The Magazine for GMC Alumni and Friends

FALL 2014

THE CADENCE

GMC Alumna
Mary Beth Martinez

MAKING HER MARK—page 13
As we begin a new school year, I’d like to update our alumni and friends on the GMC Foundation’s progress—and to let you know that our much-appreciated Vice President for Advancement, Elizabeth Sheppard, has left the school.

Elizabeth announced her resignation in July, leaving us saddened by her out-of-state relocation with her husband’s job promotion, but certainly wishing her the best. Elizabeth set a standard for the Advancement Office that will remain for years to come. A candidate search is forthcoming and we hope to have the position filled in the near future.

Until then, the Advancement Office and its dedicated staff will continue their good work, as always.

Turning to the more detailed business of the Foundation, as you know, we’ve completed our highly successful Campaign for the Health and Wellness Center and I encourage everyone to stop by The Kidd Center to see our impressive facility. Meanwhile, General Caldwell’s scholarship initiatives for the second half of the fiscal year yielded an additional $142,000 to our already largest awarding year to date for Foundation scholarships.

Looking ahead, please save the date for the next semi-annual meeting on the Friday morning of Alumni Weekend, October 24, 2014. Stay tuned for further details. This year, we’ll celebrate the 135th anniversary of the founding of GMC by uniting even more closely with the school to help fulfill the “Four Big Ideas” vision General Caldwell has set forth:

- grow enrollments
- act as one institution
- contribute to student success
- invest in the future of GMC

As always, we need your input and participation to help advance Georgia Military College. For all you do to make GMC the foundational establishment it is for so many, thank you.
It doesn’t take much upper-body strength to snip a ribbon or open a door, but these two simple acts made GMC stronger, faster and healthier with the grand opening of the Kidd Center on May 23, 2014.

GMC officially opened the Kidd Center, its new $17 million health and wellness center, with a celebration featuring family-friendly activities, healthy refreshments, various health and wellness stations, and facility tours. The event was well attended by students, alumni, faculty, staff, donors and community members.

“I can’t help but get fired up thinking about what this facility is going to provide for Georgia Military College. Our responsibility here is to mold students mentally, spiritually and physically. We’re building the nation’s next leaders. That’s what we do here,” said Lt. General William B. Caldwell, IV, GMC President, during his opening remarks.

“We are incredibly blessed to have this kind of facility and it is a direct result of the hard work of the many individuals who live, work and are associated with Georgia Military College.”

On May 22, GMC held a private sneak peek event for those who donated to the Health and Wellness Campaign, which raised an impressive $3.4 million in support of the Kidd Center. In fact, it’s the family of one of those generous donors – Georgia State Representative E. Culver “Rusty” Kidd, III – for whom the center is named. “GMC has been part of our family for a long time,” Representative Kidd commented during the event. “It’s truly an honor that this new building will share the Kidd name.”

“During facility tours, attendees had the opportunity to view the entire facility, which boasts state-of-the-art features, including:

- A hydrotherapy suite, which includes a hot plunge pool, cold plunge pool and therapy pool for post-injury rehabilitation
- More than 9,000 square feet of dedicated space for weight and cardio training
- A healthcare and training lab with leading-edge equipment to serve all students
- An elevated track for walking and running
- Classroom space for PE and health curriculum classes, study halls and meetings

“GMC celebrates Kidd Center grand opening”

“At GMC, our aim is to give everyone on campus – from students to faculty and staff — the tools they need to excel at school and in life,” said General Caldwell. “I’m proud to say we now have a state-of-the-art facility that will enhance the lives of our entire GMC family for many years to come. The Grand Opening event for the Kidd Center was the perfect way to introduce everyone to this phenomenal new facility.”

“For me, being able to make this donation to GMC on behalf of my family feels like winning the lottery.”

BG Curt Raustub, Rep. Bubber Epps, Bert Williams and LtGen Caldwell
For 14-year-old Francisco Espaillat (pronounced ES-pie-yacht), basketball was an opportunity to escape. On the concrete court outside the Pan-American Stadium in Santo Domingo, the capital city of the Dominican Republic, Francisco could almost forget about leaving behind his home in New York City and moving to his parents’ native country. And he could almost forget about the classmates who didn’t want a Dominican kid with an American accent in their midst.

It was also on that court that a fortuitous meeting would give Francisco the opportunity to return to the States, lead him to an education at GMC and launch a global adventure that continues today, three-plus decades later.

Francisco explains: “The Florida State basketball team was in the Dominican Republic that summer playing exhibition games and one of the players saw me outside on the court. We started talking and he offered to introduce me to his coach, Hugh Durham. Coach Durham noticed I also spoke fluent Spanish and asked if I’d stay on as their interpreter for a week or so. I thought, sure, why not?”

In short order, Francisco got to know the players and adult boosters traveling with the team. One of the boosters, a Florida State vice president, offered to take Francisco into his home in Tallahassee to finish school in the U.S. Francisco declined, but kept the man’s phone number. “After the team left, I thought about the offer more and more. My mom made the courageous decision to let me go to Tallahassee and off I went.”

But the arrangement quickly came undone. “Everything seemed to be going fine, but after a couple weeks my host told me it wasn’t going to work out. His family was leaving on vacation and I wasn’t invited, and I would have to make other arrangements when they returned,” Francisco says without a trace of bitterness. “So they put me in the FSU dorms and I wondered where I’d go next.”

This time, opportunity came in the form of Dr. Homer Ooten and his wife Pam, another FSU booster who’d met Francisco in Santo Domingo. “Homer and Pam, originally from rural Tennessee, took on a 6’1”, 14-year-old Dominican boy who wasn’t the best student and didn’t have a penny,” Francisco says. “Homer pushed me academically, got me into Boy Scouts and supported my interest in basketball.”

GMC Alumnus
Brigadier General Francisco Espaillat:
An Unlikely Journey to General

GMC DEFINITELY GIVES STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO INSTILL THE DISCIPLINE, CHARACTER AND FINE EDUCATION THAT WILL STAY WITH THEM THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES.
By the end of high school, the 6’4” Francisco had not only earned his diploma, he became an Eagle Scout and had been chosen for a basketball scholarship to study overseas. But Francisco found something different. “I knew this country was special and I wanted to give back. I still wanted to play basketball, but at a school where I could also pursue a law enforcement and Army career.”

When a GMC recruiter came to call, Francisco saw his opportunity and took it. “GMC was a great fit… it gave me a wonderful educational foundation and the military experience I was looking for”. The early commissioning program (see opposite page) also gave him an important two-year jump start on my military career”, he notes.

Armed with his GMC associate’s degree in criminal justice, Francisco became a Milledgeville police officer and joined the Army Reserves. Soon, ready for more, he applied and was selected to attend the Georgia State Police Academy, but the Army had other ideas and another opportunity. “They sent me to the Quartermaster officer basic course at Fort Lee in Virginia, where I met a wonderful second lieutenant named Margaret Good.” Realizing she was “the one,” Francisco traded his law enforcement career for the military, married Margie and followed her to her assignment in Virginia, where I met a wonderful second lieutenant named Margaret Good.”

When a GMC recruiter came to call, Francisco saw his opportunity and took it. “GMC was a great fit… it gave me a wonderful educational foundation and the military experience I was looking for. The early commissioning program (see opposite page) also gave me an important two-year jump start on my military career”, he notes.

In 2012, after almost 30 years of military service, including a four-year assignment as a colonel and Project Manager for Combined Arms Tactical Trainers, where he was responsible for the life cycle management of hundreds of virtual simulation training systems across the Army, he decided it was time to retire. But once again, the Army had other ideas and another opportunity. They promoted Francisco to Brigadier General and assigned him to a joint position at the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) at Fort Belvoir, Va.

After completing 12 months at DLA HQ as the chief of current operations and the $42 billion-a-year logistics giant, General Espaillat was selected to serve as the CENTCOM Director of the Deployment Distribution Operations Center (CENTCOM DIOC) in Kuwait. After completing his seven month deployment to the Middle East coordinating all strategic, operational and tactical transportation for the US forces in Kuwait, after completing his seven month deployment to the Middle East coordinating all strategic, operational and tactical transportation for the US forces in Kuwait, he returned to Orlando and was reunited with his family. In May 2014, Brigadier General Espaillat returned to GMC for the first time in 20 years as the distinguished speaker during the annual commissioning ceremony. “When I graduated from GMC, I honestly wasn’t sure the school would make it. When I returned, the transformation was stunning…the facilities…the fields…the fitness center…a four-year degree program…and almost 8,000 students across nine campuses… it was remarkable,” he says. “GMC definitely gives students the opportunity to instill the discipline, character and fine education that will stay with them throughout their lives.”

As evidence, General Espaillat is now responsible for the mission command of more than 10,000 soldiers in eight Southeastern states as the Commanding General of the 143D ESC. “The moon and the stars and the universe had to line up many times throughout my life for me to be where I am today. But in the United States and in our Army, anyone who is willing to work hard can take advantage of the opportunities available to serve our Soldiers and our Nation,” he says. “Never in my wildest dreams did I anticipate being a general officer and living the life I have lived. The opportunities came my way thanks to many great people who gave me a chance to excel and stay focused on doing the right thing. Now, I’m as content as I can be and as proud as I can be of GMC for all that it did for me, and for what it is doing to educate our next generation of Army leaders. Charter Above All - Duty, Honor, and Country….Army Strong!”

GMC’s Early Commissioning Program (ECP), which allows cadets to become fully-commissioned officers in the United States Armed Forces in just two years, is ranked first among military junior colleges for commissioning percentages for the fourth consecutive year.

This designation is thanks to GMC’s commissioning of 175 second lieutenants since 2011 — an astounding accomplishment. In fact, GMC’s average of 45 commissions per year outpaces the school’s established goal of 35 commissions per year.

Through the ECP available only at the country’s five military junior colleges, cadets become officers in just two years. This opens the door to pursuing higher rank, benefits and pay two full years before their traditional ROTC counterparts. Cadets enrolled in ROTC programs at four-year universities and military academies must complete all four years of their education prior to being commissioned into the U.S. Armed Forces as officers.

Lt. Col. James Lopez, former (see p. 29) GMC professor of military science and chair of the military science department, says gaining the rank of officer is an attractive benefit of GMC’s ECP program, but it isn’t the sole reason the program is growing in popularity.
Cadets can complete their degrees at any of the 275 accredited four-year colleges that offer ROTC programs across the U.S., but we work very closely with GMC and our cadets on transferring to complete their degrees through the respective ROTC programs,” says Lopez.

Another reason cadets choose the early commissioning track is for the reserves component salary, and the ROTC stipend and benefits. Lopez says the monetary awards for ECP are ample — including stipends for books, fees, tuition, labs, room, board, and participation in the program, plus pay for serving in the National Guard Reserves — but he thinks the real reason for GMC’s high retention rates is something more personal.

“Honestly, the key differentiating factor of the ECP program at GMC — the factor that sets us apart from every other program — is the faculty and staff at GMC,” says Lopez. “The teachers here really care about these cadets, and will move mountains to help them succeed. The support and motivation the faculty gives these cadets breeds success, and it makes these cadets proud to be part of such an outstanding military family.”

Although Lopez concluded his tenure with GMC this summer, he’s confident the program will continue to flourish under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel Tom Nelson, who assumed his duties June 25, 2014. (see page 29).

“Under Lieutenant Colonel Nelson’s guidance, GMC will continue to build its reputation and become the premier junior military college in the nation,” says Lopez. “I look forward to watching the program continue to soar under his direction.”

But Lopez also says the military faction of GMC wouldn’t be as successful without perhaps its most important component. “Every cadet and officer remains overwhelmingly grateful for all the GMC family — the students, faculty, staff and alumni — who provide unwavering support and respect to the continuing tradition of military pride and service on campus … which is truly the foundation of GMC.”

“Chief Petty Officer Jessie Regan, a World War II veteran, administered the first salute to his great-grandson JLT Jessie Middleton during the commissioning ceremony on May 31, 2014.

The GMC ‘73 Scholarship was established February 1, 2014 as a memorial to all alumni from the 70s era (1970-1976) who have passed away. This memorial will enable the recipient to attend GMC Prep School over a three-year period (grades 10-12). The scholarship is intended to give financial assistance to someone who otherwise would not have the opportunity for a GMC education. Each recipient of this scholarship must be a student in good standing. The student must have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.73. One hundred percent of every donation goes to the GMC ’73 Scholarship. Donations will allow this endowed scholarship to grow, providing financial assistance to students for years to come.

All alumni and friends of GMC are encouraged to donate and gifts of any amount are welcome and appreciated. Tax-deductible donations can be made online at www.gmcfoundation.org, or by cash or check, made payable to the GMC Foundation and designated for the GMC ’73 Scholarship, or through automatic checking account deduction, a convenient way to offer monthly support.

Double your gift! All contributions received by December 31, 2014 will be matched, dollar for dollar, by GMC and the GMC Foundation.

Brigadier General Curt Rauhut, who will soon retire from the U.S. Army after 30 years of distinguished service, joined GMC as the school’s first chief operating officer on July 17, 2014.

As senior VP and chief operating officer, General Rauhut will be responsible for managing the ten (to include the new campus in Fayetteville) GMC campuses located state wide, as well as ensuring the college’s enrollment and retention objectives are achieved. In doing so, he will set the conditions to put into operation General Caldwell’s “Vision 2025.” The vision outlines “four big ideas” to grow enrollment, think and act as one institution, contribute to student success, and invest in GMC’s future.

“Curt will be a tremendous asset to our institution,” said General Caldwell. “He’s the right person to assist GMC in providing the environment where every student can achieve his or her full potential and achieve more than they ever thought was possible.”

The Cadence recently sat down with General Rauhut to talk about his background, his perspective on GMC and his family—and how his move to Georgia actually brings the general full circle.

The Cadence (TC): As you contemplated life after the military, what drew you to GMC?

General Rauhut (GR): I’ve always enjoyed coaching, teaching and mentoring young adults to become future leaders. The mission of GMC to build character as a foundation within its students gives every student the opportunity to make his or her life better. It was also the personal visit to GMC that drew me in. It was clear that character building is the underpinning of everything GMC teaches, whether in the classroom, on the athletic field or within the community.

TC: How would you describe your own leadership style?

GR: Collaborative. I play with my cards facing out so everyone understands that sharing information is powerful and value-added to any organization. I believe in being an active listener—paying real attention to both verbal and nonverbal communication—because that’s how you hear some of the best ideas from the folks within your organization.

I’m also big into team building, recognizing outstanding performance and setting standards. A simple “thank you” or sending a personal note to a valued employee counts nothing, but goes a long way in recognizing their performance. In regard to standards, there is an old saying that good organizations have standards and great organizations enforce standards. GMC is a great organization with standards in place that contributed to my decision to be part of the team. Collaboration, team building, employee recognition, standardization and working hard to accomplish the GMC mission… that pretty much sums up my leadership style.

Meet Brigadier General Curt Rauhut
Incoming GMC Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO)

Brigadier General Rauhut

Afghan police and military. We crossed paths again in 2012 during his assignment as the Commanding General of United States Army North in San Antonio, Texas while I was the Director of Resource Management for Installations Management Command headquartered there.

TC: Looking ahead, what is your vision for GMC?
GR: General Caldwell has established a clear vision and set priorities, which will allow the college and staff to focus our efforts. My role is to support General Caldwell and the college to put operational plans into place, along with metrics to achieve our goals.

I’m also very excited to be part of a team that will take GMC to the next level, building upon all the great work established by past presidents of GMC. We’ll continue to build on the successes of the past through growing enrollment, expanding the school’s endowment, opening a new campus in Fayetteville, offering a four-year Bachelor of Applied Science degree… all vital initiatives. The future is all about continuing to make the GMC experience unique, and grounded in character building and leadership.

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GMC recently honored two of its own, appointing Ms. Carolyn Thomas and Dr. Thomas Davidson, Jr. as trustees emeriti in recognition of their long-term dedication and positive impact on the school. For more than 31 years, Dr. Davidson served as a member of the GMC Board of Trustees, holding positions of member, finance committee chair, and advisor to two board chairmen and three college presidents.

Meanwhile, Carolyn Thomas served as a GMC trustee for more than 25 years, holding positions of member, chairperson of the junior college education committee, secretary and treasurer, and advisor to two board chairmen and three college presidents.

During their tenures, and thanks to their leadership, expertise and collaboration, GMC was twice reaffirmed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and expanded its student body from 1,000 students to more than 8,000. During this same timeframe, Ms. Thomas and Dr. Davidson helped lead the school to fiscal and financial health, eliminated all deferred maintenance, and leased state-of-the-art facilities at five campuses and three extension centers across the state, at a cost raised by the college of more than $100 million.

“The GMC board of trustees is profoundly grateful to Dr. Davidson and Carolyn Thomas for the important part they played in the historical resurrection of GMC,” said Randall A. New, Chairman, GMC Board of Trustees. “Their long-term, selfless service will serve as an inspirational example for generations to come.”

When Mary Beth Martinez's parents, Al and Jeanine, enrolled her at GMC, she went kicking and screaming. “I was 11 and wanted no part of being transferred away from my public school friends,” she laughs. “But my father, Al, and his brother, Sandy, had gone to school at GMC, so my parents knew it would provide the best education, plus instill discipline, punctuality, character and respect for others. And they were entirely right!”

But the roots of Mary Beth's education got their start decades before she was even born, when her grandfather, Dr. Alberto Martinez, immigrated from Cuba to the U.S. “Education was incredibly important to my grandfather. He and my grandmother moved to the States so he could complete his post-graduate medical training in the U.S,” she says. “He moved to Milledgeville to work, but chose to stay there because it was home to two colleges. His major life decision revolved around education for his family—and those who would come after him.”

The GMC Years Make An Indelible Impression

Despite her initial reluctance, Mary Beth adjusted quickly to GMC, thriving under the school’s structure, evidenced by her graduating as the high school battalion’s Executive Officer, valedictorian, and STAR Student. “It was the best decision my parents could have made,” she says. “The military aspect, combined with top-notch academics, shaped the adult I am today.”

Mary Beth credits one teacher in particular, Colonel John Alton, now retired, with having the biggest impact. “He was fairly strict, a military man who believed strongly in the ideals he was trying to instill.
But he was also a mentor I could turn to about school and life in general,” she says. “He offered me a real balance…he would tell me when I needed to improve, but he was always there with a smiling face and his full support!”

Class of ‘53 Lends a Hand—and Gains a Granddaughter

Another important source of support: the GMC Prep School Class of ‘53. “We got together at our 50th reunion and agreed we wanted to do something for GMC. And we wanted to create something dynamic and lasting, which wound up evolving into an endowment fund, with an award for graduating seniors,” explains Commander Bill Curry, Prep School Class of ‘53. “I was extremely pleased to see how many of our classmates rallied and stepped up to donate to the fund. We’re a patriotic class…we attended high school during turbulent times and felt strongly about helping support the school that gave so many of us a good start.”

Classmates chose James Vinson to present the fund’s first award to Mary Beth. “Mary Beth is such an impressive and knowledgeable young lady, but what impressed me most is how much she loves people and wants to help them,” James said. “When you see those qualities in a young person, you tend to look to their parents for similarities. After getting to know Mr. and Mrs. Martinez even briefly, it was easy to see where Mary Beth’s traits had originated.”

The relationship with Mary Beth didn’t end with her award. Members of the Class of ‘53 were so taken with her, they adopted her as their honorary granddaughter and have kept in touch through the years. “She’s a lawyer now, but she’s just the same smart, personable girl she was in high school,” James added. “It’s been wonderful to watch her progress and see how well she’s doing.” Mary Beth also beamed about her relationship with the Class of ‘53, noting how wonderful it was to join them for their 60th reunion at GMC’s graduation in May, 2013.

The Law Beckons

After graduation, Mary Beth’s journey took her to Athens to attend UGA, majoring in English and Spanish, with her sights set on a law career. “I absolutely love literature and writing and applying analytical skills, thanks in large part to Nancy Kennedy, the best high school English teacher a girl could ask for, and my undergrad classes gave me a great foundation for legal work.”

Summers found Mary Beth studying abroad—one stint at the University of Oxford in England, the other in Seville, Spain. Rounding out her fourth year as a UGA Tap Dawg and graduating Summa Cum Laude with highest honors from the honors department in 2010, Mary Beth began law school at UGA that same fall. During law school, she held multiple leadership roles, including Executive Notes Editor of the Georgia Law Review, in which she was also published. One of her favorite law school memories was participating in the annual National First Amendment Moot Court Competition, a mock trial at the appellate level, in which she and her teammate won the national championship victory in 2013.

Emulating a Fine Role Model

What inspired Mary Beth’s passion for the law? “It started as a little girl wanting to follow in her daddy’s footsteps,” she laughs. “My father is a lawyer and spent most of his career as a prosecutor…He’d sometimes take me to work when I was a child, where I had a designated toy box…and as I got older, Dad would talk to me about what it actually means to be a lawyer.”

Mary Beth certainly knows what it means to be a lawyer now. Graduating Magna Cum Laude from law school and passing the bar exam in both Georgia and New York, Mary Beth has just finished a year working as a federal appellate law clerk for the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Next up: a move to New York City, where she has accepted a position with the renowned Sutherland, Asbill and Brennan law firm, beginning in October.

Carrying Forward the Family Tradition

What fuels Mary Beth’s unwavering drive and dedication? “In high school and college, the main driver was probably a sheer fear of failure and a desire to be the best I could be. Thankfully, at GMC, I had the encouragement to be the best at whatever I was doing and the leeway to distinguish myself,” she says. “By law school, something shifted and now I’m driven by the things I feel strongly about and the people that I don’t want to let down.”

Right now, as a law clerk, what Mary Beth feels strongly about is helping her judge reach the “best, most just results under the law.” And in the future, it will be obtaining the best outcome for her clients.

With a bright future ahead, Mary Beth is certainly carrying forward the proud Martinez family tradition of excellence.
From the cabin of a Boeing 707 JSTARS, Captain Mitchelle Paulk, 29, is directing a group of fighter pilots as they close in over an enemy target somewhere over the Middle East. As a Georgia Air National Guard Air Battle Manager, his job is to keep track of all assets in the area, oversee his team's safety, direct them to their targets and ensure successful completion of their mission. His work is intense, challenging and dangerous, but Mitchelle wouldn't have it any other way. "I love working in defense of my country and being able to rely on my training and foundation to do my job," he said.

Based at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Georgia, Mitchelle began laying his foundation in aeronautics at GMC, a school that wasn't initially on his radar. "I considered other schools, but met a GMC recruiter in high school and was impressed. Once I visited, I saw the value of the small class sizes, the dedication of the teachers and the ability to transfer credits to a four-year school."

But Mitchell's first few months at GMC were a bit bumpy. "I initially didn't like it because I was so air-focused. Things improved once I started focusing on academics, and now I realize everything I did at GMC led me to where I am."

Beyond the classroom, his role as a cadet and regimental commander taught him the value of military duty and discipline. As a member of the Air National Guard, Mitchelle learned to repair radar equipment. Mitchelle also attended GMC's cotillion, which he credits with giving him the social self-assurance he would later use in both business and military settings.

After graduation, GMC offered Mitchelle a position as a recruiter, deploying him around the country to share his positive perspective on GMC with potential students. But even as Mitchelle's recruiting career got off the ground, he never lost sight of working in the air. Continuing his education, Mitchelle enrolled in Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, where he earned bachelors and master's degrees in aeronautical science.

"In my current role, I support the Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy and coalition partners, so getting a start in the Army was more helpful than I could have realized. I wouldn't be where I am today without the foundation I got at GMC. Everything I did there built my mind, body and character for what I'm doing today," he said. "That's why I feel it's vitally important to continue to support the school...to give those who've followed the same opportunity to succeed."
The GMC Prep School Class of 2014 set their sights high, worked hard, accomplished their goal and made a difference sure to last for years to come.

Earlier this year, the Class of 2014 and the school’s Student Government Association (SGA) launched a fundraiser to benefit students needing financial assistance to attend GMC. Inspired by General Caldwell’s initiative to expand access to GMC, the seniors challenged their classmates to make a donation of $20.14 (the numbers of their class year). Meanwhile, General Caldwell promised the school would match donations made by June 30th up to $25,000.

Even before the deadline arrived, the group had raised $12,500, qualifying for the full GMC match and creating a $25,000 endowment fund. GMC will now use the fund to support student scholarships in perpetuity.

The generous seniors, with help from their friends and families, have also made GMC history, becoming the first graduating class to create such a scholarship fund. “These kids know they’ve been fortunate to have a GMC education, and they understand what a blessing it is to be able to pass that gift on to other students,” said Anne Mason, GMC Prep School teacher, SGA advisor and GMC graduate (HS’81). “I’m incredibly proud of their effort and the mark they’ve made. They’re a real group of go-getters and I can’t wait to see what each of them does next!”

Prep School Class of 2014 Makes History With Scholarship Fund

Inaugural Scholarship Donor and Recipient Luncheon

“Delightful.” That’s how one donor summed up the inaugural GMC Scholarship Donor and Recipient Luncheon on May 2nd.

Held in the Old Capitol legislative chambers, the event included nearly 100 invited guests, a delicious lunch of home style smothered chicken, and the unprecedented opportunity for GMC donors, staff and students to connect. “It was a wonderful way for donors—and our student services and financial aid staff—to meet scholarship recipients and see firsthand how those dollars are helping change lives,” said Marsha Grimes, Director of Advancement Services.

“During lunch, students shared stories about their GMC experience and future plans...donors shared their ties to the school...and everyone just loved it.”

Before lunch, GMC Foundation chair Dudley Rowe spoke about GMC’s goal to significantly increase the scholarship fund, followed by a talk by GMC president, Lieutenant General Caldwell after the meal. Russ Walden, Foundation Trustee, spoke about the scholarship he established honoring his father, a former teacher at GMC. And Ben Plexico, Class of ‘73, shared the inspirational story of how his class has risen to the challenge of launching a scholarship fund in memory of deceased 70s era classmates.

“For everyone involved, the luncheon was uplifting. No longer was anyone simply a name on a piece of paper,” Marsha said. “Meeting in person helped them become ‘real’ to each other, to have a deeper appreciation for just how much those donation dollars matter.”

So successful was this first luncheon that plans are already underway for the second annual event, to be held in the spring of 2015. So stay tuned!

Inaugural Scholarship Donor and Recipient Luncheon

Williams R. "Bill" Craig Scholarship recipient Ashely Vinson with Celia Craig, Patsy Craig, Susan Craig, and Henry Craig

GMC ’73 Scholarship recipients Kendra Wilson, Trey Bridges and Andrew Kirkland with Jim Kjer and Ben Plexico

Will Robinson Scholarship recipient Jalen Rozier with Marcia and Ed Robinson

On the morning of the last formation of the year, Bulldog Club President Sally Price and Vice President James McCue present a check for $2,000.14 to LtGen Caldwell in support of the Class of 2014 Scholarship initiative.
Join us for a dessert and coffee reception with the artists immediately following the concert.

Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts
$10 General Admission | $5 Student (with ID)

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT
478-445-0202

Watch for information on our upcoming spring concert.

Georgia Military College | www.gmc.cc.ga.us

Thank you to our 2013-2014 sponsors.

STEINWAY SOCIETY Members
(July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014)

STEINWAY SOCIETY Members
(July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014)
Thursday, October 23

6:00 - 9:00 pm  Homecoming Bonfire and Pep Rally  Between Kidd Center and Baugh Barracks  Light refreshments and music with plenty of room for chairs and blankets.

8:30 am - 4:30 pm  Online Recall previews  Sibley-Cone Library  Preview the online yearbook collection (1945, 1949, 1951-1968); see the military uniform exhibit representing the years from 1898-1975; and enjoy the recently redone Special Collections. Exhibit displays for Carl Vinson, Culver Kidd and Band Company memorabilia / trophies.

9:30 am  Golf Tournament  Milledgeville Country Club  A special 18-hole golf outing for all interested alumni. Format will be a four-person scramble (best shot). The charge for green fees is $50 (includes golf cart and box lunch), payable by cash or check only. All participants must arrive at the MCC Golf Shop by 9:30 a.m. To pre-register, please contact Earlene Hamilton at 478-445-0205 by Wednesday, October 22.

10 am - 4 pm  Old Capital Museum Tours  Complimentary for the weekend  Located on the ground floor of the Old Capitol Building, Georgia’s Old Capital relates the story of Milledgeville and the Oconee River valley from prehistory into the twentieth century. Special exhibit: From Broomstick to Musket: Women of the South, (1861-1865).

Friday, October 24

8:30 am - 9:30 pm  Golf Tournament  Milledgeville Country Club  A special 18-hole golf outing for all interested alumni. Format will be a four-person scramble (best shot). The charge for green fees is $50 (includes golf cart and box lunch), payable by cash or check only. All participants must arrive at the MCC Golf Shop by 9:30 a.m. To pre-register, please contact Earlene Hamilton at 478-445-0205 by Wednesday, October 22.

9:30 am  Registration Opens - Welcome back!  The Kidd Center

1:30 pm  Registration Opens - Welcome back!  The Kidd Center

2:00 - 3:00 pm  Academic Complex Tours  Atrium
   The Kidd Center
   Atrium
   Tours of Baugh Barracks
   Ruark Athletic Complex
   Craig and Couch Fields
   Shuttle leaves from Cordell parking lot

3:30 - 4:30 pm  Usery Hall Tours  Atrium

5:00 pm  Reception & Tailgate Dinner  The Kidd Center

7:30 pm  Football Game/Homecoming  Davenport Field
   GMC Prep vs. Lincoln County
   Tickets available at the gate

Saturday, October 25

9:00 am  Registration Opens - Welcome back!  The Kidd Center

10:30 am  Alumni Parade  Grant Parade
   MG William P. Acker, JC 1950, former GMC president and Distinguished Alumnus will be this year’s speaker. Join the 136th Corps of Cadets in the parade as a member of the alumni platoon. Alumni Awards recipients will be introduced during the program.

1:30 pm  Reunion Class Photographs  The Kidd Center

1:00 pm  Gold Brigade (50th) Reunion  Sibley-Cone Library
   Other reunions

5:00 pm  Football Game/Homecoming  Davenport Field
   GMC Prep vs. Lincoln County
   Tickets available at the gate

6:30 pm  Dinner

7:30 pm  Dance

Enjoy a delicious dinner and bring your dancing shoes to celebrate the weekend with the return performance of The Soul Purpose Band.
To read her resume, you’d have to wonder whether AnaLese Bridges has more than 24 hours in each day. Her academic record is near perfect, with an academic record at GMC’s Prep School and myriad extra curricular activities will undoubtedly help land a choice college acceptance.

But AnaLese says her proudest honor is the GMC Prep School “Distinguished Order of the Servant Leader Award” with five oak leaf clusters, recognizing more than 640 hours of community service. Making the award even more special is its historical significance: AnaLese is the first Cadet in GMC history to receive it. She hopes this inspires and challenges other Cadets to volunteer.

From fundraisers and childcare to mentoring, tutoring, and promoting youth literacy, AnaLese puts her heart and soul into helping others. “I don’t do it for the hours, I do it because I love it,” she says. “I learn and get back so much more than I give. The rewarding feeling (of volunteering) is such a joy…you just can’t put a price on it.” AnaLese credits her mother, Barbara Bundrage, for being a true role model. “She’s a divorced mom, always working hard and supporting me,” says AnaLese. “There’s a silent dignity and poise she carries. The drastic change in her household status didn’t change her focus. She says ‘through belief in God, all things are possible’: That’s something I truly aspire to emulate.”

Barbara was especially proud when AnaLese was selected this summer to attend the American Legion Auxiliary’s “Georgia Girls State,” a national citizenship training, based on her scholastic ranking and interest in government. During her week of training, AnaLese was selected as one of two “State Senators” to attend “Girls Nation,” held in Washington, D.C., which includes the opportunity to meet President Obama. AnaLese was also awarded the Samson Scholarship, awarded annually to an outstanding Girls State member who is a direct descendant of a wartime veteran. So what does AnaLese do during her downtime (does AnaLese have downtime?)? “I’m a competitive markswoman on the GMC rifle team. I also enjoy being a member of the flag core team, dancing and just unwinding with friends,” she says. But her thoughts are quick to return to her goals. “I especially appreciate being in the JROTC and serving in a leadership role there,” she adds.

In the end, it’s balance that AnaLese seeks. “As a judge, I want to be able to listen to both sides, weigh the arguments and decide what’s right,” she says. “As a U.S. Supreme Court justice, I could weigh the evidence and decide what is beneficial to our nation, to the constitution and to the majority of Americans.” AnaLese, you’re well on your way!
Georgia Military College

hosts

SIX GRADUATION CEREMONIES
FOR CLASS OF 2014 ACROSS THE STATE

FAIRBURN CAMPUS
May 22
Speaker: Roy Barnes
Former Governor, State of Georgia

GMC PREP SCHOOL
May 30
Speaker: Colonel Fred Van Horn, USA (Ret.)
Executive Vice President and Honorary Alumnus of Georgia Military College

VALDOSTA CAMPUS
May 30
Speaker: Dr. James Laplant
Interim Dean of the Graduate School and Assistant Vice-President for Research at Valdosta State University.

AUGUSTA CAMPUS
May 31
Speaker: Major General Perry M. Smith, USAF (Ret.)
Teacher, speaker, TV and radio commentator and author

MILLEDGEVILLE AND COLUMBUS CAMPUSES
May 31
Speaker: Stanley “Stas” Preczewski, Ph.D.
President of Georgia Gwinnett College

WARNER ROBINS CAMPUS
June 14
Speaker: Mayor Randy Toms
City of Warner Robins and GMC Alumnus

The GMC High School Class of 1953 Award is an endowed scholarship presented annually to one senior who has exhibited outstanding academic achievement and to one member of the GMC prep school faculty who has demonstrated teaching excellence.
On June 10, 2014 Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell IV, president of Georgia Military College (GMC), and Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, president of Fort Valley State University (FVSU), signed an articulation agreement that will allow GMC students to apply their associate degree credits toward FVSU baccalaureate degrees. GMC students will be able to transfer degree credits without losing credit hours, providing a more seamless transition to FVSU.

“GMC is a liberal arts-based, two-year college. Although we serve 250 ROTC cadets at the Milledgeville Campus, the vast majority of our students are typical community college students. GMC has nine campuses, including Warner Robins, throughout the state and serves about 12,000 students annually, many of whom go on to pursue baccalaureate degrees at four-year colleges and universities,” Lt. Gen. Caldwell said. “As one of only five historically black colleges and universities in Georgia, Fort Valley State University offers significant opportunities for our students to further their education.”

Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, president of FVSU, said, “I’m delighted that we are building this partnership with Georgia Military College, which has a splendid reputation for making the dreams of young men and women come true. Not only will young men and women be able to complete their baccalaureate degrees at Fort Valley State University, but I know some of them also will want to pursue their master’s degrees with us,” he said.

Lt. Gen. Caldwell noted that, “GMC holds articulation agreements with 35 colleges and universities in Georgia, and will continue to pursue agreements with other four-year colleges and universities in order to support Governor Nathan Deal’s Complete College Georgia initiative, as well as to support Georgia Military College graduates who desire to pursue baccalaureate degrees.”

A CHANGE OF COMMAND
FOR THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

In a time-honored military tradition dating back to the U.S. Continental Army, GMC held a Change of Command Ceremony on June 25, recognizing a formal transfer of authority and responsibility within its ranks.

During the ceremony, LTC James Lopez, outgoing Professor of Military Science, transferred authority of the Old Capitol Guard Battalion to LTC Tom Nelson, incoming Professor of Military Science, who officially assumed command of the Battalion.

Key to the Change of Command Ceremony is the passing of the unit’s colors, symbolizing the transfer of command. Traditionally, the passing of unit colors also demonstrates to the unit’s soldiers that the mantle of leadership—and loyalties of the soldiers—have been passed to the new commander.

During the ceremony, roses were presented to LTC Nelson’s wife, Michelle, and daughters Catherine and Emma, as well as to the Old Capitol Guard Battalion coin to his son, Miles, on behalf of the Cadre, Staff, and Cadets of the Old Capitol Guard Battalion. The roses represent continued growth and commitment, wherever the soldier is assigned to duty.

After the formal event, guests gathered in front of the Legislative Chambers to extend their farewells to LTC Lopez, who served as Battalion commander for four years, and welcome the Nelsons to GMC.

SAVE THE DATE

GMC will host a
VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY on
NOVEMBER 14, 2014
2:30 p.m. | GRANT PARADE

The 13th Corps of Cadets will parade in honor of Georgia’s Vietnam War Veterans. Veterans desiring to march in the parade will be given the opportunity to do so. Seating and assistance for disabled veterans will be provided. Refreshments will be served following the commemorative event.

Reviewing officer will be Lt. General (Ret.) William B. Caldwell IV, President of Georgia Military College. Distinguished speaker will be Lt. General (Ret.) Claude M. Kicklighter, Director of the Vietnam War Commemoration and GMC alumnus.

GMC Foundation, 201 E. Greene St., Milledgeville, GA 31061
For more information, call 478-445-0202.
Student ambassadors from GMC Columbus were recently invited to visit Mr. Bill Turner, grandson of W.C. Bradley and the past Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the W.C. Bradley Co. and author of *The Learning of Love – A Journey Toward Servant Leadership*. During their lunch meeting, Mr. Turner offered advice and answered questions generated by the ambassadors’ recent reading of Mr. Turner’s book.

Pictured are (L - R) Thomas Morgan, Mr. William “Bill” Turner, Eve Pratheepratana, Briana Shoulders, Bre’shan Williams (back) Colton Cox.

The Valdosta Campus hosted a community 5K run on June 28, 2014 to raise money for student scholarships at GMC Valdosta. Of the 63 registered participants, ten were GMC employees. More than a dozen other employees and students served as volunteers. Nearly $2,000 was earned from donations and registrations.

Georgia Military College hosted the fourth annual Old Capital Triathlon in Milledgeville, Ga., on May 25, 2014. The Sprint Triathlon began at 7:00 a.m. at the Legacy at Sinclair condominiums, with racers competing in a 500-yard swim, 18-mile bike, and 3.1-mile run to win awards for specific age groups. The event raised $5,323 to benefit scholarships for students in need.

The Cordell Memorial has become one of the best attended, best supported community fundraising tournaments in the area, thanks to such enthusiastic local support. To our sponsors, silent auction contributors, individual donors and event volunteers, we’re entirely grateful,” said GMC Athletic Director & Head Football Coach Bert Williams. “The support we receive for this tournament makes a significant difference every year for our team and athletic department.”

Donations are used to provide for both academic and athletic needs, ranging from books and scholarships to sports equipment, recruiting expenses and professional staff development. The two-day event kicked off with a cookout, silent auction and Texas Hold’Em tournament, attended by about 130 guests.

Next year’s tournament will be held May 1-2, so save the dates!

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### 2014 GMC/Lew Cordell Memorial Golf Tournament

**Hits Another Hole-in-One!**

2014 Flight Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Flight</th>
<th>Second Flight</th>
<th>Third Flight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Place - Century Bank #2</td>
<td>1st Place - Grant Financial</td>
<td>1st Place - Team Wheat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harold Mason, Captain</td>
<td>Dean Grant, Captain</td>
<td>Kari Wheat, Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Seymour</td>
<td>Alan Grant</td>
<td>Ryan Brewer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobby Brown</td>
<td>Jeff Hudson</td>
<td>Courtney Leavitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Amerson</td>
<td>Harrison Grant</td>
<td>John Sullivan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Game times are local and home contests played at historic Davenport Field.
Morgan takes over women’s soccer program, Burnham named assistant coach—Courtney Morgan, who will serve as an assistant coach for the Lady Bulldogs, is excited about taking on this coaching duties for the Georgia Military College women’s soccer program as the chapter of life. Courtney Morgan (HS’43, JC’45) generated his camera equipment to GMC. Morgan was an assistant coach for the GMC soccer program, Burnham named assistant coach—Courtney Morgan, who will serve as an assistant coach for the Lady Bulldogs, is excited about taking on this coaching duties for the Georgia Military College women’s soccer program as the chapter of life. Courtney Morgan generated his camera equipment to GMC. Morgan was an assistant coach for the GMC soccer program, Burnham named assistant coach—Courtney Morgan, who will serve as an assistant coach for the Lady Bulldogs, is excited about taking on this coaching duties for the Georgia Military College women’s soccer program as the chapter of life. 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LaVance Hurt (UCO’01) is well known in the Baldwin County area for having a big heart and in February 2014, he earned state-wide recognition for that trait when he received the Big Brother of the Year award for his mentoring work. He is a humble man who normally shies away for recognition, saying instead, “When I mentor, I don’t do it for publicity. I do it because it’s my calling in life.” Hurt considers his little brother as an extension of his biological family and is gratified to see the positive changes in the young man’s life. “Positive role models and nurturing mentors are so important to any community.”

Matthew V Cemiglia (UCO’09) arrived at Fort Bragg, N.C. in March 2014 and was assigned to the 2nd BCT, 82nd ABN DIV as the Brigade Provost Marshal. Cemiglia graduated from the Military Police Captains Career Course (MPCCC) at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. in December 2013. While attending the MPCCC, he simultaneously worked on his master’s degree and in February, 2014 earned his master’s degree in Business and Organizational Security Management from Webster University.

Tay Wright (HS’10) was the guest speaker during the 2014 Prep School Senior Luncheon where she offered pertinent advice to the graduates about life in college and how GMC helped prepare her for it. Tay graduated Magna Cum Laude, with departmental honors, from Mercer University on May 10 with a B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and a minor in Christianity. During her time at Mercer, she served as president of the student activities board, QuadWorks, worked as an organic chemistry teaching assistant, was awarded Mercer’s Bear Award for Outstanding Campus Involvement and was selected as Mercer University’s Student of the Year. She plans to attend medical school in the fall.

Kevin Kirby (HS’13), owner of Top Cut Lawn & Landscaping was recently featured in Milledgeville’s Union Recorder newspaper for bringing Project Evergreen’s national initiative, “Greencare for Troops” to Milledgeville. Project Evergreen is a national non-profit organization linking green industry service providers, associations, and suppliers. The Greencare initiative links the military with local lawn and landscaping firms. According to Kirby, “Lawn and landscape maintenance becomes a definite hardship when the family’s major breadwinner is on active duty away from home. The program seeks to ease this stress by helping burdened families with the important task of caring for their yard and landscape.”

89 Travis Strickland’s newfound hobby reunites him with class ring.

Excerpts of an article by Felicia Cummings, The Union-Recorder

For 25 years, the ring has remained lost in the ground near Day’s Inn on North Columbia Street.

When Travis Strickland (HS’89) began searching for a new hobby, little did he know it would help him find a lost moment. For about eight months, Strickland, owner of Studio Designs Printing, has become an avid metal detector. “My friend was in town, and we did some metal detecting at different places and found some good stuff and I thought I’d take a chance in looking for something I lost 25 years ago.” Strickland was referring to his Georgia Military College class ring that he lost in 1989. The ring that represented fond memories for him was lost, but not forgotten. “It was my class ring and it had special meaning to me, but there was nothing I could do about it so I just accepted it was lost.” When Strickland suggested to his friend that they use their metal detectors to search for the lost class ring, he said it was a shot in the dark. “I really didn’t think we would find it.”

The area has been landscaped and has changed after all these years. “I don’t think it would still be there but it was worth a shot,” Strickland said. After getting permission from the manager of Day’s Inn, the two set out to hunt for a piece of personal history. “We were probably there for maybe fifteen minutes and we immediately got a signal,” he said. After moments of digging, Strickland says he could see the outline of the ring. “I knew it was it before we even dug it up.” Buried 5 to 6 inches in the ground was Strickland’s GMC class ring. He said the ring still fits and he has no intentions of letting it out of his sight.

With the help of a metal detector, Strickland, owner of Studio Designs Printing, was recently reunited with his old ring. He used his metal detector to find the ring that had been lost for 25 years.

Help us identify GMC alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice

GMC would like to honor a revered group of GMC alumni and we need your help. Our new president, LtGen William B. Caldwell, IV USA (Ret.) would like to give appropriate recognition to those who served our country and passed away from combat casualties, making the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. Toward that goal, we’re working to make our records as accurate and complete as possible.

Here’s how you can help: please take a moment to visit http://www.gmcca.libguides.com/FallenSoldiers to review the names of GMC heroes who gave their lives in defense of our freedom. If you know of someone who should be added to the list, please contact Earlene Hamilton at 478-445-0205 or by e-mail at ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us.

Thank you for helping GMC honor our own.

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.gmcca.libguides.com > Alumni > Share Your News

Or, you may contact Earlene Hamilton at: (478) 445-0205, fax: (478) 445-2867 or email: ehamilto@gmc.cc.ga.us.

You may also mail to: The Cadence, Office of Advancement, 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!
On November 13, 2014
visit GAgivesday.org
and consider donating to the
Georgia Military College Foundation.

For more information, call the