

THE VIRGINIA TECH CORPS OF CADETS ALUMNI MAGAZINE

CORPS REVIEW

VOL. 29 NO. 2 SPRING 2019



Class of 2019,
Ready to Serve



Kilo Battery competes in the 2019 Jaffe Eager Squad drill competition while Lima Company cadets, at right, wait their turn and the rest of the regiment watches every step.



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ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE ALUMNI DIRECTOR

One of the bittersweet aspects of my job is engaging with Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC) alumni and former Corps staff members. I love re-establishing relationships with my classmates and making new acquaintances with alumni from all decades, but it is difficult to say farewell.

Last year, I had the great pleasure of meeting back up with two past staff members who were icons when I was a cadet in the mid-1980s.

One was former head tailor Ralph Miller, and the other was 2nd Battalion Deputy Commandant Col. Ellis “Dutch” Vander Pyl, U.S. Air Force (retired). You can read about both men in the Honor Guard section of this magazine.

Ralph was the cornerstone of the tailor shop, working there for 39 years. He was gregarious, friendly, and always helpful.

Col. Vander Pyl was larger than life and immediately became one of my earliest role models and an example of how I wanted to be as a military officer. He was friendly, smart, perceptive, filled with common sense, did not take any crap, and understood that his troops (cadets) were still college kids. His personality and sense of humor were fantastic.

Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Board member Scott Pearl '84 remembers a particular Col. Vander Pyl quote that was posted on a bulletin board in Rasche Hall. It read, “Enjoy your summer and stay upright. If you fall, be sure to cover up your VTCC logo!”

May both Ralph and Dutch rest in peace.

Ut Prosim,

Col. Patience Larkin (retired) E'87, patience@vt.edu



RANGER COMPANY ALUMNI NEEDED

Virginia Tech Ranger Company is looking to build a strong alumni network to bring its alumni together and create mentorship and career enhancement opportunities.

The company currently consists of 34 Army ROTC cadets who conduct physical and tactical training. This summer, Ranger Company will have two members attend Airborne School, six attend Air Assault School, three attend Cadet Troop Leader Training, and one attend the Jungle Operations Training Course. Of the seniors who commissioned in May, two branched infantry, two branched aviation, one branched field artillery, and one branched engineers.

Each spring, Ranger Company runs an eight-week assessment to test the company's prospective members. Of the 48 candidates who began Ranger Company's assessment during the spring semester, only seven were inducted.

Ranger Company cadets are always looking for new ways to challenge themselves and improve as leaders. If you are interested in joining the Ranger Company alumni network, please email vtrangercoalumni@gmail.com with your name, contact information, and graduation year. We are hoping to plan mentoring opportunities and reunion activities in the future.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

In April, we honored our two 2019 VTCC Distinguished Alumni Award recipients: Maj. Gen. Tommy T. Thompson '56 and Ambassador Richard T. Crowder '60. Although they followed two distinct paths, both were Distinguished Military graduates, earned bachelor's degrees in agriculture and applied economics, and commissioned into the U.S. Army.

Crowder served on active duty and in the reserves while earning a master's degree and a doctorate in agriculture and applied economics. That was followed by a successful career in industry. He also left his mark in government, serving as the undersecretary for international affairs and commodity programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where he worked on the 1990 Farm Bill. In 2006-07, he was U.S. trade representative and ambassador, as well as chief agricultural negotiator, principally responsible for all international agricultural trade negotiations. He continued in 2007-08 as special advisor to the U.S. Trade Representative's Office. In 2008, Crowder returned to Virginia Tech as an adjunct professor.

Thompson served more than 36 years in a variety of active duty positions in the United States and South Korea, followed by leadership roles in the Army National Guard. Those included commandant of the Virginia Army National Guard Officer Candidate School and division commander of the 29th Infantry Division. In civilian life, he found similar success in real estate, becoming CEO of his company. He has served as president of the Newport News-Hampton Board of Realtors, as president of the Peninsula Building and Housing Association, and on the Hampton (Virginia) School Board. Thompson remained active with the Corps, from fighting in the 1990s for its survival to establishing a legacy of giving and serving on the VTCC alumni board.



Richard T. Crowder '60



Tommy T. Thompson '56

REGISTER FOR REUNIONS

Come back to Virginia Tech in the fall to have a great time with your buds.

Corps Reunion is Sept. 13-14, and Highty-Tighty Reunion is Oct. 18-19.

Look for the registration links at vtcc.vt.edu/alumni.

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

J. Pearson '87, Chairman, VTCCA

Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart, Commandant of Cadets

Col. Patience Larkin '87, Alumni Director

Shay Barnhart, Communications Director and Editor

Sandi R. Bliss, Chief Advancement Officer

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Front cover: The spring cadet commanders of the ROTC units stand together in the Moss Arts Center. From left are Cadets Brett Smith '19 of Air Force, Catie Rendon '19 of VPI Battalion, Patrick Leary '19 of Navy, and Sullivan Delaney '19 of Army. Photo by H. Pat Artis VT'71.

Back cover: Cadet Alyssa Haber '21 releases the American flag during morning formation. Photo by Shay Barnhart.

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FRIENDS FOR LIFE



Are these guys having fun or what? From left are: Jim Mrazek, retired Air Force pilot and Vietnam veteran; Buddy Funk, former Air Force aerospace engineer and practicing trial attorney; Rob Marshall, retired Navy radio atmospheric scientist and cattle farmer; Cal Schiemann, retired Air Force pilot, Vietnam veteran, and Virginia Cooperative Extension agent; Jerry Barnes, retired soldier and U.S. Corps of Engineers civil engineer; Bob Dawes, retired Air Force pilot, Vietnam veteran, and civil servant; Al Blaho, former Air Force and aerospace industry engineer; Marty Drees, retired Navy fighter pilot and Vietnam veteran.

By Rob Marshall N'67

We first met 55 years ago in Thomas Hall on the Upper Quad, during the initial intense days of being introduced to the rat system in N Squadron of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute Corps of Cadets.

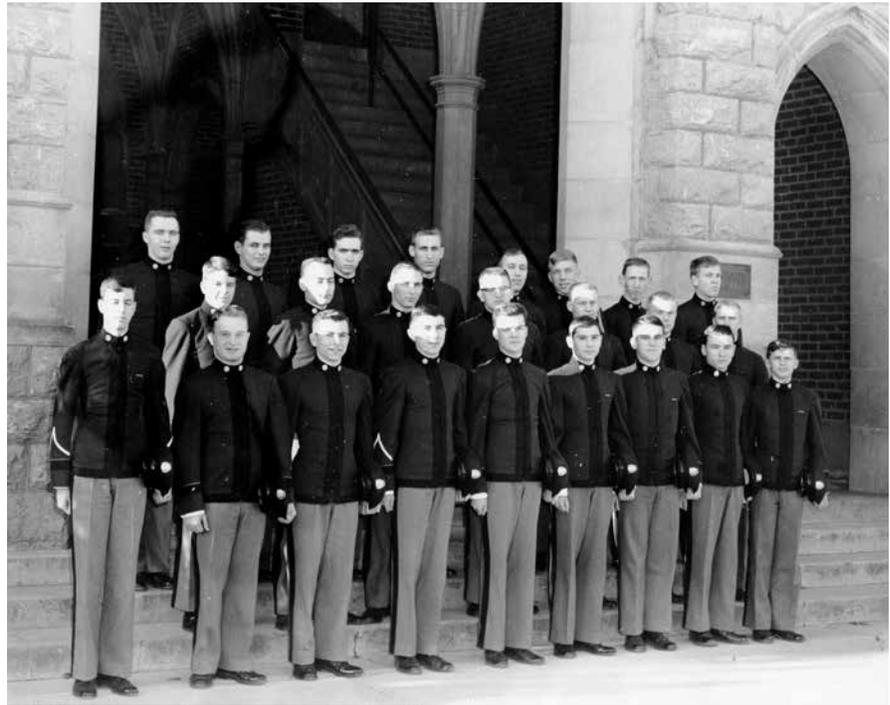
The freshman system was relentless, intense, and ever present, but we supported one another and persevered all the way to change-of-rank day in the spring.

That freshman year of 1963, we marched in a funeral review for President John F. Kennedy. We rode the Huckleberry to Roanoke, Virginia, and marched in the Thanksgiving Day parade to Victory Stadium to cheer for VPI against Virginia Military Institute. We witnessed a sobering drumming out ceremony in front of Lane Hall, and we enjoyed the glamorous formal dance weekends with the women of our dreams.

Little did we understand that the bonds we developed during that rat year would be among the strongest of our lives.

After graduation, we pursued our careers, radiated out to different parts of the world, participated in one another's weddings, rejoiced in the birth of one another's children, consoled during the infrequent divorce, and occasionally gathered with our families over the years at formal and informal reunions.

The 50th reunion in 2017 was special, and because we are so comfortable with one another, discussions led us to recognize the unique bond and, in the face of our mortality, the need that it be celebrated on a more frequent schedule. We already had suffered the loss of several rat brothers and wished we had spent more time with them. So with the



N Squadron's sophomore portrait from 1965.

help and encouragement of our companions and wives, we began planning our 51st reunion.

In late October 2018, eight N-'67 rat brothers and their surviving spouses gathered at an Atlantic oceanfront home on the Outer Banks of North Carolina for a week-long reunion.

They were

- Jim Mrazek, a retired Air Force pilot who served in Vietnam
- Buddy Funk, a former Air Force aerospace engineer and now a Richmond, Virginia, trial attorney
- Rob Marshall, a retired Navy radio atmospheric scientist and cattle farmer
- Cal Schiemann, a retired Air Force pilot who served in Vietnam and a Virginia Cooperative Extension agent
- Jerry Barnes, a retired soldier and U.S. Corps of Engineers civil engineer
- Bob Dawes, a retired Air Force pilot who served in Vietnam and

a New York State civil servant

- Al Blaho, a former Air Force and aerospace industry engineer
- Marty Drees, a retired Navy pilot who served in Vietnam

The week was a celebratory family affair.

Each day typically would start with the early risers, guys and gals, enjoying coffee and the sunrise over the Atlantic Ocean. We would use this inspiring early-morning time to learn about what was happening in one another's families.

As the stragglers finally made their way to the kitchen, breakfast aromas began filling the air and plans for the day began developing as we all gathered around the large dining table to share breakfast and lively conversation.

Invariably, the guys would force the family breakfast discussions toward the embellished events of our times in Thomas Hall or our mission-oriented experiences in Vietnam. Our loving and supporting companions would eventually move into the living room to plan their day while the rat brothers repeated



The N Squadron group poses for a picture at the Wright Brothers National Memorial during a reunion at North Carolina's Outer Banks. In the background is the Wright Flyer.

amplified stories about the mischievous acts from our freshman year. Finally, guys and gals would come together to plan the outing of the day.

The spouses' day typically involved walks on the beach and taking advantage of the fall sales at the many shops on the Outer Banks. Some days, the plan involved spouses and brothers.

The most memorable outing for the rat brothers was a visit to the Wright Brothers National Memorial in Kitty Hawk. Four brothers were pilots, and three worked in the aerospace industry.

The museum exhibits and guided tours instilled a sense of awe and appreciation for these two committed broth-

ers from Dayton, Ohio, who launched a technology that we all participated in throughout our careers.

We finished the day visiting the Wright Flyer.

No matter the events of the day, everyone gathered in the kitchen in time to prepare happy hour treats and support the family assigned responsibility for the evening meal. It is then we all learned the special recipes of each family perfected over the years. The ladies enjoyed showing us the economical purchases of the day. Wine favorites were shared and critiqued.

Happy hour can still be enormous fun even when you are living in your eighth

decade and in the company of lifelong friends.

As the happy hour wound down, the dinner table was set and the responsible couple served the grand meal. Compliments flowed to the chefs of the night, as well as requests for the recipes. The desserts followed enjoyed with the cordial of the evening. It was like a family holiday meal without any drama.

At the end of the meal, we seriously saluted the fallen from our ranks, recognized the currency of the character we learned in the Corps of Cadets, and remembered how difficult it could be to find the same strength of character as we traveled through our careers.

“LITTLE DID WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE BONDS WE DEVELOPED DURING THAT RAT YEAR WOULD BE **AMONG THE STRONGEST OF OUR LIVES.**”

THE POWER OF ALUMNI

By Jason Oberoi '09, assistant director of the Citizen-Leader Track/VPI Battalion

We have all heard the phrase, “It’s not what you know, but who you know,” and it has never been more true than it is in today’s job market.

It’s not enough to have good grades, internships, and a solid resume. To get the jobs that cadets want these days, we need people on the inside.

Our alumni are integral to our cadets’ success.

Recent graduates such as Jon Burgess '15 from Tindall Corporation, Peter Wilson '17 from Goldman Sachs, Mike Neilan '18 from Deloitte, Lt. Brian Hagerty '14 from the U.S. Coast Guard, and Ensign Jake McCormick '18 from the U.S. Navy have returned to Upper Quad recently to host information sessions for cadets, allowing them to ask everything from what the work looks like day to day to how to prepare for a similar career.

Congressman Rob Wittman '81 continues to offer opportunities for cadets to intern with his office on Capitol Hill. This has made a huge difference in the resume strength of a number of cadets seeking federal employment. Other alumni have been integral in facilitating tours at federal intelligence agencies and offering resume reviews.

Alumni such as U.S. Army Capt. Collin Hu '09 have talked one-on-one with cadets about what medical school was like and their experiences being a doctor in the Army.

Army Capt. Travis Taggart '10 met with one of our recent graduates when that graduate was assigned to South Korea and needed someone on the ground to talk with. Another alumnus took time out of his busy schedule to come back and talk to Army ROTC cadets about how to prepare for Special Forces Assessment and Selection and what a typical day is like for a special forces officer.

One of the most unique opportunities our cadets have had was a tour of the White House, offered because one of our alumnae opened doors for us.

As Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Board Chairman J. Pearson '87 reminds us, we need our alums to communicate, participate, and donate. Communicating and participating with our cadets is critical to their success.

Today’s cadets are looking for more than entry-level jobs at just any company — they want to work for big-name compa-



From left are Stephen Galanti '18, Jack Holland '19, Kim Turcious '18, Kevin Thompson '19, Djamila Lou '19, and Abel Solomon '19 during a tour of the White House.



Engineers Ashely Smith '08, at left, from the Virginia Department of Transportation and Jon Burgess '15 from Tindall Corporation talk with Citizen-Leader Track cadets during the end-of-semester career-interest panels.

nies doing big things, and we need your help to get them there.

If you have internships or opportunities cadets might benefit from or if you would like to be part of a career-interest panel or a speaker at one of our labs, please contact Jason Oberoi at jtoberoi@vt.edu.

WE WELCOMED A LOT OF SPECIAL GUESTS THIS SPRING, INCLUDING A VISIT FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, WHO SPENT AN AFTERNOON TALKING WITH CADETS AND THE ARMY ROTC NEW RIVER BATTALION.



Entrepreneur Patty Haley '90 talked with Citizen-Leader Track cadets about self-understanding and resilience in January.



Alumni including, from left, John Kelley '87, Warren Braxton '18, Erika Nelson '18, and Ralph Bradley '87, at right, joined a panel discussion with cadets on Diverse Perspectives of the Corps Experience and Beyond in March.



Lt. Gen. David D. Thompson, vice commander of the U.S. Air Force Space Command, spoke to the regiment in March.



The junior class marched into Ring Dance in March.



Cadet Matt Krusiec '19 asked a question of Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper when he visited campus in April.



Roger Moore '64, the last drill sergeant of the Pershing Rifles as it became the Gregory Guard, presented his saber to the precision drill team during its change of command ceremony in May.



Cadets waded through the New River as part of the obstacles they faced during this year's Platoon Tactical Challenge in March. The day-long event was moved off campus to neighboring Giles County, Virginia, this year.



Attendees at the VTCC Alumnae Weekend in April posed in their "Tank Tops" with Growley II. Alumnae returned to campus to hear from today's cadets and mentor those about to graduate. We would love to have more join us next year, so watch for this event again next spring.

COMMAND REFLECTION

By U.S. Air Force Maj. Chris Callaway E'04, commander, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron

Command has been one of the best jobs I've ever had!

My job at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, is to create the best possible environment and provide direction for 51 airmen and 550 contractors to sustain, repair, and modernize \$2.6 billion dollars of infrastructure; prepare the base's infrastructure and personnel for chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents; protect the infrastructure with a capable fire department; and train and equip the explosive ordnance disposal flight.

I have almost complete freedom in how I create the squadron's environment, and I chose to focus on empowering my airmen. Our enemies are watching how we operate. They learned much observing the

operations in 18 years of conflict and are exploiting the weaknesses of a top-down leadership approach. We must adapt to a complex world environment, improvise solutions to non-standard problems, and overcome our own weaknesses to maintain world leadership.

Today's airmen, soldiers, sailors, and Marines are part of the smartest generation the military has ever seen, perfectly postured to adapt, improvise, and overcome. I believe leaders have a responsibility to develop their airmen's ability to act in any situation without asking for permission and capitalize on their innovative ideas to accomplish the mission better and faster than ever before. I want to share two stories about empowerment — one successful and one unsuccessful.



From left, Chris Callaway with his Corps of Cadets roommate, U.S. Air Force Maj. Dan Richardson '04.

SUCCESSFUL EMPOWERMENT

A young staff sergeant (E-5) entered my office to provide the monthly status of training (SoT) update. A SoT update focuses on how well my airmen are learning their jobs and are advancing toward being technical experts. It consists of data including the length of time it takes to complete career development courses, the amount of time in upgrade training, and a number of other things culminating in signing a few documents acknowledging my review.

I asked this staff sergeant a few questions to which she said, “I don’t know, sir. Your predecessor just signed the papers, and it didn’t take too long.”

I responded with, “Well, your job is to be able to answer all those questions and more. So next time, I’d like you to come and brief me on the things you think I need to know. Every question I ask is a clue into what I find meaningful.”

Her eyes were widened, and I could almost read her mind — commanders just tell me what to do and I do it. How am I supposed to do this?

I followed up with, “You’ll do great!”

The staff sergeant returned next month for the SoT and began briefing the data before me. She looked at every airman on the sheet and said something like, “Sir, this means the airman is on schedule,” or “This airman is awaiting upgrade school and will go on this date,” or “This airman is just awaiting time in grade to advance in skill level.”



Maj. Chris Callaway, at left in photo above, takes the opportunity to give back to Incirlik Air Base's airmen on Thanksgiving. Afterward, he and every other squadron commander share some downtime together at their home away from home.



At the end of the meeting, I told her, “That was exactly what I was looking for! You told me what you thought I needed to know, and it ended up being exactly what I needed. Great job!”

That day, the staff sergeant left with a smile on her face knowing I was both pleased with her performance and proud of her quick advancement.

That staff sergeant learned something powerful between those two meetings — I didn’t need parrots in my organization, but I did need empowered individuals capable of making decisions while keeping their bosses’ priorities in mind.

The staff sergeant figured out how to do just that so well in the SoT meetings,

I challenged her again to run a squadron-wide training program designed to bolster resiliency. While initially not perfect, she adapted to meet the squadron’s needs, she improvised to make the materials and other instructors better, and she overcame organizational inertia implementing a truly successful program.

UNSUCCESSFUL EMPOWERMENT

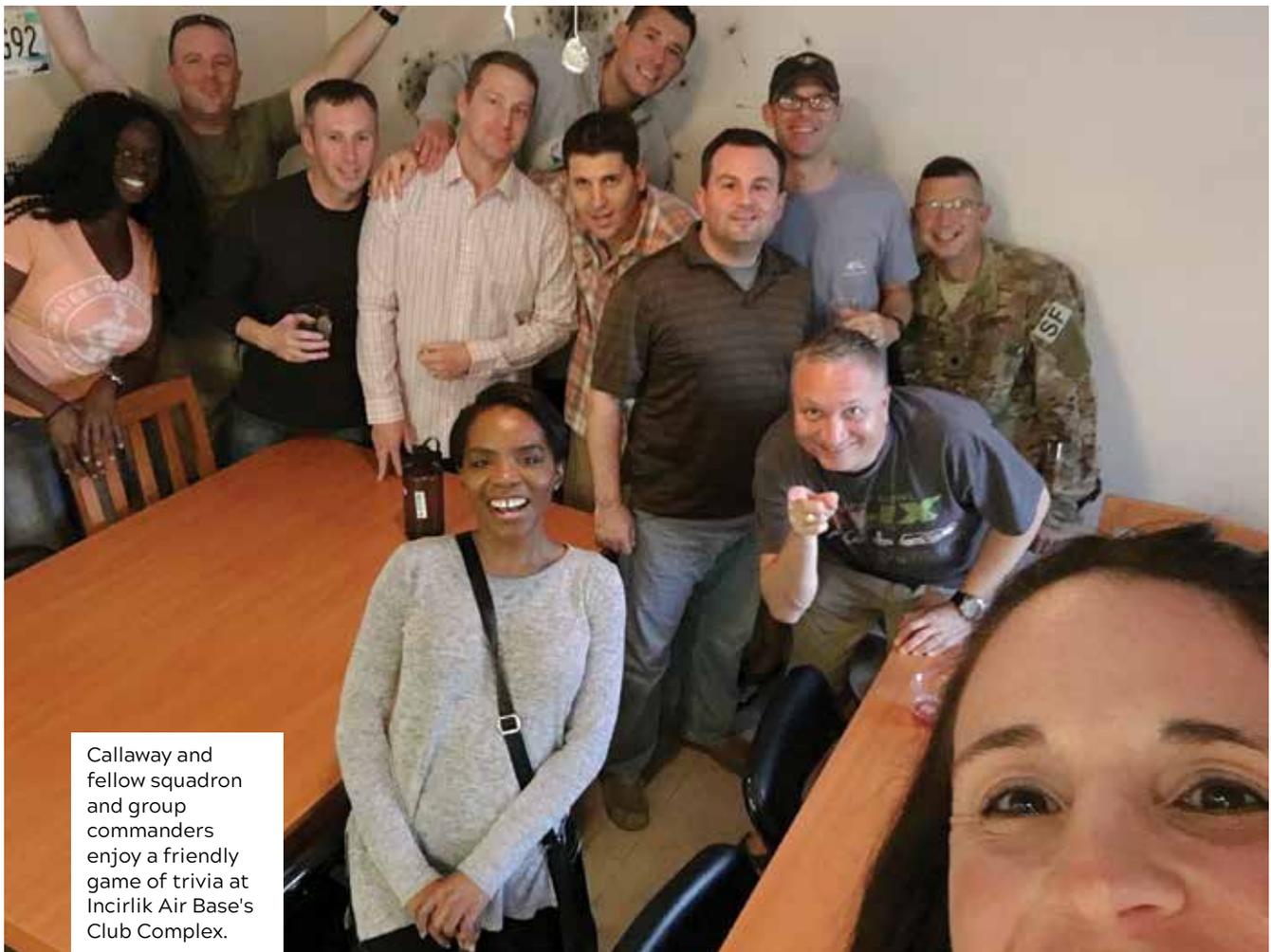
I received a phone call from the Operations Support Squadron commander stating he had a problem. “Both the frequency converter and our air conditioning fan are not functioning on our main airfield radar. Even though my team

called it in, your team said they weren’t supposed to work on it. Can you help?”

Understanding the importance of an airfield radar to an Air Force base’s flying missions, I told the lieutenant colonel I would help if I could.

I confirmed my team could help the Operations Support Squadron commander and sent personnel out to fix the frequency converter and air conditioning fan problems.

I few minutes later, I had a lieutenant knock on my door wanting to confirm my desire to have my team work the issue. I restated the requirement to repair the frequency converter and air conditioning fans.



Callaway and fellow squadron and group commanders enjoy a friendly game of trivia at Incirlik Air Base’s Club Complex.

The lieutenant left my office, and I returned to answering emails.

An hour or so later, my captain knocked and reopened the conversation again. “Sir, are you sure you want to do this? You know the engineers on Headquarters Air Force staff said we shouldn’t be working on this problem.”

He put the policy memo on my desk, and I read it.

I responded, “Captain, I need the air conditioning and frequency converter fixed, and I don’t really care about the policy memo. Think about it, what could I give the wing commander as an appropriate reason for not fixing this when I have the capability to solve the problem? A policy memo? After taking a pound of my flesh, he’d kick me out of his office with orders to do the work anyway, and my status would greatly diminish because I got him involved in something he didn’t need to be. Instead, I accomplished the mission and kept the airfield operational while supporting another commander’s mission.”

We discussed this a bit more, the captain understood, and left.

It occurred to me later that day — my officers re-engaged because they didn’t understand my desire to carry out the mission and when to break Headquarters Air Force policy.

My airmen couldn’t make a decision because they didn’t know when to break policy to accomplish the mission. The implications are tricky because there are many policies and regulations I must uphold, but there are others that I can and should break to carry out the mission.

To effectively empower your airmen, they need to understand when it is OK to and under what conditions they should break regulations to accomplish the mission.



Callaway finds some time to relax with his fellow commanders running the Dress Up Halloween 5K.

CONCLUSION

Cadets, you will shortly embark on an amazing adventure whether in or outside the military! Both the military and civilian sectors need your leadership to adapt, improvise, and overcome the competition.

An empowered organization is not for the faint of heart and takes significant work to create. But once created, empowerment develops your subordi-

nates so leaders can focus on the strategic decisions necessary to win.

If you’re interested in learning more about empowered organizations, I encourage you to read “Turn the Ship Around,” by L. David Marquet. His insights continue to help military and civilian leaders alike navigate complex organizations.

With this, you can and will create the environment for your personnel to thrive and win. Best of luck



CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN

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

As I write this, we have completed the second half of the Caldwell March for the Class of 2022. Each time we do this, memories come flooding back.

It begins with the faces of the first-year cadets when they showed up last summer for orientation, standing in the taped footprints in the Tailor Shop to be fitted for their uniforms, making it through New Cadet Week, figuring out their college classes, marching into the stadium for their first football game and forming the tunnel for the team, and of course, the first half of the Caldwell March.

Addison Caldwell, the first cadet and student at what is now Virginia Tech, becomes a bit more real for cadets when they actually start their march from his homestead. It's a journey of the imagination reinforced with a few sore muscles as a reminder that things worth achieving are worth working hard for.

In fact, the Caldwell March — climbing the mountain — is a metaphor for so many things.

This year, the Corps ranks rose to 1,127 cadets, the largest regiment since 1966. Early forecasts have us even larger this coming year. It's a far cry from the days when the Corps was just over 300 cadets.



Cadets begin the 13-mile spring Caldwell March under sunny skies. Photos by Leeann Jones '19.



Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart, at right, motivates cadets with high-fives as they complete the wooded, uphill portion of the march.

The average Corps grade-point average has been consistently above a 3.0 for the last seven years.

Our commissioning rates rival those of others and stay consistently high.

Our facilities have gone from the oldest to the newest and will be our home for the next 150 years.

The military services have indicated that they are so impressed by the young men and women who graduate from our program that they will be sending more scholarship dollars to Virginia Tech.

Entities in the public and private sector see the value that our graduates bring to their organizations and are driving our internships and post-graduation job offers upward.

And alumni, like you, are rising also. We consistently enjoy a higher participation rate from Corps graduates than any other group on campus.

Alumni who are willing to give of their time, talents, and philanthropically are the wind in the sails of this program.

Alumni are coming back to engage with cadets, many sponsoring our Emerging Leader Scholarships and making connections with cadets that will last for a lifetime.

Participation in this year's Giving Day was higher than last year, a testament to all of you who understand and appreciate what it takes to go from sufficiency to excellence.

Our Global Scholars are leaving footprints around the world. They are learning from history in order to make the future better.

Our museum collection continues to grow and inform our cadets and our alumni of the company they keep, the line they continue, the heritage they are a part of.

And all of this is underwritten by a staff of professionals who are dedicated to the cause and the mission of the Corps of Cadets: to graduate leaders of exemplary character who are instilled with the values and skills essential for leadership

success in service to the nation.

To that end, we say thank you and farewell to 2nd Battalion Deputy Commandant Capt. James Snyder, U.S. Navy (retired), after a lifetime of service, including 15 years with the Corps. His "Last Lecture" will long be remembered by the cadets and others in attendance.

Looking ahead, there are new summits to climb and new heights to attain.

The university has indicated its support for the Corps to grow as the undergraduate population increases. You'll be hearing more, but it includes a new, third residence hall on the Upper Quad adjacent to the new Corps Leadership and Military Science Building, which has also been green-lighted to go forward.

I know that you all share in the excitement of what is happening and what lies ahead. We're on the march, and with your help and support we will succeed in climbing every mountain!



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW ALUMNI

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

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is doing quite well.

The number of incoming first-year cadets for the fall will be another record. The Corps continues to maintain the highest grade-point average in its history and commissions more officers by percentage than any of the other senior military colleges.

I am sure some of you, like me, would bring the average grade-point average down some if we were in school now.

The U.S. Army and U.S. Navy have noticed the Corps' ability to produce great officers and are expanding the number of ROTC scholarships offered at Virginia Tech. We are working hard to inform the university of the new federal dollars coming here.

We need the Corps Leadership and Military Science building more than ever. This is the third building to complement the two new residence halls and complete the planned revitalization of Upper Quad. The building will provide offices and classrooms for the Corps and ROTC programs, dedicated space for the Corps Museum, and space for cybersecurity laboratories and other programs that partner with federal and state agencies. The university's leaders are helping us bring this much-needed building to Upper Quad.



More than 200 senior cadets line up during the Change of Command Ceremony held May 4 on the Drillfield.

We had a dinner for rising juniors this spring to explain to them how becoming an engaged alumnus will help the viability of the Corps. We talk about the history of our alumni board and the importance of our organization. We want them to meet other alumni and begin to network with them. Many job offers come from our alumni.

We also had a social for the seniors, several weeks before they graduated and became alumni. We asked them to

join the alumni board and stressed the importance of giving back, staying connected with us, and participating in our reunions and other campus activities. They are the future of our organization!

Please donate your time and join our activities as well. I promise you will have fun.

Remember: As alumni we must communicate, participate, and donate!

Go Hokies!

GROWING THE COLLECTION

By Samantha Riggin VT'16,
Corps Museum curator



Among the hundreds of items donated by the family of Maj. Gen. Cecil R. Moore of the class of 1916 is his presentation Colt .38, which was only given to flag officers.

I was never in the military, so when Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart first asked me to provide him with a SITREP (situation report), I was stymied. Now, after almost three years as the Corps of Cadets' museum curator, I am well-versed with the term.

It occurred to me that Corps alumni might also be interested in my latest SITREP, which I respectfully submit.

I am thrilled to report that the museum's crowdfunding campaign to restore Commandant J.S.A. Johnson's 1897 cadet uniform exceeded its goal and raised \$11,000. The uniform is important because it had "VPI" embroidered on the collar and was only produced for one term. It is estimated that repairs will cost \$13,000, money that will be well-spent to preserve Corps history.

On April 14, I drove to Stuart Moore's home in Florida. Her husband, Michael, graduated from the Corps in 1956, and his father, Maj. Gen. Cecil R. Moore, graduated in 1916.

This was my second trek to her

home. I was invited in January 2017 to pick up trunks filled with manuscripts, memorabilia, World War I and II uniforms, medals, and war booty from the major general, who served under President Dwight D. Eisenhower as chief engineer of the European Theater during World War II. Stuart Moore donated hundreds of her father-in-law's items because of her family's respect for the Corps.

The second accession of Moore memorabilia was much smaller than the first — still, it was quite the feat to squeeze all of it into my compact Prius. This completes the Corps Museum's Moore collection. It includes hundreds of World War II-era photos, War Department books, Corps memorabilia, two Army footlockers, and — saving the best for last — Moore's 1911 Colt .45, which was his personal sidearm during his many years of service, and his presentation Colt .38, which was given only to flag officers.

In December 2018, Dr. Mark Kerner

made another foundational donation to the museum: the original, hand-written VPI Corps Constitution, drafted in 1908. The document was written in ink on plain, lined paper with multiple revisions and annotations. Sadly, none of the cadet author's names are in the text.

While the lot of papers appear inconsequential at first glance, in reality, they provide the museum such historical, foundational Corps material and are quite incredible.

While these donations are important additions to the museum, they don't override the importance of Corps memorabilia donated by alumni from across the globe. Guidons, sabers, bumper stickers, photos — donations run the gamut, and I welcome them.

The museum's collection is filling in nicely, and I and Maj. Gen. Fullhart are grateful for your generosity.

This concludes the museum curator's SITREP. I may not be military, but they don't call me Captain Curator for nothing!



In March, the Highty-Tighties traveled to Savannah, Georgia, for the city's St. Patrick's Day parade.

MARCH CONFIDENTLY INTO THE FUTURE

By Lt. Col. Dave Williams HT'79, U.S. Army (retired)

Note to readers: Earlier this year, I wrote an article about recruiting for the regimental band that was published in the Highty-Tighty Notes. Here, in this issue of the Corps Review, I'll ask my cadet alumni brothers and sisters from the line companies for a little leeway as we talk about the band. In the article below, addressed to former Highty-Tighties, I make the point that most of us are history buffs and that's probably true for all Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets grads. Not too long ago, I saw the Roanoke Times' front page headline after the third consecutive Presidential Inaugural Parade win from the Kennedy Inaugural. The bold print under a picture of the Highty-Tighties, read "That Band, That Glorious Band Does It Again." Virtually no one speaks in those terms anymore, but I look forward to the day when we hear the Virginia Tech regimental band referred to again with such enthusiastic respect – so here's to recruiting for the band!

If you are or ever were a Highty-Tighty, then it's a good bet that you are, at some level, a history buff. We're known for our history, we revel in it, and sometimes we tend to live in it.

Our comrades at Virginia Military Institute recently completed a campaign whose tag line was, "a glorious past, a brilliant future." We Highty-Tighties have a glorious past, too.

Tracing our lineage in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets all the way back to 1893, we're the oldest continuously exist-

ing collegiate band in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our cadet predecessors resigned from Virginia Tech en masse to enlist as the regimental band of the 2nd Regiment of Virginia Volunteer Infantry during the Spanish American War. We brag about having President Theodore Roosevelt call us "the nation's strength" when the band passed in review for him, and we later played for his cousin President Franklin D. Roosevelt when the Salem Veterans Hospital was dedicated in 1934.

In more recent years, we look back on the achievements of our living alumni – three consecutive Presidential Inaugural Parade first-places finishes — so many that the competitive portion of the parade was retired.

Through the mid-1960s, the Highty-Tighties were not just known across the region — they/we were renowned. As a cadet in the late 1970s, I marveled at the photographs and films of the Highty-Tighties marching a powerful block band of 144 cadet-musicians and dreamed of what it would be like to be at more than twice the strength we were during that era.

It is great to have that "glorious" past, but today we should be concerned about building, some would say rebuilding, a brilliant future. The Corps has turned a corner, recruiting and retention efforts have been successful for well over a decade, and the Corps this past fall, at 1,127 cadets, was the largest that the university had seen since 1966.



The band has benefitted from a rebuilt and robust Corps of Cadets, but I believe we are riding on the Corps' coat-tails instead of executing our traditional role of being the company that leads the Corps. The band recruits heavily from the incoming cadet class each year, and fortunately the assigned strength has consistently been well above 100 cadets. The good news is we have done well; however, we could do better.

So what does better look like? Better looks like recruiting cadet-musicians every year from a pool of thousands of outstanding high school musicians. Better looks like a Highy-Tighty recruiting poster in virtually every band room across Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, and New Jersey – Virginia Tech's biggest recruiting markets. Better looks like Virginia's high school band directors being on a first-name basis with our director, Senior Chief James Bean. Better looks like crowds turning out to see the Highy-Tighties on parade in Washington, D.C., or Richmond, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Roanoke.

Better looks like high school seniors actually seeking out senior chief and



The Savannah parade is one of the favorite destinations of Highy-Tighties because of the enthusiastic reception they get from parade-goers. This year's band brought home the Grand Marshal's Cup and Chairman's Award.

Corps recruiters each fall about Emerging Leader Scholarships and Highy-Tighty Scholarships before they apply to and are accepted at Virginia Tech. Better looks like high school musicians coming up to Highy-Tighties at the end of a parade route and asking about how to become one.

Better looks like 175 cadet-musicians assigned to Band Company so that we

field every football game performance or parade with at least 144 cadet-musicians. Better looks like the Highy-Tighties being more than just another Virginia Tech band. Better – no, success — looks like a resurgent and renowned regimental band, the Highy-Tighties, that are leading the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and the wider university into the future.



Cadet Mason Moore '22 holds some of the litter he found during a check on Upper Quad.

FOXTROT CADETS CLEAN UP CAMPUS

By Cadet Delaney McQuade '20

This past fall, Foxtrot Company took on the challenge of cleaning up campus.

Taking into consideration how much waste must be produced by fall football tailgates, the company leadership decided that it would serve the community well to pick up the trash that could be left behind from tailgates.

On Sundays at 8 a.m., squads from the company would go out to sites that were frequented by tailgaters to pick up waste. They would spend up to an hour cleaning up, and then meet at the trash bins to sort out the recyclables and non-recyclables.

Participation in this project helped build unit camaraderie and built an awareness of how much trash can be produced and where it may wind up.

The company's goal was to reduce the impact that the

waste would have during such large events in the New River Valley.

Often, the company would find surprising items left behind, either forgotten or broken. Some of the items included sunglasses, shirts, and the clear plastic bags that were given out for game security.

Through this experience, the company has learned that taking responsibility for the aftermath of game days can be just as fun as game day itself.

Having fun while helping others is an ideal situation, and these cadets could not be more happy to do so.

Cadet Delaney McQuade '20 served as Foxtrot's executive officer this spring. She will command the company this fall.

SENIOR CADET COMMANDERS, SPRING 2019



REGIMENTAL COMMANDER **COLLEEN PRAMENKO**

Cadet Col. Colleen Pramenko is pursuing a degree in meteorology with a minor in leadership studies. She plans to commission into the U.S. Air Force as a weather officer in May 2020. A trumpet player, she is a member of the Highty-Tighties, the Brass Quintet, and the Southern Colonels jazz band. She also is a bugler

in the Signal Corps. She has served as Band-Alpha first sergeant and company commander. In Air Force ROTC, she served as flight commander and is an active member of Arnold Air Society. She was a recipient of an Air Force ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



FIRST BATTALION COMMANDER **LINDSEY MAZER**

Cadet Lt. Col. Lindsey Mazer earned a degree in human nutrition, foods, and exercise. She commissioned into the U.S. Army after graduation and will attend physical therapy school. In Army ROTC, she served as the Battalion S-4. In

the Corps, she served as the Delta Company first sergeant and the 1st Battalion executive officer. She was the recipient of an Army ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader scholarship.



SECOND BATTALION COMMANDER **BRITTANY BURK**

Cadet Lt. Col. Brittany Burk earned a degree in human nutrition, foods, and exercise with a minor in leadership studies. She commissioned into the U.S. Army as a quartermaster officer after graduation. In the Corps, she has served as a cadre training assistant, cadre sergeant, and the

executive officer for Golf Company. She served as a squad leader and the assistant S-4 in the Army ROTC Battalion. She was a proud member of the Gregory Guard. She was a recipient of a three-year Army ROTC scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.



THIRD BATTALION COMMANDER **PETER SZWERC**

Cadet Lt. Col. Peter Szwerc earned a degree in mathematics with a minor in leadership studies. He commissioned into the U.S. Navy as a submarine officer and will attend Nuclear Power School in Charleston, South Carolina. During

his senior year, Szwerc served as the Gregory Guard commander, the India Company commander, and the 3rd Battalion commander. He was the recipient of a Navy ROTC Scholarship and an Emerging Leader Scholarship.

COMMAND STAFF, SPRING 2019



Regimental Executive Officer
Matthew Krusiec
History
Air Force



Regimental Adjutant
Harry Crosby
Ocean Engineering
Navy



Regimental Public Affairs
Officer
Leeann Jones
Public Relations
Citizen-Leader Track



Regimental Operations Officer
Tana Jane Putnam
History
Army



Regimental Supply and Finance
Officer
Mark McVeigh
Civil Engineering
Air Force



Regimental Academics Officer
Elizabeth Archer
Computational Modeling and
Data Analytics
Air Force



Regimental Sergeant Major
Justin Clipson
Russian and International
Studies
Air Force



Regimental Recruiting
Officer
Melissa Gabriel
Public Relations and Political
Science
Army



Regimental Alumni Liaison
Officer
Mykenzie Webb
Computational Modeling and
Data Analytics
Citizen-Leader Track



Exec Committee Chairman
Antonio Marrero
Economics
Air Force



VPI Battalion Commander
Catie Rendon
Meteorology
Citizen-Leader Track



Army Battalion Commander
Sullivan Delaney
Economics
Army



Navy Battalion Commander
Patrick Leary
Aerospace Engineering
Navy



Air Force Wing Commander
Brett Smith
Physics
Air Force



Growley Handler
Sarafina Ramalho
Political Science
Army



Alpha Company Commander
Dwight Tilley
Agricultural Sciences
Army



Bravo Company Commander
Tyler Urban
Economics
Citizen-Leader Track



Charlie Company Commander
Nathan Markley
Building Construction
Army



Delta Company Commander
Gordon Rudd
Geography
Air Force



Echo Company Commander
David Formella
Natural Resource
Conservation
Marines



Foxtrot Company Commander
Patrick Rives
Political Science
Army



Golf Company Commander
Tyler Schaal
Civil Engineering
Army



Hotel Company Commander
P.J. Bourdon
Mining Engineering
Marines



India Company Commander
Thomas DiBiasi
Aerospace Engineering
Navy



Kilo Company Commander
Hanna Kobayashi
Human Development
Navy



Lima Company Commander
Clark Shotwell
Public Relations
Marines



Band Commander
Jacob Davis
Industrial and Systems
Engineering
Navy



Band Alpha Commander
James Braeford
Physics
Navy



Band Bravo Commander
Abby Houghtling
Psychology
Air Force



Drum Major
Parker Treubert
Aerospace Engineering
Air Force

CLASS NOTES

1970s



From left, U.S. Army **Maj. John Albert '03**, **Gordon Rudd '72**, and U.S. Air Force **Maj. Dan Richardson '04** visited the 1st Infantry Division monument on Omaha Beach, which lists the names of those killed in action by rank. Near the top of the list is the name of 1st Lt. Jimmie Monteith, one of Virginia Tech's seven medal of honor recipients. In addition to being a valued resource to the Corps' Global Scholars Program study of D-Day, Rudd is an instructor at the School of Advanced Warfighting at Marine Corps University and leads regular trips to Normandy with a group of O-4s.



Doug Call '75 and **Steve Taylor '76** both retired from American Airlines in 2018. The picture was taken during Call's last flight in June 2018, when



both men flew together. Taylor, at right in photo above, retired in December 2018.



Erich Windmuller '76, senior vice president and chief information officer of DXC Technology, received a CIO of the Year ORBIE Award from the Capital CIO Leadership Association. The awards honor chief information officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Windmuller oversees the global strategy and management of DXC Technology's IT assets that support employees and help drive the company's strategic priorities.

1980s



Doug McGuire '84 is now the director, business development, for

GINIA Inc., a small IT firm in Alexandria, Virginia.



Jonathan Clough '88 was awarded the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service for the period October 2017 to July 2018. He works as an operations research analyst for the Strategic Analysis and Warfighting Programs Division in the Office of the Secretary of Defense Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation in the Pentagon.

2000s

Christopher E. Berge '02 was promoted to a major in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Jan. 8. He serves as the military assistant to the assistant secretary of the Army for civil works.



Javan Rasnake '09, at left, was promoted to lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy on April 26. The ceremony took place onboard the pre-Civil War ship USS Constellation in Baltimore

Harbor, and U.S. Navy Capt. Darryn James served as the promoting officer. Rasnake, a public affairs officer, currently serves as a public affairs instructor at Defense Information School in Fort Meade, Maryland. He was selected as the 2017 U.S. Navy Junior Public Affairs Officer of the Year.

2010s



Zachary Oman '12 was promoted to be the Colonial Virginia Council, Boy Scouts of America, field director and chief operating officer. In this new capacity, he provides primary leadership to the council field operations, including developing and leading the field staff. His leadership provides guidance to over 2,000 volunteers who serve over 4,500 youth in eastern Virginia.



U.S. Air Force **Lt. James Flanagan '15** and **Lt. Andrew Blazon '15** were stationed at Minot Air Force Base, South Dakota, as missile officers. This was Flanagan's final alert at Minot. Be-

tween the two alumni, they have sat a total of 444 nuclear alerts.



Levi Atkin '18 graduated from the New Orleans Police Academy on Jan. 30. Atkin stands with New Orleans Police Department Superintendent Shaun Ferguson and New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell. Photo courtesy of Jason Loton.



From left, U.S. Army **2nd Lt. Will Gonsiewski '18**, **1st Lt. Timothy Teh '15**, **2nd Lt. Austin Fuller '16**, and **2nd Lt. Joe Hulslander '17** all graduated from Army Ranger School with Class 2-19 on Jan. 25.

HOKIE HEROES

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

football games. Recipients are highlighted by Jon Laaser and Mike Burnop during their radio broadcast of games.



U.S. Army **Capt. Matthew Schenaker '11** was selected as the Hokie Hero for the Marshall game on Dec. 1, 2018. He is an armor company commander with Comanche Company, 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, and his company was deployed to the Pacific Theater of Operations. Schenaker, at left, holds a Virginia Tech flag with **2nd Lt. Benjamin Paddock '17**.



U.S. Army **Capt. Joseph P. Ryan '09** was selected as the Hokie Hero for the Hokies' 2018 Military Bowl on Dec. 31, 2018. The commander of the 264th Engineer Clearance Company, 27th Engineer Battalion (Airborne), he was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

Submit your deployments, job and rank changes, awards and honors, family announcements, photos, and other news at vtcc.vt.edu/classnotes.



Capt. James Snyder (at center) poses for a photo with the entire 2nd Battalion freshman class during the spring Caldwell March.



Capt. James Snyder gives his "Last Lecture" in Burruss Auditorium, sharing stories from his 30-year career in the U.S. Navy and offering a few pieces of advice that he found valuable along the way.

SAYING GOODBYE

Capt. James Snyder, who has been deputy commandant for the corps' 2nd Battalion since 2004, will retire this summer.

During a 30-year career in the Navy, Snyder served principally on frigates and operational staffs.

He commanded the Knox Class frigate USS Ainsworth.

He completed six deployments including Cold War operations against the Soviet Fleet in the Atlantic Ocean and North and Mediterranean seas; maritime interdiction operations off Central America, Lebanon, and Haiti; and counter-drug operations in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific areas. He served on the task group commander's staff for the 1986 U.S. strike on Libya.

Ashore, Snyder served tours in Washington, D.C., on the Joint Staff, the Navy Staff, and as the Navy representative to the Congressional Commission on Military Training and Gender-Related Issues.

He then was commanding officer of the Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center in San Diego, California. For his final assignment with the Navy, he was the professor of naval science and commanding officer of Virginia Tech's Naval ROTC.

For his "Last Lecture" on April 4, part of the Cutchins Leadership Lecture Series, he reflected on leadership and his experiences in the Navy and the Corps.

NEW CORPS SUPPORT

KATIE MALLORY '04



Katie Mallory

Katie Mallory '04 joined the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets as the executive officer in January.

She graduated from Virginia Tech and the Corps of Cadets in 2004 with a degree in communication. She was a member of India and Echo companies, Conrad Cavalry, and served on Regimental Staff as the S-2.

Mallory commissioned into the U.S. Navy in 2004 and served as a surface warfare officer on the USS Carney, an Arleigh-Burke class guided missile destroyer at Naval Station Mayport, Florida. She deployed, first to the Mediterranean Sea to escort commercial vessels and defend international shipping channels, then to South America to support regional stability. Mallory served as the general quarters officer of the deck and collateral public affairs officer, for which she earned her Navy Achievement medal. She was also the division officer for the Admin and Auxiliaries divisions.

Mallory transferred to the USS Theodore Roosevelt at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia, as a division officer for operations. She served on the aircraft carrier during an extended maintenance availability in Portsmouth and during pre-deployment workups.

She transitioned to the civilian workforce in 2008 as a government contractor on U.S. Navy contracts including the Coalition Warrior Interoperability Demonstration contract, the SEA 21 contract, and the Standard Labor Data Collection and

Distribution Application contract, where she trained and supported program administrators for the application. She earned her Security+ certification in 2016.

Mallory is originally from Jonesborough, Tennessee, and is married to Ken Mallory, a 2006 Corps alumnus. They have one daughter, Abigail.

LIZ AKER



Liz Aker

Liz Aker is the assistant residential learning coordinator for the Corps.

She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Virginia Tech, along with a certification of completion in human development in 2016. She is currently pursuing her master's degree in school psychology at Radford University.

Before joining the Corps staff, Aker spent two years as the residential learning coordinator and building manager for Virginia Tech's satellite residence hall in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia.

Aker works as a liaison and advocate for Virginia Tech Housing and Residence Life, provides support to cadets by sharing her own Virginia Tech experience and opportunities, and assists in cadet leader development, including commander residential advisor training.

In her spare time, Aker enjoys coaching and playing volleyball, singing, cooking, and spending time with friends and family.



HOKIE GOLD LEGACY PROGRAM

Virginia Tech alumni or their families can bequeath or donate their class rings, which either are melted down to create Hokie Gold to be included in the class rings of the next junior class or retained for future display.

To continue the program in perpetuity, a small amount of Hokie Gold will be reserved from each year's melt to be included in the following year's Hokie Gold melting for the next class.

Hokie Gold Legacy Program questions can be directed to Laura Wedin at 540-231-6285 or lwedin@vt.edu. You can learn about how to donate a ring, tax deductions, and shipping instructions at alumni.vt.edu/hokiegold.

FROM THE CLASSROOM TO GETTYSBURG

By Cadet Peter Szwerc '19

During this spring semester, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets created a new program that gave 16 cadets the opportunity to travel to Gettysburg National Military Park to study its history and the leadership lessons that can be taken from the Battle of Gettysburg.

This trip was fully funded by the Corps and led by 3rd Battalion Deputy Commandant Lt. Col. Charles Payne and 3rd Battalion Senior Enlisted Advisor Sgt. Maj. David Combs. Their combined knowledge of military history, infantry tactics, and leadership created an unforgettable trip for all cadets who participated.

Before the trip, Payne held a class for all participating cadets that covered the Civil War prior to the Battle of Gettysburg. The class covered several earlier battles so cadets could understand what had happened in the first two years of the war and the significance Gettysburg would have on the overall conflict.

The next main focus was getting to know the backgrounds of all key military leaders. With the historical context established, cadets then focused on studying the leadership styles employed by the main figures at Gettysburg.

When the group arrived on the battlefield, cadets toured each major area of conflict, in order, from the first shot fired to the very end of the battle. Cadets were able to understand exactly how the battle progressed, starting as an accidental meeting engagement and turning into one of the most important engagements of the Civil War.

At each site, cadets discussed what had happened where they were standing,



The group of 16 cadets plus Sgt. Maj. David Combs (back row at right) pose for a photo at the Pennsylvania State Memorial, that honors the 34,530 Pennsylvania soldiers who fought in the July 1 to 3, 1863 Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War. Photos by Cadet Katie Hoeft '20.

what tactics each army used, what decisions the leaders had to make, and how that engagement would affect the rest of the battle.

“This staff ride did an excellent job at delving into the technical issue of why decisions were made while still providing the historical timeline of events. Learning about the different perspectives of various soldiers on the battlefield offered understanding to command decisions that were rendered in the moment” said Cadet Clayton Satterfield '19.

As the group drove from one location to the next, the discussion never slowed down.

From Payne and Combs pointing out important geographical features and dis-

cussing their strategic significance to cadets comparing and contrasting the different leadership styles that were used, every cadet who participated learned an incredible amount.

“I have learned more about leadership in these live lessons than I have in any classroom setting” said Cadet Katie Hoeft '20.

The Gettysburg staff ride was a complete success in every sense. Every cadet that participated gained valuable leadership lessons while learning about our nation's history in a more personal and realistic setting than any classroom could provide.



Cadets look onto Gettysburg from the northwest.



Cadets take in all the sights at Gettysburg National Military Park, including dozens of the more than 1,300 monuments within the park (above), the Pennsylvania State Memorial (at middle right), and the battlefield for Gen. George Pickett's infamous last charge (at bottom right).





BECOME OUR PARTNER

By Sandi R. Bliss, chief advancement officer

Your partnership with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets is more important now than ever before. Be a part of the growth of the Corps.

Every gift counts toward our overall success! Please let us know how you would like to be included.

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 convenient, recurring basis. Gifts to the Commandant's Priority Fund of \$500 or greater automatically sponsor a first-year cadet on the fall or spring Caldwell March.

- Giving online: givingto.vt.edu/corps
- Reoccurring Gifts: apps.es.vt.edu/onlinegiving/gift
- Giving via mobile phone: givingto.vt.edu/vtcc
- Text to give: 41444 and reply VTCC

Above: A dedicated supporter waves an American flag as first-year cadets, training cadre, cadet commanders, and staff walk the 13-mile route at the spring Caldwell March in April.

NON-CASH

You can also support the Corps in many other ways by donating:

- Securities such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds
- Real estate, including both present and future interests
- Gifts-in-kind of tangible property, such as works of art or historic memorabilia

IN MEMORY / IN HONOR

Scholarships, endowed positions, Corps facilities, or programs may be named after special individuals. Gifts may be made to honor a loved one or someone who inspires you.

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFTS

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

GIFT PLANNING OPTIONS

If you are age 70 1/2 or older, consider using a charitable IRA rollover to make a gift that can count toward your required minimum distribution without it being taxed as income.

There also are many additional options for leaving a powerful, smart legacy through planned gifts to the Corps.

Are you interested in fixed income that could include avoidance of capital gains taxes? Are you looking for a way to use the best asset choices for gifts to family and the Corps? We encourage you to reach out to find out your options.

Some of these are:

- Designate the Corps of Cadets as the beneficiary of a will, trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy.
- Utilize a gift model such as a charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder annuity trust, charitable remainder unitrust, charitable lead trust, or IRA rollover.
- Create a Donor Advised Fund to maximize tax benefits now and recommend charitable gifts, possibly with family involvement, for many years to come.

OTHER WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

- Become a class champion
- Help create a cadet internship opportunity
- Host an alumni event at your home or business
- Keep your contact information current

For more information about any of these opportunities, please contact the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets advancement team today at 540-231-2892 or vtcc@vt.edu. We're online at vtcc.vt.edu/give.

Keep In Touch

As you move or change duty stations throughout your career, make sure you continue to get the Corps Review and other university and Corps information.

Update your contact information at alumni.vt.edu/gateway/index.html or by email to alumnidata@vt.edu.





Members of Ranger Company 2018-19 with cadre mentor Sgt. 1st Class Brad Unterseher.

ARMY ROTC NEWS

Of the six Virginia Tech Army ROTC cadet companies, Ranger Company stands apart from the others.

Founded in 1966 and first commanded by U.S. Army Col. Bill Ohl '66 (retired), Ranger Company was created specifically to prepare cadets for the hardships of the Vietnam War. Over the years, Ranger Company grew and adapted to the needs of the Army, developing cadets for roles as future officers.

Ranger Company's current mission is to develop Army ROTC cadets as leaders and prepare them for the rigors of Ranger School and of an Army career.

At Virginia Tech, Ranger Company

is built upon a number of meaningful traditions that persist today.

One of the oldest privileges of membership is the wearing of the distinctive Ranger beret.

Cadets in the company originally wore a black beret with a Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Ranger Company crest to signify their membership, much like the U.S. Army Rangers. After the Army's adoption of the black beret for general wear, Ranger Company switched to an olive-drab beret.

In another tradition that dates back to 1970, candidates make Ranger plaques and complete individual challenges dur-

ing the try-out process (known as assessment.)

Another popular tradition is "running the game ball." Beginning in 1972, the Rangers would run the football to be used during the game against Virginia Military Institute (VMI), along with some dirt from Victory Stadium in Roanoke, Virginia, the longtime site for the rivalry game. For the 1982 Oyster Bowl in Norfolk, Virginia, the cadets completed a 290-mile run along U.S. Route 460, relay style. They ran through the night and took turns to rest in a van.

Because Virginia Tech no longer plays VMI in football, the tradition

continues today with cadets running the game ball at least 100 miles around campus during the week leading up to the Virginia Tech homecoming game, allowing every Hokie present to touch the ball and pass on some luck to the team.

Ranger Company cadets have gone on to become outstanding commissioned officers and to serve in a variety of roles in the Army.

As cadets, many attend the Army's airborne school or air assault training. As officers, many find a home in the combat arms branches of infantry, armor, aviation, and field artillery.

Ranger Company is the only Army ROTC company into which cadets are not simply assigned. The process for admission is successfully completing the eight-week assessment and passing the final tests.

This year's assessment came to a close on April 24, culminating in an 8-mile ruck at 55 pounds with a time limit of two hours. Assessment began with 48 cadets but only seven were left standing by the end.

The first weeks of assessment are designed to push the candidates mentally and physically. The final weeks focus on tactical tasks and leader development with physical fitness.

When asked about assessment, Ranger Company 1st Sgt. Cadet Taylor Lacroix '20 said, "I've had the privilege of planning and executing assessment this past spring. When I was a candidate during my freshman year, I forged mental toughness and resilience throughout the assessment process. I'll carry the traits I learned throughout my career in the military and for the rest of my life. The assessment process changed my work ethic, confidence, and attitude for the better. As first sergeant, I often call on lessons I learned during my assess-



Cadet Neal Nelson '19 runs the game ball to Hokie fans along Main Street during the Homecoming Parade as cadets Patrick Rives '19 and Alex McDonald '19 pump up the crowd.



The final seven candidates for Ranger Company 2019 were Thomas Vinter '20, James Barker '22, Harry Fleck '21, Alexander Austin '22, Zachary Kobusky '22, Francis McGuire '22, and Ali Zaheer '22. Photo by Melissa Gabriel '19.

ment. My goal is to commission as an Infantry officer and get assigned to the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky."

Ranger Company members wel-

comed their new members following the 2019 assessment. Ranger Company continues to embrace its roots and looks forward to continued improvement as it shapes determined future officers.



Midshipmen with the Nuclear Society visit the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower in Norfolk, Virginia.

NAVAL ROTC NEWS

The mission of the Virginia Tech Naval ROTC Unit is to develop midshipmen mentally, morally, and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty and loyalty.

The midshipman battalion accomplishes this mission with the help of warfare societies that teach future officers community-specific knowledge and professional development. These include the Nuclear Society, Surface Warfare Society, Naval Aviation Society, and Semper Fi Society.

Additionally, midshipmen participate in leadership conferences at other universities, physical competitions, and community service to develop camaraderie and pride in the unit.

Led by Midshipman James Braford '19, the Nuclear Society focuses a great

deal of its time preparing for the challenging nuclear interview process.

The Navy offers billets in communities within the nuclear fleet: submarines, surface nuclear engineering aboard aircraft carriers, and naval reactor engineering in Washington's Navy Yard. The Nuclear Society prepares midshipmen for service in these technically demanding roles by stressing proficiency in calculus, physics, mechanics, and thermodynamics. The organization also familiarizes candidates with nuclear-driven vessels by traveling to Norfolk, Virginia, to tour the engineering spaces onboard submarines and aircraft carriers.

The Surface Warfare Society, under the leadership of Midshipman Katie Hoelt '20, prepares midshipmen for the challenges of a junior officer in the sur-

BY THE NUMBERS

This May, the Naval ROTC Unit commissioned 48 officers:

- 9 surface warfare officers
- 8 submarine officers
- 14 aviator pilots
- 3 Naval flight officers
- 3 SEALs (out of only 20 slots available nationwide)
- 1 EOD
- 10 Marines

face fleet. Members experience unique sailing opportunities and learn the basics of damage control and firefighting.

For aspiring surface warfare officers, this exposes them to material that will accelerate their qualifications once they

step aboard their first ship. This practice will set them ahead of their peers and add to the overall success of the ship and the fleet at large.

Midshipmen who desire a career in Naval Aviation join the Naval Aviation Society. Lead by Midshipman Evan Dixon '20, this society helps prepare the members for the Aviation Selection Test Battery by teaching a rigorous academic syllabus. These midshipmen have opportunities to step into a cockpit and log flight hours. The opportunities provide valuable hands-on experience that carries over after commissioning and during flight school.

Marine officer candidates have the opportunity of joining the Semper Fi Society, led by Officer Candidate Chris Rohlev '19. The Semper Fi Society is open for all Marine option midshipmen and builds esprit de corps at events such as Marine Corps Mess Night. Members also participate in a vigorous physical fitness regime with culminating events including the Raider-PLC Physical Fitness Competition. Additionally, midshipmen learn and apply tactical field skills and concepts as they prepare for Officer Candidate School and The Basic School.

Each society has designated officer and senior enlisted advisors qualified and currently serving in that specific warfare community. The involvement that the midshipmen have in these different societies sets them apart and gives them an advantage when they enter the fleet.

LEADERSHIP LESSONS

As a premier Senior Military College, Virginia Tech is often invited to attend leadership conferences that offer midshipmen a unique professional perspective. This year, midshipmen attended the United States Naval Academy Leadership Conference and the Notre Dame



Midshipmen drag a mattress out of the wooded river bank as part of the Ramps 'N' Roads Highway and River Clean-up in Giles County, Virginia, on March 30. Photo by Midshipman Patrick Leary '19.

Leadership Conference.

In January, four midshipmen visited the Naval Academy for a four-day event. Speakers addressed focusing on introspection, self-development, accountability, and living the example before stepping up to lead others. The key takeaways were leading by example, knowing your own strengths and weaknesses, and having a rock-solid work ethic.

Midshipman Teresa DeVino '20 said, "It exposed me to a new dimension of personal leadership and allowed me to take a closer look at myself and think about how I can work to make a difference in the lives of the people around me."

In February, four midshipmen traveled to Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. Midshipmen from all over the country gathered and listened to officers — junior to flag — talk about their military leadership experiences.

On explaining his time at the conference, Midshipman Henry Hutcheson '20 said, "Every theory and idea on leadership was supported by the speakers' real-

world experiences. We were learning from their greatest successes and failures on how to make the hard decisions."

SERVICE PROJECTS

Members of the NROTC battalion conducted service projects to assist and better the community.

On March 30, the battalion cleaned the forest and banks along the New River in Giles County, Virginia, by removing dozens of truckloads of garbage.

Each of the companies completed their own service project, participating in projects such as the Habitat for Humanity ReStore and running a food drive to support the local food banks.

The Naval ROTC Unit is immensely proud of the dedication its midshipmen have demonstrated this semester. For its excellence as an officer development program, the battalion is poised to substantially increase its size in the fall. The unit is beyond delighted to see its commissioning seniors take the oath of office and enter the fleet upon graduation. Fair winds and following seas!

AIR FORCE ROTC NEWS

By Cadet Kyle Bassett '21

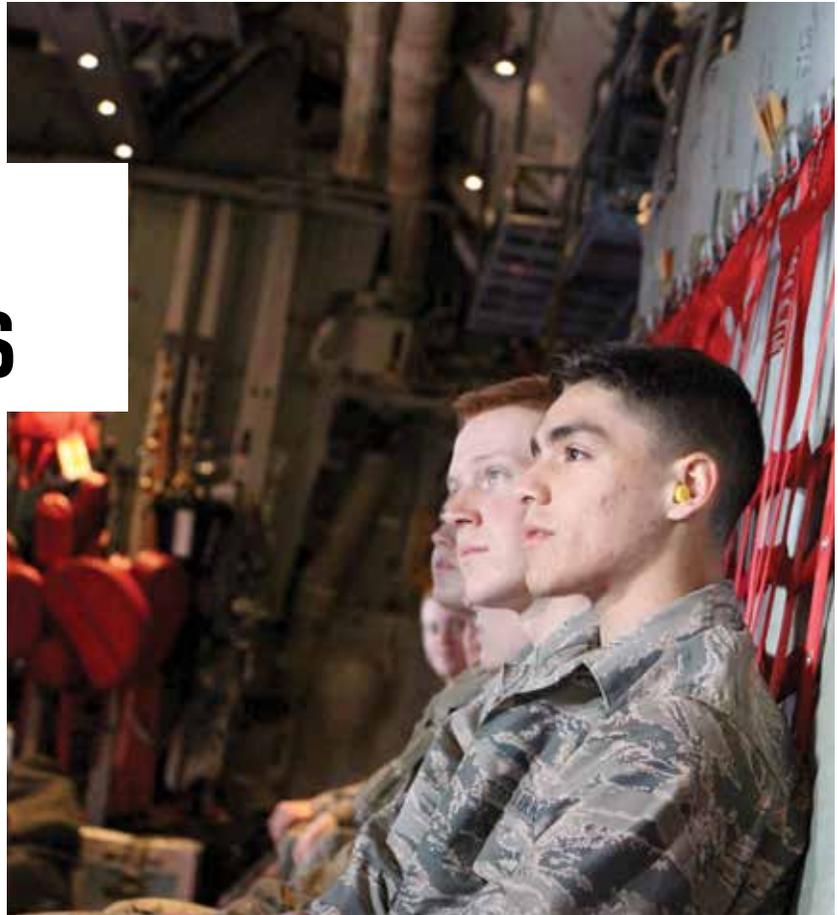
This spring semester has been busy for Air Force ROTC Detachment 875 cadets with a variety of activities from T1/T6, and C-130 observer flights to our overnight field training exercise. Additionally, many cadets received their future Air Force careers!

Cadet Brett Smith '19, named the Navy Federal Credit Union ROTC Senior of the Year, served as our Cadet wing commander. Under his leadership, the 270+ cadets garnered a wing fitness average of 95.9 out of 100. He altered many leadership lab aspects to reflect his desire to develop cadets in leadership activities such as squadron marching and group leadership projects.

Regarding his leadership tenure this semester, Smith said, "Ultimately, I wanted to create a structure and culture where we communicate intent, specialize training activities to class levels and provide the tools and opportunities for cadets to be better than the individual they were yesterday."

After the AF Rated Selection Board, 16 cadets were selected for air battle manager, combat systems officer, remotely piloted aircraft pilot and pilot slots. With the high demand for rated officers, Detachment 875 is actively meeting today's Air Force needs.

Numerous Corps of Cadets alumni pitched in to offer observer flights in three types of aircraft. This spring, 28 cadets



Detachment 875 cadets await takeoff in the back of a C-130 on their observer flight.

flew in a T-1 or T-6 aircraft with the 37th and 41st Flying Training Squadrons from Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, which included Capt. Andrew Barstow '09 (the coordinator for the trip), Capt. Maxwell Adler '14, and Maj. Scott Meskimen '05. The 62nd Airlift Squadron from Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, and Maj. William Place '07 provided flights for 114 cadets in a C-130 aircraft.

Cadet Vincent Stevens '21 said, "Both flights convinced me that flying is what I want to do in the Air Force. Everything from being able to execute maneuvers in the T-6 to sitting in the cockpit for the landing of the C-130 was an incredible experience. It was especially inspiring to see how professionally the pilots and aircrews in our Air Force carry themselves, and how seriously they take every mission. I was lucky, and am very thankful, to have been able to participate in both the T-6 and C-130 incentive flights this semester."

This year an astounding 30 cadets were selected for Operations Air Force, a summer leadership development program

designed to introduce the cadets to the operational Air Force as they spend two weeks at a variety of bases.

Also, Cadets Jacques Brown '22, Egan Jett-Parmer '21, Matthew Kanney '22, Joshua Stevic '22, and Djamila Lou '19 were selected for flight-specific professional development opportunities. Cadet Erik Yamada '20 was chosen for a Space Command internship, Cadet Deanna Meyer '20 will attend an Advanced Cyber Education course, and Cadet Colleen Pramenko '19, the spring Corps regimental commander, was selected for a research assistant internship at the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Sixteen Air Force cadets were selected for the Department of Defense Project Global Officer program and will spend eight weeks studying critical languages abroad.

Every year, Detachment 875 sends sophomore cadets to field training which evaluates all Air Force ROTC cadets prior to their upper-class years. This summer, 56 cadets, 100 percent of all eligible applicants, will travel to Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, for this two-week program.

Sophomore cadets began preparation during the fall 2018 semester by practicing their marching, developing problem-solving skills, and memorizing warrior knowledge. Additionally, Cadets Michael Bopp '20, Jon Martell '20, Diana Principi '20, and Lauren Zuchowski '20 were competitively selected to serve as cadet training assistants at field training this summer.

Finally, cadets wrapped-up the semester in Radford, Virginia, on a two-day field training exercise. Cadets experienced the expeditionary environment while learning small unit tactics, dealing with potential hostiles, and survival skills. Cadets Natalie Wirth '18 and



Cadet Lauren Zuchowski '20 shows her Virginia Tech pride during his T-6 flight.



Cadets participate in the Murph Challenge during a training exercise in Radford, Virginia.

Kieron Diezman '18, aided by all upper-class cadets, designed and provided an

amazing cadet-run training experience for the freshmen and sophomores.

IN MEMORY



ROBERT BARNES DELANO '44

1924 - 2017

Robert Delano of Warsaw died Dec. 5, 2017. After graduation from Virginia Tech, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Cavalry serving in China-India-Burma during World War II. Following the war, he served as an assistant county agent for Virginia Cooperative Extension. In 1947, he returned to his native Northern Neck to assume the management of his beloved ancestral farm, Level Green, and to begin a long career as a dairy and then grain farmer. In 1955, he helped organize the Richmond County Farm Bureau, which was the beginning of many years of service and leadership with the Farm Bureau. He served his alma mater in various capacities, including a tenure on the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors from 1994-1998. He received numerous awards as an alumnus, including Distinguished Alumnus in 1985, a Distinguished Service Award from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 1987, and the Distinguished Achievement Award in 1991. He also made significant contributions to his state and the community by serving on many boards. He is survived by a daughter and a son.



WILLIAM C. WHITE '49

1928 - 2017

U.S. Army Reserve Col. William "Bill" C. White (retired), died Dec. 9, 2017. He was married to Ann Preston Ellett White for 62 years. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1949 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture and served in the U.S. Army Reserve for 33 years. He worked in the Soils Extension Program at North Carolina State University until he joined the National Plant Food Institute, later the Fertilizer Institute, in Washington, D.C., from which he retired as senior vice president. He founded a volunteer tutoring program for children whose first language was not English. He is survived by a daughter.



WILLIAM TOMLINSON MILLER SR. '50

1927 - 2018

William T. Miller Sr. of Richmond, Virginia, died Nov. 9, 2018. He was an owner of RBI Corporation and served as its president from 1967 to 2017. He attended Virginia Tech, where he graduated with honors with a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering. He served during World War II with the U.S. Army Signal Corps. He was a member of professional and community organizations, including president of the Richmond Chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association, the board of directors of the German Club Alumni Foundation, and the College of Engineering's Committee of 100. Survivors include his wife, Harriet; a daughter; and a son.



OSWALD D. TAYLOR JR. '50

1929 - 2018

Oswald D. "OD" Taylor Jr. died Aug. 10, 2018. Originally from Richmond, Virginia, he graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and honorary memberships in Pi Tau Sigma and Tau Beta Pi. He joined General Electric's training program and ended up in the aircraft engine group in Lynn, Massachusetts. Very proud of working for 40 years for the same company, he retired in 1990. In addition to his wife of 66 years, Mollie, he is survived by a son and a daughter.



JAMES PRICE NEWBILL '55

1933 - 2018

U.S. Army Col. James P. Newbill (retired) died Sep. 16, 2018. He attended Virginia Tech, earning a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry in 1955 and commissioning as a second lieutenant. He reported to Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland for basic ordnance training. After that he was posted to many duty stations, including Vietnam; France; Fort Benning, Georgia; Shiraz, Iran; Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and the Pentagon. He retired in 1985 and went to work for the National Wild Turkey Federation as a regional field supervisor in 1991 and then retired again in 2003. He is survived by his wife, Jan; two daughters; and a son.



EDGAR MARION HOLLANDSWORTH JR. '57

1936 - 2018

Edgar M. Hollandsworth Jr. died Dec. 21, 2018. Born in Bassett, Virginia he was an Eagle Scout and graduated from Virginia Tech with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He was a major on the Corps of Cadets regimental staff and in the Collegiate Who's Who, as well as Omicron Delta Kappa. From 1958 to 1960, he served in the Army Ordnance Corps in Maryland and Alaska. In 1968, he received his Master of Commerce degree from the University of Richmond. His career was spent in the electric power equipment field in corporate and sales management. Survivors include his wife, Barbara; three children; and two stepchildren.



J. WILLIAM SHINER '57

1935 - 2018

J. William "Bill" Shiner died on Nov. 18, 2018. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor's degree in forestry and wildlife conversation. He was a member of the Highty-Tighties. After serving two years on active duty in the U.S. Army, he spent 10 years in the U.S. Army Reserve. He worked as a forester and a high school teacher before earning his master's and then doctorate. For 31 years, he served as chair and professor of the Department of Parks and Recreation at Slippery Rock University. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Gayle; a daughter; and a son.



ROBERT McCUBBIN '60

1937 - 2018

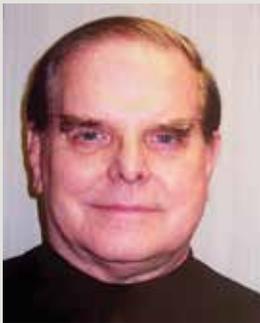
Robert "Bob" McCubbin died Oct. 13, 2018, in Columbus, Ohio. He was born in Michigan and grew up in Campbellsville, Ohio. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1960, where he was in the Highty-Tighties. Robert married Lena Cowherd in 1965. He received his Master of Science degree from Bradley University. He was a quality manager for several manufacturing companies in the Midwest. He was a life-long Methodist, active in choir, a Boy Scout, and did charity outreach. Survivors include his wife, Lena; a daughter; and a son.



ARTHUR WILLIAM CLAUSSEN '61

1939 - 2018

Arthur William "Bill" Claussen died Dec. 13, 2018. He was born in Birmingham, Alabama. A true gentleman who cherished his southern roots, he was an only child who enjoyed reading, music, and art. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1961. He later earned a master's degree in vocational education. He commissioned into the U.S. Army and served two years at Fort Benning, Georgia. A professor in architectural design and drafting at New River Community College for more than 20 years, he distinguished himself by becoming the recipient of several National Endowment for Humanities grants. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Linda.



WALTER ALEXANDER WEISS JR. '62

1939 - 2018

U.S. Air Force Col. Walter Alexander Weiss Jr. (retired) died Aug. 1, 2018. He attended Virginia Tech and received a bachelor's degree in business-public administration in 1962. He received a regular commission into the U.S. Air Force. His 26-year career in the Air Force included command positions in Strategic Air Command, ICBM maintenance, and operations. He retired from the military in 1988. He then spent 15 years working for Electronic Data Systems. He is survived by his wife of 49 years Tina; a daughter; and a son.



ROBERT RUSSELL SR. '64

1941 - 2019

Robert "Bob" Elson Russell Sr. died Jan. 19. Bob attended Virginia Tech, graduating with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He was president of his class, regimental commander of the Corps of Cadets, and a member of the Highty-Tighties. Upon graduation, he went into investment banking and then sales. In 1982 he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates and served one term. He was then elected to the Virginia State Senate and served 10 years. Bob also served for eight years on the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Carole, and two sons.



ROBERT ELLIS CASEY '65

1943 - 2019

Robert "Bob" Casey died March 5 in Roanoke after a short battle with cancer. He was a 1965 graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in accounting. He developed an interest in computers and became an expert in providing technical support. This, combined with his CPA skills, opened up a variety of job opportunities, including owning his own firm. He was a lifelong athlete and talented singer who enjoyed barbershop quartets and theater musicals. He was active in his community as a coach and volunteer. He was a member of the Masons and Shriners for over 50 years and the Virginia Jaycees. He is survived by his loving wife, Libby, and two daughters.



WILLIAM PEACE '65

1943 - 2018

William "Bill" Peace, 75, died Oct. 31, 2018. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Big Stone Gap, Virginia, and the owner/operator of Clinch Haven Farms. He was a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute's Class of 1965. He formed lifelong friendships with his fellow rats. He grew up farming with his grandfather at Woodberry Farms in Hanover County and worked 32 years as a dairy farmer. He was a founding member of the Wise County Farm Bureau and a member of the Wise County Public Service Authority. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Brenda, and two sons.



RALPH GLEN MILLER

1935 - 2019

Ralph Miller died March 22. Ralph worked at the Virginia Tech Tailor Shop for 39 years, rising to manager and "master tailor." He served in the U.S. Army for 31 years with combined active duty and National Guard service, retiring with the rank of first sergeant. He was a lifelong resident of Blacksburg, an avid hunter and fisherman, and an active member of Blacksburg Christian Church. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Joann; a daughter; and a son.



ELLIS CUTLER VANDER PYL

1937 - 2018

U.S. Air Force Col. Ellis Cutler "Dutch" Vander Pyl (retired), age 87, died Feb. 9 in Sebring, Florida. He was born May 14, 1931 in Cleveland, Ohio, and studied math aeronautics at Miami University. He was a deputy commandant for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets from 1984 to 1996, where he is remembered as a mentor, leader, and outstanding officer. He is survived by a daughter and a son.

LEST WE FORGET

Fred G. Brenner '38, Charlottesville, Virginia, 4/26/18
Edwin Allen Myrick '38, Daleville, Virginia, 1/21/19
Victor F. Binkley '41, Walnut Creek, California, 11/12/18
Cannie Bryant Harrell Jr. '41, Newport News, Virginia, 10/13/18
John T. Chamberlain '42, Bainbridge Island, Washington, 12/3/16
Paul J. Winfield '42, Largo, Florida, 12/21/18
Burns Nixon Gibson Jr. '43, Irvington, Virginia, 2/9/18
Stephen S. Roszel Jr. '43, Marshall, Virginia, 11/15/16
Ray G. L'Amoreaux '44, Tallahassee, Florida, 9/1/18
Arthur W. Ordell Jr. '44, Keswick, Virginia, 9/17/18
Charles P. Powell Jr. '44, Hampton, Virginia, 12/8/17
Mitchel P. Raftelis '44, Quantico, Virginia, 8/14/18
Charles E. Shenberger '44, Salem, Virginia, 1/10/19
John F. Spangler '44, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 12/18/18
George Andrew Allen Jr. '45, Blacksburg, Virginia, 10/10/18
Ralph W. Cline '45, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 9/23/18
John Tyler Hanna '45, Williamsburg, Virginia, 12/11/18
Irvin R. Holmes Sr. '45, Odessa, Florida, 1/12/19
Glenn A. Main Jr. '45, Timonium, Maryland, 9/25/18
T. Freeland Mason Jr. '45, Richmond, Virginia, 2/5/19
Dodson Hill Felton Sr. '46, South Boston, Virginia, 12/6/18
Julian B. Jacobs '46, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 8/31/18
Robert Thaddeus Muse Sr. '46, Blacksburg, Virginia, 8/8/18
John M. Rasnick Jr. '46, Richmond, Virginia, 12/12/18
William B. Smith Jr. '46, Rocky Mount, Virginia, 8/31/18
William Claude Banner Jr. '47, Welch, WV, 10/1/18
William A. Cobb '47, Lynchburg, Virginia, 10/19/18
Lawrence D. Garrett '47, Bowling Green, Virginia, 1/20/19
Francis X. Gribbon '47, Amityville, New York, 11/23/18
Thomas L. Phillips '47, Weston, Massachusetts, 1/9/19
James T. Donahue '48, Ashland, Virginia, 7/11/18
James John Neate '48, Silver Springs, Florida, 10/26/18
William R. Tise '48, Blacksburg, Virginia, 11/29/17
Sidney Coplton '49, Wheaton, Maryland, 8/23/18
Wallace E. Smith '49, Chesapeake, Virginia, 1/15/19
Graham Hunter Summerson Jr. '49, Roanoke, Virginia, 9/11/18
Beverley C. Yowell '49, Mechanicsville, Virginia, 8/1/18
Everett Lynn Alvey '50, Herrington, Kansas, 9/27/18
Charles Lowell Hall Jr. '50, Salem, Virginia, 1/16/19
Richardson B. Cartwright Sr. '51, West Point, Virginia, 12/17/18
Walter William Duncan '51, Brodnax, Virginia, 10/7/18
Marion Billy Hitt '51, Richland, Washington, 2/17/19
Wilton B. Jackson '51, Richmond, Virginia, 8/21/18
Joseph Belton Johnson '51, Oxford, Florida, 9/18/18
William D McLaughlin Jr. '51, Greenwood, South Carolina, 8/13/18
William O. Purcell Jr. '51, Fern Park, Florida, 11/14/18
Alan Quinter Spitler '51, Maryville, Tennessee, 8/29/18
James Lyne Starling '51, Roseville, Minnesota, 11/3/18
Alfred W. Dabney '52, Maitland, Florida, 5/31/18
John S. Haydon '52, Mayfield, New York, 1/27/19
Joseph Willard Holcomb '52, Columbus, Ohio, 1/4/19
Charles Donald King '52, Clintwood, Virginia, 1/24/19
Jack F. Neel '52, Albemarle, North Carolina, 11/12/18
Edgar Farrington Pierce '52, Midlothian, Virginia, 9/27/18
Robert Henry Shultz Jr. '52, Irvington, Virginia, 11/16/18
Charles C. Wagoner '52, Canton, Georgia, 9/29/18
W. Thomas Darnell '53, Lancaster, Ohio, 11/3/18
Marion Bellfield Elliott Jr. '53, Tetonia, Idaho, 9/22/18
John Apperson Heard Sr. '53, Berryville, Virginia, 10/15/18
Robert A. Kinsey '53, Alexandria, Virginia, 11/21/18
Alexander F. Lampros '53, Springfield, Virginia, 10/5/18
William W. Old '53, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 11/13/18
Algie B. Ward Jr. '53, West Point, Virginia, 8/13/18
Floyd Wendell Williams '53, Watkinsville, Georgia, 1/22/19
Frederick Shelton Biesecker '54, Greenville, South Carolina, 9/1/18
Joseph O. Bunting Jr. '54, Alexandria, Virginia, 11/7/18
Hughes Critz Swain '54, Afton, Virginia, 10/25/18
Dean M. Carter '55, Oldsmar, Florida, 10/24/18
Robert William Eagan Jr. '55, Manakin-Sabot, Virginia, 8/7/18
Robert Lee Gray '55, Avon Park, Florida, 8/5/18
John R. Holsinger '55, Chesterfield, Virginia, 11/10/18
John F. Kane Jr. '55, 9/18/18
John Berman Murphy Jr. '55, Henrico, Virginia, 1/23/19
John F. Nelson Jr. '55, Charleston, West Virginia, 12/9/18
Robert Watts '55, Parksley, Virginia, 10/20/18

Hughey Allen Woodle Jr. '55, Midlothian, Virginia, 1/7/19
 James Townley Alvey '56, Solomons, Maryland, 2/6/19
 Donald E. Bishop '56, Lebanon, Tennessee, 9/5/18
 Albert N. Blackburn '56, Snellville, Georgia, 11/2/18
 Robert F. Boxley Jr. '56, Winchester, Virginia, 12/19/18
 Franklin D. Brown '56, Penhook, Virginia, 8/24/18
 Robert P. Burwell '56, Greensboro, North Carolina, 11/6/18
 Ray Kenneth Epling '56, Huddleston, Virginia, 6/25/18
 James Olin Ferguson '56, Colonial Heights, Virginia, 8/29/18
 Arthur H. Garst Jr. '56, Roanoke, Virginia, 11/18/18
 William Carney Gibbs '56, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 8/17/18
 Dale Rogers Gregory '56, Tarpon Springs, Florida, 8/27/18
 Emil Anthony Viola '56, Chesapeake, Virginia, 11/24/18
 James Melvin Allen '57, Henrico, Virginia, 1/11/19
 Frank Blair Bishop III '57, Richmond, Virginia, 9/27/18
 Gerald J. Counts '57, Elon, North Carolina, 12/14/16
 Terry C. Drew '57, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 7/24/18
 Frederick Winford Finney '57, Vinton, Virginia, 10/13/18
 Conrad E. Haas '57, Suffolk, Virginia, 9/16/18
 Horace M. Scanland Jr. '57, Elliston, Virginia, 12/17/18
 Edward M. Soucek '57, Radford, Virginia, 9/19/18
 Roger Lee Williams '57, Free Union, Virginia, 9/22/18
 Jonas Ryland Bryant '58, Parrish, Florida, 8/8/18
 Robert Paul Colby '58, Richmond, Virginia, 11/11/18
 Ralph G. Powers '58, Forest, Virginia, 11/27/18
 Harry Franklin Geib Jr. '59, Mc Lean, Virginia, 1/29/19
 R. Eugene Nix '59, Clinton, South Carolina, 10/11/18
 James A. Rayburn '59, North Fort Myers, Florida, 2/5/19
 James Herbert Sharrett '59, Portsmouth, Virginia, 10/15/18
 Chase Morison Adkins Jr. '60, Sandston, Virginia, 9/24/18
 Ronald M. Coiner Sr. '60, Lexington, North Carolina, 8/3/18
 Daniel Whitney Ferry '60, Hooksett, New Hampshire, 2/3/19
 Edwin Cline Gillenwater '60, Falls Church, Virginia, 1/23/19
 Merrill D. Jackson '60, Cary, North Carolina, 11/24/18
 Herbert Peterson '60, Chesterfield, Virginia, 12/2/18
 Charles Edwin Shelton '60, Fernandina, Florida, 12/14/18
 Hubert Hinote '61, Fairhope, Alabama, 12/15/18
 Samuel Epes Moncure Jr. '61, Commerce, Georgia, 10/9/18
 Wilburn Lee Moore '61, Springfield, Virginia, 2/9/19
 John Stackhouse Pully '61, Newport News, Virginia, 12/5/18
 T. David Siegle '61, Zillah, Washington, 2/11/19
 Roy A. Williams '61, Daleville, Virginia, 1/3/19
 Creed Collier Absher '62, Norton, Virginia, 12/18/18
 Joel Barnet Bloom '62, Mount Airy, Maryland, 12/13/18
 Roy Alan Brogan '62, Lynchburg, Virginia, 12/22/18
 George Michael Grimsley '62, Smithfield, Virginia, 12/10/18
 Edward Daniel Lawler '62, Staunton, Virginia, 11/13/18
 Neal Lawson Lowe '62, Summerville, South Carolina, 8/7/18
 John Harry Merold '62, Oak Hill, Virginia, 5/16/18
 Roger Woolford Hall '63, Bradenton, Florida, 1/3/19
 Marshall Wren Nay Jr. '63, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 12/19/18
 McGinnis James Perkins '63, Natural Bridge, Virginia, 8/8/18
 William Jerry Callis '64, Kenbridge, Virginia, 12/5/18
 Russell Lawrence Henderson '64, Alexandria, Virginia, 8/26/18
 Douglas Ronald Fahl '65, Leesburg, Virginia, 8/13/18
 Donald Leigh Howell '65, Lynchburg, Virginia, 12/25/18
 John Alton Elder Jr. '66, Versailles, Kentucky, 9/17/18
 John Sidney Lewis '66, Fairbanks, Alaska, 11/25/18
 David Oliver Turner Jr. '66, La Crosse, Virginia, 12/28/18
 Judson Allen Bigelow '67, Salton City, California, 11/13/18
 Wayne Lynwood Jackson '67, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1/26/19
 Joe David Stumbo '67, Sarasota, Florida, 9/5/18
 Timothy Barry Wilson Sr. '67, 9/11/18
 Robert Harrison Kirby Jr. '68, Finksburg, Maryland, 10/15/18
 Lester Owen Seal '68, Elkton, Virginia, 9/2/18
 Charles Leslie Walstrom '68, Cumberland Foreside, Maine, 8/5/18
 Bruce Allan McFadden '69, Hillsboro, Oregon, 7/26/18
 William Edward White '69, Yorktown, Virginia, 1/25/19
 John Knott Jr. '71, Mobile, Alabama, 12/15/18
 Robert Charles MacIndoe Jr. '72, Upton, Massachusetts, 12/23/18
 Theodore Ernst Hervey '73, Bertram, Texas, 1/15/19
 John Edward Colville '75, Oviedo, Florida, 10/18/18

Corps Reunion • Sept. 13-14, 2019

Virginia Tech vs. Furman



Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumni return to campus to celebrate our annual Corps Reunion! This is a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends who shared the cadet experience.

This year, registration opens at 3 p.m. Friday. After the Friday night Cadet Leadership Dinner we will hold a new, informal gathering, Last Call at Lane Hall.

Saturday will feature a reunion dinner at The Inn at Virginia Tech. This casual-dress event will include the opportunity to hear from Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal Fullhart.

Plus, participate in a special annual tradition, the alumni regiment march-on into Lane Stadium before kickoff.

Please register online for Corps Reunion. You can choose the specific events you want to join and purchase hats and polo shirts to be worn during the march-on. Prices for all events and merchandise can be found on the registration site.

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

Corps Reunion Registration Website

alumni.vt.edu/events/2019/09/corps-reunion





Spring Regimental Commander Colleen Pramenko '19 (at right) turns the regiment over to Justin Clipson '20 (at left). Clipson was the regimental sergeant major on Pramenko's team.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR 2019 GRADUATES (AND NEW SECOND LIEUTENANTS AND ENSIGNS), AND GOOD LUCK TO THE CADETS OF THE CLASS OF 2020 AS THEY PREPARE TO LEAD THE REGIMENT THIS FALL.



Senior cadets line up during the Change of Command Ceremony on May 4.



Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond (at left), commander of Air Force Space Command, delivers the commissioning oath to the Class of 2019 during the May 17 graduation ceremony in Burruss Auditorium.



Brittany Burk '19, the 2nd Battalion commander during the spring semester, commissions into the U.S. Army.

VTCC Alumni Inc.

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

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