

# HIGHTY-TIGHTY NOTES



## *2017 National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade*



*The official newsletter of the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc.*  
*Volume 41 Number 2* *Summer 2017*



# HIGHTY-TIGHTY ALUMNI, INC.

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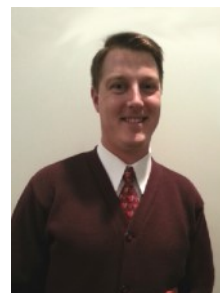
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**Jennifer Boehm**  
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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

## Hope to see you Oct 20-21

I hope this issue of the Highty-Tighty Notes finds you having a good summer! This issue will bring you up to date on plans for Highty-Tighty Reunion on October 20-21 as well as comments from our HT Director and other alumni officers on the HTA, Inc. board of directors. Also I think you will enjoy the articles written by the Spring 2017 HT Commander Cadet Major Alex Tucker and the Drum Major Cadet Captain Kavi Muraleetharan.

To register to march in the Saturday, Oct. 21 parade and/or attend our meal, to register, please go to: <http://www.alumni.vt.edu/events/2017/10/highty-tighty-reunion-2017.html>. You can also get to the registration site via a link on our alumni website <http://www.hightytightyalumni.org/>

We continue to have recruiting and retention issues in the Band. It is harder than ever to reach potential freshmen because phone landlines are slowly going the way of the dinosaur. And, while we get mobile numbers for candidates, many of the calls go to voicemail and we do not get direct communication with the candidate. HT alumnus, Gary Jackson, who serves in the Admissions Office, has been a great help for seventeen years and needs us to continually recommend quality musicians to become Highty-Tighties as we once did.

Brenda and I attended the Highty-Tighty annual banquet in early May and were again so impressed with the quality of young men and women in all four classes of the Band.

We are still accepting slightly used marching band instruments and those gifts should be discussed with our Director Sr. Chief Jim Bean. He can be contacted at [jbean88@vt.edu](mailto:jbean88@vt.edu) or 540-231-3296. We did learn at our recent HTA, Inc. Spring Board meeting that an instrument gift could receive a tax deduc-

tion for an appraised amount. To discuss this further, please contact Scott Lyman at 540-231-2085.

One of the issues and concerns we are working on is a solution for the ordering of and presentation of the Highty-Tighty sweaters. For various reasons the sweaters are not always ordered by every sophomore. We are discussing beginning a tradition of presenting them to sophomores at the end of the year at their HT banquet when seniors receive the HT alumni pins. There will be more on this in the next issue.

Have a great summer and we hope to see you October 20-21!

Chuck Rowell HT '71  
President, HTA







# FROM THE COMMANDER

## Cadet Major Alex Tucker, HT '17

**S**pring semester was another great semester for the Highty-Tighties, if not a little bit bit-

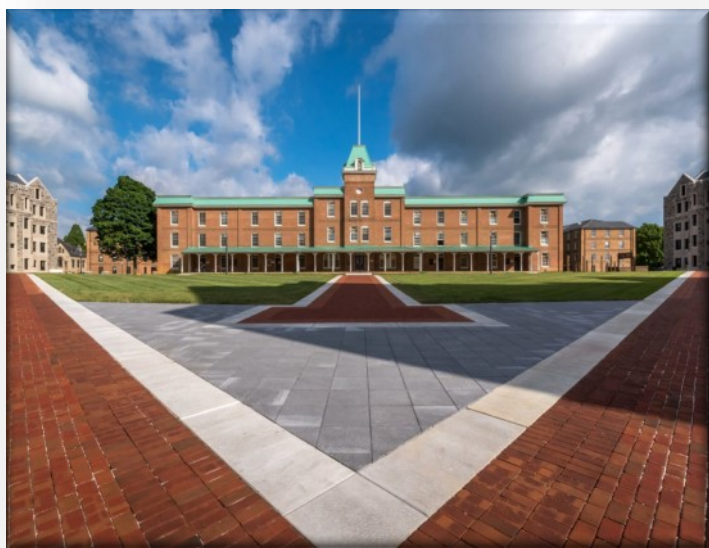
tersweet, especially for our graduating seniors. Our time was filled with concert band practices, pep band games, and the usual rigors of cadet life. Worth noting was our involvement in the Corps' platoon tactical challenge, our competition in Jaffe Eager Squad, as well as our execution of a service project cleaning up garbage in Jefferson National Forest. Of course, I can't leave out our fantastic trip to Washington D.C. for the Cherry Blossom Festival Parade. While the cherry blossoms themselves weren't quite in full show, I can most definitely say that the Highty-Tighties were! It was an excellent parade and the bandsmen thoroughly enjoyed touring D.C. in their free time.

Before the semester officially ended, the HT concert band put on a wonderful concert in the Moss Arts Center with additional performances from the Southern Colonels and the VTCC Pipe and Drum Band. Each performance was exceptional and it was clear to everyone in the audience that a lot of time and effort had been invested. Just before exams, the band hosted the annual HT banquet and officially transitioned my class of 2017 into HT Alumni. In addition, the freshmen received their HT certificates, officially recognizing them as full-fledged Highty-Tighties.

As cadets departed the residence halls for the summer, this marked the last time they would live in these buildings. Since the new Corps residence hall nears completion, both Thomas and Monteith halls are scheduled to be demolished very early in the summer. The classes of '17, '18, '19, and '20 are the last classes to have lived in these buildings. They hold many memories for us and we will surely be sad to see them go. But we also recognize that the new buildings will allow the Corps to grow and develop into something even better. I know the underclassmen are very excited to finally live in a place that has climate control!

Just like the Commandant promised, the brickwork on the old VT in front of Lane Hall was completed and following the Corps graduation ceremony, many seniors could be found walking up the "T" to sign lane hall, as tradition dictates. I was among them and I think I can speak for most of my buds when I say that there couldn't have been a more perfect cap for our senior year. We originally joined the Corps and held formation on that ground during a small portion of our freshman year. On the very last day of formation this year, we once again formed up in front of Lane Hall for the last time. It was a great feeling and I know we will all miss it.

The incoming band commander, Bren Huggins, has many challenges ahead of him for the fall semester, but he is very driven and excited to see what the band can accomplish. I can rest easy knowing this great band is



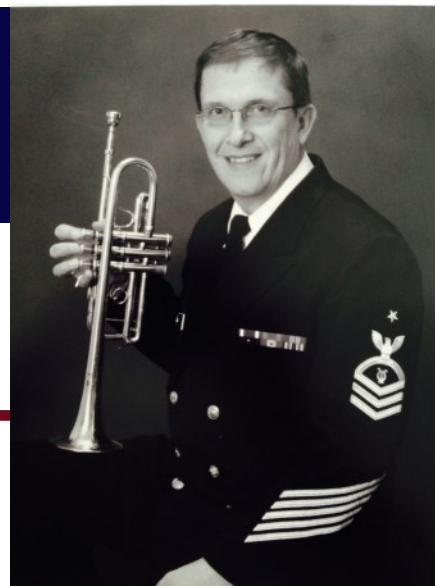
*The brick VT leading to Lane Hall  
Photo from General Fullhart's Facebook page*

in capable hands and I know they will continue to demonstrate what it truly means to be a Highty-Tighty for years to come.

# DIRECTOR'S DOWNBEAT

## Senior Chief James Bean

**The depth of character the Highty-Tighties has, and breeds, is one of a kind ...**



This has been another exciting year for me as the Highty-Tighties' director. In addition to the fantastic cadets I get to work with, I got to experience first-hand the positive and continual impact alumni have on this ensemble. When told of the desperate need for new instruments, you stepped up and contributed thousands of dollars' worth of equipment. I can confidently say that all of our instrument needs have been met and, barring any unforeseen circumstances, we should be good for several years. Thank you to all who have contributed not only the money for new instruments, but also many used instruments in excellent repair. If you still have an old instrument collecting dust, and it is in good shape, we could always find a use for it!

While the fall was extremely challenging with added events such as the Bristol football game, the band produced top-notch performances at every home game. Unlike the previous year where we lost three pregame shows due to bad weather, this year we did not miss one and the cadets, under the expert direction and guidance of drum major Kavi Muraleetharan, continuously excelled. Of particular note was the half-time show during the University of Miami game. With Riley Cooper's superior drill writing, the band looked and sounded spectacular. This performance can be found on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5amiD1QVIS0>) and demonstrates the dedication of the group.

Other highlights from the year included the concert band performance in April and of course, the spring trip to the Cherry Blossom Festival. This was the 10th performance of the Highty-Tighties at the Cherry Blossom Parade and I was extremely proud of their performance, execution, and military bearing. An interesting note; when waiting for our turn to pass by the cameras and reviewing stand, one of the Marshalls of the parade informed me that he had allotted extra time in front of the camera for us because he remembered the bands' expert performances from years past.

I was excited to be able to perform with the concert band in the Moss Center this year and I was extremely satisfied with the results. It is tremendously difficult to

change sound and style from outdoor playing to an indoor concert setting. While we attempted some very difficult music, the cadets rose to the occasion and performed aptly, while producing a warm, round sound. I can't wait to hear the final recording.

Speaking of which, our recording from May 2016, Highty-Tighties Live, is finally available for purchase (hint, hint), and features the concert band and the VTCC jazz band, the Southern Colonels.

2017-2018 should be another noteworthy year for the HT's. Freshmen orientation begins the second week of July and given the number of hard charging HT's on the orientation staff, I'm confident that we will recruit many new players. The Fall Band CO, Cadet Bren Huggins, is an outstanding choice and has already spoken to me about his ideas for leading the band. Our new drum major, Cadet Kendall Romaine, has been working on the band camp schedule as well as shows for the Fall. I'm confident that both these young leaders will turn in remarkable performances. We are planning on marching in the Virginia Governor's Inauguration in January, and our spring trip to New York City for the St. Patrick's Day parade is currently being finalized.

Finally, I want to thank everyone again for all their contributions, either through encouraging words, suggestions, and monetary support. The depth of character the Highty-Tighties has, and breeds, is one of a kind, and I will continually point out how proud I am to be associated with this organization.





# An Open Letter

## Outgoing Drum Major Cadet Captain Kavi Muraleetharan

romanticize my time with the band, especially as I wish Godspeed to several of my buds and bandsmen moving on to exciting and greater obligations. But why was it so hard to say goodbye when there were times I counted down the minutes until practice was done, until it was the last football game, until I could be done with band?

What was hard wasn't the goodbyes to Lane Stadium, the HT practice field, Cassell Coliseum, or Squires 243; it was the goodbyes to the people.

I was blessed in my position in the band last year, where I was able to view the unit as a whole during all moments we were together from practices, parades, pep bands, and other performances. While the morale of the band may be questioned in garrison, once we stepped off together, the pride and love in the band overcame all naysayers. The comradery created from collective experiences formed our identity – late practices, seeing our team plow through the line, long and rainy parades, shared losses. I saw laughter amongst unlikely friends, classic band goofiness, and eyes light up in young saxophone players as they experienced “the boat” during Hokie Walk. I witnessed upfront and personal the everlasting life and joy in the band, and this is what I will miss.

As I say goodbye to the organization that has been like a family to me for the last four years, it is hard not to

What makes up the heart of the band, and why do people continue to stay? For some, it's a no-brainer way to continue to play music. However, for most, it's for the people. Fellow bandsmen are the reason cadets attend optional pep events, volunteer to move equipment, and travel hundreds of miles to Myrtle Beach or Washington D.C. Obligations to one another are the driving force for the band, and by doing so, the mission is accomplished.

To current Highty-Tighties – savor every moment of your time in the band. It will be the best of times, and the worst of times, but it'll be a time you never get back. I

truly did not realize this until it was time to say goodbye. I have learned what a true goodbye felt like early in my college career, and it shouldn't take life-changing moments to realize the importance of enjoying what's in front of you. This is not to say you won't go on to bigger and better things (you better hope you do). However, as you begin a new season, don't let meaningless drama, frustrations in your leadership,

or crappy Blacksburg weather take away from your time with your bandsmen. There will be complainers in any organization, like the band, and you must separate yourself from them at the risk of becoming one. Remember why you joined, and more importantly, why you continued to stay. Find your sense of duty in the organization that brought you up, and give back through dedication, loyalty, and by having fun!

To the Highty-Tighty Alumni – we must do everything we can to support the people in the band first and



*Senior Class of 2017 Poses at the Cherry Blossom Festival Parade in Washington DC in April.  
Photo by Mike Diersing*

# Alumni News



## J.B. Jones, Distinguished Member of the Class of 45 and William H. Ruffner Medal Recipient, Dies at 93

*Following is a portion of the obituary that was posted on the Highty-Tighty Facebook page.*

**J**ames Beverly (J.B.) Jones, 93, died Wednesday, May 17, 2017 will be remembered as a “J.B.-of-all-trades” a family man, mechanical engineer, avid tennis player, musician, teacher, and mentor. J.B. embodied scientific rigor and professionalism, but was also a great storyteller and practical joker.

J.B. was born in Kansas City, Missouri, to Alonzo Lewis Jones and Bertha Crockett Jones. He earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from VPI in 1944 (Class of '45) where he was a respected member of the Cadet Corps. While there, J.B. met Jane Hardcastle, an aeronautical engineering student who would become his wife of 64 years. Jane passed away in 2009.

After graduating, J.B. worked for the U.S. War Department until the end of World War II. He then served on the faculty at Purdue University, where he received his PhD in 1951. During his time at

Purdue, J.B. also worked for the General Electric Company, the Babcock and Wilcox Company, and General Motors Corporation. He was a National Science Faculty Fellow at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.



In 1964, T. Marshall Hahn, then-president of VPI, persuaded J.B. to move back to Blacksburg where he served as Department Head of Mechanical Engineering for 19 years. Students knew him as a tough but fair professor with a profound dedication to their success. J.B.'s students would go on to do things as varied as walking on the moon and becoming university presidents.



*Class of 2017 seniors lead the band to Change of Command ceremonies.*

*Photo by Mike Diersing*

### *Open Letter continued...*

foremost, and the mission of the Highty-Tighties will follow. Taking advantage of the vision of the new members, and the wisdom of the old, will help us creatively tackle the problems of a new generation for the band. A generation where the pressure, stresses, and competitiveness from ROTC and academics have increased, as well as the obligations of the band. Participation in programs like the instrument initiative, mentor network, and homecoming events are instrumental in supporting our people. We must find more avenues such as these to support the current Highty-Tighties, and in return, the band will take the field as thunderous as ever.

Kavi Muraleetharan, HT '17





# Development Update



## Support The Highty-Tighties

The 2016-17 academic year for the Highty-Tighties has come to a close. They are improving everywhere - in the classroom, on the football field and the parade routes up and down the east coast. This year was another great year for the band, as they were able to perform on the football field, on the parade routes, in the concert hall, in Cassell Coliseum, and at formal events throughout the campus and beyond. The average GPA has continued to improve across the board which is helping our retention rates in a big way. At the present time, Senior Chief Jim Bean is expecting another strong incoming class for the 2017-18 year of band cadets. With that said, the Schaeffer Endowment Fund needs additional funds in order to maintain the \$1,000 freshmen stipend that each incoming band freshmen receives. The band is continuing to grow, and we would like to maintain the support we have been providing for the new members of the organization we hold so close to our hearts.

The HTA also has 17 Emerging Leader Scholarships (ELS) available in which you may contribute should you choose to do so. Also thanks to a lot of hard work by Bert Kinzey, Chuck Rowell, and many others, a Highty-Tighty Annual Giving Fund (Fund # 877055) has been established. Please contact Mr. Scott Lyman at [rlyman@vt.edu](mailto:rlyman@vt.edu) or (540) 231-2085 if you are interested in contributing or pledging a commitment to any of our available scholarships.

The Highty-Tighty Reunion is scheduled for the weekend of October 21st, 2017. This is also university homecoming for the football game versus the University of North Carolina Tar Heels. The pre-game show rehearsal will take place as usual the evening before (time and location is TBD). On the day of the game, we will have the parade (9:00am) and march the pre-game show with the active band. Please plan to join us, so we can show the band that being a Highty-Tighty isn't just for the four years you are enrolled as a student at Virginia Tech. Let's go out and show them that we support them and their efforts, and be proud that we are wearing that maroon letter sweater that each one of us earned and cherish. There will be a meal at Dietrick Dining Hall that COL Patience Larkin was so great in coordinating again for us, which enabled us to keep our costs down as well as find a location where we can all sit down, and enjoy a meal with our fellow alumni, and inter-mingle with the cadets.

We are working to update our Highty-Tighty Alumni contact list, as well as the class leader list. It would be greatly appreciated if you could take a moment, and send me your updated contact information via email (i.e. contact phone number, home address, e-mail address), we would greatly appreciate it. If you are a class leader, or would like to be your class's leader or alternate leader, please also indicate that. My email address is [vpi-hokie2001@gmail.com](mailto:vpi-hokie2001@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing each and every one of you in October as we continue to demonstrate our continuing devotion to the Highty-Tighties.

Deeds Not Words  
Scott D. Beman, HT '01  
Vice President for Development



# Be A Mentor!



## A Message from our VP of Alumni Operations Dirk McComsey, HT '92

For the 2016-2017 school year, the Highty-Tighty Alumni Mentor Program had its best mentor-to-freshman ratio. We had 31 mentors last year! However, a lot of the same alumni participate in the mentor program year-after-year. While these alumni are doing what they can to help the band, it can become burdensome to those who have mentees who actively communicate and keep in touch throughout the years. Some of them need a break!

We need younger mentors to participate in the program. It's a great way to give back to the organization which means so much to all of us. Mentors can tell tales of "the good old days," while providing support and encouragement to the younger generation when they need a little bit of experience from someone who has been through it all.

To participate in the Mentor Program, you must be able to meet the following requirements:

- Have graduated at least five years ago (for this upcoming year, that means the class of 2012 may now participate)
- Be able to meet with your assigned freshman(men) at least once per semester. This can be on campus or off. There have been several instances where mentors have met with their mentees over a break. Also, the HT reunion counts as the first semester meeting

Attempts are made to pair alumni with freshmen in the following categories in the following order, unless requested otherwise:

- Gender
- Current hometown (this makes off-campus meetings easier for some)
- Instrument played
- Branch of Service (or cadet only/VPI Company)
- Major

If helping the band is of interest and you can dedicate the small amount of time and effort required to be a mentor, please contact Dirk McComsey, HT 92 ([dirk@mccomsey.com](mailto:dirk@mccomsey.com)) with your email address, the information listed above, and any other information you may think relevant.



### ***It's Really All About People***

*This is the class of 2017 at the Highty-Tighty Banquet in May. You have already missed a mentor relationship with them, but a brand new batch of people will be arriving in August all set to enrich your life and provide you an opportunity to be an important part of their Highty-Tighty experience.*

***Photo by Bert Kinzey***



# Cherry Blossom Parade

## Highly-Tighties Return to Washington DC



The Highly-Tighties returned to Washington DC for the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade in April. The band is no stranger to the capitol as we all know. These are just a few of the shots taken at yet another great day for the Virginia Tech Regimental Band — Highly-Tighties



*The Washington Monument provided a great backdrop for a great band!*



# Cherry Blossom Parade



*Class of 2017 — Serious when they  
need to be —  
crazy whenever possible*

*Photos by Mike Diersing*







# History Notes

## THE MID-TO LATE 1930s

by Bert Kinzey, HT '68



**President Franklin D. Roosevelt speaks at the dedication of the Salem Veterans Hospital on October 19, 1934. The Highty-Tighties, who provided the escort for the president, are seated in front of him. What is noteworthy about this photograph is that the Highty-Tighties are facing in the same direction as President Roosevelt, and this indicates their status as the official escort. Guests, including members of the VMI Corps are facing the president in the audience. (Salem Museum)**

**Author's Note:** This is the eighteenth 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 unbroken to 1893. The first seventeen articles appeared in Highty-Tighty Notes newsletters up through Volume 39, Number 1, the Winter of 2015 issue. That last article covered the early years of the 1930s when the Great Depression hit the nation, including the Highty-Tighties. The history articles in the newsletters since then were on special topics rather than being in this continuing series. With this issue, the history of Highty-Tighties is continued, picking up where the article in Volume 39, Number 1, left off. Beginning with this article, the historical information and most photographs being presented were taken from the Virginia Tech library's special collections.

At the beginning of the 1934-1935 school year, the Highty-Tighties numbered fifty-six cadets, and Georg Albert Johnson continued as director, a position he had filled since 1927. Jim Schaeffer was the assistant bandmaster, as he had been since 1917 after serving four years as director. While the fall quarter in 1934 was filled with the usual appearances at football games, a major event for the Band took place on October 19 when President Franklin D. Roosevelt came to Salem to dedicate the Veterans Hospital. The VMI Corps was invited to attend the ceremony, but it was the Highty-Tighties who were selected to provide the official escort for the president. During the ceremony, the VPI Cadet Band sat in front of the president and faced in the same direction he was facing, indicating their status as his official escort. Those who were guests faced in the



# History Notes



## Escorting FDR and Receiving the White Cord



*The Highty-Tighties lead the Corps on the Drillfield in 1934. Note that the white cord is not present on the shoulders of the Band Company cadets. It would not be presented until the following year. Davidson Hall is in the background to the right, and Sandy Hall is to the left. (Virginia Tech Special Collections)*

opposite direction, looking at the president and the Highty-Tighties. After the ceremony, and as President Roosevelt departed, he thanked the Band for their escort and said, "I am honored by the escort you have given me."

Escorting FDR for that event led to some folklore during the coming years. The story started to spread that President Roosevelt had presented the white citation cord to the band in appreciation for escorting him at the dedication of the Salem Veterans Hospital. This story was further "enhanced" by a claim that his wife, Eleanor, had pinned it on with the braid outside the arm, the way that the Highty-Tighties still wear the cord today. But this was all fiction. Research by the author, who personally contacted the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, produced no evidence of any such presentation by President Roosevelt. Contacts made in 2006 with two living members of the Highty-Tighty Class of 1935 also confirmed that FDR was not the person who presented the white cord to the Highty-Tighties.

Research has indicated that the white citation cord, which has been the prized symbol of the Highty-Tighties since 1935, was presented by VPI president, Julian Burruss. Burruss had been a cadet during the Spanish-American War in 1898. As a senior, Cadet Captain Julian Burruss served as the commander of Battery E, and he had been one of the cadets to sign the letter to the governor of Virginia asking that the VPI Corps of

Cadets be accepted as volunteers to serve in buildup for the war. The governor rejected the letter, stating that the cadets should continue with their education. When this happened, most members of the Cadet Band, along with their director, James Patton Harvey, resigned from the school, and along with several alumni and a few members of the Glade Cornet Band, went to Richmond to become the regimental band of the Second Virginia Volunteer Regiment.

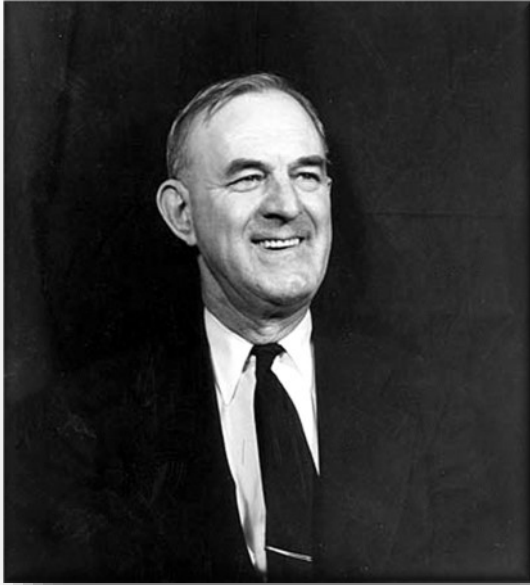
Julian Burruss was impressed by the spirit of patriotism exhibited by the band cadets as they went beyond the call of duty and left their studies for the war. Almost four decades later, after he became president of VPI, Burruss presented the Highty-Tighties with the white cord in recognition of their spirit and determination to serve during the Spanish-American War. So the white citation cord, the symbol of the Highty-Tighties, was presented to acknowledge and respect a time when the Band Company cadets had placed duty and sacrifice above their education and all else to serve the nation. To this day it is worn on the left shoulder of Band Company cadets of whom more is expected, and service, duty, and sacrifice continues to be asked. This is the essence of being a Highty-Tighty which the white cord symbolizes.

The school years of 1935-1936 and 1936-1937 were fairly routine with football games in the fall and concerts in the spring. As the 1937-1938 school year began, Jim Schaeffer **continued...**



# History Notes

## Escorting FDR



***In 1937, James Solomon Schaeffer became the director of the Highty-Tighties for a second time. He had been director from 1916 to 1921, and from 1921 until 1937, he was the assistant bandmaster. He would remain as director of the Regimental Band until his death in November 1951. His combined service as director and assistant bandmaster is the longest of anyone in these positions. (Virginia Tech Special Collections)***

replaced Georg Albert Johnson as director. Schaeffer had been an instructor/member of the Cadet Band from 1908 through 1912. After returning from military duty with the Seventh Coastal Artillery Band in 1916, he became the band's director, and he served in this position until 1921. From 1921 until 1937, Jim Schaeffer had served as assistant bandmaster under directors William Luther Skaggs and Georg Albert Johnson, and he was both loved and respected by the cadets. As he became director for the second time, he worked on increasing the size of the band, and as the 1938-1939 school year began, the cadet band exceeded 100 members for the first time in its history. This was a large increase over the 56 members in the school year 1934-1935, just four years earlier.

In 1939, the band had grown to 115 cadets, and the Highty-Tighties were heard nationally as they played a concert on an NBC radio broadcast coast-to-coast. Spring concerts were given on campus each Sunday in May. The following school year, the band grew again to 120 members, and in the Bugle for the 1939-1940 school year, the section on Band Company proudly proclaimed, "Once a Highty-Tighty, always a Highty-Tighty." This tradition remains true to today.

The 1940-1941 school year began with the usual football games. On Thanksgiving Day, VPI and VMI met in Roanoke for the traditional Military Classic of the South. That game was attended by General George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. General Marshall was so impressed by the size and precision of the Highty-Tighties that he came over to where they were and gave them a personal commendation. But war clouds were building in Europe and in the Pacific, and events a little more than a year later would change things dramatically, both for General Marshall and the Highty-Tighties.





# History Notes



## Receiving the White Cord



*Taken in 1940, this photo shows the Highty-Tighties on the Drillfield. In spite of the Great Depression that was still gripping the nation, the band grew considerably during the late 1930s, particularly after Jim Schaeffer began his second tenure as director. Note that the white cord is present in this photograph, and it had been worn for five years by this time. When Army Chief of Staff, General George C. Marshall, saw these Highty-Tighties perform at the Thanksgiving Day game against VMI in Roanoke in November 1940, he was so impressed that he went over to the band to give them his personal commendation. (Virginia Tech Special Collections)*

## NOW IS THE TIME TO GET REGISTERED!

### Highty-Tighty Reunion 2017

Just in case you didn't check your calendar this morning — it's JULY y'all and the reunion is really only WEEKS away. We will be doing our thing this year the weekend of Oct 20-21. The football game will be versus the University of North Carolina Tar Heels. Most of the activities will follow our usual routine with band practice on Friday evening, the parade Saturday morning followed by a great meal and the annual meeting at Dietrick Dining Hall. The new location for the meeting and meal worked out really well last year. It was more comfortable, the selection of food was better and the price was right.

So don't miss out — You can register right now! Do it! Go to [www.hightytightyalumni.org](http://www.hightytightyalumni.org) where you will see links to the registration page or just go directly to the registration page at <http://www.alumni.vt.edu/events/2017/10/highty-tighty-reunion-2017.html> Let me know if you have problems or questions — George McMichael [gmname@aol.com](mailto:gmname@aol.com). Hope to see you there!

**Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc**  
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280 Alumni Mall  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

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## REQUESTS TO ALUMNI

### *Very Important!*

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

1. Be sure that your address and other contact information are up to date with Virginia Tech. You can update your information by sending an email to [alumnidata@vt.edu](mailto:alumnidata@vt.edu). Use this address if you have a change to your email or mailing address. **Please do not provide your contact information or changes of address to the newsletter editor.**
2. Everyone needs to go to the Highty-Tighty Alumni website and check their contact information in the database. Go to [www.hightytightyalumni.org](http://www.hightytightyalumni.org) and click on Database. The site provides a way for you to provide and request and update of your address, phone number, and email address.
3. If you know of any Highty-Tighty alumni who are not receiving the *Highty-Tighty Notes* newsletter or the *Highty-Tighty Half-Notes* email updates, please pass this information on to them.

## HIGHTY-TIGHTY HALF-NOTES

### *Subscribe Today*

The *Highty-Tighty Half-Notes* are periodic emails sent to Highty-Tighty alumni and friends of the Regimental Band. They are intended to supplement the news included in the *Highty-Tighty Notes* newsletter, which only comes out twice a year. These email updates include both photographs and information about the present Band and alumni. Early information about the reunion and other items of interest to alumni are often subjects of *Half-Notes*. If you would like to receive these occasional emails with photographs and updates about the Band's activities, as well as information about alumni, please send your email address and your request to receive the *Half-Notes* to: [bertkinzey@gmail.com](mailto:bertkinzey@gmail.com)

You may have your name removed at any time.

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

George McMichael, Editor

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Roanoke, Va. 24015

[gmmname@aol.com](mailto:gmmname@aol.com)



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

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