

THE VIRGINIA TECH CORPS OF CADETS ALUMNI MAGAZINE

# CORPS REVIEW

VOL. 30 NO. 1 SPRING 2020

Hokies Serve  
With Pride





Dear Class of 2020

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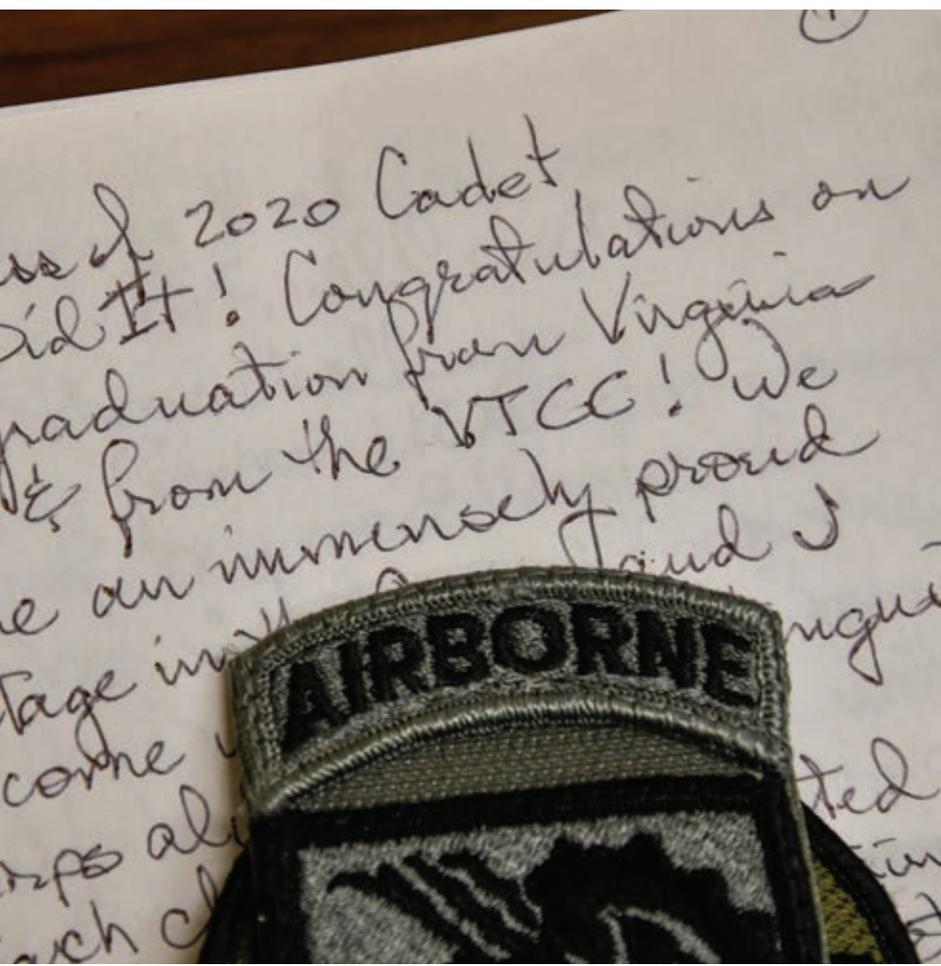
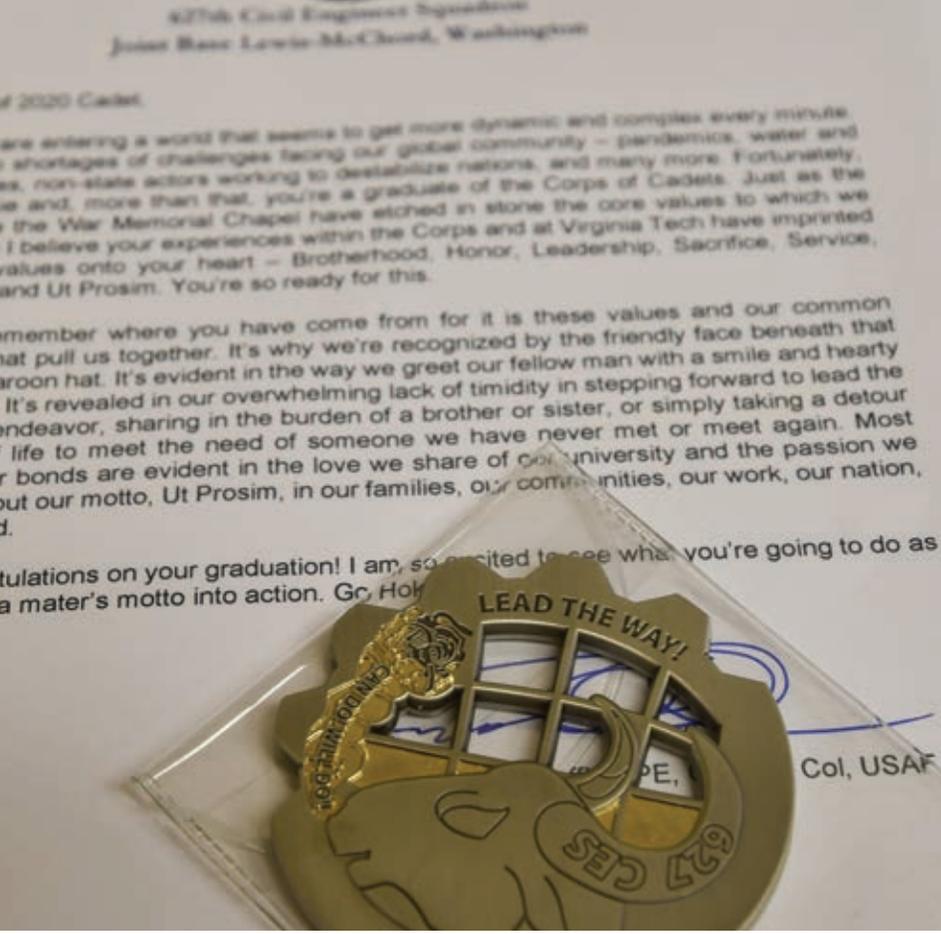
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Dear Class of 2020

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Thank you to all our alumni who participated in a letter-writing campaign to help celebrate our senior cadets. We received more than 280 letters plus challenge coins, unit patches, Virginia Tech items, T-shirts, rank insignia, and other treasures that were all repackaged and mailed off to our 226 members of the Class of 2020.



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# LEAD FROM WHERE YOU'RE AT

While many of you had the experience of the nation rallying after the 9/11 attacks and, for a very few, some recollection from loved one's stories of the how the nation came together in World War II, this COVID-19 pandemic is something entirely different. All of us are on the front line of this battle. It's personal.

Another thing I think readers of the Corps Review have in common is what it feels like to put service above self. It's the power that comes from being part of an organization that shows you in real, visible ways that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. That's the lesson of what it means to be a cadet from Virginia Tech.

We will be a different country when this virus has been wrestled to the ground. I think it is fair to say that we will be a different Corps of Cadets, too. We've learned, for example, how to operate our regiment as if it is deployed from home station.

Like the rest of the university, our classes were taught online. We had a small contingent — we call it Task Force Blacksburg — living here in our residence halls. The remaining cadets — we call them iCorps — were spread across the country. We managed multiple chains of command, used technology to communicate, and ensured that we kept sight of the fact that leadership is a very human endeavor.

Summer orientation at the university, the time when we would be meeting new cadets and their families face to face, will be done completely online. Our ability to fit new cadets for uniforms will have to come later.

At the same time, we are forging ahead, identifying cadet leaders and the new chain of command in anticipation that the mission will continue — what-

ever the circumstances we may be presented.

In May, Virginia Tech renamed its New Cadet Hall as Pearson Hall West to recognize the continued generosity of J. Pearson '87 and Renae Pearson '90. Pearson Hall West is the newer of our two residence halls. The first, which was already named for the Pearsons, is now known as Pearson Hall East.

Plus, we continue to plan for construction of a third new residence hall and the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building.

Finally, we are looking for ways in the coming academic year to honor the completion of the training and service the Class of 2020 has provided over the course of the last four years. We wish them well as they each start exciting careers during a time when exceptional leaders will be in even more demand.

As the coming year unfolds, we will be using all our available means — social media, emails, Class Champions, this magazine — to keep you apprised of how things are going and how you can help through your engagement, best wishes, and support.

Until then, be well.

And remember, no matter where you are at, you can still lead.

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

# TODAY'S CORPS



This summer, design work on the new Corps of Cadets residence hall, the anticipated home for a fourth battalion, will continue. This building will follow the same style as the newly named Pearson Hall East that opened in 2015, and Pearson Hall Well (formerly New Cadet Hall) that opened in 2017. It will be located on property that now houses Femoyer Hall and next door to the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building. Medallions on the building's exterior will represent Corps organizations, such as Skipper Crew, the Gregory Guard, the Color Guard, and more.

SQUARE FOOTAGE **70,236**

NUMBER OF BEDS **302**

NUMBER OF FLOORS **5**

ANTICIPATED OPENING **2023**



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Front cover: Lt. Cmdr. Mike Huber '05 (at left) shows his Hokie pride while serving as executive officer onboard USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) (Blue) in April 2019, during a strategic deterrent patrol in the Atlantic Ocean. The picture was captured by Senior Chief Missile Technician (Submarines) Alex Shaw during a routine surfaced evolution. Huber is now serving on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon. Go Hokies!

Back cover: Col. Patience Larkin '87 sits out of view on the stage of Burruss Hall during an event. Larkin, the Corps' alumni director for the last eight years, is leaving to pursue another opportunity out of state. She will be missed. Photo by Shay Barnhart.

# ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS



Patience Connelley Larkin E'87 gives a kiss to Corps ambassador Growley II. Larkin has been the advisor for the Growley Program since it started four years ago.

## IT'S TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

I have just finished my last semester as the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumni director.

Eight years have gone by quickly, and so much has taken place with the Corps during that time. Brodie and Rasche halls came down, and, like you all, I will forever miss those gorgeously-ugly buildings and the memories they held. But Pearson Hall East and Pearson Hall West (newly named in May) are not only beautiful and have the features — i.e. Wi-Fi — that cadets now require, they also carry our heritage, inside and out.

The Growley program started almost four years ago. Growley II (call sign “Tank”) has turned out to be a fantastic ambassador for us all, and that program is thriving.

I will miss the commandant, his staff, and especially the cadets — particularly those I advised over the years on the Gregory Guard, Growley Team, the Black Cadet Organization, and the Cadet Alumni Team. I consider all these folks and “that dog” my family.

But mostly I will miss hearing from and seeing all of you, MY alumni.

I want to thank all of you who have participated in our reunions, dinners, panels, flyovers, Rat Pack, Class Champions, both alumni boards, Project Graduation, etc. You were always quick to volunteer anytime we needed you.

There are special alumni I was close with who passed during my tenure who I will never forget, Brig. Gen. Whitey Lemmond '54, J.B. Jones '45, Maj. Stan Cohen '49, and Col. T.O. Williams '59. These alumni loved the Corps until their very end and are the reason this job is more than just a job ... and has meant so much to me. I want to thank all for your support.

*Ut Prosim* and EIGHTY-SEVEN!

Patience Connelley Larkin E'87

## FALL 2020 EVENTS

As of the printing of this magazine, the university had made no decisions on how the coronavirus pandemic will affect the fall semester. Find the latest information at [vtcc.vt.edu](http://vtcc.vt.edu) and [vtcc.vt.edu/alumni](http://vtcc.vt.edu/alumni).

- Aug 15: New Cadet Class of 2024 arrives
- Sept. 24: Class of 2020 Lane Hall Signing Social
- Sept. 25-26: Corps Reunion
- Oct. 2-3: Highty-Tighty Reunion
- Nov. 6: Cenotaph ceremony. More information to come.

## SEEKING ALUMNI MILITARY PILOTS

The alumni office is in search of current military flying units who are available, interested, and approved to perform a flyover during a Virginia Tech home football game this fall.

Before you say “yes” (because it would be awesome), please check with your chain of command. Believe me, we have learned our lesson in the past. If the answer is still “yes,” then please email Michele Messner at [mmessner@vt.edu](mailto:mmessner@vt.edu) as soon as possible to let us know you are interested, so we can put in a request to your service headquarters.



A crew from Strike Fighter Squadron 32, the “Fighting Swordsmen,” at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia, including Cmdr. Stacy Uttecht '00, Lt. Cmdr. Elliott Shoup '02, Lt. Cmdr. Sean Reed '06, and Lt. Alex Mickle '13, are recognized in Lane Stadium after performing a flyover at the 2019 homecoming game.

## A NEW EVENT FOR OUR CORPS REUNION

As we worked from home this spring, we began brainstorming ideas for the Corps Reunion, which is planned for Sept. 25-26, the weekend of the North Alabama vs. Virginia Tech football game.

We will feature a new family-friendly event and meal on Saturday, which we may make a regular event at our reunions. We will hold a Corps Reunion Tailgate buffet outside the Holtzman Alumni Center, either before or after the game, depending on kick-off time.

We will have tents and tables, so you can still sit and chat with your buds as you enjoy a delicious meal catered by The Inn at Virginia Tech. We will also have plenty of yard games — like cornhole!

When registration opens, the link will be at [vtcc.vt.edu/alumni](http://vtcc.vt.edu/alumni) and be a part of this first-time fun occasion!

## 2020 CORPS GRADS CELEBRATION

Almost all of us participated in the annual spring rituals as a senior cadet. You remember: Change of command on the Drillfield; Corps graduation; and for a majority of us, commissioning into the military.

Because of COVID-19 cancellations, 2020 grads missed all these events.

Though we can't make up for those events exactly, we are planning a special pre-Corps Reunion event the evening of Sept. 24 on the porch of Lane Hall. Class of TWO-ZERO, come back to Upper Quad, socialize with your buds, and spend a moment once more as a class as you sign your name between the bricks of Barracks No. 1 (Lane Hall).

More details will be coming out this summer, but this will be a complimentary event for your class. We will just need you to sign up if you plan to attend!



# PUSH HARD.

# ACHIEVE RESULTS.

By Jay Borella '93, Air Interdiction Agent, Department of Homeland Security

In the fall of 1989, I reported to Cadet Capt. Shetler, Rasche Hall, first floor, F Company, to begin life as a new cadet in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC). I was excited at the time, because a military life had been a goal of mine since grade school.

I grew up in an Army family, and this is what I understood. I found myself in good company, surrounded by high performers with similar ideals. The inspiration I received from the cadets

around me and the lessons I learned here would reverberate through my career. I was a “Corps-only” cadet, joining the U.S. Marine Corps through the Platoon Leader Course. I would go on to serve active duty, reserve duty, and as a pilot in the U.S. Customs Service.

I stumbled many times as a cadet, and I struggled with the fast pace of being a flight student. My fellow Hokies got me through Naval flight training in Pensacola, Florida. There was a healthy crew

of aspiring Naval aviators in the class of 1993, who started flight training at the same time. Our routine association with one another during the various phases of school kept us all on track.

I recall many evenings hosted at a house full of former cadets, quizzing, studying, and challenging one another to do better.

There were laughs (and a few libations) along the way, but these fellow alumni drove me to ultimately qualify

Above: A Marine Corps AH-1W Cobra delivers 20mm cannon fire near Khowst, Afghanistan, in 2004. Jay Borella, then a major, was cited for the Distinguished Flying Cross for actions in this area during his two-year deployment.

for my assignment of choice: AH-1W Cobra pilot, U.S. Marine Corps.

## LIFE AS A MARINE

Reporting to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167, “The Warriors,” in New River, North Carolina, presented many of the cliché “new guy in a salty unit” vignettes. That being said, there was reality to the fact that this squadron pushed hard and obtained top results. I initially felt I was a C-grade student in an A-plus society.

I shared a house with another VTCC grad, Lt. J.N. Rule '93, who was an infantry platoon commander at Camp Lejeune. He was a driven Marine who accelerated through his postings, ahead of his peers. Finding myself again surrounded by high performers (on base and at home), I quickly picked up my pace to be part of the A-plus society in my squadron.

I became a weapons and tactics instructor in the AH-1W, responsible for the readiness of all the pilots in the squadron to go do what attack pilots do. I finally felt I had the reins in my hands and I was setting the pace, when I had to make one of the hardest decisions I have ever made.

My obligation for active duty (time required for accepting flight training) was complete at the same time as my first fleet tour. Do I take orders for a “proper career path” assignment, or become “Mr. Borella” in the civilian world? Fortunately, I had a very good officer in charge (OIC) who knew my personality and realized I was not quite ready to loosen the reins. He said, “There is an opening at Customs. These are few and far between, but it seems right up your alley.” While on board a carrier at sea, I submitted a resume to the U.S. Department of Treasury, U.S. Customs Service,



Above: Agent Jay Borella on standby for a Customs mission in the UH-60 Blackhawk in 2019. At left: Rebecca, William, and Jay Borella during a 2018 flight together in Washington state.

to be a customs pilot. I had no idea what these guys did.

## A NEW CAREER PATH

A customs pilot uses aircraft to enforce U.S. Treasury law — basically counter smuggling, which drives straight to counter narcotics. I joined an agency that was pushing hard and obtaining results.

I was stationed in Tucson, Arizona, conducting operations in the remote southwest and Central America. We

were looking for bad guys doing bad things in the desert.

My new coworkers were exceptional pilots, but that was only part of the job. The aircraft simply got you to the problem. It then became a pursuit and apprehension of some sort, often contested, often at night. My former OIC was correct, and this new group of professionals challenged me to master entirely new skill sets.

We flew small Cessnas, light European helicopters, UH-60 Blackhawks, and



Above: Borella, then a Marine Corps captain, prepares for an evaluation flight in New River, North Carolina, in 1997. At right, as a member of the Corps' Gregory Guard, Borella waits for the start of a parade during the 1990-91 school year.



Citation business jets. During my time in Arizona, I was involved in chases of planes, cars, helicopters, and ultralights. I found myself in foot pursuits, and, in one case, a horse pursuit.

These were all things I never dreamed I would do, or even could do. Like my time in Rasche Hall, I was surrounded by high performers with like ideals who elevated my ability significantly.

The light helicopters (AS-350 Ecureuil or A-Star) were mostly used as a reconnaissance asset, scouring the desert with sensors to locate smuggling activity. The light helicopter was able to get very low to observe the subtle clues that sensors may miss. When smugglers were located, the A-Star could land in tiny spots, and the pilots would jump out and go to work.

If the situation was too much for this crew, the UH-60 could deliver a larger group of agents. The Blackhawk also had room to extract whatever we seized.

The fixed wing aircraft were filled with electronics and would go looking for aircraft, cars, and boats involved in smuggling activity. The Citation was a business jet on the outside, but the inside housed an F-16 radar coupled to various sensors, plus an array of secure communications. These crews would correlate what they found with available intelligence and stay out of sight as we tracked the suspect vehicle to a drop point. The UH-60 would be vectored in to solve the problem on the ground.

"U.S. customs pilot" was a very broad job description. Day to day, one could occupy any seat in the various aircraft, front or back.

## DEPLOYED

Concurrent with this occupation, I joined the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve as a Cobra pilot (part-time) in the Red

Dogs of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 in Atlanta. A reserve squadron offered a new challenge for me, because the Marines in this unit may be part time but they had a lot of experience in their field — pilots, mechanics, support crews who held a depth of skill that comes with being in the same unit and same role for a decade or more. I stepped off the top rung in the fleet to find my Cobra abilities meager in this crowd. I learned so much from these Marines.

Post 9/11, the Red Dogs got activated, which meant pressing pause on the customs pilot and becoming a full time Marine Corps pilot. I was again the weapons and tactics instructor responsible for aircrew readiness. We were sent to Afghanistan in 2003 to look for bad guys doing bad things in the desert (something I had, unknowingly, been preparing for all along). We were there for two years. We pushed hard and obtained top results.

On a particular night in 2005, we relieved a small remote outpost that had been surrounded by an estimated 120 enemy. Cobras calling in artillery fire, AC-130 gun ships, Royal Air Force Harriers, and fighting through the night were credited with saving the lives of all those at the fire base. There is no greater reward than to sit with the commander of troops after the fact and get a “thank you” that is very real.

In 2005, I returned to Arizona, and the war on drugs. The light bulb had finally come on. These Marine Reservists were making me a better customs pilot, and these customs agents were making me a better war fighter.

It was also at this time that I met my future wife, Rebecca, in Tucson. I found myself in good company at work, at home, and in the Reserves.



Above: Borella's AH-1W on patrol in the western regions of Iraq in 2008. Below: The Borella family enjoying themselves during a family gathering in 2018.

Eight days after our wedding, my reserve squadron was deployed to Iraq for a year. I was looking for bad folks doing bad things in the desert — again. Following our successes in Afghanistan and Iraq and accomplishing more in a Cobra than I ever thought I would, I wanted to focus on my new group of high performers: my wife and son. I retired after 23 years in the Marines.

## STILL INSPIRED

To change things up, I took a Customs (now under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security) posting in Washington state. The job description has not changed, but the smuggling environment has. The citations have been swapped out for King Airs with higher-tech gadgetry. We remain busy, and I continue to be inspired by the professionals to my left and right. Submitting a resume from a carrier in the Atlantic has certainly unlocked a corridor of possibilities I never expected. I am grateful I did.

My professional and personal successes along the way could not have happened, but for my surrounding cadets, pilots, Marines, and agents. We joined



the VTCC to be amongst those who do more. We started off surrounded by people who “live” the eight Pylons. That is what we understand.

It was my good fortune to have landed in places that would prepare me for things I never knew I would do. If I were to offer a suggestion to a past me, it would be to look to those who are pushing hard and achieving results. Those are your people, and it may be a launching point to a skill level you never anticipated.

## UNPRECEDENTED.

That really is the only word to describe the spring semester and the impact of COVID-19 on the world.

On March 11, midway through spring break, Virginia Tech announced plans to move all classes online, then canceled all spring (and eventually summer) events and slowly began to move campus to essential operations only.

The Corps of Cadets thanks everyone — cadets, our staff, alumni, friends — for their patience and their perseverance through these times.



While taking her classes at home, Cadet Vivian To '23 of Delta Company and Air Force ROTC sews face masks to donate



At left: Joe McNamara '07 spoke to cadets in February about necessary skills in business. Photo by Claire Seibel '23. At right: Seniors walk through a saber arch into the 2020 Military Ball in February. Photo by Cadet Victoria Ann '22.



At left: The women's basketball team became the 2020 national champions at the Flyin' Irish Invitational Tournament at Notre Dame. The men's team made it to the quarterfinals. At right: The Corps Marksmanship Unit debuted this semester and earned its first medals at the Scholastic Action Shooting Program's Collegiate National Championship.



## WHAT TIMES WE ARE LIVING IN

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

By April, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets had fewer than 50 cadets living in its residence halls. All Virginia Tech's classes were moved online. All Corps functions, like change of command and our Graduation and Joint Commissioning Ceremony, were canceled.

Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart and staff made brief appearances in the office and kept track of the cadets at home and on campus, like a deployment.

Our next board meeting will be on Sept. 25. Our Corps Reunion will be that weekend. Please mark your calendars and plan to come back to campus.

We are changing the format for our alumni weekend. Instead of a dinner on Saturday, we are going to have a family-friendly tailgate at the Holtzman Alumni Center. We will have plenty of great food, games, and activities. We want all alumni and families to enjoy

our reunion, and it will be great fun for all. More information will come out this summer.

Our great alumni director, Col. Patience Connelley Larkin E'87 is pursuing a new opportunity out of state, effective June 3. Please join me and congratulate her on a humongous job well done!

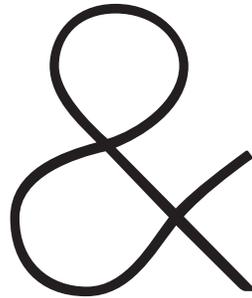
I hope you and your family stay safe!  
Go Hokies!

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



From left: Jeannine James '87, Jill Boward '87 and Christy Nolte '85 participate in the spring Gunfighter Panel in February.

# AN ORDINARY LIFE



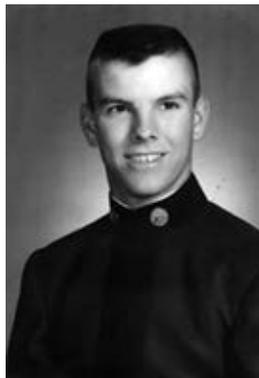
# AN EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE

By Bernie Watts '71

This isn't your usual story of a Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumnus, such as one who moved on to the military, rising through the ranks with many adventures and important assignments along the way.

It is not about a former cadet who entered the civilian world, climbing the corporate ladder and leading a company or companies to great success. In fact, many civilian Virginia Tech graduates go on to do wonderful and great things with the degrees they have earned from this prestigious university, as well.

It is also not about someone who leaves the Corps and becomes very active in some noteworthy cause. Having read in this magazine the many articles over the years about my cadet brothers, I've noted that these fascinating bios and



Cadet Bernie Watts as a freshman.

achievements are very representative of what the Corps is all about and how the experience benefits and affects the lives of those who complete it.

This article, however, is about the majority of us alumni, the hundreds and thousands of us who went through the

Corps, graduated from Virginia Tech, and went on to live productive and happy lives — albeit without the fanfare of some of our brothers.

My life has not been glamorous, but I am comfortable stepping into new territory. My name is Bernie Watts of the class of 1971 (though I actually graduated in the summer of '71, my degree shows class of '72). What I wish to share is what the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets has meant to me, how the Corps experience affected me many years ago as I went through my four years, what I learned about myself then, and how it has stayed with me ever since.

No, I didn't rise to the general rank while in service, and I never became a CEO. But I have stayed in a Holiday Inn Express — a few times, actually! I did

not choose to rise up the military rank or climb the corporate ladder. Money and achievements were never motivating factors in how I lived my life. My life has been, however, very comfortable and happy.

My cadet bio doesn't read as interesting as some, but here is a brief: C Squadron member, F Troop "townie" senior year, Gregory Guard, color corporal, Eager Squad commander and Best in Corps, Distinguished Military cadet and graduate.

One of the highlights of my cadet life was the Gregory Guard precision drill team (probably second to Turn Day, though). At that time, the guard marched in various parades and performed pre-game and halftime drill shows at home football games.

The ultimate drill at football games was called Get Lost. If I recall correctly, the unit would march from one end zone to the middle of the field, where the only cadence was the sound of the rifle movements. The unit would split and then split again. Each member would then split in a different route with no rifle cadence and silence only. He would then march a designated number of steps. Each member would march alone in a pattern with individual members spread out over most of the playing field. Then, all of sudden, everyone would stop at exactly the same instant and snap an about face.

If it was spot on, it was an awesome thing to see and hear the reaction of the crowd. If anyone reading this has any film or photos of these shows, it would be cool if you could put it on YouTube or send it to the Corps.

After I graduated with a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, I deferred a year and



Bernie Watts, at center, with sons Ben, at left, and Jon. Below: The Watts' family homeplace in Virginia.



earned a master's degree in agricultural engineering.

My only duty station was at Tooele Army Depot in Utah. I left the service after three years, worked for Norfolk Southern as a mechanical engineer for two years, and then worked 35 years as a safety engineer and consultant for several firms. I was also able to remain on the family farm in Virginia, my real love, throughout my entire career.

Having retired from the corporate world in 2011, I live and work on the farm with my wife, who is a gifted

writer. We have reared two sons — one in grad school at Virginia Tech and the other a graduate of Liberty University. We care for one old dog, one spoiled Maltese dog (or, as my wife would say, "princess" not dog), one old cat, one kitten, 80 momma cows, 50 or so calves, and three money-making bulls.

I worked at one company for 25 years and became friends with one guy in particular. We traveled quite a bit together. One day, as we were off to visit a client, I noticed he had a shovel in his back seat. This was sometime in early spring.



In recent years, Watts has taken up painting as a hobby.

I asked him why he had the shovel, and he said he had to bury his dad!

“What?” I asked. His dad had died some months before.

“Um, where is your dad?” I asked.

He replied, “In the trunk.”

I nearly fell out of the car.

He explained that his dad was cremated and his ashes had been riding in the trunk until the ground was thawed enough to be buried. This is the same guy who broke up with a girl in high school, and as I recall, put a dead pig’s head on top of the snowman in her front yard! It made the paper. Life is only as boring or exciting as we make it, and great friends are a must along the way.

The Corps taught me many things about myself, many that I am not sure that I would have ever found otherwise. Probably the most important was after going through the “rat system,” I can do most anything I set my mind to, no matter how hard it may seem. Up to that point in my life, I was never really challenged. Most of us who went through the way it was back then know how hard it was. Going out into the hall, just to go to the bathroom, meant mustering a great deal of courage to endure those

“mean” upperclassmen — just to do what needed to be done.

I don’t know about you, but I’ve always hated to be late — just ask my wife! Probably much of this trait came from the Corps and has stayed with me. If, as a freshman, you were late for growley calls, late for reporting to an upperclassman, etc., the Wrath of the World descended upon you, and you were surely never late again!

The Corps taught me positive study habits that enabled me to earn my degrees. Many of us did not have to study in high school to make good grades, but when we got to college it was a different story. The Corps had help if you needed it, as well, as academics were always stressed. Evening hours meant it was time to hit the books, and that was what was expected.

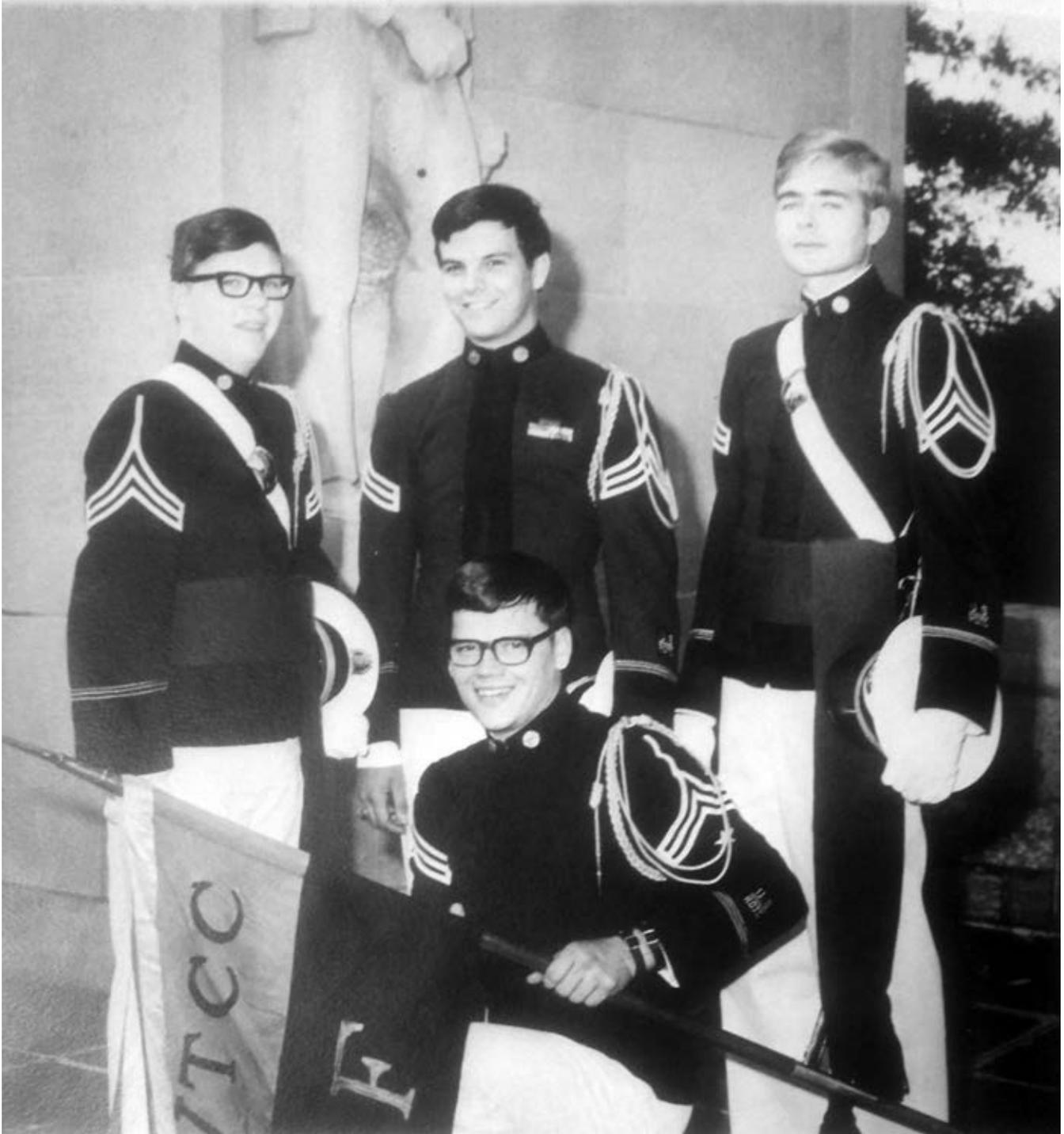
The Corps taught me how to work as a team player. Again, as a freshman often times when one freshman failed at something (such as marching in formation), we were all punished, and we tried to help those who needed it. There were many more examples from the Corps that helped in the working world, where you are expected to work together to ac-

complish a goal and to keep your job!

As a side note, which has absolutely nothing to do with the Corps, the old saying “you’re never too old to learn or try something new” can be true. At my wife’s suggestion, I took up painting — as an artist. As a 70-year-old who never painted anything besides doing a paint-by-numbers set when I was 8, I was hesitant. An engineer’s mind usually doesn’t work like musicians’, artists’, singers’, etc. However, it’s been fun, and I’m told the paintings are not too bad! Can’t credit the Corps for this unless one considers shining shoes and brass as artistic, but I hated shining anything!

Throughout my life my priorities were and still are my faith in God, the love of my family, the jobs that have supported me and my family, and my love of the family farm. The Corps of Cadets and being in the military also instilled in me a life-long priority of love for our country and the freedoms we enjoy every day, and I have lived my life knowing and respecting these freedoms.

In closing, if I had to do it over again, I would certainly choose the Corps of Cadets and go through the rat system. It was time well spent, even though during



An F-troop photo from 1971 includes, (standing from left) Bill Dunn, Watts, Cary Cone, and (kneeling) Charlie Webb.

those early weeks and months, I often wondered what I had gotten myself into and even pondered quitting. Seeing what is happening today with sports figures, politicians, and others disrespecting our

country, our constitution, our flag, and our way of life really makes me very angry. Being a part of the Corps, what we were taught, and what we went through helped to make me proud to be an

American, and I have tried to honor and respect this great nation ever since.

That's about it. Thanks for reading this.

Go Hokies!



# HOME IS WHERE THE HOKIE IS

By John Wakefield Hawley '08

The first 2-year-old War Memorial oak tree I received from Virginia Tech perished before I ever had the chance to see its green leaves.

It was a wedding gift, regrettably left unopened in the garage of our new home in Virginia Beach while I finished Nuclear Power School in New York and my bride, Carissa, completed her sea tour in Japan. Unwatered and ignored for several months, the tree was undoubtedly done.

Virginia Tech graciously sent out a replacement at no charge. This time, I had the advantage of being a resident of my home, as well as the recipient of good planting and care instructions. A year later, this tree met the same fate as the first; it was as dry as firewood. Apparently, even with the right intentions, I had difficulties keeping trees alive.

Embarrassed but determined, I reached out again to Virginia Tech and received yet another replacement tree, free of charge. Shipping costs alone put the university on the losing side of this experiment in human decency, let alone the efforts and manpower to send me trees over the years. Still, another Hokie tree arrived at my home and immediately transplanted into the center of my yard. About a year later, while my wife and I were both on separate deployments, the lawn company accidentally ran it over. Must have been a Virginia alumnus.

With my tail between my legs, I emailed Virginia Tech again for the last time. I recounted the disheartening story of my three trees and asked if I could purchase a much older tree — one that could withstand human incompetence. Within 24 hours, I received a reply. My email had circulated a half-dozen times until it landed with the dean of the College of Agricul-

ture and Life Sciences. The dean had located a 6-foot, 5-year-old Hokie tree and had identified a fellow Hokie traveling to Virginia Beach that weekend with a truck. The dean had even engaged a local gardener to maintain the newly planted tree for a couple weeks while I was out to sea. *Ut Prosim!*

That tree is now 8 years old and stands nearly 30 feet tall.

Some might argue there are less complicated or expensive ways to show your school spirit than an eight-year horticultural project. Since graduation in 2008 from the university and the Corps of Cadets, I have dabbled in many outward expressions of my true Hokie spirit.

Over the years, we have all seen hundreds of pictures of alumni proudly showcasing the Virginia Tech flag. Maroon and orange look good draped over the side of military aircraft as a centerpiece to cadet reunions or in any worldwide deployment photo. After commissioning into the U.S. Navy, I too bought one of these flags and packed it into my sea bag as I met my first ship for deployment.

My chance came off the coast of Yokosuka, Japan, on the USS McCampbell. Having completed our assigned mission, we took to floating around an arbitrary box as we waited for a follow-on mission to begin. Over lunch, I described to the commanding officer my vision of the customary Virginia Tech flag photo taken around the ship. The captain, not wanting to be outdone by another service or warfare domain, told me not to do anything he wouldn't do.

With that, I was off. Fast-forward an hour, I have my flag in one hand and shipboard-secure walkie-talkie with the officer of the deck in the other. To get the



Art courtesy of Hailey Temple

perfect winds for the perfect flag and ship photo, this 9,200-ton warship changed course and speed, maroon and orange blazing proudly from the mast.

Closer to home, my Hokie spirit has always taken center stage. Some displays were straightforward: the Virginia Tech garden flag, the “procured” Hokie stones lining the front walkway, a “VT” etched into my freshly paved driveway. However, some were more involved.

I once reupholstered my living room chairs with Virginia Tech logo fabric. I was single at the time and had foolishly left my house in the hands of the wrong people, who had ruined the original chairs. When searching for new upholstery, the “VT” fabric found me, a diehard DIYer. The chairs stayed that way until my wife and I set out to have children. I’ve been told that it’s just too much Hokie pride in one room for any house to contain.

Surprisingly, it was my mailbox that really opened the door to the public display of Hokie spirit. When my wife and I moved into our first home, I discovered that to get the right look I wanted for my mailbox, I needed to powder coat my own. There are no high-quality, commercially available maroon mailboxes with an orange handle and a flag, at least that I was able to locate. Additionally, living within a fairly strict HOA, I had to make sure the box looked professional, so non-Hokies wouldn’t really notice or be bothered.

I didn’t know how to powder coat,



Carissa, Madelyn, and John Hawley with their dog, Django, in front of their War Memorial oak at their old home.

so I did what you do when you want to learn something new — bought a professional powder coating gun as a forcing function and binged every useful YouTube video I could find. This, along with about 10 pounds of maroon and orange powder, several test subjects, and a toaster oven all arrived at my house.

My world turned maroon and orange as random metallic items around the garage got the treatment and were baked to perfection in the toaster oven. Repetition accelerated my proficiency.

Before long, I was decent enough to convince the neighborhood of a professional effort. I headed to Home Depot for a high-quality, large mailbox. I took down the dimensions, confirming I was in trouble. The mailbox was larger than my toaster oven.

A few Craigslist clicks later, I came home with another oven on a dolly — a full-size kitchen oven. This appliance unfortunately used a different power supply than my plug-in toaster oven. A non-Hokie may have admitted defeat at this road block. But with my now maroon and orange tools, I learned how to rewire the home circuit board and installed a 220-volt receptacle in my garage for the oven-dolly appliance. No small feat. Gobble, gobble!

The mailbox is gorgeous.

Our daughter, Madelyn, is the proud owner of the only maroon and orange dual-use swing in the neighborhood. Perhaps you have seen these types of swings, where the adult swings opposite the child, both facing inward so they can see one another. Our dog chases after our daughter

when she swings, but at least his collar links are conveniently, you guessed it, orange and maroon.

I often tell friends and family that we will pay for my daughter’s college as long as she goes to Virginia Tech. As a Naval Academy grad, my wife is not too fond of brainwashing our child into becoming a Hokie. I always say it jokingly, but she must know that I mean it.

Like most 3-year-old darlings, Madelyn loves bedtime stories. Her favorite story was homegrown over a year ago and goes something like this: “Once upon a time, there was a Virginia Tech HokieBird. He lived on Upper Quad in Blacksburg, Virginia, with his two best friends, the Virginia Tech cow and the Virginia Tech unicorn. Their favorite

activities began after eating breakfast at Schultz Hall. Sometimes they would play Frisbee golf or ultimate Frisbee on the Drillfield. They loved to trade stories and wrap up the day at TOTS [Top of The Stairs] — not the kind you eat.” She knows the plot and characters well enough to fill in most of the important bits when I pretend to forget.

Truth be told, I cannot forget. And of all the maroon and orange embellishments around me, the one that brings me the most pride is the Hokie tree. It is alive and well because eight years earlier people I had never met rallied behind my cause, instead of telling me to find another hobby. The tree represents a group of Hokies who innately live the values of our Pylons: Brotherhood, Service, and Ut Prosim. The others — Honor, Leadership, Sacrifice, Loyalty, and Duty — could also be argued. As the Pylon Society states: “These are the ideals emblazoned on the eight pylons of Virginia Tech’s most beloved monument, the War Memorial. They are also the ideals held dear by generations of loyal Virginia Tech alumni and friends.” I know this to be true.

Before selling our first home, the tree was a serious part of the negotiation process. We made the buyers promise to take care of the tree and/or give us the first right of refusal if they were ever to take it down. There was no resistance to this request. They have since removed surrounding trees to make it the star of the front-yard show.

I think it makes a difference when the flair that represents your alma mater is



Hawley onboard the USS McCampbell.

actually alive. This living oak tree, previous episodes aside, might and should outlive me and maybe even my future Hokie daughter. Did you know the humongous bur oak in front of Burruss Hall is from the late 1800s? I admit, the Virginia Tech dining room chairs were eye-catching — people even offered to buy them from us — but nothing stands to represent our university like the trees.

Virginia Tech, to me, is living. It is brimming with the spirit, pride, and empathy that got that first (err ... fourth) tree to take root in our yard. Its own roots are deep in families, friends, and memories. Virginia Tech pushed me to grow and expand, whether the challenge was learning Navy nuclear power or installing a 220V receptacle.

And the trees, like Hokies, seem to recognize that wherever they are, they can grow further, dig deeper, get more out of their life. They flourish not only in terms of size, but in terms of purpose. The trees are part of the memory of

leaving campus for a break, passing them as you head home to hang out with your friends, or of leaving home to deploy.

I have since made it my mission to plant a Hokie tree at every house I own — maybe even a few I don’t own, if given the opportunity. It is this mission that leads me to maintain 40 acorns in zipper bags at the back of my refrigerator (despite my wife’s protests) to imitate winter and remove the tempted squirrel from the equation. During the same trip to Virginia Tech when I collected these acorns, I also came home with another 11-foot, 6-year old tree and a 2-footer, from

the same people who opened their hearts to me during my earlier tree struggles. These trees were for our new home, where they immediately prospered. A piece of Blacksburg will grace our home for the fore-treeable future, and it is a daily reminder that home is where the Hokie is.

One day, my daughter will be too old for bedtime stories and swings. When that time comes, the Virginia Tech War Memorial oak will offer her shade, strength, and beauty. It will remind her of her roots and of the values that can grow when well-tended. And one day, I will plant a Hokie tree for her in the yard of her first home, and I will not let it die.

*John Hawley '08 is a master facilitator for major corporations and businesses. He conducts both virtual and on- and off-site workshops, retreats, and team-building and strategic events. He's at [linkedin.com/in/johnwakefielddhawley](https://www.linkedin.com/in/johnwakefielddhawley).*

THE VIRGINIA TECH CORPS OF CADETS HAS A RICH HISTORY FILLED WITH TRADITIONS, STRENGTH, PERSEVERANCE, AND JUST A BIT OF SHENANIGANS. THESE PHOTOS ARE FROM THE CORPS MUSEUM ARCHIVES.



A professor directs the retrieval of his buggy that cadets put on the Barracks No. 1 porch roof.



The 1888 Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College commencement program.



An early 1930s rat parade in downtown Blacksburg.



A panorama of the regiment on Upper Quad in the late 1920s.

SENIOR CADET COMMANDERS, SPRING 2020



REGIMENTAL COMMANDER **ERYN WOLFE**

Cadet Col. Eryn Wolfe earned a degree in natural resources conservation with a minor in leadership studies. She commissioned into the U.S. Army as an aviation officer in May. At the university, she was a member of the climbing club, participating in outdoor rock climbing or camping trips. In the Corps, she was a

cadet training assistant and fire team leader as a sophomore. She served as the regimental command sergeant major and squad leader in Lima Company as a junior, then as the 3rd battalion executive officer in the fall of her senior year. She was a recipient of a two-year Army ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



FIRST BATTALION COMMANDER **DOMINIC ANGELO**

Cadet Lt. Col. Dominic Angelo is pursuing a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. Upon graduation, he plans on commissioning in May 2021 as a civil engineering officer in the U.S. Air Force. In Air Force ROTC, he served as the Squadron 1 commander. During his time in the

Corps, he served as a platoon leader and platoon sergeant with Charlie Company and was the commander of the Robert Femoyer Service Squadron. He is a recipient of an Air Force ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



SECOND BATTALION COMMANDER **THOMAS VINTER**

Cadet Lt. Col. Thomas Vinter is pursuing a degree in construction engineering and management. He will commission in the U.S Army in May 2021. In the Corps, he served as a fire team leader, squad leader, first sergeant, and battalion

S-5. He also served as a first sergeant and company commander in the Army ROTC Battalion. He is a recipient of a four-year Army ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



THIRD BATTALION COMMANDER **AUSTIN KASSMAN**

Cadet Lt. Col. Austin Kassman earned a bachelor's degree in political science with minors in history, leadership, and naval leadership. He commissioned into the U.S. Marine Corps and will be reporting to The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia. He is a member of the Corps' Ord-

nance Staff. During his senior year, Kassman also served as the Raider Company gunnery sergeant and a Lima Company platoon leader. He is the recipient of a Marine Corps NROTC Scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

## COMMAND STAFF, SPRING 2020



Regimental Executive Officer  
Rudolph Levinski  
Industrial Systems  
Engineering  
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Adjutant  
Sarafina Ramalho  
Political Science  
Army



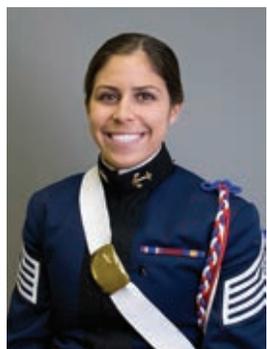
Regimental Public Affairs  
Officer  
Charlie Alexander  
Mechanical Engineering  
Navy



Regimental Operations Officer  
William Vidovich  
Criminology  
Army



Regimental Supply and Finance  
Officer  
Luis Rodriguez  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs  
Army



Regimental Academics Officer  
Hannah Santus  
Building Construction  
Navy



Regimental Sergeant Major  
Zachery Young  
Building Construction  
Army



Regimental Inspector General  
Julissa Rios  
Animal and Poultry Sciences  
Army



Honor Court Chief Justice  
Ross Milner  
Business Information  
Technology  
Army



Regimental Alumni Liaison  
Officer  
Mariah Zwirb  
Economics  
Citizen-Leader Track



VPI Battalion Commander  
Nyaima Brackner  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs Russian  
Citizen-Leader Track



Army Battalion Commander  
Megan Dennis  
Multimedia Journalism  
Army



Navy Battalion Commander  
Oliver McKellips  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs and Russian  
Marines



Air Force Wing Commander  
Evan Miles  
Meteorology  
Air Force



Regimental Growely Handler  
Zach Harding  
Meteorology  
Navy



Alpha Company Commander  
Teresa DeVino  
Civil Engineering  
Navy



Bravo Company Commander  
Thomas Kosar  
Political Science  
Navy



Charlie Company Commander  
William Freschi  
Finance  
Army



Delta Company  
Commander  
Erik Yamada  
Mathematics  
Air Force



Echo Company Commander  
Charles Given  
Applied Economic  
Management  
Army



Foxtrot Company Commander  
Ryan Alfalaj  
Biology  
Army



Golf Company Commander  
Jessica Mingo  
Civil Engineering  
Army



Hotel Company Commander  
Alec Sekelsky  
Computational Modeling and  
Data Analytics  
Air Force



India Company Commander  
Cyrus Unvala  
Electrical Engineering  
Citizen-Leader Track



Kilo Company Commander  
Christopher Volk  
Applied Economic  
Management  
Army



Lima Company Commander  
Daniel Ruland  
Building Construction and  
Real Estate  
Army



Band Commander  
Isaac Patterson  
International Studies and  
Russian  
Marines



Band Alpha Commander  
Gabriel Lopez  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs and Russian  
Citizen-Leader Track



Band Bravo Commander  
Thomas Lowerre  
Biology  
Navy



Drum Major  
Wyatt McCraine  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs  
Citizen-Leader Track

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

**JACOB ABEL**

Delta Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Software Systems

**YEA IN AHN**

Foxtrot Company, Army  
Clinical Neuroscience

**CHARLES ALEXANDER**

Lima Company, Navy  
Mechanical Engineering

**RYAN ALFALAIJ**

Foxtrot Company, Army  
Biological Sciences

**DOMINIC ANGELO**

Charlie Company, Air Force  
Civil Engineering

**ABIGAIL AVERNA**

Bravo Company, Navy  
Industrial and Systems  
Engineering

**EMILY BARRETT**

Echo Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Forestry

**RYAN BASS**

Golf Company, Marines  
National Security  
and Foreign Affairs

**THOMAS BASSFORD**

Delta Company, Army  
History

**ROBERT BEAUCHAMP JR.**

Delta Company, Army  
International Studies

**MICHAEL BEGUN**

Hotel Company, Army  
Building Construction

**BENJAMIN BLATCHFORD**

Echo Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**JACOB BLYCHER**

Foxtrot Company, Navy  
Physics

**MICHAEL BOPP**

Golf Company, Air Force  
Aerospace Engineering

**PARKER BOTT**

Hotel Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Political Science

**NYAIMA BRACKNER**

Charlie Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Russian and National Security  
and Foreign Affairs

**MITCHELL BRAUN**

Alpha Company, Army  
Environmental Science

**EMMA BROWN**

Alpha Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Biological Sciences

**ALEX BRUNWORTH**

Hotel Company, Air Force  
Industrial and Systems  
Engineering

**ROBERT BUCHANAN**

Bravo Company, Navy  
Civil Engineering

**ALEXIS BUTT**

India Company, Air Force  
Management

**KATHRYN CALDERONE**

Echo Company, Army  
Political Science

**PAUL CAMERINO**

Alpha Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Geography

**ASHLEY CAMPBELL**

Alpha Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Mathematics

**KARL CANBY**

Bravo Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Political Science

**COREY CAPEHART**

Hotel Company, Army  
Sustainable Biomaterials

**JOHN CARROLL**

Echo Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**DOMINIC CASTELLI**

Alpha Company, Navy  
Mathematics

**JAH'MARIUS**

**CHISOLM-MURRAY**  
Echo Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Criminology

**ERIC CHOMICKI**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Management

**BRIAN CHUNG**

Alpha Company, Army  
Construction Engineering  
and Management

**JUSTIN CLIPSON**

Bravo Company, Air Force  
International Studies and  
Russian

## THOMAS KOSAR

Kosar was named the 2020 Corps Company Commander of the Year for his leadership, positive attitude, and ability to build trust and relationships.

Kosar volunteered to move from Alpha Company to take command of Bravo Company during the spring semester.

"The thing I am going to remember most about my senior year is being able to help mentor fellow cadets," he says. "Being in senior-level leadership positions allowed me to help younger cadets to grow as people and develop themselves as leaders. Seeing the growth of those fellow cadets, and watching them go on to achieve their goals was by far the most rewarding aspect of my senior year."



**WILLIAM COALE**

Hotel Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Industrial Design

**VICTORIA CONLIN**

Delta Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Criminology and Sociology

**MATTHEW COOPER**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Computer Science

**COLLIN COUTURE**

Alpha Company, Air Force  
Engineering Science and  
Mechanics

**STEPHEN COX**

Lima Company, Air Force  
Criminology

**THOMAS CUNNINGHAM**

Hotel Company, Marines  
Accounting and Information  
Systems

**KYLE DAVIS**

Bravo Company, Army  
Public and Urban Affairs

**PATRICK DAVIS**

Echo Company, Navy  
Aerospace Engineering

**MARSDEN DAVIS III**

Golf Company, Navy  
Mathematics

**BENJAMIN DEAN**

Foxtrot Company, Navy  
Building Construction

**JACOB DECKER**

Delta Company, Army  
Political Science

**WILLIAM DEFFET**

Hotel Company, Army  
Industrial Design

**NELSON DEMAREST II**

Delta Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Civil Engineering

**MEGAN DENNIS**

India Company, Army  
Multimedia Journalism

**TERESA DEVINO**

Alpha Company, Navy  
Civil Engineering

**EVAN DIXON**

Charlie Company, Navy  
Physics

**HANNAH SANTUS**

When Santus decided to train for her first marathon, she wanted the experience to be about more than just her own accomplishment. She also raised money for Hope for the Warriors, a nonprofit that provides assistance to service members wounded in combat and their families.

In November 2019, Santus completed the New York City Marathon in 4:05 and raised \$4,236.

“Despite how much it hurt, it was awesome to know that finishing the marathon also meant contributing to a cause greater than myself,” she says.

In the future, she’d like to run another marathon. “I know I can definitely perform better, too,” she says. “Right now, though, I am continuing to run just for fun, and I’d like to focus on some half marathons instead.”

**ANDREW DOUGLAS**

Bravo Company, Navy  
Biological Sciences

**JAMES ERDELY**

India Company, Army  
Political Science

**RYAN EXNER**

Kilo Battery, Air Force  
Criminology

**ROBERT FECONDA**

India Company, Navy  
Computational and Systems  
Neuroscience

**DANIEL FELKEL**

Kilo Battery, Army  
Radio Frequency and  
Microwave

**DYLAN FITZGERALD**

Golf Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Computational Modeling and  
Data Analytics

**CHASE FLETCHER**

Charlie Company, Army  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**MICHAEL FOLEY**

Hotel Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Criminology and Sociology

**RYAN FOLEY**

Kilo Battery, Air Force  
Meteorology

**THOMAS FRANKLIN**

Golf Company, Air Force  
Finance

**DAMION FREEMAN**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Meteorology

**WILLIAM FRESCHI**

Charlie Company, Army  
Finance

**CARSON GANN**

Hotel Company, Army  
Political Science

**STEPHEN GEDRA**

Lima Company, Army  
Finance

**CHARLES GIVEN**

Echo Company, Army  
Applied Economic  
Management

**ISABELLA GOSCHINSKI**

Kilo Battery, Army  
Psychology

**JACOB GRAY**

Echo Company, Navy  
Economics

**AUSTIN GRAY**

Foxtrot Company, Army  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**BRANDON GRIMALDI**

Alpha Company, Army  
Criminology

**RAHUL GUPTA**

Hotel Company, Navy  
Aerospace Engineering

**ANNIE HA**

Hotel Company, Air Force  
Construction Engineering  
and Management

**ABDELRAHMAN  
HAMMAD JR.**

Lima Company, Army  
Computational Modeling and  
Data Analytics

**DANIEL HAMMEL**

Hotel Company, Army  
Political Science

**BRANDON HARALDSEN**

Lima Company, Army  
Mining Engineering

**KRISTIN HARDY**

Alpha Company, Army  
Human Nutrition, Foods and  
Exercise

**HOWARD HARRIS III**

Alpha Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Meteorology

**NOAH HARRISON-ELLIS**

Foxtrot Company, Air Force  
Criminology

**RYAN HASEGAWA**

Kilo Battery, Air Force  
Aerospace Engineering

**NATHANAEL HASKINS**  
Golf Company, Army  
Marketing Management

**ADAM HEIL**  
Kilo Battery, Army  
Criminology and Sociology

**AARON HERZER**  
Alpha Company, Navy  
Ocean Engineering

**GARRETT HIGGINS**  
Golf Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Political Science

**KATHERINE HOEFT**  
India Company, Navy  
Biological Sciences

**RYAN HOLLOWAY**  
Hotel Company, Navy  
Industrial and Systems  
Engineering

**JOSEPH HOOD**  
Lima Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Systems Biology

**RYAN HORD**  
Hotel Company, Marines  
Economics and International  
Studies

**DEVIN HUDSON**  
Lima Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Microbiology

**JENNA (BENDER) HUGHES**  
India Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Criminology

**ANDREW HUMPTON**  
Lima Company, Army  
Applied Economic  
Management

**HENRY HUTCHESON**  
Foxtrot Company, Navy  
Civil Engineering

**MICHAEL JOHNSON**  
Foxtrot Company, Army  
International Studies

**BENJAMIN JONES**  
Echo Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**SAMUEL JUBON**  
Lima Company, Navy  
Aerospace Engineering

## CAROLINE SULLIVAN

Sullivan came to the Corps' Citizen-Leader Track program because she had her sights set on a career in as a therapist working with veterans and she wanted to get the most out of her four years of college.

This fall, she will continue her education with the University of Denver's master's program in forensic psychology.

"I would like to specialize my studies around mental health law within the military," she says. "The Corps of Cadets prepared me for my next steps in my career and I will miss the military environment, the other cadets, and my mentors who have helped me grow to the person I am today."



Adrea Thomas Photography

**CASEY JUNG**  
Highly-Tighties,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Engineering Science and  
Mechanics

**STEVE KANG**  
India Company, Air Force  
Criminology

**DYLAN KANNAPELL**  
Alpha Company, Army  
Construction Engineering  
and Management

**SIDNEY KASSEL**  
Charlie Company, Air Force  
Russian and Political Science

**AUSTIN KASSMAN**  
Lima Company, Marines  
Political Science

**KEITH KELLEY**  
India Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Computer Science

**HENRY KESTING**  
India Company, Navy  
Nanoscience

**ALEXANDER KIM**  
Echo Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**TRAVIS KNOTT**  
Golf Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**MATTHEW KOLB**  
Kilo Battery, Navy  
Building Construction

**THOMAS KOSAR**  
Bravo Company, Navy  
Political Science

**ALEXANDER KOYLE**  
Alpha Company, Army  
Biological Sciences

**MICHAEL KRAIMAN**  
Foxtrot Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Radio Frequency and  
Microwave

**AIDAN KUESTER**  
Kilo Battery, Marines  
History and Political Science

**JUNHYUK KWON**  
Charlie Company, Army  
Real Estate

**JOSEPH LABIANCA**  
Foxtrot Company, Army  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**TAYLOR LACROIX**  
Hotel Company, Army  
Construction Engineering  
and Management

**DOUGLAS LAMB**  
Lima Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Aerospace Engineering

**ANTHONY LATTANZE**  
Delta Company, Army  
Building Construction

**NOAH LAY**  
Echo Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**CHRISTOPHER LEE**  
Foxtrot Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**WILLIAM LEHMAN**  
Kilo Battery, Army  
Economics

**KATLEEN LEOSK**  
Bravo Company, Navy  
Biological Sciences

**RUDOLPH LEVINSKI**  
Golf Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Industrial and Systems  
Engineering

**NATHAN LEWIS**  
Golf Company, Army  
Management

**CHASE LIDDON**  
India Company, Navy  
Russian

**AUSTIN LOEFFLER**  
Lima Company, Navy  
Chemical Engineering

**STEPHEN LOFFERT**  
India Company, Army  
Physics

**GABRIEL LOPEZ**  
Highly-Tighties,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs and Russian

**THOMAS LOWERRE**  
Highly-Tighties, Navy  
Biological Sciences

**MICHAEL MALHEREK**

Bravo Company, Army  
Political Science

**LUIS MARIN**

Hotel Company, Navy  
Meteorology

**JOHN MARIN**

Delta Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
International Studies

**DAVID MARTIN**

Highty-Tighties, Navy  
Aerospace Engineering

**WILLIAM MAURER**

Echo Company, Navy  
Meteorology

**WYATT MCCRANIE**

Highty-Tighties,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**ROBERT MCGROARTY**

Highty-Tighties, Navy  
Clinical Neuroscience

**OLIVER MCKELLIPS**

Golf Company, Marines  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs and Russian

**DELANEY MCQUADE**

Foxtrot Company, Navy  
Meteorology

**DEANNA MEYER**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Computer Science

**JOHN MILAUSKAS SR.**

Hotel Company, Army  
Building Construction

**EVAN MILES**

Delta Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**MICHAEL MILLER**

Lima Company, Army  
Criminology

**ROSS MILLNER**

Charlie Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**JESSICA MINGO**

Golf Company, Army  
Civil Engineering

**STEVEN MIRELES**

Hotel Company, Army  
Criminology

**JOHN MITCHELL**

Bravo Company, Army  
Building Construction

**NICHOLAS MONACO**

Golf Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Economics

**COLE MOYER**

Charlie Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**KRISTEN MUKAI**

Lima Company, Army  
Political Science

**CALVIN MURAMOTO**

Echo Company, Air Force  
Computational Modeling  
and Data Analytics and  
Economics

**JESSICA MUZO**

Hotel Company, Army  
Criminology and Sociology

**JAMES MYERS JR.**

Lima Company, Army  
Management

**BRANDON MYRICK**

Alpha Company, Navy  
Mechanical Engineering

**BRUCE NAYLOR**

Echo Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Political Science

**MEREDITH OAKES**

Charlie Company, Army  
International Studies and  
Russian

**ADAM OLSZEWSKI**

Charlie Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs and Russian

**JOHN OWENS**

Echo Company, Army  
Agribusiness

**WESLEY PAN**

Bravo Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Biological Sciences

**JARED PARISEN**

Charlie Company, Army  
Building Construction

**TREVOR PATTERSON**

Golf Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**ISAAC PATTERSON**

Highty-Tighties,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
International Studies and  
Russian

**PAUL PECHIE**

Charlie Company, Marines  
Political Science

**DANE PEDERSEN**

India Company, Army  
Political Science

**JOSHUA PELECH**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Aerospace Engineering

**ANNA PFUND**

Bravo Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**JACOB PILKINS**

Charlie Company, Army  
Criminology and Sociology

**JASON PIXLEY**

Delta Company, Navy  
History

**JACOB POUDRIER**

Foxtrot Company, Army  
Animal and Poultry Sciences

**NICHOLAS PRICE**

India Company, Army  
Criminology and Sociology

**DIANA PRINCIPI**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Criminology

**CHARLES PRUETT**

Delta Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Political Science

**NICHOLAS RACINE**

India Company, Army  
National Security and  
Foreign Affairs and Russian

**SARAFINA RAMALHO**

Delta Company, Army  
Political Science

**DANIEL FELKEL**

Felkel and his wife, Katriona, find purpose in their faith and responded to the COVID-19 pandemic through community service.

“As Christians and as a future leader in the U.S. Army, the direction forward became pretty clear,” he says. “Don’t panic, don’t be scared, and figure out how we can help”

They have collected food for the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry, maintained a list of volunteer opportunities in the community, and started a weekly online life group for their church to provide community.

Christopher Volk '20, the spring commander for Kilo Battery, says Felkel “made the choice to help out his community through service to others at a time when watching TV all day was quite acceptable. He definitely chose the path less traveled.”



**AUSTIN REYNOLDS**

Kilo Battery, Air Force  
Biochemistry

**BRENT REYNOLDS**

Delta Company, Air Force  
Civil Engineering

**PETER RHODES**

Golf Company, Army  
Management

**ETHAN RICHIE**

Foxtrot Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Political Science

**ROBERT RIELAGE**

Hotel Company, Navy  
Computer Science

**JULISSA RIOS**

Echo Company, Army  
Animal and Poultry Sciences

**LUIS RODRIGUEZ JR.**

Golf Company, Army  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**TYLER ROILAND**

Highty-Tighties, Air Force  
Meteorology

**DANIEL RULAND**

Lima Company, Army  
Building Construction and  
Real Estate

**JOHN RUSSELL**

Charlie Company, Marines  
Mining Engineering

**DAVID SAM**

Golf Company, Navy  
Computer Engineering

**MICHAEL SAMPSON**

Charlie Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**BENJAMIN SANDERS**

Hotel Company, Army  
Political Science

**HANNAH SANTUS**

Kilo Battery, Navy  
Building Construction

**ERIN SAYLOR**

Lima Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Wildlife Conservation

**NICHOLAS SCHAEFFER**

Golf Company, Army  
History

**MATTHEW SCHIEFER JR.**

Kilo Battery,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Building Construction

**CEDRIC SCHULZ**

Charlie Company, Navy  
Mechanical Engineering

**KEMPER SCOTT**

Alpha Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Computational and Systems  
Neuroscience

**ALEC SEKELSKY**

Hotel Company, Air Force  
Computational Modeling and  
Data Analytics

**THOMAS SHANAHAN**

Lima Company, Marines  
Psychology

**BOBBY SHERRILL**

Alpha Company, Air Force  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**TIMOTHY SHIVELY II**

Charlie Company, Army  
Criminology and Sociology

**CHRISTOPHER SILVA**

Golf Company, Air Force  
Economics

**OLIVER SMEETON**

Delta Company, Navy  
History

**SAMANTHA SMITH**

India Company, Air Force  
Civil Engineering

**SATYASARAN  
SREEHARIKESAN**

Golf Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Mechanical Engineering and  
Nanoscience

**TREVOR STACK**

Delta Company, Army  
Mechanical Engineering

**BENJAMIN STADLER**

Hotel Company, Air Force  
Civil Engineering

**JACOB STEBLEIN**

Kilo Battery, Army  
Marketing Management

**CHRISTOPHER STOCK**

Charlie Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**MEGAN DENNIS**

Before leaving campus for spring break, Dennis said “see you next week” to her friends. Spring break was the week Virginia Tech moved all classes online because of the coronavirus pandemic and began the process of canceling all in-person spring and summer events.



“Suddenly, unexpectedly, I had to wrap my brain around a new way of life and a disappointing ending,” Dennis says. “I’ve found consolation in this, however, by knowing that everybody across the country, and even the world, is in the same situation. It’s comforting to mourn and problem solve with others. I also know that this is not by any means the last curve ball life will throw at us.”

She wrote this poem, which has been shared widely with the Virginia Tech community.

**Linear**

Maybe like you I’m a next step person  
Maybe like you I had expectations  
I assumed that life was linear so I got in line  
I waited for my time  
I waited for my turn  
I waited in line to get what I worked so hard to earn  
But soon the line curved  
Confused, concerned, I’m unnerved  
Annoyed I stammered “but it’s what I deserved!”

Right now we live in a state of straight.  
College is a greenhouse for making good things, great.

**NICHOLAS STOLL**

Charlie Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Packaging Systems and  
Design

**ADAM STRASSER**

Golf Company, Army  
Building Construction

**CAROLINE SULLIVAN**

Delta Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Psychology

**HEATH SULLIVAN**

Foxtrot Company, Army  
Political Science

**HUNTER TETTELBACH**

Golf Company, Navy  
Environmental Science

**SYDNEY TINKER**

India Company, Air Force  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**AUSTIN TOMAIKO**

Lima Company, Army  
Real Estate

**SAMUEL TYSON**

Charlie Company, Air Force  
Russian

**CYRUS UNVALA**

India Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Photonics

**DONALD VAN HOOK**

Lima Company, Army  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**WILLIAM VIDOVICH**

India Company, Army  
Criminology

**THOMAS VINTER**

Echo Company, Army  
Construction Engineering  
and Management

**CHRISTOPHER VOLK**

Kilo Battery, Army  
Applied Economic  
Management

**MARK WAGE**

Alpha Company, Army  
National Security and Foreign  
Affairs

**REAGAN WAMPLER**

Golf Company, Army  
Political Science

**KYLE WIGGINS**

Kilo Battery, Army  
Electrical Engineering

**NATHANIEL WILSON**

Alpha Company, Air Force  
Computer Engineering

**CATHERINE WILSON**

Hotel Company, Air Force  
Meteorology

**MICHAEL WINTERS**

Hotel Company, Army  
History

**CONNOR WIRT**

Charlie Company,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Criminology

**ERYN WOLFE**

Lima Company, Army  
Natural Resources  
Conservation

**MARK WOLTER**

Lima Company, Air Force  
Russian and History

**AUSTIN WYDAJEWSKI**

Lima Company, Navy  
Civil Engineering

**ERIK YAMADA**

Delta Company, Air Force  
Mathematics

**KEVIN YANG**

Hotel Company, Army  
Political Science

**CHARLES YOUNG IV**

Foxtrot Company, Army  
Business Information  
Technology

**CHLOE YOUNG**

Lima Company, Army  
Criminology and Sociology

**DONALD ZIMMERMAN**

India Company, Citizen-  
Leader Track  
Communications &  
Networking

**LAUREN ZUCHOWSKI**

Lima Company, Air Force  
Political Science

**MARIAH ZWIRB**

Highty-Tighties,  
Citizen-Leader Track  
Economics

I won't say easy, but definitely aided,  
We've been given opportunities that can't be  
recreated  
We're elated, soon to be graduated...  
Yet, angry at the loss of things we never even  
appreciated.  
Long nights at the library, crying with friends.  
Waiting for hours at Turner or West End  
End? Wait this can't be the end?  
This line should still be going straight — it wasn't  
supposed to bend.

But I forgot that curves are what make art  
And maybe we only see one part  
Trust the painter's bigger picture, our sole  
segment isn't all,  
Because maybe we're just one dolomite slab in a  
beautiful Burruss Hall.  
Our class coined the term "from the same stone,"

because though all uniquely made, we share the  
same home.

And if you feel as small as I in this time,  
lean on another who's in this same crazy line.

An open handed Hokie is a key with grooves and  
bumps,  
So as this time cuts deep, lets open doors with the  
ruts.

We've proven we will prevail time and time again,  
We are Virginia Tech so united let's stand.



# CLASS NOTES

## 1960s



A few brother rats from E'66 got together in Williamsburg, Virginia, in November 2019. Pictured at Memorial Church at Jamestown Island are (from left) Grayson Harding, Eva Gray Harding, Ken Whiteside, Dianne Whiteside, John Hall, and Susan Hall. Go Hokies!

## 1980s

Doug McGuire '84 is now employed by MESMO Inc. as a strategic analyst in the Army National Guard G5.



Jeffrey Burkett E'89 was promoted to the rank of major general and is

serving as the deputy director Joint Force Design and Development Center, Joint Staff J-7.

## 1990s

Capt. Jamie McGrath HT'90, retired after 29 years of service in the U.S. Navy and in fall 2019 joined the Corps of Cadets' staff as the deputy commandant for 3rd Battalion.



McGrath (at right) was recently awarded a Surface Navy Association Literary Award Honorable Mention for his article "Engineer-Warriors or Engineers and Warriors?" This award recognizes the best professional article published during the past year addressing the surface Navy or surface warfare issues. In his article, McGrath addressed the concerns with a generalist versus a specialized career path for surface warfare officers in light of the deadly ship collisions of 2017.



Capt. Valerie (Rud) Overstreet '91, the deputy superintendent and chief of staff at the U.S. Naval Academy, met



with current cadets who attended the 2020 Naval Academy Leadership Conference.



U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Chuck Clark A'95 (at left) and Ens. Chris Us E'19 responded to the COVID-19 pandemic at Sector Miami. Clark is deployed to Miami, while Us is stationed there.



Matt Cosner E'97 was appointed the Warfare Analysis Division director for the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division aboard Naval Air Station



Patuxent River, Maryland. He supervises a division of 75 operations research analysts and aerospace engineers who are developing future naval aircraft, sensors, weapons, and networks.

## 2010s



Sean McLaughlin '14 is a Peace Corps volunteer leader serving in Mongolia. He spent his first two years in the Mongolian countryside, teaching high school English. This year, as a volunteer leader, he worked in the Peace Corps' main Mongolia office, serving as a bridge between staff and volunteers in the countryside. He also served Special Olympics Mongolia, where he is implementing a Motor Activity Training Program, a motor skill development initiative for children with profound and multiple learning disabilities.



Ens. Jordan Bliss '18 flies the Virginia Tech flag while surfaced near the North Pole. He is a member of the USS Toledo SSN-769, which conducted ICEX in February and March. ICEX is a biennial, multi-national submarine exercise that assesses combat and tactical readiness for sustained Arctic operations in the region, which is vital to national security while also conducting scientific research to improve operational capabilities in the Arctic environment. Photo by Lt. Cmdr. Gieorag Andrews.



Corps alumni (from left) Chris Selig '18, Dixon Johnson '16, and Sean Moughan '18 made their first night jump from a C-17 at Fort Bragg in December 2019.



U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Chris Selig '18 deployed with 1-504 Parachute Infantry Regiment in January to Kuwait and Iraq as a part of the 82nd Airborne Division's Immediate Response Force. Photo by Sgt. Ryan Maier.



PFC Tyler Looby '21 (at right) completed basic and advanced training as an infantryman at Fort Benning, Georgia, in December 2019. He signed on with the Virginia National Guard in May 2019, and this was his next step. His company commander of Echo 2-19 was Capt. Stephen McKnight '15. They posed for a picture after Looby's graduation.

*Submit your deployments, job and rank changes, awards and honors, family announcements, photos, and other news at [vtcc.vt.edu/classnotes](http://vtcc.vt.edu/classnotes).*



The Army ROTC team members at the starting line of the 2019 Army Ten Miler.

## ARMY ROTC NEWS

Virginia Tech Army ROTC congratulates the 97 second lieutenants who commissioned during this academic year and are starting their Army careers!

### ARMY 10 MILER TEAM

By Dylan Kannapell '21

Every October, the Army 10-Miler stops traffic in Washington, D.C. The race is the Army's biggest athletic event, drawing 35,000 runners from around the world. The race sells out every year and attracts teams and individual runners from across the Army to compete. I've run in the race since I joined Army ROTC as a freshman, and I've been proud to lead the team the past two years.

The 2019 season was a challenging one for the team. We had to fend for ourselves financially. We hustled to

find sponsors to cover our race fees and jerseys and to figure out lodging and transportation support for our runners. We made it happen with help from the Virginia Tech Running Club, RunAbout Sports, and numerous cadet families from the D.C. area. We were additionally challenged by the Army Field Training Exercise that was held the same weekend. After spending all day Friday training in the field and sleeping in the woods Friday night, we woke Saturday morning, met up, and traveled to D.C.

Our team ran well, cutting 22 minutes off our previous years' time, finishing sixth and 18th out of 103 ROTC teams, with Cadet Michel Becker '19 finishing in only 57 minutes! We are ready to push our team's legacy into the future and are already preparing for 2020's race!

### BALANCING ACC TENNIS AND ROTC

By Ryan Kros '22

For the past three years, I have had the opportunity to be a part of the Army ROTC program and a member of the varsity tennis team at Virginia Tech. I chose to come to Virginia Tech because of the people, the environment, and the chance to compete in tennis in the Atlantic Coast Conference. After three years of tennis seasons, Army training, and busy semester schedules, I have absolutely no regrets.

A typical day for me starts with ROTC physical training and goes straight to my tennis workouts. I then have a few hours to attend classes before I have to return for team workouts. After that, I can recover and focus on my academics.

The spring semester is always the toughest because we are in-season. We play about 25 games a season, so we compete several times each weekend. Being on the road all over the country so often can be difficult, but my professors and ROTC cadre have been very understanding and supportive. I've learned how to manage my time efficiently while still prioritizing academics.

Being a member of ROTC and varsity tennis has been a great experience that continues to aid in my development as a student, athlete, and leader.

## MARITIME ASSESSMENT COURSE

*By Alex Yerina '21, Miles Keane '21, and Grant Brown '23*

In December 2019, Cadets Alex Yerina '21, Miles Keane '21, and Grant Brown '23 attended the Maritime Assessment Course (MAC) at Joint-Base Lewis McChord, Washington, with the

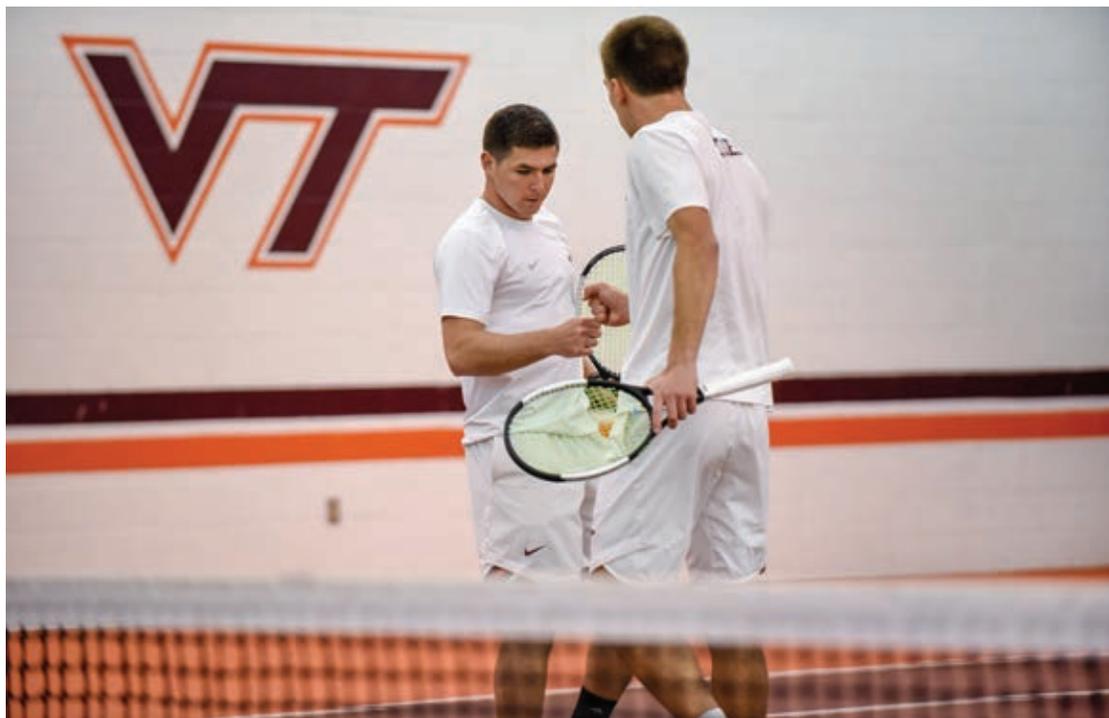


Members of the Maritime Assessment Course class carry their instructor to their boat on American Lake.

1st Special Forces Group. MAC is two weeks of daily intense physical fitness followed by four-hour pool sessions focusing on water confidence events. Then we were taken to American Lake for our open water swims. Our instructors would transport us across the lake in an inflatable boat and say, "Swim back. Time starts now." Wearing wetsuits, we

would enter the 45-degree water and conduct up to 3-kilometer swims.

"The most challenging part for me was learning to deal with the stress and anxiety of each day. I was confident in my ability to succeed, but the stress never went away," said Yerina. "It was my best training experience as a cadet, and would recommend any cadet attend."



Cadet Ryan Kros '22, at left, fist bumps a teammate after a match. Photo courtesy of Dave Knachel, Virginia Tech Athletics.



Under the supervision of Growley II (call sign “Tank”), the Corps of Cadets canine ambassador, Hanna Kobayashi '19 selects USS Milius (DDG-69), homeported in Yokuska, Japan, as part of a nationwide ship selection event for future surface warfare officers.

## NAVAL ROTC NEWS

Since the arrival of Virginia Tech Naval ROTC (NROTC) unit's new commanding officer, Capt. Douglas Bradley, additional training programs and a continued commitment to a warrior mindset have thrived, striving to produce the next generation of Navy and Marine Corps warfighters in one of the largest NROTC units in the country.

One of these new programs is battalion physical training (PT). This monthly event allows the battalion to come together for a morning of camaraderie, fitness, and training. Midshipmen are arranged in random groups to complete tasks and PT events, encouraging cross-unit solidarity and unit pride.

In February, the NROTC unit received three Conning Officer Virtual Environment (COVE) trainers. Each trainer is a virtual ship simulator that is designed to provide midshipmen with realistic navigation and seamanship training in a variety

of worldwide scenarios before entry into the fleet. Virginia Tech was one of the initial five NROTC units in the nation supplied with these trainers because of the large number of officers we commission each year.

### SHIP SELECTION

This semester, our graduating surface warfare officer selects participated in ship selection. Selectees are excited to start their careers aboard ships homeported around the world upon commissioning.

“I got my first choice,” said Hanna Kobayashi '19.

Kobayashi and 15 additional graduating midshipmen chose their future duty stations during a three-day, nationally coordinated ship selection event. She chose the USS Milius because of her positive summer training experience as a midshipman

during the Japan FOREX Cruise in summer 2019.

Like many midshipmen around the country so close to commissioning during this uncertain time, Kobayashi must still undergo advanced training after graduation to prepare for her career as a surface warfare officer. She expected to receive her orders to Basic Division Officer Course and USS Milius before May.

## ADAPTING TO COVID-19

With the outbreak of the COVID-19, the NROTC unit could no longer hold in-person training.

With the help of Virginia Tech's distance learning platforms, midshipmen received training remotely. Every week, the battalion staff sent out training materials, and NROTC instructors conducted Naval Science classes virtually, allowing all midshipmen to continue progress toward commissioning and fleet service.

Midshipmen nationwide awaited the official status of summer training for 2020 with the expectation that multiple summer trainings events will be curtailed or canceled. As COVID-19 continued to disrupt schedules, staff members were working diligently to provide administrative waivers and alternate training opportunities to complete commissioning and graduation requirements.

At the direction of the Naval Services Training Command, this year's commissioning for all 77 nationwide NROTC units was conducted virtually, a first-of-its-kind occurrence.

## MARINE-OPTION OCS

One training event that will occur this summer is the pinnacle event for an aspiring Marine-option midshipman: officer candidate school (OCS).

Unlike the logistics of sending midshipmen to multiple ships around the globe, Marine OCS takes place in one location – Quantico, Virginia – where the trainees can be quarantined for several days before training begins to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19.

A physically demanding training program, Marine OCS requires dedicated mental and physical preparation by a midshipman prior to arrival in Quantico.

Midshipman Robert Domingue '21, the physical training instructor for Raider Company, stated he conducts personal PT "no less than 10 times per week" and routinely goes out on Marine Corps-style hikes to prepare for OCS.



A midshipman operates a Conning Officer Virtual Environment unit during an underway replenishment training session off the coast of San Diego, California. The training will resume with the fall semester.



Midshipmen conduct battalion physical training in Cassell Coliseum under the leadership of Command Senior Chief Shawn Fleming.

His training has become more CrossFit and calisthenics-based while away from Virginia Tech, backed by weight training with his home gym equipment.

As the physical training instructor, Domingue was still responsible for the physical training of the entire company. He sent out weekly PT plans and receives accountability from squad leaders upon completion.

In the true spirit of *Ut Prosim*, the dedicated midshipmen and staff of the Virginia Tech NROTC unit continue to find innovative ways to prepare midshipmen for fleet service as the nation continues to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic.

# AIR FORCE ROTC NEWS

By Cadet Caitlin Godsey '21

The spring semester presented cadets with more leadership opportunities, learning experiences, and unique challenges than ever before because of COVID-19.

Imposed safety regulations postponed or canceled numerous annual events, including Combat Dining-In, Air Force Training Experience, Virginia Military Academy Day, and all graduation ceremonies. Despite the new normal, cadets remained focused on their academics, leadership development, and representing Detachment 875 within social distancing parameters set forth around the country.

Among the major accomplishments reached by each group of hard-working cadets, the Class of 2020 graduated and commissioned 44 cadets as second lieutenants into various career fields in the U.S. Air Force.

After the Rated Selection Board, 21 cadets from the Class of 2021 were chosen for pilot, combat systems officer, remotely piloted aircraft, and air battle manager slots. Plus 49 cadets of the Class of 2022 were selected to attend field training and will be traveling to Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, for leadership evaluation.

Overall, the detachment remains in high standing across the nation through the hard work and determination of every cadet.

National detachment rankings include 68th of 145 units for grade-point average and ninth for the Physical Fitness Assessment. The wing's current Physical Fitness Assessment average is 95.7 out of 100.



Above: Cadet Calvin Yuan '21, rated slot selectee, after a flight with other Virginia Tech cadets. Below: Cadet Andrew Bonavita '21 took time to hike while in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the U.S. Air Force Academy Exchange Program.



Some cadets attended leadership development opportunities around the country.

Cadet Andrew Bonavita '21 participated in the U.S. Air Force Academy Exchange Program during the fall 2019 semester. He shared, "Going on exchange to the Air Force Academy was an incredible experience for me. In addition to living as a normal cadet there, I was also able to participate in their Soaring and Space programs. By far the biggest thing I could take away from my exchange semester was all of the people I met, and the relationships I developed are what I will treasure the most from my time at the Air Force Academy."

Cadet Angela Clay '21 attended the National Character and Leadership Symposium in Colorado. She said, "It was an exciting and educational experience. We listened to many speakers, but my favorite was Ishmael Beah, who inspired me to make the best out of any situation and keep smiling no matter what."

Lt. Col. Barry Burton accompanied nine cadets to the Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Florida. Cadet Grace Hall '21 shared, "If the Air Force were a pool, this event certainly threw me in the deep end. It was an inspiration to meet the only female four star general currently in the United States military and to hear Elon Musk, among many others, speak on the future of the Air



Detachment 875 cadre and cadets form up in the shape of the Air Force logo behind Lane Hall.

Force. This was an experience I am not soon to forget."

Additionally, Djamila Lou '19 will be participating in the Air Force Institute of Technology's Graduate Scholars Program, where she will pursue a Ph.D. in material science and engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, upon commissioning.

Spring semester of 2020, will never be forgotten.

Evan Miles '20, wing commander, shared his thoughts, "This wing is full of exceptional officer candidates whose focus is on guiding their fellow cadets toward success in all realms of their lives and ultimately commissioning upon

graduation. We lead by this mantra: 'My individual success as a person and officer is solely determined by the time, effort, and passion I put forward toward the success of others.' I have no doubt in my mind that our cadets will find success wherever they go in the Air Force because of how they live to this mantra. It has been an exciting semester and I am incredibly proud of such an incredible group of people. Aim High!"

Cadets agree that this semester was full of exciting experiences and leadership opportunities. The lessons learned will no doubt remain with us long after we have conquered obstacles created by COVID-19.

## NOMINATE A VIRGINIA TECH ALUMNUS FOR THE 2021 AVIATION WALL OF FAME HONORS AT AF.VT.EDU.

The wall is a memorial recognizing Virginia Tech alumni who have distinguished themselves through contribution of service and sacrifice in the fields of aviation or aerospace.



Cadets work together on the obstacle course. Photo by Brian Chung '20.

# THE CORPS BOND

By Sandi R. Bliss, chief advancement officer

Earlier this year, none of us could have known that we would be required to distance ourselves from each other because of COVID-19.

However, despite all the separation, the Corps of Cadets family still found ways to touch each other through kindness, strength, and a shared bond to live out the university motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve).

As you think about your Corps bond and how you are helping the next generation of the Corps family, we hope you will consider one of the following opportunities.

## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

■ **Corps Leadership and Military Science Building:** We still have naming opportunities available in the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building starting at \$25,000. Hurry before they are all gone.

■ **Corps Brick Plaques:** We are using images of Lane Hall bricks to make one-of-a-kind plaques that will be displayed inside the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building. To get one, all you need to do is donate until you reach the threshold of \$2,500 to any Corps of Cadets non-endowed fund, such as the

Commandant's Priorities Annual Fund, between March 10, 2020, and March 10, 2025. One brick plaque per donor. To learn more call us 540-231-2892 or visit [vtcc.vt.edu/bricks](http://vtcc.vt.edu/bricks).

## WAYS TO GIVE

Endowments are a powerful investment in the future of the Corps. They provide a dependable, perpetual source of funding. Endowed gifts are invested, and each year a percentage of the return is made available to the university to support critical Corps initiatives. The distribution amount is approved by the

Virginia Tech Foundation board each year. Endowments can be created with a minimum gift of \$100,000.

Annual gifts of any amount can make an immediate impact. They can be made one time or arranged to be made on a convenient, recurring basis.

Gifts to the Commandant's Priorities Annual Fund of \$500 or greater automatically sponsor a first-year cadet in the fall or spring.

For end-of-the-year giving, please be sure your envelopes are postmarked by Dec. 31.

■ **Mark your calendar:** Giving Day 2020 is now scheduled for Sept. 9-10.

■ **Give online:** [givingto.vt.edu/corps](http://givingto.vt.edu/corps) (PayPal, Venmo, reoccurring gift)

■ **Text to give:** 51555 and reply VTCC

## GIFT PLANNING OPTIONS

There are so many wonderful options for leaving a powerful legacy through planned gifts to support the Corps, and we are here to help.

■ **Future intent:** If you have included the Corps in your estate planning, please let us know.

■ **Donor-advised fund:** Create a donor-advised fund to maximize tax benefits now and recommend charitable gifts, possibly with family involvement, for many years to come.

## COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

The following are some important takeaways for charitable giving:

■ **\$300 charitable deduction for everyone.** Now all taxpayers will be able to

deduct \$300 of charitable gifts.

■ **Limitations on charitable deductions enlarged.** Donors making larger gifts and pledge payments can benefit from the ability to use more of their deduction in 2020, accelerating their tax savings. For this year, most gifts made in 2020 can be deducted up to 100 percent of a donor's adjusted gross income (as compared with the normal 60 percent). To qualify, these must be cash gifts to public charities. These benefits don't apply to gifts of stock or real estate or gifts to a donor-advised fund.

*For more information about any of these opportunities, please contact the Corps of Cadets advancement team today at 540-231-2892 or [vtcc@vt.edu](mailto:vtcc@vt.edu). We're online at [vtcc.vt.edu/give](http://vtcc.vt.edu/give).*

# LEAVE YOUR LEGACY



Throughout history, Corps of Cadets graduates have left their names and class years on the bricks of Lane Hall.

Now, you can also leave your name and class year on a brick plaque in the new Corps Leadership and Military Science Building.

**Learn how >> [vtcc.vt.edu/bricks](http://vtcc.vt.edu/bricks)**

IN MEMORY



**GEORGE WASHINGTON HABEL JR. '42**

**1921 - 2020**

George W. Habel Jr. died March 16. Raised in Nelson County, Virginia, he left for Virginia Tech in 1938. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets and an ROTC engineering student. He joined the U.S. Army in 1942 and the 66th Topographic Engineering Company. After the war, he worked for the Virginia Department of Highways, mapping and building new roads. He was credited with many innovations in the Aerial Survey Department, where he was a photogrammetric engineer. He was predeceased by his wife of 70 years, Rachel. He is survived by a daughter and a son.



**JAMES MADISON POLLARD JR. '50**

**1928 - 2019**

James "Jimmie" Pollard died June 20, 2019. He was a lifelong resident of Ashland, Virginia. He attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and was a member of the Corps of Cadets and ROTC, earning a commission in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. After two years of active military duty, he joined his father in the family business and became president of J.M. Pollard & Sons Inc. A true and loyal Hokie for over 70 years, he served as president of the Ashland Hokie Club. Survivors include his devoted wife, Marilyn; two daughters; and two sons.



**ERNEST DEWEY STONEMAN '50**

**1929 - 2020**

Ernest D. Stoneman died Jan. 26. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Virginia Tech, where he was in the Corps of Cadets. After graduation, he served during the Korean War as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Following active duty, he served in the Reserves for six years, attaining the rank of captain. He was a member of Liberty Baptist and enjoyed singing in the Heart Throbs senior choir. He married Anne Gertrude Overman on June 14, 1952, and they were inseparable for 65 years. He is survived by a daughter and a son.



**GEORGE BRUCE McFADDEN '57**

**1934 - 2019**

G. Bruce McFadden died Oct. 28, 2019. He earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1957 and a master's degree in hospital administration from the Medical College of Virginia in 1961. He was stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and then worked in hospital administration in the northeastern U.S. He held numerous professional and service posts, concluding as vice president of the Westfield Board of Education. Survivors include his wife, Lois; a daughter; and a son.



## **PHILLIP EDMUND BARNARD '60**

**1938 - 2020**

Phillip "Phil" Barnard died Jan. 21. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural education. He was a member of the ROTC and the Highty-Tighties. He taught high school before starting at Reynolds Metals Company, where he worked for 32 years. He retired in 1998 and started his own company, which he operated for nine years. He served in the Virginia National Guard and the Army Reserve. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Nellie; a daughter; and two sons.



## **TIMOTHY M. TODD '60**

**1938 - 2019**

Timothy "Tim" Todd died Dec. 28, 2019. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1960 with a degree in mining engineering. After a long career, he and his wife retired to Blacksburg, where he immersed himself in all things Hokie. He was a revered plankowner of the Corps of Cadets' Rat Pack and is interned at the columbarium of Virginia Tech, close enough to hear the cheering from Lane Stadium. Survivors include his wife and best friend Beverley; a daughter; and a son. His grandson, Cameron Shiner, will be a senior in the Corps.



## **JOE STEVEN BRODIE '63**

**1941 - 2019**

Joe Steven "Steve" Brodie died Nov. 23, 2019. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1963, where he was a member of the Highty-Tighties and the Highlander Big Jazz Band. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserves as a lieutenant colonel and retired from Thomaston Mills and Talon Corp. He was a member of Thomaston First United Methodist Church, past president of Thomaston Sertoma Club, chairman of Greater Greensboro Open Golf Tour, and regional director of Sertoma International. He is survived by his wife, Clarice Brodie, and two daughters.



## **RAYMOND REYNARLD KIRBY '63**

**1941 - 2020**

Raymond R. Kirby died Jan. 27. He attended Virginia Tech, was in the Corps of Cadets, and graduated in 1963. He worked for GE, First National Exchange Bank, and Malone and Hyde Wholesale Grocery in Salem, Virginia. In 1973, he became owner and manager of Ray's Sureway Supermarket in Floyd, Virginia. After leaving the grocery business, he worked for Radford University, advancing to become director of information technology and chief information officer. He retired in 2006. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Adelene, and a son.



## **WILLIAM EARLY KIRKLAND '64**

**1942 - 2020**

William "Bill" Kirkland died Feb. 7. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a degree in business administration. He was a proud member of M Company in the Corps of Cadets. He served two years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army stationed in Okinawa, Japan, before serving as a civilian employee in Vietnam from 1970 to 1971 as a retail manager for U.S. Armed Services Post and Base Exchanges. He transitioned to private sector retail management in 1972, working throughout the southern U.S. for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Faye, and a son.



## **BENJAMIN FIELDING ROLSTON '64**

**1941 - 2019**

Fielding Rolston died Sept. 29, 2019. He graduated with his bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Virginia Tech. After graduation, he joined Tennessee Eastman as an industrial engineer. Soon after, he fulfilled his military obligation as a commissioned officer at the Pentagon. After returning to Eastman Chemical, he held a series of positions including two vice president roles. He retired in 2003 with more than 38 years of service. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joyce; a daughter; and a son.



## **RICHARD W. KATES JR. '66**

**1944 - 2019**

Richard "Dick" Kates died Nov. 19, 2019. He joined the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech, where he graduated in 1966 with a degree in industrial engineering. He served as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He left the military with the rank of captain in 1978 and returned to Blacksburg. It was there he met his wife, Becky, and they both received master's degrees in industrial engineering 1981. During his career, he worked for various engineering companies. He is survived by his wife and three children.



## **RODNEY WIKE SMITH '66**

**1944 - 2020**

Rodney "Rod" Smith died Feb. 8. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech in 1966. While there, he was a member of the Corps of Cadets, H Company, Gregory Guard, and Cotillion Club. He worked for the Radford Arsenal; Virginia Water Control Board; the Staunton Planning Department; and Patton, Harris, Rust and Guy in Fairfax. He was co-owner of Copper and Smith PC and owner of RW Smith Associates and Waste Resources. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mary Katherine, and two sons.



## **GARLAND LEE BURCH '67**

**1945 - 2019**

Garland Lee Burch died July 7, 2019. He graduated from Virginia Tech and served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1971 in Vietnam. His post-military career as a physical/geotechnical engineer was long and prosperous, working primarily with Raba Kistner Consultants. He is survived by his wife, Wendy, and a son.



## **JOHN VOORHEES ROLAND '67**

**1945 - 2019**

John Roland died Oct. 26, 2019. He attended Virginia Tech as a member of the Corps of Cadets, earning his undergraduate and master's degrees. He joined the U.S. Navy, where he met his wife, Moya, in Hawaii. Following his military service, he worked as an environmental engineer for the Water Control Board for 20 years, and later, the Virginia Asphalt Association in Richmond, Virginia. Survivors include his wife of nearly 46 years, a daughter, and a son.



## **FORREST DALE HALL JR. '68**

**1946 - 2020**

Forrest Dale Hall Jr. died Jan. 5. He graduated from Virginia Tech and was a proud member of the Corps of Cadets' E Company, graduating in 1968. He also served in many roles with the Rolling Thunder Virginia Chapter 3. He worked for many years in the Washington, D.C., area as a surety bonds agent. He retired to the Northern Neck near Reedville several years ago, a place he always loved. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Linda, and two sons.



## **DIRK FREDERICK KINGMA '69**

**1945 - 2019**

Dirk F. Kingma died Nov. 13, 2019. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Virginia Tech in 1969, then served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy as an air intelligence officer aboard the USS Enterprise. Upon leaving the service, he settled in San Diego and formed Kingma Developers Inc., a real estate development firm, and DFK Enterprises, a real estate brokerage company. He also served as president of the Mission Bay Real Estate Association. He is survived by his wife, Kitty; a daughter; and a stepson.

## LEST WE FORGET

Peyton L. Morgan '43, Knoxville, Tennessee, 1/27/2020  
James H. Digges '45, Kihei, Hawaii, 12/28/2019  
Stanley Goldsmith '45, Kennewick, Washington, 2/15/2020  
A. Nelson Sills '45, Houston, Delaware, 1/24/2020  
Robert J. White '45, Kingsport, Tennessee, 3/26/2020  
Joseph E. Isaac '47, Lexington, Kentucky, 2/5/2020  
Harry W. Philpott '47, Winston Salem, North Carolina, 12/2/2019  
Philip I. Karp '48, Bradenton, Florida, 1/15/2020  
Samuel T. McNeny '48, Midlothian, Virginia, 12/8/2019  
William L. Gunter '49, Apex, North Carolina, 12/9/2019  
Paul F. Lumbye '49, Broad Run, Virginia, 3/21/2020  
George W. Nickel '49, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 10/30/2019  
Augustine W. Robins '49, Yorktown, Virginia, 3/22/2020  
Frank H. Sawyer '49, Wilmington, Delaware, 2/29/2020  
William B. Smith '49, Willow Spring, North Carolina, 10/8/2019  
Edwin J. Williams '49, North Chesterfield, Virginia, 11/24/2019  
Richard C. Beck '50, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 12/9/2019  
Richard K. Culbertson '50, Blacksburg, Virginia, 1/24/2020  
Walton Egelanian '50, Easton, Maryland, 12/15/2019  
Robert W. Johnson '50, Midlothian, Virginia, 3/16/2020  
Robert L. Waring '50, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 10/16/2019  
Melvin W. Bryant '51, Barhamsville, Virginia, 1/19/2020  
Robert M. Montgomery '51, Newport News, Virginia, 11/16/2019  
Morgan L. Staples '51, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 12/16/2019  
Bobby E. Stultz '51, Madison, New Jersey, 3/22/2020  
John E. Awalt '52, Rochester, Minnesota, 3/20/2020  
George R. Floyd '52, Lutherville, Maryland, 2/16/2020  
William T. Green '52, Newport News, Virginia, 10/17/2019  
Warren D. Hayes '52, Englewood, Florida, 2/6/2020  
Samuel T. Isaac '52, Lexington, Kentucky, 12/1/2019  
Robert G. Leonard '52, Front Royal, Virginia, 12/30/2019  
Robert G. Montgomery '52, Lynchburg, Virginia, 12/4/2019  
Edward L. Olson '52, Columbia, North Carolina, 1/24/2020  
Edsel R. Rudy '52, Galax, Virginia, 12/22/2019  
Aubrey R. Slayton '52, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 12/12/2019  
Edgar S. Sturgis '52, Eastville, Virginia, 10/21/2019  
B. Gordon Watkins '52, Lynchburg, Virginia, 12/24/2019  
Claude F. Yelton '52, Pulaski, Virginia, 2/28/2020  
Maks A. Etingin '53, New York, New York, 11/17/2019  
Clarence F. Golladay '53, Durham, North Carolina, 12/24/2019  
Floyd W. Hough '53, Hagerstown, Maryland, 1/17/2020  
Robert L. Hundley '53, Mechanicsville, Virginia, 2/20/2020  
Wilbert R. Minor '53, Hockessin, Delaware, 10/2/2019  
Robert H. Renalds '53, Timberville, Virginia, 1/17/2020  
John M. Shumate '53, Roanoke, Virginia, 2/29/2020  
Chantland Wysor '53, Flagler Beach, Florida, 11/24/2019  
James H. Burkholder '54, Lynchburg, Virginia, 2/10/2020  
Joseph M. Elliott '54, Waynesboro, Virginia, 11/4/2019  
Charles D. Herb '54, Fairfax, Virginia, 10/28/2019  
Albert E. Motley '54, Tampa, Florida, 10/2/2019  
Frederick T. Anstey '55, Rustburg, Virginia, 10/7/2019  
Thomas J. Blair '55, Charleston, West Virginia, 3/13/2020  
George C. Boone II '55, Radford, Virginia, 4/30/2019  
Harry M. Francis '55, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1/29/2020  
Thomas B. French '55, Dubuque, Iowa, 3/23/2020  
Robert A. Hastings '55, Smithville, Tennessee, 12/1/2019  
Arden N. Huff '55, Dugspur, Virginia, 2/10/2020  
Ernest M. Jennelle '55, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1/30/2020  
George E. Keller '55, Charleston, West Virginia, 10/7/2019  
Ralph G. Kester '55, Alamogordo, New Mexico, 12/28/2019  
Philip J. Moore '55, Bradenton, Florida, 11/5/2019  
Harold P. Remines '55, Abingdon, Virginia, 2/4/2020  
H. M. Smith '55, Severna Park, Maryland, 11/23/2019  
Herbert R. Alcorn '56, Blacksburg, Virginia, 1/25/2020  
Michael O. Efirid '56, Lawrenceville, Georgia, 1/29/2020

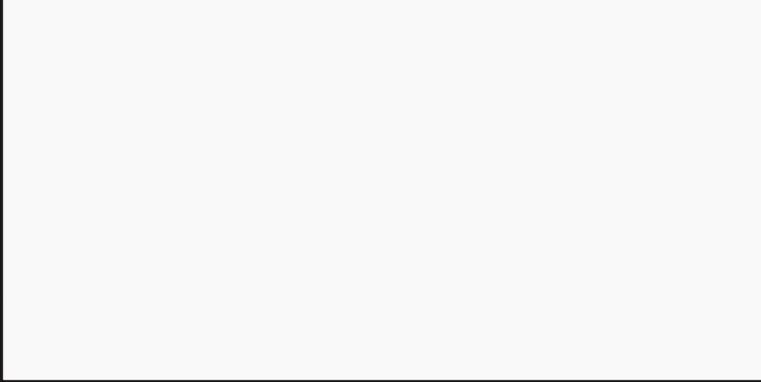
Paul P. Graham '56, Blacksburg, Virginia, 12/29/2019  
Danny J. Long '56, Newton, North Carolina, 11/19/2019  
Kenneth C. Moore '56, Providence Forge, Virginia,  
10/2/2019  
Jack R. Spigle '56, Roanoke, Virginia, 2/21/2020  
Jake M. Stone '56, Franklin, Virginia, 12/15/2019  
Richard H. Adams '57, Destin, Florida, 11/11/2019  
L.D. Higginbotham '57, Amherst, Virginia, 3/25/2020  
Randolph C. Hodges '57, Andrews, South Carolina,  
3/26/2020  
John E. Hubard '57, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 10/1/2019  
Wiley E. Ring '57, Kingsport, Tennessee, 11/25/2019  
Sterling R. Robinson '57, Austinville, Virginia, 3/6/2020  
John B. Tenney '57, Williamson, New York, 2/17/2020  
Joseph A. Washington '57, Richmond, Virginia, 12/28/2019  
John C. Holladay '58, Norfolk, Virginia, 2/9/2020  
James R. Link '58, Reston, Virginia, 11/9/2019  
E.T. Moore '58, Durham, North Carolina, 1/21/2020  
Andrew L. Nester '58, Floyd, Virginia, 2/1/2020  
Andrew T. Roth '58, Springfield, Virginia, 2/15/2020  
Otwa L. Meetze '59, Lexington, Kentucky, 12/21/2019  
Howard W. White '59, Roanoke, Virginia, 2/13/2020  
Ira S. Crawford '60, Radford, Virginia, 3/19/2020  
Charles W. Elgin '60, Christiansburg, Virginia, 2/23/2020  
Marty H. Holland '60, Williamsburg, Virginia, 12/17/2019  
Joseph C. Pratt '60, Martinsville, Virginia, 3/14/2020  
William W. Snidow '60, Richmond, Virginia, 10/10/2019  
William G. Wall '60, Radford, Virginia, 11/11/2019  
David G. Wilson '60, Fayetteville, North Carolina,  
11/24/2019  
Ronald L. Wynn '60, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia,  
11/20/2019  
Douglas D. Burnett '61, Danville, Virginia, 12/8/2019  
Irving A. Frye '61, Rosedale, Virginia, 11/3/2019  
Frank S. Harkins '61, Charlotte, North Carolina,  
11/12/2019  
James M. Johns '61, Alto, Georgia, 12/14/2019  
Raymond J. Klotz '61, Mechanicsville, Virginia, 2/1/2020  
Sterling M. Nichols '61, Williamsburg, Virginia,  
12/10/2019  
A. Leon Tomblin '61, Fincastle, Virginia, 12/25/2019  
Clarence Waskey '61, Blacksburg, Virginia, 11/10/2019  
David W. Gillespie '62, Wilmington, North Carolina,  
1/28/2020  
William F. Holtzclaw '62, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware,  
1/17/2020  
Owen R. Walker '62, Powhatan, Virginia, 10/10/2019  
James A. Conner '63, Roanoke, Virginia, 3/14/2020  
William L. Dail '63, Lynchburg, Virginia, 1/13/2020  
Jerry M. Soukup '63, Seminole, Florida, 2/1/2020  
John F. Kurtz '64, New Bern, North Carolina, 2/15/2020  
Joe D. Savage '64, Plano, Texas, 11/28/2019  
Robert R. Johnson '66, Chevy Chase, Maryland, 12/27/2019  
John R. McCloskey '66, Albuquerque, New Mexico,  
12/15/2019  
William E. Miller '66, Bradenton, Florida, 2/20/2020  
Stanley P. Rife '66, Vinton, Virginia, 11/3/2019  
Lee E. Sharpe '66, Frederick, Maryland, 3/19/2020  
James G. Baird '67, Christiansburg, Virginia, 11/12/2019  
Gary W. Bowen '67, Roanoke, Virginia, 10/31/2019  
James B. Clark '67, Fort Mill, South Carolina, 1/18/2020  
Averill M. Hansen '67, Fort Mill, South Carolina, 2/20/2020  
Marion S. Whitfield Jr. '67, Wake Forest, North Carolina,  
11/26/2018  
Geoffrey S. Anderson '70, Rockport, Texas, 10/30/2019  
William M. Darracott '71, Germantown, Maryland,  
1/28/2020  
Thomas V. Mukai '71, Alexandria, Virginia, 3/19/2020  
Phillip C. Scheider '75, Manassas, Virginia, 1/15/2020  
Michelle "Mikki" Bragg '86, Springfield, Virginia, 2/4/2019



**VTCC Alumni Inc.**

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Blacksburg, VA 24061

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