had few options with a service academy or "regular" ROTC. Of course, I said, "I have an option for you!"

There are many young high school juniors asking themselves these questions. I have always felt that the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets offers the best of both worlds. If a young person is up for the challenge, the Corps offers a tough military program that requires tremendous discipline and dedication. It develops character and offers leadership experience in a way that few programs do.

However, because the Corps is part of a larger Hokie civilian student body, cadets can participate in a wide variety of activities and programs outside the Corps. That is one of the main reasons I chose to attend Virginia Tech and be a member of the Corps. I learned valuable life lessons from serving as cadre, commanding the Gregory Guard, and participating in several other cadet organizations, while also being a GERMAN Club member and an officer in the Student Government Association where I learned to interact with and lead civilian peers. Those opportunities gave me life experience advantages over my West Point peers during my early Army career.

As alumni, we can all be, and should be, recruiters for the Corps of Cadets. Incredibly, we need to grow to 1,400 cadets by



A first year Golf company cadet carries the guidon during Caldwell March.

2023! So, as you serve at college fairs in your local high schools or network with young men and women on the athletic teams that you coach, tell your story! Tell them how being in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and being in the larger Hokie community shaped who you are today. They can see all the statistics that show how successful the program is in developing young men and women. What they cannot see on a webpage or in a slide deck is the passion that makes a Hokie a Hokie. That, they need to hear from you.



THE 2022 SPRING SEMESTER PROVIDED THOUGHT-PROVOKING CONVERSATIONS, ENERGY-PACKED EXERCISES, AND A LAST HURRAH ON THE DRILLFIELD FOR OUR SENIORS.



Lt. Col Mollie Franke '90, Capt. Sharon Pinder '98, Lt. Col Kara Miller '99, and Maj. Christine Durham '12 during the Gunfighter Panel in February.



Seniors form a reviewing line for the Change of Command pass in review in April.



Above: Morning formation on International Denim Day in April in support of victims of sexual assault.
Left: Cadets practice a medical evacuation scenario during the platoon tactical exercise in March.



The 4th Battalion guidon unfurls during the reactivation ceremony held at Change of Command in April.

4TH BATTALION REACTIVATION: *FORGE THE FUTURE*

By the 4th Battalion Leadership Team: Lt. Col. Travis Sheets, MGySgt. Lance Jones, Senior Chief James Bean, Cadet Christine Jung, Cadet William Albertson, Cadet Adam Jardines, and Cadet Gracie O'Brien

First established in 1939 on the cusp of WWII, the 4th Battalion has been re-activated to support a growing regiment. During the Change of Command pass in review in April, cadets and spectators alike witnessed a momentous occasion for the Corps - the unfurling of two new company guidons and one new battalion guidon, an act which marked the official reactivation of 4th Battalion. To all the parents, cadets, and staff (past, present, and future), thank you for making the return of 4th Battalion a 21st century reality. To alumni such as Richard Layman, Rock Roszak, Ross Haines, Ron Gibbs, Bill Weaver, and others who have contributed historical items such as

sabers, books, photos, and heraldry, we appreciate your support of the newest companies, November and Oscar.

We also send a warm welcome to the hardest working company in the regiment, the High-Tighties. The regimental band will join November and Oscar this fall to finalize the roster of 4th Battalion. The cadets and staff of the Corps' newest battalion look forward to working with Chuck Rowell and the HT Alumni Board as we continue to grow and resource the band.

The battalion motto, Forge the Future, represents both the historical roots and aspirational aims of the organization. The past is represented specifi-

cally by the word "Forge," which takes its inspiration from the foundry behind the Preston and Olin Building, the first home to cadets in 1872. That foundry was used to fashion tools and raw materials into finished goods to construct the first three buildings on Upper Quad. As new buildings rise from the ground to support the expansion of the Corps, 4th Battalion rises to Forge the Future.

While being historically grounded is essential, the word "Future" gives direction and provides context for the focus of 4th Battalion cadets. To answer the call of a growing regiment and serve a nation surrounded by a volatile security environment, we must orient to the fu-

ture. Cadets must forge themselves for the future by using every moment to prepare. Soon they will be charged with leading the nation's most precious resources – the children of the nation. They must forge the 4th Battalion organization so that it lives past them, represents something larger than themselves, and leaves behind a foundation for every cadet that follows in years to come. They must also forge the future by turning preparation into action as they shape the days ahead. The future is theirs to write.

Creating a new organization within a growing Corps that prepares cadets to impact the future is a challenging endeavor. But together, we BELIEVE we will ACHIEVE and SUCCEED because we stand on the shoulders of those that came before us and next to those with us today. By helping solidify the 4th Battalion and two new companies in

the regiment, we all (past, present, and future) play a role in laying the foundation for generations of cadets to come. Much like the cadets in 1872, or 1939, the cadets of 2022 are up for the challenge and ready to answer the call. For those that will come and for those that have passed, we must reach for excellence as we all Forge the 4th Battalion and the Future of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

The Highty-Tighties, N and O companies during reactivation ceremonies at Change of Command in April.



“THE HIGHTY-TIGHTIES ARE EXCITED TO STAND WITH NOVEMBER AND OSCAR COMPANIES AS WE FORGE THE NEWLY MINTED BATTALION. WHILE THE HTs ARE STEEPED IN HISTORY AND TRADITION DATING BACK 130 YEARS, WE LOOK TO THE COMING YEARS AS ONE OF GROWTH AND RENEWAL.”

**SENIOR CHIEF JAMES BEAN
HIGHTY-TIGHTIES BAND DIRECTOR**





Medal of Honor recipient Master Chief Brit Slabinski speaks to the Corps in Moss Arts Center as part of the Cutchins Leadership Lecture Series.

A RETURN TO IN-PERSON SPEAKERS

By Capt. Jamie McGrath, '90, U.S. Navy (retired), Director, Major General W. Thomas Rice Center for Leadership Development

The last twelve months provided a dynamic leadership education environment for cadets and staff alike. We saw the Corps and the university wrestle with post-pandemic life, and in a step toward normalcy, the Rice Center was pleased to return to in-person speakers for the Cutchins Leadership Lecture Series.

Launching the fall series was U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Janelle MacAuley, PhD, (retired) who spoke to the cadets about mindfulness and balance. As the Corps honored Veteran's Day, U.S. Navy Master Chief Brit Slabinski, a retired Navy SEAL and recipient of the Medal of Honor for his actions in the Battle of Robert's Ridge in 2002, addressed our

expanding Corps that filled the Moss Arts Center theater to capacity. Shifting gears, NASCAR driver and U.S. Navy Reserve officer, Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Iwuji, spoke to the Corps about tenacity and maintaining an unwavering reach for goals.

Spring semester began with former Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert Neller (retired), joining the Corps to reinforce key leadership characteristics such as how effort matters, knowing people's story, the power of example, and protecting gains rightfully earned. We were honored to have new Hokies football coach Brent Pry join us to speak about leadership and his challenges taking helm of the Hokies football

program. In support of Virginia Tech Ethics Week, the Rice Center hosted Mr. Michael Sears, Director of Leadership Innovation at the Boeing Leadership Innovation Laboratory, US Naval Institute Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership who spoke to the cadets on ethical decision making.

Before and after each Cutchins Leadership lecture, cadets met with the speakers for more intimate discussions about leadership. These small group opportunities provided our cadets unprecedented access to our valued guests and these conversations will continue to resonate with those cadets as they move forward in their leadership journey.

In addition to the Cutchins Leader-



Left: Coach Pry addresses the Corps during his speech at Cassell Coliseum. Right: Dr. MacAulay covers mindful practices at Corps Lab. Below: Master Chief Slabinski in a small group session as part of the Cutchins Leadership Lecture Series.

ship Lecture Series, the Rice Center, in coordination with other elements of the Commandant's Staff, is reviewing and updating the Corps' academic offerings to deliberately align the experiential, training, and educational aspects of the Corps of Cadets. This includes launching an effort to review and redefine the Corps Leader Development Program, separating education (classwork) from training (Corps Lab) to expand corps training time. We are also working to better define Corps training objectives across all classes. Each of these efforts is aimed at aligning all aspects of the cadet experience toward the Corps' mission to graduate leaders of exemplary character who are instilled with the values and skills essential for leadership success in service to the nation, with an added focus on instilling intellectual curiosity in these future leaders.



CLASS NOTES

1960s



Col Bob Archer '69 was inducted into the Army ROTC National Hall of Fame in January. Col Archer had a distinguished military career of 30 years that included service in Vietnam and with the 82nd Airborne Division. He has numerous civilian career highlights including serving as Chairman and CEO of Blue Ridge Beverage Company, Chairman of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, and current Rector of Radford University's Board of Visitors. He is a noted philanthropist who has supported numerous military service organizations including membership on the Board of Directors for the Virginia War Memorial.

1970s

Ross Haines '71 returned to campus and presented to the new N and O Company cadet leadership a 1960's/70's vintage guidon staff that was last used by N Squadron as well as a guidon that was last used by O Squadron prior to disestablishment back when companies

were aligned with ROTC affiliation.



Following N and O Squadron disestablishment, members were reconstituted within G Squadron. N and O companies were reconstituted at the change of command in May and will join the Highty-Tighties as part of 4th Battalion this fall.

1980s

Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Burkett '89 retired in December 2021 as Deputy Director of the Joint Force Development and Design Center at the Joint Staff J-7. As the deputy director, he provided leadership and oversight for U.S. joint warfighting development



to include joint doctrine, education, future concepts, wargaming and experimentation, and international ally and partner development. Burkett is now

refocusing on his family and his professional passion—homeland security and emergency management. Since retirement, he has moved back to Colorado and founded Federal Logic, which he describes as a platform to deliver business consulting and advisory services to a broad range of organizations in the emergency management, national security, defense, and technology sectors. He describes himself as a “homeland security and emergency management professional who has a deep understanding of emerging technologies, global trends, and homeland security issues.”

1990s

Shawn Talmadge '98 has been appointed State Coordinator and Governor's Deputy Homeland Security Advisor at the Virginia Department of



Emergency Management where he will lead statewide emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation



efforts.

Lt. Col. Justin Pennella '99 retired from the U.S. Army Reserves after 28 years on March 29. His final assignment was as Deputy Director of Joint Operations for Joint Reserve Intelligence Support Element Detroit/Wright-Patterson.

2000s

Ericke S. Cage '01 was named president of West Virginia State University.



Matt Persiani '01 retired from the Navy after 21 years in naval aviation. He is starting a new career at Amazon



Web Services in Arlington, VA.

Maj Nick Roland '07, Capt. Scott Fisher '17, and 1st Lt. Connor McMillan '19 are deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti as part of a U.S. Army Infantry Task Force primarily composed of Virginia National Guard soldiers. There are a total of 23 members of the task force that are either Virginia Tech alumni or current students.

2010s

Kelly Kolterman-Brown '10, Shawn Gateau '12, and Tj Hendricks '11 conducted a mini reunion in the Pacific onboard USS Carl Vinson in January 2021.

1st Lt. Austin Shumate '17, Capt.



Tawny Pelletier '13, Capt. Dave Robison '17, Capt. Bailey Knickerbocker '14, Capt. Ian Tillotson '14, 1st Lt. Jared Ohashi '17, and Capt. Allison Laclede '15 conducted a mini reunion at Kunsan AB, Republic of Korea.



Capt. Liam Garrity '17 and Erin Mitchell VT'18 were married at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Nashville, TN on May 14, 2022. Brother **Capt. Andrew Mitchell '16** and classmates **Capt. Eric Lamberton '17, Capt. Daniel Pittard '17, Capt. Nathan**



Underwood '17, Capt. Richard Daum '18, and 1st Lt. Joshua Conyers '18 participated in the wedding and provided a treacherous saber arch that the newlyweds had to safely navigate as their first challenge as husband and wife.

Marine **1st Lt Clark Shotwell '19** deployed to Norway in support of Operation Cold Response-22, a Norwegian national readiness and defense exercise with participation from each

SUBMIT YOUR DEPLOYMENTS, JOB AND RANK CHANGES, AWARDS AND HONORS, FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS, PHOTOS, AND OTHER NEWS AT VTCC.VT.EDU/CLASSNOTES.

of its military services as well as 26 additional NATO allied nations and regional partners.



2nd Lt. Miguel Bustillo '19 and **Maj. Walt Jue '01** recently had the opportunity to travel to Tajikistan on behalf of the Virginia Army National Guard in support of an exchange program to train with Tajikistan service members on troop leading procedures and basic mountaineering.



2020s

In May, **Ryan Alfalaij '20**, who is currently stationed in Germany, ran into our Global Scholar cadets during their tour of Normandy.



Get Ready for Fall Hokie Hero Nominations

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Hokie Hero program, started in 2006 by IMG College, honors Corps of Cadet alumni who are deployed during Hokie football games.

If you are going to be deployed this fall, be sure to bring a Virginia Tech or Corps flag and send us a high quality photo of yourself.

Nominations for Hokie Heroes should be emailed to samsales@vt.edu and vtccalumni@vt.edu.

SUBMIT YOUR DEPLOYMENTS, JOB AND RANK CHANGES, AWARDS AND HONORS, FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS, PHOTOS, AND OTHER NEWS AT VTCC.VT.EDU/CLASSNOTES.

SENIOR CADET COMMANDERS, SPRING 2022

REGIMENTAL COMMANDER **AUSTIN ASKEW**



Cadet Col. Austin Askew graduated with a degree in operations and supply chain management and a minor in leadership and service. He commissioned into the U.S. Army as a field artillery officer. He has held multiple positions in the Corps and Army ROTC. Within the Corps, he served as the 2nd Battalion commander during

fall 2021 and Hotel Company first sergeant in fall 2020. He also served as the Bravo Company first sergeant in Army ROTC in spring 2021. Proud to serve the regiment, Askew was the cadet member-at-large for the Class of 2022. He is a recipient of an Army ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

FIRST BATTALION COMMANDER **ELEANOR VERBURG**



Cadet Lt. Col. Eleanor Verburg is pursuing a degree in civil engineering and a minor in leadership. She plans to commission into the U.S. Air Force. She has held multiple leadership positions in the Corps and Air Force ROTC. In the Corps, she has served as first sergeant

and executive officer of Bravo Company. In Air Force ROTC, she has served as a Squadron Three commander, safety officer, and accountability officer. She is the recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

SECOND BATTALION COMMANDER **CLAUDIA MCCARTHY**



Cadet Lt. Col. Claudia McCarthy is pursuing a degree in building construction focused on sustainable building performance and a minor in leadership. She is seeking a job in the federal government upon graduating. She has held multiple leadership positions in the Corps of Cadets and within the Citizen-Leadership Track,

also known as VPI Battalion. Within the VPI Battalion, she has served as the battalion service officer, I Company First sergeant, and battalion executive officer. She has served as a platoon sergeant for Echo Company, battalion S-1, and adjutant officer for 2nd Battalion.

THIRD BATTALION COMMANDER **SKYLER POWELL**



Cadet Lt Col. Skyler Powell graduated with a degree in philosophy, politics, and economics with a minor in leadership and service. She plans to attend law school and commission to join the U.S. Air Force JAG Corps. A Highy-Tighty, she has held multiple leadership positions in the

Corps and within the Air Force ROTC, such as cadre sergeant, platoon sergeant, overall commander for Band Company, wing objectives officer, and the 3rd Battalion commander. She is the recipient of an Air Force ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

COMMAND STAFF, SPRING 2022



Regimental Executive Officer
Randy Abilmona
Mathematics
Air Force



Regimental Adjutant
Giavanna Angelo
Materials Science and
Engineering
Air Force



Regimental Public
Information Officer
Camille Roberts
Cognitive and Behavioral
Neuroscience
Army



Regimental Operations
Officer
Jack Ryal
Economics
Army



Regimental Supply Officer
Grace Kim
Russian and International
Relations
Army



Regimental Academics
Officer
Zachary Hartman
Russian
Army



Regimental Information
Officer
Justin Perez
Secure Computing
Air Force



Regimental Sergeant Major
Brooke Johnson
Animal and Poultry Sciences
Army



Regimental Alumni Liaison
Officer
Benjamin Janosy
Political Science
Army



VPI Battalion Commander
Jacques Brown
Mining Engineering and
Criminology
Citizen-Leader Track



Alpha Company
Commander
Clara Cobb
Clinical Neuroscience
Citizen-Leader Track



Bravo Company Commander
Caleigh Mason
Political Science
Navy



Charlie Company
Commander
Bryce Cook
National Security and
Foreign Affairs
Air Force



Delta Company Commander
Zymmorah Myers
Electrical Engineering
Air Force



Echo Company Commander
Johnny Ninosky
Political Science
Army



Foxtrot Company
Commander
Cooper Rapp
Criminology and Sociology
Army



Golf Company Commander
James Weldon
Building Construction
Navy



Hotel Company Commander
Steven Smith
History
Army



India Company Commander
Dylan Jennings
Mining Engineering
Navy



Kilo Company Commander
Liam Moriarity
Mechanical Engineering
Citizen-Leader Track



Lima Company Commander
Nicole Brabant
Russian
Army



Mike Company Commander
Madelyn Poteet
Meteorology
Air Force



Band Commander
Brett Nutter
Civil Engineering
Army



Drum Major
Joseph Topp
Political Science
Army

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

CLASS OF 2022

JACK ADAMS
Bravo Company, Army

WALKER ADE
Bravo Company, Army

JOSEPH AINSWORTH
Mike Company, Army

RANDY ABILMONA
Bravo Company, Air Force

MORGAN ANDERSON
Alpha Company, Marines

GIAVANNA ANGELO
Golf Company, Air Force

VICTORIA ANN
Charlie Company, Army

ETHAN ANTHONY
Bravo Company, Army

ALEXANDER APPEL
Lima Company, Army

FINLEY ASHFORTH
Alpha Company, Army

AUSTIN ASKEW
Golf Company, Army

OLIVIA ASUNCION
Highly-Tighties, Air Force

ALEXANDER AUSTIN
Delta Company, Army

EDWARD AVALOS
Highly-Tighties, Air Force

JOHNATHAN BAILER
Kilo Company, Navy

OWEN BAQUERO
Bravo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

DYLAN BARDOUN
Bravo Company, Navy

HARRISS BARKER
Golf Company, Army

JAMES BARKER
India Company, Army

JUSTIN BARNES
Echo Company, Army

AIDEN BATTERSHALL
Charlie Company, Marines

NOAH BAYER
Highly-Tighties, Air Force

MICHAEL BELLIVEAU
Golf Company, Army

HENRY BERGSTOL
Highly-Tighties, Air Force

ISABEL BERST
Mike Company, Citizen-Leader Track

PRABHAV BHAUMIK
Bravo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

AYDEN BLACKWOOD
Highly-Tighties, Air Force

JORDAN BLISS
Alpha Company, Army

ROBERT BODEN
Charlie Company, Marines

ANDREW BONAVITA
Kilo Company, Air Force

RUSSELL BONETT
Highly-Tighties, Army

ALEXANDER BONGARDT
Alpha Company, Navy

ALEC BONVOULOIR
Foxtrot Company, Army

JACOB BOWSER
Lima Company, Army

NICOLE BRABANT
Kilo Company, Army

NEIL BRATTON
Echo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

FRANK BREDICE
Foxtrot Company, Army

NICHOLAS BROWN
Lima Company, Air Force

JACQUES BROWN
Mike Company, Citizen-Leader Track

HANNAH BROWNE
Highly-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

JACKSON BROWNING
Hotel Company, Air Force

NATALIE BUCKLAND
Mike Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CHASE CALDWELL
Highly-Tighties, Air Force

JOSEPH CANALES
Lima Company, Army

TYLER CARDENAS
Hotel Company, Air Force



CHRISTOPHER CARON

Kilo Company, Navy

VIRGINIA CARPENTER

Mike Company, Air Force

DAVID CARTE

India Company, Army

ADAM CHARLTON

Golf Company, Army

MATTHEW CHOE

Charlie Company, Marines

BERNARD CIEPLAK

Echo Company, Navy

ANGELA CLAY

Hotel Company, Air Force

KRISTEN CLAYE

Charlie Company, Army

CLARA COBB

Alpha Company, Citizen-Leader Track

NATHANIEL COBBS

Mike Company, Citizen-Leader Track

JULIAN COHEN

Charlie Company, Army

MICHAEL COLLINS

Kilo Company, Navy

WILLIAM CONDRAN

Foxtrot Company, Citizen-Leader Track

BRYCE COOK

Charlie Company, Air Force

JAMES COPLEY

Highty-Tighties, Air Force

TIMOTHY COVERT

India Company, Citizen-Leader Track

JAMES COX

Delta Company, Army

ERIN CROSS-KAPLAN

Mike Company, Navy

JACK CURRY

Delta Company, Army

ANDREW DAILEY

Lima Company, Army

JACKSON DAMPIER

Highty-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

MITCHELL DAUGHERTY

Bravo Company, Army

WILLIAM DAVIS

Alpha Company, Navy

VIVIAN DEES

Hotel Company, Navy

SAMUEL DINOVI

Foxtrot Company, Citizen-Leader Track

MICHAEL DOLGOS

Golf Company, Air Force

KEVIN DOUGHERTY

Delta Company, Army

NICHOLAS DOUMOURAS

Alpha Company, Army

COLLIN DOWNES

Foxtrot Company, Army

WILLIAM DRUMGOOL

Kilo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

SAMUEL DUFFY

Echo Company, Army

DANIEL DUGAN

Alpha Company, Air Force

VICTORIA EASLEY

Highty-Tighties, Air Force

WILLIAM EDINGER

Alpha Company, Air Force

OLIVIA ELLIS

Alpha Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CHARLES ENG

India Company, Air Force

SIMON EYOB

Bravo Company, Navy

WALTER FERRUFINO

Hotel Company, Navy

JACOB FEURER

Highty-Tighties, Air Force

JAMES FLEMING

Foxtrot Company, Army

BRANDON FLORES

Delta Company, Air Force

GEOFFREY FORSYTH

Charlie Company, Navy

NICHOLAS FOWLER

Golf Company, Navy

REED FUNDTER

Kilo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

NICHOLAS GABLE

Alpha Company, Air Force

LAFORST GARDINER

Hotel Company, Navy

ERIN GEARY

Hotel Company, Citizen-Leader Track

ADAM GIAMMATTEI

Bravo Company, Army

JACOB GLAUBER

Kilo Company, Army

CAITLYN GODSEY

Highy-Tighties, Air Force

LINDA GOODSON

Charlie Company, Air Force

CHRISTOPHER GRIFFIN

Delta Company, Army

JACLYN GUEVARA

Mike Company, Citizen-Leader Track

TIMOTHY GUJU

Highy-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

JOSHUA GUNTHER

Bravo Company, Navy

GRACE HALL

Echo Company, Air Force

MARGARET HAMMEL

Alpha Company, Army

ABRAHAM HAN

Kilo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CHRISTOPHER HAREAS

Lima Company, Army

ZACHARY HARTMAN

Charlie Company, Army

JILLIAN HAAS

Alpha Company, Air Force

CHARLES HATTER

Bravo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

KAYLEIGH HEATHER

Golf Company, Navy

MICHAEL HECK

Lima Company, Army

KATRINA HECKMAN

Alpha Company, Army

JACOB HEIL

Echo Company, Army

EMMA HEPLER

Alpha Company, Army

JUAN HERBAS

Lima Company, Citizen-Leader Track

STEPHEN HERRICK

Highy-Tighties, Air Force

PAUL HINCH JR.

India Company, Army

JACOB HODGES

Bravo Company, Army

WILLIAM HOFFMAN

Lima Company, Navy

QUENTIN HOLMES

Highy-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

WESTON HOOVER

Hotel Company, Navy

MASON HUBBLE

Hotel Company, Army

MARK HUDDLESTON

Lima Company, Citizen-Leader Track

LIAM HUDDY

Lima Company, Army

KYLE HUFFMAN

Hotel Company, Air Force

MATTHEW HYLAND

Alpha Company, Navy

JONATHAN HYUN

Delta Company, Army

CESAR IBARRA JR.

Delta Company, Air Force

ORKHUN ISMAYIL

Kilo Company, Army

JACK JANKOVICH

India Company, Navy

BENJAMIN JANOSY

Mike Company, Army

DYLAN JENNINGS

India Company, Navy

CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

Hotel Company, Navy

STEPHEN JONES

Regimental Staff – S35, Air Force

ANDREW JONES

Echo Company, Navy

EVAN JONES

India Company, Army

JUSTIN JONES

Foxtrot Company, Navy

LIAM JONES

Highy-Tighties, Army

MATTHEW KANNEY

Echo Company, Air Force

OWEN KEEGAN

Alpha Company, Navy

MERIEL KELLY

Alpha Company, Citizen-Leader Track

HYUN AH KIM

Highy-Tighties, Army

BRADLEY KING

Highy-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

TREVOR KINMAN
Golf Company, Citizen-Leader Track

LIAM KLUESENER
Lima Company, Navy

ZACHARY KOBUSKY
Kilo Company, Army

SAMUEL KRAMER
Lima Company, Army

ZACHARY KROUGH
Hotel Company, Army

MADelyn KRUGER
Highy-Tighties, Navy

JOSEPH LAFLECHE
Highy-Tighties, Navy

JOHN LAPORE
Highy-Tighties, Air Force

SUZI LEE
Foxtrot Company, Army

DARREN LEE
Alpha Company, Navy

THOMAS LEFFEL
Kilo Company, Army

AIDAN LENTZ
Golf Company, Navy

MICHAEL LEWIS
Delta Company, Army

BENJAMIN LEWIS
Echo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

MAVERICK LIEBL
Echo Company, Army

CLAY LILES
Alpha Company, Navy

JOSEPH LIM
Foxtrot Company, Air Force

CAYDEN LIVINGSTON
Echo Company, Army

PAUL LOBREE
India Company, Citizen-Leader Track

JACK LONGO
Alpha Company, Navy

NICOLA LONGO
Kilo Company, Army

KATELYNN LOOS
Charlie Company, Army

MARTIN LOPEZ JR.
India Company, Air Force

JACK LUBERTAZZI
Charlie Company, Army

MICHAEL LUCIANI
Bravo Company, Air Force

GARRETT LYONS
Alpha Company, Army

MATTHEW MABUTAS
Highy-Tighties, Air Force

CONNOR MACDONNELL
Delta Company, Navy

JOHN MANSON
Bravo Company, Army

SARAH MAR
Lima Company, Air Force

ALDEN MARINO
Hotel Company, Army

CALEIGH MASON
Bravo Company, Navy

MATTHEW MASON
Echo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CONNOR MCCAMPBELL
Kilo Company, Air Force

CLAUDIA MCCARTHY
Echo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

PAIGE MCCAULEY
Highy-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

QUINLAN MCCLUNG
Kilo Company, Army

MARGARET MCCONVILLE
Foxtrot Company, Air Force

MICHAEL MCCORD
Echo Company, Army

LIAM MCFADDEN
Echo Company, Army

BAKER MCFALL
Foxtrot Company, Navy

HAMPTON MCGRATH
India Company, Air Force

FRANCIS MCGUIRE
Echo Company, Army

SHAE MCMILLAN
Delta Company, Army

JOEL MECKLEY
Foxtrot Company, Army

ZACHARY MELENDEZ
Foxtrot Company, Navy

ALEXANDER MERRILL
Hotel Company, Citizen-Leader Track

KYLE MERRILL
Alpha Company, Citizen-Leader Track

JACOB MILLS
Mike Company, Citizen-Leader Track

DEVIN MONG
Highy-Tighties, Army

LIAM MORIARTY
Kilo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

ZACHARY MORITZ
Charlie Company, Army

MACLAYNE MORROW
Delta Company, Marines

ALEXANDER MUELLER
Kilo Company, Army

LIAM MURPHY
Alpha Company, Navy

ZYMMORAH MYERS
Charlie Company, Air Force

ALEXANDER NAVARRETE
India Company, Navy

CRIOSTOIR NEAL

Charlie Company, Navy

GIDEON NELSON

Bravo Company, Navy

JOHN NINOSKY JR.

Echo Company, Army

BRETT NUTTER

Highty-Tighties, Army

JON OLSEN

Foxtrot Company, Army

ROBERT OSBORN III

Bravo Company, Army

TIMOTHY OSIKA

Bravo Company, Army

MARISA OSTROWSKY

Kilo Company, Navy

ALDEN OUZTS

Charlie Company, Army

DAVERSH PATEL

Bravo Company, Air Force

ANDREW PEDRAZA

Foxtrot Company, Citizen-Leader Track

JUSTIN PEREZ

India Company, Air Force

HAOQUN PIAO

Delta Company, Citizen-Leader Track

ALDEN PIERCE

Bravo Company, Marines

SHELBY PIERSON

Lima Company, Navy

MADLYN POTEET

Mike Company, Air Force

SKYLER POWELL

Highty-Tighties, Air Force

BRANNON PRIDDELL

Foxtrot Company, Army

STEPHEN PRISAMENT

Golf Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CLARE PROVONCHA

Mike Company, Air Force

JAMES PURCELL

Kilo Company, Army

DARA QUALTER

Echo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

SEAN QUITERIO

India Company, Air Force

WILLIAM RAKES

Kilo Company, Army

COOPER RAPP

Foxtrot Company, Army

JUSTIN RATCLIFFE

Bravo Company, Air Force

ANDREW RICHARDSON

Golf Company, Citizen-Leader Track

SAMUEL RIDDLE

Bravo Company, Marines

CALVIN ROBB

Charlie Company, Army

CAMILLE ROBERTS

Highty-Tighties, Army

STEPHEN ROBERTSON

India Company, Citizen-Leader Track

JULIE ROMUTIS

Lima Company, Citizen-Leader Track

ALLISON ROUSH

Charlie Company, Air Force

BAXTER RUSKOWSKY

Bravo Company, Air Force

LYLA RUZZO

Delta Company, Army

JAMES RYAL

Golf Company, Army

MICHAEL SABETT

Highty-Tighties, Air Force

ALEXANDER SANCHEZ

Kilo Company, Marines

ALEXANDRA SCARFE

Echo Company, Navy

PATRICK SCHEFFEY

Golf Company, Army

DEVIN SCOFIELD

Foxtrot Company, Citizen-Leader Track

DEVON SEVILLE

Charlie Company, Army

BENJAMIN SHEARER

Bravo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

FRITZ GERALD SILVA

Mike Company, Air Force

COLE SILVESTRI

Delta Company, Army

MARY-HELENE SION

Highty-Tighties, Navy

JOSHUA SIPPLE

Foxtrot Company, Citizen-Leader Track

NICHOLAS SISSON

Delta Company, Air Force

JACOB SLUSHER

Alpha Company, Navy

STEVEN SMITH II

Hotel Company, Army

SCOTT SOCCIO

Bravo Company, Navy

FAYAZ SOLAIMAN

Alpha Company, Navy

YEAN SON

Alpha Company, Army

MICHAEL SOTKA

Hotel Company, Army

SIENNAH SPRIGGS

Lima Company, Citizen-Leader Track

NATHAN STEIMAN

Charlie Company, Air Force

VINCENT STEVENS

Echo Company, Air Force

YOUNA STEVES

Golf Company, Army

ALYSSA STOLECKI

Highty-Tighties, Citizen-Leader Track

JOHN STOVALL

Bravo Company, Army

ETHAN SWINFORD

Bravo Company, Army

BRANDON THOMPSON

Hotel Company, Air Force

JAKE THOMPSON

Delta Company, Citizen-Leader Track

AUSTIN TIRONA

Kilo Company, Navy

JOSEPH TOPP

Highty-Tighties, Army

MAXWELL TRAN

India Company, Air Force

GENESIS TURCIOS

Foxtrot Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CHRISTOPHER UMANA

India Company, Army

ALEXANDER VAN VALKENBURGH

Kilo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

ELEANOR VERBURG

Bravo Company, Air Force

TIMOTHY REI VILLANEUVA

India Company, Air Force

CAROLINE VINTER

Echo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

GRACE VOGEL

Bravo Company, Navy

EMMA VOGLER

Lima Company, Citizen-Leader Track

DAVID WALLS

Foxtrot Company, Navy

PETER WANG

Delta Company, Navy

JOSEPH WANGER

Delta Company, Navy

TYMON WANSEL

Bravo Company, Citizen-Leader Track

CHRISTIAN WARD

India Company, Citizen-Leader Track

GRAHAM WARREN

Hotel Company, Marines

JAMES WELDON

Golf Company, Navy

ALEXANDER WELLS

Bravo Company, Army

JACK WELSON

Echo Company, Army

CHRIS WIDGER JR.

Kilo Company, Air Force

ASHTON WILLIAMS

Bravo Company, Air Force

BRANDON WILLIAMS

Kilo Company, Air Force

KYLE WILLIAMS

Bravo Company, Navy

JACOB WITHERS

Foxtrot Company, Army

AMANDA WYCHE

Highty-Tighties, Army

JAVLONBEK ZAYNETDINOV

Alpha Company, Army

MITCHELL ZELL

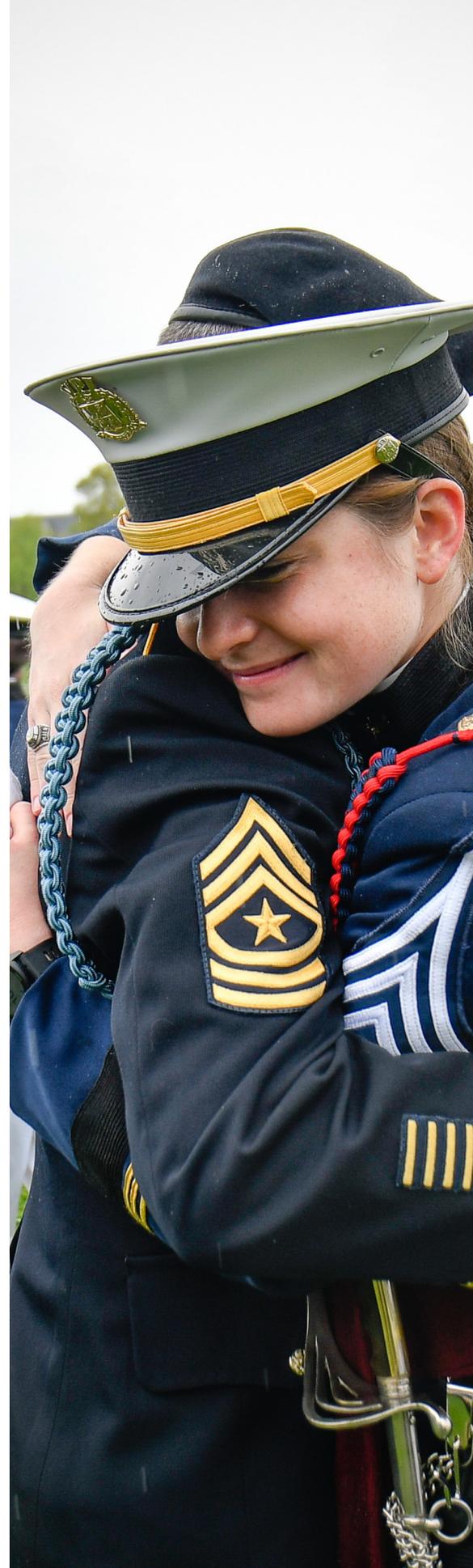
Echo Company, Air Force

EDWARD ZHOU

Lima Company, Citizen-Leader Track

BRANDON ZINITI

Hotel Company, Army





A cadet practices land navigation in the field during Army ROTC's field training exercise.

ARMY ROTC NEWS

THE FINAL PUSH

Spring in Blacksburg can only mean one thing: field training exercise. On March 31, the New River Battalion journeyed to Fort Pickett, VA for cadets to qualify with the M4 rifle and participate in Situational Training Exercises (STX). The event's goal: prepare the MS III cadets for Cadet Summer Training (CST) at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Of course, a deployment for the New River Battalion is never complete without a few torrential downpours. This year, the rain reared its ugly head on range day, but the leadership provided by the cadets and cadre, paired with their impressive resilience, allowed the battalion to successfully execute their training.

Over 450 cadets traversed the ranges around Fort Pickett. They completed a field leadership reaction course and experienced missions involving movement to contact, reconnaissance, and raids, all of which they will be expected to lead while attending camp. To round out training, cadets also completed both day and night land navigation courses.

The cadre empowered our MS IV cadets throughout the exercise. The tactical operations center was managed by cadet staff who were responsible for monitoring radios, providing situation reports, scheduling medical transports, and managing other necessities such as accountability, water and food replenishment, and trash collection.

With the completion of our field training exercise, New River Battalion cadets are prepared for Fort Knox and the Army schools they will attend this summer. We have high expectations of our team and look forward to sharing their accomplishments in the fall.

STUDENT, ATHLETE, LEADER

By 2nd Lt Daniel McKillop, '21

One of the many highlights that I have from my time in Blacksburg was winning the Division 1-AA National Championship while playing rugby for Virginia Tech. However, that accomplishment was nothing compared to the lessons I learned while in the New River Battalion. Being a member of Army ROTC meant continually balancing academics, military training, and rugby, and it taught me that the joys in life are only reached through significant challenges.

My weekly schedule consisted of morning physical training on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, rugby practice every weekday with games on the weekends, and filling the gaps in between with academics and personal workouts. Everything came down to prioritization and time management. Once, when we had a game during our fall field training exercise, I was fortunate to be able to go to both. I brought my rugby gear to the field, left for the game, and then returned to continue training that night. The Army came first but it was nice to be able to do both.

While playing, I served as the leader for the team. The lessons I learned in Army ROTC and the Corps helped me lead a completely different group of guys for a much different cause. I had a team of officers to share responsibilities, and Fernando Anduaga, a fellow player and coach, helped me plan practices and analyze game films. We handled the operational aspect of the team, from planning practices and setting lineups, to managing the logistics behind the scenes like travel, fundraising, and game coordination.

Playing rugby meant everything to me in college. The team attracted hard working, committed young players and the game reinforced resilience, a major focus within the Army. Rugby was all about playing for each other and working hard; it was a great way to take my mind off whatever was stressing me out at the time. Practice was intense but fun and being able to play was a staple of my college career. Hopefully, other students can find that same feeling.

Army ROTC taught me to be much more understanding of what my subordinates are going through. My cadres' understanding of my goals showed me that strong leaders ensure their Soldiers can accomplish both the military mission and their personal objectives. I plan to take that approach as an officer.



Daniel McKillop '21 and Frank McGuire '22 pose after the championship game.



The HokieBird showed support for Navy midshipmen on Ship Selection Day.

NAVAL ROTC NEWS

The Naval ROTC unit has continued to excel with a number of notable unit and individual midshipmen achievements! The fall semester culminated with the return of our Navy and Marine Corps birthday ball, which was organized by the battalion. More than 500 midshipmen and guests gathered to safely celebrate with the theme “Resilient and Ready”, and former battalion commander Ensign Ladson Walls served as the guest speaker. In November, the unit welcomed Senior Chief Kim Ford to the staff and bid farewell to Master Chief Shawn Fleming, who returned back to the fleet in Oceana, VA. Virginia Tech is one of only six NROTC units nationally with a senior enlisted advisor for midshipmen. In December, the unit hosted the joint ROTC commissioning ceremony, which featured Class of 1992 Corps alumnus Rear Adm. Mike Steffen as the guest speaker. Ensign Anthony Gaspar '21 received his commission at the ceremony.

It wasn't all work and no play, though. Several midshipmen excelled in their extracurricular activities and proudly brought championship awards back to campus this year. In December, we had two midshipmen on the Virginia Tech men's club rugby team. Paul Cardoni and Marc Melendez fought hard with the team in Houston, TX and brought the Division 1-AA National Champion title to Virginia Tech. The VTCC

women's basketball team traveled to South Bend, Indiana in February to participate in the Flyin' Irish Basketball Tournament at the University of Notre Dame. The Naval Battalion was strongly represented on the team, and our players included Meg Wright, Erin Gravette, Lauren Gravette, Grace Vogel, Laura Huddleston, and Jax Wode. For the second year in a row, the team brought back a first-place finish! Several members of the NROTC unit participated on the VTCC marksmanship team and were highly successful. Midshipmen Christopher Campione, Jacob Bush, and Kian Zandipour, along with the rest of the team, won gold in all four disciplines: Rimfire Pistol Optic, Rimfire Pistol Iron, Rimfire Rifle Optic, and Rimfire Rifle Iron.

Ship selection occurred in February and midshipmen slated to join the surface warfare community participated in the spring NROTC ceremony along with 275 other midshipmen nationally. This exciting time allowed the midshipmen to pick where to begin their naval careers based on overall national standing. The highest on that list was our own Midshipman Kayleigh Heather who ranked No. 18 and chose USS Kidd in Everett, WA. Midshipman Alexandra Scarfe ranked No. 20 and selected USS America in Sasebo, Japan. Hokies will be well represented in the fleet across eight different homeports in the

U.S., Japan, and Spain.

Midshipman Jacob Slusher was commissioned in May and will join the crew of USS Green Bay out of Sasebo, Japan. "I'm excited because it's outside of the continental U.S. and I've grown an appreciation for the culture there," said Slusher.

Even with the busy schedule, NROTC had a chance to focus on art. Inspired by the U.S. Navy's First Navy Jack flown shipboard when alongside a pier, the Navy ROTC unit anchor sitting adjacent to Lane Hall received a new look. Twelve first year midshipmen took charge of the anchor maintenance, restoring pride to the great Navy landmark and building comradery among the freshmen team. During a period of warm winter days, midshipmen John Sedor, Aidan Adair, Celian Cadet, Maddy Shull, Kit Harding, Logan Wood, Hunter Smith, Reilly Moore, Sam Bresky, Michael Nicpon, Brewster Haen, and Jackson Creamer worked diligently painting their masterpiece.

Virginia Tech midshipmen who participated in the Flyin' Irish Basketball Tournament at Notre Dame with their championship trophy.



Midshipmen pose with the newly painted NROTC anchor displayed next to Lane Hall.



Midshipman Baker McFall reacts after service selecting USS Bunker Hill, homeported out of San Diego, CA.



Cadets Will Edinger '22 and Kaitlin Kearney '23 before their incentive ride in an F-16 at Shaw Air Force Base.

AIR FORCE ROTC NEWS

Spring semester was busy for Detachment 875's Air Force ROTC cadets, marking a full return to normal operations! Visits from a variety of guest speakers were interspersed with a helicopter fly-in by Capt. Nicholas Curren '16, a trip to Shaw Air Force Base, and a 2-day field training exercise that was planned, executed, and led by the cadets to build their leadership skills and prepare the sophomores for field training.

Cadet Virginia Carpenter '22 served as the spring semester cadet wing commander. Under her leadership, the third-largest detachment in the nation (with 250 cadets) garnered an average physical fitness assessment score of 93.3 out of 100. Not only are the cadets in the top quarter of the nation for fitness scores, but they also studied hard and earned an average 3.27 GPA. The cadet wing leadership altered a number of facets of the weekly leadership laboratory in a drive to better develop freshman and sophomore cadets in leadership activities. Two examples were a renewed emphasis on field training preparation and group leadership projects. Regarding her leadership

tenure this semester, Carpenter said, "The most valuable thing I want to take with me after graduation is the fact that what we do as officers should never be about ourselves, but for those that we lead and care for. We gain nothing as individuals if we don't work successfully as a team." The detachment was fortunate to hear from Virginia Tech alumni like Air Force Brig Gen Thomas James '86 and Space Force Col Charlie Norsky '02 to share their leadership insights with our cadets.

In February, 48 cadets traveled to Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina to learn about active duty life and the different career fields that contribute to the Air Force mission, including operations, maintenance, security forces and civil engineering. Additionally, Will Edinger '22 and Kaitlin Kearney '23 got the opportunity to participate in an incentive ride in an F-16 with the 79th Fighter Squadron. As Edinger recalled, "This flight convinced me that flying is what I want to do in the Air Force. I am very thankful to have been able to participate in the incentive flight this semester. This has definitely been my

favorite experience as a cadet.”

With the high demand for rated officers, Detachment 875 is actively meeting today’s Air Force needs. From the Air Force Rated Selection Board, 20 cadets were selected for Air Battle Manager, Combat Systems Officer, Remotely Piloted Aircraft Pilot, and Pilot. This year, seven cadets were selected for Operation Air Force, a summer development program that introduces cadets to the operational Air Force. Additionally, Nicholas Vrabel ’25 will spend one week learning the fundamentals of flying at the Air Force Academy’s Introduction to Powered Flight. Tyler Dindal ’23 and Jake Osborne ’23 will also be heading to the Air Force Academy to attend the Engineering Readiness Lab and Prep School cadet training assistant programs, respectively. Jarod Mills ’24 was selected to attend the Special Tactics Orientation Course and Michael Neal ’25 will be an Army Cyber Institute Intern later this summer. Finally, newly commissioned Lieutenants Skylar Powell ’22 and Grace Hall ’21 were selected for unique educational opportunities. 2nd Lt Powell was awarded a JAG education delay and will be attending William and Mary Law School this fall. 2nd Lt Hall will be earning her Masters in Aerospace Engineering at Virginia Tech as the first step in her Space Force career.

During the two-day field training exercise at nearby Radford Army Ammunition Plant, cadets experienced the expeditionary environment while learning small unit tactics, medical skills, and how to deal with potential hostiles. Angela Clay ’21 and Jacob Feurer ’21 created a scenario to introduce cadets to the developing Air Force concepts of Agile Combat Employment and Multi-Capable Airmen. During a short rain-delay, Col Lowe even taught cadets the



Detachment 875’s Wing Photo.

recipe for ranger pudding!

The semester ended with a celebration - the return of the first formal dining-out since 2018. Cadet Fletcher Dodge led a team of cadets to plan the event, which hosted more than 350 guests. Col Chris Hauver, ’99, was the guest of honor, and his remarks highlighted the positive impact of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and Detachment 875 experiences on his 23-year Air Force career. Col Hauver even joined the Southern Colonels for a drum solo!

This summer, 38 cadets will travel to Maxwell AFB, AL for the two-week field training. Sophomore cadets began preparation last semester by practicing their marching, developing problem solving skills, and memorizing warrior knowledge. We wish them the best of luck at this big milestone in their cadet career.

Most importantly, 35 cadets raised their right hands and commissioned as second lieutenants, including five into the Space Force. They are eager to take on the challenges of military leadership alongside fellow Hokie Air Force alumni!



United States Space Force Second Lieutenant Grace Hall.

REFLECTING ON OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL

By Sandi R. Bliss, Chief Advancement Officer

REFLECTIONS ON OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL

Wow, 150 years! This is an especially proud accomplishment when you consider the humble beginnings of the Corps of Cadets and the alumni and friends who have gotten us to where we are today. We have so much to be proud of, especially our two new buildings that will open in the fall of 2023 and being well on our way to 1,400 cadets!

As we reflect on the next 150 years, I hope you will each ask yourselves how you want to play a role in this continued success. As you all know, the Corps had some pretty lean classes during the last 150 years, and it will take all of us pulling together to ensure the Corps' continued success. Below I have provided some opportunities to have your own permanent legacy in the Corps and make a difference in the lives of cadets. If you have an idea that is not listed below, please reach out to us and we can talk to see what is possible.

WAYS TO GIVE

Reach out to the Corps's advancement team to discuss how you'd like to help play a role in the Corps' continued success.



Special Naming Opportunities

If you are interested in investing in the fantastic new Corps Leadership and Military Science Building, there are a few naming opportunities available starting at \$25,000. All naming opportunities can be obtained through a five-year pledge. Be sure to secure your legacy as we make plans to open this much-needed space in the fall of 2023. We now also have naming options in each of the residence halls along with a few other special opportunities.

Endowments are a powerful investment in the future of the Corps. They provide a dependable, perpetual source of funding. Endowed gifts are invested and each year a percentage of the return is made available to the university to support critical Corps initiatives. The distribution amount is approved by the Virginia Tech Foundation board each year. Endowments can be created with a minimum gift of \$100,000.

Annual Gifts of any amount can make an immediate impact. They can be made once or arranged to be made on a convenient, recurring basis. Gifts to the Commandant's Priority Fund of \$500 or greater automatically sponsor a first-year cadet in the fall or spring. The fall deadline is September 16, 2022. You can also work toward the \$2,500 needed to earn a Brick Plaque. Additionally, there is now a way for you to pledge \$10,000 a year for five years to have your own named scholarship during those five years.

Non-Cash

You can support the Corps in many other ways. You can donate securities such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. You can also donate real estate, including both present and future interests, and you can donate gifts-in-kind of tangible property, such as

works of art or historic memorabilia

In Memory / In Honor

Scholarships, endowed positions, Corps facilities, or programs can be named in memory of a special individual. Gifts may be made to honor a loved one or someone who inspires you.

Employer Matching Gifts

Many Corps donors are employed by companies that encourage donations to higher education. Donors who wish to support the Corps often can provide more substantial support with the assistance of a matching gift company. Before making your gift, please check to see if your company provides matching contribution. Our matching gift web page at givingto.vt.edu/match can help you find out.

Gift Planning Options

There also are many additional options for leaving a powerful, smart legacy through planned gifts to the Corps. Are you interested in a fixed income that could include the avoidance of capital gains taxes? Are you looking for a way to use the best asset choices for gifts to family and the Corps? We encourage you to reach out to find what fits best. There are several op-

tions, such as designating the Corps of Cadets as the beneficiary of a will, trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy. You may also use a charitable IRA rollover to make a gift that can count toward your required minimum distribution without it being taxed as income. Utilizing a gift model that can provide an income such as a charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder annuity trust, charitable remainder unitrust, or a charitable lead trust may fit your donation desires. Another option is creating a Donor Advised Fund to maximize tax benefits now and recommend charitable gifts for many years to come.

SUSTAIN OUR MISSION



GIVE ONLINE AT
GIVINGTO.VT.EDU/CORPS

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY IN THE CORPS

Throughout history, Corps of Cadets graduates have left their names and class years in pencil on the bricks of Lane Hall. Now, you can leave your mark on a brick plaque in the new Corps Leadership and Military Science Building. We've actually used images of the Lane Hall bricks to make these one-of-a-kind plaques.

Here's how it works: Donate at least \$2,500 to any Corps of Cadets non-endowed fund, such as the Commandant's Priorities Annual Fund, between March 10, 2020, and March 10, 2025. That's just \$500 a year.

Once you reach the \$2,500 total giving threshold, we will send you a sample inscription to approve. The inscription will include your full name, class year, and Corps company on three separate lines. You can choose our typeface or your own handwriting. (Because of space limitations on the plaque, we will be unable to add titles, honorifics, military rank, or nicknames.)



Each brick plaque must be tied to a single giving record, and we must limit one plaque to each record. The \$2,500 threshold can only be counted once to an individual giving record. If you are giving to honor a friend or loved one in addition to your own brick plaque, please be sure that \$2,500 donation is tied to that person or another family member's giving record. We are unable to count company matches toward any \$2,500 giving threshold.

The brick plaques will be featured in a special place in the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building, expected to open in 2023. Give now to ensure your name is in place for the dedication ceremony.

The Corps' advancement team is ready to help you with any needs or questions. Contact us at 540-231-2892 or vtcc@vt.edu.

NEW CORPS STAFF

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets continued to add new faces to the staff. They include the following:

LT. COL. EDIE MANGIBIN FAIRBANK '95

Lt. Col. Edie Mangibin Fairbank '95, U.S. Army (retired), returned to the Upper Quad in December 2021 as the assistant alumni director.



Edie Fairbank '95

Fairbank was a member of Golf Company and earned her bachelor's degree in psychology. She commissioned in the U.S.

Army as an air defense artillery officer. After gaining operational and multi-functional experience, she transitioned into the information systems management/engineering functional area.

She held diverse positions that include: logistics automation management officer supporting the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii and Northern Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom); doctrine branch chief at the U.S. Army Cyber Center of Excellence managing signal, cyber, and electronic warfare doctrine and training materials; headquarters support chief at U.S. Army Central Command; and information assurance and cyberspace security branch chief of the NATO Communications and Information Systems Group supporting deployed forces and contributing to NATO's cyberspace operations program development.

While deployed as the U.S. Base Op-

erations Executive Officer in Kandahar, Afghanistan, for Operation Enduring Freedom, she was selected for Advanced Civil Schooling and earned a Master of Science in information systems from Hawaii Pacific University in 2012.

Fairbank retired from the Army in October 2020 after 24 years of service. She enjoys golf, riding her Harley, and traveling abroad.

LT. COL. TRAVIS H. SHEETS '05

Lt. Col. Travis H. Sheets, U.S. Air Force (retired), is deputy commandant for the reactivated 4th Battalion.

He enlisted in the Virginia Air National Guard as an F-16 maintenance



Travis Sheets '05

specialist immediately after high school. He later graduated from the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and was commissioned through Air Force ROTC Detachment

875 as a Distinguished Graduate.

As an aviator, Sheets was a senior pilot with over 3,800 total flight hours and over 2,400 combat hours in Air Force Special Operations aircraft. He progressed to the level of chief pilot and holds multiple type ratings including the Boeing 737. He was also an evaluator pilot and instructor pilot in various light fixed-wing aircraft. He has completed over a dozen contingency and combat deployments.

Sheets served as the commander of

Air Force ROTC Detachment 535 at Syracuse University, director of operations for the Secretary of Defense Innovation Board, operations officer on the Joint Staff for Counterterrorism and Special Operations, joint special operation air director, assistant director of operations, and the chief of research-integration-sustainment.

His decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Medal with 18 oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Air Force Combat Action Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device, and the Air Reserve Force Meritorious Service Medal, along with others.

He earned distinction as a National Merit Scholar (Coca Cola), Commonwealth Scholar, and an Air University Fellow. His degrees include a Bachelor of Science in economics from Virginia Tech, a Master of Science in sports management with a concentration in coaching from American Military University, and a master's degree in military art and science from Air University. Additionally, he holds a Professional Innovation Certificate from the University of Michigan Engineering and has co-authored three publications.

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF RICHARD G. CURTIS JR.

Command Master Chief Richard G. Curtis Jr., U.S. Navy Fleet Reserves, is the senior enlisted advisor for 2nd Battalion.

In 1990, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He was assigned as a missile technician on-

board USS John C. Calhoun.

In 1993, he became a submarine radioman and was stationed onboard the PCU Maine, USS Pennsylvania, USS Maine, USS Maryland, and finished his submarine career as the chief of the boat



Richard Curtis Jr.

onboard USS Rhode Island.

He completed 20 strategic deterrent patrols and a sea tour as an emergency action controller in Naples, Italy where he

earned an associate's degree in general studies from the University of Maryland University College.

In 2007, he completed a tour as the assistant communications officer at Commander Submarine Squadron 20 in Kings Bay, Georgia. In 2009, he earned his bachelor's degree in adult education from Valdosta State University.

Curtis had a major life-changing event in May 2011, when he underwent successful brain surgery for the removal of a 3-centimeter benign tumor. After rehabilitation from surgery he continued his Naval career as a command master chief at an F-18 squadron VFA-136 Knighthawks, embarking on USS Enterprise for her final combat deployment.

In 2013, he was selected as the lead facilitator of the Fleet CPO Training Team, U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Hampton Roads, Virginia and in 2015, he became the director of the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, Rhode Island.

In 2016, he earned his master's degree in strategic leadership from the University of Charleston, West Virginia. In 2018, he transferred to the U.S. Navy

Fleet Reserves and in 2019, Curtis earned his doctorate in executive leadership from the University of Charleston, West Virginia.

DARIEN STEWART

Darien Stewart is the recruiting assistant for the Corps of Cadets. A new position on the Corps staff, the recruiting assistant provides critical support to the assistant commandant for recruiting in identifying and informing prospective cadets as well as the incoming new cadet class.

Stewart joined the Corps staff in November 2021. She is from Sicklerville, New Jersey, and has a bachelor's degree



Darien Stewart

in criminal justice from Berkeley College. She previously worked as an administrative assistant and then office manager for The Intelligent Office in Marlton, New Jersey.

Stewart also operates a small business, Luxe-Press LLC.

MGYSGT LANCE L. JONES

While not new to the staff, MGySgt Lance L. Jones, U.S. Marine Corps (retired), is now the senior enlisted advisor for the reactivated 4th Battalion. He spent the last eight years as the senior enlisted advisor for 2nd Battalion.

Jones joined the Marine Corps in 1984 and was assigned to his first duty station at Marine Barracks 8th & I, Washington, D.C. where he served three years on the Marine Corps Silent Drill Team. He then proceeded to Camp Lejeune where he served with 1st Bat-

talion, 6th Marines as a squad leader. He served on two combat deployments.

Jones then moved to Okinawa, Japan, to serve as a team leader at the Jungle Warfighting School. Upon completion, he went to Marine Corps Recruit



Lance Jones

Depot Parris Island, South Carolina, as a basic warrior instructor and then he proceeded to Charleston, South Carolina as canvassing recruiter.

His service includes 14 years as an infantryman, warfighter at various units, three combat deployments to include Operations Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and eight combat contingency deployments.

He then received orders to the Pentagon to serve as the infantry occupational field sponsor and enlisted advocate for the Marine Corps, and was later selected as the deputy director of the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Academy in Okinawa.

His final active-duty assignment was at Twenty-Nine Palms, California, as the senior enlisted advisor of the Tactical Training Exercise Control Group.

Jones served 29 years.

After his retirement, he served at Hargrave Military Academy as a training advisor and counselor for post-graduate students.

His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three gold stars, and the Combat Action Ribbon two gold stars.

IN MEMORY



FREDERICK HAMPTON ALVEY '49

1924 - 2022

Frederick Hampton Alvey died February 25. Hamp was predeceased by his wife of 74 years Irving Rion Alvey (Doodie). He served in World War II and the Korean War. At the end of his military service, Hamp was awarded the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts. He later had a career in the FBI and also served as a prosecuting attorney for the 5th Judicial Circuit. He is survived by three sons, eight grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.



H. LYNN MOORE JR. '53

1933 - 2022

Dr. H. Lynn Moore, Jr., 89, husband of Eloise Moore, died on April 22. Born in Blacksburg, Dr. Moore was a deacon, elder and trustee of Bethel Presbyterian Church. He was in the 4-H All Star Hall of Fame, ran track at Virginia Tech, and was a member of the Highty-Tighties. A graduate of the Medical College of Virginia, he practiced medicine for 60 years. He was a founder of the Augusta County Quarterback Club and is in the Riverheads Athletic Hall of Fame. Dr. Moore is survived by his two brothers, five children, eight grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.



STANDLEY DAVID GARTHOFF '53

1933 - 2022

Stanley David 'Dave' Garthoff died April 21. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy (Dottie). Dave served in the U.S. Army and worked at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. He earned an MBA from the University of Akron and in 1963 qualified as a Registered Professional Engineer, later teaching economics at the University of Akron. After Dottie's passing, Dave married Donna Wade and is survived by his loving wife, two brothers, two sons, four stepsons, nine grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

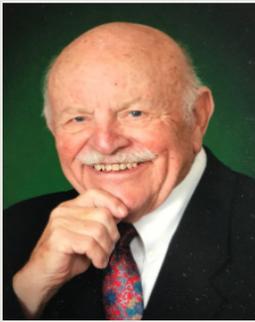


ROBERT HAYES GILES JR. '55

1933 - 2022

Robert "Bob" Hayes Giles Jr. died May 5. As a student, Bob was president of the Corps of Cadets and later became a Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Management at Virginia Tech where he taught for 30 years. He was a recipient of The William E. Wine Award and was a pioneer in envisioning use of computers for natural resource management. Bob was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Mary Wilson Burnette Giles. He is survived by the families of his brother, stepsister, brother-in-law, cousins, two daughters, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

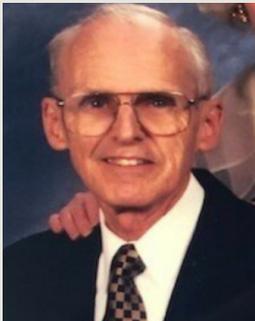
IN MEMORY



DAVID PIERCE JOHNSON '56

1934 – 2021

David Pierce Johnson, Jr. died September 29, 2021. A member of the Corps of Cadets, he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering and his Professional Engineering license. He also studied at George Washington University and Cornell University, and began an engineering career with the Department of the Navy. After retirement, he consulted in private security. He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Barbara Ann Johnson, his two sisters, his son, and two daughters, along with seven grandchildren, two great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.



ROBERT NEWBILL CRITTENDEN '57

1935 – 2022

Colonel Robert Newbill Crittenden died April 25. Earning a degree in architectural engineering in 1957, he served in the U.S. Army for over 24 years as a Senior Parachutist, a Ranger, and a Pathfinder. In 1981, he joined Lockwood Greene and in 1988, he joined CH2M Hill. He retired in 2000. He was a member of the Society of American Military Engineers and served on the board of the Maxwell Air Force Base chapter. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 45 years, Emily Hice Crittenden and is survived by the families of his brother, his daughter, and his son.



JAMES ANDREW SIZEMORE '59

1936 – 2022

James Andrew Sizemore died February 2. A member of the Highty-Tighties, Jim graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering. Much of his career was focused on the AEGIS Combat System and he was recognized for outstanding contributions to the Arleigh Burke Combat System Design. He retired from the Naval Surface Warfare Center in 1993. Jim leaves behind his loving wife of 62 years, Barbara McGhee; one son and one daughter, a son-in-law and daughter-in-law, four grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.



CHARLES PHILIP BLANKENSHIP '60

1938 – 2022

Charles Philip Blankenship died on January 21. He served in the U.S. Air Force assigned to NASA's Lewis Research Center and after completing his military service, he continued materials development work with NASA. He retired in 1997. Charlie was inducted into the Virginia Tech's Academy of Engineering Excellence in 2007. He was preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, Helen Gayle King Blankenship and is survived by his two sons, four grandsons, his niece, and nephew. He was fortunate to find love twice, spending the years after Gayle passed away with Sue Starnes.



LOUIS TEMPLE KENT '61

1940 - 2022

Louis "Lou" Temple Kent died January 8. He was an active member of the Presbyterian Church of Radford where he served on many boards and held numerous positions. He retired from Radford University as the director of the computing center and was the smiling face greeting fans at the Highland Basketball games. Lou was involved in his community working tirelessly with the Radford Host Lions Club and the Jaycees. Lou is survived by his wife, Nancy, two daughters and their husbands; two grandchildren, his brother and sister-in-law, two nephews, and many friends.



DAVID TURNBULL THOMAS II '63

1941 - 2022

David Turnbull Thomas, II died Feb 19. Dave was the first commander of Hotel company, a member of the Pershing Rifles, and a proud alumnus. A veteran of the U.S. Army, he was a member of the Back Mountain Enduro Riders Motorcycle Club. He retired as Technical Director of United States Army Research, Development, & Acquisition Information Systems Agency after 29 years of service. Dave was an accomplished musician and served on the VTCC Alumni Board. He is survived by his wife JoAnn, his son, daughter, two stepdaughters, and three grandchildren.



FLOYD LEE MASSEY '65

1942 - 2022

Floyd Lee Massey died April 2. After graduating from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, he served in the Marine Corps as a radar interceptor officer in the F-4 Phantom. He had over 400 combat missions in Vietnam and earned the Purple Heart. Floyd later joined Naval Air Systems Command where he earned the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service commendation. He retired in 1998. Floyd is survived by his daughter, two granddaughters, one great grandson, niece, step grandson, two brothers, and one sister.



RICHARD WALTER MONROE '66

1944 - 2021

Richard Walter Monroe died October 18, 2021. As a U.S. Army officer, he served in Germany and Vietnam and earned a Bronze Star. Richard then spent 36 years in the corporate world and retired with his wife in Blacksburg. He served as Board Secretary and General Director for the VTCC Alumni Association and as President, Vice President, and Treasurer of the Cotillion Club Alumni Association. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mary Margaret Marston Monroe, his children, grandchildren, brother, cousin, nephews, nieces, and twenty great nieces and nephews.



JAMES B. RICHARDS '68

1946 – 2022

James B. Richards Jr., died March 8. Jim was a member of the Corps of Cadets and Virginia Tech football team and graduated with a degree in civil and environmental engineering. He played for the New York Jets and served in the Army Corps of Engineers. Earning his master's degree in civil engineering in 1973, he became vice president of C.E. Maguire, executive vice president of Michael Baker Corporation, and later served with HSMM and AECOM. He was a member of numerous boards and committees at Virginia Tech. Jim is survived by his wife of 26 years, Linda Champion-Richards, his siblings, his children, and grandchildren.



ARCHER RENE GRAVELY III '74

1951 – 2022

Archer Rene Gravely, III, 71, died April 9. Archer served in the U.S. Army as a paratrooper and tank unit commander. He earned a Master of Education from North Carolina State University and a doctorate in Adult and Continuing Education from Virginia Tech. Initially a researcher, Archer served as the Director of Institutional Research at UNC-Asheville, from 1985-2015. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Sandra Monterose Gravely, his two children, his brother, his stepfather, and two grandchildren.



CHRISTOPHER NICHOLS SCHWARTZ '91

1969 – 2022

Christopher Nichols Schwartz died April 23. A history major, Chris was a member of Alpha Company, and Navy ROTC. He served as a naval officer in Pensacola until 1993 and then became the head brewer at Potomac River Brewing Company, winning awards for his Rappahannock Red Ale. In 1999, Chris joined a defense contractor and advanced to the position of system administrator. Chris is survived by his father, Edward "Ned" Schwartz (Molly Harrison); his mother, Melinda Schwartz (Susan Russell); and his brother Brett Schwartz (Sally Larson).



CHRISTOPHER GUTHRIE '21

1999 – 2022

Christopher Guthrie died March 19. He was an Eagle Scout, member of the Order of the Arrow, a second-degree Black Belt, a proud member of the Highty-Tighties, brass ensemble, and a volunteer with the Appleton Fire Department. He was a fifth-year midshipman in Naval ROTC and a 2021 graduate of the Corps of Cadets. He was near completion of a degree in aerospace engineering with minors in leadership/service and Russian. He is survived by his mother, sister, maternal grandmother, paternal grandfather, paternal grandmother, and numerous aunts and cousins.

LEST WE FORGET

Arthur N. Rupe '40, Santa Barbara, California, 4/15/2022
Bertram D. Aaron '43, Williamsburg, Virginia, 12/31/2021
Donald W. Stewart '43, Winchester, Virginia, 10/15/2021
Charles R. Ham '44, Hackensack, New Jersey, 10/6/2021
Sidney D. Walton '44, San Diego, California, 10/2/2021
James C. Hawkins '45, Carlsbad, California, 10/3/2021
Paul A. Tanner '45, Winter Haven, Florida, 9/8/2021
Calvin M. Stowe '46, Holly Springs, North Carolina, 9/26/2021
Paul H. Broyhill '46, Lenoir, North Carolina, 10/5/2021
Joseph M. Pace '46, Richmond, Virginia, 9/16/2021
Henry W. Jarrett '46, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 3/15/2022
Wm. H. Walker '46, Walkerton, Virginia, 11/1/2021
Voyle V. Motley '47, Celebration, Florida, 9/3/2021
Robert L. Frantz '47, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 9/7/2021
Robert C. Morrison '48, Jacksonville, Florida, 11/4/2021
Joseph W. Lipscomb '49, Daytona Beach, Florida, 1/17/2022
William B. Brown '49, Katy, Texas, 9/3/2021
Robert M. Parker '49, Portsmouth, Virginia, 2/12/2022
Gerhard C. Zekert '49, Suffolk, Virginia, 2/5/2022
Royal S. Wheeler '50, Blacksburg, Virginia, 9/4/2021
Arthur W. Shelby '50, Chester, Maryland, 5/10/2022
William E. Blottner '50, Cleveland, Ohio, 4/16/2022
Maurice B. Sullivan '50, Dallas, Texas, 9/27/2021
Joseph P. Holmes '50, Deland, Florida, 10/9/2021
William M. Beverley '50, Fountain Valley, California, 11/19/2021
Jack K. Brashear '50, Glencoe, Missouri, 2/10/2022
Charles D. Burch '50, Richmond, Virginia, 4/13/2022
O. Tuck Adams '50, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 2/19/2022
Frank D. Hargrove '51, Beaverdam, Virginia, 10/16/2021
James R. Forrest '51, Buckeye, Arizona, 10/25/2021
Merritt L. Raiford '51, Courtland, Virginia, 5/10/2022
Emerson M. Babb '51, Indianapolis, Indiana, 12/4/2021
William T. Gay '51, Midlothian, Virginia, 1/12/2022
Walter C. Potts '51, Mineral Bluff, Georgia, 3/9/2022
Ernest M. Reeves '51, Mount Solon, Virginia, 11/9/2021
Francis M. Graves '51, Rochelle, Virginia, 1/22/2022
Jimmy W. Mullins '51, Tullahoma, Tennessee, 11/14/2021
Lester I. Sutphin '52, Boydton, Virginia, 12/21/2021
Stephen H. James '52, Charlotte, North Carolina, 11/17/2021
Jack E. Fincham '52, Culpeper, Virginia, 4/11/2022
Earl S. Swensson '52, Franklin, Tennessee, 1/20/2022
Harry L. Mapp '52, Halifax, Virginia, 3/18/2022
Hiram T. Pritchard '52, Hartfield, Virginia, 9/14/2021
William F. LaVecchia '52, Henrico, Virginia, 11/11/2021
Fitzhugh L. Saunders '52, Huntingdon, South Carolina, 11/26/2021
Richard R. Shockley '52, Marion, Illinois, 9/15/2021
John C. Glenn '52, Marion, Virginia, 1/24/2022
Robert V. Carter '52, Middletown, Pennsylvania, 1/1/2022
Robert B. Lindemann '52, Norfolk, Virginia, 3/26/2022
Alvin J. Schulze '52, Rockville, Virginia, 1/13/2022
Ross F. Hawkins '52, Suffolk, Virginia, 5/18/2022
Richard J. Quigg '52, Tucson, Arizona, 4/19/2022
James I. Brumback '52, Winchester, Virginia, 9/2/2021
W. David Fletcher '53, Bristol, Virginia, 5/17/2022
Murry J. Spangler '53, Catonsville, Maryland, 5/6/2022
Paul R. Givens '53, Deming, New Mexico, 3/22/2022
George E. Fisher '53, Gordonsville, Virginia, 12/13/2021
John R. Deacon '53, Montpelier, Virginia, 2/13/2022
Marvin D. Lowe '53, Norfolk, Virginia, 2/16/2022
Raymond C. Elton '53, Silver Spring, Maryland, 12/13/2021
William C. Hughes '53, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 11/2/2021
Marion W. Gilliam '53, Winter Park, Florida, 4/21/2022
Dan S. Leonard '53, Yorktown, Virginia, 10/1/2021
Raymond G. Curry '54, Alexandria, Virginia, 9/15/2021
Frank M. Jordan '54, Conway, Arkansas, 4/11/2022
Lawrence B. Knowles '54, East Hampton, New York, 3/6/2022
Nickos C. Papachristos '54, Endicott, New York, 5/2/2022
Norman W. Patrick '54, Katy, Texas, 1/18/2022
Nicholas M. Curtis '54, Lenoir, North Carolina, 4/10/2022
Harley T. Marshall '54, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, 10/24/2021
Lewis S. Stone '54, Newport News, Virginia, 11/20/2021
Paul M. Saunders '54, Piney River, Virginia, 3/11/2022
James S. Langrall '54, Waynesboro, Virginia, 11/28/2021
James B. Parrish '55, Alachua, Florida, 10/17/2021

Montie T. Ratcliffe '55, Austin, Texas, 4/16/2022
 Edward A. Marshall '55, Bedford, Virginia, 4/12/2022
 Paul M. Howel '55, Check, Virginia, 1/15/2022
 Posey E. Vipperman '55, Columbus, Georgia, 10/20/2021
 James T. Tussing '55, Hampton, Virginia, 12/4/2021
 L. P. Wade '55, Lynchburg, Virginia, 12/7/2021
 Ashton E. Violette '55, Midlothian, Virginia, 3/3/2022
 Bruce P. Schrader '55, Petersburg, West Virginia, 2/26/2022
 Robert D. Glover '55, Richmond, Virginia, 11/25/2021
 Malcolm A. Cutchins '56, Auburn, Alabama, 9/12/2021
 Floyd P. Adams '56, Bruneau, Idaho, 10/23/2021
 Harold L. Simmons '56, Colonial Heights, Virginia, 1/13/2022
 Louis S. Maifeld '56, Irvine, California, 4/9/2022
 Robert L. Francis '56, Louisville, Kentucky, 2/15/2022
 James T. Lucas '56, Radford, Virginia, 1/8/2022
 William R. Ricketts '56, Roanoke, Virginia, 3/14/2022
 Donald L. Bosserman '56, Williamsburg, Virginia, 11/2/2021
 John G. McCaleb '56, Woodstock, Virginia, 10/23/2021
 R E. Church '57, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1/1/2022
 Homer C. Babcock '57, Annandale, Virginia, 9/20/2021
 Robert R. Gavlinksi '57, Bel Air, Maryland, 4/29/2022
 Mason H. Hutcheson '57, Culpeper, Virginia, 12/20/2021
 Fenton L. Piggott '57, Hanover, Pennsylvania, 4/15/2022
 Thomas D. Ficklin '57, Lancaster, Virginia, 1/9/2022
 Jerome D. Maynor '57, Longwood, Florida, 11/2/2021
 James A. Clarke '57, Louisa, Virginia, 1/14/2022
 Wayne R. Moore '57, Manassas, Virginia, 1/5/2022
 David L. Smith '57, Marion, Virginia, 3/12/2022
 James C. Powell '57, Massanutten, Virginia, 10/26/2021
 E. Mark Pace '57, Millboro, Virginia, 11/29/2021
 Joseph S. DeBlasi '57, New Canaan, Connecticut, 4/3/2022
 Herbert W. Harlow '57, Woodstock, Virginia, 12/21/2021
 Michael W. Jackson '58, Bluefield, West Virginia, 11/1/2021
 Timothy J. Donovan '58, Brooklyn, New York, 12/1/2021
 Albert H. Cheely '58, Dunbar, West Virginia, 1/13/2022
 Robert G. Knueppel '58, Fishkill, New York, 10/13/2021
 Paul E. Cunningham '58, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 4/26/2022
 Thomas L. Rugel '58, Lago Vista, Texas, 9/14/2021
 John W. Holsclaw '58, Manassas, Virginia, 11/7/2021
 Robert G. Silk '58, Newport News, Virginia, 1/30/2022
 Oliver K. Fletcher '58, Parrish, Florida, 12/4/2021
 Franklin D. Wagner '58, Stuarts Draft, Virginia, 10/14/2021
 Barry A. Frazee '58, Tallahassee, Florida, 10/31/2021
 Wilbur R. Franklin '58, West Point, Virginia, 2/25/2022
 Bernard A. Downey '59, Adelphi, Maryland, 10/28/2021
 Charles T. Brown '59, Alexandria, Virginia, 4/2/2022
 James R. Grove '59, Crozet, Virginia, 3/20/2022
 Thomas E. Diggs '59, Huntsville, Alabama, 3/23/2022
 Jerry M. Williams '59, Lerona, West Virginia, 4/19/2022
 Carl J. Diemer '59, Lynchburg, Virginia, 3/28/2022
 Ronald G. Eyestone '59, Madison, Alabama, 1/31/2022
 Ralph L. Thornton '59, Midlothian, Virginia, 1/28/2022
 Clarence C. Bolling '59, Pinehurst, North Carolina, 12/8/2021
 Don K. Hereford '59, Whitehouse, Texas, 1/22/2022
 Curtis G. Morris '59, Williamston, South Carolina, 1/26/2022
 Thomas B. Everage '60, Austin, Texas, 9/1/2021
 James L. Sykes '60, Big Stone Gap, Virginia, 3/24/2022
 Ronald H. Arnzen '60, Byron, Georgia, 9/28/2021
 Robert F. Taylor '60, Charleston, South Carolina, 11/3/2021
 Woodrow Snelson '60, Crofton, Maryland, 2/8/2022
 Robert W. Edwards '60, Dallas, Texas, 10/4/2021
 George T. Owen '60, Nashville, Tennessee, 1/25/2022
 William C. Baker '60, Newport News, Virginia, 3/23/2022
 Donald E. Swope '60, Orlando, Florida, 10/16/2021
 Winter C. Cullen '60, Painter, Virginia, 11/11/2021
 Randolph B. Peters '60, Ridgeway, Virginia, 5/20/2022
 James L. Crowgey '60, Roanoke, Virginia, 11/29/2021
 Charles E. Hall '60, Salem, Virginia, 3/16/2022
 Ronald E. Daugherty '60, Vinton, Virginia, 2/7/2022
 Richard A. Wolfe '61, Banner Elk, North Carolina, 3/5/2022
 Malcolm L. King '61, Emporia, Virginia, 9/29/2021
 Howard C. Dunn '61, Gales Ferry, Connecticut, 9/8/2021
 Norman W. Durrant '61, Glen Burnie, Maryland, 11/10/2021
 Harold T. Cothran '61, Moneta, Virginia, 1/16/2022
 Joel D. Webster '61, New Harmony, Utah, 9/9/2021
 Robert C. Marshall '61, Richmond, Virginia, 9/22/2021
 Harley R. Cheshire '61, Statesboro, Georgia, 3/29/2022
 Wayne B. Callahan '62, Abingdon, Virginia, 10/6/2021

LEST WE FORGET

James F. Higgs '62, Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, 12/23/2021
Steven D. Moore '62, Bradenton, Florida, 11/12/2021
C. R. Gardner '62, Christiansburg, Virginia, 4/30/2022
Homer D. Davis '62, Danville, Virginia, 11/25/2021
John R. Bliss '62, Danville, Virginia, 12/19/2021
Gilbert H. Sayres '62, Denver, North Carolina, 12/29/2021
George E. Riddle '62, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 10/22/2021
Clayton E. Linkous '62, Lakeland, Florida, 10/23/2021
Paul M. Kitchen '62, Leesburg, Florida, 3/28/2022
William E. Jones '62, Poquoson, Virginia, 3/15/2022
Louis T. Kent '62, Radford, Virginia, 1/8/2022
George L. Best '62, Richmond, Virginia, 11/26/2021
Harold R. Wood '62, Ruther Glen, Virginia, 9/7/2021
Byron L. Lessley '62, Staunton, Virginia, 10/13/2021
Robert H. Painter '62, The Villages, Florida, 2/7/2022
Jerry K. Glesner '62, Waynesboro, Virginia, 3/30/2022
William E. Davis '62, Winchester, Virginia, 2/1/2022
William N. Fitch '63, Fairfax, Virginia, 1/16/2022
Donald K. Poole '63, Fairfax, Virginia, 11/16/2021
Daniel H. Hanchey '63, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 5/17/2022
Donald R. Manuel '63, Herndon, Virginia, 1/19/2022
Thomas D. Smith '63, Lutherville Timonium, Maryland, 9/23/2021
Rolland H. Berry '63, Naples, Florida, 12/23/2021
Richard E. Rush '63, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, 4/30/2022
Robert E. Macauley '64, Carlisle, Massachusetts, 12/14/2021
David W. McClenon '64, Cerritos, California, 10/26/2021
James B. Pruitt '64, Clearwater, Florida, 9/18/2021
William E. Branner '64, Fulks Run, Virginia, 9/21/2021
Samuel A. Piercy '64, Lansing, North Carolina, 9/26/2021
Linden L. White '64, Leesburg, Virginia, 11/21/2021
Fredrick C. Johnson '64, Lynchburg, Virginia, 2/8/2022
James P. Cassada '64, South Boston, Virginia, 1/1/2022
William P. Landon '64, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 2/1/2022
Walter J. Currin '64, Westfield, North Carolina, 1/6/2022
James M. Hunt '65, Apollo Beach, Florida, 9/27/2021
Frank C. Leach '65, Bradenton, Florida, 1/12/2022
John L. Gillum '65, Crystal Beach, Florida, 12/31/2021
Robert P. Bowe '65, Cumberland, Virginia, 2/25/2022
Williams A. Joyner '65, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 9/2/2021
Stuart W. Nesbitt '65, Hendricks, West Virginia, 3/15/2022
James B. Pearman '65, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 11/25/2021
Richard B. Robertson '65, Okatie, South Carolina, 9/13/2021
William R. Smith '65, Port Saint Lucie, Florida, 2/20/2022
Donald H. Wells '65, Richmond, Virginia, 9/5/2021
Roman E. Rollins '65, Riviera Beach, Florida, 9/20/2021
William H. Parcels '65, Topeka, Kansas, 5/16/2022
Herschell A. Cashion '66, Dallas, Texas, 4/16/2022
Paul R. Romig '66, Estes Park, Colorado, 9/1/2021
William H. Edwards '66, Marietta, Georgia, 1/29/2022
Harry D. Bralley '66, Mount Airy, North Carolina, 10/11/2021
Carroll J. Mckenney '66, Richmond, Virginia, 12/14/2021
William B. Anderson '66, Vinton, Virginia, 12/19/2021
Richard D. Glancy '66, Warsaw, Virginia, 10/21/2021
Harold B. Pierce '66, West Chester, Pennsylvania, 3/18/2022
Charles A. Fluet '66, Westminster, Maryland, 1/20/2022
Henry A. Whitehurst '67, Christiansburg, Virginia, 11/10/2021
Samuel P. Tucker '67, Cincinnati, Ohio, 11/13/2021
Donald P. Matheson '67, Danville, Virginia, 10/15/2021
Roland E. Duckett '67, Glen Allen, Virginia, 9/6/2021
Martin A. Drees '67, Hertford, North Carolina, 1/18/2022
Geoffrey C. Hintze '67, Huntsville, Alabama, 5/16/2022
Stephen G. Norton '67, Port Angeles, Washington, 11/15/2021
John C. Hrapchak '67, Surprise, Arizona, 3/22/2022
Roger Russin '68, Coral Gables, Florida, 3/3/2022
William R. Hooker '68, Fort Myers, Florida, 9/8/2021
Alexander D. Walsh '68, Purcellville, Virginia, 3/27/2022
Charles F. Faggart '68, Roanoke, Virginia, 11/9/2021
Patrick J. Di Concilio '68, West Chester, Ohio, 12/12/2021
Sandy R. Lush '69, Amelia Court House, Virginia, 1/9/2022
Robert B. Allen '69, Scottsdale, Arizona, 12/31/2021
Kenton P. Fewell '71, Amarillo, Texas, 11/29/2021
William C. Dunn '71, Knoxville, Tennessee, 2/11/2022
Gordon L. Logan '72, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 11/9/2021
Curtis A. Thompson '73, Walden, New York, 4/3/2022
Thomas R. Bailey '77, Jacksonville, Florida, 12/25/2021
Edward B. Beidleman '80, Lake Worth, Florida, 12/9/2021
Timothy Bandy '83, Manassas, Virginia, 11/9/2021
Jerry M. Snead '85, Apex, North Carolina, 9/12/2021

A B-29 FOR BLACKSBURG

By Deputy Commandant of Cadets Lt. Col. Don Russell, U.S. Air Force (retired)
Graphics by Col Rock Roszak '71

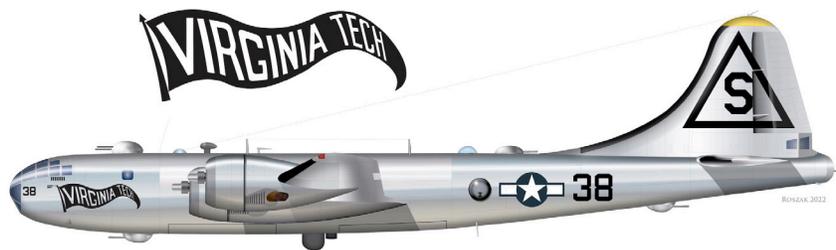


Combat crew and ground personnel under the leadership of aircraft commander Lt. Charles Thornsberry (back row, left, from Denver, Colorado) emblazoned the side of B-29 44-61529 with the “Virginia Tech” pennant. The bomber was “purchased” by alumni and friends of the university as part of a World War II war bonds campaign. (Photo and archival research courtesy of Special Collections, Virginia Tech University Libraries.)

During World War II, the U.S. Department of Treasury used war bonds as a means of funding military operations and materiel production. The ability of the United States to out-manufacture all other countries was instrumental in the outcome of the war. This took the form of payroll deductions or the purchase of bonds during a series of war bond campaigns.

Seventy-eight years ago, during the summer of 1944, one of those campaigns granted permission to Montgomery County, Virginia, to name a new bomber “Virginia Tech” if it could exceed a purchased bond quota of \$525,000, which is over \$8.4 million in the current economy.

A local “Virginia Tech” Bomber committee led the challenge, organizing and rallying Montgomery County citizens, alumni, and friends. The effort to have the bomber crewed by Techmen increased fund-raising buzz; “Techmen” was the nickname applied to Virginia Tech students and alumni before the



incarnation of Hokie. This effort was enthusiastically supported by alumni but proved unfeasible due to the complexities of training replacement bomber crews.

Nevertheless, the drive was a great success. Nearly \$690,000 was raised and the right to name a bomber after the university was earned. “Virginia Tech” was a newly built Boeing B-29 Superfortress, serial number 44-61529. This B-29 was assigned to the 45th Bombardment Squadron of the 40th Bombardment

Group on Tinian in the Pacific. The plane arrived at the end of May 1945 and is known to have flown at least thirteen long-distance combat missions before the war ended in August.

As a postscript, Tech’s B-29 was lost on April 2, 1951, during a routine training flight in the high desert of California. All crew members parachuted to safety and survived the mishap.

VTCC Alumni Inc.

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

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