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Retirement Plans for General Boylan
I have loved every moment of my life at this great institution. There have been challenges aplenty over the many years, but addressing them and surmounting them has provided an unequalled joy.

The devotion of faculty, staff, alumni and, too, the people of Milledgeville and Baldwin County, to this institution has allowed a degree of progress that would have otherwise been impossible. The institution is in excellent condition in all aspects of its operation. Our academic programs are broad and encompassing and are taught by devoted and knowledgeable faculty. Our management systems are sound and the administration has an openness that eliminates turf consciousness. The financial operation is profit oriented and is buttressed by routine and periodic meetings of the senior leaders for the purpose of examining budget execution and policy direction.

We recently submitted our five-year evaluation to our accrediting body and were delighted with their return comment that we were in complete compliance. The response provided virtually no comments regarding improvement measures to be considered. All of us can be extremely proud of this latter accomplishment for it is a rarity among institutions in our region.

As I take leave of my position, I want to extend to everyone my profound appreciation for the support that has been provided to me personally and to this institution. We have made great strides over the past twenty some years, and this is an institution in which all of us can take considerable pride in every dimension of its existence.

Again…I must express my thought extracted from Saint Paul’s letter to Timothy: “I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course. I have kept the faith.” God bless….

Peter J. Boylan
Major General, USA (Ret.)
President
It wasn’t exactly love at first sight. In fact, the Boylan’s introduction to GMC got off to a rather inauspicious start. “We were living in Annapolis while Peter worked in New York. One day, I got a call from a gentleman who said he was from GMC and wanted to talk to Peter,” explains Kathy. “All I could think was, ‘Oh no, it must be a recall of my van!’”

With the acronym confusion resolved, the Boylan’s accepted GMC’s invitation for both to visit the campus and General Boylan to interview for the position of president. “We didn’t know exactly where Milledgeville was, but we knew it was near Macon. So we flew to Atlanta and waited two hours for a plane to Macon, where we rented a car,” Kathy recalls. “Only after the long drive...
from Macon did we realize we would have saved a lot of time and trouble by driving from Atlanta instead.”

They arrived in Milledgeville late that night, frazzled from their overly long trip. And their arrival at an old motel out on 441 didn’t brighten their outlook. “The dingy drapes didn’t match the worn bedspread, which clashed with the stained carpet,” she laughs. “I jokingly suggested to Peter that we get back in the car, drive north and nobody would ever know we were here!”

But they’d come this far and agreed to give GMC a fair shot. The next morning, a knock at their door changed everything. “It was Charles Ennis from GMC’s selection committee,” Kathy said. “His arrival that morning literally changed the course of our lives.” Not to mention the school’s.

While General Boylan interviewed in the school’s library, Kathy joined another committee member, Alling Jones, for a campus tour. “I remember it like it was yesterday. The grass was as high as an elephant’s eye and some of the buildings were in terrible shape. An ‘N’ on the sign for the Student Center was hanging upside down; Alling said it had always been that way,” she says. “The whole place looked like it needed love.”

After the interview, Kathy and General Boylan went to the Smith House restaurant to discuss the offer he’d just received. “We knew there were plenty of problems, but GMC and Milledgeville just felt right to both of us. We didn’t need more time to decide. We returned to the college and Peter accepted the offer.”

The Boylans had come to Milledgeville to stay.
A VISION OF SUCCESS

Fast-forward 21 years. Under General Boylan’s leadership, GMC has become a flourishing educational institution, home to a preparatory school for grades six through 12, and one of the nation’s top two-year colleges. More than 7,000 students attend GMC at one of six campuses across Georgia, benefitting from modernized academic facilities and state-of-the-art technology.

Today, GMC’s faculty and staff have the tools they need to provide a quality education with strong emphasis on character development, helping transform students’ lives by preparing them for their future. “Rather than focus on teaching our students what to think, we try to teach them how to think,” says faculty member, Major Cathy Williams. “Then, we encourage them to take these new skills and formulate new thoughts and new directions.”

From here, GMC students are ready to continue their higher education at a four-year school, enter the military, or join the workforce. “They say if you start at GMC, you can go anywhere,” says student Amelia Lawson. “And I truly believe that.”

But to fully recognize the value of present-day GMC—and General Boylan’s seismic impact on the school—it’s important to retrace the journey, beginning with a time when GMC stood less as an academic asset and more as a school of hard knocks.
“When I arrived in August 1992, GMC had no financial plan, no management structure, and education was provided without proper governance,” General Boylan recalls. “The physical facilities were crumbling and in disrepair. The staff hadn’t been paid and didn’t know if they’d have jobs in the fall. Moreover, we were competing for resources against the gargantuan and heavily subsidized state university system. Finally, although we are a public entity in the state of Georgia, we were—and still are—forced to operate as a private institution.”

Even as he surveyed the seemingly insurmountable challenges, General Boylan says he was inspired by the cadre of people who believed strongly in what the school stood for. “I’ve always known that when you have people who believe, you can accomplish a great deal,” he says. “Even then, GMC’s ‘army of believers’ was keeping the spirit of the school alive.”
“PRESIDENT BOYLAN UNDERSTOOD THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROBLEMS HE WAS FACING, BUT WASN’T INTIMIDATED BY THEM.”

— Colonel Fred Van Horn

Despite the good faith, those first years were “God-awful,” as General Boylan describes them. “It was one step back for every two steps forward. Two weeks after I took over, our accrediting association informed me our school was going to be put into penalty status because they didn’t feel we were financially viable,” he says. “I had just put down everything I owned on a house, and if you think bullets can motivate you, try personal bankruptcy!”

By developing a facilities plan, governance structure, and departmental budgets, General Boylan was able to create a long-term master plan for getting GMC back on its feet. By delegating responsibility and accountability for those plans, he marshaled his management team through a business boot camp of sorts, with a firm-but-fair leadership style they came to respect and admire.
Meanwhile, General Boylan travelled the state, inspiring others with his vision and garnering support from the Georgia General Assembly, corporations, community leaders, alumni and friends. “President Boylan understood the complexity of the problems he was facing, but wasn’t intimidated by them,” says Colonel Fred Van Horn, GMC Executive Vice President. “In my view, it took General Boylan, a man with extraordinary experience, energy, focus, and persistence, to solve the many problems embedded in each obstacle faced by the college.”

As for General Boylan himself, the vital purpose of the uphill battle made it worth the difficult climb. “Challenges are what keep me alive; they’re what spark me. Challenges are what make you grow,” he says. “I’m also guided by the philosophy that if you do what you think is right, you’ll be rewarded, at least in satisfaction, if in no other way.”
CATALYZING CHANGE

Rewarded, indeed. With operational priorities established, fiscal support on the rise, and a well-synchronized management team in place, GMC’s downward trajectory did an about face. “The campus was about to change,” says GMC alumnus and long-time supporter, George Echols, M.D. “Under the vision and leadership of Peter Boylan, things happened fast and furiously.”

First the Sibley-Cone Library was renovated, quickly followed by construction of the Zell Miller Hall academic complex. Then Parham Hall was built to house the business and financial aid functions of the college. In 2000, renovation and restoration of the Old Capitol Building was completed. Athletic fields were added, the Cordell Events Center was renovated, and Whitfield Hall was replaced by a second academic building, which included the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts. In 2003, the Ruark Athletic Complex was constructed to provide a badly needed rifle range and other athletic activity space. In 2006, the James E. Baugh Barracks replaced two ancient cadet residence halls, which made room for the now completed Usery Hall, an ultra-modern preparatory school. Along the way, other buildings (including the Health and Wellness Center now under construction) were renovated, constructed, and furnished across the entire GMC footprint as General Boylan’s plan took deliberate shape, fully transforming the school, supporting the needs of students, and exponentially expanding its “army of believers.”

“GENERAL BOYLAN NEVER LEFT IT TO SOMEBODY ELSE TO SEE THAT THINGS WERE DONE. "WE’VE BEEN SO INCREDIBLY FORTUNATE TO HAVE HIM. “
— Beegee Baugh
After more than 20 years at the helm, the memories are many, with fond reflections too numerous to recite. But here’s a selection from General Boylan’s personal highlights reel:

• One of my first and fondest memories involved a visit from then-governor, Zell Miller, who wanted to speak with our football team. At the time, many of our players were young men who’d been exploited by their educational systems, remaining athletically eligible at the cost of academics. In most cases, they were economically disadvantaged. I took the governor into the locker room and just three months after these athletes had arrived, every one of them stood up and introduced himself. It was a true demonstration of the civility and character quality we instill.

• Years later, another young man came to play football for us. He had dropped out of high school and was working a dead-end night shift job on a loading dock. His parents weren’t in the picture, but his aunt and uncle had insisted he get his GED and enroll in GMC. Despite his skill on the football field, our coach had the integrity to bench him twice for rules infractions. Now, this young man was six-foot-six and could do a standing back flip. And he didn’t take easily to discipline. So when he came to my office after being benched, my first thought was, “Don’t hurt me!” Then, I realized he was crying. I sat him down and said, “Young man, you need to figure out what’s important to you or you’ll be right back on that loading dock.” I’m happy to say he did just that, graduating from GMC, going on to UGA, then being drafted by the Green Bay Packers.

• One year after I arrived, we’d finally turned our finances around and the college was once again fiscally sound (though certainly not affluent!). A number of faculty members came to me then and thanked me profusely because it was the first time they knew the school would open in the fall. It was a testament to the profound loyalty of our faculty, who had stayed with us despite not knowing if they had a job year-to-year.

• “Another Zell Miller visit came shortly after we’d been denied a $70,000 private foundation grant. That day, I met Governor Miller on the steps of the library and showed him the letter, along with the list of colleges that did receive grants. I pointed out that those schools were among the richest in the world. And furthermore, not a single school in Georgia got a cent. That conversation with Zell was worth $750,000 in state support.”

• “Just last month, I was at the bank, where I noticed the teller had a picture of her eighth grade son at GMC. I mentioned it and, when she made the connection, she simply said, ‘Oh, are you still there?’ It made me chuckle the rest of the day.”

SAVORING THE MEMORIES

One of them is long-time supporter, Beegee Baugh. “General Boylan never left it to somebody else to see that things were done,” she says. “We’ve been so incredibly fortunate to have him.”

Faculty members agree. “Our school has undergone enormous transformation over the last two decades,” Preparatory School faculty member Cathy Williams said. “Through his leadership and persistence, General Boylan has taken GMC to a highly competitive level not achieved before his time.”

Wife Kathy has an insightful perspective on her husband’s ability to catalyze change. “Peter makes everyone he meets want to be better. He expects great things from people, but doesn’t demand it,” she says. “His ability to bring out the best is a real gift.”
LOOKING FORWARD

In 2012, General Boylan announced his retirement from GMC, effective June 30, 2013. But after he leaves, don’t look for General Boylan to rest on his accomplishments. “I don’t plan to be home to take the trash out,” he laughs. Instead, he says he’ll do what he’s always done: offer service and support to others. “I’m ready to go and do,” he says.

Kathy has no doubt he means it. “Every morning for many years he’s been up early, putting on his white shirt with French cuffs, and out the door,” she says. “I wouldn’t be at all surprised if he keeps doing just that.”

His litany of plans calls for continuing as an active member of the Oconee River Greenway Authority, serving on the community Adult Literacy Board, continuing his support for the Old Capital Museum and Milledgeville Chamber of Commerce, and participating in the task force formed to develop the Central State Hospital property. On the home front, there are the couple’s five grown children and 14 grandchildren, ages 1 to 18, who look forward to enjoying more of their father/grandfather’s company. And, as an avid woodworker, fisherman, and hunter, General Boylan anticipates finally having time to fully explore his leisure pursuits.

As General Boylan enters this next chapter of his life, what will he miss the most from his GMC days? “Being around young people,” he promptly replies. “I’ve been around young people all my life, as an infantryman, a professor and Commandant of Cadets at West Point, a battalion commander, and now as a college president. I go to the gym every day, where people see the old guy working out, so they stop to chat. I’ll keep up the workouts, but I’ll certainly miss my regular interaction with young people.”

Of course, General Boylan will also continue to serve GMC in an advisory capacity. “We’ve been able to meet many challenges, but it’s an ongoing process,” he says.

As for additional future improvements, General Boylan defers to GMC’s incoming president, Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell, IV. “It’s time for his new creative energy and insights,” he says. “You can’t take total guidance from the past; you need to look forward. In the military, when the flag goes over to the new commander, the outgoing commander steps aside. I’ll still be available, but it’s time for me to step aside.”

General Boylan, for your remarkable legacy—and the enduring promise of excellence—we salute you.
Ask Peter Boylan to describe his wife Kathy, and his reply is swift and decisive. "She’s 50% of everything I’ve ever accomplished," he says. And that’s saying a lot.

The couple met when he was a senior at West Point and she had just arrived to attend nearby Ladycliff College, while helping care for her brother and sister-in-law’s four children. "Friends from school wanted me to go to West Point’s homecoming, but I didn’t know anyone. My brother was an instructor at the Academy and had met Peter, so asked if he’d escort me," she says. "Peter already had a date, but offered to set me up with a fellow company member."

At the dance that October, the group shared a table, where Peter and Kathy realized they had more in common with each other than with their respective dates. From there, the courtship happened fast: they were pinned in November, engaged by December and married the following July. Today, 52 years, five children and 14 grandchildren later, the couple’s romance and commitment are going strong. "From the time we met, I knew we were meant to be," Kathy says. "Her husband might be a major general, but Kathy possesses a dynamic force all her own. "She kicks me in the butt when I need it and pats me on the back when I earn it," he says. "Through the years, she has given me her insights and her guidance, but most of all her love."

### AN UNSUNG HEROINE

While Peter furthered his education and career, Kathy built a strong and abiding foundation for their family. Rising through the ranks, his initial military service took the couple to Fort Benning. Subsequently, Kathy delivered their first child, Peter III, while her husband was in Germany. She then joined him in Germany, where the couple stayed for three years and welcomed daughter Terri.

When Peter was deployed to Vietnam, Kathy opted to move in with her sister in Michigan to await his return. The weeks turned into a year, as Peter was badly wounded and sent to a hospital in Japan for recovery. As soon as he was fit, Peter returned to Vietnam to continue his service.

Reunited with Kathy after his deployment, Peter went on to earn two master’s degrees in mechanical engineering at the University of Michigan and was appointed an assistant professor at West Point. Meanwhile, the couple had added two children to their growing brood—daughter Heather and son Greg. "Shortly after I learned I was expecting our fifth child, Peter was sent back to Vietnam for another tour," Kathy says. "Our daughter Emily was three months old when Peter saw her for the first time."

His career would later take the family to Kansas, North Carolina, back to West Point, on to Annapolis and finally to the place they’ve called home the longest: Milledgeville. Through it all—the long absences, the worry, the solo parenting—Kathy managed to keep her outlook positive and her family grounded.

It wasn’t always easy. "There were certainly difficult times. And looking back to August 1992, when GMC was in the red…the buildings were nearly falling down…Peter was working 16-hour days to turn the school around…that wasn’t an easy time for us or for the school," she says. "But we all persevered and now, when I look at the beautiful library or the stately Old Capitol Building, I wonder how in the world it all became a reality."

Kathy attributes her husband’s accomplishments to his attitude toward challenges, a quality she appreciated in him from the start. "He always finds a mountain to climb. He has a vision for how things can be and he makes it happen."

### A FOCUS ON FAMILY

The admiration is mutual. "Kathy is extremely family-oriented. She is a very smart, accomplished woman, and nothing comes before family," says Peter. "That family orientation has rubbed off on me and I’ve tried to impart the importance of work-life balance to my subordinates. Institutions that support families as a whole—and there aren’t enough of them—cultivate more devoted, loyal employees.”

Evidence of Kathy’s family devotion certainly lies in the achievements and character of her children. Pete, Terri and Greg graduated from West Point, while Heather and Emily hold degrees from the University of Michigan. Emily and her husband, Mark, both teach at GMC, and their son recently received an appointment to West Point, as well.

Kathy is also a fundraiser and volunteer. Along with her quilting group of 15 years, she has been involved in many fundraising efforts for the community at large. Including quilting, her favorite hobbies are tennis, bridge and entertaining. "I just love to be with people," she says. "And I have a wonderful group of friends here. The people of Milledgeville are incredibly kind, smart, warm and giving."

Of course, Kathy is also a staunch GMC supporter, helping her husband and GMC’s “army of believers” achieve what was once considered impossible. "The GMC of today reminds me of West Point. It’s a special place. And Peter, together with his faculty and supporters, have made it that way," she says. "We’re all grown so close, we’re just one. It’s been a wonderful ride."
THE ELEVATION OF CHARACTER

Even as a young boy, Peter Boylan understood the principles of right and wrong. His parents made sure of it. And the lessons of his formative years continue to touch the lives of young people today as part of GMC’s character-based curriculum.

Of course, character development isn’t new to GMC; it’s been a central tenet since the school’s founding in 1879. So when General Boylan arrived in 1992, he first attended to the most urgent needs of the school, stabilizing campuses from Milledgeville to Atlanta, and Valdosta to Augusta. “But early on, he recognized that the matter of character development also needed a fresh coat of paint,” says Colonel Fred Van Horn, GMC Executive Vice President. “He came to us with a unique background, one where words find their way not only into vocabulary, but into life. And putting that philosophy into action became his objective for GMC.”

BUILDING CHARACTER TO A HIGHER LEVEL

On April 13, 2013, GMC hosted the inaugural National Junior College Ethics Bowl, marking a high point in the school’s focus on character. The event included eight teams from across the U.S., competing for the national title. The 2013 National Junior College Ethics Bowl Championship was awarded to Harper College from Palatine, Ill., with second place awarded to New Mexico Military Institute, and third place to GMC-Augusta.

“So much of the effort General Boylan has poured into creating opportunities for character education has come out in the form of the National Junior College Ethics Bowl,” said COL Van Horn “Serving as host for the very first junior college competition is truly a crowning achievement for GMC.”

“The Association of Practical and Professional Ethics agreed to allow the creation of a junior college version of the established ethics bowl to meet the unique needs of two-year colleges across the country,” explained Rob Sherwood, GMC professor and ethics bowl coordinator. Meanwhile, New York Life provided a generous grant to offset costs of conducting the event. “Being chosen to host this competition was a direct reflection of GMC’s leadership in ethics education.”

Although the national recognition was certainly gratifying, it wasn’t a driving factor in GMC’s efforts to support the establishment of an ethics bowl specifically for junior colleges. “What’s important is to expose your students to the most challenging thinking on critical issues,” said COL Van Horn. “What better way than to practice critical thinking—which tests and reveals the quality of ethical decision-making—on some of the best junior college minds in the nation?”

DEFINING AND CULTIVATING CHARACTER

Rewinding to 1992, character development under General Boylan began humbly enough, but quickly gained traction. As Winston Churchill once said, “All great things are simple, and many can be expressed in single words: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope.” Accordingly, General Boylan began by selecting a character ‘Word of the Week,’ which was—and still is—discussed in GMC’s classrooms and printed in the Union Recorder to generate community discussion.

But when it came to developing a bigger picture strategy for instilling character, time was of the essence. “If you’re going to encourage students to think critically and quickly, you have to develop these skills in rapid fashion at a two-year college,” points out COL Van Horn. “Under the attention of General Boylan, the emphasis on character development has been made to come alive in a very short timeframe, by word and by example.”

Examples abound. For instance, every faculty member uses the Ethics Across the Curriculum (EAC) program, incorporating examples of ethical decision-making into every subject, from science to history, math to literature. Students take a required course to learn the philosophical foundations of character and debate the most pressing issues of our times.

To put character into action, community service is encouraged of GMC students. And at the faculty level, GMC’s “Character Educator of the Year” award recognizes teachers from both the prep school and the college.

Toward the goal of continually improving GMC’s character development initiatives, General Boylan chairs an advisory committee that meets monthly with the purpose of driving new ideas and program enhancements to the surface. “And there’s not a corner you can turn on campus where you don’t face reminders of character, whether it’s a sign or an actual expression of courtesy,” notes COL Van Horn.

A number of the initiatives are made possible by the Peter J. Boylan Endowment for Ethics, established in 2007 through a generous grant from alumnus, Stephen K. Simpson. The endowment not only supports GMC’s important work, it honors a man who has gone far beyond giving character development a “fresh coat of paint.”

I’VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT A TRUE EDUCATION HAS TWO DIMENSIONS: ONE THAT DEVELOPS THE INTELLECT, ANOTHER THAT ELEVATES CHARACTER. CHARACTER, THEN, IS THE SINE QUÂ NON REGARDING PEOPLE’S ABILITY TO SUCCEED. —General Peter J. Boylan
What are the international best practices in critical thinking? How can critical thinking be infused across the curriculum? What are some practical ways teachers can foster critical thinking in the classroom? How can teachers integrate critical thinking with creativity to improve learning?

To explore answers to those questions—and many more—GMC Prep School faculty members, Linda Brown and Amanda Mercer, attended the 32nd International Conference on Critical Thinking and Education and Reform, held in Berkley, Calif., last summer. The theme of the annual conference, “The Power of Critical Thinking in Teaching and Learning,” set the tone for a week of enlightening analysis, interpretation, understanding and cultivation of critical thinking.

The teachers’ participation in this highly regarded conference was made possible by Renee Johnson and her late husband, Randale, who created a fund in 2012 to foster ethical and critical thinking at GMC’s Prep School.

Following the conference, both teachers enthusiastically shared their insights with Prep School faculty and staff. Linda Brown, Mathematics Department Chair, reviewed new instructional strategies with all members of her department; then, the group chose one—known as SEEI—to implement in individual classrooms. “SEEI stands for State, Elaborate, Exemplify, Illustrate. It offers a clear framework to better understand and communicate a concept or topic,” Linda explained. “Now that we’ve been using it in the classroom, teachers are seeing that SEEI gives students a deeper understanding of many of the complex mathematical concepts we teach. The information I learned at the conference has really been an asset in the classroom.”

Meanwhile, Amanda Mercer, who teaches American Literature and AP Language, feels she now has a much better grasp on strategies to help students sharpen their critical thinking skills. One particularly effective tool, she said, is the use of Socratic Seminars. The Socratic seminar gets its name from the ancient Greek philosopher who taught through the use of open-ended, probing questions rather than lecture. “The students really like coming up with their own questions about the texts we’re studying. They’ve been more engaged and taken more ownership of their learning, and I believe this has caused a deeper understanding of the material.”

To date, a total of 21 GMC educators have enhanced their knowledge of critical thinking by attending these conferences, offered by The International Center for the Assessment of Higher Order Thinking (ICAT). “GMC Prep School is committed to empowering our faculty to foster critical thinking in the classroom,” said COL John Thornton. “Thanks to the generosity of the Johnson family, GMC will be able to continue enriching the minds of both our teachers and our students, to the enduring benefit of both.”
When reflecting on the unbelievably long list of Major General Boylan’s accomplishments at GMC, make sure to put the Steinway Concert Series near the top.

“General Boylan loves music,” said Beegee Baugh, chair of the Steinway Committee at GMC. “When the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts opened, he thought it would be so nice to have a fine piano there for concerts. He gave us the job to raise the money for it.”

Baugh says she and her committee raised $85,000 and music director, Moona Yu, was invited to the Steinway showroom in New York City to pick out a nine-foot concert grand piano.

From there, Boylan encouraged the committee to bring great music to the stage, therefore enticing the community to get more involved with the school. And Baugh said they have thoroughly enjoyed watching the response of the students, the locals and the musicians alike.

“Everyone who comes and plays the piano thinks it is absolutely marvelous. And we wouldn’t have it at all if hadn’t been for General Boylan’s instigating it,” said Baugh. “He brought music, he brought theater, he brought art, he brought all the cultural things to GMC, things the military college had never had before. And this is so important for us and our community.”

To celebrate Boylan’s contribution to arts at the school, the Steinway Committee (which also includes Polly Echols, Ann Caldwell, Louise Helton and Dorrie Neligan) hosted a cocktail reception March 30 honoring him, as well as GMC Steinway donors for their unwavering support. The party was followed the next evening by a stunning performance by Olga Kern, the Russian pianist who won the Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition at just 17. Kern also attained the prestigious Gold Medal in the 2001 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, one of only two women to do so since the competition began in 1962.

Over the years, the Steinway Concert Series has attracted vast talent from around the world including Robert McDuffie, the Macon Symphony, the Georgia State Symphony, Mac Frampton along with Henry Mancini trumpeter Cecil Welch, Joe Grandsen & the Big Band, and the Atlanta Pops. The 5 Browns, a musical family of Juilliard graduates, came for Christmas in 2011 and brought five of their own Steinways. They played a full stage to a packed house.

None of the concerts would have been possible without Boylan’s backing or the series supporters, whose generous donations, Baugh said, make it very inexpensive to see a performance at GMC. Which is exactly how Boylan wants it. He has always invited everyone at the concerts to every concert reception and he makes sure that all students see a concert or performance at least once a quarter.

“He has done so much for this school. He has tended to every aspect of this place. He knows education, he knows finance, he knows culture, he knows politics…he knows it all and he tends to it. He is on top of everything. It’s a well-run school and you can tell from all the things have been done and built in his 21 years. You can see his influence on everything he has done for GMC, the community and the city of Milledgeville.”

Those who support the arts at GMC as members of the Steinway Society ensure the continuation of outstanding performances year after year. Membership is awarded on an annual basis, with recognition levels including platinum ($1,000 or more), gold ($500-$999), silver ($250-$499), and bronze (up to $249). For more information, call the GMC Foundation at (478) 445-0202.
The Georgia Military College Steinway Concert Series presented the Atlanta Pops Orchestra “Sounds of the Season” Holiday Concert on Sunday December 9, 2012, in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Jason Altieri, Atlanta Pops Conductor, invited the audience to sing along as the orchestra played favorite classics such as “White Christmas,” “O Holy Night,” “The Most Beautiful Time of the Year,” “Sleigh Ride,” and others. Dr. Altieri is the Director of Orchestras at the University of Nevada and Associate Conductor for the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra. Featured soloists included Dr. Adam Kirkpatrick, head of the voice department and associate professor of music at Kennesaw State University; and Sherri Seiden, an original case member of the First National Touring Company of the Broadway show Beauty and the Beast. A coffee and dessert reception with the artists was held following the concert.
The Georgia Military College Steinway Concert Series presented world-renowned pianist Olga Kern on Saturday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts.

Now recognized as one of her generation’s great pianists, Olga Kern’s career began one decade ago with her award winning gold-medal performance at the Eleventh Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2001. Her second catapulting triumph came in New York City on May 4, 2004, with a highly acclaimed New York City recital debut at Carnegie’s Zankel Hall.

In an unprecedented turn of events, Olga gave a second recital eleven days later in Isaac Stern Auditorium at the invitation of Carnegie Hall.

Ms. Kern was born into a family of musicians with direct links to Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff and began studying piano at the age of five. Winner of the first Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition when she was seventeen, she is a laureate of eleven international competitions and has toured throughout her native Russia, Europe, and the United States, as well as in Japan, South Africa, and South Korea.
Ms. Kern’s performance career has brought her to the many of the world’s most important venues, including the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, Symphony Hall in Osaka, Salzburger Festspielhaus, La Scala in Milan, Tonhalle in Zurich, and the Châtelet in Paris; she has appeared as soloist with the Kirov Orchestra, the Bolshoi Theater, the Moscow Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Symphony, Russian National, China Symphony, Belgrade Philharmonic, La Scala Philharmonic, Torino Symphony, and Cape Town Symphony Orchestras. She has also collaborated with the most prominent conductors in the world today, including Valery Gergiev, Leonard Slatkin, Manfred Honeck, Vladimir Spivakov, Yuri Termirkanov, Pinchas Zukerman, and James Conlon.

With her vivid stage presence, passionately confident musicianship, and extraordinary technique, the striking young Russian pianist continues to captivate fans and critics alike.

Immediately prior to the concert, guests enjoyed an outdoor reception on Grant Parade.

Mrs. Beegee Baugh, chair of GMC’s Steinway Society, hosted a reception for Steinway Society members at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L.N. Thompson, III, on April 29. Guests commended General Peter Boylan for his commitment to the arts, and particularly, his support of the Steinway Concert Series.
It all began with gifts designated for the purchase of a Steinway concert grand piano. Once the beautiful instrument graced the stage of the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts, industrious supporters initiated a “movement” to sponsor a concert series. And now, seven concert seasons later, the Steinway Concert Series is not only still going strong but has achieved a degree of excellence that is widely recognized. Featuring world-class artists, the performances draw their audience from the entire Middle Georgia region.

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Honoring

Peter J. Boylan
Major General, USA (Ret.)
President, Georgia Military College

Saturday, June 8, 2013
7 o’clock
Grant Parade
The Steinway Concert Series is designed to bring outstanding musical and artistic performances to GMC and the surrounding community.

Steinway Society Members
(July 1, 2012 - April 30, 2013)

Platinum $1,000 or More
Mrs. Beegee Baugh
Mr. Malcolm Burgess
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Curtis
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Davidson, Jr.
Dr. Kenneth Marks
Dr. and Mrs. William G. Neely
Dr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Neligan
Mr. Steven Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. David Sinclair
Mr. and Mrs. Clinton E. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Usery

Gold $500 - $999
MG and Mrs. Peter J. Boylan, USA (Ret.)
Reverend Carl Buice and the Honorable Hulane George
Dr. and Mrs. George L. Echols
Dr. and Mrs. John H. Ferguson
Dr. Maidana K. Nunn
Mr. Dewey D. Schade
Randy and Elizabeth Sheppard
COL and Mrs. Fred Van Horn, USA (Ret.)
Mr. and Mrs. Russ Walden
Mr. John T. Williamson

Silver $250 - $499
Mr. and Mrs. G. Lee Dickens, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Ben G. Gautier
Mrs. Jake L. Goldstein
Ms. Nancy Ann Good
Ms. Merel J. Harrison
Mrs. William M. Headley
Dr. and Mrs. Don King
LTG and Mrs. James T. Kjer, USA (Ret.)
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. McMillan, III
Mr. and Mrs. Ace Parker
Dudley and Jenny Rowe
Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Strom
Mrs. Betty Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Thrower

Bronze Up to $249
Ms. Jan Adair
Ms. Ann M. Bertoli
Mrs. Betty K. Bertoli
Dr. and Mrs. Vince Ciampa
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Flood
Mrs. Emily Garner
MG and Mrs. Thomas Greer
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grimes
Ms. Inez Hawkins
Mrs. James B. Helton, Jr.
Ms. Jane M. Hutterly
Ms. Mary Lawrence Kennickell
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Mileski
Mr. Felix C. Moring
Mr. Joel J. Moring, Jr.
Mr. Louie H. Seabolt
Mrs. Shirley A. O’Quinn
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Peevy
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Membership Levels and Benefits
All members for the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) enjoy...
• Advance notice of Steinway Society concerts
• Listing on all Steinway Concert Series programs
• Opportunities to share the joy of great music with other appreciative members

Platinum Sponsor - $1,000 and up
• Premier reserved seating in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts upon request by calling 478-445-0208
• Four complimentary tickets for all Steinway Series concerts
• Listing on all Steinway Concert Series programs
• Invitation for two for the annual President’s Dinner hosted by the President of Georgia Military College

Gold Sponsor - $500-$999
• Premier reserved seating in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts upon request by calling 478-445-0208
• Two complimentary tickets for all Steinway Series concerts
• Listing on all Steinway Concert Series programs

Silver Sponsor - $250-$499
• Two complimentary tickets for the Holiday Concert
• Listing on all Steinway Concert Series programs

Bronze Sponsor - up to $249
• Listing on all Steinway Concert Series programs

To become a member of the Steinway Society, you may make your gift to the Steinway Concert Series online at www.gmcfoundation.org.
Autumn leaves, golden shovels, winning team, swaying balloons, live bands and endless smiles…

GMC’s campus was abuzz with the sights and sounds of celebration this past October 19-20 as graduates from all over the nation came back to visit for Alumni Weekend 2012. The cornerstone of the weekend was the groundbreaking ceremony for the new $17 million Health and Wellness Center. With a turn of 10 shovels to break up the dirt, GMC officially began construction on over 56,000 square feet of modern recreation space.

“The center has long been a dream for the students and leadership at this school,” said GMC President Maj. Gen. Peter Boylan in a speech just before handing out shovels painted gold for the occasion. “We are thrilled to be here to break ground together and celebrate the latest in a long line of facility additions on campus. It is the capstone on the growth we’ve accomplished these past few years: the new barracks, the prep school, the added technology and classrooms, the performing arts center… all made possible through the generosity of the supporters of GMC.”

During the festivities, alumnus and campaign chair, Powell Moore, announced the public launch of the GMC Foundation’s campaign to raise $3 million needed for the building fund.

“We enlist all of you here,” Moore said, “and all of the alumni and friends of GMC to make a donation, large or small, to complete the funding needed to help us lay the foundation for healthy students today and the health of GMC students to come.”
The groundbreaking followed the GMC Bulldog’s decisive trouncing of Atlanta Sports Academy in a 24-7 victory and Head Coach Bert Williams’ 100th win. He thought the back-to-back events were appropriate since the sports teams, along with the whole student body, stand to benefit from the new Health and Wellness Center. “I was enthused to see the tremendously positive reaction to the coming health and wellness facility. I thought it was a wonderful opportunity to let our alumni know our commitment to continuing to improve their alma mater for our current students and the many more who will be coming here in future years.”

According to Earlene Hamilton, GMC’s alumni development coordinator, the best-attended event was Friday night’s dinner reception, a gathering that has grown in popularity the past several years to include almost 400 attendees. The Grapevine Band from Macon got everyone up and moving. “They’re very popular here,” said Hamilton. “They’re a brass band of retired military so everyone loves them. Never mind that they make good music.”
Amid the distinguished guests, parade speaker **Dr. George Coletti** (HS ’57, JC ’59) welcomed friends of GMC to the weekend festivities. Like the alumni he helped recognize, Coletti hasn’t let moss grow under his feet since leaving GMC. Dr. Coletti has lived a life of adventure as a dentist, bacteriologist, a lieutenant in the Army, city councilman, historian, ham radio operator, inventor and now, novelist. He just published his first novel “**Stone Mountain: the Granite Sentinel,**” written about a Southern family during the Civil War and based on his experiences growing up at the foot of the mountain.

Saturday afternoon’s reception after the groundbreaking was also popular – revelers enjoyed heavy hors d’oeuvres and beverages of choice followed by an award-winning concert featuring Mac Frampton and his Moon River Band performing “Yesterday Once More.”

Other weekend festivities included the annual golf tournament, the alumni parade, the football game tailgate and tours of the campus and Old Capital Museum. There were several special class reunions: the high school and junior college classes of 1962 were joined by the ’60s Band Company for a private reunion at the Sibley-Cone Library. Many alumni enjoyed the Deep Roots Festival and other happenings in Milledgeville.

“Alumni Weekend is such a magical time,” alumni development coordinator Hamilton said. “We invite everyone to campus with plenty to hear, see and do, and they just take it from there. No two people have the same experience, but almost all attending rave about what an amazing time they have. This year—with a fantastic turn out, our Health and Wellness Center groundbreaking, two well-loved bands and yet another Bulldog victory—had to be one of our best years yet.”
2012 Band Company Reunion

This year Band Company met with the Gold Brigade because so many of them were also celebrating their 50th reunion.

1st row - Charles Grant, Harry & Kathryn McRae, Tom Spann, Terry Falstaff Johnson
2nd row - Dewey Schade, Gudrun & Teddie Chapman, Charles Pennington, Cliff Owdom, Charles Cadenhead, John Johnson, Dess Smith, Chip Limbrick, Richard Dee Taylor, Dean Mills, John Ferguson
Also in attendance from Band Company but not pictured: Clyde Dunn, John Parker, Herb Meyer, Bill Barnes

Band Company and Gold Brigade

1st row – Charles Pennington, Ben Underwood, James Hardman, Charles Cadenhead
2nd row – Richard Dee Taylor, Chip Limbrick, Dess Smith, Felix Moring
3rd row – Dewey Schade, Terry Johnson, Dean Mills, Cliff Owdom, Tom Spann
4th row – Charles Grant, Hank Norsworthy, Harry McRae, John Johnson, Teddie Chapman

HS and JC Classes of 1962 Gold Brigade

1st row – James Hardman, Glenn Ross, Dewey Schade, Charles Pennington, Hank Norsworthy
2nd row – Ben Underwood, Terry Johnson, Charles Cadenhead, Dean Mills, Eddie McCaffrey, Harry McRae, Cliff Owdom
3rd row – Charles Grant, Teddie Chapman, Tommy Tompkins
Attended but not shown: Clyde Dunn, Robert Baer
HS and JC Classes of 1957

Right – Tom Banks, Don Taylor, George Coletti
Below – Billy and Melba Lott
Below right – (L-R) Ike Thomas, Don Taylor, Tom Banks, George Coletti, Billy Green
Also in attendance but not pictured:
Alfonso McCoy

HS Class of 1977

Members of the HS Class of 1977 gathered on Saturday afternoon.

Shown are (L-R): Cliff Scott, Sherrie Green Harding, Darlene Brooks Thompson, Ed Gandy, Daphne Simmons, Julie Frazier Clayton with husband Philip Clayton.
Not pictured but attended: Judsen “Bo” Criswell, Tangye Proctor Teague, Beth Lawrence Gamble, and Stephanie Martin.
HS and JC Classes of 1987

Right — Rick and Julie Morrison and daughters, Erica and Stephanie
Bottom left – James Hodnett, Rick Morrison, and Eric Olson
Bottom right – Mark Stevens, James Hodnett, Rick Morrison

Plan your reunion

The GMC Alumni Office can assist you with planning your reunion. We recommend holding your event during Alumni Weekend if possible because so many activities are offered at that time. Please contact Earlene Hamilton at 478-445-0205 or at ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us for help with class lists, locations, campus requirements for private on-site events, or other questions.
The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni whose lives have embodied the GMC ideals of discipline, moral character, and learning, and whose lives are examples of extraordinary accomplishment. 

Distinguished Alumnus Benjamin Underwood (HS ’62, JC ’64) has built an outstanding career in addiction treatment and behavioral health. Most notably, he partnered with G. Douglas Talbott, M.D., to open the Talbott Recovery Program, a renowned addictive disease and psychiatric treatment center in Atlanta. Underwood’s expertise has earned him national acclaim. He has chaired and been recognized by the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers, and he was recently awarded the coveted Gold Honor Award of Excellence from the Georgia Hospital Association. The Gold Honor is the most prestigious award bestowed on a hospital CEO and granted only six times in the Association’s history.

The Alumni Achievement Award is designated for an alumnus who has attained notable success in his or her chosen field or profession, and whose achievement serves as an inspiration to others.

This year’s Alumni Achievement awardee, Dr. Donna Johnson Lambert, knew from a tender young age just what she wanted to do when she grew up. And her rise to the top has been textbook perfect. She achieved academically and athletically at GMC and graduated with the class of 1986. She earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Georgia and has since worked as a veterinarian and managed her own veterinary house call service. Now, with the help of her whole family, Dr. Lambert is settled on acreage in Inman, S.C., running Creature Comforts, one of the most successful animal boarding and veterinary clinics in the Southeast.

The Outstanding Young Alumnus Award recognizes young alumni who have demonstrated excellence in academics, career or personal life, and who show promise of continuing the excellence.

The Outstanding Recent Alumnus, Braxton T. Cotton (JC ’02), graduated GMC just ten years ago but has been climbing the ladder ever since. He got a degree in criminal justice, served as a sheriff’s detective, worked for the police force, and was appointed to the SWAT team and crime suppression unit. He was then elevated to serve on security detail under Governors Sonny Perdue and Nathan Deal. He is now executive director of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council where he oversees millions in state and federal grants. In his spare time he is finishing his master’s degree in public administration.
The GMC Service Award is designated for friends of GMC who have rendered special service to the school, the Alumni Association, the Bulldog or Booster Clubs, or the Foundation.

From planning a fundraiser to decorating the gym for a dance, Merel J. Harrison, the GMC Service Award winner this year, could easily be designated one of the school’s most vital volunteers. She started GMC in ninth grade among the first class of women in 1969 and has been loyal to the school ever since. She has held every position on the Alumni Association’s executive board and is now in her fourth term as president. She is a charter member of the 1879 Circle of Friends and the Steinway Society. She has given her time, talent and financial resources to advance the GMC mission. Her behind-the-scenes leadership is a big part of the reason GMC is thriving today.

The Community Service Award is given to alumni who, through volunteerism or professional activities, have taken the lessons of GMC’s Character Education beyond the classroom and who, through exemplary service, are changing their community.

After 31 years in the military and overseas service without injury, LTC Charles “Buck” Bennett has a special place in his heart for wounded soldiers. While still commanding an ordnance battalion in the Army National Guard and working fulltime for the Department of Natural Resources, he serves as Senior Vice Commander of American Legion Post 9 in Brunswick. There he oversees special events like Christmas and Valentine’s Day parties at the Warrior Transition Unit for wounded soldiers at Ft. Stewart. Selfless in his giving and his quest to help others reach for excellence, he also holds leadership positions with the Boy Scouts of America. His qualifications, achievements, commendations and certifications stretch pages long, over both enlisted and officer positions, two branches of the military and endless civic involvements.

The Honorary Alumni Award is bestowed upon individuals who are not alumni, but who have rendered such exceptional service to the school or to its Alumni Association that they are granted the honorary alumni title.

Maxine Goldstein, 2012 Honorary Alumni Award recipient, says that when she married her husband, she married GMC. She has been endlessly faithful to both, and through the years, along with her husband, she has given selflessly. She is a GMC Foundation member and serves on the Rules and Nominations Committee. Most recently she has helped spearhead the efforts to fund and outfit the new Center for the Performing Arts which now bears her name. She and her husband established a charitable remainder trust to benefit GMC and included an endowed scholarship fund in their wills. Their generosity is helping create an unsurpassed school experience for the students and faculty of GMC.

**Nominate your choice for the 2013 Alumni Awards!**

We invite alumni and friends to submit nominations for the 2013 GMC Alumni Awards. The deadline for nominations is **June 15, 2013**.

For additional information, please call the Office of Advancement at (478) 445-0202.

**Mail your nominations to:** Alumni Awards, Office of Advancement, Georgia Military College, 201 East Greene Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061 or email to: ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us

Please include supporting documentation for the nomination using no more than 500 words. You may include: career highlights, achievements, community service, letters of recommendation and/or newspaper/magazine articles. Specify GMC graduate HS and/or JC.

**Award Nomination Category**

- Alumni Achievement
- Outstanding Recent Alumni
- Community Service Award
- Distinguished Alumni
- Honorary Alumni
- GMC Service Award
SCHOLARSHIPS

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Share the Legacy, Share the Dream
Funding Scholarships for the Children and Grandchildren of our Alumni

When it comes to the bottom line, paying for life’s more immediate necessities leaves little left for school.

For so many, even the children and grandchildren of GMC alumni, the expense of a prep school or college education can be prohibitive.

With your gift, bright, motivated learners will be able to fulfill their dreams and uphold their family’s proud GMC legacy.

Pass on the Possibility
by joining the circle and widening our reach

The 1879 Circle—designated for the year the school was founded—provides GMC scholarships to deserving students who are children and/or grandchildren of our alumni.

One hundred percent of every donation goes to provide GMC scholarships that continue a family tradition of excellence at GMC. We award these scholarships annually to students who’ve proven their aptitude for academic success but require financial assistance to reach their full potential. Through the commitment of alumni and friends, the 1879 Circle Alumni Scholarship has grown from $1,000 in 2004 to more than $70,000 today. Your donation will help us to maintain the growth of the fund.

Join us in making a difference in lives for years to come.

Gifts may be made by cash or check made payable to the GMC FOUNDATION and designated for the 1879 Circle. A number of 1879 Circle members have chosen to lead the way through automatic checking account deduction, a convenient way to offer monthly support.

Make Your Mark
by paving the way for the future of others

Alumni, friends, and students of Georgia Military College are invited to make their mark on the GMC campus through the purchase of personally engraved pavers forming a beautiful, historic walkway that cadets take every day to their dorm rooms in the James E. Baugh Barracks.

Contributors can honor the special people in their lives through an inscription of their choice on each paver which will flank the main entrance of the barracks.

Sponsors will receive a 4” by 8” personalized paver with each tax-deductible gift of $100. Each gift will support the 1879 Circle Alumni Scholarship.

Payment may be made by cash, check or credit card to the GMC Foundation.

Remember Your Reunion
and help reunions become reality for more students today

When you’re back on campus, soaking up both the familiar and improved sights of your beloved GMC, picture how much a visit like this will mean to a scholarship student in the coming decades. Picture yourself as the link in the chain between yesterday’s GMC students and today’s generation. And picture how much more likely they will be to give back and keep the chain growing because you set the example.

If you lead, they will follow. And then pass it down the line.

You may give online: www.gmcfoundation.org/scholarships or mail your gifts to Georgia Military College Foundation, 201 E. Greene Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061. Should you have any questions, contact Marsha Grimes, Director of Advancement Services, at 478-445-0207, or via email at mgrimes@gmc.cc.ga.us.
The GMC Varsity Cheerleaders’ 2nd Annual Pink Out was a huge success, raising over $2500 for the Breast Cancer Foundation through Pink Out t-shirt sales.

Elliot Fairbrass Receives Appointment to USMA at West Point

Georgia Military College Prep School senior Elliot Fairbrass has received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. The official word came from Congressman John Barrow who called Elliot with the good news on February 22.

Fairbrass said he visited West Point with his uncle over the summer and experienced a feeling of calling while there. “So many of my family attended West Point (five including my grandfather) and with that tradition and the atmosphere of the campus, there was a very powerful sense of home for me just being on campus,” he said. The grandfather Elliot refers to is Major General Peter J. Boylan, U.S. Army (Retired), President of Georgia Military College.

Although Elliot says he has always wanted a military career, engineering is also something that captivates him. His interest in this field became more apparent during his experience with Odyssey of the Mind, an international program incorporating engineering and theater to teach creative problem solving. He states, “I discovered a knack for engineering as I built vehicles, stage sets, and machines. During my six years with the program, my team made it to world-level competition four times, placing second in the world in 2012. I feel that attending West Point will give me the best education and preparation for success in this field.”

Elliot has a cumulative 4.0 GPA and is ranked fourth in his class. He is the High School JROTC Battalion Executive Officer. Elliot represented GMC’s JROTC program at Junior Cadet Leadership Camp where he was promoted to battalion commander of the camp, the highest cadet leadership position. Some of his other activities and honors include vice president of the School Government Association, president of Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, Student Advisory Council, Senior Beta Club, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Wofford Scholar, Presbyterian College Academic Achievement Award, Distinguished Order of the Servant Leader Award (100+ hours of community service), Georgia Boys State, Youth Leadership Baldwin and Sacred Heart Catholic Church Youth Group. He also lettered in varsity football and varsity soccer.

Elliot Fairbrass is the son of Mark and Emily Fairbrass, and the grandson of MG Peter and Kathy Boylan. His brother, Liam, is a sophomore at GMC Prep.
Georgia Military College was named to the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This designation is the highest honor a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement.

“Georgia Military College is dedicated to performing community service; this vital mission is authenticated by the continued support of our devoted staff, faculty, cadets and students who, by performing thousands of hours of service, made this prestigious award possible,” said Brenda Brown, GMC Community Service Coordinator.

Georgia Military College acknowledges its military aspect by sponsoring three blood drives each school year in association with Eisenhower Army Medical Center Blood Bank because these blood units are provided to active duty military personnel at no cost. These blood drives, which are open to the public, particularly attract the school’s cadet population because many of them are already part of the military forces.

In an unwavering commitment to the military, GMC has donated over 2,200 pints of blood to support the worldwide mission of the Armed Services Blood Program.

Continued support of the local food bank and soup kitchen is validated by the donation of over 3,600 canned goods. GMC’s combined donation to Relay for Life was nearly $4,000.00 and to Susan G Komen, $2,500.00.

Simpson Named Head Football Coach

Sometimes it’s actually best not to think outside the box.

Prep School Principal COL John Thornton believes that tactic will serve the school quite well as he moves his Athletic Director, Steven Simpson, into the recently vacant head football coach position.

“The only person I had in mind was Steven,” says Thornton. “He is the perfect fit. Between his knowledge of football, the way he relates to the young men, and most importantly, because of the content of his character..... I was thrilled he accepted the job and I know the program is in great hands.”

Simpson, who attended middle school at GMC and returned to graduate junior college in 2000, played under Coach Robert Nunn in his final two seasons at GMC. Simpson went on to GCSU while remaining community coach for the prep footballers. His final return to GMC was as a math teacher in 2007 and he now teaches ninth grade world history.

Simpson is married to prep school graduate and prep school softball and basketball community coach Laurie Simpson. They have two children, Nathan (7) and Lauryn (4). Simpson is the son of the late Charles “Butch” Simpson and Jane Simpson, who served as GMC’s Librarian and Director of Library Services; for more than 30 years and is currently the special collections archivist.

Simpson is also the Vice President of the Georgia High School Association Region 7A and according to COL Thornton, is well-known and respected throughout the state.

Steven Simpson (JC 2000) was recognized as the 2013 Athletic Director of the Year for Region 7A

“He is a solid guy, GMC through and through,” Thornton says. “He is a family man and represents the ideals we want to instill in our players. I have no doubt he will serve as a role model for the young men of the prep school. GMC is very fortunate to have Steven at the helm.”
**Prep School Varsity Cheerleading**

The 2012 season for the Varsity Cheerleading squad was an exciting one full of hard work. After a grueling season of practice and a total devotion to the team, the girls on this squad proved they had worked hard enough for a winning season. Seniors Sarah Poole, Savannah Williams, and Eleni Constantinidis helped lead the team to two invitational first place wins, one second place finish, a third place at Sectionals, and a season finish of third in the state, placing only 10 points behind Commerce, who came in second. This state finish is a new record for the GMC Cheerleading program, beating out last year’s place of eighth in the state.

**2012 Varsity Cheerleading Squad:**

- Sarah Poole
- Savannah Williams
- Eleni Constantinidis
- Macie Lee
- Megan Bache
- Kristin Kuehn
- Kaitlyn Weaver
- Rachel Merica
- Maddie Bloodworth
- Jami King
- Niki Thomas
- Makayla Harrison
- KateLyn Horton
- Caitlin Settle
- Stephanie Gorham
- Callie McMullen
- Brooke Branan

**2013 GMC Outgoing Student Athletes**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>College</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mario Alford</td>
<td>TB/WR</td>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
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<td>Neville Hewitt</td>
<td>DB</td>
<td>Marshall University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tre Carter</td>
<td>OL</td>
<td>Louisiana Tech University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Gary</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Louisiana Tech University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nate Carter</td>
<td>FB</td>
<td>Reinhardt College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandon Golson</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devon Johnson</td>
<td>DL</td>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jermerquis Perry</td>
<td>DL</td>
<td>Reinhardt College</td>
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<td>QB</td>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
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<td>Caleb Clayton-Molby</td>
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<td>Tiquention Coleman</td>
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<td>University of Arkansas</td>
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Pictured, left to right, Nate Holton, Devon Johnson, Kevin Gary, Tre Carter, Mario Alford, and Neville Hewitt
Georgia Military College’s ROTC Rifle Team Brings Home Gold Medals

A GMC ROTC four-person Air Rifle Team and two GMC Individual Air Rifle Shooters were invited to participate in the Fourth Annual NRA Intercollegiate Rifle Club Championship at Fort Benning in March. GMC was represented by Cadets Markesha Burton, La Toni Smith, Reggie Kendrick and Dexter Weems. GMC’s individual shooters were commuter students John Michael Roberson and Steven Cole Lassetter. In the ROTC Championship, the Georgia Military College team was awarded first place and named the 2013 NRA Collegiate ROTC winners. The team received a championship trophy and each shooter received a gold medal. Additionally, GMC’s Markesha Burton earned a first place gold medal as the top shooter in ROTC with a score of 541 out of a possible 600. Reggie Kendrick was awarded the bronze medal with his score of 528. In the individual category John Michael Roberson placed 11th with a score of 557 and Steven Cole Lasseter placed 22nd with a score of 538. Congratulations to our GMC cadets and commuter students for their dedication and skill in making GMC a contender at the 2013 NRA Air Rifle National Collegiate Club/ROTC Championship!

From left to right: Reggie Kendrick, Dexter Weems, Markesha Burton, La Toni Smith and Chief Instructor GMC Rifle Mary Ellen Eaton.

GMC Prep Boys Cross Country 2012 GHSA State Champions

The GMC Prep Boys Cross Country team brought home GMC’s first state title since 1976 during the 2012 GHSA state championships on November 3. The team presented MG Peter J. Boylan, GMC President, with a GHSA Cross Country Champions visor as a memento of the occasion.

Congratulations to GMC Prep head softball coach Julie Brooker and GMC Prep freshman Sutton Long, who were honored during the Georgia Dugout Club Banquet on January 19, 2013. The Georgia Dugout Club named Sutton Long the 2012 GHSA Class A-Public Player of the Year, and Coach Julie Brooker was named the 2012 GHSA Class A-Public Coach of the Year. Sutton batted .342 on the season, led the team in stolen bases (19), RBI’s (20), and home runs (5), and runs scored (30). Defensively, Sutton started 30 games and made only two errors on the season.

The 2012 GMC Lady Bulldogs finished second in the state, with a 22-11 record.
Straight to the Top:
GMC grad wins coveted Cavaliers spot

From 33 states and three countries, they came by the hundreds and hundreds last winter to try for just 150 cherished spots on the world famous Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. After two rounds of weekend-long auditions, one of 26 trumpeters left standing was Dillon Watkins, GMC Prep School graduate 2010 and JC graduate 2012.

“I was ecstatic,” Dillon says. “I’m pretty sure I had a smile on my face until after I flew back home late Sunday night.” His road to victory was a long one. “I had been working on my audition material and pieces for almost a year in advance,” he says. “I knew all of it like the back of my hand. I also went in with the mindset that this is my last year I can march. If I didn’t give this everything I have, then I would be letting my dream slip away from me at the last second.”

Founded in 1948, The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps of Rosemont, Ill., is one of the most successful drum and bugle corps in history, winning 20 national championships, including seven Drum Corps International (DCI) world championships since 1992. Each summer, 150 male brass, percussion and color guard performers aged 16-22 present a marching music show considered among the most challenging and original in the world.

“This is something he has dreamed about for a long time,” says Dillon’s proud mother, Tina. “He is very excited about this venture and blessed to have a part of such an awesome organization. Hopefully when we meet him in Indianapolis in August, the Cavaliers will bring home a world title.”

MAJ Charles Harbor, Dillon’s former band instructor, says he knows Dillon is more than ready for the demands of the position. “Dillon has the gift of having a great sound, great range, and great marching technique. You have to have all three in the drum corps world.” Most of all, he has just always deeply loved marching band.

Tina gives credit to the school for laying the foundation of Dillon’s success. “The discipline…the structure… GMC gets them ready for anything in life.”

Dillon couldn’t agree more vigorously. “GMC instilled in me a work ethic and a mindset that isn’t taught anywhere else in the state. GMC taught me what it means to be a leader and how to take charge and make my future what I want it to be. All of the qualities that are so valued at GMC are just as equally valued with The Cavaliers.”

All lessons he says he plans to pass on in his own band program when he graduates with his music education degree from Mercer University.

Check out the Cavaliers online at http://www.cavaliers.org/.
Robert T. "Bob" Seymour (JC 1963) shared a "winning moment" for his son and grandson, Jason and Jackson, respectively. Jackson is a star middle linebacker for the LP Marshall ninth grade football team, and Jason is one of the coaches. The team had just won the year-end football championship in their league. Bob contemplates that maybe Jackson will be a college star one of these days.

Joseph T. Peebles (JC 1966) was re-elected to his fourth term in office as sheriff of Warrenton, Georgia.

Deborah Simmons-Raley (HS 1982) and husband Charles shared a photo of twin daughters, Ashleigh and Ansleigh Raley, who competed in the Miss Tiny Pageant (Glascock County) Pre-K class, 4 years old, winning second and third places, respectively. Ashleigh Lynn Raley (left), Ansleigh Marie Raley (right)

COL John D. Cooksey, Jr., USA (Ret.) (HS 1984, JC 1986) retired from active duty in the U.S. Army on September 1, 2012. Cooksey received his commission in May 1986 as an infantry officer, completed three years with the National Guard, and then entered active duty in 1989, subsequently serving all over the world in a vast array of assignments and earning numerous awards and decorations.

He is now employed with the U. S. Government Civil Service as the Chief of Operations and Plans, Joint Personnel Recovery Agency in Ft. Belvoir, Va. Cooksey and his wife, the former Providencia Claudio Figueroa from Bayamon, Puerto Rico, have a 14-year-old son, Austin, and reside in Fairfax Station, Va.

LTC Marvin “Marty” Baugh (HS 1986) was promoted to colonel on February 1 at a ceremony presided over by Charlie Williams, Director, Defense Contract Management Agency. Baugh is the Defense Contract Management Agency liaison to the Joint Staff, Directorate of Logistics (J4) at the Pentagon. He is married to the former Julia Caldwell of Milledgeville, Ga., and they have three sons: Connor, Cameron and Caeden. Marty’s brother Frank (LTC, USAF, Ret.) administered the reaffirmation of his commissioning oath (above). Marty was “pinned” by his eldest son, Conner, and wife, Julia, while Caeden and Cameron looked on (below).

Brandon Williams (HS 1994) of Augusta, Ga., was selected as one of the Columbia County Teachers of the Year. Williams was recognized as an exemplary teacher whose calm demeanor is perfect for fifth-grade students. He takes time to truly get to know his students and is constantly pulling small groups to work on their skill deficits or to extend the learning of students who already are mastering standards. Williams consistently employs hands-on lessons in his science and math classes, to engage his students. He serves on the school leadership team, is an instructor in the county’s New Teacher Academy, and is a member of the county’s Common Core Georgia Performance Standards math team. Williams also volunteers through the Grovetown Gentleman’s Club as a mentor for at-risk boys.

Debra Higgs (JC 1998) is in her 17th
year in the National Guard and is now a CPT serving in the Support Operations Shop as the Ammunition Officer after finishing 18 months in command. She and her husband Robert D. Derrick have been blessed with their first child, John Liam. He was born September 19, 2012 at 11:05 pm weighing 8.15 lbs and measuring in at 22 inches.

Valerie Blair Dixon (HS 1999) and Coby Dixon welcomed their third child, Logan Sam Dixon, on October 31, 2012. Logan's proud big sisters are Caroline and Madelyn, ages 4 and 2 respectively.

Kenneth W. Davis (JC 1999) was recently promoted to Criminal Justice Program Chair at Everest University, which is located in Orange Park, Fla.

MAJ Turmel A. Kindred (JC 1999) just graduated from the Navy War College with a master's degree in national security and is now slated to go to the Pentagon to work Intelligence Oversight for the Army Inspector General. He and his wife are expecting their second child in April.

Pedro A. Velez (JC 2000) and his wife Jessica announce the birth of twins, Caylee and Gabriel, on January 2, 2013. Velez is currently employed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, where he is a youth counselor in one of only three secure detention centers in New York State. He runs the only secure sex offender treatment unit dealing with sexually violent youth in the system.

CPT Michael Liscano (JC 2002) and family had a permanent change of station (PCS) in November 2012 to Fort Lee, Va., where he will be maneuver instructor representative at the Captain's Logistics Career Course. Before moving to Virginia, CPT Liscano was on station at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin for over two years. After completing Cavalry Troop Commands of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop and Comanche Troop, 1st Squadron 7th Cavalry Regiment (Garry Owen!) in Iraq and Fort Hood, he was selected to be a Cavalry and Reconnaissance Observer Coach/Trainer (OC/T) with the Cobra Team training cavalry squadrons in preparation for deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn and Operation Enduring Freedom as well as the Decisive Action Training Environment. Liscano will be stationed at Fort Lee for two to three years until he attends the Command and General Staff College (CGSC) at Fort Leavenworth.

Roy Nelson (HS 2002) and Alison Chism were married on February 2, 2012. The couple lives in Augusta, Ga.

Amanda M. Sauer (JC 2003) and Jason Ard were married November 4, 2012. The wedding took place at Castle Ladyhawke in Tuckasegee, N.C. Sauer is employed by the Oconee Regional Medical Center, and the couple now resides in near Gray, Ga. Amanda is the daughter of Merel Harrison (HS 1973, JC 1974) and Gerald J. “Jim” Sauer (JC 1974).

PFC Jacob A. Smith (HS 2012) graduated from Marine Corp Basic Training at Paris Island, S.C. on October 19, 2012, and is currently stationed in North Carolina. During his training, he also attained his sharp shooting certification. Prior to his graduation from GMC Prep, Smith was co-captain of the rifle team.
Zachary Lee Seagraves (HS 2008) graduated from Auburn University on December 8, 2012, earning a Bachelor of Biosystems Engineering with an emphasis in Forest Engineering. Earlier that day he also received his commission as an ensign in the United States Navy. Seagraves has been designated a student pilot and assigned to Naval Air Station, Pensacola. Ensign Seagraves is the son of Scott (HS 1980) and Karen (HS 1978) Seagraves and the brother of Joel (HS 2005) and Nathan (HS 2010).

On December 15, 2012, Seagraves exchanged wedding vows with Laura Beth Lane of Glen Allen, Va. The ceremony was held in Auburn, Ala, at Auburn United Methodist Church. The ceremony was conducted by Seagraves’ father, and his two brothers, Joel and Nathan, served as best men. The couple is currently living in Pensacola, Fla.

Frank C. and Dorothy K. Davis Scholarship

COL Frank C. Davis recently met with GMC Prep School senior Sarah Poole, who is the first recipient of the Frank C. and Dorothy K. Davis Scholarship. The fund will be held in perpetuity by the GMC Foundation, providing a legacy for the Davises and scholarships for future generations of deserving students.

Share your news!

The Cadence would like to keep your classmates up to date with your latest news. We want to hear if you have recently married, had a baby, received a promotion, retired, or accomplished some other noteworthy milestone.

Please submit your news online at: www.gmc.cc.ga.us > Alumni > Share Your News.
Or, you may contact Earlene Hamilton at: (478) 445-0205, fax to: (478) 445-2867 or email to: ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us.
You may also mail to: Class Notes/The Cadence magazine, Alumni Relations, Georgia Military College, 201 East Greene Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061

Please provide your class year(s), degree(s), address, phone number and email.
If you include a photograph, please be sure to identify all people pictured. We look forward to hearing from you!
Georgia Military College and the GMC Alumni Association extend our deepest sympathies to the families of these alumni and friends.
The Health and Wellness Campaign
LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR A LIFETIME OF SUCCESS


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