

HIGHTY-TIGHTY

NOTES



In This Issue

- Our Most Important Priority Pg.12
- Finding Future Highty-Tighties Pg. 6
- Highty-Tighties Win Parade Pg.11
- Homecoming 2019 Pg.15



The official newsletter of the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc.
Volume 43 Number 2 Summer 2019

HIGHTY-TIGHTY ALUMNI, INC.

Board of Directors - Elected Members



Chuck Rowell, Jr.
HT '71
President



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



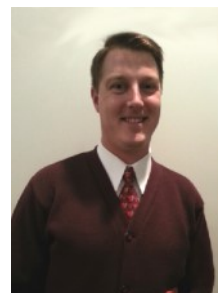
George E. McMichael, Jr.
HT '70
Past President
Webmaster
Newsletter Editor



David P. Williams
LTC, VaARNG
HT '79
First VP
VP for Recruiting Retention & Mktg



Dirk I. McComsey
HT '92
Vice President
Alumni Operations



Scott Beman
HT '01
Vice President
Development



Maria Jaeger
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
HT '87
Secretary



Lori Keck-Beach
HT '92
HTAB Drum Major &
Performance Officer



Mike Francisco
HT '74
Old Guard Liaison



Gene Harrison
HT '68
Director



William L. (Larry) Root
HT '72
Director



Thomas J. Verbeck
BG, USAF (Ret)
HT '73
Director



Ed Wilkinson
HT '77
Director



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



Michele Caldwell-Wrenn
HT '89
Director



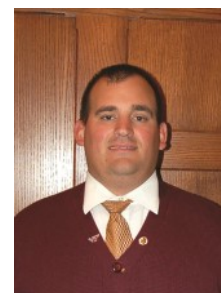
Barry W. Baird
HT '92
Director



Scott Judd
HT '92
Director



Gregory R. Milas
HT '98
Director



Robert W. Mauck
HT '03
Director



Jennifer Boehm
HT '06
Director



Jennifer Harrison Lewey
HT '07
Director



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

New Buildings will help the Highty-Tighties and the VTCC continue to grow

Dear Highty-Tighty Alumni and friends,

There are exciting things going on at Virginia Tech and especially on the Upper Quad. We have recently learned that Dr. Sands and General Fullhart have been given the green light to build a third Corps of Cadets residence hall. Also the construction of the long awaited Corps Leadership and Military Science (CLMS) building behind Lane Hall will begin next year. (See artist rendition below)

These two new additional buildings will help greatly in growing the Highty-Tighties in the coming 2-5 years. The Corps will grow to over 1,200 this fall and to 1,400 in the next 3-4 years.

Also very good news is that we expect every freshman entering the Corps of Cadets this fall to receive an Emerging Leaders Scholarship (ELS).

I attended the May 4 Change of Command ceremony on the drillfield and our Highty-Tighty band looked and sounded as good as I have seen them in decades.

The next day, I attended the Virginia Tech Festival of Bands at the Moss Performing Arts Center. The Highty-Tighties Concert Band and then the Southern Colonels led off the performances. They were followed by a performance of the Blacksburg Community Band (we have some HT alumni in this group). Then three of the VT Music Department's musical groups performed. The quality of these performances was outstanding. I encourage each of you to attend next year's Saturday Change of Command and the next day's Festival of Bands. You would not be disappointed.

At the Highty-Tighties annual banquet, we presented every one of the 25 outgoing Seniors a Highty-Tighty alumni lapel pin. We then presented a Highty-Tighty certificate to all 48 freshmen completing their first year as a member of the Band.

During our January Highty-Tighty Alumni Board meeting we decided to begin subsidizing each rising Junior in the Highty-Tighties in good standing 2/3 the cost of their Highty-Tighty letter sweater. This is something that we had been contemplating for a few seasons. So, we have just recently told the Class of 2019, Class of 2020 and the rising Junior Class of 2021 to proceed to the tailor shop to complete the purchase of their HT sweater. The bandsmen we have talked to are very appreciative. Thanks to all of our Highty-Tighty alumni for their support of this new initiative.

Lastly, please join us in October for this year's Highty-Tighty Reunion.

Best wishes,

Chuck Rowell HT '71
President, HTA



Image at left is a rendering of the completed upper quad construction with the new Corps Leadership and Military Science (CLMS) building highlighted. Above image shows CLMS Building in more detail.



DIRECTOR'S DOWNBEAT

Looking forward to Fall 2019

As another school year comes to a close, summer is the time to reflect on the past season and to look to the fall semester. As a band director, this is more than just replacing drum heads, fixing instruments, ordering music, and organizing supply rooms. It is about deciding what went well, what didn't work, and what might be good to change. As after every performance, I ask myself what did we accomplish and where did we fall short.

One of the biggest challenges we faced this past football season was attendance at marching practices. Rarely did we have everyone there until our Friday night "eternal" practice. Obviously, this effected our final output for performance and was frustrating on many levels. Granted, there are some classes and labs that cannot be helped but after talking to some advisors, I realized cadets were not always signing up for classes that did not conflict with practice times. Additionally, the class times for HT practice were not listed properly in the online registration forms. While the registration forms have been rectified, it remains to be seen if my class-conflict form that I am requiring for any rehearsal/class clash will fix attendance.

Another aspect of performance we will be working on this fall is marching precision. Rather than focusing on complex shows and drill, we will be concentrating on what

Highty-Tighties are known for, military-style marching, i.e. alignment and exactness. Furthermore, I will aid the drill writer in having our show match better with what is going on in the music, something I feel was not always happening in the past.

This year we brought technology to our performance and it had a huge, positive outcome. Gone are the old flip folders that attach to instruments. Instead, we have implemented the use of E-folders. Although somewhat pricey, E-folders hold cell phones of all sizes which can hold our entire library of pep music for quick and easy use. Students tend to forget music folders but never does anyone forget their cell phone! This has really helped our musical output, particularly in the stands and at basketball games.

Our yearly trip in the spring is something I always enjoy. The trip this past semester to Savannah resulted in our winning the top prize and was an exceptional experience for all. Unfortunately, due to the high cost of buses and hotels, we could only afford to take a portion of the band. I have spoken to the music department, which provides money for these trips, to look into increasing our allotment. Since this is still in question, I am currently researching 2 parades that can possibly fit into our budget, one in Pittsburgh and one in Philadelphia. Either parade would be relatively unique for us while being in high recruitment areas for the Corps.

This fall, we are expecting 80 returning upperclassmen who will be led by incoming band commander, Mariah Zwirb. Cadet Zwirb has always been an active member of

SENIOR CHIEF JAMES BEAN

New Leadership Takes Charge

the HT's and will be a strong and positive leader for our band. Additionally, our new drum major, Wyatt McCrainie is an exceptional musician who plays in our jazz ensemble and has been a pep band conductor. His can-do spirit and extraordinary attitude will most definitely benefit our organization. Finally, our recruiting staff for summer orientation has 4 HT's and this along with the amount of interested freshmen, should yield another good crop of new Highty-Tighties. As always, I look forward to the new year and I'm excited to see what our team of musician leaders will achieve!



James M. Bean, Senior Chief, USN (ret.)



Class of 2020 leaders for Fall 2019: Band Executive Officer Cadet Captain Thomas Lowerre, Band Commander Cadet Major Mariah Zwirb, and Drum Major Cadet Captain Wyatt McCrainie



Recruiting Retention & Marketing

Finding Future Highty-Tighties

Correction

In the last Highty-Tighty Notes I mentioned a newspaper article about the Band following the Kennedy Inaugural.

Unfortunately, I was having to work from memory – a dangerous thing for me! Well the article has surfaced again so here is a corrected source, headline, and pictures for all of us to enjoy.

David Williams, HT '79



If you have not read Bert Kinzey's article, "Our Most Important Priority", I suggest reading his thoughts before reading this article on recruiting. Bert has put his finger on a challenge that many of us have felt for years, but found it hard to express. How do we recruit Highty-Tighties that will embody the spirit of the Band that has been clearly evident in some

years yet lacking in others? Recruiting, at least from the college fair prospective, where time is short, is a simple proposition – talk to everybody and anybody who expresses an interest in music at Virginia Tech. Cadet recruiters experience much the same time crunch when they visit high schools during Tech's Thanksgiving break; again, talk fast and talk to as many prospects as you can. We see this again during summer orientation when talking to cadets who have musical experience but are headed to line companies in the Corps. Many of us have joked that the Director of the Highty-Tighties and the Highty-Tighties who work summer orientation with him run the best press gangs since those of the British Navy that touched off the War of 1812. My sense of this is we cast a wide net and at times have brought in freshman cadets who were reluctant Highty-Tighties. This is a fine line we are walking, because some of those "reluctant" Highty-Tighties have gone on to be absolutely stellar Highty-Tighties, have held leadership positions in the Band, and gone on to be active and continuing contributors to the Band through the Highty-Tighty Alumni.

So how do we find the Highty-Tighties of the future who embody that spirit, the essence of being a Highty-Tighty? I'll suggest a multi-pronged approach:

1. Let's make sure we are recruiting future Highty-Tighties from the most talented pool of musicians, and they are located in band rooms across the Commonwealth of Virginia and in band rooms across Tech's biggest out-of-state recruiting markets in Mary-

Recruiting Retention & Marketing



land, New Jersey, and North Carolina. Not to over generalize, but those top musicians are usually some of the best and brightest academically in their class. Being academically prepared for the rigors of the classroom at Virginia Tech can only make for a more successful Highty-Tighty.

2. If you are an alumnus, pick a high school or two and get to know the band directors. Talk about what the Band did for you and what it will do for their students who hope to go on to college at Virginia Tech. Then volunteer to be an alumni recruiter in the fall to assist Tech's Office of Undergraduate Admissions with college fairs.
3. If you are a current Highty-Tighty, I would wish for you a good case of the motivation (fear) we felt in the 1970s when the Band was threatened with extinction. You current Highty-Tighties are the best recruiters we have and you, at least in my opinion, have a duty to find the future Highty-Tighties that will eventually replace you. Alumni recruiters are "in the fight" with you, but we have gray hair and come from a different era – you are much more effective.
4. At summer orientation we/you need to listen with ears, eyes (for body language) and hearts. We've become accustomed to the idea that when incoming cadets with musical experience who have expressed no interest in the Band are asked to

join, that a response of no means maybe and maybe means yes. This is back to that very, very fine line. Somebody who stopped taking band after the 9th grade, but is on fire to be a Highty-Tighty is probably a good bet. However, the individual who can no longer read music and is being pushed into changing their mind to become a Highty-Tighty should set off at least a caution alarm. It might be great to have one more cymbal player, but what happens if we/you can't grow a Highty-Tighty attitude in that individual? What kind of morale, or worse yet discipline problems, may we be creating for ourselves? Not only is the visual and musical impact of Highty-Tighty performances important, our reputation as leading and being the very best cadets in the Corps of Cadets is equally important, and both are potentially put at risk.

5. The best recruits for the Highty-Tighties have had multiple contacts with cadet and alumni recruiters, as well as conversations with Senior Chief Bean over a span of one or more years. They know what they are getting into, they believe in the Highty-Tighties, and are prepared to commit themselves to what it takes to be a Highty-Tighty.

Let's go recruit that future Grand Band!

Ut Prosim,
David Williams, HT '79



Development Update



Support The Highty-Tighties

The band has had another successful year for 2018-19, and is poised to “step off” in August on the correct foot with a new large incoming freshmen class. The Schaeffer Endowment Fund continues to need funds in order to maintain the \$1,000 freshmen stipend that each incoming band freshman receives. The band is continuing to grow, and needs our financial support to be able to provide the benefits we as alumni have afforded to so many incoming freshmen over the years.

The Highty-Tighty Annual Giving Fund (Fund # 877055) is growing and doing well, however we would like to continue its growth and continue to better support the band and all of its endeavors. Please contact Ms. Sandi Bliss at srbliss@vt.edu if you are interested in contributing or pledging a commitment to any of our available scholarships, whether they are the operating fund, or one of the ELS scholarships.

This year’s Highty-Tighty 2019 Homecoming has been scheduled for October 18th and 19th. Gunnyfest will again be held at the Hilton Garden Inn (900 Plantation Road) on Friday (October 18th) evening of Homecoming weekend after band practice has concluded from 9pm to midnight. The past two years have been very well attended, and we hope that as many alumni as possible can join us for some comradery, and great conversation.

We look forward to seeing the band continue to demonstrate the musicality, precision, professionalism and excellence that we all know are key elements of the Highty-Tighties.

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

FROM THE COMMANDER

Cadet Major Mariah Zwirb

I am thrilled and grateful to be given the opportunity to lead the Highty-Tighties as the Band Company Commander for Fall 2019. I joined the Highty-Tighties as a former string player, and found my place in the Tenor Drum section. I am in the Citizen-Leader Track and interested in working in the defense industry upon graduation in support of all my fellow classmates and others who are serving or will serve in the military.

We had a successful semester in the spring, with the highlight being our trip to the Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade. The visit was a welcome return for the seniors who attended as freshmen and a new adventure for others. The Highty-Tighties led the parade and were awarded the Chairman's Award before the event even began! This fall the band will stay busy with seven home football games, including University of North Carolina on HT Reunion weekend in October, and culminating with a game against University of Pittsburgh the weekend before Thanksgiving.

I have two main goals for the upcoming semester. First, my goal is that the Highty-Tighties feel and act like a cohesive unit. I want to encourage an atmosphere among the band of pride in the organization, desire to succeed, and camaraderie with others. Every member of the band contributes to the overall performance, and it is important that everyone shares this sense of community and collaboration. Secondly, I want to foster an environment of discipline and achievement among the band. Increased discipline will give rise to improvements in academic grades

as students, leadership initiative as cadets, and musical and marching ability as bandsmen, thereby supporting growth in all areas of focus.

With these goals in mind I believe we will go far as a band in the coming fall.

Being a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Highty-Tighties has given me an opportunity to learn and grow as a leader, and I know this will continue as I step into a command role. I am excited to work with my XO, Cadet Thomas Lowerre, Drum Major, Cadet Wyatt McCranie, and the rest of the excellent band leadership selected for the upcoming semester. I look forward to serving as Band Company Commander for Fall 2019.

Mariah C. Zwirb
Band Commander
HT '20





Be A Mentor!

New Highty-Tighty Mentor Initiative Dirk McComsey HT '92

Dear Highty-Tighty Alumni:

This year we are restructuring the Highty-Tighty Alumni Mentor Program to better facilitate communications, accessibility, and continuity.

The concept is to establish a group of local (to Virginia Tech) alumni who can mentor and support the freshmen as needed, particularly during their new cadet year. To get things started, we are working on coordinating two upcoming events in which we hope you can participate.

1.) New Cadet Move-in Day (Saturday, 17 August, 0730-1130). We would like to have a number of HT alumni greet incoming freshmen and their parents as they move in the dorm to answer questions about the Highty-Tighties and the VTCC. We plan to set up our own tables next to the VTCC alumni, interact with parents, and help with any concerns they may have as their students become new cadets. We will have two shifts: A (0730-0930) and B (0930-1130). Folks will be stationed in front of Pearson and New Cadet halls.

2.) Early Fall Social/Donuts with the HT new cadets. (Saturday, 31 August. Time TBD/ mid-morning at Duck Pond) At this event, freshmen will meet and interact with the mentor group and be able to ask questions. They will have finished New Cadet Week and their first week of classes, and this is a critical time where we want to help them stay motivated. Will send out further details on timing in a forthcoming email.



Alumni and current Highty-Tighties at homecoming band practice.

Photo by Band Staff

For those of you interested in participating, we will meet Tuesday, 13 Aug (1130) for a no-host lunch in Blacksburg at PK's on Main Street (across from Alumni Mall).

Please email me and Michele Messner (dirk@mccomsey.com, mmessner@vt.edu) if you are interested in supporting this initiative. In your reply, please include which of the three events above you will be able to attend (Lunch, Move-In Day (A or B shift) and/or Social), so we can plan accordingly. We would love everyone to make it to all three.

Thanks,
Dirk



Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade

Highty-Tighties Win Chairman's Award



HT



These are a few shots of the Highty-Tighties in Savannah Ga. doing what they do best — WIN!

Photos by Mike Diersing



President Emeritus

Our Most Important Priority

In 1975, Bill Goodloe, HT - 1923, Lem Pritchard, HT - 1924, and Red Slem, HT - 1924, called together a group of Highty-Tighty alumni to form the Highty-Tighty alumni organization. Meeting in Roanoke and choosing Charles Cornelison, HT '67, as their president, the organization was established as a non-profit corporation in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The three alumni who got together and called the meeting did so with the purpose of challenging the Virginia Tech Administration's new policy that stated that the Highty-Tighties would no longer be allowed to participate at any Virginia Tech athletic events, and that the new civilian band would represent the university off campus. The alumni knew that this would effectively bring about the end of the Highty-Tighties in a very short period of time.

As president, Charles Cornelison printed up stationery with the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Incorporated letterhead and sent a letter to the administration that challenged this policy, and a meeting was held as a result. Representatives of the administration, the civilian band, and the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. were present. As a result of the meeting, the administration discarded their policy and replaced it with a two-band policy. Under the new policy, the Highty-Tighties would continue to participate at athletic events and would continue to be the band that would represent the university off campus.

What is important here is why Bill Goodloe, Lem Pritchard, and Red Slem called the meeting and wanted to challenge the administration's policy. Each of these alumni were members of the Old Guard by 1975, having graduated more than 50 years earlier. But each of them recounted how important the Highty-Tighty experience had been in their lives for more than half a century, and how that experience had to be preserved on campus for generations to come. Being a Highty-Tighty means that more is expected of a cadet than from any other member of the Corps. More time and effort is re-

quired, and the attributes on the pylons of duty, sacrifice, loyalty, service, honor, and brotherhood, must be practiced to a higher standard. Not only more is expected, but performance is always held to a higher level in the eternal pursuit of perfection. This experience is what had resulted in the three first place trophies at Presidential Inaugural Parades, and more than 140 other first place trophies in other competitive parades throughout the 1950s and 1960s. More importantly, these values continue to serve each Highty-Tighty alum throughout their lives in whatever they do. Those three alumni also recognized the fact that the best organization to belong to is the one that demands the most from you, and that is what they wanted to preserve in 1975. As Charlie Cornelison often told me, when the Highty-Tighties no longer are an organization that exemplifies these high standards that are willingly and enthusiastically adhered to by its members, it will cease to be the Highty-Tighties we seek to preserve.

Beginning in 2008, a real effort was made to "realize the vision" of returning the Highty-Tighties to the size it was in the 1950s and early 1960s. This vision had originally been expressed by Charlie Cornelison in the 1980s, but it had never been achieved, because the Corps was no longer mandatory, and other factors had changed on campus and indeed across the nation. The military just did not have the emphasis it once did. The Corps and the Band had become reduced in size. But through a diligent effort by many people, including the HTA, we actually did achieve the goal of marching a 12 X 12 block and having 156 cadets in the Highty-Tighties six years ago.

But there was an unexpected downside to the growth of the Highty-Tighties. Each semester, I meet with the incoming Band Company commander and have lunch. Sometimes, other seniors are involved in the meeting. From the very first year that the Highty-Tighties returned to having more than 150 members, the senior leadership began telling me that recruiting efforts were bringing cadets into the band that were not willing to live up to the standards that were expected of Highty-Tighty ca-



Bert Kinzey HT '68

A Higher Standard of Excellence

dets. These leaders told me that this was hurting the spirit and morale of the band. They said that some cadets complained about practice, did not put forth their best effort, and disciplinary issues were increasing. These cadet leaders wanted to find a way to insure that recruiting efforts focused on bringing the very best cadets into the band, ones that would live up to and appreciate the higher standards of being a Highty-Tighty rather than just seeking to make the band as large as possible. This has been discussed each of the last few years up to and including the incoming leadership of the Highty-Tighties for this fall.

This past spring, I met with Colleen Pramenko, a Highty-Tighty who served as the regimental commander this past semester, and Jacob Davis, the Band Company CO, specifically to discuss this issue. They agreed that the priority needs to be on recruiting quality cadets into the band, not just numbers. They stated, as other cadets in leadership positions have over the past few years, that the cadets who do not want to meet the expectations of being a Highty-Tighty cause morale problems and diminish the efforts of those who do.

I have told General Fullhart, and General Allen before him, that it is great to see the Highty-Tighties increase in size, but I would much prefer a band of 85 dedicated cadets than one twice that size where half of them did not appreciate or live up to what makes the Highty-Tighty experience that which alumni from the 1920s and since have tried to preserve for decades. Maintaining that quality experience, rather than merely numbers, must be our highest priority.

The cadets and Director Jim Bean agree with this, and it was a subject discussed at some length during the HTA board meeting on May 4. Two things must happen. First, as new cadets are recruited into the Highty-Tighties, they need to be told and they must understand what will be expected of them. They need to understand that the Regimental Band is a special organization, that it is a privilege to be a member of such an organization with a very proud history and wonderful traditions, and that they will be held to a higher standard of

excellence in effort and performance. If they are not willing to meet those standards, then they should choose not to be in the band. Second, if cadets in the band show that they are unwilling to maintain the required standards of excellence, duty, and service, then there has to be a way to remove them from the band and send them to other companies in the Corps.

This may result in a decrease in the size of the Highty-Tighties, but I believe it will be only temporarily. Good people, the kind we want in the band, will always seek to be members of organizations that demand the best from them, that help them grow and mature, and which then have a lasting effect on their lives once they graduate. If we create that kind of organization, then quality cadets will want to join.

We need to “realize the vision” again, but this time the vision has to be the one that the three alumni from the 1920s talked about in 1975, and the reason the HTA was founded, to preserve the Highty-Tighty experience of the eternal pursuit of perfection, of requiring members to give their very best as they grow and mature during their college years. The only way to do this is to insure that each and every Highty-Tighty cadet shares in this vision and does his or her best to live up to the standards and preserve the experience that others have over many decades.

While we all want to see the Highty-Tighties on the field marching 144 or more cadets, the top priority of all concerned must be maintaining the quality and standards of the Highty-Tighty experience rather than focusing only on numbers. Steps must and will be taken to insure that this remains our priority now and in the future.



Bert Kinzey HT '68
President Emeritus



Editor's Note

About the Cover Collage

The cover collage this time features many symbols we are all familiar with. They are intended to reflect on the theme that is seen in Bert Kinzey's article about a new priority for the band. The concern is about bringing new cadets into the band who are unwilling to uphold the standards



we associate with the name Highty-Tighty. Then Dave Williams gets into deeper detail on the subject as he discusses recruiting in his article. I think both of these are trying to articulate something that can be a difficult subject to nail down: What IS this "Highty-Tighty experience" we talk about and why should we worry about preserving it? Since we are big on symbols and mottos and such things, let me bring in one from a higher level – E Pluribus Unum – Out of Many One. – the motto of the USA. This is a fairly simple concept. It's all about being united. But united in what? Is it just that we all wear the same uniform and follow the same rules or is there more? I think the **more** here is the idea that Highty-Tighty is a special thing. Not just rules, but an attitude. Nothing that is imposed on us from the university or the Com-

mandant or anywhere else. WE are responsible for what it means and making sure it is the same or better as the "Baton" is passed on to a new class year after year after year.

I think the difference between the cadets we WANT in the band and the ones we would prefer not wear the white cord has to do with HEART. I read a 1962 quote from President John F. Kennedy as we recognized the 50th anniversary of the moon landing -- *"We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard."* A Highty-Tighty should feel a sense of accomplishment if they "measure up" to the standards that are represented by the symbols shown on the cover of this newsletter. They should understand up front that Highty-Tighty is not an EASY thing to do, that Highty-Tighty is not something you just WEAR, but that Highty-Tighty is something you ARE. So when they shout 'Highty-Tighty' when brought to attention we want that to come more from the HEART than from the mouth.

So here is a thought; maybe we need something like the Tech honor code, "I will not lie cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do". How about a Highty-Tighty Code along the lines of, "I will understand and live up to Highty-Tighty standards and traditions and refuse to tolerate those under my command who don't."

There are a number of opportunities for you to help keep all of this new and fresh and real presented within the pages of this newsletter. See Dirk McComsey's article about the new mentor program on page 10, or see Scott Beman's article about giving on page 8, or maybe help with recruiting page 6-7, or come on out to homecoming and show your support on main street in Blacksburg with your Highty-Tighty sweater and your shiny new alumni band hat (page 15).

Highty-Tighty Alumni!

George McMichael HT '70

Homecoming 2019



Highty-Tighty Reunion - Oct 18-19

Homecoming (Reunion) 2019

Highty-Tighty Reunion 2019 Has Been Scheduled for October 18-19, 2019

So far, we only have confirmation of the dates for our Reunion festivities for 2019. We will be playing—destroying—pulverizing the University of North Carolina on that beautiful sunny Saturday in October (my momma taught me to think positive!). We anticipate that the schedule will be much the same as recent Homecoming weekends with practice Friday at 7:30, parade Saturday at 9:00 am and lunch, annual meeting and pulverizing — err — game at times (depending on when ESPN thinks they can sell the most Ford F150s whenever there is a time out on the field). So mark your calendars for October 18-19. Also note that registration is now up and ready to go. You can register for the reunion which is free, the lunch before the game which is just \$16 and a great spread of food in Dietrick Dining Hall. In addition, you can reserve and pay for your new Highty-Tighty Alumni hat which is \$10. Then of course there are game tickets at \$70 — come and get ‘em! Homecoming is always a treat and this year should be no exception. October 18-19 is usually a great time in Blacksburg weather-wise with fall colors busting out all over providing a great setting for all of the pageantry that is Homecoming. Get yourself registered at <https://aimsbbis.vt.edu/hightytighty2019> or go to the link at hightytightyalumni.org or just google it like everything else you need to know.

Don't forget the slick new hats we are wearing shown below. Go Hokies!!



Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc
141 Lane Hall, Virginia Tech
280 Alumni Mall
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

| |
|--|
| Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Blacksburg, VA 24060 Permit No. 28 |
|--|

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. 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 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

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

2333 Idavere Rd. SW

Roanoke, VA. 24015

gmmname@aol.com



For more information on the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc
visit our website at
www.hightytightyalumni.org

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