# Table of Contents

Welcome from the President................................................................. III
Welcome from the Vice President for Student Affairs........................ IV
Welcome from the Commandant....................................................... V
Welcome from the Regimental Commander.................................. VI
Staff Biographies............................................................................... VII
Foundations of the Corps of Cadets .............................................. 5
Chain of Command .......................................................................... 9
Ranks and Uniforms .......................................................................... 15
Awards and Competitions............................................................... 24
Reference .......................................................................................... 30
Military Courtesies............................................................................ 44
Corps of Cadets History................................................................. 50
Virginia Tech Trivia.......................................................................... 76
Greetings from the President

Welcome to your first year at Virginia Tech and congratulations on your decision to become a member of one of our greatest institutions, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

The university’s motto, Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), is embodied in the Corps. Because of the Corps’ prominence, you and your fellow cadets demonstrate to students, faculty and the world — every day — what those words really mean.

As one of only two senior military colleges in the country that are part of a large, public university, the Corps offers unmatched support for academic excellence while developing global, ethical leaders in a military-style environment to meet the challenges of our time.

Whether you are pursuing a commission in our nation’s armed forces or a member of the Corps’ distinguished Citizen-Leader Track, please accept my sincere best wishes as you begin a great adventure filled with worthy challenges and exceptional rewards. We are proud to have you as a member of “The Corps.”

Dr. Timothy D. Sands
President, Virginia Tech
Vice President for Student Affairs

Congratulations! You are now a member of a distinguished institution with a proud history of service and honor. It is also a caring community committed to your development as a scholar and as a person. Each year, I have the privilege of working with and getting to know many of the servant-leaders in the Corps of Cadets. I am continually amazed by how they exhibit their individuality while, at the same time, upholding the corps’ code of conduct, discipline, and ethics.

I have met cadets who have mentored middle school students, organized study groups, advocated for ending violence against women, courageously spoke out against injustice, and served as a chaplain liaison. I have seen cadets who have guided, enlightened, positively influenced, and helped others be the best they can be. These are young leaders of integrity who are truly making a difference in people’s lives. These are your cadet peers. And, next year, I trust I will be saying the same about you.

I join President Sands and Major General Fullhart in welcoming you to the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. You have made a commitment to an experience that will transform who you are and what you aspire to be, one that will prepare you to serve our world! I look forward to seeing how you distinguish yourself at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Patricia A. Perillo
Vice President for Student Affairs
Welcome to the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. If you are reading these words it is because you have made a commitment to a life of service … to something greater than yourself. You are becoming part of an institution that has developed young men and women into outstanding civilian and military leaders.

To do so, you have committed to achieving a level of excellence that is above and beyond your peers. Much will be asked of you in the coming months and years. The Corps presents these challenges to stretch you beyond what you once thought was possible. That's what the New Cadet System is designed to do. When you look back on the experience, you will do so with a sense of pride, but also humility.

Why humility? As you learn more about the history of the Corps, you will find it rich with men and women who have gone on to make a difference in their communities, our nation, and the world. They do so without fanfare, without seeking fame. Rather, they and you, embody the motto that is etched in stone at the Virginia Tech War Memorial: “Ut Prosim – That I May Serve”.

I, my staff, and the upperclassmen are here to challenge you, inspire you, and to help you succeed. We have every confidence that you will. Now, get ready … the future is yours to create!
Regimental Commander
Cadet Colonel Mairead Novak

I praise you on your decision to join the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. Since 1872, the Corps of Cadets has been dedicated to graduating ethical leaders of the highest caliber, preparing them for lives of selfless service in both the military and the civilian sector. Take pride in joining an organization with such a noble heritage, and strive to exemplify the dedication and excellence of those who came before you in everything that you do.

By accepting this challenge, you have begun your journey on a path less traveled. Never lose sight of why you are here. Remember that nothing worth having comes easily; prove to yourself that you can make it through this program, and leave here a better person from these experiences.

The cadre staff are highly trained and will give all of their efforts to your training and development. I expect you to reciprocate their efforts, doing everything that you can to learn and improve. You will get out of this program what you put into it.

Your freshmen year will test you mentally, physically, and emotionally. Your attitude will largely determine your individual success here. That being said, do not forget that you are part of a team. Think about the success of your freshmen buds, stay humble and find ways to motivate each other. You will win as a team or lose as a team. Prepare to be challenged and changed by this experience, and be ready to give it your all.
Major General Randal Fullhart, USAF (Retired)

General Fullhart received his commission as a 1979 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy and serves as the Commandant of Cadets.

He has commanded at the squadron, group, and wing levels and has commanded two expeditionary flying squadrons, an expeditionary operations group in Operation Allied Force, and an expeditionary wing in Operation Iraqi Freedom. In addition, he has served as the Commandant of the Air Command and Staff College.

General Fullhart has held staff assignments that include experience in operations, safety, acquisition, and government affairs at the major command and Headquarters U.S. Air Force levels. He served as the Assistant Director of Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, and has joint experience at U.S. Transportation Command, as well as joint, interagency experience as Deputy Chief, Central Security Service, National Security Agency. The general was Vice Commander, Air Force Cyber Command (Provisional), Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, prior to his final assignment as Director, Global Reach Programs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

General Fullhart is a command pilot with more than 3,500 flying hours in the C-141, KC-135, C-17, F-16, T-38, and T-37.

General Fullhart’s major awards and decorations include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Aerial Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with “V” device and three oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with oak leaf cluster Combat Readiness Medal.

General Fullhart is joined by his wife, Kathy. Their son, Stephen, lives and works in Texas.
CAPT Peter C. Phillips, USN (Retired)

Captain Peter C. Phillips, a 1989 graduate of Virginia Tech and the Corps of Cadets, serves as the Deputy Commandant of Cadets for 1st Battalion.

During his U.S. Navy career, he completed 14 combat deployments to 59 countries and six continents, contributed to 19 operations in 28 countries, and led three Joint Special Operations Task Forces.

A Navy SEAL, his assignments included building the four newest Naval Special Warfare Commands. He oversaw the design of the new $100 million headquarters of the U.S. Naval Special Warfare Development Group and the design of SEAL Team TEN facility. He also served as Deputy Commander, U.S. Naval Special Warfare Development Group.

After his naval career, CAPT Phillips became the Chief Executive and Operating Officer for a global aviation and logistics company, with eight offices on four continents and over 1,000 employees. In this role, he directed three aviation companies with over 30 aircraft completing the most air medivacs on the African continent while supporting the air logistical movements for U.S. and British governments, and the UN. He also managed two trucking companies.

CAPT Phillips earned his bachelor’s degree in history and was a member of the Naval ROTC and the Corps, ranking No. 2 in his class. He also is a Distinguished Graduate of the National War College, where he earned his master’s degree in national security strategy.

CAPT Phillips has been awarded 33 medals, including five Bronze Stars and four Combat Action Ribbons. His son is a senior cadet in the Corps.
CAPT James S. Snyder, USN (Retired)

Captain James S. Snyder, United States Navy (Ret) is Deputy Commandant of Cadets for 2nd Battalion.

CAPT Snyder, a native of Pennsylvania and graduate of Pennsylvania State University, received his commission via the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Scholarship Program.

Following his commission and basic surface warfare training, he served principally on frigates and operational staffs in support of cruisers, destroyers and frigates. He commanded the Knox Class frigate USS AINSWORTH. He completed six deployments, including Cold War operations against the Soviet Fleet in the Atlantic Ocean, North and Mediterranean Seas; maritime interdiction ops off Central America, Lebanon and Haiti; counter-drug ops in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific areas; and served on the Task Group Commander’s staff for the 1986 US strike on Libya.

Ashore, CAPT Snyder was assigned as a recruiter in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and served four tours in Washington, D.C., on the Joint Staff, the Navy Staff, and as the Navy Representative to the Congressional Commission on Military Training and Gender-Related Issues. Selected and assigned to major command, he served as Commanding Officer, Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center, San Diego, California. For his final assignment, CAPT Snyder was the Professor of Naval Science and Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps at Virginia Tech.

He is a graduate of the National War College and attained a Master’s in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma.
LTC Charles T. Payne, USA (Retired)

Lieutenant Colonel Charles T. Payne is Deputy Commandant of Cadets for 3rd Battalion.

LTC Payne joined the U.S. Army in July 1973, three weeks after his high school graduation. He served seven years as an enlisted man and obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant, having served in the 82nd Airborne Division, the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), and as a Drill Sergeant.

LTC Payne graduated from Officers’ Candidate School in August 1980. Afterward, he served in the 82nd Airborne Division and the Berlin Brigade. In 1990, he reported to the U.S. Military Academy, where he taught military history.

LTC Payne then served as the Deputy Chief of Current Operations for the Army’s Special Operations Command. Afterward, he returned to the 82nd Airborne Division, where he served as brigade logistical officer, battalion executive officer, and brigade executive officer. LTC Payne then was reassigned as Professor of Military Science to Oklahoma State University.

LTC Payne was reassigned to the Pentagon in June 2000. He served on the Army staff as a resource analyst in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations. After 28 years of active federal service, he retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel on July 1, 2001.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in social sciences from Campbell University and a master’s degree in history from the University of Georgia. His awards include the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Pathfinder Badge, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star Medal.

He is married to the former Rosemarie Mazzoni and has four children: Jason, Jennifer, Meghan, and Joshua.
Lt Col Donald G. Russell, USAF (Retired)

Lieutenant Colonel Donald G. Russell, USAF (Ret.), is Deputy Commandant of Cadets for the VPI/Civilian-Leader Track. He is a 1990 graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder and received his commission through Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps.

He served as a Minuteman II Intercontinental Ballistic Missile combat crew commander before cross-training in 1994 as an aircraft maintenance officer. He held flight line officer positions in Air Mobility Command units and led air expeditionary deployments to Italy, France, Turkey, Egypt, Kuwait, and to Tanzania following the 1998 terrorist attacks on two U.S. Embassies.

Lt Col Russell commanded the 92nd Maintenance Operations Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington, and the 723rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. He served three years as Deputy Director of the Air Force Fleet Viability Board, leading independent technical assessments of aging aircraft for senior leadership, before his final assignment as Deputy Commander for the 55th Maintenance Group at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

He retired in August 2012 following 22 years of service. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

He received a master’s degree in political science from the University of South Dakota in 1994 and a Master of Military Operational Art and Science degree from Air University in 2005. He is married to the former Carolyn Schuster. They have one daughter, Rachel.
Dr. Elaine Humphrey

Dr. Elaine Humphrey is the Director of the Major General W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Development.

Dr. Humphrey has worked more than 17 years in higher education, including Assistant Director for Academic Support and Associate Director for Research and Assessment for the Student Success Center (formerly known as the Center for Academic Enrichment and Excellence) at Virginia Tech and Director of the Miller Academic Center and Director of Teacher Education at Virginia Military Institute.

She has taught at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

While at Virginia Tech, she served as the Graduate Student Representative to the Board of Visitors and was selected as a Virginia Tech Multicultural Fellow. Dr. Humphrey currently serves on the Executive Board of the National College Learning Center Association as the Certification Officer and is a member of a number of professional organizations to include the National Association for Developmental Education and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. She also served the Virginia Association for Developmental Education as the Four-Year Institutional Representative.

Dr. Humphrey holds a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from William & Mary, a Master of Arts in Education degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs from Virginia Tech, and a Ph.D. in educational leadership and policy studies from Virginia Tech.

She was awarded the distinction of Certified Learning Center Professional – Level 4 (Lifetime) by the National College Learning Center Association.
Col Patience C. Larkin, USAF (Retired)

Colonel Patience Larkin, USAF (Ret.), is the Alumni Director for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

After graduating from Virginia Tech and the Corps of Cadets in 1987, Col Larkin entered intelligence school in April 1988 at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

Col Larkin served over 24 years as an intelligence officer with deployments to both Kuwait and Haiti. She held a variety of intelligence positions at all levels, from intelligence officer for an F-15 fighter squadron to the Associate Director for Policy and Records at the National Security Agency.

Her final assignment in April 2011 was as the Director, Operations and Outreach, in the Office for Cyberthreat Analysis. During this period, she led the Defense Intelligence Agency’s outreach efforts to Congress, the National Security Staff, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Her military education includes Joint Forces Staff College and Air War College. Col Larkin received her undergraduate degree in political science from Virginia Tech and her master’s degree in counseling from Troy State.

During her years in the Corps, Col Larkin was a member of E-Frat 87, Gregory Guard, Scabbard and Blade, and Arnold Air Society. She served as the 2nd Battalion S-1 her senior year.

She is married to Brad Larkin and has a daughter, Colleen.
Lieutenant Colonel Rewa Mariger is the Assistant Commandant of Cadets for Recruiting.

She is a graduate of Purdue University and served eight years in the U.S. Navy. She received her commission via the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Scholarship Program. She served aboard the combat logistics ship USS SHASTA (AE-33) as the Combat Information Center Officer. During the second half of her three-year tour, she completed a six-month deployment in the Arabian Gulf as the Auxiliaries and Electrical Officer and as the Intelligence Officer.

LTC Mariger was one of the first women to serve aboard a Pacific Fleet cruiser, the USS PORT ROYAL (CG-73). She served as the Strike Officer, Public Affairs Officer, and Female Crew Integration Officer. During another six-month deployment she qualified for Tactical Action Officer and was as the Tomahawk Launch Area Coordinator for three Battle Groups during increased tensions with Iraq.

She transferred to Commander Third Fleet’s staff to train deploying battle groups in Tomahawk tactics, before reporting to shore duty as the Junior Class Advisor at the Virginia Tech Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit, where she also served as the NROTC Recruiting Officer.

She attained a Master of Business Administration in marketing and E-commerce from Virginia Tech in 2001, and spent five years conducting research for the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute before joining the Commandant’s staff in March 2006.

LTC Mariger is married to Dr. Christian Mariger. They have two daughters, Danya and Katie.
Captain Allie Oberoi is the Executive Officer for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. She also serves in the Virginia National Guard as the Company Commander for the 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

She graduated from Virginia Tech and the Corps of Cadets in 2010.

During her time on active duty, CPT Oberoi served as a Military Police Officer in the 42nd Military Police Brigade in Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Shortly after reporting in, CPT Oberoi was deployed to join the 54th Military Police Company and took lead of a platoon in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, as part of an Afghan Uniformed Police mentorship mission. She continued as a platoon leader after redeploying until February 2013, when she was assigned as the Logistics Officer for the 504th Military Police Battalion.

After transitioning to the civilian workforce in 2014, CPT Oberoi spent six months as a warehouse supervisor for Pepsi Beverage Company in Baltimore, Maryland, before joining the Corps’ staff as the enrollment officer.

CPT Oberoi earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Virginia Tech and a master’s degree in human resources with a certificate in organizational leadership from Brandman University. She is married to Jason Oberoi, also an alumnus and the assistant director for the Corps’ Citizen-Leader Track.
Senior Chief James Bean, USN (Retired)

Senior Chief James Bean serves as the director of the Highty-Tighties, the regimental marching band.

A native of Beverly, Massachusetts, and a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, Bean joined the Naval Academy Band in 1985 and was named principal trumpeter three years later. He served a distinguished Naval career for 22 years, and he performed with the Naval Academy’s jazz ensemble, led the brass quintet, and was featured as soloist with the concert band on numerous occasions. Achieving the rank of senior chief musician, he was one of the band’s ceremonial leaders and conducted countless ceremonies for national and foreign dignitaries, including the vice president and the secretary of the Navy.

After retiring from the Navy in 2007, Bean began a second career as a music educator. A teacher in Queen Anne’s County for six years, Bean was director of bands at Matapeake Middle School, building the program from 40 students to well over 100 and earning superior and excellent awards at multiple Music in the Park competitions.

A regular contributor of reviews of new music for the International Trumpet Guild, he has also served as an adjudicator for the National Trumpet Competition, high school division.

Bean has a Masters of Music in Performance from Towson University.
CSM Daniel R. Willey, USA (Retired)

Command Sergeant Major Daniel R. Willey is the Senior Enlisted Advisor for 1st Battalion.

CSM Willey joined the North Carolina Army National Guard in April 1982, and entered active duty a year later.

He has been an Aerial Fire Support Observer; Fire Support Sergeant at company, battalion, and brigade levels; Tactical Non-Commissioned Officer at the U.S. Military Academy; Operations Sergeant; and First Sergeant.

Upon graduating from the Sergeants Major Academy, he served as the SGM for the New River ROTC Training Battalion. CSM Willey then returned to the 82d Airborne Division as the CSM for 3-319 Airborne Field Artillery Regiment and deployed as a Battalion Maneuver Task Force (Task Force Gun Devil) to Afghanistan in support of OEF VI.

Upon redeployment he was the Fort Lewis Garrison Command Sergeant Major. He served as the Regimental Command Sergeant Major of the Field Artillery and then as the Command Sergeant Major to the Deputy Commanding General, NATO Training mission Afghanistan.

He has a Bachelor of Science degree from Excelsior College.

His awards include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal, MSM with three oak leaf clusters, Air Medal, ARCOM with six oak leaf clusters, AAM with six oak leaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal with six oak leaf clusters, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, NCOPDR w/numeral 4, and the French National Defense Medal (Bronze).

He is married to the former Sandra M. Varley. They have two sons: Christopher and Zachary.
MGySgt Lance Jones, USMC (Retired)

Master Gunnery Sergeant Lance L. Jones is the Senior Enlisted Advisor for 2nd Battalion.

MGySgt Jones joined the Marine Corps in May 1984. He first duty station was at Marine Barracks 8th & I in Washington, D.C., where he served three years on the Marine Corps Silent Drill Team. He then went to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where he served with 1st Battalion, 6th Marines as a squad leader and served on two combat deployments.

At Okinawa, Japan, served as a Team Leader at the Jungle Warfighting School. He then proceeded to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina, as a Basic Warrior Instructor and then to Charleston, South Carolina as Canvassing Recruiter.

MGySgt Jones returned to Marine Base Camp Lejeune, where he served for 12 years as an Infantryman and Warfighter and executed three combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and eight contingency deployments.

He received orders to the Pentagon to serve as the Infantry Occupational Field Sponsor and Enlisted Advocate for the Marine Corps. MgySgt Jones was then Deputy Director of the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Academy at Okinawa, Japan. His final, active duty assignment was at Twenty-Nine Palms, California, as the Senior Enlisted Advisor of the Tactical Training Exercise Control Group.

MGySgt Jones served 28 years. After retirement, he went to Hargrave Military Academy as a Training Advisor and Counselor for post-graduate students.

His awards include the Legion of Merit, Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three gold stars, and the Combat Action Ribbon.
SGM David M. Combs USA (Retired)

Sergeant Major David M. Combs is the Senior Enlisted Advisor for 3rd Battalion.

SGM Combs entered the U.S. Army in August 1986. Upon completion of Basic Training, Advanced Individual Training, and Airborne School, he reported to the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in December 1986. He then moved through assignments at locations including Alaska; Fort Kobbe, Panama; and Camp Hovey, Korea, where he served as UH-60 Blackhawk Door Gunner, Team Leader, Squad Leader, Surveillance Team Leader, Surveillance Platoon Sergeant, Small Group Leader, and Scout Platoon Sergeant.

In September 2003, SGM Combs was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry, Fort Drum, New York, where he served as Platoon Sergeant for 18 months. He was then assigned to 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry where he served as Rifle Company First Sergeant for three years. In August 2007, SGM Combs was assigned to the Combat Applications Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served as Squadron Training Non-Commissioned Officer, Training Sergeant Major, and Operations Sergeant Major.

After 27 years of active military service, SGM Combs’ awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman’s Badge (2nd award), Expert Infantryman’s Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ranger Tab, Sapper Tab, Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Air Medal.

SGM Combs is married to the former Deborah R. Potter and has three children: Jessica, Justin, and Michael.
Mr. Jason Oberoi is the assistant director of the Citizen-Leader Track/VPI Battalion.

He joined the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets in August 2005 as a member of Band Company. Mr. Oberoi went on to become a cadre sergeant, the VPI 1st sergeant, band XO, the regimental S-3, and the Exec Court chair.

After commissioning as an armor officer in May 2010, Mr. Oberoi became a platoon leader, executive officer, and adjutant in the 1st Squadron of the 14th Cavalry Regiment, at Joint Base Lewis McChord and Zabul Province, Afghanistan. After redeploying to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, he was an Executive Officer and Operations Officer.

After separating in December 2014, he worked in Baltimore as a logistics manager and then as an executive assistant for Virginia Tech’s Pamplin College of Business.

Mr. Oberoi volunteers as a faculty Fellow for Sigma Phi Epsilon and as an emergency medical technician for the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Mr. Oberoi and his wife, Capt Allie Oberoi, the Corps’ Executive Officer, reside in Christiansburg.
Jon McIlvaine

Mr. Jon McIlvaine is the Residential Learning Coordinator for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. He received his bachelor’s degree in communications from Temple University in Philadelphia and his master’s degree in higher education and student development from Taylor University in Indiana.

Since 2015, Mr. McIlvaine has worked in the Division of Student Affairs in the Office of Housing and Residence Life. He spent two years serving as the Residential Learning Coordinator in Pritchard Hall and for the SERVE Living Learning Community.

Mr. McIlvaine will serve the Corps as a liaison and advocate to Housing and Residence Life, provide support and connections to academic and co-curricular resources on and off campus, and assist in cadet leader training, including Commander Residential Advisor training.

In addition, he will partner with Deputy Commandants and staff in various cadet learning activities. As a Residential Learning Coordinator, Mr. McIlvaine lives in an apartment in New Cadet Hall and his office is in Pearson Hall.

He is married to Hayley McIlvaine who serves as the Keystone Experience Coordinator in the Division of Student Affairs.
Stephen Tang-Nian

Mr. Stephen Tang-Nian serves as assistant residential learning coordinator for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. He received his bachelor’s degree in electronic media and film concentrating in audio production from Towson University in Towson, Maryland. He is currently pursuing his master’s degree in higher education administration at Virginia Tech.

Prior to arriving to Virginia Tech, Mr. Tang-Nian worked for T. Rowe Price Investment Services, where he served as retirement planning associate. However, his passion and enthusiasm for his work helping students at his undergraduate institution led him to pursue this new course within the higher education system to help further develop and encourage new leaders in our society.

Mr. Tang-Nian strives to foster a positive, fun, and safe community for students to grow and develop. In addition to using his strengths he models this by exemplifying Virginia Tech’s Aspiration of Courageous Leadership within his role. “It is highly important for one to lead by example to help pave the way for others to follow.”

In his spare time, Mr. Tang-Nian enjoys swimming, visiting new areas, and spending time with family and friends.
Ms. Shay Barnhart is the Communications Director for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Originally from Kansas City, Missouri, she graduated from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Journalism degree.

Ms. Barnhart spent nearly two decades as a reporter, designer, and editor at newspapers around the country. In 2010, she joined Virginia Tech in University Relations, where she created content for the university’s top-level social media accounts and webpages and worked with Virginia Tech News products.

She joined the Corps staff in 2016.

In her role as Communications Director, Ms. Barnhart maintains a comprehensive communications and marketing program for the Corps of Cadets, serves on the Corps of Cadets’ advancement team, and supports cadet recruitment and marketing efforts.

She and her husband, Patrick, live in Fairlawn.
Ms. Samantha Riggin is Curator for the Corps of Cadets’ Museum. She has more than 25 years of experience as an antiques dealer, auctioneer, and personal property appraiser.

Ms. Riggin holds a master’s degree in material culture and public humanities from Virginia Tech with a bachelor’s degree in history from Chatham University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Prior to her return to university studies she was the owner of a successful estate liquidation and personal property appraisal business in western Pennsylvania. She also has served as an expert witness in U.S. District Court and Orphan’s Court in several counties in Pennsylvania and has earned her professional auctioneers license.
Growley II (call sign “Tank”) is the Ambassador for the Corps of Cadets. Since joining the Corps in August 2016, he has become a symbol of selfless service for the Corps and a new way to share experiences with the larger campus community.

The 4-year-old yellow Labrador retriever is cared for by nine cadets who make up the Growley Team. They follow a strict daily care, exercise, and training schedule.

Growley II is a certified therapy dog and has extensive obedience training.

During the academic year, Growley II lives with his team in Pearson Hall. His living areas are subject to random inspection by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which enforces the federal Animal Welfare Act, to ensure they are sanitized and safe for everyone.

According to Corps folklore, a Depression-era commandant had a dog named Growley. Food was somewhat scarce, so the cadets kept a portion of their breakfast to help feed him.

With all that in mind, cadets asked during the 2015-16 academic year to “bring back Growley,” and the university and Corps leadership agreed.
The Real Techman

Ladies and Gentlemen, you are freshmen, newcomers, but by this time you will feel that you are college students, students of the world starting out on a big career. No one can deny the fact that you are starting a big career, but do not make the mistake of telling everybody about it. Remember that there are others of greater and wider experience than you at Tech. You are in a new world, and it would do you well to learn the customs and traditions of this campus in order that you may become a part of it.

Your former position in high school does not interest other Techmen in the least nor will they care to hear you tell about it. Your progress at Tech will depend entirely upon your conduct and achievement, not on prior records. At first you are only one among many other freshmen, and it is up to you to establish your place here not by your words, but by your works. You will find that courtesy and willingness to learn will pay dividends.

It is the fine old tradition of VPI that everyone speaks to everyone else whether he knows him or not. The true Techman treats visitors and town people with all consideration and his fellow students as comrades. A man’s name is music to his ears, and effort is well spent in learning the names of those with whom you come in contact, for this is often the first step towards friendship. Fights and ill-feelings are out of place at Tech. Get to be pals with your classmates in particular. They may become your lifelong friends.

Learn to take disappointment and unpleasantness with a smile, then forget about it. If you cannot easily forget, convert your aroused emotional energy to constructive action on another front, whether it be your work, your relations with other people, or any other helpful thing that might divert your attention long enough for you to cool down.

Let your friends see that you are still on your feet with a grin on your face, but with determination in your heart. Disregard the possibly foul but probably temporary blow at your ultimate opportunity in your fight for achievement. Keep fighting, for your great chance may cross your path but once. Quitting the fight, or taking time out for brooding over your misfortunes, certainly does not help you win anything but the
disappointment of your friends.

Techmen respect the uniform they wear, because it is a part of the college, and the student who does anything to discredit the school while on leave, or under any circumstances, will not be tolerated. So, no matter where you go, remember that you are a Techman, known everywhere as ladies and gentlemen and as people of honor.

Study the Honor System. It is the pride and the making of VPI, and you are expected to cherish it as it has been cherished and upheld in the past. Let it guide you while at Virginia Tech and after you have left. Honesty at VPI is very practical, as there is little chance that you will receive a complete education at VPI and graduate unless you are honest. There is no stigma attached to failure in the difficult courses at VPI, but to be branded as a cheat is a lifelong curse, even if no one else but you does the branding. True success is founded on self-respect.

Remember that when you enter VPI, you are considered responsible. You can do as you please about your work; nobody will make you do it. Be practical and be honest with yourself, you are here for a purpose. Keep your objectives in sight. “Wildness” wastes money; you are only losing other things that you would rather have. Rest or play on Sunday; you will need recreation weekly.

Remember, also, that you are more on your own initiative now than you have ever been before. Remember that you are working for yourself and that it is for you to decide what you want to make of your college career and of your later life. Now is the time to begin building for success in your studies, in your relations with other people, and in your relations with yourself. Practice moderation and good judgement in all things. Do all this and at the end of your four years at VPI, you will graduate as an adult in all respects.

— Taken in part from 1938, 1940 Guidon
Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets
Honor Code

“A Cadet will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do.”

Definitions

**Lying:** Includes intent to deceive in all activities including written and oral statements.

**Cheating:** Includes the actual giving or receiving of unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of any unfair advantage on any form of work which is to be presented as one’s own.

**Stealing:** Includes the taking of personal or institutional property without the consent of the owner of the property either temporarily or permanently.

**Toleration:** Cadets will not tolerate any incidents of lying, cheating, or stealing. Knowledge of and failure to report such an incident is evidence of dishonorable intent and is considered a violation of the Cadet Honor Code.
Cadet Knowledge Basics

Purpose Statement
The purpose of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is to develop leaders of exemplary character who are imbued with the concept of selfless service, and prepared to serve the commonwealth and the nation — either in or out of uniform — for a lifetime.

Mission Statement
The mission of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is to graduate leaders of exemplary character who are instilled with the values and skills essential for leadership success in service to the nation.

Vision
Global, Ethical Leaders. Now ... More Than Ever.

Cadet Creed
I am a Virginia Tech Cadet committed to the ideals upon which the Institute was founded: Brotherhood and Honor, Leadership and Loyalty, Service and Sacrifice, Duty and *Ut Prosim*.

As a cadet I strive to embody the highest standards of discipline, dignity, and integrity in all that I endeavor. I know that I am at all times an ambassador of the Institute and will conduct myself accordingly.

Above all, I recognize that my membership in the Corps of Cadets places upon me the responsibility to obey the cadet regulations, and to respect the lawful orders of those Officers and cadets appointed over me in order “That I May Serve.”
On the top step of the court are carved the words, “That I May Serve,” a free translation of the Latin motto for Virginia Tech, *Ut Prosim*. Bordering Memorial Court are eight massive pylons with sculpted figures. On the Pylons are carved the names of Virginia Tech’s war dead. At the court’s center is a marble cenotaph, a symbolic tomb. It also displays the names of graduates who received the Medal of Honor. The Pylons embody the values that members of the Hokie Nation hold in the highest regard and serve as a touchstone for the traditions, Honor Code, training programs, policies, and regulations of the Corps of Cadets. It is important that all understand the meaning behind each of the Pylons.

*Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve): Alma Mater advising her son, “My son, forge your life on the principles I strive to teach. I cherish four major virtues: Brotherhood, Duty, Honor, and Loyalty.” Whether one chooses to serve our nation through military or civilian service, the Corps of Cadets provides a base on which the ideal *Ut Prosim* is founded. Service to the Corps and University is the true meaning of *Ut Prosim*. It is best exemplified by those who have given their lives in the defense of our country. The seven Tech alumni who hold the nation’s highest honor, the Medal of Honor, exemplify without question the true meaning of *Ut Prosim*. 
**Brotherhood:** Brotherhood is akin to the Golden Rule; let no wall be high enough to separate you from your fellow citizens in spite of dividing factors — be they geographical, political, religious, or social.

**Duty:** Duty is a sublime word. With God’s help you will learn its meaning and have the courage to follow its call. Be faithful in the performance of your day-to-day duties aware of the larger obligation to humanity. It is your obligation to know what you ought to do and to do it.

**Honor:** Honor is your personal integrity; your intuitive sense of what is right, and your shield against evil. The shield as a symbol of personal honor dates back to Knighthood. Here the unblemished shield of honor gives protection against evil and temptation symbolized by the serpent.

**Loyalty:** Loyalty is unswerving allegiance to family and friends, to me ... your school, and to your community, state, or nation. The low relief building in the background is Barracks No. 1 ... Lane Hall.

**Leadership:** Cultivate these four character traits and you will be eligible for leadership. Only then can you raise your hand and say, “Follow me.”

**Service:** Be warned. Life is demanding and courageous leadership means service. The symbolism stresses the readiness to put aside the pursuit of one’s own work and career to enter into service for one’s country and fellowmen.

**Sacrifice:** And finally, service means sacrifice ... even unto life itself.
“Integrity is the fundamental premise for military service in a free society. Without integrity, the moral pillars of our military strength, public trust, and self-respect are lost.”

— General Charles A. Gabriel

“Leadership is intangible, and therefore no weapon ever designed can replace it.”

— General Omar Bradley

“Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy.”

— Major General Norman Schwarzkopf

“What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight — it’s the size of the fight in the dog.”

— General Dwight D. Eisenhower
The American Fighters Code of Conduct

I
I am an American, fighting in the forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give up my life in their defense.

II
I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command, I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist.

III
If I am captured, I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.

IV
If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information nor take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful order of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

V
When questioned, should I become a prisoner of war, I am required to give name, rank, service number, and date of birth. I will evade answering further questions to the utmost of my ability. I will make no oral or written statements disloyal to my country and its allies or harmful to their cause.

VI
I will never forget that I am an American, fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America.
Chain of Command

University/State Chain of Command
President of the United States  Pres. Donald J. Trump
Governor of Virginia  Gov. Terry McAuliffe
President of Virginia Tech  Dr. Timothy D. Sands
VP for Student Affairs  Dr. Patricia A. Perillo

Academic Colleges and Deans
Agriculture & Life Sciences  Alan Grant, Ph.D.
Architecture and Urban Studies  Jack Davis, Ph.D.
Science  Sally C. Morton, Ph.D.
Business  Robert T. Sumichrast, Ph.D.
Engineering  Julia Ross, Ph.D.
Liberal Arts & Human Sciences  Elizabeth Spiller, Ph.D
Veterinary Medicine  Cyril R. Clarke, Ph.D.
Natural Resources  Paul M. Winistorfer, Ph.D.

ROTC Department Heads
AFROTC  Col Cameron Torrens, USAF
AROTC  COL Paul A. Mele, USA
NROTC  CAPT Michael Fisher USN

Commandant’s Staff
Commandant of Cadets  Maj Gen Randal D. Fullhart, USAF (Ret.)
Deputy Commandant 1st BN  vacant
Deputy Commandant 2nd BN  CAPT James S. Snyder, USN (Ret.)
Deputy Commandant 3rd BN  LTC Chuck Payne, USA (Ret.)
Senior Enlisted Advisor 1st BN  CSM Daniel Willey (Ret.)
Senior Enlisted Advisor 2nd BN  MGYSGT Lance Jones, USMC (Ret.)
Senior Enlisted Advisor 3rd BN  SGM David Combs (Ret.)
Deputy Commandant, VPI  Lt Col Donald G. Russell, USAF (Ret.)
Assistant Director, VPI  Mr. Jason Oberoi
Director, MG W. Thomas Rice Center  Elaine Humphrey, PhD
Director, VTCC Alumni  Col Patience Larkin, USAF (Ret.)
Assistant Commandant  LTC Rewa Mariger, VA Militia
Director, Regimental Band: MUCS James Bean USN (Ret.)
Executive Officer: CPT Alexandra Oberoi, USAR
Communications Director: Mrs. Shay Barnhart
Museum Curator: Mrs. Samantha Riggin
Budget/Scholarship Mgr/Exec Asst: Mrs. Leketa Miller
Program Support Specialist: Mrs. Nicole Ward
Executive Assistant: Mrs. Patsy Hosner
Executive Assistant: Mrs. Robin Atkins
Residential Learning Coordinator: Mr. Jon McInvaine

Regimental Staff and Command

Regimental Commander: C/.COL Mairead Novak
Regimental Executive Officer: C/LTC Benjamin Reilly
S-1 (Adjutant): C/MAJ Amanda Jacobson
S-2 (Public Affairs): C/MAJ Virginia Frischkorn
S-3 (Operations and Planning): C/MAJ Daniel Steiner
S-4 (Supply and Finance): C/MAJ Nicholas Chan
S-5 (Academics): C/MAJ Casey Soper
Command Sergeant Major: C/CSM Patrick Munro

Regimental Special Staff

Honor Court Chief Justice: C/MAJ Quinton Cookis
Executive Committee Chairman: C/MAJ Austin Shumate
IG: C/CPT Kyle Luchau
Recruiting: C/CPT Seth Jordan
Athletics: C/1LT Nathan Stanley
Chapel Liaison: C/1LT Colin Welborn
Medical Officer: C/1LT John Balyozian
Safety Officer: C/CPT Caleb Fields
Historian: C/CPT Christopher Bartlett
Regimental Armorer: C/CPT Richard Cates
Regimental Bugler: C/CSS Christopher Bartlett
Regimental Alumni Liaison Officer: C/1LT Aaron Smith
Liaison to University Organizations: C/1LT Michael Kashuba
VTCC Director Hall Council: C/1LT Warren Braxton
Growley Captain: C/CPT Quinton Cookis
Growely Handler: C/SFC Eleanor Franc
Battalion Staffs

1st Battalion – First Above All
CO C/LTC Zacary Yacone
XO C/MAJ Daniel Hollingsworth
SGM C/SGM John Holland
S-1 C/CPT Benjamin Taitano
S-3 C/CPT Nicholas Newton
S-5 C/CPT Patrick McFadden

2nd Battalion – Honor First, Duty Always
CO C/LTC Nathan Underwood
XO C/MAJ Dimosthenis Doulamis
SGM C/SGM Paul Bourdon
S-1 C/CPT Noah Gendron
S-3 C/CPT William Gonsiewski
S-5 C/CPT Brian Welch

3rd Battalion – Strength from Unity, Pride through Perseverance
CO C/LTC Brian Kehs
XO C/MAJ Matthew Remson
SGM C/SGM Tana Putnam
S-1 C/CPT Joseph Bahret
S-3 C/CPT William Breedlove
S-5 C/CPT Quinton Armacost

VPI Battalion
CO C/LTC Jacob McCormick
XO C/MAJ Claire Levy
SGM C/SGM Ruth Green
Company Staffs

Alpha Company – Still Kickin’ Ass
CO C/CPT Nicholas Huffman
XO C/1LT Christopher Newell
FSG C/1SG Dwight Tilley

Bravo Company – Forged in Flame
CO C/CPT Thomas Meyer
XO C/1LT Stephen O’Brien
FSG C/1SG Harrison Barone

Charlie Company – Semper Primus
CO C/CPT Robyn Schneider
XO C/1LT Jordan Bliss
FSG C/1SG Caleb Smith

Delta Company – Spirit of Delta
CO C/CPT Ian Campbell
XO C/1LT Paul Aanestad
FSG C/1SG Lindsay Mazer

Echo Company – Unity and Pride
CO C/CPT Sean Crittenden
XO C/1LT Brooke Edwards
FSG C/1SG Peter Maxey

Foxtrot Company – Praebate Exemplium
CO C/CPT Andrew Caldwell
XO C/1LT Joshua Porter
FSG C/1SG Ethan Claybrook

Golf Company – Non Concedo
CO C/CPT Madeleine Mitcham
XO C/1LT Benjamin Howe
FSG C/1SG Brett Smith

Hotel Company – Pride Now, Tradition Always, Hotel Forever
CO C/CPT Joelle Pond
XO C/1LT Grant Phillips
FSG C/1SG Benjamin Scholz
India Company – Non Sibi, Sed Omnibus
CO C/CPT John Tully
XO C/1LT Nicholas Masella
FSG C/1SG Jessica Dobrowolski

Kilo Company – Ne Te Molesti Deprimant
CO C/CPT John Gogal
XO C/1LT Ethan Parkhill
FSG C/1SG Clayton Satterfield

Lima Company – Non Timebo Mala
CO C/CPT Sean Moughan
XO C/1LT Ian Pezzella
FSG C/1SG Clark Shotwell

Band Company – Deeds Not Words
CO C/MAJ Camillus Huggins
XO C/CPT Christopher Selig
DM C/CPT Kendall Romaine

Band Company A Orange
CO C/CPT Joseph Profeta
XO C/1LT Keiron Diezman
FSG C/ISG Colleen Pramenko

Band Company B Maroon
CO C/CPT Jordan Wirth
XO C/1LT Adrian Go
FSG C/ISG Jacob Davis

Color Guard Sergeant
C/CCS Aaron Konicki

Skipper Crew Gun Captain
C/ASG Briana Jordan

Gregory Guard Commander
C/CPT Jake Jenkins
Second Semester
Chain of Command

Company ____________

CO _______________________________

PL _______________________________

PSG _______________________________

SL _______________________________

FTL _______________________________

XO _______________________________

FSG _______________________________
Corps of Cadets Rank Structure

Crossed sabers denotes VPI position

**Cadet Colonel** (C/COL)
**Cadet Lieutenant Colonel** (C/LTC)
**Cadet Major** (C/MAJ)
**Cadet Captain** (C/CPT)
**Cadet First Lieutenant** (C/1Lt)
**Cadet Second Lieutenant** (C/2Lt)

**Cadet Command Sergeant Major** (C/CSM)
**Cadet Sergeant Major** (C/SGM)
**Cadet First Sergeant** (C/FSG)
**Cadet Sergeant First Class** (C/SFC)
**Cadet Staff Sergeant** (C/SSG)
**Cadet Sergeant** (C/SGT)

**Cadet Corporal** (C/CPL)
**Cadet Private First Class** (C/PFC)
**Cadet Private** (C/PVT)

**Highly Tighties**

**Drum Major** (C/CPT)
**Cadet Supply Sergeant** (C/SPG)

**Color Guard**

**Cadet Command Sergeant Color Sergeant** (C/CCS)
**Cadet Color Sergeant** (C/CSG)
**Cadet Color Corporal** (C/CCP)

**Cadet Artillery Sergeant** (C/ASG)
**Cadet Artillery Corporal** (C/ACP)
**Cadet Command Signal Sergeant** (C/CSS)
**Cadet Signal Sergeant** (C/SGS)
**Cadet Signal Corporal** (C/SCP)
**Cadet Ordinance Sergeant** (C/OSG)
**Cadet Ordinance Corporal** (C/OCP)
Officer Armed Services Ranks

**NAVY**
- Ensign
- Lieutenant (Junior Grade)
- Lieutenant
- Lieutenant Commander
- Commander
- Captain
- Rear Admiral (Lower Half)
- Rear Admiral (Upper Half)
- Vice Admiral
- Admiral
- Fleet Admiral

**MARINES**
- 2nd Lt
- 1st Lt
- Captain
- Major
- Lt Col
- Colonel
- Brig Gen
- Maj Gen
- Lt Gen
- General

**ARMY**
- 2nd Lt
- 1st Lt
- Captain
- Major
- Lt Col
- Colonel
- Brig Gen
- Maj Gen
- Lt Gen
- General
- General of the Army

**AIR FORCE**
- 2nd Lt
- 1st Lt
- Captain
- Major
- Lt Col
- Colonel
- Brig Gen
- Maj Gen
- Lt Gen
- General
- General of the Air Force
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Army</th>
<th>Enlisted Ranks</th>
<th>Marine Corps</th>
<th>Navy</th>
<th>Enlisted Ranks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E1</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Seaman Recruit</td>
<td>E7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Airman Basic</td>
<td>First Class</td>
<td>Seaman Apprentice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E2</td>
<td>Airman</td>
<td>First Class</td>
<td>Seaman Petty Officer 3rd Class</td>
<td>E8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Airman First Class</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>Seaman Petty Officer 2nd Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E3</td>
<td>Airman Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>Seaman Petty Officer (CPO)</td>
<td>E9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Seaman Chief Petty Officer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E4</td>
<td>Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E5</td>
<td>Sergeant First Class</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td>E10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E6</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Chief Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First Class</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E7</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Chief Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E8</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Chief Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E9</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Chief Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E10</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Master Sergeant Command Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Chief Master Sergeant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Uniforms

Standard Patrol Cover
Insignia
Freshman: None
NCO: Corps Crest
Officer: VPI

Subdued and Embroidered name tape
OR
Standard black plastic name tag flush with seam

Approved badges worn 1/2 inch above tape
“VTCC” tape (Subdued and embroidered)
White Shirt w/Garrison Cover

Detail of Senior Collar Device

Windstrap Detail

Gray Shirt w/Wheel Cover
Gigline Freshmen

Buttons cut through center of waist plate.

Gigline Upperclassmen

Buttons cut through "P" of black belt.
Dress A

White Collar extends 1/8 inch
“ROTC” Headlight
Branch of Service Headlight
One hand’s width
Citation Cord
ROTC emblem
Class service stripes
Rear View of Crossbelts

White Cuff extends 1/8 inch

Dress B

White Collar extends 1/8 inch
“ROTC” Headlight
Branch of Service Headlight
Citation Cord
ROTC emblem
Class service stripes
Senior Collar Detail

White Cuff extends 1/8 inch
OG and OD Wraps

Overcoat with Crossbelts

Dress A with OD Wrap

Skirt
Paletot

Shoulder Boards
Regimental Crest

Class Service Stripes
Bottom of Ribbons at top of pocket seam
Authorized Pin

Citation Cord (an additional infantry-style cord may be worn on right shoulder)

Service Designation
Army - Crossed Rifles
Air Force - Prop & Wings
Navy - Anchor
Marine - Eagle & Globe
Corps Only - Crossed Cannons
(Seniors - Crossed Sabres)

Shoulder Boards
Regimental Crest

Class Service Stripes

Citation Cord

Lapel Detail (Senior)

Men's Formal (Paletot)

Bottom of Ribbons at top of pocket seam
Authorized Pin

Citation Cord (an additional infantry-style cord may be worn on right shoulder)

White Skirt/Gold Cumberbun

Women's Formal
Corps Awards and Competitions

Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Memorial Award (Gold Cord)

The Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. award was first presented to the VTCC by Beverly S. Parrish, Sr. on 24 May 1956. The award consists of a plaque that will be displayed in the winning unit’s area and a cup that has been retired. All members of the winning unit will wear the Gold Citation Cord on the cadet blouse and the Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Memorial Ribbon when in the gray uniform.

The Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Memorial Award is presented annually to the unit in the Corps of Cadets that accumulates the greatest number of competitive points in Corps competition during the school year. This award is the most sought after in all Corps competitions. It is named in honor of a graduate of the Class of 1953. Cadet Parrish, during his years at Tech, was a star athlete, outstanding student, and served as Regimental Commander. He was the Acting Cadet Wing Commander of the newly established Air Academy and was serving in this capacity when he was killed in a plane crash at Charlotte, North Carolina, on 11 February 1956. The Air Force Academy has named its honor committee award for him.

The points to be awarded in competition for the Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Memorial Award will be contained in a supplement to the cadet regulations. Points are awarded for grades, Eager Squad, Eager Individual, room inspections, regimental inspections, recruiting, intramurals, and other categories approved by the Regimental Commander.

The winning unit also has the privilege of carrying the Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Memorial Streamer (gold) on its guidon staff.
The Kohler Cup

The Kohler Cup, presented by John F. Kohler in 1931, is awarded each year to the cadet unit that demonstrated its superiority in drill competition. The trophy is retired.

The winning unit also has the privilege of carrying the Kohler Cup Streamer (red) on its guidon staff. The Kohler Cup will be based on the result of the Homecoming Review, other announced reviews, or marching events.

Drill Competitions

The annual drill competitions held between individuals, squads, and units are important events of the school year for all cadets. Judging teams composed of ranking cadets, Commandant’s staff, and ROTC personnel judge these units on the basis of appearance, drill precision and accuracy, knowledge of regulation drill movements, and proficiency. The annual drill competitions include the Jaffe Eager Squad, Eager Individual, and others as announced by Regimental Staff. Drill procedures will be specified by the Regimental S-3 prior to the competitions.
### Awards and Ribbons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award/Group</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regimental Presidential Service</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Regimental Presidential Service" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eager Squad</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Eager Squad" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidential Inaugural Award</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Presidential Inaugural Award" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Achievement</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Cadet Achievement" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruiting Award</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Recruiting Award" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPI Service Ribbon</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="VPI Service Ribbon" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPI PFT Excellence</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="VPI PFT Excellence" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Community Service" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Corps Awards</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Other Corps Awards" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranger Company</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Ranger Company" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submarine Society</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Submarine Society" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Aviation Society</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Naval Aviation Society" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface Warfare Society</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Surface Warfare Society" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert F. Femoyer Service Squadron</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Robert F. Femoyer Service Squadron" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFSOPT</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="AFSOPT" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scabbard and Blade</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Scabbard and Blade" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sash and Sabre</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Sash and Sabre" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color Guard</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Color Guard" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signal Corps</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Signal Corps" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipper Crew</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Skipper Crew" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Guard</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Gregory Guard" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conrad Calvary</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Conrad Calvary" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IG Staff</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="IG Staff" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruiting Staff</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Recruiting Staff" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historians</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Historians" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall Council</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Hall Council" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regimental Cadre</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Regimental Cadre" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Shirt</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Black Shirt" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Orientation Staff</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Summer Orientation Staff" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society of American Military Engineers</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Society of American Military Engineers" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Scout Association</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Eagle Scout Association" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Corps Organizations</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Other Corps Organizations" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic - Gold</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Academic - Gold" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.75-4.00 GPA</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="3.75-4.00 GPA" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic - Orange 3.40-3.74 GPA</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Academic - Orange 3.40-3.74 GPA" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic - Maroon 3.00-3.39 GPA</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Academic - Maroon 3.00-3.39 GPA" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Notes:**
- *Regimental Presidential Service* is awarded for outstanding service.
- *Eager Squad* is a recognition for exceptional performance.
- *Presidential Inaugural Award* is given to those who have served in exemplary ways.
- *Cadet Achievement* is for cadets who have distinguished themselves.
- *Recruiting Award* is for those who have contributed significantly to recruitment efforts.
- *VPI Service Ribbon* is for service to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.
- *VPI PFT Excellence* is for physical fitness excellence.
- *Community Service* is for contributions to the community.
- *Other Corps Awards* are given for various special achievements.
- *Ranger Company* is a special unit within the ROTC.
- *Submarine Society* is for those involved in submarine operations.
- *Naval Aviation Society* is for those involved in naval aviation.
- *Surface Warfare Society* is for those involved in surface warfare.
- *Robert F. Femoyer Service Squadron* is a special squadron.
- *AFSOPT* is for those involved in ROTC.
- *Scabbard and Blade* is for leadership.
- *Sash and Sabre* is for distinguished service.
- *Color Guard* is for color guard performances.
- *Signal Corps* is for those involved in signal corps operations.
- *Skipper Crew* is for skipper crew missions.
- *Gregory Guard* is for those in Gregory Guard.
- *Conrad Calvary* is for Conrad Calvary activities.
- *IG Staff* is for intelligence staff.
- *Recruiting Staff* is for contributions to recruiting.
- *Historians* are for those involved in historical research.
- *Hall Council* is for the Hall Council.
- *Regimental Cadre* is for regimental cadre.
- *Black Shirt* is for those in black shirt.
- *Summer Orientation Staff* is for summer orientation staff.
- *Academic - Gold* is for students with 3.75-4.00 GPA.
- *Academic - Orange* is for students with 3.40-3.74 GPA.
- *Academic - Maroon* is for students with 3.00-3.39 GPA.
Academic Wreaths

- 3.75-4.00 Cumm. GPA
- 3.40-3.74 Cumm. GPA
- 3.00-3.39 Cumm. GPA

Citation Cords

- Regimental Staff
- Regimental Special Staff
- Battalion Staff
- Presidential Unit Citation
- Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Award
- Air Force Flyers
Reporting Procedures and the Knock System

When reporting to a commissioned officer or cadet officer, all cadets should knock three times, wait for authority to enter, and then proceed to a position two paces from and directly in front of the officer or upperclassman’s desk or person, salute and report in the following manner: “Sir/Ma’am New/Cadet (LAST NAME) (INITIALS) (COMPANY) (CLASS) reports.” Note: if entering another cadet’s room, the door should remain open. When the officer or upperclassman has indicated that all business is completed, the cadet will come to attention, salute and say, “Sir/Ma’am New/Cadet (LAST NAME) (INITIALS) (COMPANY) (CLASS) requests permission to be dismissed.” When the salute is returned, the New/First-Year Cadet will execute an about face (unless on carpet) and leave the room by the most direct route.

Note: If exiting an upperclassmen’s room, the door should be closed.
Note: Navy cadets do not salute Navy or Marine Corps Officers indoors, even if formally reporting.

If reporting to a Non-Commissioned Officer or an upperclass cadet who is not an officer, follow the procedures from the preceding paragraph except a salute is not required.

Knocks are identified as follows:

2 knocks: By officers or Regimental Staff entering on official business. All occupants of room assume the position of attention
3 knocks: By a New Cadet desiring to enter a senior’s room
4 knocks: By an upperclassman desiring to enter a New Cadet’s room
5 knocks: By a New Cadet desiring to enter a bud’s room
The Purpose of:

Dragging
The purpose of dragging is two-fold: Its primary purpose is to instill in new cadets a level of military discipline, a sense of urgency, and to teach them to act with confidence while under pressure. Its secondary purpose is to assist new cadets to improve their marching skills early in the freshman year, particularly their facing and pivoting movements.

Sounding Off
The primary purpose of sounding off” is to instill in each new cadet an appreciation for military courtesy and to gain self-confidence in addressing classmates, upperclass cadets, and officers. The secondary purpose is to enable new cadets to quickly learn the first names of their classmates within their company and to recognize the name and rank of members of their chain of command.

New Cadet Knowledge
The purpose of new cadet knowledge is to instill in each cadet a level of information essential to excel as a cadet and student at Virginia Tech and to gain an appreciation of the traditions, customs, and history of the Corps of Cadets and the University.

New Cadet Haircut Policy
The purpose of the New Cadet Haircut Policy is to build group identity among the members of the freshman class, promote personal hygiene, and to aid the new cadet in time management skills during a very busy New Cadet Week and early part of the freshman year.
Corps Terminology

**AA Card**: Authorized absence card. This card is placed on the cadet’s door to indicated his/her whereabouts at all times.

**Ace**: To max a test

**Brace Up**: A command given to new cadets meaning “come to attention.”

**BRC**: Breakfast Roll Call. Morning formation.

**Bud**: A fellow member of a class who underwent Cadet Basic Training with you. Usually ends in a lifelong friendship.

**Cenotaph**: The large granite stone on the World War II Memorial located between the eight Pylons

**Cut**: To have an excused absence from a Corps activity, such as formation

**Dragging**: The act in which a freshman bears to the right side of the hall while marching

**DRC**: Dinner Roll Call. Noon formation.

**Ducks**: White dress pants worn with the uniform

**ECQ**: Evening Call to Quarters; 1800-2300 hours Sunday and 1900-2300 Monday through Thursday; used as study time. During this time, freshmen do not sound off and all cadets are expected to maintain quiet in the dorms.

**Flag**: Excessive belt material not properly aligned

**Friendship**: An activity of both unity and camaraderie that reaches far beyond the average professional relationship between cadets

**Fraternization**: Socializing outside of your class; being too friendly with superiors, subordinates; performing undue personal servitude

**Growley**: Morning meal; Breakfast Roll Call (BRC) formation

**GTD**: General Tightening Down, increased enforcement of regulations
Guidon: A unit’s flag or standard; the new cadet knowledge publication
Head: Bathroom
Highty-Tighties: The Regimental Band of the Corps of Cadets
Hokie: Any Virginia Tech student or alumnus
Horizontal Labs: Afternoon snooze
Hose: To get a fellow classmate into trouble; person who commits the act
Kangaroo: VMI mascot, any VMI cadet or alumni
Koofer: Any test, quiz or homework saved to be used to study for future exams; dates to early ’40s
MCQ: Morning Call to Quarters, 0800-1100 hours. More commonly used to refer to Marathon Call to Quarters, where ECQ standards are maintained through the entire day.
OD: Officer of the Day
OD Wrap: Senior wrap where both maroon pieces are worn
OG: Officer of the Guard
OG Wrap: Senior wrap where one crossbelt with chest brass is worn with bottom maroon sash
Old Corps: A condition harder than present
Old Lady: Male cadets roommate; used as far back as the 1880s
Old Man: Female cadet’s roommate
Pieing: Hitting someone in the face with a shaving cream pie
Pylons: Statues above the War Memorial Chapel
QCA: Quality Credit Average
Rack: Bed in a cadet’s room
Rack Monster: A fictional creature living in a cadet’s room who induces the cadet to sleep through classes
Rakt: The act of sleeping in a rack
Rag: To “chew out” a freshman guilty of an infraction
Rat: An Old Corps term for a freshman cadet. Use is discontinued; used as far back as 1888.
Rattamore: A cadet between his/her freshman and sophomore years; any cadet without a new cadet class below them.
Rat Daddy/Momma: Upperclassman who protects freshmen from harassment
Rat Hole: Storage area above the closets in former Corps barracks
Rat Path: Path leading to the PT pit
Retreat: Evening formation where the flag is lowered
Rock: The WWI Memorial between Pearson and New Cadet halls
Sails: A handkerchief or napkin with the unit’s logo on it worn by freshmen while under the new cadet system until VPI beats VMI in a major sport
Shanks Plain: Area behind Shanks Hall
Skipper: A fifth-year cadet still in the Corps; the VTCC cannon
Sound Off: To give the proper first year cadet call; to blow the bugle; to give a loud order
SRC: Supper Roll Call, evening formation
Stick or Treat: A tradition which occurs around Halloween when the freshmen give candy to upperclassmen
Tapped: To be accepted as a candidate for membership into an organization
Taps: Lights out at 2300 hours; to pay tribute on a bugle to someone who has died
Tour: A period of time served as a punishment for excessive demerits
VT: Area in front of Lane Hall
Zebra: A high-ranking cadet officer
Rah Tech

Rah Tech, Rah Tech, Rah Tech Rah
Via, Via
The Whole Dam’ Team!
The Whole Dam’ Team!
The Whole Dam’ Team!

Alma Mater

Sing praise to Alma mater, dear,
For V.P.I. we’ll ever cheer;
Come lift your voices, swell with the song,
Our loyalties to her belong.

So stand and sing, all hail to thee,
V.P., all hail to thee.

The Orange and Maroon you see,
That’s fighting on to victory;
Our strife will not be long this day,
For glory lies within this fray.

All loyal sons of V.P.I.
We raise our banner to the sky;
Our motto brings a spirit true.
That we may ever serve for you.

Words by L.G. Chase ’42
Music by E.T. Sparks ’40
Tech Triumph

Techmen, we’re Techmen, with spirit true and faithful,
   Backing up our teams with hopes undying;
Techmen, O’Techmen, we’re out to win today,
   Showing pep and life with which we’re trying.
VP, old VP, you know our hearts are with you
   In our luck that never seems to die;
Win or lose, we’ll greet you with a glad returning –
   You’re the pride of VPI.

CHORUS:
   Just watch our men, so big and active,
Support the Orange and Maroon, Let’s Go Tech!!
   We know our ends and backs are stronger,
With winning hopes we fear defeat no longer
To see our team plow through the line, boys
   Determined now to win or die; so give a
Hokie, Hokie, Hokie, Hi-
   Ray Ri, old VPI!

LAST VERSE:
Fight, men, oh, fight, men, we’re going to be the champions-
   Adding to our list another victory;
Football or baseball, the games in which we star,
   They’re the sports which made old VP famous.
Hold’em just hold’em, you know the Corps’ behind you
   Watching every movement that you make.
Winning games was nothing for our teams before you –
   Keep the “rep” for VP’s sake.

— W.P. Maddox
Old Hokie

Hokie, Hokie, Hokie, Hi!
Tech! Tech! VPI
Sol-A-Rex, Sol-A-Rah;
Poly Tech Virginia;
Ray! Rah! VPI
Team! Team! Team!
- O.M. Stull

VPI Victory March

VERSE:
You have seen the Hoyas tumble,
You have made the Indians cry;
And you know the Army mule
Once took a kick at V.P.I.
Worthy teams from Lexington
Have fought with all their might;
And now it’s time to show the world
That victory is ours tonight!

BREAK STRAIN:
GO, TECH!
GO,TECH!
H-O-K-I-E-S, HOKIES!

— C.D. Steinweddel ’43
Marching Through History

The date was 1 October 1872. The path was 26 miles from a Craig County farm to what was then, the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College. The journey was taken by one man, William Addison Caldwell. “Add” Caldwell was the first student to enroll in the school we now know as Virginia Tech. In honor of Addison Caldwell and to serve as a symbolic reenactment of part of the University’s heritage, the Corps of Cadets has incorporated the Caldwell March in its training schedule.

In years past, the administration of the Corps of Cadets had been trying to improve the effectiveness of the training system, focusing on the gradual initiation of freshmen into the Corps. With the assistance of a resident history expert, Clara B. Cox, the then-Commandant of Cadets, Major General Stanton R. Musser, and his staff, a route was plotted that would most likely match the one that Addison would have traveled over a century ago. In the spring of 1997, during the celebration of Tech’s 125th Anniversary, several cadets volunteered to do the Caldwell March as a kind of commemorative reconstruction.

Many cadets voiced the opinion that they wanted a right of passage connected with the history of the University. During 2000, with the input of the cadet leadership, it was decided to officially include the Caldwell March in the Corps’ training schedule. The march is broken into two parts.
The first half is to be conducted to mark the end of the initial training phase, and the final half of the march is to take place near the end of the second semester, shifting the emphasis of First Year Cadets from followership to leadership.

The significance of the Caldwell March is to give cadets the idea to strike out and seek to better themselves through education and that they are not adverse to undergoing some hardship to accomplish that. Addison Caldwell is a mirror of the students who come to the Corps. They want an education and are not afraid to undergo a sort of trial by fire to achieve it.

Preparing the freshmen for this endeavor gives the companies a mission. It is the goal of the upperclassmen to condition the freshmen, as well as themselves, for this march. It is the goal of the freshmen to complete both parts of it in order to earn their place among the ranks of a tradition over 135 years old, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.
Duty and Discipline

Duty

“But an officer on duty knows no one—to be partial is to dishonor both himself and the object of his ill-advised favor. What will be thought of him who exacts of his friend that which disgraces him? Look at him who winks and overlooks offenses in one, which he causes to be punished in another, and contrast him with the inflexible soldier who does his duty faithfully, not withstanding it occasionally wars with his private feelings. The conduct of one will be venerated and emulated, the other detested as a satire upon soldiership and honor.”

— Brevet Major William Jenkins Worth, 1820
Battalion orders, West Point, New York

“Duty then is the sublimest word in the English language. You should do your duty in all things. You can never do more. You should never wish to do less.”

— General Robert E. Lee
**Discipline**

“The discipline which makes the soldiers of a free country reliable in battle is not to gained by harsh or tyrannical treatment. On the contrary, such treatment is far more likely to destroy than make an army. It is possible to impart instructions and give commands in such a manner and such a tone of voice as to inspire in the soldier no feeling but an intense desire to obey, while the opposite manner and tone of voice cannot fail to excite strong resentment and a desire to disobey. The one mode or the other of dealing with subordinates springs from a corresponding spirit in the breast of the commander. He who feels the respect which is due to others cannot fail to inspire in them respect for himself, while he who feels, and hence manifests disrespect toward others, especially his subordinates, cannot fail to inspire hatred against himself.”

— Major General John M. Schofield’s graduation address to the class of 1879 at West Point
Federal Flag Code

It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

(a) The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

(b) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is displayed.

No other flag or pennant should be placed above, on the same level, or to the right of the flag of the United States of America, except during church services conducted by naval chaplains at sea when the church pennant may be flown above the flag.

When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag’s own right, that is, to the observer’s left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.

The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but it should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.

The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory.

That no disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, State flags, and organization or institutional flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.

(a) The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress instances of extreme danger to life or property.

(b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.
(c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
(d) The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.
(e) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or any drawing of any nature.
(f) The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons, except those in uniform, should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note.
Military Courtesies

Salute

The most important of all military courtesies is the salute. It is a greeting initiated by the subordinate and is always accompanied by an appropriate greeting such as “Good morning Sir/Ma’am.” Salutes are required both on and off campus for all official greetings in the line of duty, for ceremonial occasions, and when the national anthem is played or the colors pass by. When in uniform, a salute is rendered at the appropriate time regardless of place or whether an individual is with a member of the family or a date.

Those persons entitled to the salute are the following:

1. President of the United States
2. Vice President of the United States
3. State Governors
4. Secretary of Defense
5. Deputy Secretary of Defense
6. Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force
7. All commissioned officers of the military service
8. All cadet officers; a lower-ranking cadet officer must salute a higher-ranking cadet officer; it is unnecessary for two cadet officers of the same rank to salute.

Members of friendly governments to include:

1. Heads of state
2. Ambassadors
3. Ministers of Defense or other civilian leaders of defense establishments and their assistants at or above the level of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Navy, and Air Force
4. Officers in any of the armed forces

The smartness with which a salute is rendered indicates the degree of pride one has in the organization. Accordingly the salute must never be rendered in a casual or perfunctory manner, nor with pipe, cigar, cigarette, or chew in the mouth or hands.

The salute is rendered at approximately 6-30 paces from the superior and at the position of attention while walking or at a halt. When saluting, cadets will look the officer or cadet officer in the eye and render an appropriate greeting with the salute.

Cadets in uniform will salute commissioned and warrant officers, even if the officers being saluted are in civilian clothes. Cadets in uniform will not salute cadet officers in civilian clothes.

A salute is rendered only once if the senior remains in the immediate vicinity and no conversation takes place. If a conversation takes place, the subordinate again salutes when either leaves.

When making reports at such occasions as formations, inspections, parades, etc., the person making the report salutes first, regardless of rank.
In formation, individuals do not salute or return salutes except at the command, “Present, arms.” Commanders of units in formation will render proper salutes after calling the unit to attention.

When an officer approaches a group of individuals, the group is called to attention by the first person noticing the officer. The senior ranking cadet will render a greeting and will salute.

In general, one does not salute when:
1. Out of uniform
2. Engaged in routine work if the salute would interfere
3. Indoors, except when reporting to a senior or on duty as a sentinel on guard, or under arms and covered
4. Carrying articles with both hands or so occupied as to make saluting impracticable
5. Working as a member of a detail, or engaged in sports or social functions
6. Driving a moving automobile and saluting is not practical
7. In public places such as theaters or churches, and in public conveyances

Staff cars with designator license plates, paint schemes, or marker flags are saluted. If the officer is driving, it may be impractical for him/her to return the salute.

While outside in uniform and when the flag is being raised or lowered, one should halt, face the flag, and render a salute if the flag can be seen. If the appropriate bugle calls or music can be heard but the flag cannot be seen, halt, face toward the music, come to attention, and, if in uniform, render a salute. If in civilian clothes, place the right hand over the left breast. If civilian headdress is worn, grasp it in the right hand and place it over the left breast. Cadets will salute while in VTCC PT gear and will follow service protocols when wearing ROTC PT gear. (Air Force and Army salute, Navy, and Marine Corps do not.)

When in uniform, cadets will salute all uncased colors. When not in uniform, cadets will come to attention as the colors pass by.

During indoor ceremonies and when inside and uncovered, during the national anthem, stand at attention. If in civilian clothes, place the right hand over the left breast. If civilian headdress is worn, grasp it in the right hand and place it over the left breast.

In accordance with public law, cadets reciting the Pledge of Allegiance will render the appropriate respect as follows:

U.S. Flag present:
1. If in uniform and uncovered or in civilian attire, cadets will render honors to the flag by standing at attention. The hand will not be placed over the heart.
2. If in uniform and covered, cadets will salute the flag.

U.S. Flag absent:
In or out of uniform, the right hand will be placed over the heart while reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
When outside and Taps is played, come to attention, face in the direction of the music, and, if in uniform, render a salute. In civilian attire, the cadet will come to attention and place the right hand over the heart. If inside and Taps can be heard, all cadets will observe a moment of silence until Taps is finished. BDO’s and the chain of command will enforce quiet in hallways during Taps. Knock-ups will not occur until Taps is finished.

All cadets while in uniform will salute the Rock, located at the base of the VT. They will salute as they pass the Rock, facing the Rock (similar to the head movement performed in an eyes-right) three paces before and three paces after it. All cadets in civilian attire will put their hand over their heart and look at the Rock as they pass it (similar to the head movement performed in an eyes-right), three paces before and three paces after. The Rock is a memorial to all VTCC graduates killed in World War I and while not dedicated so, it is also a symbol to all former VTCC graduates who have died in conflict.

Cadets in uniform will remain covered and will salute superiors while walking in the Burruss tunnel.

Similar to policies used by the armed forces, cadets will not use portable electronic devices with earbuds/earphones while walking in uniform. Similarly, cadets will not use such devices with earbuds/earphones while running on or crossing streets used by motorized vehicles whether wearing Corps or civilian athletic attire. This is to ensure the ability of the cadet to hear oncoming traffic.

Cadets may utilize cellphones while in uniform, however they should stop walking and move to the side of walkways or areas until such time as the call is completed. Cadets will not normally render salutes or greetings during such calls, but should remain cognizant of their surroundings.

Also, in keeping with normal procedures of all the military services, cadets will wear their covers at all times when outside. This includes when seated on benches or other areas on the campus while outside. If a cadet officer or commissioned officer passes in the vicinity, a junior cadet should stand and render a salute and appropriate greeting. An exception to the wearing of covers will be while in the stands at sporting events.

The confines of Lane Stadium and other sporting venues, outdoors, will be considered “no-salute” areas.

Cadets wearing VTCC PT gear will salute. (Air Force and Army, salute. Navy and Marine Corps, do not salute.) Cadets wearing ROTC PT gear will follow service protocols with regards to saluting. The only exception would be a group of cadets who are engaged in a group activity such as running in formation.

In any case not covered by specific instructions or in case of doubt, the following guide will be used: “WHEN IN DOUBT — SALUTE.”
Traditional Customs and Courtesies

Cadets will always address armed forces personnel by rank and last name. If the rank and last name are not known, commissioned and cadet officers will be addressed as “Sir” and/or “Ma’am.” However, general and flag officers are addressed as “General,” or “Admiral.” In written communication always write out the full title.

Normal courtesy demands that, when an officer of the armed services addresses a group of cadets, those cadets will come to attention regardless of the officer or cadet’s attire.

In the event there is more than one officer, they will be addressed as “gentlemen” or “ladies,” as appropriate.

In the ranks of a formation; when at ease in a formation, come to attention when addressed by a senior.

When a cadet is under arms or on guard duty he/she will always be covered and therefore execute a salute when passing by or reporting to an officer both indoors and outside.

While on professional business, cadets will address other cadets by rank and last name.

Cadets will follow the chain of command and will not go over a superior’s head without notifying him or her. The act of jumping the chain of command is disrespectful and against military procedure.

Superiors always have the right of way and subordinates will make room to allow for officers to pass by saying: “Make a hole.”

Cadets will always walk to the left of any commissioned officer or superior ranking cadet officer when accompanying said officer. Additionally the cadet will walk in step with the superior.

Cadets will not run past the Rock. The reasoning is the same as for rendering it a salute.

Cadets will not walk, lie out, or play in the grass of the “VT.” The “VT,” as the location of the beginning of Virginia Tech, is traditionally considered a special, ceremonial place. As such, it is only to be used for official functions.

Walking on grass is only authorized when wearing PT gear, MDU’s, civilian attire, or while conducting drill in formation. This applies to all classes, and seniors will not be permitted to walk on grass in any case but those specified here.

Other details specifically concerning New Cadet customs and courtesies are stated in the chapter on Training.
General Conduct
1. Cadets must maintain a proper appearance in public. Cadets will not chew gum, smoke, or drink alcoholic beverages while in uniform.

2. Cadets will refrain from spitting, chewing, cursing, or any other acts which discredit the uniform.

3. Uniforms will not be defamed. Sleeves will not be rolled up, hats will be worn squarely on the head, all buttons will be buttoned, and hands will be kept out of pockets.

4. Conduct of officers will be above criticism. A cadet will be judged on appearance and behavior. Remember perception is just as important as an overt act.

5. Cadets will refrain from public display of affection while in uniform.

6. Avoid going over an officer’s head. The act is disrespectful and against military procedure.

7. Never volunteer excuses unless an explanation is required. Excuses for failure are always unacceptable.

8. Do not criticize or correct in public. Normally all corrections, criticisms, and admonishments are done privately. Embarrassment is not a proper way to improve performance.

Phonetic Alphabet

A-Alpha H-Hotel O-Oscar V-Victor
B-Bravo I-India P-Papa W-Whiskey
C-Charlie J-Juliet Q-Quebec X-X-ray
D-Delta K-Kilo R-Romeo Y-Yankee
E-Echo L-Lima S-Sierra Z-Zulu
F-Foxtrot M-Mike T-Tango
The National Anthem

Oh say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro’ the perilous fight
O’er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there
O say does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
Corps Crest Symbolism

Flaming Grenade: Preparation for war

4 Golden Stars: Four major wars in which Tech graduates have fought (To date seven major wars fought)

Laurel Wreath: Symbolizes presidential citation given to the Cadet Band for Spanish-American War service

Color Red: Strength and courage

Sword: Command

On November 26, 1965, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute Corps of Cadets became the first unit outside the regular Army to receive a formal grant of Coat of Arms from the Army Institute of Heraldry.
“Lest We Forget”

This simple stone monument honors the memory of the VPI alumni who died in World War I. Remembering the courage and idealism of these heroes who gave their lives for democracy, Virginia Tech cadets regard it with love and reverence. It is customary for every cadet, whenever they pass “The Rock” to salute it as a mark of respect.

“What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight — it’s the size of the fight in the dog.”

— General Dwight D. Eisenhower

“The shortest and surest way to live with honor in the world is to be in reality what we would appear to be; all human virtues increase and strengthen themselves by the practice and experience of them.”

— Socrates
“A Cadet Remembered”

The single unmarked black cobblestone found in the Upper Quad Plaza is a memorial to Matthew Joseph La Porte, one of 32 students and faculty members who lost their lives on April 16, 2007.

La Porte was a member of the VTCC Class of 2009, Air Force ROTC and the Highty-Tighties. The U.S. Air Force posthumously honored him with the presentation of the Airman’s Medal for his heroic act credited for saving lives that day.

The black cobblestone is adjacent to The Rock, a memorial to all VTCC graduates killed in World War I … and by extension a symbol of all former VTCC graduates who have died in conflict.
This memorial set in front of Burruss Hall commemorates the 32 Virginia Tech students, faculty, and staff who lost their lives during the tragic events of April 16, 2007. The student-driven volunteer organization Hokies United placed 32 Hokie Stones on the Drillfield in a semi-circular pattern in front of Burruss Hall, which transformed into the present day memorial. As a community, we dedicate 32 engraved Hokie Stones in honor and in memory of the members of our Hokie family who lost their lives. Hokie Stone has long symbolized the foundation of Virginia Tech. Now, it also symbolizes our relentless spirit, our courage to move forward, and our determination never to forget. Among these names is Cadet Matthew Joseph La Porte, Highty-Tighties class of 2009, Air Force ROTC.
Medal of Honor Citations Awarded to Virginia Tech Alumni

The Medal of Honor was first awarded during the Civil War, 10 years prior to the establishment of Virginia Tech. Of the millions of Americans who have served in our nations armed forces only 3,461 have received America’s highest award for valor. Among these few are seven alumni of Virginia Tech.

Captain Antoine A.M. Gaujot
& Colonel Julien E. Gaujot

Antoine A.M. Gaujot, class of 1901, and Julien E. Gaujot, class of 1894, are one of a few brothers ever awarded the Medal of Honor and the only pair to receive the Medal for actions in different wars. Antoine Gaujot received the medal for actions as an Army corporal at the Battle of San Mateo during the Philippine Insurrection. He made persistent effort under heavy enemy rifle fire to locate a ford to help his unit cross the swollen river to attack. Unable to accomplish this, he swam across the river with a companion to the enemy side while under enemy fire and against a dangerous current. There, he secured an enemy canoe and returned it to the friendly side of the river.

Julien, his brother and regular Army officer, became obsessed with his brother’s achievement. Referring to Antoine, Julien said, “He wears it for a watch fob, the damn civilian, I got to get me one of them things for myself if I bust.” Julien Gaujot received the medal for actions on the Mexican border in 1911. He is the only soldier ever awarded the Medal for true actions of a peacekeeping nature. Fighting between Mexican rebels and a government troop left gunfire from across the Mexican border, which accidentally killed some Americans in Douglas, Arizona, during the Madero revolution. Julien was infuriated; mounted his beloved horse, “Old Dick,” and rode across the border into the teeth of the revolutionary’s fire. There,
he moved between the two groups of belligerents who were often under fire for an hour. The provided cover, along with spouting Spanish profanity at which he was an acknowledged master, enabled Julien in succeeding to save Douglas from further bloodshed by securing the safe passage of the Mexican soldiers and American prisoners over the border to the United States. His actions saved five Americans taken prisoner by the Mexicans, 25 Mexican soldiers, along with various Americans and Mexican rebels who would have died in the continued fighting. He also was successful in making the Mexican government furious. General Leonard Wood later said in referring to the incident that Julien’s action warranted “either a court martial or a Medal of Honor.” The Medal was very much deserved, and no American court martial would have ever convicted him anyway.

Julien served in the army from 1897-1934 and participated in five major engagements: Spanish-American, Philippine Insurrection, Cuban Pacification, Mexican Campaign, and World War I. He received two bronze leaves on his service ribbon for action in two major World War I offensives. Both Gaujot brothers died in Williamson, West Virginia. Antoine died April 14, 1936, and Julien died April 7, 1938.

Sergeant Earle D. Gregory

A native of Chase City, Gregory was a member of the class of 1923 and graduate of Fork Union Military Academy who then studied electrical engineering at Virginia Tech. As a senior at Virginia Tech, he was a Cadet Captain and Company Commander, President of the Corps of Cadets, and selected as Most Popular Cadet. He received the Medal of Honor for actions as an Army Sergeant during the Meuse Argonne Offensive in World War I. He was the first native Virginian to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The medal was awarded for gallantry at Bois de Consenvoye, north of Verdun, France, on October 18, 1918. With the remark, “I will get them” Gregory seized a rifle and a trench-mortar shell, which he used as a hand grenade, left his detachment of the trench-mortar platoon, and
advancing ahead of the infantry, captured a machine gun and three of the enemy. Advancing still further from the machine gun nest, he captured a 7.5-centimeter mountain howitzer. Entering a dugout in the immediate vicinity, single-handedly captured 19 of the enemy.

Gregory also was awarded Croix de Guerre, Medal of the Legion of Honor, Medaille Militaire, and the Montenegrin Order of Merit. Gregory died on January 6, 1972.

The Gregory Guard took its name in his honor in May 1963.

First Lieutenant Jimmie W. Monteith Jr.
Monteith (USA) was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism on Normandy beachhead at D-Day during World War II. He was a native of Richmond and graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School. A member of VPI’s class of 1941, he studied mechanical engineering and played football.

Monteith landed with the initial assault waves on the coast of France under heavy enemy fire. Without regard for his own personal safety, he continually moved up and down the beach, reorganizing men for further assault. He led the assault over a narrow protective ledge and across the flat, exposed terrain to the comparative safety of a cliff. Retracing his steps across the field to the beach, he moved over to where two tanks were buttoned up and blind under violent enemy artillery and machine gun fire. Completely exposed to the intense fire, Monteith led the tanks on foot through a minefield and into firing positions. Under his direction, several enemy positions were destroyed. He then rejoined his company and under his leadership his men captured an advantageous position against repeated vicious counterattacks. He continued to ignore his own personal safety, repeatedly crossing the two or three hundred yards of open terrain under heavy fire to strengthen links in his defensive chain. When the enemy succeeded in completely surrounding Monteith and his unit and while leading the fight out of the situation, Monteith was killed by enemy fire.
Sergeant Herbert J. Thomas

Thomas, class of 1941, was a native of Charleston, West Virginia, and graduate of South Charleston High School. At Virginia Tech he studied business administration. Cadet Sergeant Thomas was a legendary football player and is a member of Virginia Tech’s Athletic Hall of Fame. His senior year he was the second highest scorer in the Southern Conference and received All American honors.

Thomas (USMC) was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism while in action against enemy Japanese forces during the battle at the Koromokina River, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands, on November 7, 1943, in World War II. Although several of his men were struck by enemy bullets as he led his squad through dense jungle undergrowth in the face of severe hostile machine gun fire, he was successful in destroying two enemy machine gun positions. Halted by a third enemy machine gun, he positioned his men to rush the enemy after he threw a hand grenade. He threw the grenade only to have the jungle vines drop it back among his men. Thomas deliberately flung himself upon it to smother the explosion, valiantly sacrificing his life for his comrades. Inspired by his selfless action, his men unhesitatingly charged the enemy machine gun, and with fierce determination, killed the crew and several other nearby defenders.

Second Lieutenant Robert E. Femoyer

Femoyer was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in World War II. He was a native of Huntington, West Virginia, and studied civil engineering as a member of VPI’s class of 1944. During World War II, he left college and enlisted in the Army Air Force.

While on a mission in Germany, the B-17 bomber on which Femoyer served as navigator was struck by three enemy antiaircraft shells. The plane suffered serious damage and Femoyer was severely wounded in the side and back by shell fragments that penetrated his body. In spite of extreme pain and great loss of blood, he refused an offered injection of morphine. He was determined to keep his mental faculties clear so that he might
direct his plane out of danger and save his comrades.

Unable to rise from the floor, he asked to be propped up to enable him to see his charts and instruments. Bleeding steadily he worked with amazing clarity despite pain described as “almost beyond the realm of human endurance.” Femoyer successfully guided the lone bomber through six changes in course around enemy antiaircraft concentrations for two and a half hours to avoid enemy flack and returned to the field without further damage. As the crippled aircraft crossed safely over the English Channel, Femoyer finally allowed an injection of morphine. Thirty minutes after landing he died of wounds.

Femoyer Hall is named in his honor. Virginia Tech’s chapters of Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings Society are also named in his honor.

First Lieutenant Richard Thomas Shea Jr.
Shea, class of 1948 and a native of Portsmouth, graduated from Churchland High School. He first studied in uniform at Virginia Tech at the height of World War II. Enlisting in the Army, he served as a sergeant and entered West Point, where he graduated. He was an All-American in track and said to have been the greatest track star to attend Virginia Tech (where he ran his first competitive race) or West Point. Turning down the opportunity to attend the Olympics, he joined his classmates in the Korean War. Shea received the Medal of Honor for actions as a army first lieutenant at Pork Chop Hill during the Korea War.

Shea was assigned as the Executive Officer for Company A, 7th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division near Sokkagae, Korea. He distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy from July 6-8, 1953.

On the night of July, 6 Shea was supervising the reinforcement of defensive positions when the enemy attacked with great numerical superiority. Voluntarily proceeding to the area most threatened, he organized and led a counterattack. In the bitter fighting which ensued, Shea closed with and killed two enemy soldiers with his trench knife. Calmly mov-
ing among the men, he fought side by side with them through the night. Despite heavy losses, the hostile force made an all out attempt at dawn to overrun friendly elements.

On the afternoon of July 7, after 18 hours of heavy fighting and having lost key personnel through casualties, Shea rallied a group of 20 men and again charged the enemy. Although wounded in the action, he refused evacuation and continued to move among the defenders of Pork Chop Hill ensuring a successful defense. When the assaulting element was pinned down by heavy machine gun fire, he personally rushed the emplacement and, firing his carbine and lobbing grenades, neutralized the weapon and killed three of the enemy soldiers single-handedly. Shea coordinated and directed a holding action throughout the night and the following morning.

On July 8, the enemy attacked again. Despite additional wounds he launched a determined counterattack and was last seen in close hand-to-hand combat with the enemy. He died leaving both a wife and unborn son.

**Army Distinguished Service Cross, Navy and Air Force Cross Recipients**

Virginia Tech has a long record of military valor that is now over 100 years old. The first alumnus recognized with an Award for Valor was Lieutenant Edward Anderson, class of 1883. Years after his actions in the Santiago Campaign, during the Spanish American War, he was presented a Silver Star. American’s second-highest award for valor is the Army’s Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy’s Navy Cross, and the Air Forces’ Air Force Cross. Incredibly, at least 20 alumni have received these awards. Virginia Tech can also boast of at least 82 individuals awarded the Silver Star and at least 94 awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Valor among our alumni has not been uncommon. Neither has their sacrifice, with 424 dying in service during World I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, and, most recently, Operation Iraqi Freedom.
**WORLD WAR I**
First Lieutenant John R. Castleman ’19
Lieutenant Commander Francis M. Collier (USN) ’07
First Lieutenant David R. Doggett ’16
Major Bernard Hewlett Kyle ’06
Sergeant Samuel A. Loyd ’14
Captain J.W.G. Stephens ’15
Major James Vernon Ware ’14
Captain (USMC) Lloyd W. Williams ’07

**WORLD WAR II**
Major William R. Washington ’40
Lieutenant (USNR) Carl F. Robison ’34
Captain W. Bruce Davis * ’38
Lieutenant JG (USNR) William W. Patterson ’52
Lieutenant Colonel Woodrow Wilson Bailey * ’35
Colonel William Ford ’18
First Lieutenant Charlie E. Linkous * ’42
Captain Richard P. Walker * ’35
Private Frank E. Palco ’45
Captain (USN) Ben Tate ’42

**KOREAN WAR**
Captain Moir E. Eanes ‘49

**VIETNAM WAR**
First Lieutenant (USMC) Paul F. Cobb * ’66
Brigadier General (USAF) Robert Titus ’48
First Lieutenant Ronald S. Taylor

* denotes posthumous award
Corps of Cadets History

On October 1, 1872, Virginia Tech opened as the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College. All students were cadets organized into a battalion of two companies with an enrollment of 132. The Commandant of Cadets was General James H. Lane, formerly the youngest general in the Army of Northern Virginia, who was wounded three times in combat. He worked to provide both the best education and the best military training in the state for his cadets based on his experience in the Civil War, as a student at VMI and UVA, and as a teacher at Florida State Seminary and North Carolina Military Institute.

General Lane is considered the father of the Corps. He wrote the first cadet regulations and began a tradition of academic and military excellence. In 1878, President Charles Minor wanted to do away with the strict military requirements. Lane opposed him and their disagreement became so heated that a faculty meeting ended with a fist fight between the two. Both left campus in the ensuing scandal, but the Corps remained.

Cadets made their first Corps trip in 1875 to Richmond to the dedication of the Lee Monument. Through the years, the Corps has made many trips. These trips were more frequent in the early years including the Pan-American Exposition in New York in 1901 and the St. Louis Worlds Fair in 1904.

In 1880, political mismanagement from Richmond helped enrollment drop to 78 cadets. That same year William & Mary dropped to 27 students and closed temporarily. In the ensuing years, however, enrollment and educational opportunities were expanded. E Battery, manning four Civil War artillery pieces with upperclassmen, existed between 1883 and 1907.

In 1896, VAMC by law changed its name to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Agriculture and Mechanical College. Right away, usage took on its new designation abbreviated as VPI or Virginia Tech. Also, that year began a tradition that lasted nearly three-quarters of a century, the VPI-VMI annual football game in Roanoke, Virginia. Known as the Military Classic of the South, the annual Corps trips and associated parades ended in 1969.

In 1898, with the outbreak of the Spanish American War, the Corps of
Cadets formally volunteered to the governor for combat service. This request was declined, but most of the band and the director enlisted as the Band of the 2nd Virginia Infantry Regiment. Many alumni served in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection. Among them, one was awarded the Medal of Honor during the Philippine Insurrection; another was cited for gallantry at the Battle of Santiago, Cuba and awarded the Silver Star.

The band was first organized in 1892. Prior to that, as early as 1883, music was provided by the Glade Cornet Band, an organization of townspeople. The summer of 1902 saw the band serving as part of the 70th Virginia Infantry during large-scale national military maneuvers held in Manassas. Alumni also participated in the Mexican Border Conflict between 1910 and 1919, including one who received the Medal of Honor for actions of a true peacekeeping nature.

With the approach of World War I, ROTC was established at Virginia Tech. In January 1917, Infantry ROTC was established, followed shortly by Engineer and Coast Artillery. During the war, Virginia Tech became an Army post. Cadets were inducted and became enlisted men of the Student Army Training Battalion and its Navy detachment. They wore Army and Navy uniforms. Two army-training detachments of between 226 and 308 men each trained on campus.

CPT J.W.G. Stephens ’15, of the 26th Infantry, led the first American forces “over on top” in combat near Montdidlier, France. Many alumni served with distinction with the 1st, 2nd, 29th and 80th divisions, all of which saw heavy combat. A hero of note was MAJ Lloyd Williams ’07, U.S. Marine Corps. One of the famous quotes of the war, used for years as a Marine standard, was attributed to him. “Retreat, hell no!” was his reply to the French orders to retreat his company. His company held its ground, but he was killed in the action and awarded the Distinguish Service Cross.

In the air as early as World War I, alumni foreshadowed VPI’s contribution to the Air Force. CPL Robert G. Eoff, ’18, French Foreign Legion, attached to the 157 French Fighter Squadron shot down the first of six enemy aircraft credited to Techmen. LT John R. Castleman ’19 was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in completing an aerial recognizance despite an attack of 12 enemy aircraft of which he shot down two.
Virginia Tech's contribution to the war effort included 2,297 in uniform. These included 2,155 in the Army, 125 in the Navy, 19 in the Marine Corps, six in the Coast Guard, one in the British Army, and one in the French Foreign Legion. One alumni was awarded the Medal of Honor, seven the Distinguished Service Cross, and one the Navy Cross. At least eight were awarded the Silver Star. Twenty-six died in service, and another 26 were wounded. Based on this, Virginia Tech was designated as one of 12 Distinguished Colleges by the War Department.

After World War I, veterans both as new cadets and returning cadets impacted positively on the corps and university. At the same time, two other corps of cadets, Louisiana State and Mississippi State, disbanded because of the negative reaction of post-war students and veterans.

In 1921, women were admitted as civilian students and attended classes as day students. The next year, the Corps was reorganized into a regiment of two battalions. Two years later, military service as a cadet was reduced from four years to two; however after two years of the camaraderie of Corps' life, very few cadets chose to convert to civilian student status. During the national rail strike of 1923, the Corps again volunteered to the Virginia governor for active military service. They were not called upon.

A Third Battalion was added to the regiment by 1927. Rapid growth followed as Virginia Tech's reputation as both an outstanding academic and military institution grew. In 1939, a Fourth Battalion was added.

For the duration of World War II, academic sessions and the Corps operated on a 12-month cycle. The Corps had grown to a brigade of 2,650 cadets consisting of two regiments with a total of five battalions. The 1st Battalion was primarily Infantry ROTC. The 2nd Battalion was Engineer ROTC and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th consisted of Cadet Batteries taking Coast Artillery ROTC. The war demanded that seniors were graduated and commissioned early. Juniors were on an accelerated schedule and brought on active duty. Finally, sophomores and freshmen over 18 were largely inducted into military service. The Corps soon numbered under 300 and was organized into a single battalion.

The Commandant, in addition to the cadet battalion, supervised a unit of the Army Specialized Training Program and Army Specialized Training Reserve.
Program (ASTRP) (soldiers under 18 years of age) and a Navy pre-flight training unit. These units included many former cadets and they adopted many of the traditions of the Corps to include the Honor Code and saluting the Rock. The young men of the ASTRP were actually uniformed in cadet gray. Once again, Virginia Tech was largely an active duty military installation.

During World War II, 7,285 alumni served in uniform. The Army had 5,941 men, the Navy 1,059 men, 110 in the Marine Corps, 29 in the Merchant Marine, 23 in the Coast Guard, and one in the Royal Air Force. These included 10 brigadier generals, five major generals, and a rear admiral. Three hundred and twenty-three died, three were awarded the Medal of Honor, seven the Distinguished Service Cross, two the Navy Cross, and at least 73 the Silver Star and 94 the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Following World War II, returning veterans were not required to serve in the Corps, and the great influx of veterans swelled the number of civilian students. Civilian students outnumbered cadets for the first time in 1946. That same year Air Force ROTC was introduced to Virginia Tech. Initially civilian-cadet relations with the corps were not good as most veterans were attending Virginia Tech for the first time. Thanks to the regimental commander, Cadet Rolfe Robertson ’49, a World War II Coast Guard veteran, greater understanding was promoted among his fellow veterans, and the Corps continued to grow and flourish. At the same time the corps at Clemson was disbanded.

During the following years, the Corps would expand again back to a regiment and eventually organize into four battalion size units. The cadet 1st Battalion was housed at Radford Army Arsenal for two years at “Rad-Tech”. There in World War II Army barracks, the cadets lived and took many of their classes. For classes unavailable there, a fleet of buses brought them back to the main campus. As new dorms were completed, the battalion returned to campus.

During the Korean War, 1,867 alumni served of whom 30 died in service and one was awarded the Medal of Honor. In 1952, the university employed a retired general as the commandant of cadets. This was a departure from the policy in place since 1884, in which the senior active duty military instructor functioned as commandant. In 1958, Virginia Tech became the first tradition-
ally white southern college to graduate a black student with the graduation of Cadet Charles Yates ’58.

In a move to expand educational opportunities at Virginia Tech, the Board of Visitors made participation in the Corps completely voluntary starting in 1964. However, the taking of ROTC continued to require Corps membership. Similar action had been taken the prior year at Texas A&M. The Vietnam War period saw unrest on campus outside the Corps ranks. In 1970, demonstrations were conducted with the aim of halting Corps drill. Cowgill and Williams halls were occupied and over 100 arrested. Various other disorderly incidents occurred, including the suspected arson of an on campus building. Civilian-cadet relations were at an all-time low. Throughout all of this, the Corps maintained discipline and high morale. At the same time the Pennsylvania Military College disappeared.

The post-Vietnam years saw the Corps numbers decline and reorganization to a two-battalion regiment. In 1973, Virginia Tech was one of the first corps of cadets in the nation to enroll women, assigning them to L Squadron. In 1975, the first female cadet was assigned to the Band Company. In 1979, L Squadron was disbanded and female cadets integrated into the line companies. In 1981, the cadet dormitories became co-ed.

Naval ROTC was established in 1983. The cadet regiment expanded to a three-battalion structure in 1998. Today the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is one of only six senior military colleges outside the five federal military academies. Virginia Tech is one of only two large, public universities in the nation that maintains a full time Corps of Cadets. The other is Texas A&M.

The Corps has weathered many turbulent years. Since the Spanish-American War the Corps has provided leadership in our nation’s times of need. Most recently, Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom saw nine Virginia Tech alumni killed, five of whom were Corps alumni. The valor of our alumni is legendary, with seven Medal of Honor recipients and 22 recipients of the nation’s second-highest award for valor, the Distinguished Service Cross or Navy Cross. The Corps continues and always will because the spirit and devotion of its cadets and alumni will never waiver. Whenever the nation has called, the Corps is ready to live up to the university motto *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve).
The Story of the Skipper:  
The Dream

The famous game cannon of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets was born in the dreams of three cadets of the class of 1964 and its metal tested in the heat of battle between VPI and VMI.

For a third year, two close friends in the Corps, “Butch” Harper aka Alton B. Harper Jr. and “Sonny” Hickam aka Homer Hadley Hickam, sat in the stands of Victory Stadium in Roanoke, Virginia, in anticipation of the Thanksgiving game with VMI. The Virginia Tech Corps formed on the field first and took position while the VMI Corps marched into the stadium.

Both corps took their traditional positions on opposing sides. And for the third time that Butch and Sonny had witnessed, VMI brought in its game cannon, “Little John.” Oh, it was a small thing that looked more like a mortar than a cannon. They loaded it, fired it, and the whole VMI Corps swelled with the chant “Where’s your cannon?” as a perfect smoke ring rose toward the sky.

This was too much to bear! Butch looked at Sonny, and Sonny looked at Butch, and the two made a solemn pact right there in the stands. This would be the last time that VMI would be allowed to “out cannon” Virginia Tech. They vowed to build the largest game cannon in the world. We won the game.

The whole thing took on the form of a major military operation. Sonny found blueprints for a Civil War cannon barrel, and Butch looked to find out where they could get a carriage made for the cannon. But the proverbial problem soon became evident. Where on Earth would they get the money?

They attacked it on two sides. First, they decided that it would have to come from the Corps itself with some help from alumni. Now just how do you convince 1,700 folks to give money? Sonny came up with the idea to have a wooden mold made of the barrel at our College of Mechanical Engineering. They took it on as a class project.

Sonny and Butch decided on a strategy. They would call a meeting
of every company and every squadron and they would take the wooden mold of the barrel of the cannon to every meeting. George Fox, another friend from A Squadron, volunteered to help.

What a wonderful moment. Every person should have one magic moment in life where they could enjoy something so accepted as “Skipper.” The huge wooden mold of the barrel did its job. It inspired every member of the Corps. The meetings, 16 in all, made it evident that never again would the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets go into battle without a gun.

At the end of each meeting, each cadet got up, went back to his room, and brought back what he could spare. We asked each for just $1 and all of the brass they could give. They brought their grommets, they brought their brass plates, they brought their old brass buckles. This cannon would not simply be built with their dollars, but with their hearts. It is for this reason that you can find the class numerals of 64, 65, 66, and 67 on the face of the barrel.

It was a moving experience. Sonny and Butch found it hard to look at each other after each meeting because they knew they would each see a tear in the eye of the other. These were the best guys in the world. They had never seen anything so emotionally supported then or now. They would not trade that feeling of being a member of a group of which they were so proud for anything in the world.

The Making

Butch had called the president of the company a few months before and told him what they were about to do, after swearing him to secrecy. Butch asked him how much it would cost, and he astounded him with his response. “You don’t have enough,” he indicated, “but I’ve thought we needed a cannon for a long time, too. Son, I’m a member of the Corps class of ’37. We’ll be making that barrel for you for nothing. Just blow the heck out of them for us, will ya?”

It was a deal. He took our brass and wooden mold and set about the task of casting the barrel.

A few days later, Butch received a phone call from Mr. Hoffman. He
asked where they had gotten the brass for the barrel, and Butch told him the story. It seems that not all of the shell casings they picked up from the floor of the firing range were empty. He said when they poured the brass into the vat for melting, everybody was ducking for cover as the foundry was filled with the sound of gunfire. Well, after all, no good cannon worth its salt is made without a little effort. He indicated that the brass they had given him was too soft without support and recommended that they let him add some Navy gun metal brass for safety. It was done.

Hoffman asked if he could bring the Roanoke Times in on the secret. Butch told him yes, if he would wait until the edition that prints directly after the game — because they had big plans for VMI and it absolutely depended on their not knowing. He agreed, and Butch knew he could trust him because he was one of them.

It was now time to turn to the carriage. They found the place that made the old Civil War gun carriages for the National Battle Field Parks like Gettysburg. It was the Lorton Reformatory, in Lorton, Virginia, just outside of Washington, D.C. They were given all of the money that Butch and Sonny had saved by not having to pay for the barrel, and they agreed to make the carriage to hold “Skipper.”

The Name

The cannon did not yet have a name, and no one could have ever dreamed of the circumstances that would cause it to have one.

Time was getting short. The big game was fast approaching. Everything was in place.

It was time to pick up the barrel and the carriage. They rented a truck that Sonny and Butch drove and a chase car was driven by George Fox and a few others also from A Squadron.

They stopped by the foundry in Roanoke first to pick up the barrel. After all, if the barrel wasn’t ready, there was no need to go on to Washington. The whole foundry turned out. They were as proud of the barrel as Sonny and Butch were. They shook hands, wished them well, and gave a big Tech cheer as they headed off to get the carriage.
It was a long trip, all the way across the state. The Reformatory was a bit foreboding, but the carriage was waiting just as promised. It took all of them to load it into the truck.

They had it! They had it done! And they were on the way back to show it to the whole Corps. It was the best feeling in the world. Nothing like it.

After about 20 minutes, the chase car that was now the lead car pulled over on the shoulder and waved us to pull over. Our truck did not have a radio. George Fox came back to Sonny and Butch and indicated that it had just been broadcast that the President had been shot in Dallas and that they did not know how severe it was. They continued back to Blacksburg — not in the exhilaration that they had experienced, but with a tremendous foreboding. In those days, they did not know whether it was an international plot, whether war was imminent, or what the future would hold. It was like going from basking in the warm sun to being plunged into the abyss of a cold dark tunnel. There was no more joy in the trip. Everyone was quiet.

By the time that they arrived back in Blacksburg, the President was dead. They all felt terrible, but wanted to do something in honor of our Head of State. They remembered an old military tradition that, at the death of a President, all military installations give a 50 gun salute to their fallen leader.

It was then that they knew what they had to do. It was then that they knew what they had to name their cannon. It would be named “Skipper” in honor of John Fitzgerald Kennedy and his naval background.

The Salute

The first firing of “Skipper” would be a 50 round salute to our fallen President. It would be the test of the barrel’s strength, and it would be the salute of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

As they placed “Skipper” in position on the lawn in front of Brodie and Rasche halls, General Schewe appeared. Sonny had quickly devised special charges that were quite rudimentary. But at the time, it was all they could do. Butch saw a look in the General’s eyes that spoke a thousand words. Never did he dream when he allowed us to proceed on building
the cannon, that it would be christened in this way. It was an emotional moment for everyone.

“Skipper” did just fine. A tradition was born.

The Game

After they found out that the Thanksgiving Day game would indeed be held, they immediately began laying plans for introducing “Skipper” to the opposing Corps of Cadets from VMI.

They met with Curt Tompkins, Captain of the “Highty-Tighties.” He was brought into the big secret. They would take the cannon to Roanoke the night before the game and hide it in the stadium. They would let our Corps and the VMI Corps march in the parade and into the stadium. They would take their place in the stands and let the VMI Corps form and take their place as normal. They would let them bring in “Little John,” their mortar, and fire it as usual. They would let them chant, “Where’s your cannon?”

At that time, Sonny, Butch, and George would stand and signal Curt and the Highty-Tighties to strike up the march of the Charioteers from Ben Hur. Fifth freshmen members of the rat class, with Sonny as their commander, would pull in “Skipper” with two long heavy ropes, place it in position aimed directly at the center of the VMI Corps of Cadets and fire it!

And fire it they did. Sonny and George placed a charge in the barrel and looked at Butch, with a twinkle in their eye, as if to ask if that was enough. Butch knew the answer they were looking for. Another charge would be appropriate and yet another. They placed a triple charge into the cannon that day.

What happened after that became a legend. The folks sitting next to the VMI Corps later told that it blew the covers off of half of the Corps and a huge announcement came pounding from the press boxes. It seems that the reporters had to place their hands on the glass of the press box to keep it from vibrating out of its frame.

The VMI Corps was quiet. They knew never again to challenge the veracity of VPI’s artillery. The mission was complete. The duty was done. The game was won.
Company Heraldry

Alpha Company

The Alpha Company logo incorporates a strong base of traditional values from the past and present. The Air Force Prop and Wings and the Army Crossed Rifles set behind the shield pay respect to Alpha’s early roll as a unit of Army cadets and later, of Air Force cadets. The shape of the shield is the same shape used from a previous logo from the 1960s. Within the shield are two phrases: “Retreat Hell” honoring Alpha alumnus Major Lloyd Williams and his refusal to retreat, and “Still Kickin’ Ass” emphasizing Alpha’s tenacity and its mascot. The two kicking donkeys represent the mascot; the three images around the Ace of Spades in the center represent the three tenets of the company today, Unity (Fleur de Lis), Pride (Lion), and Self Discipline (Greek Helmet).

Bravo Company

The motto of Bravo Company, engraved on the sword is Factus n Flamman, Forged in Flame. It illustrates that a successful company comes from the team struggling and persevering together. The sword is a symbol of the power created through hard work. The crest is in the shape of a shield. It symbolizes the tradition of every class to design a shield as its members become part of the company. The phoenix is the current company mascot and is another symbol that compliments the motto. The bee is the old mascot from the 1960s, when the company was B Squadron. This honors the great men and women who served in Bravo before us.

Charlie Company

The Charlie Corps emblem depicts a bloodied, broken shield, held together by a Blue Cobra. The red portion of the shield with a diagonal white strip symbolizes the Corps itself, while the black band surrounding the shield symbolizes the Corps’ value and perseverance within a larger university. There is a crack in the shield and two blood drops symbolizing the steadfastness of Corp members over time and the two companies, India and Kilo, which earlier merged to form today’s Charlie Company. The original meaning of the yellow star in the bottom left corner is unknown, but today it stands in honor of past company members.
**Delta Company**
In 1980 the Delta Company crest was updated to better reflect the unit's history. The 1970 superimposed over the “L” and “M” is the year Delta Company was established. The entire Corps of Cadets was reorganized that year and “L” and “M” companies were combined to form what is now Delta Company. Through the combined efforts of all classes, Delta Company achieved distinction as one of the top units in the Corps. Red letters on a yellow background symbolize the colors of the company. The bar in the center of the shield reflects the southern heritage of the University, and the stars represent the four classes of the Corps of Cadets. The red and white stripes represent our nation’s flag and the service our Corps has rendered to the nation. Crossed sabers are symbolic of command and being unsheathed signifies duty, vigilance, and readiness. “Spirit of Delta,” the company’s motto, speaks to the devotion of members to our unit.

**Echo Company**
The stripes in the bottom left quadrant are represent our unit colors and also are reflected on the stripes on the walls of our Unit Area ... our home. The Eagle is the crest from the 1960s. The “S.A.C. III” represents Sam Carson. The “A” and “B” represent Alpha and Bravo merging to form Echo. The Eagle flying with the AB Shield is a historic crest that the sophomores continue to draw in their Echo Books as they join the company.

**Foxtrot Company**
The cannon in the upper-right corner of the shield recognizes Foxtrot Company as the original caretaker of the Skipper cannon. Even today, Foxtrot Company sophomores shine the original Skipper in the Corps museum. The diamond in the lower-left corner represents the Foxtrot Company First Sergeants who have the nickname “Diamond.” Red is Foxtrot Company’s color.
Golf Company
The golden “G” in the company logo represents member pride in the company. The Tasmanian Devil represents its members’ unwavering tenacity. The ripping shield is symbolic of the fact that nothing is capable of preventing Golf from achieving its will. Non Concedo is the company’s motto and roughly translates to “Never Give Up.”

Hotel Company
The Hotel Company crest symbolizes the spirit of Hotel in many ways. The dragon is the mascot of Hotel and is considered the company’s protector. In front of the dragon is the Flaming VT, which was a tradition started decades ago in which members of Hotel Company light a giant “VT” on fire to energize the crowd at Homecoming pep rallies. The letters “R” and “S” were the original two squadrons joined together to make what is today’s Hotel Company. On the top and the bottom of the crest are the words “Hotel Forever.” This is the company’s motto and is a testament to the strong bonds between members of the company. Finally, the entire crest is red and green, the company’s colors.

India Company
India company was established in 1927 as an artillery battery represented by two crossed cannons. The bullet in the middle of the “I” represents the tradition of joining India Company. In earlier years, cadets joining India Company were given a live .308 round that they were to keep with them at all times. India cadets would fire their round to commemorate their acceptance into the company. Today incoming sophomores receive a .308 shell as a treasured keepsake. The Bengal tiger became the official mascot for the company, along with the colors black and red (gold is an adopted color). Every cadet in India Company lives by the motto Non Sibi, Sed Omnibus, which means “Not for self, but for all.”
Kilo Battery
The golden “K” at the top of the crest symbolizes the nickname Kilo Battery and the fact that Kilo earned Gold Chord honors nine out of 10 times the first decade the award was available. The actual design of the K is modeled after the original Kilo Company crest. The flaming black horse is the Kilo Battery mascot known as Nightmare. The punisher skull is the Six Pack (TC 3-3) mascot. Our motto, Ne Te Molesti Deprimant, is on the scroll and translates to, “Don’t Let the Bastards Get You Down.” The cannons represent the two cannons next to the Corps flagpole. These cannons were found submerged in the Duck Pond and were later recovered by members of Kilo Battery. They were kept hidden in Rasche Hall until members of Foxtrot Company had cleaned them up and put them on display. The spider web, rifle, and bone are all elements on the original Kilo Company crest.

Lima Company
The Lima crest has four sections and is taken from the original design of the Lima crest of the 1970s. The “L” in the upper-right section symbolizes both Lima and our mascot, The Legion. The double meaning of the letter symbolizes the unity of Lima. In the bottom left, is a broken sword that stands for power and strength. Even though it is broken, it is being held upward, showing that even through difficult times, Lima will rise and continue to achieve excellence. The unit colors are reflected throughout the crest (red, white, and blue) and the motto Non Timebo Mala translates to “I Fear No Evil.”

Band Company
The Highty-Tighty logo is a modern twist of the traditional Highty-Tighty Crest. Dividing the logo into four quadrants are the Mace and the Commander’s Sword. The Drum Major, while leading the band, carries the Mace. This tradition began in the mid 1990s. The Commander’s Sword is an Army-style sabre carried by the Band Company Commander with a white blood knot, originally owned by Andre S. William HT’86. In the upper quadrant is a soaring eagle and the Highty-Tighty motto, “Deeds Not Words,” signifying the bands continued service since the Spanish American War. The bottom quadrant contains a golden lyre similar to the ones worn on the sleeve of current bandsmen on the blue blouse uniform. The left and right quadrants contain flags. On the left is the U.S. flag, and on the right is a flag representing Virginia Tech. These symbolize all those whom the band serves when it performs: first our country and then the university.
Virginia Tech Trivia

- The Morrill Land Grant Act was signed by President Lincoln on 2 July 1862 (Land Grant College Act).

- Virginia Governor Gilbert Walker signed legislation on 19 March 1872 establishing Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College, and Hampton Institute as land grant institutions. 19 March is Founder’s Day at Virginia Tech.

- Virginia Tech first opened as Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (VAMC) on 1 October 1872.

- First student to register was Cadet William Addison Caldwell.

- First Commandant was General James H. Lane, a VMI graduate. He was the youngest general in the Army of Northern Virginia, wounded three times, led his brigade in Picket’s Charge, and was credited with saving General Robert E. Lee from capture during the Battle of the Wilderness.

- General Lane served under both Stonewall Jackson and A.P Hill. His men were responsible for the mortal wounding of Jackson at the Battle of Chancellorsville.

- University President Lindsay Lomax (1886-1891) was a confederate general.

- University President Thomas Conrad (1882-1886) was a confederate spy and scout during the Civil War.

- Two former university presidents commanded Echo as cadets. Julian Burruss, 1898, commanded E Battery, while John R. Hutcheson, 1907, commanded E Company.
• The Father of Modern VPI is President John McBryde (1891-1907).

• Cadet James H. Clark, Class of 1881 functioned as the commandant of cadets 1880-1882.

• Lieutenant Sheldon W. Anding (USA) was the only Naval Academy man to be the commandant of cadets. LT Anding was USNA Class of 1886 when during his senior year a severe case of typhoid prevented his graduation. With the outbreak of the Spanish American War he enlisted in the Army.

• Cadet O.M. Stull, 1896, wrote “Old Hokie” for a contest in which he won $5. The word “Hokie” from this cheer is actually a nonsense word, now used for Tech students and athletes.

• Cadet Wilfred Preston “Pete” Maddux, 1920, wrote the words to “Tech Triumph.”

• The HokieBird’s origins can be traced to the nickname given to cadet athletes during the early 20th century. As early as 1908, the cadets were nicknamed “gobblers” for the way they ate in the dining facilities. In 1913, a live turkey began appearing at football games. For many years, the football team was known as the “Fighting Gobblers.” A costumed student replaced the live turkey in 1962.

• Virginia Tech’s official school colors are Chicago maroon and burnt orange. The original school colors were black and gray, but the students thought they looked like prison colors. Instead, they chose two colors no other school had used together, and came up with the more familiar orange and maroon.

• The bushes around Lane Stadium turn orange and maroon.

• Shultz Hall originally had the largest university seal on campus. It was moved to the Holtzman Alumni Center.
• McBryde has the largest compass on the campus.

• The flagpole at Burruss leans 4.5 degrees N-NW.

• The flagpoles at Burruss are 77 feet apart.

• There are 14 gargoyles on campus: 4 at Eggleston, 4 at Hillcrest, 3 at Smyth, and 3 at Saunders.

• The Mall is .25 miles from North Main Street to the Pylons.

• The oldest academic building still in use is Henderson Hall, and the original portion of which dates to 1876. It was the president’s house until 1902.

• Virginia Tech’s oldest fraternity, the G.E.R.M.A.N. Club of Virginia Tech, was originally founded as the Cadet Dancing Club in 1887.

• The bookstore is shaped like the state of Virginia.

• The longest pipe on the organ in the Chapel is 16 feet.

• There are 61 bells in the Carillon.

• VPI&SU is located at 80.5 25’ 16”W-37.5 13’54” N.

• Two Virginia governors were born at Smithfield Plantation. Governor James Patton Preston (1816-1819) is buried in the Smithfield Plantation cemetery behind the Cage.

• Women were not allowed into the Bugle until 1935.

• The first female cadet was admitted to the Corps in 1973.
• Two large universities — Virginia Tech and Texas A&M — along with the smaller North Georgia College & State University, are the only public universities to have a corps of cadets along with a civilian, undergraduate student body.

• The creek under the Drillfield is Stroubles.

• The first three professors were Lane, Martin, and Carrol.

• Virginia Tech’s only Noble Prize winner is Robert Richardson ’58. This former Regimental S-1 discovered Liquid Helium -3.

• The movie “October Sky” is about Homer Hickam ’64. The film is based on Hickam’s book “Rocket Boys,” which he wished the title of the film to be. The studio believed that title would not sell well, and changed the name. It just so happened that “October Sky” is an anagram of “Rocket Boys.”

• John Philip Sousa dedicated “Hands Across the Seas” to the Highty-Tighties.

• The regimental band has won three Presidential Inaugural Parades in 1953, 1957, and 1961. The parade was ruled non-competitive days before the 1965 Inaugural.

• Franklin D. Roosevelt awarded the Highty-Tighties a white cord in 1936 for their service in the 1898 Spanish-American War. Because the cord was supposedly pinned on backwards, the band wears the cord with the braid facing outward.


• General Lewis Pick, class of 1914, was the engineer who built the Burma
Road (Pick’s Pike). It was “the road that could not be built.”

- Virginia Tech has over 100 Generals and Admirals among its alumni. These include three Four Star Generals.

- Virginia Tech’s highest ranking alumni are General Thomas Richards, 1956 (USAF Ret.); General Lance L. Smith, 1969, USAF (Ret.); and General Carlton D. Everhart II ’83.


- General Eisenhower’s ranking engineer in the World War II European Theater was Major General Cecil Moore, 1916.

- On D-Day, June 6, 1944, six Virginia Tech alumni were killed in Normandy: Tech 5 Foster G. Nicherson; SSGT Meade H. Baker ’38; SGT Wesley D. Sisson ’40; SGT George B. Tullidge ’45; SSGT John B. Schenk ’40; LT Jimmie Montieth ’41. Two others died of wounds received that day: CPT Norman L. Aiger ’39 and PFC Raymond L. Sanford ’45. LT Giles B. Harris’43, died on June 10, 1944, during continued engagements during Operation Overlord.

- Virginia Tech’s Gulf War dead were Machinist’s Mate 3rd Class Michael Mann (formerly Alpha Company), 1988, of the USS Iwo Jima, and 1st. Lt Donaldson Tillar (formerly of Golf Company), 1988, US Army 1st Infantry Division.

• The term “Rat” as in rat belt was first used for freshmen cadets in 1873. Its use was discouraged after 1935. “Mister” and more recently “New Cadet” became the official freshman title. Unlike VMI’s “brother rat” applied to classmates there, the term or wearing of related items, such as rat belts, is dropped immediately and eagerly by all concerned upon achieving upper-class standing at Virginia Tech. Freshmen cadets were told in past years that the only thing lower in their chain of command is a senior at VMI.

• Christopher Kraft ’45, N company, was NASA flight director for the first spaceflight, first orbital, and first spacewalk. He was NASA’s Director of Flight Operations when the crew of Apollo 11 made the first lunar landing. Eventually he served as Director, Manned Spaceflight Center.

• The Cadet Corps owns two unmounted 3-inch Civil War cannons. They are on display at the flagpole. Both were purchased with the money won as a drill prize from the 1888 Virginia Exposition. C Company performed the prescribed drill with such proficiency that the attending company from VMI refused to take the field. The carriages for these cannons were destroyed during World War II. Designated for the wartime scrap drive, these historical trophies were hidden in the Duck Pond by cadets.

• The original Skipper cannon was partially made from brass donated by the cadets from the Classes of ’64, ’65, ’66, and ’67. Most of the brass came from outside donations and shells. The name of “Skipper” was to honor President Kennedy, former skipper of patrol Torpedo Boat 109.

• One of the most famous quotes from WWI was, “Retreat? Hell! We just got here!” This is attributed to Major Lloyd Williams, 1907, USMC. This was in response to French orders to retreat. His company held its ground against a determined German assault. Major Williams was killed in the action and was later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.
Significant Dates

1851  Olin and Preston Institute opens.
1862  Morrill Land Grant Act (July 2).
1869  Preston and Olin Institute chartered with collegiate powers.
1872  - Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College established as a land-grant institution.
       - VTCC organized as one battalion with two companies.
1875  First Corps trip (Richmond) was for the unveiling of the Jackson Monument.
1881  All students required to live on campus.
1882  Military system firmly established.
1892  - Cadet Band organized.
       - First football game played.
       - Original colors adopted (cadet grey and black).
1894  First VMI game played.
1895  First Bugle published.
1896  - “Polytechnic Institute” added to name of college.
       - Current school colors (Chicago maroon and burnt orange) adopted.
       - Motto *Ut Prosim* adopted.
       - University Coat of Arms adopted.
1898  - Corps petitions governor for active military service.
       - Bandsmen and Director enlist as Regimental Band,
       - 2nd Virginia Infantry Regiment.
1901  First out-of-state Corps Trip (Buffalo, New York) was to the Pan American Exposition.
1908  Honor System established.
1909  First Basketball game played.
1913  Living Turkey first attends football game as mascot.
1916  First Guidon published as the YMCA Handbook.
       (Rat Bible).
1917  First R.O.T.C. unit established (Army).
1918  VTCC enlisted as a unit of the regular Army and Navy Reserve.
1919  - Band first called Highty-Tighties.
      - Virginia Tech designated as one of the nation’s Distinguished
        Military Colleges.
1921  Women admitted for first time as full-time students
1922  First Regiment organized.
1923  First woman receives degree (Mary E. Brumfield).
1924  Only two years of Corps mandatory.
1926  Future Farmers of Virginia (later FFA) founded at VPI by
      Walter S. Newman.
1930  Civilian Student Union formed.
1934  First Ring Dance (for Class of 1935)
1935  Honor Court established.
1942  VTCC organized as brigade of two regiments (five battalions).
1944  Radford State Teacher’s College becomes VPI Women’s Division
      until 1964.
1946  Air Force ROTC detachment established.
1949  “Rad-Tech” campus (Radford Army Arsenal) closed.
1952  - Cooperative Education Program established.
      - Board of Visitors appointed first full-time Commandant since
        WWI.
1953  First black student admitted (Irving L. Peddrew).
1958  First black student graduates (Charles L. Yates).
1962  First costumed Gobbler.
1964  Corps of Cadets becomes a voluntary option.
1966  Cadets and civilians unite to form one student government.
1967  First black student to receive athletic grant-in-aid (Jerry Gaines).
1968  Female students out number cadets for the first time
1970  “and State University” added to VPI’s name.
1973  Women admitted to the Corps of Cadets and organized into L
      Squadron.
1975  - Highty-Tighty Alumni Association established.
      - The first female cadet, Marilyn Helmeyer ’77, joined the
        Highty-Tighties.
1976  Service academies admit women.
1977  Smallest Corps since 1902 (325 cadets enrolled).
1981  Cadet dorms become the first co-ed dorms on campus.
1983  Naval ROTC detachment established.
1985  First black Regimental Commander (Derek A. Jeffries ’86).
1987  - First Female Regimental Commander (Denise A. Shuster ’88).
      - White Shirt introduced.
1990  - Company Commanders given rank of Cadet Major.
      - Staff designators eliminated.
1991  - The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Inc. is established.
      - First female Drum Major (Lori L. Keck ’92).
1993  Camouflage pattern battle dress uniform adopted as cadet field
      uniform, replacing OD green “Pickle Bag” fatigues.
1995  - Cadets eligible to earn a minor in Leadership Studies
      - The Corps begins awarding Emerging Leader Scholarships.
1996  The Major General W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Develop-
      ment is established.
1998  3rd Battalion stands up with the addition of India and
      Kilo, with the inclusion of Band Company.
2001  War Memorial Chapel and the Memorial Court were rededicated
      after a two year renovation on September 8, three days before
      the 9/11 terrorist attacks.
2003  First Pylon Dedication Ceremony honoring the death of Army
      1st Lt. Jeffrey Kaylor, class of 2001 (November 1).
2005  First female black Regimental Commander (Christina Royal
      ’06).
2008  First foreign national, Adnan Barqawi ’09 of Kuwait, to serve
      as the Regimental Commander (earned his citizenship before
      graduating in 2009).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2012 | - The Corps rises to its largest number since 1968, with 1,066 cadets.  
- Shultz dining hall closes. Corps dining facility in Lavery Hall opens.  
- Band Company splits into two sections.  
- Lima Company stands up as a new addition to 3rd Battalion.  
- Multicam is introduced to replace the battle dress uniform. |
| 2013 | - Rasche Hall, built in 1897 as Barracks No. 2, closed its doors for the final time and is demolished making way for Pearson Hall.  
- Corps welcomes Battalion Senior Enlisted Advisors.  
- Second Battalion is housed in Eggleston Hall |
| 2015 | - Brodie Hall closed its doors for the final time.  
- Pearson Hall opens in November.  
- Cadet Matthew La Porte is posthumously awarded the Airman’s Medal for his actions in Norris Hall on April 16, 2007. |
| 2016 | Corps’ Ambassador, Growley II (call sign “Tank”), arrives on campus. |
| 2017 | - New Cadet Hall opens.  
- Monteith and Thomas hall are demolished. |
University Knowledge

Seal of Virginia Tech

On November 8, 1963, the official seal of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University was adopted by the Board of Visitors.

Meaning of the parts:

• A shield containing four quarters
  • The upper-left quarter representing the obverse side of the great seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia
  • The upper-right quarter containing a surveyor’s level and leveling rod superimposed over a scroll which represents engineering
  • The lower-right quarter containing a partially husked standing ear of corn which represents agriculture
  • The lower-left quarter containing a chemical retort and graduate that represents science
• Above the shield is a flaming lamp of learning with a right hand thumb, forefinger, and part of the lower arm;
• Beneath the shield is the motto *Ut Prosim*, meaning “That I May Serve”
• Science, engineering, and agriculture were the university’s first curriculum.
The Five Names of Tech

Virginia Agriculture & Mechanical College (1872)
Virginia Agriculture & Mechanical College & Polytechnic Institute (1896)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (1970)
Virginia Tech (Recognized as an official name) (1980)

University Presidents

Charles L. Minor (1872-1879)
John L. Buchanan (March 1880)
Col. Scott Shipp (April 1880)
Prof. John Hart (Acting President 1880 -1881)
John L. Buchanan (May 1881- January 1882)
Thomas N. Conrad (1882-1886)
Lindsay L. Lomax (1886-1891)
John M. McBryde (1891-1907)
Paul B. Barringer (1907-1913)
Joseph D. Eggleston (1913-1919)
Julian A. Burruss 1898 (1919-1945)
John R. Hutcheson ’07 (1945-1947)
Walter S. Newman (1947-1962)
William E. Lavery (1975-1988)
Charles W. Steger ’69 (2000-2014)
Timothy D. Sands (2014-Present)
Commandant of Cadets

There have been 33 commandants (two served twice). West Point graduates have dominated with 15, Virginia Tech had five, VMI had three, the Air Force Academy had two, and the Naval Academy had one. Between 1884 and 1952, the senior military instructor was the commandant. Thereafter the commandant was a retired officer employed by Virginia Tech.

1872 – 1880  BG James H. Lane
1880 – 1882  Cadet James A. Clarke ’80
1882 – 1884  COL W. Ballard Preston
1884 – 1887  LT John C. Gresham
1887        COL W. Ballard Preston
1887 – 1890  LT John T. Knight
1890 – 1894  LT John A. Harmon
1895 – 1898  LT David C. Shanks
1898 – 1901  COL Adam T. Finch ’93
1906 – 1909  CPT George H. Jamerson ’92
1909 – 1911  CPT William R. Dashiell
1911 – 1914  LT Joseph F. Ware ’02
1914 – 1917  LT Sheldon W. Anding
1917         CPT Clifford C. Carson
1917 – 1918  MAJ William P. Stone
1918 – 1919  MAJ John C. Skuse
1919 – 1920  MAJ Clifford C. Carson
1920 – 1924  MAJ F.E. Willford
1924 – 1929  MAJ W.R. Nichols
1929 – 1935  LTC John B. Maynard ’07
1935 – 1938  LTC C.H. Tenney
1938 – 1942  COL John H. Cochran
1942 – 1945  COL R.R. Wilson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Commander</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945 – 1946</td>
<td>COL George Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946 – 1951</td>
<td>COL T.M. Mumford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951 – 1952</td>
<td>COL W.B. Merritt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952 – 1961</td>
<td>MG John M. Devine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967 – 1972</td>
<td>MG Francis T. Pachler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972 – 1973</td>
<td>BG David S. Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973 – 1980</td>
<td>BG Earl C. Acuff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980 – 1989</td>
<td>Lt Gen Howard M. Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989 – 1999</td>
<td>Maj Gen Stanton R. Musser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 – 2011</td>
<td>Maj Gen Jerrold P. Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 – present</td>
<td>Maj Gen Randal D. Fullhart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Air Force Song

Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder
At’em boys, giv’er the gun!
Down we dive spouting our flames from under
Off with one hell-uv-a-roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame
Nothing’ll stop the US Air Force!

Minds of men fashioned a crate of thunder
Sent it high into the blue
Hands of men blasted the world asunder,
How they lived God only knew!
Souls of men dreaming of skies to conquer
Gave us wing, ever to soar.
With Scouts before and bombers galore,
Nothing can stop the US Air Force!

Here’s a toast to the host of those who love the vastness of the sky,
To a friend we send the message of his brother men who fly.
We drink to those who gave their all of old,
Then down we roar to score the rainbow’s pot of gold.
A toast to the host of men we boast
The US Air Force!

Off we go into the wild sky yonder
Keep the wings level and true
If you’d live to be a gray-haired wonder
Keep the nose out of the blue
Flying men, guarding our nation’s borders
We’ll be there followed by more
In echelon, we carry on
Nothing can stop the US Air Force!
The Army Goes Rolling Along

March along, sing our song
with the Army of the free
Count the brave,
count the true,
who have fought to victory.
We're the Army and proud of our name;
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right, and to build the Nation's might,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along
Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along

CHORUS:
Then it's hi, hi, hey! The Army's on its way
Count off the cadence loud and strong (two, three)
For wher-e'er we go, You will always know
that the Army Goes Rolling Along

Valley Forge, Custer's ranks, San Juan Hill and Patton's tanks,
And the Army went rolling along.
Minute men from the start,
Always fighting from the heart,
And the Army keeps rolling along.

CHORUS:
Men in rags, men who froze, still that Army met its foes,
And the Army went rolling along.
Faith in God, then we're right,
And we'll fight with all our might,
As the Army keeps rolling along.
Anchors Aweigh

Stand Navy out to sea
Fight our battle cry
We’ll never change our course
So vicious foe steer shy-y-y-y
Roll out the T.N.T.
Anchors Aweigh
Sail on to victory and
Sink their bones to Davy Jones hooray!

Yo ho there shipmate
Take the fighting to the far off seas
Yo ho there messmate
Hear the wailing of the wild banshees
All hands, fire brands
Let’s Blast them as we go. So

CHORUS:
Anchors Aweigh my boys
Anchors Aweigh
Farewell to college joys
We sail at break of day day day day
Through our last night on shore’
Drink to the foam
Until we meet once more
Here’s wishing you a happy voyage home!

Heave a ho there sailor
Everybody drink up while you may
Heave a ho there sailor
For your gonna sail at break of day
Drink Away, Drink away,
For you sail at break of day, Hey!
The Marines’ Hymn

From the Halls of Montezuma
To the shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country’s battles
In the air on land and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title of
United States Marine

Our flag’s unfurled to every breeze
From dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in every clime and place
Where we could take a gun.
In the snow of far off northern lands
And in sunny tropics scenes;
You will find us on the job-
The United States Marines

Here’s to health to you and to our Corps
Which we are proud to serve;
In many a strife we’ve fought for life
And never lost our nerve;
If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven’s scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded by
United States Marines
Semper Paratus (Always Ready)

From the North and South and East and West,
   The Coast Guard’s in the fight.
Destroying subs and landing troops,
   The Axis feels our might.
For we’re the first invaders,
   On every fighting field.
Afloat, ashore, on men and Spars,
You’ll find the Coast Guard shield.

CHORUS:
   We’re always ready for the call,
   We place our trust in Thee.
Through howling gale and shot and shell,
   To win our victory.
“Semper Paratus” is our guide,
   Our pledge, our motto, too.
We’re “Always Ready,” do or die!
   Aye! Coast Guard, we fight for you.
The Minor in Leadership Studies

In 1996, Virginia Tech became the first land-grant university in the nation to successfully combine the academic study of leadership with the practical application of leadership skills available through a Corps of Cadets experience. Cadets are eligible to receive the Minor in Leadership Studies if they meet the following criteria:

1. A minimum of 22 credit hours consisting of:
   a. Sixteen credit hours that include:
      i. Satisfactory completion of the appropriate Corps Lab for a minimum of six semesters (transfer cadets must complete at least five semesters)
      ii. The remaining credits must be earned by satisfactory completion of either the appropriate ROTC course (for commissioning cadets) or Pro Lab (for non-commissioning cadets)
   b. Six credit hours must include:
      i. Satisfactory completion of MGT 3304 (Management Theory and Leadership Practice)
      ii. Satisfactory completion of PHIL 2304 (Global Ethics)

2. Leadership Progression
   a. Satisfactory completion of either three qualifying Corps leadership positions or two qualifying Corps leadership positions and one qualifying ROTC leadership position
   b. A cadet must pass at least two ROTC or Corps Physical Fitness Tests (PFT) (or alternate test in case of physical disability) during his/her cadet career with at least one of those passing scores being earned during the senior year in the Corps.
The Aspirations for Student Learning

Virginia Tech adopted the Aspirations for Student Learning to provide the very best learning for our students — from orientation through graduation, both in and out of the classroom. We want students to do more, be more, and aspire to become their best self by:

• Committing to unwavering CURIOSITY: Virginia Tech students will be inspired to lead lives of curiosity, embracing a life-long commitment to intellectual development.

• Pursuing SELF-UNDERSTANDING and INTEGRITY: Virginia Tech students will form a set of affirmative values and develop the self-understanding to integrate these values into their decision-making.

• Practicing CIVILITY: Virginia Tech students will understand and commit to civility as a way of life in their interactions with others.

• Preparing for a life of COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP: Virginia Tech students will be courageous leaders who serve as change agents and make the world more humane and just.

• Embracing UT PROSIM (That I May Serve) as a way of life: Virginia Tech students will enrich their lives through service to others.
Now...

The World expects, nay needs, more from a Techman than others. Thus, to attain the status of a member of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is not an obligation to be taken lightly for with it comes immense effort and the call to sacrifice. These works, however, do not go without reward as the greatest of victories can only occur by first partaking in the greatest of tribulations. Be not like the meek and mild who choose to waste their lives in pursuit of a moment’s comfort. Enter the arena of Life with a fervor of courage and enthusiasm to take on the Goliaths that afflict the weak and falter the noble pursuits of Mankind such that with every trial You are renewed within your purpose. You are a Techman. The world awaits to elate in your triumphs.

More than Ever