

# HIGHTY-TIGHTY

## NOTES



*The official newsletter of the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc.*  
*Volume 37 Number 2* *Spring 2013*



# HIGHTY-TIGHTY ALUMNI, INC.

## Board of Directors - Elected Members



**Bertram Y. Kinzey III**  
HT '68  
President  
Half-Notes Editor  
Historian



**Charles O. Connelison**  
HT '67  
President Emeritus



**George E. McMichael, Jr.**  
HT '70  
Immediate Past President



**David P. Williams**  
LTC, VaARNG  
HT '79  
First Vice President



**Thomas J. Verbeck**  
BG, USAF (Ret)  
HT '73  
Vice President  
Recruiting and Retention



**Chuck Rowell, Jr.**  
HT '71  
Vice President  
Development



**Dirk I. McComsey**  
HT '92  
Vice President  
Alumni-Band Relations



**Barry W. Baird**  
HT '92  
Vice President  
Marketing



**Michele Caldwell-Wrenn**  
HT '89  
Secretary



**Lori Keck-Beach**  
HT '92  
Performance Officer,  
Highly-Tighty Alumni Band



**Vickie A. Ireland**  
HT '91  
Newsletter Editor



**Scott Judd**  
HT '92  
Director of Alumni Affairs



**M. Eugene Huffman**  
HT '64  
Director



**Carter T. Gill**  
LTC, USAF (Ret)  
HT '68  
Director



**John C. Helmick**  
LTC, USA (Ret)  
HT '68  
Director



**James D. Campbell**  
HT '71  
Director



**Robert E. Wilkinson**  
HT '77  
Director



**Gary N. Jackson**  
LTC, USA (Ret)  
HT '78  
Director



**Maria J. Davis**  
HT '87  
Director



**Gregory R. Milas**  
HT '98  
Director



**Robert W. Mauck**  
HT '03  
Director



**Scott Beman**  
HT '01  
Director

*Front Cover: The Highly-Tighties march past Campbell Hall on their way to the UVA vs. Virginia Tech football game last November. Note that Burrell Hall is visible in the background. (Photo by Mike Diersing).*



# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Bert Kinzey, HT '68

## IMPROVING HIGHTY-TIGHTY HOMECOMING

Since 1976, Highty-Tighty alumni have looked forward to the fall when Highty-Tighty Homecoming takes place on what has become known as Virginia Tech's traditional homecoming weekend. The Highty-Tighty Alumni Band has participated in every parade since 1976, and has also performed with the present Band at the football game in Lane Stadium. Over the years, we have also had other opportunities to get together over homecoming weekend, and the annual general meeting of the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. has taken place during the weekend as well.

Turnout has been quite good. The HTAB usually marches between 100 and 140 alumni, and other alumni take part in the activities as well. We have a much higher percentage of our alumni return for Highty-Tighty Homecoming than the Corps does for Corps Homecoming, but it's time to make our homecoming even better and increase participation to new levels. Shortly after homecoming last year, I met with our First Vice President, David Williams, and asked him to start working on ideas to make homecoming better. At our winter board meeting this past February, we involved the board members in a discussion covering the various aspects of homecoming and how to improve each of them. We have already made some significant changes, but the work in progress remains ongoing, and it will continue to evolve in the months between now and October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Here are the changes we are making for this year:

### HOMECOMING MEAL

The most significant change has to do with the homecoming meal. This year we are doing away with the more formal banquet in Owens Hall that we have had for a number of years now. Instead, we will be having a tailgating party under tents on a lawn just across from the Cassell Coliseum parking lot. As with the meal in Owens, the time will depend on the kick-off time for the game. We will adjust and do our tailgating before or after the game as appropriate. But the tailgating will be in very close proximity to the stadium and the Hokie Walk. The menu is not set yet, but it will be a tailgating fare with such items as hamburgers, potato salad, and baked beans. We believe this informal tailgating meal will be more family friendly than the banquet in Owens Hall and will encourage alumni to bring spouses and children to join with us. Tables and chairs will be provided by the caterer, and tent sides can be added if necessary due to weather conditions. This is all included in the price.

Another important change to the meal is that there will be no annual general meeting held with it. This is being moved off of the homecoming schedule. We will hear some brief remarks from General Fullhart, Major McNeill, and the Band Company CO. We will recognize the Old Guard class as well as honor any new Distinguished Highty-Tighty Alumni and present a scholarship or two to the cadets. But with all of the business related items of the annual general meeting out of the agenda, we should have a much more informal and enjoyable time for

our alumni and their families. The date and time to which the annual general meeting has not yet been determined, but it will be announced in a Half-Note when it is set.

The cost for the tailgating party will be \$25 for adults, \$14 for children from 6 to 12 years of age, and free for children under 6 years. Please note that this cost includes a 5% surcharge that the Virginia Tech Alumni Association is adding to all credit card charges made through their registration site. This is something they are doing for the first time this year. Fortunately, Colonel Larkin was able to get them to waive the surcharge this year for our football tickets, but they would not waive it for the meal tickets.

### BAND PRACTICE AND GUNNY FEST

Band practice will start a half-hour earlier this year at 7:30pm. This is being done so that we can finish earlier and go to the alumni party, Gunny Fest. This year, we will not use Gunny Fest as a time for alumni mentors to meet freshmen. Instead, that will be done at the tailgating. Gunny Fest will be an alumni party for alumni and their families. It is possible that some upper-class cadets will also attend, but that is yet to be worked out. We hope that starting Gunny Fest earlier and having it be an off-campus alumni party will make it more appealing, and more people will attend.

### REDUCING THE COSTS

Homecoming weekend can be very expensive, and we are trying to find ways to help alumni reduce the costs. As we did last year, we will again be allowing alumni to come onto the field, participate in the pre-game show, then watch the game on the big screen in the cafeteria area of Owens Hall. This way, alumni can save \$50 per ticket, and those who do not wish to sit out in the elements or climb the stairs to the seats have an alternative.

The meal will cost less than in years past, although the reduction is not as much as we had planned, due to the 5% surcharge that has been added by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association. But it is still quite reasonable for eating on campus on a football weekend.

In the past we have tried to schedule blocks of rooms in outlying communities like Dublin and Salem. But these were never used, and motels there will no longer let us set aside these rooms. However, you can avoid the high cost of motel rooms and the two-night minimums in the Blacksburg/Christiansburg area by getting rooms in Salem and Dublin. You'll have a bit farther to drive to the events, but it will be more than made up for by what you pay for your lodging. If this is a concern to you, make some reservations in Salem or Dublin early, and you'll save some money. *(continued on page 10)*







## Southern Colonels



***Right and Below: The Highty-Tighty Jazz Band, The Southern Colonels, performs on the VT during their Spring Concert on May 3rd. The Southern Colonels are also under the direction of Major George McNeill, and their devotion to this ensemble speaks volumes about their love of music and performing. Thank goodness they had great weather to play under! (Photos by Bert Kinzey)***





# Concert Band



*Above and Below: The Highty-Tighties perform in many venues off the field and parade ground. The Highty-Tighties' Concert Band performed in a Spring Concert on Sunday, April 28th, which brings whole new challenges. These concerts give the Highty-Tighty musicians a chance to expand their abilities and appeal to a different set of aficionados. (Top Photo by Mike Diersing, Bottom Photo by Bert Kinzey)*



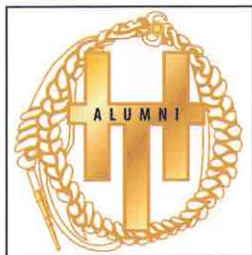


# Band Banquet

## Class of 2013 Joins Ranks of Alumni



**Right:** After receiving her Highly-Tightly alumni pin from President Bert Kinzey, Lauren Adolph is welcomed into the Highly-Tightly alumni by President Emeritus Charles Cornelison. Lauren did a fantastic job as drum major for the Highly-Tighties this past school year. (Photo by General Randal Fullhart)



Above: The HT Class of '13, our newest alumni after receiving their pins. (Photo by Bert Kinzey)

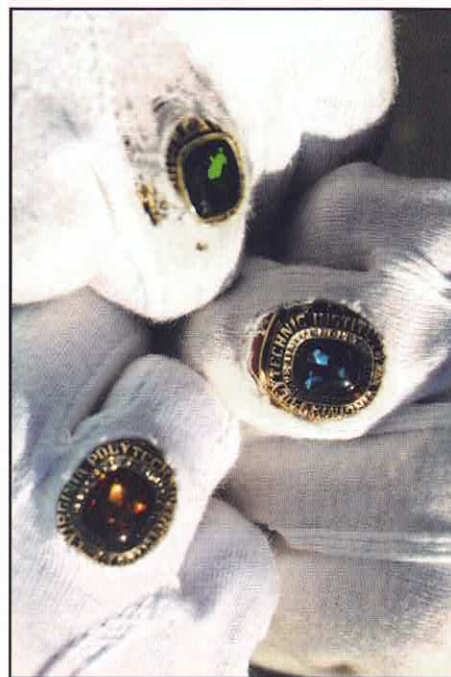


# Band Banquet

## Charles O. Cornelison Service Award



*Left: Elaine Altman stands next to HT President Emeritus Charles Cornelison after presentation of the Charles O. Cornelison Service Award, the highest award the Band gives to one of its members. The junior class selects the senior that they believe gave the greatest service to the Highty-Tighties during their senior year. (Photo by Bert Kinzey)*



*Above: Members of the Highty-Tighty Class of '13 show off their class rings. (Photo by Mike Diersing)*





# Change of Command

**Right:** The Highly-Tighties march down to the Drill field for the annual Change of Command ceremony. (Photo by Mike Diersing)



## New Cadet Knowledge:

The Highly-Tighties have marched in the Presidential Inaugural Parade many times since 1917, and once won three parades in succession before the parade was declared a non-competitive event. Only one band member was present at two of these parades...do you know who this was?



**Left:** The outgoing Drum Major, C/CPT Lauren Adolph, HT' 13, stands at ease before the Change of Command ceremony on the Drill field. (Photo by Mike Diersing)



# Change of Command



**Top: The Highty-Tighties march and perform together as part of the 2013 Change of Command Pass in Review. This is the last ceremony for the Highty-Tighty Class of 2013, and the first leadership opportunity for the Class of 2014. (Photo by Mike Diersing)**



**Right: The incoming Band Company Commander, C/MAJ Kevin Heald, HT '14, marches with the Band during the Change of Command ceremony on the Drill field. (Photo by Bert Kinzey)**



**Top: The Highty-Tighties take the field as part of the Pass In Review. (Photo by Mike Diersing)**





# Homecoming News

## October 4-5, 2013



*Above: Alumni Drum Major Lori Keck-Beach, HT '92, leads the Highty-Tighty Alumni Band down Main Street during the Homecoming Parade last October. (Photo by Mike Diersing)*

(continued from page 3)

### AN ONGOING PROCESS

We are still planning for this year, and once it is all said and done, we'll look at it and start planning and improving for next year. We want to keep improving Highty-Tighty Homecoming year after year, so that our participation will always be increasing. As our planning continues, we will post more information about homecoming on our website at [hightytightyalumni.org](http://hightytightyalumni.org). When we get within two weeks of homecoming, we will know the game time, and we will then be able to fill in all of the other times on the schedule. So keep checking back to see what is on our website. The website also provides information about the Highty-Tighty Alumni Band uniform requirements and other homecoming information.

### REGISTER!!!

Contact your classmates and other Highty-Tighty alumni you know and start planning to get together at homecoming! Then go to the Highty-Tighty Homecoming Registration Page on the Virginia Tech Alumni Association's web page and register for homecoming. You'll enjoy being with classmates and other alumni for what always proves to be a wonderful event. The link to the registration page is: <http://www.hightytightyalumni.org/Homecoming2013AlumniAssoc.htm>

Follow the link for "Reunion and Lodging Registration."

North Carolina  
Vs.  
Virginia Tech

October 5, 2013



**CHECK OUR WEBSITE at [hightytightyalumni.org](http://hightytightyalumni.org)**



# Development Update



The Highty-Tighties may be the biggest this Fall since the Fall of 1968. They are growing and as always, they need our help. As you probably know, each Fall we give each Freshman entering the Highty-Tighties a \$1,000 stipend. This money is meant to come from the Jim Schaeffer Endowment Fund. There is enough income from this endowment to fund approximately 25 or 26 Freshmen each Fall. The remainder of the money to fund the 60 to 70 entering Freshmen, must come from other alumni accounts intended for other purposes.

We are asking you to support the growth of the Band by considering the Annual Freshman Stipend program which is a pledge of \$1,000 per year for 5 years to the "Commandant's Priorities" account. Obviously, we would be thrilled for you to contribute larger amounts (or any amounts) to the Schaeffer Endowment and have created a special recognition program for those who contribute at least \$25,000 over 5 years. For additional information about either program, please call VTCC Director of Development, Dave Spracher at 540-231-2806 or 800-533-1144.

Thank you for your support. Without you Alumni, the Band would not have grown as large as it has in the last three years. Please help us continue to contribute to the growth of the Highty-Tighty enduring story. You and your classmates can join together to create a class endowment. A few of the classes have already done so.

We are asking you to attend Homecoming this year on October 5, 2013 to help us celebrate potentially the largest Alumni Band marching together and the largest Highty-Tighties ever marching in the parade. You can help make this happen. Please register this summer to attend. We look forward to seeing you there. As always, it will be a lot of fun and fellowship.

Sincerely,

Chuck Rowell, VP of Development, Highty-Tighty Alumni

*If you don't know who your class leader is, please get in touch with Chuck via email at [browellc2@yahoo.com](mailto:browellc2@yahoo.com).*

*Remember those important pylons you had to memorize as a new cadet? The concepts of Brotherhood, Loyalty, Sacrifice, and Service continue to guide our actions as alumni, and both the Highty-Tighty Alumni and the current Band needs our continued commitment. To sign up as an HT Sponsor or inquire about other ways to serve the Band, please contact:*

UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT (800) 533-1144  
 Dave Spracher, VTCC '70 Director of Development (540) 231-2806  
 Charles Cornelison HT'67 Office of Gift Planning (540) 580-6312





# Alumni Notes

## The Band Plays On

Two articles appearing in an earlier issue of the Highly-Tighty Notes prompted me to write down this bit of history and trivia to preserve memories for my family: (1) the picture of the band marching in the Presidential Inaugural Parade and (2) the remembrance of Tom Dobyns as director of the HT Band.

My freshman year at VPI began as a student in the class of '60. However, as a co-op student, I claim the class of '61 as most of my years at school were spent with those classmates. I will never forget the lump in my throat as I marched with the band for the first time down the boulevard in front of Lane Hall toward the War Memorial. What a thrilling experience it was and still is to be a part of the infamous HT. I played the trombone for most of my HT career except for the spring quarter of 1961, when I was elected Drum Major and led the band in the Governor's Inaugural Parade in Richmond, Va. that year.

Some of my most memorable times were the parades and football games halftime shows with the intricate precision programs; the trips to various women's colleges with the concert band; the week-end a spontaneously organized pep band drove to Richmond to support the basketball team in the Southern Conference Tournament; and the surprise trip to Morgantown, West Va. where the HT almost exclusively rooted the Hokie football team to victory over the Mountaineers. Did I mention Esprit de Corps!

In 1953, the HT were invited to march in Dwight D. Eisenhower's Presidential Inaugural Parade and won First Place in the competition for Military Marching bands. In January 1957, my freshmen year, the HT again won First Place in President Eisenhower's 2nd Inaugural Parade – an unheard of feat to win two in a row. Then in 1961 and my last year with the HT, for John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Parade, the HT were again judged winner of the Military Marching Band category – UNBELIEVABLE! The last two competitions were under the VOLUNTARY direction of the celebrated Tom Dobyns! What a dedicated person!

I understand that there have been other co-op students who have marched in two presidential parades, however, my claim to fame (the trivia part as it were), is that I am the only HT band member to have ever marched in two consecutive Presidential Inaugural Parades, the band having won FIRST PLACE in both contests.

The attached photo was taken in the lounge of East Eggleston Hall (the HT moved there from Lane Hall during my sophomore year) with me holding both of the First Place trophies.



**Stuart K. Snead, HT '60/'61, pictured with both Presidential Inaugural Parade Trophies. (Photo supplied by Stuart K. Snead)**

**Stuart K. Snead, Class of '60/'61**



### Calling all HT Alumni...

...don't wait for Homecoming to catch up with your friends and classmates! Send in your photos, announcements, and class reunion plans to the *Highly-Tighty Notes*.

Please refer to the back cover for submission details. All content should be sent to the newsletter editor. To aid in the submission process, please include pertinent dates, places, names, and the HT class for alumni, as well as your updated contact information in the event of editing or other questions.

Ut Prosim :)





# History Notes



## Moving Into the 1920s With A New Director



*The Highty-Tighty Concert Band for the 1922-1923 school year is shown seated in concert formation with their "Director-in-Chief," William Luther Skaggs, in front along with the drum major. (Photograph from Virginia Tech Special Collections)*

By Bert Kinzey, HT '68

*Author's Note: This is the fourteenth in a continuing series of articles about the history of the Virginia Tech Regimental Band, the Highty-Tighties. The purpose of this series is to provide an accurate record of the Band's proud and amazing history that dates back to 1893. The photographs and historical information here were taken primarily from the late Harry Temple's outstanding and meticulously researched six-volume history of the Corps of Cadets, entitled **The Bugle's Echo**, which traces the history of the Corps from the first day the college opened its doors through 1934.*

From 1893 through 1921, the first twenty-eight years of the Cadet Band's history was filled with numerous major events. The Band traveled to expositions throughout the eastern United States including a trip to the World's Fair in St. Louis. On two different occasions, they met "The March King," John Philip Sousa, and he dedicated a performance of his march, "Hands Across the Sea" to the Band on one of those occasions. They were reviewed by President Theodore Roosevelt, who called them "The Nation's Strength," and they marched in their first presidential inaugural parade for Woodrow Wilson in 1917. Along with their first director, James Patton Harvey, they had resigned from school to become the Regimental Band for the Second Virginia Volunteer Regiment during the Spanish American War, and they had returned to the Second Regiment as their band during maneuvers a few years later. The Band had also provided escort for several Virginia Governors as well as other elected officials and senior military officers.

But after 1921, the Band, now known as the Highty-Tighties for several years, settled down into a more routine schedule of events that did not involve any major events. Whether this was a conscious decision by their new director, William Luther Skaggs, who had been hired in 1921, or whether this was for other reasons cannot be determined. It could also have been because there simply were no real opportunities for major events during the next few years, but one thing is for sure,

it was not because of any decline in the excellence of the organization. Each year the War Department made an inspection of the Corps, and each report had very high praise for the Regimental Band. In the official report for the 1925-1926 school year, the senior inspector, a Major Danford, stated that the V.P.I. Cadet Band was the finest he had ever seen anywhere.

Regardless of what the reason or combination of reasons may have been, the Highty-Tighties remained fairly close to Blacksburg and Southwest Virginia for the most part over the next several years, and even when they did travel outside that area, they did not venture out of the Commonwealth. They performed and provided music for all Corps reviews and parades, supported the V.P.I. football, baseball, and basketball teams, and made concert tours in the spring. But as the Highty-Tighties met their responsibilities to the Corps and the college, there were several noteworthy events during those years.

In the fall of 1922, the Band led the Corps to Richmond as the football team was scheduled to play Center College of Kentucky. Although Center College was a small school, it had an outstanding football team that was ranked among the best in the nation. Led by their all-American, Red Roberts, they were the talk of the sports world and were called "The Wonder Team." They were also known as "The Praying Colonels" because they spent an hour or more in prayer prior to each game. During the 1922 season, they had also been named "The Point-A-Minute Team" because of their amazing ability to rack up points. The weekend prior to meeting the Gobblers, they had defeated Mississippi State 55-0. Their defense was also awesome, having never been scored on prior to the V.P.I. game.

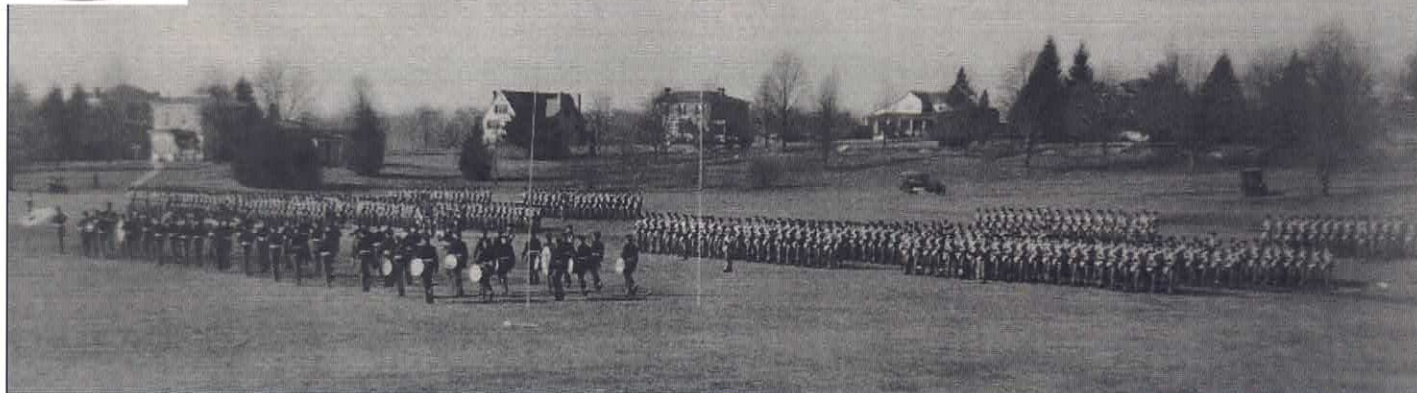
The scheduled meeting of Centre College and V.P.I. was looked on as a major sporting event in college football that year, and it was to draw the largest crowd ever to see an athletic event in Richmond up until that time. All 10,500 seats at Mayo Island Park would be sold out, and another 1,500 fans would crowd into the field for standing room only admission, bringing the total number of spectators to 12,000. Nevertheless, the speculation was that Centre would run up a big, lopsided score against V.P.I.

The entire Corps, numbering 887 cadets, made plans





# History Notes



***The Highty-Tighties "Sound Off" and troop the line during a review on the Drillfield during the 1922-1923 school year. At this time, the Regimental Band was one of the largest college bands in the nation. (Photograph from Virginia Tech Special Collections)***

to attend the game and cheer on the Gobblers. They boarded a chartered Norfolk & Western train at the Huckleberry Station in Blacksburg at 11:00pm on Friday, October 13, and traveled all night to Richmond. At 8:00am Saturday morning, they arrived at Broad Street Station where the Highty-Tighties led the Corps on a parade through Richmond. They marched down Broad Street for quite a distance, then paraded along Davis, Grace, Belvidere, Seventh, and Marshall Streets. All along the way, they were greeted with enthusiastic cheers from the citizens of Richmond. The parade ended at Gray's Armory where the cadets were quartered.

At 12:30pm, the Highty-Tighties formed up with the Corps behind them, and they again marched through the streets of Richmond. This time they were joined by numerous alumni who fell in behind the Corps as they marched to the stadium. The entire formation of cadets and alumni arrived at Mayo Island Park about an hour before game time, and upon entering the stadium, the Highty-Tighties began playing songs with the Corps joining in with singing.

During the first half of the game, V.P.I. scored first, the first score against Centre that year, and at half-time the scoreboard read V.P.I. 6, Centre 0. During the second half, V.P.I. continued to outplay Centre, but the defense allowed Centre a big pass play that resulted in a touchdown and an extra point. Otherwise, the defenses were stiff on both sides, and the only other score was a field goal by Centre. When the gun sounded, the final score was V.P.I. 6, Centre 10. Although it was a loss, V.P.I. had played extremely well and had proven to be Centre's toughest opponent for a long time.

The other Corps trip that year was to the traditional "Military Classic of the South" in Roanoke against V.M.I. As part of that tradition, the corps from both schools marched through Roanoke prior to the game, and then marched into the stadium to cheer on their teams. It was another hard fought defensive battle, but this time V.P.I. emerged the victor, 7 to 3.

In the spring, the Highty-Tighties made a concert tour to several cities in Virginia. A news report covering one of the concerts remarked that the Band brought great credit to V.P.I. Also in the spring, Pulaski held a spring festival for Southwest Virginia, and the Highty-Tighties were the official band for the festival, performing several times during the event.

The Band's routine was much the same for the 1923-1924 school year. At the start of the school year, the Band numbered 77 strong, making it one of the largest college bands in the nation. That fall, the big football game was against North Carolina State, and it was to be played in Norfolk. The entire Corps was to go, but Norfolk & Western wanted \$10.25 per cadet to provide the train to get the cadets there and back. The Corps was not willing to pay more than \$6.25, so the trip was cancelled. However, it was a big game, and V.P.I. alumni in Norfolk wanted the Highty-Tighties at the game to help them support the team. They collected enough money to pay the expenses of getting the Highty-Tighties to Norfolk and back in a special coach.

By the time the trip took place, the usual attrition had reduced the Highty-Tighties to 60 members, but this was still a very large college band for that time. After arriving in Norfolk, they formed up at the railway station and marched to the Shrine Temple at the corner of Monticello Avenue and Freemason Street. Along the way, the residents of Norfolk and V.P.I. alumni cheered them with great fervor. At 1:00pm, they marched from the Shrine Temple to League Park on 18<sup>th</sup> Street. Again the cheers along the route were rousing, but when they entered the stadium, the roar was absolutely deafening as they were welcomed by the crowd. After parading around the field, the Highty-Tighties took their seats at the center of the V.P.I. bleachers. From there they supported the team along with the other Gobbler fans, and during half-time they presented a concert. The effort and expense of the V.P.I. alumni to have the Highty-Tighties be present to support the team paid off. The final score was V.P.I. 16, N. C. State 0.

In the spring, the concert band, forty-four members strong, made a tour of cities in Southwest Virginia. They began in Radford on April 7, and on successive days traveled to Pulaski, Wytheville, Marion, Abingdon, and Bristol. In each location, except for Abingdon, the cadets were hosted in the homes of local residents, but at Abingdon, they stayed at Martha Washington College. A published review in the *Southwest Times* about one of the concerts stated that the Highty-Tighties were a "famous and time-honored organization that always reflected great credit upon the institution of which they are a most valuable part." The tour was a financial success, and the



# History Notes



***The Concert Band's schedule in 1924 included a performance at the Opera House in Abingdon. It is now known as the Barter Theater. (Photograph from Virginia Tech Special Collections)***

Band returned to Blacksburg on Easter Sunday, April 12. On May 18<sup>th</sup> the Band gave its annual year-end concert that was acknowledged with considerable praise.

The 1924-1925 school year was much the same as the previous two, with the Highty-Tighties performing at football games in the fall. Their drill routines and formations usually drew continuous applause and cheering throughout the duration of the show.

In the spring, a concert tour was made to Radford, Marion, Bristol, and Wytheville. A novelty feature of the concerts was a saxophone quartet that was always a big hit. Once the tour was over, they returned to campus where they gave weekly outdoor concerts every Sunday until commencement.

As had been the case since the Band was formed in 1893, there were civilian musicians playing as members of the Band during the 1925-1926 school year. At this time there were four of these musicians, and they also provided music instruction to the cadets. But now they were also paid for these services in addition to the salaries they received for their various full time jobs. Combined, these four men were paid \$1700.00 for the school year.

The big event during the fall quarter was the football game against the South Carolina Gamecocks in Richmond. Like the game against Centre College two years earlier, this was billed to be one of the big games of the year in college football, and certainly in the east. The entire Corps of Cadets, numbering 1,100 strong, made the trip in two trains. On October 31, after arriving in Richmond, the Highty-Tighties, 64 strong, led the Corps down Broad Street to the Blues Armory. They were joined by a

large group of alumni who fell in behind the Corps.

At 1:00pm, the Corps reformed and the Band led them on a parade that passed a reviewing stand where Governor E. Lee Trinkle and other dignitaries watched the cadets march by. They continued on to the stadium where 5,000 fans watched them conduct a review prior to the game. The game was a hard-fought defensive battle that ended with a score of V.P.I. 6, South Carolina 0.

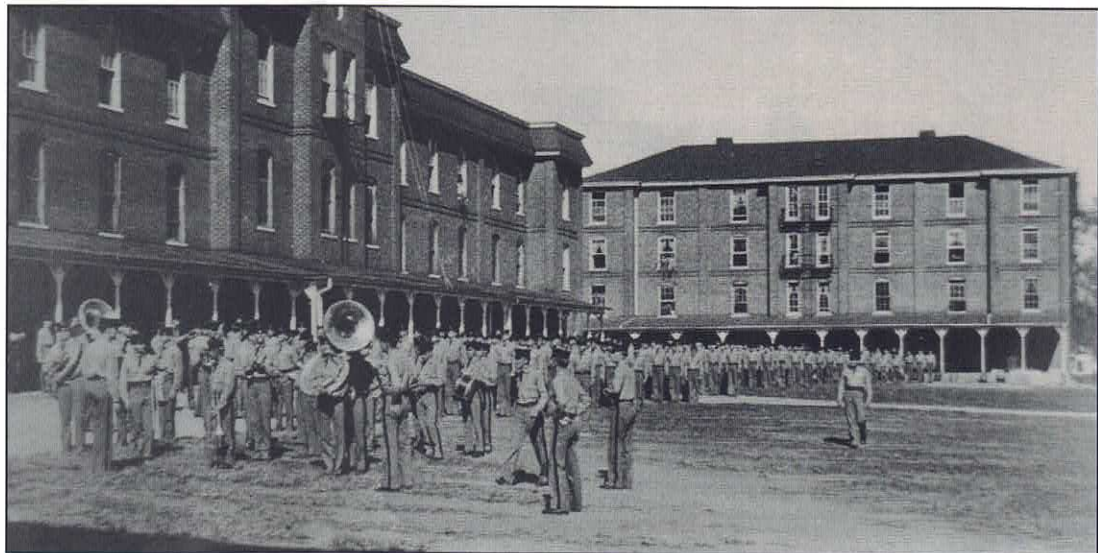
Following the game, there was a military ball conducted for the cadets, and the next morning they marched from the Armory to Broad Street Station where they boarded trains for the trip back to Blacksburg.

As usual, the Corps travelled to Roanoke for the annual Thanksgiving Day game against V.M.I. The night before, the Highty-Tighties paraded through Blacksburg for what became a pep rally to charge up the spirits of the cadets and townsfolk. The next day, the Band led the V.P.I. Corps of cadets, over 1,100 strong, through Roanoke. By comparison, the V.M.I. Corps numbered 600 keydets.

After marching into Roanoke and stopping for a couple of hours at the new Patrick Henry Hotel, the Highty-Tighties again took the lead as the Corps marched to the stadium where they cheered the Gobblers to a 7 – 0 win over V.M.I.

There was no concert tour in the spring, but Sunday concerts on campus began in mid-May and continued for a month until commencement. These were well attended by cadets, faculty, and the citizens of Blacksburg who always gave enthusiastic applause for the fine quality of music which the Band presented. During the May 23 concert, assistant bandmaster, Jim Schaeffer, performed an outstanding cornet solo.

In 1926, V.P.I. began construction of two new sports facilities. The War Memorial Gymnasium was built for basketball games, and behind it, Miles stadium was constructed for football games. Starting the following year, and for four decades to come, the Highty-Tighties would perform hundreds of times in these two venues before they were replaced in the 1960s by the present-day Cassell Coliseum and Lane Stadium, respectively.



***As they have since 1893, and still do to this day, the Highty-Tighties gather for a formation in front of Barracks Number 1 (Lane Hall) with the rest of the Corps in 1925. (Photograph from Virginia Tech Special Collections)***



**Highly-Tighty Alumni, Inc**  
143 Brodie Hall  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Blacksburg, VA  
Permit No. 28

13  
LT COL J ERIC CLAUNCH '85  
13413 HIDDEN MEADOW CT  
HERNDON VA 20171-4026



## REQUESTS TO ALUMNI

### *Very Important!*

There are three things all Highly-Tighty alumni need to do to help ensure you get the newsletter and stay connected with Virginia Tech and the Highly-Tighty Alumni, Inc.

1. Be sure that your address and other contact information are up to date with Virginia Tech Alumni Relations. The person to contact is Sharon Croy at scroy@vt.edu. Sharon can also be reached at (540) 231-8905. Make sure she has your present address, and if you move Sharon is the one you should notify about your change of address. It is her list that is used to mail out this newsletter. **Please do not provide your contact information or changes of address to the newsletter editor**
2. Everyone needs to go to the Highly-Tighty Alumni website and check their contact information in the database. Go to [www.highlytightyalumni.org](http://www.highlytightyalumni.org) and click on Database. The site provides a way for you to provide and request and update of your address, phone number, and e-mail address.
3. If you know of any Highly-Tighty alumni who are not receiving the *Highly-Tighty Notes* newsletter or the *Highly-Tighty Half-Notes* e-mail updates, please pass this information on to them.

## HIGHTY-TIGHTY HALF-NOTES

### *Subscribe Today*

The *Highly-Tighty Half-Notes* are periodic e-mails sent to Highly-Tighty alumni and friends of the Regimental Band. They are intended to supplement the news included in the *Highly-Tighty Notes* newsletter, which only comes out twice a year. These e-mail updates include both photographs and information about the present Band and alumni. Early information about homecoming and other items of interest to alumni are often subjects of *Half-Notes*. If you would like to receive these occasional e-mails with photographs and updates about the Band's activities, as well as information about alumni, please send your e-mail address and your request to receive the *Half-Notes* to: bertkinzey@verizon.net

You may have your name removed at any time.

Please forward any alumni notes, articles, or other materials for the *Highly-Tighty Notes* to:



Vickie Ireland, Editor  
PSC 37 Box 36  
APO AE 09459  
[chrisnvc@aol.com](mailto:chrisnvc@aol.com)

For more information on the Highly-Tighty Alumni, Inc  
visit our website at  
[www.highlytightyalumni.org](http://www.highlytightyalumni.org)

For more information on the present Highly-Tighties  
visit their website  
<http://www.band.vtcc.vt.edu>