Bringing world-class musicians to Middle Georgia
Learning is focused on allowing us to be human, to better understand the world around us, to be able to appreciate the beauty that accompanies life. Certainly, our academic programs enable our students to enlarge their perspectives…and that is vitally important to their ability to make a life in the world.

If you met a person who had never seen or smelled a rose, how would you describe it? How would you define the softness, the fragility of its petals, the scent, the variation of hues, and the prickliness of the thorns? We all can understand roses because we have experienced them and therefore understand and appreciate their beauty. In a similar manner, college must provide the student experiences that go beyond the classroom for the purpose of exposing them to the beauty that exists in this world.

It is for this reason that GMC hosts a number of musical performances throughout the academic year. From classical music provided by the Macon Symphony to popular music provided by Mac Frampton to a combination of the two genres brought to us by the Five Browns, our students and this community are uplifted spiritually and come to a more complete understanding and appreciation of the beauty that exists in this world we live in.

I hope that you will plan your visit to this campus when such opportunities are offered, such as during Alumni Weekend. This institution continues on its mission of elevating intellect and developing character. How would you describe a rose?
Sometimes, two heads are better than one. And sometimes, two organizations with the mission of bringing quality entertainment to its community are better than one. Such was the case in December, when GMC joined forces with the Oconee Performing Arts Society to bring to its stage the now-famous group of siblings, The 5 Browns.

The Steinway sensations began playing the piano at the age of three and set the record for being the first family of five siblings ever accepted simultaneously to New York’s Juilliard School. The group has since attained worldwide acclaim, making appearances on “Oprah” and “The Jay Leno Show,” being featured in People magazine and on “60 Minutes,” and touring top venues throughout the United States and abroad.

But in December, the quintet made a stop onstage at GMC’s Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts for a holiday concert — a performance that launched the partnership between GMC and OPAS, a non-profit organization that seeks to entertain, enrich and educate the regional community by presenting high-quality performing acts like The 5 Browns.

Founded in 2007, OPAS has worked to bring in top talent to other performing arts venues and organizations throughout the lake area, including Eatonton’s Plaza Arts Center, Greensboro’s Festival Hall, The Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Harbor Club, and other waterfront and outdoor venues.

The idea is to be able to cast a wider net to capture world-class talent and present it to local audiences. By sharing the expenses and profits with GMC’s Steinway Society, OPAS helps alleviate some of the risk involved with bringing in the bigger names. With the addition of the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts, OPAS is now able to add another region to which it can
extend its mission.

“We first discovered the Goldstein Center in 2010 and really fell in love with the theater,” said Samantha Duthler, Managing Director of OPAS, who immediately tried to put together a show for that year. Conflicting performance schedules made it impossible for 2010, but Duthler said they stuck with it until it worked for The 5 Browns. “It was just one of those fortuitous circumstances,” she said. “GMC was looking at bringing in The 5 Browns because of the Steinway Society, and it happened that we also were looking at bringing in The 5 Browns, so we decided not to try and overlap our audiences and just bring them in together.”

With a successful show under their belt, GMC and OPAS are now looking at schedules for 2012. “We really enjoyed working with GMC,” said Duthler, “and this is definitely a relationship we want to continue.”

Please Join Us

Support the arts through your gift to the Steinway Concert Series. Join the Steinway Society today to ensure the continuation of outstanding musical performances at Georgia Military College.

All members for each fiscal year
(July 1 - June 30) will enjoy...

• Advance notice of Steinway Society concerts
• Listing on all Steinway Concert Series programs
• Listing at the appropriate level in the GMC Foundation’s Honor Roll of Donors, published annually
• Opportunities to share the joy of great music with other appreciative members

Membership Levels and Additional Benefits

Platinum Sponsor - $1,000 and up
• Premier reserved seating at Steinway Series concerts
• Four complimentary tickets to all Steinway Series concerts
• Membership in the Georgia Military College President’s Circle
• Invitation for two for the annual President’s Dinner hosted by MG Peter J. Boylan, President of Georgia Military College
• Membership benefits, as listed

Gold Sponsor - $500-$999
• Premier reserved seating at Steinway Series concerts upon request
• Two complimentary tickets for all Steinway Series concerts
• Membership benefits, as listed

Silver Sponsor - $250-$499
• Two complimentary tickets for the holiday concert
• Membership benefits, as listed

Bronze Sponsor - up to $249
• Membership benefits, as listed
Even as a child growing up in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, Leo Cancio showed extraordinary focus and drive. At a very young age, he discovered a talent for building model airplanes, honing his skills with a passion that remains undiminished six decades later. At 12, Cancio met Silvia Sanchez and soon realized she was the girl he’d one day marry (2011 marked their 50th wedding anniversary). By high school, Cancio had already chosen his career; he would become a mechanical engineer. And nothing would stand in his way.

A Gathering Storm

Cancio’s determination was quickly put to the test. During his high school years—1952 to 1957—a young rebel, named Fidel Castro, was plotting the downfall of Cuba’s then-dictator, Fulgencio Batista. By Cancio’s senior year, the Cuban Revolution was in full force and the warfare that dotted the country left Cancio with limited educational options. “Universities were closing and it was clear things would get worse before they got better,” he said. Undeterred, Cancio set his sights on leaving Cuba to pursue a college education in the United States. “I considered MIT, but decided Georgia Tech was the right fit.” It was past their application deadline, so a well-known American school counselor suggested attending Georgia Military College, then transferring to Georgia Tech. There were quite a few Cuban students at GMC and the school was highly regarded by GT,” he said. “So I decided GMC was a good stepping stone for me.”
Finding A Second Home

At 17, Leo packed his bags, boarded an airplane for only the second time in his life, and moved by himself to Milledgeville. Although he’d learned some English in school, adapting to a new country wasn’t always easy. “But the moment I arrived on the GMC campus, I fell in love with the school. Finding a new home was important to me and GMC became that home,” he said. “There was—and still is—a spirit there, a dynamic powerful enough to transcend time and circumstance. “It became clear to me that GMC’s values enhanced my own, in terms of doing the right things, doing things right and helping others.”

The school’s military aspect and sense of organization also appealed to Cancio. “GMC offered both the values and the structure a 17-year-old needed to support the path I’d set for myself,” he said. Cancio, who was a member of GMC’s Company A, also credits the older students for serving as role models. “We were fortunate to have officers who were reliable, consistent, kind and fair,” he said. “They, too, reinforced my own values.” As a hard worker, Leo quickly made the Dean’s list and enjoyed the privileges his academic status and good behavior afforded. “If you applied yourself, you were rewarded. If you behaved badly, you were set straight. In either case, GMC worked to bring out the best in their students. And it’s a standard that continues today.”

Applying Life Lessons

After completing a year at GMC, Cancio entered Georgia Tech as a sophomore, earning a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering, then becoming the first minority student in GT’s history to earn a master’s degree in nuclear engineering. After working at DuPont and the Chemplex Company, Cancio joined the Clopay Corporation. There, he held positions of increasing responsibility, becoming president in 1986 and CEO of the plastics products business in 2000. “One of the most important lessons GMC instilled in me is that no one can become successful alone,” he said. “Success comes from providing a vision, recognizing people’s strengths and finding ways to bring out the best in others.” Putting that lesson into practice, Cancio helped lead Clopay from a small company to become a global industry leader, with current annual sales of more than $1.5 billion.

Today, after a long and fruitful career, the semi-retired Cancio continues to act as advisor to his successor at Clopay and has served on multiple organizational boards, including the GMC Foundation. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling, spending time at the beach, supporting various charity organizations and, of course, building his model airplanes (now, with his 8-year-old granddaughter). And each year, Cancio looks forward to making the trip from his Florida home to Milledgeville to attend GMC’s Alumni Weekend. He’s often joined by son Michael, who graduated from GMC in 1992. That same year, GMC honored Cancio with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. “I’m definitely closer to GMC than I am to Georgia Tech,” Cancio said. “Every time I visit, it’s like coming home.”

Kindred Spirits

So what was it about Cancio’s year at GMC that cemented his lifelong allegiance? Perhaps it was a kindred sense of focus, perseverance and resiliency, a drive to prevail in the face of challenge. “GMC went through some difficult years and we wondered if the Alumni Association—even the school—would survive. But there were always people who wouldn’t give up; someone always came forward to make sure the GMC legacy continued.” Cancio feels that now, under President Peter Boylan, GMC is in the midst of a true renaissance. “Through Peter’s vision, spirit and leadership, we have new facilities, quality faculty and staff, and leading edge technology. It can’t have been easy for him to have arrived at a small school 20 years ago and cultivate support from individuals and the government, but he did it. And he’s always thinking a step ahead about what will make GMC even better down the road.”

Cancio said there’s a unique, enduring and contagious spirit at GMC. “You can feel it in your classmates, graduates, and the people who support and work for the school. It’s what keeps the school going and, in my opinion, will continue to do so for years to come.”

Kindred spirits, indeed.
Alumni Weekend 2011 began with the now annual Thursday night opening of the Old Capital Museum’s fall exhibit, giving early arriving alumni a sneak peek opportunity at the exhibit and the entire museum as well.

Friday morning, golfers teed off at the country club for a little friendly open air competition with lunch and prizes included for all. Golfers could choose their own teams or take “pot luck” at team assignments when they arrived. The tournament provided a great, stress free (usually) opportunity to enjoy the game, meet other GMC alumni, and reminisce down every fairway, in every sand trap, and out of every rough!
Registration for the weekend officially opened early Friday afternoon, and after picking up their packets, returning alumni had the opportunity to meander around campus, check out the bookstore’s memorabilia, see all the new facilities since they visited last, and meet up with others doing the same. A video entitled “Reflections of the Past. Visions for the Future.” played in both the Legislative Chamber of the Old Capitol Building and the conference room in Usery Hall, providing insight into how far GMC has come under the leadership of current president, MG Peter J. Boylan.

Friday night brought the annual alumni dinner/dance, which this year featured The Soul Purpose Band of Atlanta, a return performance for the group.
Dinner was catered by Jackson’s of Milledgeville, and there was not an empty chair to be found under the Alumni Weekend tent as the evening got underway.
Saturday morning dawned with a beautiful clear sky and warming temperatures, a perfect setting for the morning’s parade and the alumni awards presentations, made this year during the parade by MG Boylan himself. The 133rd Corps of Cadets marched onto Grant Parade as the GMC Band played musical selections that honored each of the United States military branches. LTG Max Noah (HS 1948), from Alexandria, Va., was this year’s parade speaker. For the grand finale, as is traditional, alumni were invited to form the alumni platoon and to pass in review with the cadet corps.
To round out the morning, a gourmet buffet brunch was provided by Southern Affairs of Milledgeville. Duke Elton, with his signature easy listening background music, provided the perfect backdrop for alumni to meet the award recipients and their family and friends and then to enjoy a wonderful meal.

Afterward, alumni dispersed to take advantage of the variety of options Saturday afternoon offered – campus tours, a junior college football game, Milledgeville’s annual Deep Roots festival, private reunion get-togethers, or just quiet time to reflect on times past and refresh for the times yet to come during the weekend.
As evening fell on a still perfect day, alumni began to arrive once again for more fellowship and wonderful food, this time provided by The Willis House of Milledgeville. Duke Elton was back on stage, providing more easy listening tunes as background to conversations that ebbed and flowed around tables and within standing groups.
While for some alumni the dinner was the last chance to visit this year, many others were looking forward to the evening’s final event, a concert by Mac Frampton and The Moon River Orchestra performing “That Mancini Magic!” As concert attendees completed their meals, they made their way to the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts, while others lingered over coffee, drinks, and reminiscences made more special by the weekend’s ending.

In the Goldstein Center, Frampton and his orchestra entertained into the late evening with a selection of music either composed or arranged by Mancini. A featured member of the Moon River Orchestra, Cecil Welch, actually traveled the world with Mancini himself for two decades as his sole trumpeter. Following the concert, an elegant complimentary dessert reception with wine and champagne, catered by Southern Affairs and Jackson’s, was offered upstairs in the atrium of the Academic Complex. Those who attended shared that the event was a perfect ending to a wonderful weekend.

If this all sounds like fun and you missed it, please mark your calendars now for this year’s event. Our 2012 dates are October 19 and 20. See you there!
2011 Band Company Reunion

Band Company class agent/reunion coordinator, Terry Johnson, worked very hard in the months prior to Alumni Weekend, with the help of several other alums, to find “lost” Band Company members as well as alumni from the sixties, focusing especially on the Gold Brigade of 1961. Through Internet searches, phone calls, letters, and even calls to local libraries and newspapers, information on a number of alumni was found. All their work brought to Alumni Weekend alumni who had not been to campus in many years, and some, not since graduation. In recognition of his work in this project and his dedication to bringing the Band Company back to Alumni Weekend every year, Terry received the 2011 GMC Service Award.

With all those contacts made and stories swapped with each one found, Band Company’s reunion this year expanded to include any one of the alumni contacted who wanted to join the group, and the Gold Brigade as well. The groups ebbed and flowed through the events but made a special effort to be together on Saturday afternoon in the library where Jane Simpson, former Director of Library Services and now current archivist, hosted the group’s gathering. In addition to general reminiscing, they enjoyed a special DVD slide show put together by Steve Sleightholm (HS 1961, JC 1963) using photos he and Justo Guizan had taken over several years from the late fifties to the early sixties. The group also took the opportunity to reminisce over Recalls from their years at GMC and to enjoy the exhibits in the library.
The Gold Brigade came back to campus to celebrate their 50th reunion and to recall the memories of their times together. Blog master and class agent, Ed Robinson, once again channeled his energy and enthusiasm toward encouraging classmates to attend the entire weekend - and many did, some visiting GMC for the first time in years.

With the Band Company reunion attendees, the groups joined together on Saturday afternoon in the library with hostess Jane Simpson, former Director of Library Services and current archivist. Along with avid recollecting about times past, they reviewed a special DVD slide show put together by Steve Sleightholm (HS 1961, JC 1963) using photos he and Justo Guizan had taken over several years stretching from the late fifties to the early sixties. The group also reminisced over Recalls from their years at GMC and enjoyed the library’s exhibits.

HS and JC Classes of 1961

(Top photo, left to right): Danny Falligant, Ed Robinson, Bill Aylward, Jimmy Word, Marvin Farmer, Ben Underwood
(Above): Mr. and Mrs. Danny Falligant
(Left) Jimmy and Liesl O’Dell with Ed Robinson
(Below) John Ferguson, Felix Moring, Danny Falligant, Tom Moore, Ed Robinson, Marvin Farmer, Howard Underwood, Hugh Dicks, Jimmy O’Dell, Bill Aylward
JC Class of 1976

Members of the bicentennial class began arriving in Milledgeville early for Alumni Weekend - to have plenty of time to visit and, though one class member was unaware, to be sure that all was in order for their special dinner on Thursday night. For that event, everyone gathered at BoJo’s to meet and greet and to be part of the fun when Bob Yingling “discovered” that he was the 2011 GMC Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient.

Friday found them on GMC’s campus picking up registration packages, catching up with each other and new arrivals, touring campus, and then eventually gathering under the Alumni Weekend tent for the dinner and dancing to the music of The Soul Purpose Band.

Saturday morning brought them back bright and early to enjoy the parade and to cheer their class member as he was recognized on the reviewing stand and presented his award.

The class once again gathered Saturday evening to enjoy the pre-concert dinner and to attend the concert and dessert reception, which was the grand finale of the weekend’s planned events.
HS Class of 1996

The Class of 1996 celebrated their 15th year reunion during Alumni Weekend, attending the Friday night dinner dance where daring lady class members took center stage to perform “Respect” with The Soul Purpose Band. The group also enjoyed gathering at a local eatery, The Brick, and spending the afternoon at John and Amanda Wood’s home.

2012 Alumni Weekend Reunions

Early Commissioning Program Graduates
Contact: Earlene Hamilton
478-445-0205/ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us

25th – 1987 HS and JC “The Silver Brigade”
Contact: Earlene Hamilton
478-445-0205/ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us

Class Agent: Terry “Falstaff” Johnson
Terry@rockycomfortplantation.com

1960s Band Company Reunion
Class Agent: Terry “Falstaff” Johnson
Terry@rockycomfortplantation.com

Other Reunions:
1960s Era Reunion – June 2, 2012
Class agent: Charles Wilcher
478-454-6578/bulldog90@windstream.net

40th Class Reunion – 1972 GMC HS and Baldwin High School - July 20–21, 2012
Class Agent: Jean Grant Graham
478-457-5973/jgg54@windstream.net

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.
Alumni Award Recipients 2011

Georgia Military College alumni and friends gathered on October 21 and 22 to celebrate Alumni Weekend 2011 and to recognize the year’s alumni award recipients.

LTC Robert W. Yingling, II, USA (Ret.)
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Lt. B. Dwayne Prosser
ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CPT Thomas Harper
OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNUS

Mr. Terry M. Johnson
GMC SERVICE AWARD

Mr. W. Barry Adams
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

COL Fred Van Horn, USA (Ret.)
HONORARY ALUMNUS AWARD

Individuals in this select group are representative of the fine character and countless acts of excellence displayed by the alumni and friends of Georgia Military College. GMC is fortunate to have been part of the lives of each of these fine people. Their contributions have, without a doubt, made the world a better place.

To read more about their accomplishments, visit www.gmc.cc.ga.us, and select “Alumni” and then “Awards” from the menu.
The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni whose lives have embodied the ideals of Georgia Military College including discipline, moral character, and learning, whose accomplishments have made a conspicuous and positive impression on those who will follow their lead, and whose lives are examples of extraordinary accomplishment. Robert W. Yingling is this year’s Distinguished Alumnus.

A 1976 graduate (JC), he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant of Air Defense Artillery and served with distinction throughout his 22-year career in the United States Army. He led at every level through his military career, was committed to excellence and had deep regard for his fellow soldiers and comrades. He earned a reputation as a skilled communicator and an articulate leader with a broad-ranging grasp of the complex nature of his craft. He led young staff officers in drills essential to success in battle and the preservation of lives. Through a superb ethic and discipline, Yingling presented an example of fitness to lead and physical presence that commanded respect. Always physically fit, he was respected for his ability to lead, and not just participate, in the physically demanding elements of the profession of arms. Many of the young officers who followed him are today’s commanders in the field.

After military retirement, Yingling continued applying his characteristic skills as an Air Defense Capabilities subject matter expert for naval and land based integration. He made significant contributions to Joint Force readiness and capability. Yingling was uniquely able to provide insights on the intellectual underpinnings of the actions and reactions of opposing forces in likely scenarios worldwide. For over seven years he was singularly effective in joint and combined exercises as a skilled coach, observer and controller in major joint and combined exercises. Yingling has been responsible as the Combatant Command regional engagement lead as the Pacific Command (PACOM) Principal. He also supported all four Regional Combatant Commands and in this role, he’s been key to assessing the synchronization of Combatant Command plans. As a result, he has played an exceptionally vital role in framing the thinking of senior U.S. and Coalition leaders.

Bob is a loving husband to his wife of 34 years, Cindy, a devoted father and grandfather, a trusted advisor, and skilled coach to U.S. leaders of prominence. Without question, he has continuously built upon the foundation he gained at Georgia Military College through his highly successful military and civilian careers. Bob has distinguished himself and continues to display the characteristics at the very foundation of GMC: Duty, Honor, Country. His continuing service reflects great credit upon himself, the Class of 1976, and the historic values and principles of Georgia Military College.

The Alumni Achievement Award is designated for an alumnus who has attained notable success in his chosen field or profession, and whose achievement might serve as an inspiration to anyone considering entering that chosen field or profession, or might serve as inspiration to anyone to excel in his chosen field or profession because of the example set by the recipient of this award.

Following graduation from GMC, Dwayne Prosser began his career as a law enforcement officer in Milbridgeville, Georgia, where he worked for the Department of Corrections while also attending classes at Georgia College, later moving to Atlanta. Prosser ultimately served twenty-one years in law enforcement, retiring as a lieutenant.

During his career, he served as a Special Agent assigned to the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force for the southeastern U.S., responsible for investigations of high level drug trafficking organizations primarily originating in Columbia and Peru. Prosser then served as a Special Agent assigned to the U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Organized Crime Unit, responsible for investigating criminal organizations under the Racketeering Influenced Criminal Organization statute of the United States Code.

Subsequent assignments found him in Fayette County, Georgia, first as a SWAT Commander of a Special Weapons and Tactics Team responsible for planning and executing all tactical operations ranging from hostage situations to service of high risk warrants and then as a supervisor for the Criminal Investigations Division responsible for investigations ranging from property crimes to homicide. Prosser also served on the Tactical Advisory Board for coordination of assets at the 2005 G-8 conference at Sea Island, Georgia. His last assignment before retirement was as Senior Instructor for incoming police academy recruits, responsible for all aspects mandated for the basic thirteen-week Police Academy.

During his law enforcement career Prosser received five Outstanding Service to the Community awards as well as other Instructor Awards and Certifications including the Medal of Merit for investigation, arrest, and conviction of a 26-year-old cold case involving serial killer Carl Millard Patton Jr.

Prosser served as Director of Corporate Investigations and Security for Post Properties for three years, handling all security/investigative-related matters for a publicly-traded multifamily real estate company, including liaison with multiple law enforcement agencies. Looking for a more significant challenge, he changed career paths. He is currently serving as an advisor to the United States Army for the Department of Defense in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, responsible for advising U.S. Army commanders in all law enforcement-related matters, as well as the training of local national police units in a fledgling democracy.
Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
CPT Thomas Harper JC 2004
Washington, D.C.

The Outstanding Young Alumni Award recognizes alumni who, having completed their studies at GMC within the past fifteen years, have demonstrated excellence in academics or in their chosen professions, or who have made great strides in their personal life, and who show promise of continuing excellence.

During a private ceremony on July 25, 2011, at the French Ambassador’s Residence in Washington, D.C., five National Guardsmen and one active duty special forces soldier, among whom was former GMC cadet, Captain Thomas Harper (JC 2004) and the leader of the unit, were honored with the Croix de la Valeur Militaire (“Cross of Military Valor”) by the Ambassador of France to the United States, François Delattre, following their actions in assisting French troops under fire during combat operations in Afghanistan in the spring of 2011. The medal is France’s equivalent of the U.S. Silver Star. Created in 1956 by the French government to reward extraordinary deeds of bravery carried out as part of security and law enforcement operations, the Croix de la Valeur Militaire – or French Cross of Military Valor – is one of the most respected decorations in the French military, and a rarely bestowed honor.

Also present at the ceremony were some of the United States’ top-ranking military personnel, including Navy Adm. Eric Olson, commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; Army Lt. Gen. John Mulholland, commanding general, U.S. Army Special Operations Command; Army Lt. Gen. Richard Zahner, deputy chief of staff for intelligence; and General Martin Dempsey, Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

A full narrative of the exact events that earned the six their awards cannot be shared but there is an abbreviated one. It begins with a mortar shell that whistled from a Taliban nest atop a mountain ridge overlooking villages in the Kapisa Province of northeast Afghanistan and into the middle of an Army National Guard Special Forces unit. The 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces unit was providing security for the French Foreign Legion in the Uzbeen Valley as part of Operation Septentrion, protecting Task Force Lafayette troops engaged in a classified mission.

The blast divided the unit, wounding four soldiers and exposing them to enemy gunfire. Despite his own injuries, one of those men — Captain Thomas Harper — ran through a hail of bullets to retrieve rocket shells for the team’s rocket launcher, determined to protect the forces at all costs.

The rest of the story tells of men surrounded, wildly outnumbered and pinned down for hours; of men who fought on despite severe injuries; of lifesaving buddy aid under withering, accurate fire – and of declined opportunities to be medically evacuated in order to stay in the fight until the last man was out safe.

Harper has been in the military since 2001. He lives for his military service and has been deployed most of the last decade on missions overseas. “This is what I love to do,” he said.

GMC Service Award
Terry M. Johnson JC 1962
Warrenton, Georgia

The GMC Service Award is designated for an alumnus/alumna or friend of Georgia Military College who has rendered special service to the school or to any of its ancillary organizations including the GMC Alumni Association, the Bulldog Club, the Booster Club, or the GMC Foundation, Inc.

When Terry “Falstaff” Johnson left GMC in 1962, he swore that he would never return, stating that he was never much on taking orders. But his friend Cliff Owdom was different – welcoming the chance to get back to GMC and coming to Alumni Weekend for most of the years since he graduated. He went to work on Johnson, always being met with the same response: “I didn’t lose anything over there and don’t have any reason to go back there.” Twenty years later, Johnson finally “caved.”

He became one of the most active promoters of GMC’s Alumni Weekend – a man on a mission to gather as many former Band Company members as possible throughout the year. “Once you get far enough away, you can look back on what we had,” said Johnson. “And what we had was a brotherhood.”

What began with finding members of Band Company for their personal reunion and encouraging them to attend Alumni Weekend was somehow not enough, so it “grew” to include the annual “road trip” – now in its third season – to actually visit members who have not been to a reunion in recent years, if ever. The “reunion,” which started out with a specific year, has also expanded to include several class years, and Johnson has worked with a number of class agents to reach out to even more Band Company alumni.

And now, that mission has expanded even further. Last year Johnson took on a project that has evolved from initially searching for any lost Band Company alumni in the decade of the ’60s into specifically focusing on the 50th reunion class, the Gold Brigade, each year going forward. He has spent countless hours doing Internet research, calling local funeral homes, public libraries, and numerous individuals in order to find and verify the contact information and status of GMC alumni. This data has all been shared with the GMC staff to be used in updating the school’s alumni database.

With the help of other volunteers, he has called, e-mailed, written, and/or visited every one of the GMC alumni who has been located – and there are many to his credit.

Johnson is a lifelong resident of Warren Country, Georgia, where he was raised on the family farm, land that has been in Johnson Family since 1793. He currently resides there with his wife Virginia. He served six years in the Georgia National Guard (Btry B 1st Bn 214th Arty), six years on the Warrenton City Council, and eight years on the Warren County Board of Commissioners. Johnson retired from GIW Industries in Grovetown, Georgia, with 30 years of service.
**The Community Service Award**

**W. Barry Adams**

*JC 1968*

*Aiken, South Carolina*

The Community Service Award is given to Georgia Military College alumni who, through leadership, inspiration, teamwork, or hard work in the spirit of volunteerism or in their professional activities, have taken the lessons of GMC’s Character Education beyond the classroom and whose actions are characterized by a history of exemplary service resulting in unquestionable improvements within their community.

Barry Adams, a native of Johnston, South Carolina, has spent 37 years in the banking business. The longtime Palmetto Federal and Regions Bank Executive, who most recently served as the market president for the Aiken area four-county region, joined Security Federal Bank in 2010 to work with branch administration and commercial lending. He wanted the opportunity to be involved with a bank which has its primary interest in the market that Security Federal serves - Aiken and ranging from Columbia County to Columbia, South Carolina. Adams stated, “Security Federal is the perfect size in today’s banking world.” Reflecting his interest in his community, he also said, “Their future is very bright. They have quality board members, and it’s a terrific organization that to me has proved its character through its investment of time and money in the community.”

Prophetic words ... Adams has proved his character with investments of time and money in his community as well. His community involvement includes the Salvation Army Advisory Board, the Rotary Club of Aiken, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Chair of Paul Knox Educational Endowment Fund, Foundation Chair of Public Education Partners, Aiken SCE&G Advisory Board, USCA School of Business Advisory Board, and former Chair of the Aiken Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, he is a member of the Campaign Leadership Council for ALL ABOARD, which is a bold five-year program to recreate the original Aiken Railroad Depot in downtown Aiken. As a stop on the South Carolina Heritage Corridor, the initiative will stimulate economic and community development as well as tourism in the Greater Aiken area and will also provide a perfect venue for interactive educational field trips for students to learn the history of the City of Aiken, Aiken County and South Carolina.

Adams is currently serving as deacon at Aiken’s First Baptist Church, where he has also served as a member as well as Chair of the Personnel and Finance Committees. Additionally he has served his church as Director of the Adult III Sunday School and Deacon Chair.

Barry and his wife, Sara, live in Aiken, South Carolina, and have two adult children, Clay (wife Jessie) and April.

**The Honorary Alumnus Award**

**COL Fred Van Horn, USA (Ret.)**

*Milledgeville, Georgia*

The Honorary Alumni Award is bestowed upon individuals who are not alumni of Georgia Military College, but who have rendered special or exceptional service to the school or to its Alumni Association, and who, by virtue of their service, are worthy of the designation of GMC Alumnus and all that the designation entails.

COL Van Horn came to GMC in 1995 as the Commandant of Cadets after a long and distinguished military career. He served in the Army for thirty three years first as an enlisted man and later as an officer rising to the rank of Colonel and serving as Chief of Staff at Fort Drum, New York. He was the first inductee into the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy Hall of Honor and has been inducted into the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame.

At GMC, Van Horn served as the Commandant of Cadets from 1995 until 1999 when he became the Executive Vice President for the institution. In that capacity, he has managed and motivated the staff, allowing them to achieve success for GMC far beyond their own expectations and personal limits. He is, in fact, a critical component of the team that has moved GMC into the twenty-first century. His strategic orientation and deep thought have been critical to the school’s advancement, and he is the driving force behind the details of the execution of President Boylan’s plans and goals. He is recognized for identifying solutions that are simple, practical, and workable and always center on what is best for GMC.

He has also been critical to the progress of the institution as it has moved off numerous military bases around the state and has established itself as a true community college in those communities. This effort has enabled the tremendous growth of the student body from 2,918 in 1999 to more than 6,000 in 2011. This growth in students and the accompanying income has allowed GMC to open its doors and become the starting point for many first generation college students. Van Horn proactively moves the institution forward in a myriad of ways, always focusing on its students and their success in achieving their dreams.

Also active within the Milledgeville community, Van Horn’s vast experience, deep intellect, and broad professional knowledge allow him to be an asset to every organization in which he participates. His multiple nominations for Honorary Alumnus acknowledge that many are aware of the tremendous service and devotion this quiet man gives to his family, his country, and his “adopted” school, GMC, and collectively reflect their strong belief that he is truly deserving of the honor of being recognized as Honorary Alumnus.
Nomination Criteria

Alumni Achievement
Awarded to Georgia Military College alumni who have attained notable success in their chosen field or profession at the local, state, or national level, and whose achievements might serve as an inspiration to anyone considering entering their chosen field or profession, or might serve as an inspiration to others to excel in their chosen field or profession because of the example set by the recipients of this award.

Outstanding Recent Alumni
Awarded to Georgia Military College alumni who, having completed their studies at GMC within the past fifteen years, have demonstrated excellence in academics or in their chosen careers or professions, or who have made great strides in their personal lives, and who show promise of continuing excellence.

Community Service Award
Awarded to Georgia Military College alumni who through leadership, inspiration, teamwork, or hard work in the spirit of volunteerism or in their professional activities, have taken the lessons of GMC’s character education beyond the classroom and whose actions are characterized by a history of exemplary service resulting in unquestionable improvements within their community.

Distinguished Alumni
Awarded to Georgia Military College alumni whose lives have embodied the ideals of GMC: discipline, leadership, moral character, and learning, and whose accomplishments have made a significant impact or fundamental change within a specific profession, career, or endeavor, or whose accomplishments have made a conspicuous and positive impression on those who will follow their lead in the field or endeavor, and whose lives are examples of extraordinary accomplishment.

Honorary Alumni
Awarded to individuals who are not alumni of Georgia Military College, but who have rendered special or exceptional service to the school or to its Alumni Association, and who, by virtue of their service, are worthy of the designation of GMC alumnus and all that the designation entails.

GMC Service Award
Awarded to alumni or friends of Georgia Military College who have rendered special or exceptional service to the school or to any of its ancillary organizations, including, but not limited to, the GMC Alumni Association, the GMC Bulldog Club, the GMC Booster Club, or the GMC Foundation, Inc.

Nominate your choice for the 2012 Alumni Awards!

We invite alumni and friends to submit nominations for the 2012 GMC Alumni Awards. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2012. 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: hamilto@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

May we reveal your name to the recipient?
Please provide your class year(s), degree(s), address, phone number and email.
It was his laugh that most remembered. They came to introduce themselves to his parents that chilly morning while the lines thinned at the registration tables; fraternity brother, classmate, Sunday School friend. Each had a story to share about Will Robinson, their own laughter breaking out with foggy breaths. "He laughed a lot," said his father Ed. "A deep, heavy laugh," his mother Marcia added.

Inspired by his life and enduring spirit, the community gathers each fall for the annual Will Robinson Memorial Run -- a 5K Road Race and 1 Mile Fun Run held to honor the memory of Baldwin County's only fallen Deputy Sheriff.

In his brief 26 years, Robinson touched many lives. Even today, 16 years after he was killed in the line of duty, he is remembered not only by those who knew him personally, but by friends of friends, by fellow GMC alumni, and by generations of students who weren't even born before his death in 1995.

Will’s parents, Ed and Marcia Robinson, have been to almost every race over the past 16 years, save a couple. It’s still emotional, Marcia explained, and sometimes impossible to get up and make it on the morning of the run. "With time it gets a little easier because you grow some scar tissue, but there's still a huge hole in my heart," she said. "But the good memories, the wonderful memories are what you hold on to, and William gave us plenty of those."

She laughed that morning before the race with Julie Snider Griffin who had recently run across a picture of a teenaged Will in Panama City for a church retreat. "He had the best heart," said Griffin. "You couldn’t help but laugh and have a good time when you were around him."

This year’s race was Griffin’s first. After suffering a stroke caused by a brain aneurysm in 2007, she had regained enough physical capacity to walk the length of the race. She said Will’s Memorial Run is an inspiration. "What is amazing to me is the different ages of all the people here," she said. "They all knew somebody who knew somebody who knew Will."
There were more than 400 participants in this year’s race, half of whom were students and faculty representing GMC -- the school’s largest showing in nine years. “It is always an emotional time for so many of us as we remember a good person who gave his all for our community,” said Prep School Principal Col. John Thornton. Thornton also gave special thanks to Stacie Stevenson for her efforts in helping to coordinate GMC’s involvement.

The race is co-sponsored by the Baldwin County Sheriff’s Department and the GMC Alumni Association. Proceeds from the race help fund the Will Robinson Scholarship for students at GMC along with the Baldwin County Sheriff’s Office’s CHAMPS program that makes the Junior Deputy Camp possible each summer.

“We’re happy to see such a good crowd each year,” said Marcia Robinson. “GMC always makes a very nice showing and we have a lot of the same people come back every year.”

Devie Archebelle, a classmate of Will’s, was one of these returning runners. As a member of the GMC Alumni Board she helped long-time co-chair Suzanne Martin Ratliff, who coordinates the event with the Sheriff’s Department each year. Since she was already involved, she decided to go ahead and register, even though she’d never run a race in her life. After that, she was hooked.

“It was so much fun because it was for a good cause – in memory of my friend Will – and all of these people had come out to remember and support him,” she said. “I’ve been doing races ever since, so this year’s race was my one year anniversary.”

This year’s Will Robinson Memorial Run will be held on Saturday, November 17, 2012.

For more information, call Suzanne Ratliff at (478) 451-7155 or Capt. Chris Spires at the Sheriff’s Dept (478) 445-1929 or visit www.facebook.com/gmcalumni.
On December 6, 2011, Savannah area alumni got together at Johnny Harris’ restaurant to reminisce - telling stories on each other and on themselves – while enjoying dinner. The get-together was attended by 13 area alumni, ranging in class years from the late 1950s to 1990, as well as several spouses. Joe Mobley, alumni board VP, and alumnus, Ed Robinson, who made personal contacts for this gathering, traveled from Milledgeville to join the Savannah group. All enjoyed the evening, with after dinner testimonials keeping the group around the table long after the meal.

On January 17, 2012, Band Company members met in Augusta at T-Bonz to kick off the new year but, more importantly, to visit with classmate Cliff Owdom, who had been ill and missed last year’s reunion during Alumni Weekend. The stories were tall – VERY TALL – and everyone had several to tell, but that’s much of the fun of these gatherings.

Fourth Annual Auction

The fourth annual auction to support the GMC Prep School football program will be held Saturday June 2, at 6:00 p.m. at the Milledgeville Country Club. With a Hawaiian Luau theme, the auction will include heavy hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar (dress is casual). Your support will provide new team uniforms and safety equipment for the middle school and high school football team players. It will also help the boys go as a team to summer football camp and provide meals for the players during away games. Tickets are $25 each or $40 per couple. The committee is currently accepting monetary donations and items to be considered for the auction. For additional information, contact Patricia Baugh Thompson (HS ’73) at 478-452-9217 or trisha90@ccmi1.com.

The Georgia Military College Prep School Varsity Softball Team was the Region 7A Runner-Up and placed eighth in the state.

The Georgia Military College Prep School Competition Cheerleading Team won the Region 7A Championship and placed eighth at the state competition.
Fairburn Campus Recognized

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and the Livable Communities Coalition (LCC) recognized five of the region’s most innovative developments and one “Great Place,” with the 2011 Developments of Excellence Awards. The winners, announced at ARC’s annual State of the Region breakfast on Friday, November 4, were:

- Perkins+Will Atlanta Office, Development of Excellence
- Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area, Great Place
- Fairburn Educational Campus, Livable Centers Initiative Achievement Award
- Trees Atlanta Keneda Center, Leadership in Sustainability
- Duluth Downtown Phase I, Exceptional Merit for Context-Sensitive Infill
- The Brickworks, Exceptional Merit for Adaptive Reuse

The Developments of Excellence awards, presented annually by ARC and the LCC, recognize developments in the 10-county Atlanta region that exemplify cutting-edge, livable designs that are helping to create a positive framework for future development. The Great Place, making its debut this year, is given to a place in metro Atlanta that represents livability and sustainability, but is not necessarily a single, private development.

“We are proud to recognize developers, local governments and nonprofit organizations that change the way people and businesses in the Atlanta region interact,” said ARC Chairman Tad Leithead. “These projects and their success show us that metro Atlantans want to create a better region that is sustainable both economically and environmentally for future generations.”

Development of Excellence, Livable Centers Initiative Achievement Award
City of Fairburn Educational Campus

ARC’s Livable Centers Initiative provides grants to seed new ideas for more livable, walkable communities throughout our region.

Looking to boost economic development in its downtown area, the City of Fairburn and the Fairburn Development Authority decided that investing in education was the answer. With an anchor tenant waiting in the wings, the collaborative used $10 million to finance a ready-built college or technical school campus. Today, satellite campuses of Georgia Military College (GMC) and Brenau University occupy space in classically-designed education buildings. Situated along Highway 29, the campus will eventually consist of four education buildings, an administration building and two commercial buildings to provide needed services to the campus and to downtown Fairburn.

GMC Prep Joins Georgia GOAL Program

GMC Prep School is pleased to announce that we are now a participating member of the Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program. Georgia GOAL will help us provide funds to deserving students who wish to obtain the quality, character-based education that only GMC can offer.

Friends of GMC may designate a portion of their state income taxes to be redirected to GMC Prep School to help offset expenses for those who qualify. Much like our existing financial aid program, both grades and discipline will be tied in with a student’s ability to qualify and maintain scholarship dollars. This state-based nonprofit organization will work closely with GMC to monitor and maintain available funds to our students.

GMC Prep will join well over one hundred other tuition-driven K-12 schools in our state in providing extra assistance to those who need it the most. COL John Thornton, principal, stated, “I am very excited that GMC will provide a direction for those who would like their state tax dollars to be used in a way that is dear to our hearts and that is providing another avenue to help deserving students attend our beloved institution.”

For additional information, you may call the GMC Prep School at 387-387-4851, or check out the Georgia GOAL web site at www.goalscholarship.org.
GMC Impacts Super Bowl XLVI
By Bert Williams, GMC JC Athletic Director and Head Football Coach

As GMC alumni watched the Super Bowl this year, if they were paying attention to the NY Giant sidelines, they would have noticed a very familiar face – former GMC Head Football Coach and Athletic Director Robert Nunn – prowling the sidelines and coaching his defensive line unit. Throughout the playoffs, the NY Giants defensive line played a critical role in the success and eventual achievement of a championship for their team.

Coach Nunn departed GMC after nine years of service to our institution to take advantage of a coaching position at the Miami Dolphins in 2000. His road to the Super Bowl was a lengthy one, including stops at Miami (2000-2002, 2004), Washington (2003), Green Bay (2005-2008), Tampa Bay (2009), and with the now World Champion NY Giants (2010-present). Nice to know that Georgia Military College can truly make an impact anywhere and on any level!

Former GMC Football Players Announce College Choices

For 28 former GMC football players their 2011 season campaign ended last November against rival Lackawanna College. However, the game did not mark the end of their playing careers. Georgia Military College has long provided young men with the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of playing college football at the next level. Not only do they get to show case their athletic prowess while on campus, but they also develop their study skills and character development through the Cadet Corp. The 2011 sophomore class was no exception as 28 individuals signed National Letters of Intent to further their education and athletic abilities to institutions all across the United States. These individuals pushed the total number of student athletes that GMC has produced in its 21-year history to over 415.

Twelve individuals graduated at the end of the 2011 fall quarter and are already enrolled at their respective institutions. These twelve individuals mark the most December graduates that the program has had. The breakdown of schools that these individuals signed to is: 5 Division 1, 13 Division 1AA, and 10 Division 2. Schools from the likes of the University of Tennessee to Newberry College are represented. Most notably, Daniel McCullers, GMC’s 6’7, 380 pound defensive lineman signed with the University of Tennessee. Antonio Marshall, a defensive back from nearby Rochelle, Ga., signed with Indiana University. Defensive lineman, Keon Stowers signed with the University of Kansas and will follow their new coach Charlie Weis to the plains. Defensive back, Chris Owens will travel north to the Bluegrass State and play for the Colonels of Eastern Kentucky University. There are also several individuals who will continue their playing careers alongside fellow 2011 GMC teammates. Offensive linemen James Barnes and Sterling Jenkins will play at Presbyte- rian College. Linebacker Marquis Lovett and running back Jarrett Neely will be at Alabama State. Quarterback Dylan Shaddix and running back R.J. Robinson will continue at Norfolk State. Defensive lineman Anthony Smith and David Watson will head to Arkansas and play at Arkansas Pine Bluff. Lastly, five individuals who all have South Carolina roots will go back to their home state and play at Division 2 Newberry College. In turn, these individuals were able to continue the history and tradition of GMC football and all that it stands for. We look forward to seeing how their collegiate careers play out at the next level.
High School Stars Choose GMC

The first Wednesday in February marked the first time that the Georgia Military College football coaching staff learned how their team will look, at least on paper, going into the 2012 season. Signing date marks a culmination of recruiting efforts that have lasted for several months. The National Signing Day is a time for much anticipation as high school players throughout the Southeast informed coaching staffs of their decisions. Per tradition, these future college players sign their National Letters of Intent and then notify their new school via fax as early as 7:30 a.m. On the other end are their future coaches huddled around a fax machine waiting with much anticipation, nervousness, and angst, as were GMC’s coaches as they ushered in 46 individuals for their 2012 Incoming Signing Class. On paper, this class could prove to be very fruitful as the coaches addressed their needs at positions across the board.

Junior College football coaching staffs generally lose half of their players at the end of their second season. In turn, the coaching staff has to “reload” so to speak, and put together a class that will meet the needs of their team at nearly every position. The 2012 signing class that the GMC staff put together has individuals that are represented throughout the Southeast and met those needs. The individual breakdown per state is as follows: Georgia 18, North Carolina 7, Alabama 6, Florida 6, and South Carolina 5. There are also three individuals that come as far as Virginia, Maryland, and Michigan. The biggest haul of this particular class is offensive lineman Adam Duckett of Orlando, Fla. Duckett stands at 6’7, weighs 350 pounds, and was ranked as the #43 player in the top Florida 100 by certain publications. There are several Georgians represented as well. Offensive Lineman D.J. Williams from Northside Warner Robins, Free Safety Lafayette Williams from Jefferson County, and Martez Waller from Putnam County are just a few of the central Georgia players that chose GMC.

The GMC coaching staff is extremely excited about the prospects for the 2012 season. The cupboard will not be bare because the 46 individuals that chose GMC understand the commitment to excellence which will be required of them. Much hard work is left to be done, but the signing of these individuals is a great step in the right direction.

GMC Soccer Hits New Highs in 2012

Coach Kerem Daser led the GMC men’s and women’s soccer teams to their best seasons ever in 2012. Both teams achieved many new program highs including most games won in a season and most points scored in a season; both the teams and several individuals achieved honors for the season.

The men’s team finished the season 7-9, with a conference record of 6-6 and merited a fourth seed spot in the conference tournament. The team earned its first berth in the post season in program history and hosted a home playoff match. The Bulldogs were one game away from earning the second seed after a tough loss in overtime to South Georgia College. The Bulldogs had some remarkable wins in 2012, but tops among them was a victory on the road against one of the top programs in the country, #4 ranked Georgia Perimeter College. Several Bulldogs earned post season honors: Sean Kelly earned 1st Team All-Conference and was the leading scorer in the conference; Josimar Grissett earned 2nd Team All-Conference; and Renee Njikang also earned 2nd Team All-Conference. Coach Kerem Daser earned Conference Coach of the Year for the remarkable season he had with both programs. The future looks bright with nine starters returning from the team for the 2012 season.

The women’s team finished the season at 7-10 with a 5-7 conference record, earning a sixth seed in the conference tournament. The Bulldogs were highly competitive in every game and were a couple of good breaks from their first ever winning season record. Elizabeth Holley was among conference leaders in scoring with 14 goals and is one of the six starters who will be returning for the Bulldogs in 2012.
GMC JC Softball

The GMC softball season is just getting started and the Lady Bulldogs are looking forward to another successful year. This year’s team is comprised of four sophomores, three returners and one transfer, and eleven freshmen. Although we have a young group of girls our sophomores have really stepped up and became good leaders and role models for the younger players. All eleven freshmen have shown tremendous ability to handle pressure situations and are ready to help lead this team back to the conference tournament. We have four pitchers who will all see time on the mound this season, Sophomores Erin Gibson and Amanda Evans will lead the way for the Lady Bulldogs. Both of them have worked very hard to improve from last year and are ready to face every challenge thrown their way. Gibson and Evans are also two of our top hitters and will see significant playing time at other positions as well. Our other two pitchers, Freshmen Amber McIntyre and Taylor Moore, will also see quality time on the mound this year. Both girls have worked hard throughout the fall and early this winter in order to be ready for their first college season. The catching duties will be split between sophomore Lindsey Fisher and freshmen Caitlyn Casey and Kristen Kaska. All three girls swing a powerful stick and will be key players in the lineup. Rounding out the infield is sophomore Felicia Shelton, who will see time at both second and third, and freshmen Stacey Couey at shortstop, Kaylee Skipper at first, and Mary Byram at second. Balls hit into the outfield will be chased down by one of four freshmen, Kaley Payne, Emily Peavy, Jasmine Thompson, or Casey Young. We look forward to seeing what our girls are capable of doing this season. They have worked very hard to get to this point and are ready to go. We would like to invite you all out to our games, and as always, GO BULLDOGS!

GMC Cross Country

The junior college cross country team completed an overall successful season in November. They competed in four races leading up to the Regional Championships at the end of October, hosted by Darton College. At Regionals, Andrew Scheffey was named a second team All-American Athlete for placing sixth overall. The men’s team as a whole placed third overall in Region 17. This was a very big achievement for the men’s cross country team, especially because they are the only Division III team in our region. In November, the men’s cross country team traveled to Massachusetts for the Division III National Championship race. They placed 15th in the nation and showed great effort while spectacularly representing GMC. The team is currently awaiting results to see who will receive honors as Academic All-American Athletes during the 2011-2012 school year. We expect that several of the runners will receive awards, if not the team as a whole. Congratulations to Andrew Scheffey, Ben Chapman, Robert Bradham, Blake Lamb, Chris Landrum, Shawn Allen and Shawann Crumpler for competing very well at Regionals and Nationals, and especially for representing Georgia Military College at its finest while traveling.
The Georgia Military College (GMC) Junior College Rifle Team (JCRT) began the 2011-2012 season with lots of optimism, according to Coach Joseph Henao. It is the first time in years that the JCRT has begun its season with so many experienced shooters. Currently, the team has competed in five Southeastern Air Rifle Conference sanctioned events. For the first time in GMC’s JCRT history, potential members have had to be turned away because they did not have enough determination or skill to competitively shoot in sanctioned matches. Also, it is the first time in JCRT history that the team has consisted of two Coast Guard prep cadets. The two cadets, Brett Losey and Bobby McKenna, have added much-needed shooting experience to the team. Overall, the team’s scores at competition have greatly improved since these two cadets have joined the team. The team is currently lead by the team captain, Larry Massey, who often has to deal with the team members’ unique dilemma of facing the four-year colleges. This is considered to be a unique dilemma for JCRT members because they have only two years to hone their skills while at GMC before they move onto the same four-year colleges that they compete against.

2011-2012 GMC Rifle Team Members:
Markesha Burton
Jara Charleton
Diana Duncan
Cole Laseter
Brett Losey
Larry Massey
Bobby Mckenna
Michael Roberson
LaToni Smith
James Squires
Arielle Vann
Breona Weldon

GMC Prep Seniors to Play College Softball

Two GMC Prep Seniors recently signed letters of intent to play college softball in the fall. Alyssa Amerson (right) will attend Middle Georgia College and Bethany Crews (left) will play on Couch Field at Georgia Military College.
’48 Coach Bill Yost (JC 1948) attended the U.S. Army All-American Bowl as honorary coach in January. He is pictured with running back Barry Sanders.

’55 Powell Moore (HS 1955), an influential Republican leader, is among the 300 persons or groups whose political papers and memorabilia were selected for inclusion in the Richard B. Russell Special Collections Library in Athens, Ga. This facility, which opened February 17, is considered a vital center for the study of Georgia’s public policy and cultural history.

’56 Lou E. Williams (HS 1956, JC 1958) and his wife Sharon celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary with a cruise to the Bahamas followed by a “Best of Show” big car show win for Lou’s 1934 Ford Tudor.

’60 John A. Bergman III (HS 1960) and his wife Elaine visited GMC this past September for the first time since he graduated. They toured campus and were truly impressed with all the changes that had occurred since Bergman attended here. He shared, “I remember vividly Major Kern giving me demerits every time I looked at him. Think I wore out six pair of shoes on the then famous bull ring.”

’61 Dr. John H. Ferguson (HS 1961, JC 1963), a long established orthodontist in Milledgeville, was honored with a Georgia Dental Association (GDA) Presidential Commendation, a personal acknowledgement of exceptional service from the GDA president. “Dr. Ferguson has helped numerous staff members and individuals throughout the state as chair of Georgia Dental Insurance Services,” said 2010-2011 GDA President Dr. Jay Harrington, who also attended GMC, as he presented his colleague and friend with the award.

’62 Dess Smith (JC 1962) and his wife Ginny wrote to share the news of the birth of their great-granddaughter Hadley Allison Princeon. Hadley arrived on August 9, 2011 in Nashville, Tenn., with a head full of dark hair and two small teeth.

Benjamin H. Underwood, FACHE (JC 1962) was awarded the Nelson J. Bradley, M.D. Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers in 2011. He had previously received the Chairman’s Award from the Georgia Hospital Association.

’65 George Butler (HS 1965) and his wife Jane dropped in for a surprise visit to GMC en route from a trip to Florida in January. George admitted that the campus really looked different from his days here—46 years ago!

’67 Richard H. Brinkley, Jr. (JC 1967) has just retired from the South Carolina Budget and Control Board after 25 years of service.

’74 Garry Couch (HS 1974) was recently inducted into the Georgia Dugout Club’s Softball Hall of Fame. He was recognized during the club’s banquet in Atlanta for career wins and leadership. In addition, during the weekend’s events, GMC’s Craig Field was named Class A field of the year at the annual Georgia Dugout Club Clinic. It was judged as the best baseball field in Class A in the state of Georgia for 2011. Couch, who accepted the award, said the recognition brought a flood of emotions, stating, “I’m grateful to GMC’s engineering crew and everyone who has worked so hard to keep up what my Dad, Bill Craig and Randy New started so many years ago.”

’77 Steven E. Clay (JC 1977) was recently notified that his book (actually a four-volume set), U.S. Army Order of Battle 1919-1941, won the Society of Military History’s 2012 Distinguished Book Award in the reference category.

Established in 1933 as the American Military History Foundation, renamed in 1939 the American Military Institute, and renamed again in 1990 the Society for Military History, the Society is devoted to stimulating and advancing the study of military history. Its membership (today more than 2300) has included many of the nation’s most prominent scholars, soldiers, and citizens interested in military history. Steven will receive the award in Washington, D.C., in May.

Sherrie G. Harding (HS 1977) is graduating from Kaplan University with her BSN and plans to follow up with an MSN in Nursing Education. She is a member of Kappa Alpha Honor Society of Nurses and the Golden Key International Nursing Honor Society. Her daughters, Kaylie and Karlie Harding, currently attend the eighth grade at GMC.


**'82** Eduardo “Eddy” Tamayo (HS 1982) is president-elect for Top of the Bay Kiwanis Club in Oldsmar, Fla.

**'85** LTC Charles “Buck” Bennett (UC 1985) assumed command of Regional Training Site for Maintainance, Georgia, 5th Ordinance Training Battalion on December 31, 2011. Buck and his wife Joni also support the Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Stewart, Ga. by hosting parties and events off post.

**'86** LTC Marvin T. “Marty” Baugh (HS 1986) was recently selected for promotion to colonel. Baugh is Commander of the 45th Contracting Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. and is currently deployed to Combined Joint Task Force 1, at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. He is married to the former Julia Caldwell of Milledgeville, and they have three sons, Connor, Cameron and Caeden.

**'87** LTC James E. (Rick) Morrison (UC 1987) is currently assigned to the Pentagon, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8, Program Analysis and Evaluation Directorate. He was recognized by Secretary of the Army, John M. McHugh, as the Military Runner-up for the 2010 Pace Award.

The Pace Award, named after former Secretary of the Army, Frank Pace, Jr., has been awarded every year since 1982. One Army officer, ranked lieutenant colonel or below, and one civilian employee, ranked GS-14 or below, assigned in a staff position at the Department of the Army headquarters, are chosen based on their performance and completion of significant assignments. Winners must demonstrate noteworthy improvements in an Army service area such as financial savings, or technological and military development.

Rick graduated from the Army War College in June 2011 with a Master of Strategic Studies degree and was recommended for promotion to colonel by the FY11 Colonel RC/AR Selection Board. Rick’s wife Julie is the 2011 Calvert County, Maryland Teacher of the Year.

**'90** Bailey Davidson (HS 1990) was married last April, in his words, “at the young age of 39, to my lovely wife, Larissa Thut, who originates from Switzerland.”

Davidson recently published his second book. Savannah Past and Present is a rephotographic survey of the city of Savannah and its surrounding areas. The 160-page hardcover book features a foreword by local author Martha Keber and offers a fascinating visual documentation of the transformation and preservation of this historic city. The collection of 144 images stretches from the River Street waterfront and commercial/residential areas of the Historic District to Tybee Island and Fort Screven. Each page juxtaposes a historic black and white image - from the archives of the Georgia Historical Society, the Savannah Historic Foundation, the Tybee Island Historical Society and others - with a present-day color image taken from the same point of view.

“Although this book is not the first rephotographic survey of Savannah, I feel that it is a true representation of the concept,” Davidson says. “Standing in the same spot as the previous photographer offers an honest ‘compare and contrast’ effect. It is my hope that Savannah Past and Present will give people a better understanding of the place we so love.”

Nikki Wilkinson Yancey (HS 1990) purchased All Purpose Moving of Milledgeville from local owner Will Jarriel in June of 2011. This is a full-service moving company which includes commercial and residential, local and long distance moving, packing and unpacking, and dispossessionary move out, as well as clean up and clean out and towing.

**MAJ Terry O’Neill** (UC 1990) is currently deployed to Afghanistan assigned to the AFPAK Hands Program. The program is a recent DoD initiative in which its participants undergo several months of language and cultural training prior to deployment. Once deployed, AFPAKs are placed in mentoring positions with the government of Afghanistan or Pakistan in order to help develop institutional capacity. In some positions, such as Terry’s, AFPAKs perform their duties in professional civilian attire—and sometimes, with relaxed grooming standards (as pictured here). AFPAK Hands’ interactions with the supported government help the country to enhance its capabilities and to sustain development long past the transition of security in Afghanistan in 2014. Says Terry, “Salam dostee man az GMC mey goy am.” (Greetings, my GMC friends.)

**'93** Laura Caldwell Pettus (HS 1993) and her husband Josef welcomed their third son, Canon Eli, on April 28, 2011 at Northside Hospital in Atlanta, Ga. “Big Brothers” are Jackson, age 4, and Jamison, age 2. Canon Eli weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 20” long when he arrived.

**'96** Christopher E. Wieters (HS 1996) and his wife Krista welcome son, Chris, Jr., born on June 12, 2011.

Charlene M. Young (JC 2002) is currently deployed to Iraq to close out Operation New Dawn mission.

Edward J. Gunderson (JC 2003) is being deployed to Afghanistan for the third time in March with the 1186th Transportation Battalion.

William Ross Couch (HS 2004) was recently engaged to Jamie Elizabeth Tyler, a 2007 graduate of Jones County High School and a former Georgia Military College 2009 JUCO student. Their wedding is planned for April 28, 2012. Couch was a sports writer at the Union Recorder at 18 years old and then took over as the sports editor the next year, where he stayed until he decided he wanted to go back and coach. He coached at GMC for three years while he finished his bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Couch was then hired by John Hancock as head girls’ and boys’ basketball coach and head baseball coach and won the region with the boys at John Hancock. Last August he was hired by Swainsboro High School as assistant football, head girls’ basketball and assistant baseball coach.

David Delgado (JC 2004) recently shared an update with us. In 2008 he graduated from Nova Southeastern University with his Doctorate in Pharmacy and has been “happily married to my lovely wife, Mrs. Jillian Marie Delgado, since 11/21/2008 - no kids yet.” Delgado returned from Afghanistan last August where he spent one year in Kandahar. He is currently stationed at Ft. Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina where he works as a pharmacist attached to the Warrior Transition Unit. Delgado will move to Hawaii this summer to work at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Christopher Ray Couch (HS 2007) has been hired as running backs coach at Missouri Southern University in Joplin, Mo.

Couch started his career coaching for GMC’s junior college for two years. He was then recruited to coach with Chris Hatcher at Georgia Southern as student coach with linebackers and tendencies in the box on game day. He currently works for Jeff Monken, the newly hired coach, at Georgia Southern.

David Delgado, since 11/21/2008 - no kids yet.” Delgado returned from Afghanistan last August where he spent one year in Kandahar. He is currently stationed at Ft. Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina where he works as a pharmacist attached to the Warrior Transition Unit. Delgado will move to Hawaii this summer to work at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Michael C. Flynn (JC 2008) had a pretty big year in 2011. He married his wife, Lisa, last November. Prior to that, last May, Flynn graduated from the University of Georgia with a double major in consumer economics and family financial planning and is currently working for a private wealth management firm, Homrich Berg, in Atlanta. He is still serving in the Georgia National Guard as a 1LT in E Co. 148th BSB and is attending the ordnance basic officer leader course at Fort Lee, Va. from January to May this year.

1LT Marcus Ruzek (JC 2007) and SGT Corey Speck were awarded the Bronze Star of Valor in November, 2011 for their actions while serving with the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat team of the Georgia National Guard in Afghanistan. The two soldiers are credited for saving a Polish soldier on September 10, 2009.

Ruzek, who was only 23 at the time, says Speck was the model of a soldier at war. “He is the epitome of what an American hero is. When you think of what a soldier is doing in combat...He literally, under fire, threw a man on his back and carried him out to safety. It doesn’t get much more amazing than that,” said Ruzek.

Humbled by the honor, 27-year-old Speck says it was Ruzek whose leadership stood out that day. “He just kept pushing on, kept pushing through, never froze up. Just never stopped. A true test of character. You don’t know what your body or mind is capable of until you’re tested and put in that situation,” said Speck.

Both soldiers have been back in Georgia for more than a year. Lt. Ruzek is based at the National Guard headquar- ters at Dobbins Air Reserve Base. Sgt. Speck is headed back to Afghanistan to work a nine-month security detail.

“He just kept pushing on, kept pushing through, never froze up. Just never stopped.”

— SGT Corey Speck

Pictured from left to right: Mark Ruzek (father), Lori Ruzek (mother), Marcus Ruzek, and LTC Matt Smith, Commander during Operation Enduring Freedom 2009-2010
Step back in time!

Visit the Georgia Military College Recall Collection at:
www.gmc.cc.ga.us > Alumni > Online Yearbooks/Recalls

A Look Ahead

May 11 – Mother’s Day Parade
7:00 p.m., Grant Parade

May 18 – Memorial Day Parade
2:30 p.m., Grant Parade

May 25 – Prep School Graduation
7:00 p.m., Grant Parade

June 1 – Junior College Graduation
7:00 p.m., Grant Parade

Mark Your Calendar!

October 19 and 20
Alumni Weekend 2012

Check out the new video
“Reflections of the Past. Vision for the Future.”
Under the About section of GMC’s website www.gmc.cc.ga.us.
Alumni, friends, current students and faculty discuss what Georgia Military College means to them and celebrate the great strides GMC has made thanks to the leadership of MG Peter J. Boylan.

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.
We also need to keep our records current, so if you have moved recently or are planning to move, please submit your news online at:
Or, you may contact Earlene Hamilton at: (478) 445-0205, fax to: (478) 445-2867 or email: ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us.
If you include a photograph, please be sure to identify all people pictured.
We look forward to hearing from you!
BG Robert T. Dunn, USA (Ret.)
(HS 1932)
August 5, 2011

William Samuel Turner, Jr.
(HS 1932, JC 1934)
February 17, 2010

LTC John R. Grimes
(HS 1935)
March 15, 2012

Edgar Love Kimbrough, Jr.
(JC 1936)
December 4, 2008

Jack M. Ashfield
(HS 1939)
August 13, 2010

W. F. Blake Kutsche
(JC 1939)
November 7, 2011

Ashley Ivey
(HS 1940, JC 1942)
February 21, 2012

James “Bull” Cooper
(JC 1940)
October 24, 2009

John T. Brown
(HS 1941, JC 1948)
March 6, 2011

Drew B. Thompson, Jr.
(HS 1941, JC 1942)
2000

Coach Parnell Ruark
(HS 1942, JC 1949)
January 4, 2012

Eugene Key
(JC 1943)
September 16, 2011

Lewis A. Rumph
(HS 1944, JC 1948)
July 14, 2011

Raymond Kenneth Arnold
(HS 1945)
January 29, 2011

Kenneth L. Hill
(HS 1949)
March 8, 2012

Douglas Eugene Adams
(HS 1950)
December 14, 2011

Clarence William “CW” Crawford, Sr.
(JC 1951)
February 22, 2012

McCamie Franklin “Mack” Davis
(HS 1953, JC 2005)
January 15, 2012

Bill Cromartie
(JC 1954)
April 30, 2011

James Raleigh Pickron
(HS 1955)
January 1, 2010

Joseph Scott Rookes
(JC 1955)
June 14, 2010

Lennis Tollison
(HS 1959, JC 1961)
December 18, 2011

Thomas Cadenhead
(HS 1960, JC 1962)
October 24, 2011

Claude Frank “Frankie” Foster, Jr.
(HS 1960)
February 5, 2012

Stephen Thomas Berger
(HS 1961)
June 18, 1999

Daniel S. Carlton, Jr.
(HS 1961)
July 16, 1995

Robert M. Coleman
(HS 1961)
1993

John Clifford Davis, Jr.
(HS 1961)
June 1, 1995

Edwin Daniel Hill
(HS 1961)
February 14, 2009

Peter M. Kramer
(HS 1961)

Fred Lamar Simms
(HS 1961, JC 1962)
February 14, 2009

Raymond Franklin Dixon
(JC 1961)

Mike Lang
(JC 1961)
October 7, 1999

George Rudd
(JC 1961)
December 15, 2009

Harold M. Smith, Jr.
(JC 1961)
July 26, 1999

Ronald Akins Wray
(JC 1961)
August 18, 2004

Joseph Mike Daniel
(HS 1962)
March 1, 1968

Author W. Green
(HS 1962)
April 13, 1991

Duke Clayton Trexler
(HS 1962)
July 21, 2000

Georgia Military College and the GMC Alumni Association extend our deepest sympathies to the families of these alumni and friends.
Gary Oliver Alberson  
(JC 1962)  
June 1, 1994

George Wesley Duke  
(JC 1962)  
April 23, 1991

Robert Brannon Durham III  
(HS 1963)  
March 31, 2003

Gardner Fitzpatrick  
(HS 1963, JC 1964)  
February 26, 2008

William Lorenza Horne  
(HS 1963, JC 1965)  
July, 1972

James Radley Renfro  
(HS 1963)  
October 14, 1964

Robert Henry Black  
(JC 1963)  
April 4, 2011

James Milton Clark  
(JC 1963)  
December 10, 2003

Lewis Julian Cornell Fain  
(JC 1963)  
February 1, 1977

Sidney David Ross  
(JC 1963)  
December 19, 2003

Robert W. Routh  
(HS 1964)  
May 2, 2004

Richard G. Dickson  
(JC 1964)  
October 1, 2006

Laban Grey “Step” Lively, Jr.  
(JC 1964)  
September 8, 1989

Clarence Raymond “Ray” Wolf  
(JC 1964)  
December, 2008

Robert “Bob” Milford  
(HS 1965)  
September 22, 2011

Daniel W. Sale, Jr.  
(JC 1965)  
January 18, 2011

Earnest Curtis Williams  
(HS 1966)  
December 17, 2003

Robert E. Mozo, Jr.  
(HS 1972)  
December, 2011

Scott Rotter  
(HS 1973)  
January 3, 2012

Doyle Frank Avery  
(JC 1974)  
September 28, 2011

Deborah E. George  
(HS 1976, JC 1987)  
January 7, 2012

Michael Carrington  
(HS 1978)  
January 7, 2012

Julian D. Shearouse  
(JC 1981)  
December 31, 2011

Ricky Lee Williamson  
(JC 1981)  

Lewis Boykin  
(JC 1983)  
November 3, 2011

Michael D. Moses  
(HS 1983)  
February 15, 2012

Willard A. King  
(JC 1985)  

Kathryn L. Ray  
(JC 2003)  
September 28, 2011

Warren Roy Finkleman  
(JC 1991)  
April 21, 2011

Michael G. Chretien  
(JC 1993)  
August 4, 2011

Steve Tompkins  
(Former Faculty)  
August 9, 2011

Lois Moore  
(Friend)  
December 14, 2011

Charles “Butch” Simpson  
(Former Faculty)  
January 30, 2012

Hal Hollcroft  
(Friend)  
February 2, 2012

The heart hath its own memory, like the mind.  
And in it are enshrined the precious keepsakes, into which is wrought the giver’s loving thought.  
– H.W. Longfellow
Alumni Weekend
October 19-20, 2012
Office of Advancement
201 East Greene Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Change Service Requested

Georgia Military College
A Liberal Arts Junior College

Tailgate Party  Alumni Parade  Receptions
Presentations  Football Game  Class Reunions
New Developments  Concerts  Memories
Fabulous Meals  Networking
Great Music  Social Events
Dancing  Return to Your Roots