

NEW  
COMMUNITY  
ROOM 9

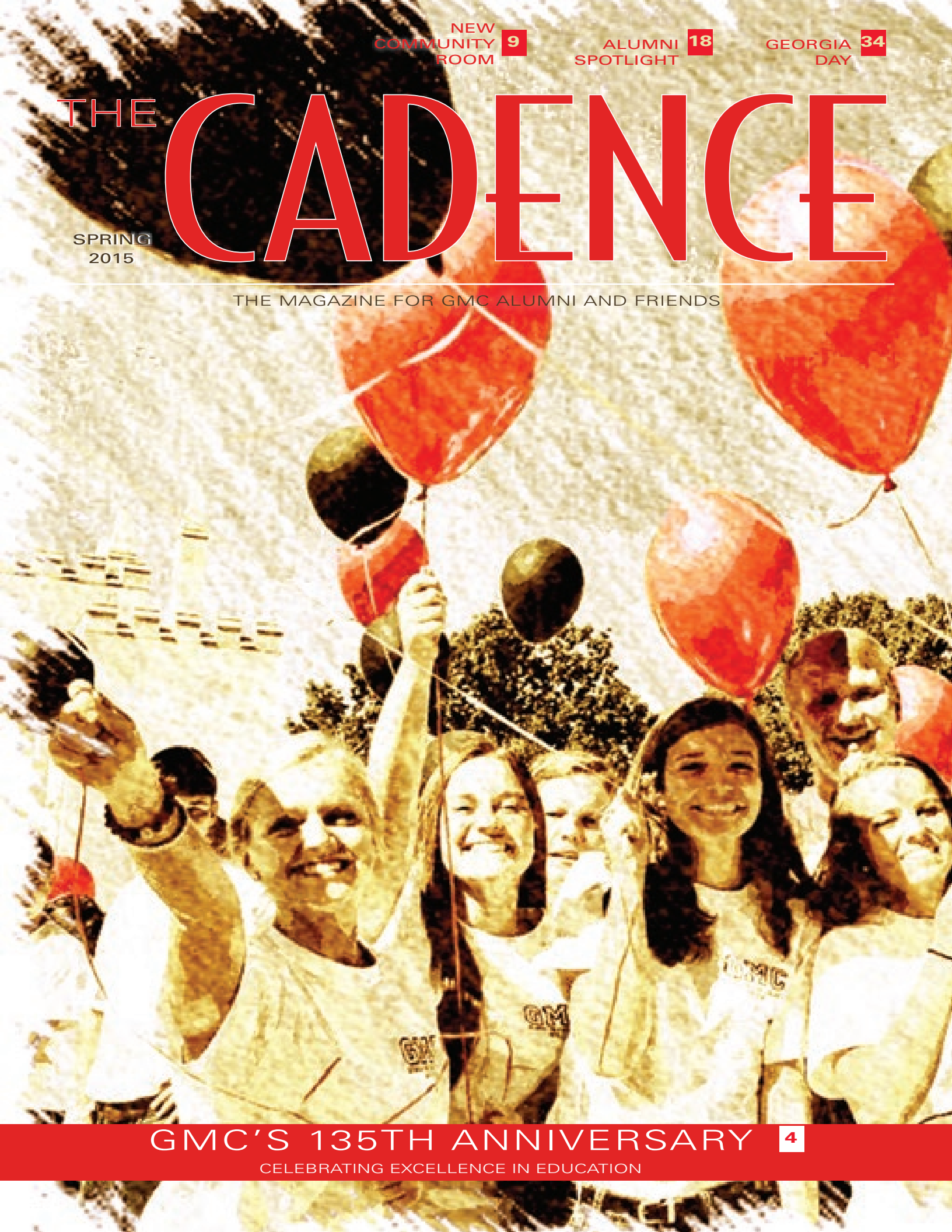
ALUMNI  
SPOTLIGHT 18

GEORGIA  
DAY 34

# THE CADENCE

SPRING  
2015

THE MAGAZINE FOR GMC ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



GMC'S 135TH ANNIVERSARY 4

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

# THE CADENCE

The magazine for GMC alumni and friends  
Spring 2015

Georgia Military College  
Office of College Relations

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Milledgeville, GA 31061  
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Read *The Cadence* online:



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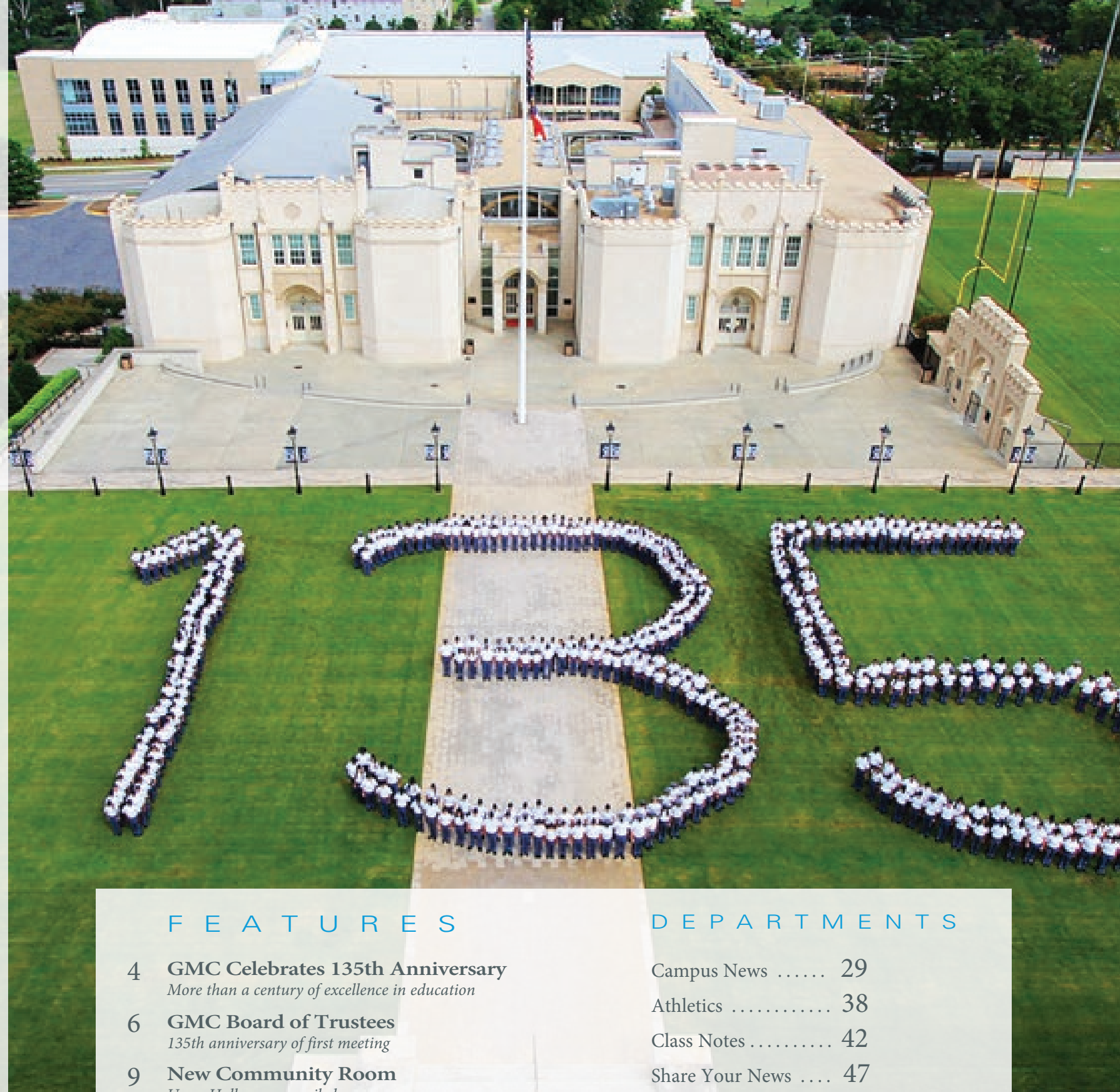
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GEORGIA  
MILITARY  
COLLEGE

A LIBERAL ARTS JUNIOR COLLEGE

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Stay connected:



## MARK STROM APPOINTED CHIEF COLLEGE RELATIONS OFFICER

Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell, IV, President of Georgia Military College, and Mr. Dudley Rowe, Chairman of the Georgia Military College Foundation, are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Mark Strom to the position of Senior Vice President for College Relations and Executive Director of the GMC Foundation effective October 1, 2014.

As Senior Vice President and Executive Director, Mr. Strom is responsible for overseeing the various College Relations functions, including Development and Advancement, Alumni Relations and Public Affairs, as well as serving as Executive Director of the Foundation.

Lieutenant General Caldwell stated he is very excited to have Mr. Strom lead the Office of College Relations. "Mark is exactly the right person to be assuming this critical leadership role in our institution. He will take what is a solid foundation and move it to the next level. His intellect along with his great interpersonal skills and drive will greatly benefit GMC."

Mr. Rowe remarked, "The foundation leadership is excited to have Mark as a key member of its team. His knowledge of GMC and his broad experience in the business and related community will be a significant asset as we work to align the foundation's goals with General Caldwell's Vision 2029."

Mr. Strom says he is excited to be joining an already successful College Relations team and looks forward to taking on the challenges of substantially growing the endowment, providing ever improving outreach to alumni, and raising the awareness of Georgia Military College across the state and beyond. "General Caldwell has articulated his Vision 2029, defining what Georgia Military College will look like at its 150 year mark. The Office of College Relations and the GMC Foundation are strategic partners that, working together with the institution, will ensure that this vision is achieved and that future generations of students will continue to benefit from the character-based education delivered in our halls."

Mr. Strom most recently served GMC as Senior Vice President for Business Development and Chief Human Resources Officer.

Prior to joining GMC in 2008, Mr. Strom served as Vice President of Human Resources for a multinational aerospace materials firm, based out of the Charlotte, NC, with operations throughout the United States and Europe. He graduated from Clemson University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and in 1987 with a Masters of Industrial Education degree in Human Resource Development. Mark and his wife, Julie, reside in Milledgeville, Georgia with their daughter, Mattison, and son, Walker. Mattison currently attends the GMC Prep School as a 7th grader and Walker is looking forward to becoming a GMC student when he enters 6th grade.





## GMC CELEBRATES ITS 135<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Georgia Military College celebrated its 135th Anniversary on October 15, 2014\* commemorating more than a century of excellence in education.

GMC was established on October 14, 1879 by act of the Georgia General Assembly and was originally called Middle Georgia Military and Agricultural College. In 1900, the name of the school was changed to Georgia Military College.

The Old Capitol Building, then as now, is the main college facility and sits on the highest point within the Milledgeville city limits. In 1880, the school's first session opened with 219 male and female

students. Dr. W. S. Dudley, the school's first president, guided this class.

In 1950, the War Department designated GMC a "Military Junior College." Today, GMC is one of only five United States Military Junior Colleges and has been designated by the Georgia General Assembly as "The Military Junior College of Georgia."

\* Celebration was delayed due to inclement weather.

For over a century, graduates have fought in world conflicts including the Spanish-American War, World War I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, the Iraqi War and the Afghanistan Conflict. Many alumni have given the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

For 135 years, students have come to GMC to invest in an education that inspires, challenges and provides opportunities for their future. GMC President, Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell, IV, believes the school is unique in that it not only offers a challenging education but also strong character development.

Lt. Gen. Caldwell says, "While here, students are inspired to ask questions, then challenged to explore solutions and hone their



critical thinking skills. And from here, they're prepared to explore a world of opportunities."

In 1879, a hand full of students enrolled in GMC, most to pursue either a military path

or agricultural studies. Today, more than 12,000 students attend GMC either online or at one of the nine (soon to be 11) campus locations throughout Georgia to pursue limitless career options. Caldwell adds, "Here, they've discovered an affordable education that sharpens their minds, broadens their perspectives and strengthens their character. To borrow an inspiring phrase from the students themselves, they know that 'from GMC, you're ready to go anywhere.'"





## Georgia Military College Celebrates 135th Anniversary of First Meeting of the GMC Board of Trustees

Georgia Military College honored the school's Board of Trustees (past and present) with a luncheon on October 22, 2014, the anniversary of the first meeting of the board in 1879. The event featured a special presentation by members of MAJ Karen Grimes' Georgia History class who highlighted the many milestones of the past 135 years. The keynote speaker was Mr. Randy New, Chairman of the GMC Board of Trustees.

For generations, Georgia Military College has stood as a unique educational institution within the

state of Georgia. Through legislative acts of 1920 and 1922, the school was designated a corporate body with a publicly elected Board of Trustees.

The Georgia General Assembly provided for a seven-member board to be elected from and by the citizens of Milledgeville. They are elected every four years and represent each city council district. The trustees are prohibited from holding any other public office during their term. The Milledgeville Mayor serves on the board because GMC is a city chartered school.

growth in the online programs and expansion of all campuses throughout the state. The most memorable event in his tenure was the opening of the Utery Building-the first building dedicated solely to the prep school.

New holds an Associate of Business Administration from GMC and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics and Management from Georgia College (GC). He is the co-owner of Bayne's Army Store, managing partner in VBRN Investments, and a partner in the Old Capitol Gun Club and BNS Properties.

He is a member of many organizations including the Milledgeville/Baldwin Chamber of Commerce, Milledgeville Main Street, the National Wild Turkey Federation, Ducks Unlimited, and the National Rifle Association. He is well-known in town for his volunteerism, especially for the

The board has the authority to determine policy and conduct of the college and to govern financial and personnel matters. This license also includes overseeing the prep school curriculum and articulation agreements for the college.

The board consists of a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary/treasurer and four members-at-large. The desire to help the school achieve set goals is expected from each trustee, but a personal connection to GMC is not required.

management of the Empty Stocking Fund (ESF). In 2013, the ESF, funded completely through donations, provided holiday meals to over three-hundred families in need.

New is a member of Black Springs Baptist Church and enjoys spending time with his family, including grandson Jared New. In his down time, he appreciates fishing, hunting, and shooting.

George Hogan  
Vice Chairman

A much-respected businessman and longtime GMC advocate, Vice Chairman George Hogan, is currently in his fifth term



George Hogan

as a trustee. A native of Milledgeville, he is a distinguished Vietnam veteran having served in the United States Army during the years 1966-1968.

Hogan owns and operates George Hogan & Sons Logging and Tree Service Company. He is married to Patricia Ann Hogan and together they have five children, thirteen grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Hogan was the first African-American officer for the Ga State Patrol to work within the Middle Ga area. He served alongside secret service agents guarding President Jimmy Carter after the family left the White House and returned to Plains, Ga.

During his tenure, he has served with four mayors and has witnessed remarkable changes to the main campus. "The renovations of the older buildings along with the construction of new facilities has been just amazing," stated Hogan.

He says the growth of online programs and expansion of campuses across the state has made a college education accessible to all who desire it. "It is my job, as a trustee, to promote this institution's assets and ensure that the public know what an excellent education can be obtained here," added Hogan.

In addition to running his business and serving as a trustee, Hogan is involved in numerous organizations including the Middle Georgia Region Development Corporation. He is currently a member of the American Legion Post 523, the NAACP, and a charter member of the 100 Black Men of Milledgeville/Baldwin County. His charitable contributions include being a founding board member for the Milledgeville Habitat for Humanity. He has been a member of Trinity CME Christian Church for over sixty years and is president of the Baldwin Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Doris Renfroe  
Secretary/Treasurer

Ms. Doris Renfroe is a native of Milledgeville and has served on the board for eight years. She graduated from Boddie High School in 1958 and attended GMC as a non-traditional business student.

An award winning employee, she retired from Central State Hospital after working 34 years as a secretary. She believes her service on the board helps further the education of the school's students. She stresses, "Education is imperative as it allows people to grow and have a secure future."

In her seventies, she goes to the gym nearly every day of the week to stay fit and feel young. A widow, Renfroe has two children, a son Grayson Renfroe, and a daughter Debra Lango.



Doris Renfroe

Reverend Tony Fraley

Member-at-large, Reverend Tony Fraley, brings decades of experience in community activism and leadership to the board. A former GMC student in General Studies, he holds a Bachelor of Theology from American Theological Seminary and is the pastor of Vaughn Chapel Baptist Church.

Elected in 2013, Fraley is in his first term and sees his role on the board as a steward of the school. He says, "As a trustee, my role is one of a wise steward who is tasked with identifying and recommending opportunities that foster growth and sustainability."

As a trustee, Fraley's most memorable event was the historical penning of the partnership between GMC and Fort Valley State University. He believes this connection provides another opportunity for local students to continue their education within the Middle Georgia area.

Fraley has extensive experience in serving the community in various leadership positions. He is the president of the Baldwin County 21st Century Ministerial Alliance, co-owner of Voyage of Hope, founder of Crack Prevention-the Family and Community Conservation Center, and serves on the Riverbend Correctional Facility Board of Directors. He is a former board member for the Salvation Army and the Adult Education Program.

Fraley enjoys family life with wife Daphane, son LaVata Antonio Fraley and daughter Shameka Fraley. He is a proud grandfather to grandsons Darien Fraley and LaVata Antonio Fraley, Jr. and to granddaughter JaKia Fraley. In his spare time, he enjoys woodworking, traveling and baking.



Rev. Tony Fraley

Alberto C. Martinez, Jr.

Member-at-large Alberto C. Martinez, Jr. is a graduate of GMC prep school ('70) and received his undergraduate and law degree from the University of Georgia. His brother Sandy ('73) and daughter Mary Beth ('06) are both graduates of the prep school as well. Making GMC a family affair, brother George taught Physics at the school for several years.

A member since 2000, Martinez views his role as one in support of the president and staff running the school and in planning and providing for its future. He states, "We are a group of people who care about GMC and are willing to volunteer our time to help see to it that the school has the best leadership and



Alberto Martinez, Jr.

administration possible."

For Martinez, it is hard to choose one singular favorite event that he has been involved with as a board member. He believes the most important accomplishments have originated from a cumulative effort to bring about growth and change. "In my fourteen years on the board, there has been an impressive transformation of the main campus-the new and modern buildings, the Grant Parade Field, the athletic fields-a truly amazing makeover," he said.

Retired from the state of Georgia, he last served as chief assistant in the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office. He is a member of the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia. His family includes wife Jeanine and daughter, Mary Beth.

Ken Vance

Although he is a transplant from South Georgia, member-at-large Ken Vance has been a dedicated citizen of Milledgeville for decades. He is currently in his first term as a board member and is excited to be part of the school's bright future.

Vance brings a myriad of experiences to the board table. As the head of campus police at GC for over twenty-seven years, he was known to locals and students simply as "Chief." He served on the Milledgeville City Council for twenty-eight years and has degrees in English, Creative Writing, and Public Administration. Governor Sonny Purdue appointed Vance as the executive director of the Peace Officers Standards and Training Council of Georgia-he was reappointed under current Governor Nathan Deal.

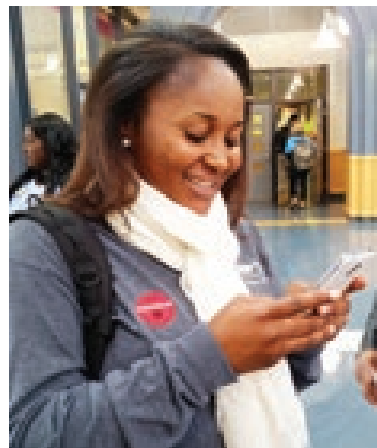
Married to Carol Grant Vance, they have two children, Emily (HS '06) and John Austin (HS '10), who are both GMC graduates. Vance praises the strong educational support that helped his children achieve success. "The Character Education Program that is the foundation of the school's curriculum is what I see as the greatest influence on my children," said Vance. "Additionally, the disciplined environment, created by Principal John Thornton and Assistant Principal Pam Grant and the wonderful faculty, contributed to their value base." He firmly believes the school prepares students for the next step in their lives after graduation.



Ken Vance

## GMC Foundation is TOP FUNDRAISER IN GEORGIA GIVES DAY CAMPAIGN

The GMC Foundation was named the state's top fundraiser during Georgia Gives Day, raising \$120,705 during the 24-hour online giving campaign on November 13, 2014. Georgia Gives



Day is a significant platform for engaging online giving and this event has become part of Georgia Military College Foundation's annual fund-

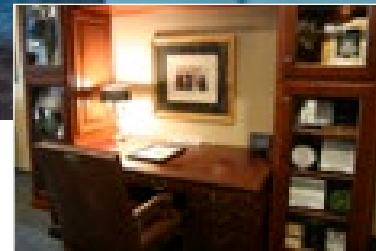
raising campaign. Our efforts brought a sizable increase due in large part by ramping up our social media exposure which helped us reach more audiences than in years past.



Our donors understand the importance of investing in scholarships for our students, many of whom are the first in their family to attend college. With nine (soon to be 11) locations across the state, we encouraged a friendly competition among our campuses, which added to the excitement of the day.

We were proud of the level of involvement by our students via social media. Anyone who donated or tweeted about our campaign received a sticker, with the hash tag (#GMC-Gives). Many campuses also offered "treats for tweets."

Georgia Military College's first priority is to contribute to our students' success and Georgia Gives Day 2014 allowed us to celebrate a great victory for our students and with our students.



## GMC Unveils USERY COMMUNITY ROOM

Faculty, staff and alumni of Georgia Military College recently gathered at Usery Hall for the unveiling of a new community room dedicated to a special guest.

The Honorable W.J. Usery Jr., former U.S. Secretary of Labor and GMC alumnus, cut the ceremonial ribbon that unveiled the new Usery Community Room.

"I believe I have lived a life in accordance with the creed of this institution and I am proud to call myself a GMC alumnus," Usery said. "But I am also 91 years old, and I want to make sure that the school that I love and has made me the man I am today lives on long after we have passed. I am asking that this room be christened the Usery Community Room to reflect the largest part of my public life at GMC and the navy."

Usery became the first Georgian to serve as U.S. Secretary of Labor. He was appointed to the position in 1976 by U.S. President Gerald Ford.

During his military career, he served aboard the Tutuila in the U.S. Navy's Pacific Fleet from 1943-1946.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Usery expressed his thoughts on the

significance GMC has had on the accomplishments in his life.

"Through many trials in the navy the GMC mottos, 'duty, honor, country,' and 'character above all' were always there to guide me. GMC made it possible to face the fear of death and overcome it," he said.

GMC President Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV said it was an honor to be in the company of Usery and an even greater honor to have his legacy preserved at GMC.

"We are in the presence of a great man, but we are also in the presence of one of our most dedicated alumni. It is truly an honor to have his legacy preserved at our institution."

Usery said it was his fondest hope that the room will help bring people together.

"I hope that this room may in a small way help bring people together not just among the faculty and students at GMC but across our fair city — helping to overcome current geographic and racial barriers."

The coming together of different groups is the core objective of the new community room as well as his legacy, he added.

**"As my legacy at GMC, I want to help in providing for the years ahead the opportunity for all of us to work together for the future we want our children, our schools, our city and our nation to have. This is what Usery Community Room is all about."**

—W.J. Usery Jr.

## LOCKSTEP TECHNOLOGY GROUP TO ESTABLISH ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

On Georgia Gives Day, Lockstep Technology Group, a boutique reseller of IT solutions, generously committed to establishing an endowed scholarship.

Lockstep leaders, who have been strategic technology partners with the college for a number of years, made the pledge after learning about General Caldwell's scholarship initiative. "He explained the need for scholarships and we already knew how deserving GMC students are, so it was an easy decision," said Brian Onstott, Lockstep's Director of State and Local Education. "It's extremely satisfying to support such a worthy cause and be able to see the direct results of our donation."

Once the endowment is established, the Lockstep Technol-



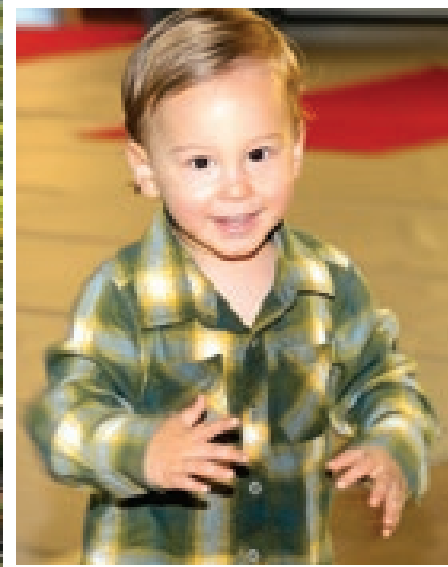
**Lt. Gen. Caldwell, Ken Dreon, President of Lockstep, and Brian Onstott**

ogy Scholarship will be awarded annually to a student in a technology-oriented program of study. "We loved the idea of establishing a technology-specific scholarship," Brian said. "Technology offers so many promising careers and we try to give back to our educational customers what we can."

Through its work with GMC for the past three years, Lockstep has played another important role for students by completely redesigning and redeploying the school's IT infrastructure.

"We're extremely grateful to Lockstep for their hard work, their generosity and their enthusiasm for backing our students," said GMC President, Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell, IV. "They're a great example of a valued business partner going the extra mile to make a meaningful difference."





ALUMNI WEEKEND

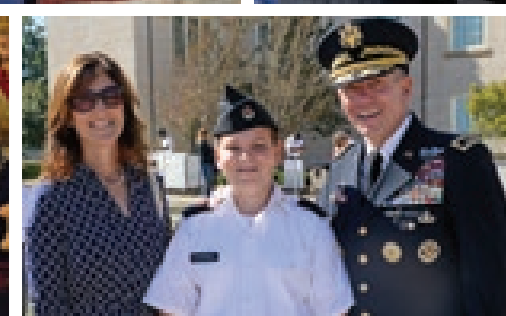
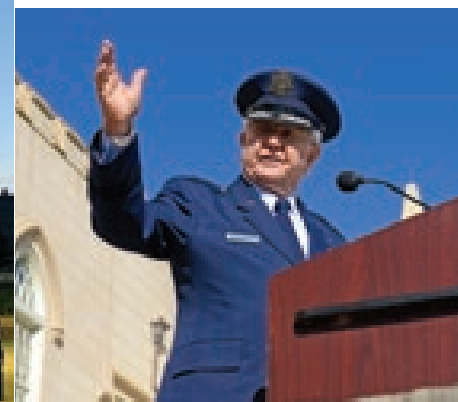
Alumni Weekend 2014 was full of exciting new events, as well as, visits with many from GMC's past.

Alumni Weekend 2014  
October 23-25



ALUMNI WEEKEND

"The Alumni Weekend for our JC '64 class was nothing short of wonderful. GMC went all out to make everything and everyone quite special. The campus has been transformed and I certainly plan to return again." -- Dr. Richard Elmore (JC '64)





"I was glad to see that there were some of my classmates there whom I had not seen since 1969 and, hopefully, there will be more there this year. It was a GREAT weekend and I commend the GMC staff for the work that obviously went into the planning and execution." --Wayne Burton: (JC '69)



## GMC announces 2014 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

These nine extraordinary people 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 a part of the lives of each of these fine people. Their contributions have, without a doubt, made the world a better place.

### Distinguished Alumnus Award

BRIGADIER GENERAL TOMMY FRANCIS GRIER, JR.,

Centennial, Colorado

*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.*



TOMMY FRANCIS GRIER, JR.  
JC 1960

### Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

CAPTAIN AURLBRIO L. FENNELL

Alexandria, Virginia

*The Outstanding Young Alumnus 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.*



AURLBRIO FENNELL  
JC 2004

### Community Service Award

BARBARA SHAHEEN

Warner Robins, Georgia

*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.*



BARBARA SHAHEEN  
JC 2010

### Alumni Achievement Award

COLONEL BERNARD R. LINDSTROM

Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

*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.*



BERNARD R. LINDSTROM  
JC 1988

### Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

CAPTAIN JEREMY HAYNES *Henrico, Virginia*

*The Outstanding Young Alumnus 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.*



JEREMY HAYNES  
JC 2004

### Honorary Alumna Award

JUDY ARCHER

Jonesboro, 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.*



JUDY ARCHER

### GMC Service Award

WILLIAM EDWARD "ED" ROBINSON, III

Milledgeville, Georgia

*The GMC Service Award is designated for an alumnus 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.*



ED ROBINSON  
HS 1959, JC 1961

### Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

CAPTAIN IBRAHIM OMAR TANTAWI

New Orleans, Louisiana

*The Outstanding Young Alumnus 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.*



IBRAHIM OMAR TANTAWI  
JC 2004

### Honorary Alumna Award

DR. MAIDANA NUNN

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.*



MAIDANA NUNN

### *Nominate your choice for the 2015 Alumni Awards!*

We invite alumni and friends to submit nominations for the 2015 GMC Alumni Awards.

The deadline for nominations is June 15, 2015. For additional information, please call the Office of College Relations 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: [ehamilton@gmc.edu](mailto:ehamilton@gmc.edu).

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

AWARD NOMINATION CATEGORY: **Alumni Achievement | Distinguished Alumni | Outstanding Recent Alumni Honorary Alumni | Community Service Award | GMC Service Award**



### 2014 Band Company Reunion



BG Curt Rauhut  
Harry McRae  
Clyde Dunn  
Cliff Owdom  
Dess Smith  
Terry “Falstaff” Johnson  
Ben Underwood  
Dean Mills  
Robert Rushing  
Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV



Band Company and Gold Brigade  
  
Danny Stowe  
Dr. Robert Baer  
Fred Brown  
Graham Bird  
Warren Taylor  
Al Davis  
Mike Witherspoon  
Jack Riley  
Robert Rushing  
Ben Boatwright  
Steve Smirlis  
Buzz Durham  
Dr. Richard “Rich” Elmore  
Charles Pennington

### HS and JC Classes of 1964 - Gold Brigade



Jack Riley  
Robert Glenn Ross  
Al Dennis  
Danny Stowe  
Dr. Richard T. Elmore, Jr.  
Shannon New-Diaz;  
*alumni board president*  
Robert Rushing  
Dr. Robert Baer  
Steve Smirlis  
Mike Witherspoon

### HS and JC Classes of 1973



Jim and Maggie Kjer, Mike and Kathy Perez and Ben and Carol Plexico (in front)

### HS and JC Classes of 1974 - 40th Reunion



HS Class of 1974: Millard Harrington, Patricia Thompson, Tom Torrance, Charlotte S. McShurley, and Bill Barnes



JC Class of 1974  
  
Ken McDonald  
Robert Goggans (HS '72)  
Shannon New-Diaz (HS '75, JC '77)  
Merel Harrison (JC '74)  
Carl Mixon (HS '72, JC '74)  
Jeffrey D. Kilian (HS '72, JC '74)  
David Grant (HS '72, JC '74)

### JC Class of 1989 - 25th Reunion



SGT Wayne T. Burton, Jr.  
COL Bobby L. Christine  
COL Reginald G. (Reg) Neal  
  
*celebrating with*  
  
COL Tom Torrance (HS '74)  
COL Bernard (Bernie) Lindstrom (JC '88)  
COL Kevin Ford Gregory (JC '88)

### HS and JC Classes of 1994 - 20th Reunion



Summer Veal-Conner  
Jamie Weaver-Franks  
David Humphus  
Jennifer Veal-Winkler  
Leslie Jones-Simmons  
Hope Bishop-Pope  
Rob Rogers  
Allyson Hielt-Adams  
Keita Shinholster-Devero  
Brandon Williams  
Kevin Franks

### 2015 CLASS REUNIONS

#### SUMMER:

#### HS 1975 – 40th Reunion

Date: TBD  
Class Agent: Clay Wood  
478-363-4511 (c)  
ccwood@triumphgroup.com

#### ALUMNI WEEKEND REUNIONS:

(Oct. 22-24)

#### Band Company

Class Agent: Terry Johnson  
1975 Johnson Road  
Warrenton, GA 30828  
gmclostcadets@outlook.com  
706-466-4757

#### HS & JC 1965 – 50th Reunion “The Gold Brigade”

#### HS & JC 1970 – 45th Reunion

#### HS & JC 1975 – 40th Reunion

#### HS & JC 1980 – 35th Reunion

#### HS & JC 1985 – 30th Reunion

#### HS & JC 1990 – 25th Reunion “The Silver Brigade”

#### HS & JC 1995 – 20th Reunion

#### HS & JC 2000 – 15th Reunion

#### HS & JC 2005 – 10th Reunion

If you would like to help with planning your anniversary reunion, please contact Earlene Hamilton at [ehamilton@gmc.edu](mailto:ehamilton@gmc.edu) or 478-445-0205.



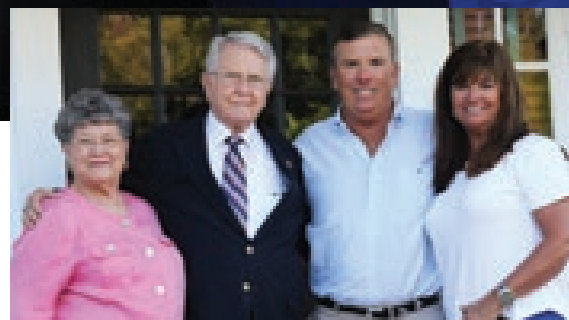
## GMC Honors MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM ACKER



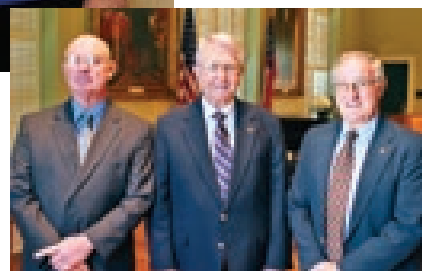
Caldwell, Acker and  
Shannon New-Diaz



Dr. George Echols, Acker



MG and Mrs. Acker, Ted and Joni Smith



Randy New, Acker and Dudley Rowe

Major General Bill Acker hadn't visited GMC for 22 years, but returning in October felt much like receiving a hero's welcome. "General Caldwell was kind enough to invite my wife, Nadine, and me to attend alumni weekend, which included a parade and an opportunity to address the cadets," said the Milledgeville native, who now lives in San Antonio, TX.

The Ackers also attended a prep school football game, where he was officially presented with the game ball, which arrived from on high via a team of Golden Knights parachuters. Later, at an alumni dinner, General Caldwell announced the creation of a GMC scholarship in General Acker's name. "Nadine and I were shocked and so pleased," he says. "It was really an emotional and outstanding experience to go back to GMC."

General Acker, 84, might have been away from GMC for a long while, but he's certainly no stranger to the school. In fact, General Acker is the only GMC grad (JC '50) who also served as the school's president, a position he held from 1985 to 1992. "Before taking the job, I was commander of the Third Air Force, responsible for the entire Air Force presence in Great Britain," he explains. "Some friends from my hometown of Milledgeville came over to England and recruited me for the GMC job. I was close to retirement so decided to accept."

When General Acker took the reins at GMC, it was during a time when military schools were a decidedly unpopular choice due to political backlash from the Vietnam War. "I'm an old fighter pilot and we fighter pilots are optimistic; we think we can do anything," he laughs. "I thought I could help the

school, so that's what I tried to do." It was a time of great struggle for the college, but General Acker, a remarkable leader, envisioned opportunities for growth and change. He started the junior college football team, which has enjoyed great success. He also created educational opportunities with three off-campus centers.

General Acker, in turn, credits several key supporters for their vision and perseverance during that difficult time: Harold Goodrich, Jake Goldstein, Charles Ennis, Dr. Jimmy Baugh and Tony Owen. "They refused to let that old school die," he says, "And I couldn't have kept it open without them."

Thanks to the tenacity of that core group, along with supportive faculty and staff, GMC remained on its feet, despite the odds. Today, of course, it stands among the most acclaimed junior colleges in the nation.

"Coming back to GMC, it made me very happy to see how the facilities looked. The old barracks have been replaced...the land we acquired for the football program now holds a major athletic complex...it's a wonderful thing to see" he says. "But there were two things that haven't changed. One is the great education. It's still top-notch because it goes well beyond academics. The other is how sharp those cadets still look. I was very impressed by them."

Now back home in Texas, General Acker reflects on his appreciation for all GMC has become. "I'm so grateful to General Caldwell for inviting me back so I could see how well the school is doing," he says. "General Caldwell and his wife are a real asset to the school and to Milledgeville; I know they're going to continue to do good things for both."

## Scholarships Established to Honor Young GMC Alumni



Ms. Shannon New-Diaz, GMC Alumni Association President, COL Fred Van Horn, GMC Executive Vice President, CPT Ibrahim Tantawi, CPT Robert Withers, CPT Aurlbri Fennell, and LtGen William B. Caldwell, IV, GMC President

During the alumni weekend festivities at Georgia Military College, four young men were honored as "Young GMC Alumni" for having clearly demonstrated their character and having represented the very best that is Georgia Military College. These young men are:

Captain Robert Withers, US Army Retired, GMC JC Class of 2003; Captain Aurlbri Fennell, US Army, GMC JC Class of 2004, Captain Ibrahim Tantawi, US Army, GMC JC Class of 2004, and Captain Jeremy Haynes, US Army, GMC JC Class of 2004.

- Each one is a Georgia Military College graduate who earned a commission in the U.S. Army through the GMC Early Commissioning Program.
- Each one is serving or served honorably on active duty in the U.S. Army during wartime and in a war zone.
- Each one served while in harm's way, led other Americans in wartime, and three of them are Purple Heart recipients.

COL Fred Van Horn, GMC Executive Vice President, spoke of them saying, "When we say 'God Bless America' we are asking for His blessing on these young men, and the many more young men and women like them. Young GMC alumni like these are serving this nation in places where every day they voluntarily place themselves in harm's way. They selflessly go about the business of keeping our nation safe while making life more bearable for the sick, hungry, homeless, and the persecuted. If it is true that the young men and women who pass through the GMC gates are the living messages we send to a time we will not see, then we are indeed fortunate today to be able to see here four of our very best at the mid-point of their journey. It is by way of

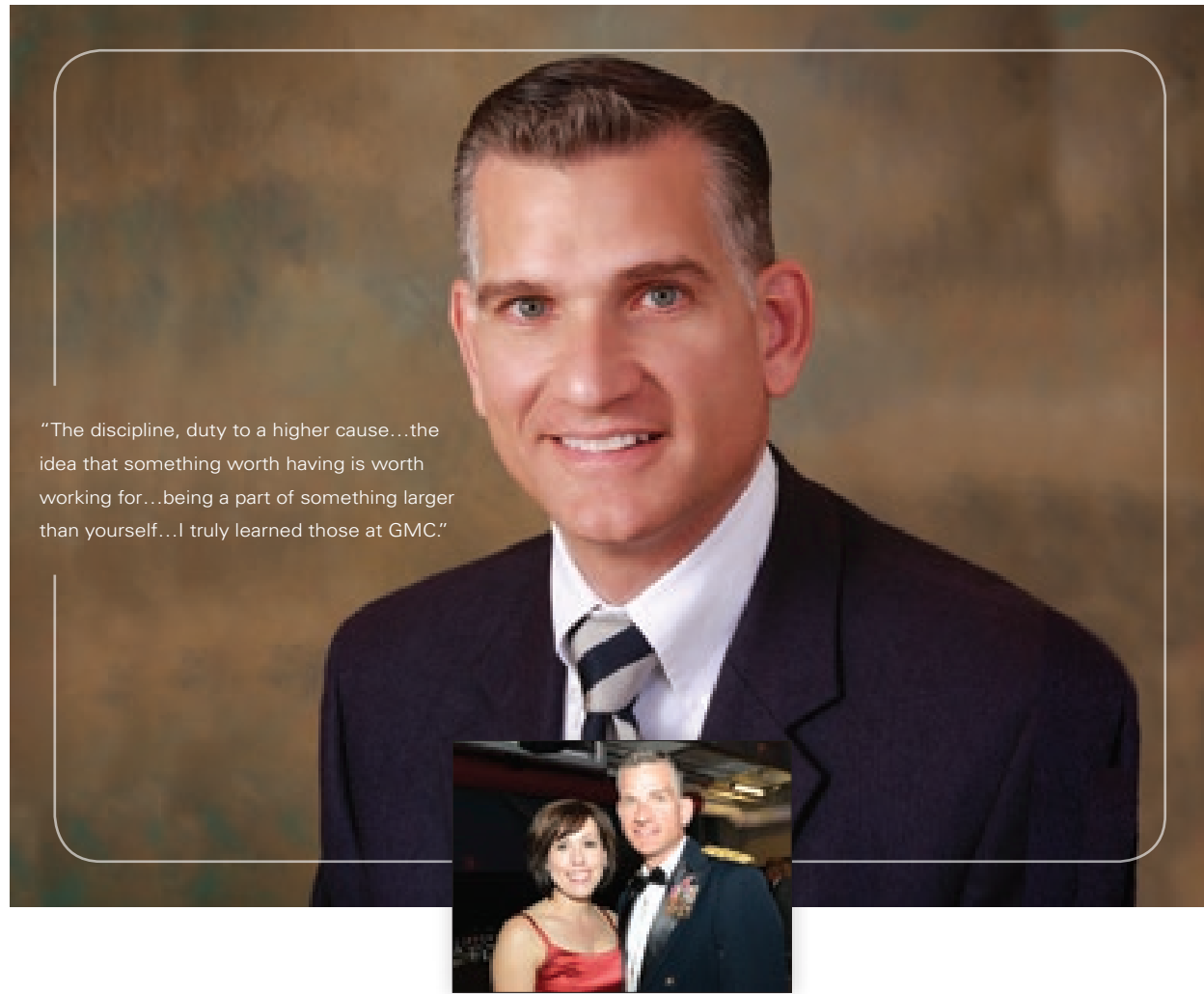
the presentation of this award that we can say to: 'We are proud of you and we are inspired by your example.'"

A scholarship has been established in the names of each of the three Purple Heart recipients, CPT Jeremy Haynes, CPT Ibrahim Tantawi and CPT Robert Withers. The purpose of these scholarships will be to assist GMC students participating in the SROTC program as members of the corps of cadets. These funds will help with the expenses incurred for tuition, fees, books and uniforms. If you would like to learn more about these scholarships or contribute to them, please contact Sally Thrower, Associate Vice President of College Relations, 478-445-0208 or sthrower@gmc.edu.

THE  
**CADENCE**  
THE MAGAZINE FOR GMC ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

IS MOVING TO A NEW SCHEDULE.  
BEGINNING WITH THE NEXT ISSUE, WE WILL PUBLISH THE CADENCE  
IN THE WINTER (JANUARY/FEBRUARY) AND SUMMER (JUNE/JULY)  
TO BETTER FEATURE THE MANY ACTIVITIES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.





"The discipline, duty to a higher cause...the idea that something worth having is worth working for...being a part of something larger than yourself...I truly learned those at GMC."

## MEET ALUMNUS BOBBY CHRISTINE: *Upholding Duty, Honor, Country and a Love of Learning*

As a private practice attorney and magistrate judge, Bobby Christine makes decisions for a living. As an Army Colonel and State Judge Advocate, he's faced plenty more decisive moments. As an adjunct GMC professor – and husband and father of three – more decisions still. Yet the best decision he's ever made, Bobby says, was to attend GMC.

Bobby explains how the pieces fell in place. "In high school, I took a career survey and checked 'government/foreign service' and 'military' as possible areas of interest. My father had served in the military – he lost an arm and leg during his second tour in Vietnam when I was a baby – and we were a military-minded family, which likely influenced my choices."

Those 'sure-why-not' checkmarks prompted a promotional mailing from GMC, followed by a Christine family visit to campus. "We were impressed by the school, so I applied. In retrospect, it was a wonderful decision because at 17, I needed more life experience before heading to someplace big, like UGA.

God put GMC in my path and it worked out wonderfully."

Indeed it did. As a member of the 110th Corps of Cadets at GMC, Bobby also joined the Georgia Army National Guard, where he's served continuously since 1987. Meanwhile, his childhood interest in the law continued to beckon. "From a young age, I knew I wanted to be a lawyer. As a stereotypical Italian family, we watched *Petrocelli* (a TV series about an Italian American lawyer dedicated to exonerating the good guys), so that might've had something to do with it," he laughs.

Reflecting on lessons learned at GMC, Bobby credits the school's emphasis on values for helping him achieve both personal and professional goals, long after graduation. "The discipline, duty to a higher cause...the idea that something worth having is worth working for...being a part of something larger than yourself...I truly learned those at GMC."

Graduating from GMC junior college as co-valedictorian in 1989, Bobby completed his undergraduate degree at UGA and earned a law degree from

Samford University. Next, Bobby spent a decade working in the Augusta District Attorney's office, becoming chief of the Columbia County division. In 2005, he went into private practice, concentrating in litigation. That same month, Bobby was appointed Judge of Magistrate Court for Columbia County, a position he holds today.

In addition to his passion for legal pursuits – and raising three children with wife Sheri, a former teacher he calls "the smartest person I've ever met" – Bobby never lost sight of his interest in the military. Graduating from GMC as a commissioned officer at 19, he's served as everything from combat engineer, platoon and company executive officer to State Judge Advocate with the Georgia National Guard, appointed by Governor Nathan Deal in 2012. In this role, Bobby is the head military lawyer for the Georgia Army and Air National Guard, as well as chief civilian counsel for the Georgia Department of Defense.

"I was called to active military duty in 2003 and served 14 months in Iraq as both a Judge Advocate General (JAG) and combat engineer with the 265th engineering group," he says. "It was a rewarding experience because I had the opportunity to apply skills from my civilian life to the military and vice versa."

Back home, the pursuit of military education continued to interest Bobby, leading him to become one of the oldest Georgia National Guard soldiers to

graduate from the U.S. Army Airborne School. Currently, he's attending the U.S. Army War College as the first Georgia Guard JAG to be accepted by the prestigious school, with graduation expected this July.

But Colonel-Judge-Dad Bobby Christine the college *student* is also Colonel-Judge-Dad Bobby Christine the college *instructor*, recently reprising a part-time adjunct faculty role at GMC Augusta, where he also taught from 1998 to 2007. "I'm thrilled to be back on the GMC team. Every student is there for different reasons, but they're all pursuing goals," he says. "For me, assisting folks who are pursuing a goal is a real pleasure. Not everybody is blessed to be able to help better someone else's life. I missed that and now I'm back at it."

Returning to his alma mater has also given Bobby the perspective of time. "It's been like coming home, but even better. There's been such an impressive physical transformation, for which we observe a great debt to General Boylan and now General Caldwell," he says. "Those in my age group also remember the foundation of all these good things is the institution General Acker was able to save. The goals GMC's leaders set – and the decisions they've made – have created a physical plant that now harmonizes with the school's long-standing values. And that's a beautiful thing."

Campus Spotlight

## Teamwork and Transformation: A RECENT HISTORY OF GMC AUGUSTA



Visit GMC Augusta and you'll find a vibrant campus full of engaged faculty and staff, motivated students and the buzz of vitality all around. But it was no accident that this gem in the rough became the polished jewel it is today. Like many success stories, GMC Augusta's recent transformation rests on the hard work of a talented team with a visionary leader.

### The Backstory

Flash back to 1968, when GMC opened its first campus outside Milledgeville on the grounds of Fort Gordon in Augusta. By the mid 90s, the student population had grown to about 100, prompting a move to establish a campus in Martinez, a suburb of Augusta. But when growth became stagnant in the

mid-2000s, school leaders saw the need for revitalization.

Always cognizant of the value of an effective leader flanked by a strong team, GMC hired Shana Reid to take the reins as GMC Augusta's executive director in 2012.

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“Shana came to the Augusta campus with the business acumen to understand, analyze and solve problems,” said General Curt Rauhut, GMC’s Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. “Her overarching mission is student success, toward the goal of either graduating or transferring to a four year college, but she also applies her business lens to ensure we’re making wise decisions.”

Another strength, he said, is Shana’s ability to build talent. “She’s been able to build a cohesive organization that understands her vision and intent. Her team is quickly moving in the direction of making Augusta the largest GMC campus.”

### Building the Team

Shana also came to Augusta with a passion for taking organizations from floundering to flourishing, exactly what the school needed. “When I arrived in 2012, the facilities were in terrible disrepair, with old technology, electrical and plumbing issues, and original furniture from the 60s. The faculty were well-respected; they just weren’t well known,” she said. “I could envision what this campus could become and it presented a challenge I was eager to take on.”

With school leaders’ support to “spend money to make money,” Shana first took time to get to know her team and understand where her opportunities lay. “I drew from the foundational strengths of GMC Milledgeville – our history and our legacy – and from best practices the other GMC campuses

graciously shared. I also had a core group of people who were committed to the new vision,” she said. “At that point, I knew we could turn the situation around in about a year.”

When Shana hired a new head of admissions, Missy Usery (a GMC alumna who’d attended as a non-traditional student), the campus overhaul was officially underway. “We really had to get back to the basics, which also included hiring a dean of students, Leia Bowman, and a dean of academics, Derek Stone,” Shana explained. “These were the right people to tackle the challenge of restructuring the day-to-day operations of the college. They were absolutely key to our success.”

### Working the Plan

With the new team in place, the school’s transformation was swift and impressive. As dean of academics, one of the first challenges Derek tackled was class scheduling. “Classes were heavily concentrated during the morning. Now, we offer classes from 8 in the morning until 10 at night, with full-time faculty teaching day and evening,” said Shana. “Expanding our hours immediately attracted a larger student population and gave them access to the wealth of knowledge our faculty offer,” said Shana. “The new schedule also means we fully utilize our facilities, which is more cost effective.”

Meanwhile, as dean of students, Leia oversaw efforts to improve the college experience. “Prior to Leia coming, we were really just a commuter school because there was no reason for students to stay on

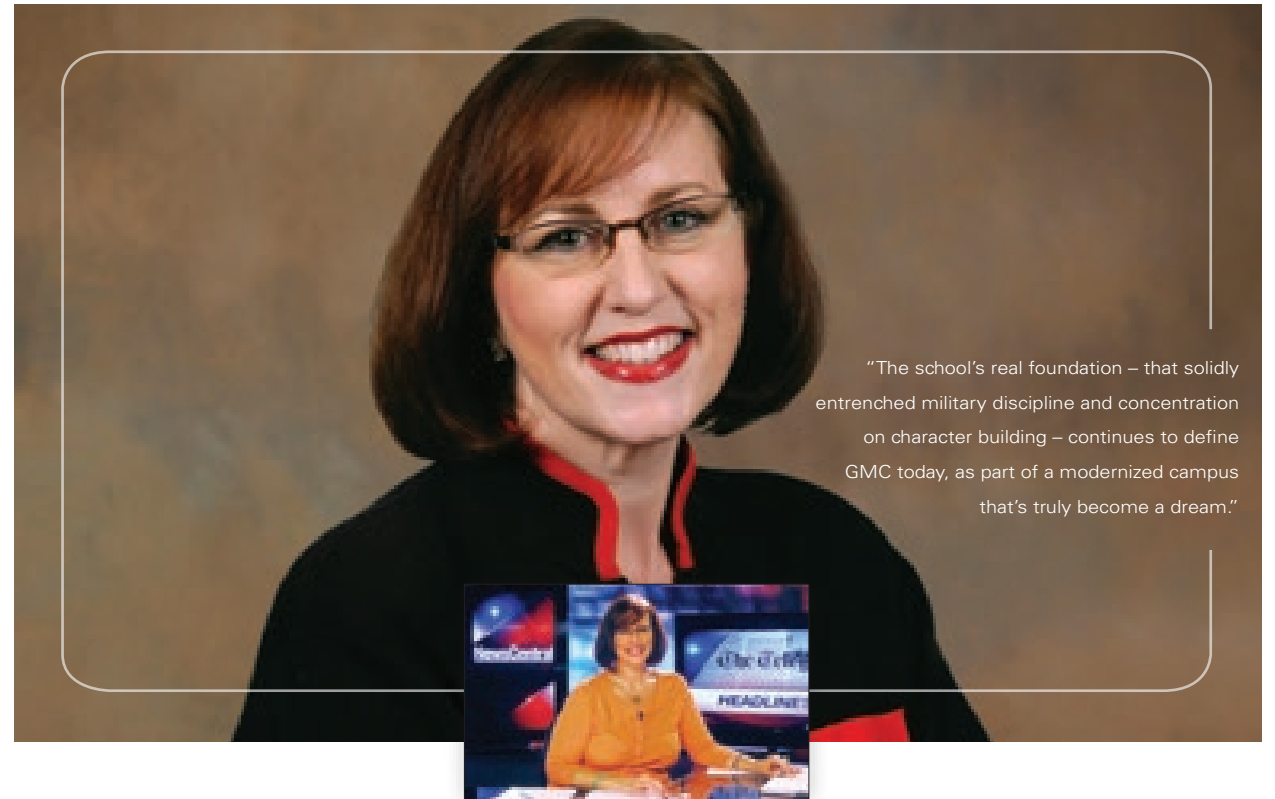
campus. Leia has taken us from three clubs to 13...she’s given us an inviting student lounge, with food vendors so students don’t have to go out for lunch...there’s a lot of buzz and activity...people hang out here all day. She’s helped transform this into a true community college experience, a place where students can learn and grow, not just take a class and go home.”

As campus improvements took shape, including modernization of the facilities and technology, the Augusta community took note. “Our admissions team did a fantastic job of going into a competitive environment (there are 16 other colleges in the area) and sharing what we have to offer – a wide range of programs offered on the quarter system, low tuition, complete accreditation, small classrooms, student-focused faculty and so much more,” said Shana. “And once prospective students are on campus, they love the environment!”

### Reaping the Rewards

By the numbers, GMC Augusta’s turnaround is clear: student enrollment is up from 900 to more than 1,300 (toward a goal of 1,500), with credit hours and revenues up 26%.

But data doesn’t tell the whole story. “What’s truly makes a difference in this community is our people. They make sure students (whom Shana typically refers to as ‘friends’) know they’re not just a number... that we’re going to help them navigate these waters successfully,” said Shana. “That’s what’s drawing students here and it’s what’s keeping them here until they graduate.”



“The school’s real foundation – that solidly entrenched military discipline and concentration on character building – continues to define GMC today, as part of a modernized campus that’s truly become a dream.”

## FORECAST FOR ALUMNA LIZ JARVIS FABIAN: *Bright, With Continued Success*

For a 15-year-old girl from Long Island, the move to Milledgeville might as well have been interplanetary. “I went from an all-girls, Catholic school in New York to a co-ed, military prep school in small town Georgia,” says Liz, GMC Prep School Class of 1978. “My father’s job with Northrup Grumman transferred us, but I knew no one and nothing about Georgia. GMC truly became my gateway to Georgia – and, really, my entire journey from there forward.”

What a journey it’s been. Just seven months after arriving in Milledgeville, Liz’s father died unexpectedly. Rather than return to their New York roots, the family opted to stay in Milledgeville. “We were already so immersed in the community and involved with GMC that we simply didn’t want to leave,” she said.

School became a sanctuary of sorts, where Liz found teachers who “were our mentors, friends and cheerleaders, people who were invested in our success. At GMC, you always knew what was expected of you and the consequences of failing to measure up,” she says. “The buildings were crumbling, but the school’s real foundation – that solidly entrenched military discipline and concentration on character building – that was solidly in place. And it continues to define GMC today, as part of a modernized campus that’s truly become a dream.”

With GMC as her academic springboard, Liz turned a childhood love of “pretend interviewing” into an impressive journalism career. While earning her bachelor’s degree at Georgia College, Liz worked part-time at the campus radio station, where she was bitten by the journalism bug. A month before graduation, she was hired as co-anchor and weather person at the Macon NBC affiliate. “That was back in the dark ages, when we assembled the evening weather map by sticking magnetic symbols and numbers to a board,” she laughs.

Low-tech graphics aside, Liz’s news delivery got the attention of an up-and-coming national station: The Weather Channel. For nearly four years, Liz anchored weekday morning weather news segments and was tapped to join TWC’s first breaking weather news team.

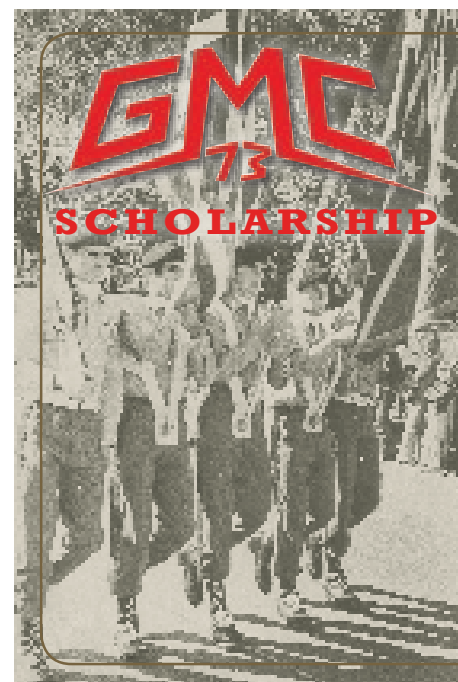
Their first live shot assignment was truly a baptism by storm: coverage of Hurricane Gilbert, a category 5 storm off the Texas coast. “That was before cell phones, and hurricane prediction models weren’t that sharp. We were pretty much hurricane chasing on our own, the only vehicle headed toward the coast as thousands of cars streamed the other way.”

Lessons learned from those early experiences helped shape weather reporting into the award-winning coverage TWC is known for today. In fact, Liz’s team earned a Golden Cable Ace award from the National Academy of Cable Programming for their 1989 coverage of Hurricane Hugo, among other accolades through the years.

By 1990, the winds were changing at the Weather Channel, with a shift toward staffing the anchor desk with meteorologists. So after years of crisscrossing the country for her craft – and getting married along the way – Liz settled in Macon, back at the TV news desk where she went on to earn even more awards.

Today, the proud mom of a 14-year-old daughter is a reporter for the Macon Telegraph and a member of Mercer University’s Center for Collaborative Journalism.

Liz now carries forward the values she has appreciated and applied since her own days on campus. “I tell students that the fires and trials of their lives will strengthen and refine their character. And I remind them never to forget that the path that takes you away can also lead you back.”



## TRIPLE YOUR GIFT!

**The GMC ’73 Scholarship recently achieved endowment status, thanks to the generous support of 44 alumni and friends.**

Established as a memorial to all 70s era alumni who have passed, this memorial scholarship provided financial assistance during school year 2014-15 to three outstanding GMC Prep School students who will graduate in May 2015.

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 ([www.alumni.gmc.edu](http://www.alumni.gmc.edu)); 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.

*Triple your gift!*

**All contributions received by December 31, 2015 will be matched by GMC and the GMC Foundation.**





The President's Circle is one of Georgia Military College Foundation's most prestigious recognition levels, honoring donors who support the College with vitally important annual leadership gifts of \$1,000 and above. To show deep appreciation for these significant annual gifts, the College honors President's Circle

donors with a black-tie dinner each year. This elite group of donors comprises the top twenty-four percent of contributors to the GMC Foundation for 2014-2015 and demonstrates a significant investment in the mission of the College through their philanthropy.

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE  
and the OAK LEAF SOCIETY  
celebration





# THE ATLANTA POPS ORCHESTRA



DR. TOM GIBSON, *Conductor* | KATIE DEAL, *Soloist*



Georgia Military College Steinway Concert Series presented *Christmas in the Air*, a holiday concert featuring the Atlanta Pops with conductor Tom Gibson and soloist Katie Deal, on Sunday, December 14, 2014 in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts.

The sold-out crowd enjoyed favorites *The Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, *The Christmas Song* and *Sleigh Ride* to name a few. A coffee and dessert reception with the artists followed the concert.

# Two Pianos Eight Hands



Georgia Military College Steinway Concert Series presented a spring concert featuring Two Pianos Eight Hands with musicians Dr. Ann Caldwell, Dr. Tom Davidson, Dr. Sergio Ruiz and Professor Moona Yu. The concert was held on Saturday, March 7, 2015 in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts.

The sold-out crowd enjoyed a classical concert including selections from Beethoven, Schubert, Bach and many others.

A reception with the artists followed the concert for Steinway members.







FOURTEENTH ANNUAL  
*Grand*  
**TATTOO**  
AND COMMAND RETREAT

The bagpipe played inside as the rain fell outside for the fourteenth annual Grand Tattoo and Command Retreat held on April 16, 2015. The event featured piper William Hunter, trumpeter Cecil Welch who played "Il Silencio" and GMC chorus members who sang "Here's To the Heroes."

The president of Georgia Military College Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV recognized four teachers and faculty members who distinguished themselves during school year 2014-2015.

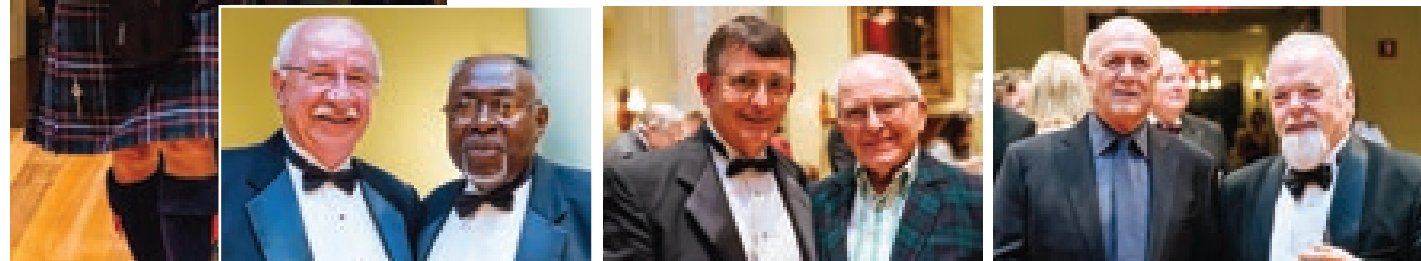
- **Major Clay McElheney** - GMC Preparatory School Teacher of the Year
- **Major Charlie Harbor** - GMC Preparatory School Character Educator of the Year
- **Mrs. Debra Dent**, Associate Professor of English, Warner Robins Campus - GMC Junior College Educator of the Year
- **Mrs. Brandi Jones**, Assistant Professor of Biology, Warner Robins Campus - GMC Junior College Character Educator of the Year



**Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV, Reagan, Sheri and COL John Thornton, and Randy New**



Lt. Gen. Caldwell honored **Colonel John Thornton**, Principal of the GMC Preparatory School, who is retiring this year after a long career of outstanding service to GMC students and to Georgia Military College. He began teaching at Georgia Military College in 1986 where he taught every grade except 6th grade at some point in his career. While teaching in the social studies department, he also coached football, baseball and golf until he was named assistant principal in 2000. Colonel Thornton was named STAR Teacher in 1999 – one of his proudest recognitions because it was student-based. He became the GMC Preparatory School Principal in 2005 and has served in that role with distinction for 10 years. He is married to Sheri Thornton who teaches at Creekside Elementary and they have a daughter, Reagan, who is a 10th grader at GMC Prep.



190TH *Lafayette*  
ANNIVERSARY

On March 27, 2015, Mr. W.J. Usery, Jr., former U.S. Secretary of Labor under President Gerald Ford, the Citizens of Milledgeville Georgia, Georgia College, and Georgia Military College hosted the 190th Anniversary Celebration of General Lafayette's 1825 visit to Milledgeville.

The celebration included a parade from the Old Governor's Mansion to Georgia Military College, with more than 2,600

students participating, a welcome ceremony and community picnic for "General Lafayette" on the grounds of Georgia Military College, and a sunset gathering and concert on the campus of Georgia College.

During his March 1825 visit, the Marquis de Lafayette met with Revolutionary War veterans from Milledgeville and surrounding counties and also with a veteran who helped carry the wounded Lafayette off the battlefield at

Brandywine. His reunion with veterans was followed by a grand celebration hosted by the Governor of Georgia on the grounds of

the Old Capitol Building.

It was a spectacular day during which citizens young and the old focused attention on the best of everything American and the principles exemplified by General Lafayette's service to our nation during the American Revolution.





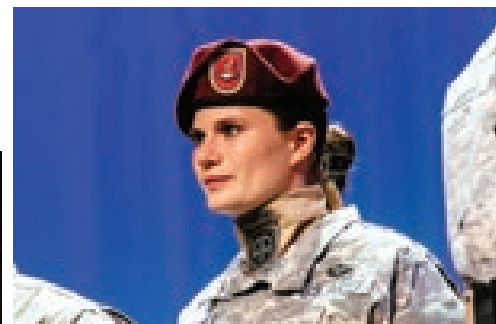
## 82ND AIRBORNE “All American” Chorus

The “All-American” Chorus presented a concert for Georgia Military College on April 9, 2015 in the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts. The Chorus is a musical group composed of Division Troopers representing every unit within the Division. The All-American Chorus was formed in 1964 to sing at Sunday services in the Division Chapel. At that time the Chorus consisted of only 15 members.

They recorded their first record entitled “The All-American Chorus,” which contained several songs and ballads about the Airborne and the Army.

The 82nd Airborne Division’s “All-American” Chorus performs throughout the continental United States. Though their primary mission remains serving the soldiers of the U.S. Army and Fort Bragg, their off-post performances continue to increase, so much in fact that they have become one of the Army’s greatest recruiting tools. Appearing in their maroon berets, ascots, and army combat boots, the paratroopers of the

“All-American” Chorus are truly ambassadors for the 82nd Airborne Division.



## Honoring our Past Heroes: GMC ROTC Cadets Compete in 26th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March

By Captain Steven Aoyagi, Cadet Luke Torres, and Cadet Joshua Hall



26 miles into the March, Cadets Ranney, Halpern, Daniels and McClure join arms to support one another as they struggle through the last .2 miles of the March.



Georgia Military College Cadets are “all smiles” following the completion of one of the toughest Marathons in the US. As Teams, they trekked through the hot, sandy, and rough desert environment at 5,000ft+ elevation to include an eight mile uphill climb over and then around the backside of the Organ Mountains, in Southern New Mexico to complete the 26.2 mile marathon. GMC competed with 24 Cadets, with the GMC ROTC Heavy Team 1, finishing in 8th place of 42 ROTC Heavy Teams and in 14th place of 115 Heavy Teams from across the Army and United States. Each of the 20 Cadets who entered heavy category carried a 40-50 lbs. rucksack filled with food (over 700 lbs. total) to donate to the Roadrunner Food Bank.

On March 22, 2015, fourteen Cadets from the Georgia Military College Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) Program competed in the 26th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March in White Sands, NM. These young, future Army Officers trained for over 5 months for the event, and challenged themselves at the 30th Annual Army Ten Miler, Wounded Warrior 10k, and Soldier Marathon races along the way.

The Bataan Memorial Death March commemorates the World War II events of April

1942, when tens of thousands of American and Filipino Allied Soldiers were captured by Japanese Forces and forced to march for days through the jungles of the Philippines. Thousands of Soldiers died due to exposure, hunger, dehydration, or at the hands of their captives. In their honor, GMC Cadets rigorously trained and traveled across the United States to complete the 26.2 mile course.

(right) GMC Cadet Ranney shakes the hand of one of the survivors of the 1942 Bataan Death March, before beginning the 26th Annual Memorial March in White Sands, NM.



Curt Flournoy (far left) and Chick-fil-A recently donated \$2,500 to establish a Leader Academy at GMC Prep. Chick-fil-A Leader Academy engages students in monthly Leader Labs with a focus on important leadership skills that they will use to create student-led Community Impact Projects. Thirty selected students participate in monthly Leader

Labs using unique curriculum technology with a faculty leader to gain insight and principles, then involve hundreds in their school and impact thousands in their community! The program is fully-funded through generous sponsorships from local Chick-fil-A Operators, Chick-fil-A, Inc. and Coca-Cola to offset the annual \$4,000 per school tuition.



## GMC FAYETTEVILLE IS TAKING SHAPE

After retiring from a distinguished 30+ year military career – encompassing a variety of progressively responsible assignments in the U.S. and abroad, including two Pentagon tours and five combat deployments to Panama, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq – Brigadier General Scott F. “Rock” Donahue found himself working as an “Army of One.”

Brig. Gen. Curt Rauhut, GMC’s Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, explains, “When we decided to open a new GMC campus in Fayetteville to support the area’s growing population and business market, we initiated our search for an executive director. With his extensive background in engineering and operations management, budget execution, and coalition building, Rock offered the right blend of leadership and program execution to lead the charge.”

#### If You Build It, They Will Come

Under Rock’s oversight, progress has been swift and steady. Since breaking ground in October, construction is now well underway on the 25,000+square-foot, phase 1 facility, set to open for fall classes in August (phase 2, construction of a second building is programmed once enrolment exceeds 500 students).

As the facility takes shape, the school’s newly hired staff members – Assistant Director Lauren Harris, Enrollment Manager Keith Barksdale, Jr., and Business Operations Manager Natonya Moss – are busy developing campus specific programs, policies, and business practices; advertising;



BG Donahue

and recruiting prospective students. Meanwhile, Rock is narrowing the search for an Academic Dean who will hire additional adjunct and full-time professors, and develop required curriculum. Beyond building the campus’ facilities, faculty and curriculum, Rock has also set up the school’s business processes, developed a marketing campaign and continues to cultivate stakeholder relationships. “We’ve had tremendous support, from Mayor Clifton to the county commission to state legislators...the Board of Education, the Georgia Film Institute, Piedmont-Fayette Hospital, and the Pinewood Atlanta Studios Production Centre ..... everyone is excited about what we’re building here,” Rock said. “I’ve also had tremendous support from my colleagues within GMC, for which I’m truly grateful.”

#### Creating a Customized Curriculum

GMC chose west Fayetteville as the home for it’s 10th campus based on the area’s already established business market, which includes Piedmont-Fayette Hospital, with more than 1,000 employees. Additionally, Pinewood Atlanta Studios, a multimillion-dollar, full service film and entertainment studio, arrived there in early 2014.

“To support the area’s growing

workforce, we’ll offer all 27 GMC academic programs, online and in the classroom, infused with our core values of duty, honor, country and above all else, character,” Rock says. “But what really sets us apart are the programs we’re developing in allied health and film technology. In keeping with Governor Deal’s new education platform to strengthen schools and colleges, and to provide career relevant education and career ready students, we’re designing these two new education tracks for students aiming to develop skillsets for the area’s largest employers.”

#### Standing On the Threshold

As Donahue surveys the rising structure that will house nine classrooms and biology/chemistry lab, plus a media center, bookstore, student lounge, active learning center, and more, he can clearly envision the future. “We’re standing on the threshold of profound change in how we approach education, both as a nation and institution of higher education” he said. “I consider it a real blessing to be part of the journey.”

GOVERNOR DEAL ANNOUNCES \$3.5M RESTORATION OF DUBLIN’S SKYSCRAPER  
GMC DUBLIN TO OPEN FALL 2015

On October 14, 2014, Governor Nathan Deal announced the restoration of downtown Dublin’s First National Bank Building. Built in 1913, the historic landmark will become home to Georgia Military College’s new Dublin campus. In partnership with the Dublin Downtown Development Authority, Walters Management Company, and Georgia Military College, “Dublin’s Skyscraper” will undergo a \$3.5 million restoration with the GMC Dublin campus anticipated to create three administrative jobs and as many as 50 adjunct faculty positions in the first five years.

“A vibrant, economically robust downtown is a sign of an actively engaged community committed to enhancing its economic competitiveness and its quality of life,” said Gov. Nathan Deal. “The restoration of Dublin’s First National Bank Building into Georgia Military College’s new campus will breathe new life into the community. This project will expand access to higher education and create jobs and economic development opportunities in the region. I’m grateful to all involved in this process, especially the Dublin Downtown Development Authority and State Representative Matt Hatchett, for their continued commitment to keeping Georgia the nation’s top state for business.”



Front (LR) **Mr. Jim Walters**, Walters Management Company, **Governor Nathan Deal**, **Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV**, GMC President, **Mr. Spence Mullis**, Chairman, Dublin Downtown Development Authority; Back (LR) **Mr. Mark Strom**, GMC Senior VP, College Relations, **Mr. Dudley Rowe**, Chairman, GMC Foundation, **Ms. Priscilla Adams Smith**, Director, GMC Dublin Campus, **BG Curt Rauhut**, GMC Chief Operations Officer, **COL Ralph Kauzlarich**, Executive Director, GMC Milledgeville Campus, **Mr. Jeff Gray**, GMC VP of Engineering Services

The restoration of one of downtown Dublin’s most historic and recognizable buildings has long been the vision of the Dublin Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Joshua Kight, Executive Director of DDA said “By returning one of Dublin’s oldest, largest, and most architecturally impressive structures to full service, the Skyscraper project hits a home run on every one of these levels. Starting just next year, we expect hundreds of students and several new small businesses to use and enjoy this tremendous downtown building every day. This increased activity will hopefully spur additional businesses and tourism, further enriching our community.”

“We are excited to be here in Dublin to continue doing what the Governor has asked us to do with the Complete College Georgia initiative to provide opportunities for anyone who desires a college education,” said Lieutenant General William B. Caldwell, IV, President of Georgia Military College.

“This is a great project for not only Downtown Dublin but for our entire community. We are very fortunate to have Jim Walters as a partner along with GMC,” said Dublin Mayor Phil Best.

GMC Dublin is scheduled to open in the fall of 2015, and once complete, GMC Dublin will occupy the majority of the building and will feature amenities such as an IT assistance business, a coffee shop, and study areas, with the upper floors serving as classrooms and faculty offices.

**Georgia Military College now holds articulation agreements with 41 colleges and universities.**

Agnes Scott College  
Albany State University  
Argosy University Atlanta Campus  
Armstrong State University  
Art Institute of Atlanta (AIA)  
Ashford University  
Auburn University at Montgomery  
Berry College  
Brenau University  
Brewton-Parker College  
Columbus State University  
Dalton State College  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)  
Emmanuel College  
Fort Valley State University  
Georgia College & State University  
Georgia Gwinnett College  
Georgia Southern University  
Georgia Southwestern State University  
Georgia State University  
Kaplan University  
LaGrange College  
Mercer University  
Middle Georgia State College  
Paine College  
Piedmont College  
Point University  
Reinhardt University  
Saint Leo University  
Savannah State University  
Shorter University  
Southern Polytechnic State University  
Strayer University  
Thomas University  
Toccoa Falls College  
Trident University International  
Tennessee State University  
University of North Georgia  
Valdosta State University  
Wesleyan College  
Young Harris College

**GMC PREP'S LIAM FAIRBRASS**  
IS THIRD GENERATION FAMILY MEMBER TO ATTEND  
ARMY'S TOP SCHOOL



**Mark, Emily and Liam Fairbrass, U.S. Congressman Jody Hice, Kathy and MG Peter Boylan (Ret.)**

In February 2015, Liam Fairbrass, a senior at Georgia Military College Prep, officially signed the paperwork to enter West Point, the Army's most prestigious academic school in the country.

U.S. Congressman Jody Hice, who represents the 10th District of Georgia, which is made up of 25 counties, including Baldwin, also participated in the ceremonial signing.

Liam Fairbrass is the son of Mark and Emily Fairbrass and grandson of MG Peter and Kathy Boylan and currently attends Georgia Military College Prep School. In addition to an outstanding record of volunteer service, Fairbrass serves as the Battalion Commander for the high school. His brother, Elliot Fairbrass, GMC Prep Class of 2013, is a sophomore at the USMA.

**Bookmark**  
**Georgia Military College's new domain:**  
**www.GMC.edu**

**Over the next few months we will transition our email addresses to match our new domain (ex: mstrom@gmc.edu).**

**We hope this change will make it easier for you to find us online and stay in touch via email.**

SEPTEMBER 11  
**BRICKS MEMORIAL**

Nearly 10,000 names were written in chalk by hundreds of GMC prep students with bowed heads and hushed lips as they reflected and remembered those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and in the war on terror. Organizer MAJ Scott Seagraves, who hopes this act of remembrance will become a GMC tradition, said, "While it may not be a lasting tribute it was certainly one that was heartfelt and can be considered an act of love and devotion for those who perished." Names included four GMC graduates, Chad Mercer (JC 2000), Michael Stokely (JC 2002), Daniel Gomez (JC 2005) and Walter Gray (JC 1988), and Roy Wood, the father of GMC prep senior Roy Wood, Jr. Roy, Jr. was featured in the Washington Post's recent article "Children of the Fallen: Portraits of Loss." <http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/childrenofthefallen/story/portraits/>.



**GEORGIA MILITARY COLLEGE PROFESSOR INVITED TO ATTEND 13TH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS IN QATAR**

Georgia Military College Professor Ursula Lande attended the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha, Qatar in April 2015. There, she worked as an individual expert involved in deliberations of the Congress as well as working with committees, subcommittees and other working groups. Attendance as an individual expert is by invitation only from the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Congress brings together countries, governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and individual experts to discuss issues related to crime prevention and criminal justice. Some of the issues Professor Lande deliberated on included transnational organized crime, cybercrime, and trafficking.

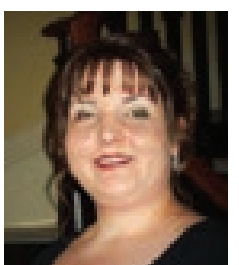
Professor Lande brings a wealth of educa-

tion and experience to this Congress. Since arriving at Georgia Military College in 2011, she has authored, co-authored, and presented 14 papers at national and regional criminal justice conferences. She has also authored a book chapter on internet sexual offending. Her areas of interest include Security Threat Groups, Terrorism and Social Media, Transnational and Organized Crime, Domestic and Sexual Violence, and Media Representations of Crime.

Her most recent work is entitled *Americanizing terrorism: A content analysis of ISIS and AQAP English-language magazine* which she will present at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference in Florida this March. While at the conference, she received the SAGE Junior Faculty Professional Devel-

opment Teaching Award. This award is earned by junior faculty members who are making significant contributions to their institution and to the field of criminal justice.

Professor Lande holds a Master's degree from the University of Cincinnati. She has four years of higher-education teaching experience in the fields of criminal justice and homeland security at Georgia Military College. While at GMC, she was also awarded the Milledgeville campus, Junior College Educator of the Year.



**Ursula Lande**



## Georgia Military College Hosts GEORGIA DAY PROCLAMATION CEREMONY



**Rep. Rusty Kidd, LTC Pam Grant, Gov. Deal, Lt. Gen. Caldwell, Sen. Burt Jones, 1SG Ernest Gunter**

General James Edward Oglethorpe founded the Colony of Georgia at Yamacraw Bluff, near the present-day Savannah, on February 12, 1733. This event officially began the settlement of the last of the 13 original British colonies in North America. This territory would eventually become the State of Georgia.

To promote greater awareness of this historic moment, for more than 30 years, Georgia Military College hosted a formal ceremony for the public signing of the Georgia Day Proclamation. The ceremony took place in the North Wing of the Capitol Rotunda in Atlanta.

Participating in the official ceremony were Governor Nathan Deal; Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV, U.S. Army (Ret.), President of Georgia Military College; the GMC eighth grade class; the GMC High School Marching Band; the GMC Junior College Color Guard; the Junior College Regimental Commander, and Regimental Staff of the 136th Corps of Cadets.

In 1976, under the administration of Governor George D. Busbee, a 1944 graduate of GMC junior college, Georgia Military College was invited to perform a ceremony in the Statehouse celebrating Georgia Day. Each year since that time GMC has presented an Honor Guard and hosted the ceremony. It has become a well-established tradition and Georgia Military College is honored and proud to be able to provide this service to the State of Georgia.



**Governor Nathan Deal and Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV**



**Shawn Allen (JC 2013) and Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV**

## VIETNAM VETERANS HONORED WITH COMMEMORATION CEREMONY AND PARADE

Georgia Military College honored those brave individuals who served our nation in the Vietnam War with a Commemoration Ceremony and Parade on Friday, November 14, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. on Grant Parade. The guest speaker was Lieutenant General (R.) Claude Mick Kicklighter, GMC alumnus and Executive Director of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration.

Vietnam Veteran's and family members from middle Georgia were invited to join cadets during the pass-in-review segment of the parade. The Reviewing Officer role was deferred to the honored veterans in attendance. Presidential and "City of Milledgeville Georgia" proclamations honoring the veterans were read.

Immediately following the parade, a Vietnam Veterans memorial bench was dedicated on the north side of Sibley-Cone Library. Georgia Military College became a Commemorative Partner of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration, which began as part of the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, to assist a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam Veterans and their families and recognizing their service, valor, and sacrifice.



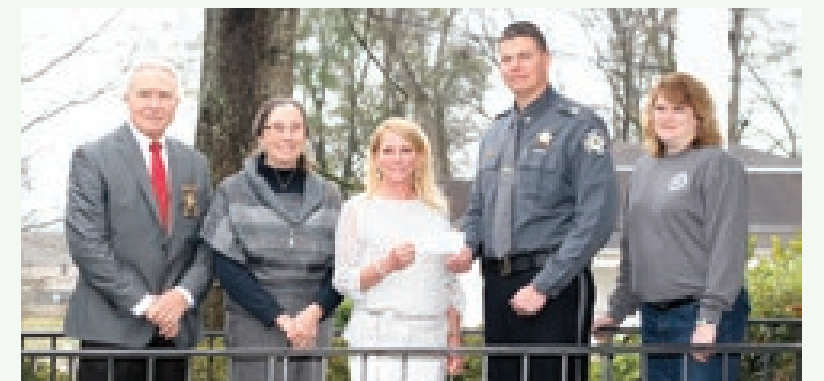
### Vietnam War Facts and Figures

- 8.7 million Americans served on active duty
- 7,391,000 Vietnam War veterans are alive today
- 228,000 Georgians served
- 1,584 Georgians were killed in action
- 8,534 Georgians were wounded in action
- 21 Georgians were held as prisoners of war
- 30 Georgians are still unaccounted for
- 22 Georgia MIAs have been repatriated

## Donations made to GMC's 1879 Circle

Captain Michael Lumpkin and Mrs. Suzanne Ratliff, Co-Chairpersons of the 19th Will Robinson Road Race, recently presented the Georgia Military College Foundation with a donation to benefit GMC's 1879 Circle. The 1879 Circle funds scholarships for children or grandchildren of GMC alumni.

The Will Robinson Road Race has been held since 1996 to honor a fallen hero, Deputy Will Robinson, a 1987 graduate of GMC Prep School who was killed in the line of duty, December 17, 1995. Funds raised through the race are shared between scholarships at GMC and community initiatives of the Baldwin County Sheriff's Department.



(LR) **Bill Massee**, Baldwin County Sheriff; **Earlene Hamilton**, GMC Alumni Coordinator; **Shannon New-Diaz**, GMC Alumni Board President; **Capt. Michael Lumpkin**, Baldwin County Sheriff's Department and Race Co-coordinator; and **Suzanne Martin Ratliff**, GMC Alumni Board Secretary/Treasurer and Race co-coordinator.

## Georgia High School Association 2015 State Literary Champions Class A-Public

In March 2015, the GMC Prep School Literary Team was named the 2015 Georgia High School Association State Literary Champion (Class A-Public). Members of the team competed in a variety of literary and artistic events during the state competition and received several additional awards.

**Peyton Mims**

2nd place (tie) - Girls Dramatic Interpretation

**Roy Wood**

1st place (tie) - Boys Extemporaneous Speaking

**Analese Bridges**

1st place - Girls Extemporaneous Speaking

**Rebekah Veatch**

1st place - Girls Solo

**Wyatt Spivey, Maxwell Hopkins, Nick Weldon, James Cole Harbor**

2nd place - Quartet

**Reagan Thornton, Annaleah Phillips, Rebekah Veatch**

3rd place - Trio



## 2014-2015 GHSA Class A-Public Track & Field State Champions

Georgia Military College Prep School Lady Dogs track team captured their first state title May 7-9, during the GHSA Track & Field State Championship in Albany, Ga. The Lady Dogs claimed the title by the

largest amount of any classification with a score of 97 over the 2nd place team's score of 49. Kita Aycock was recognized as the high point award winner for all classifications.



**Lila Mitchell**

5th place - 3200 meter run

5th place - 1600 meter run

**Elizabeth Savage**

9th place - 3200 meter run

**Kita Aycock**

1st place - Triple Jump (35'-3")

2nd place - 100 meter dash

2nd place - 200 meter dash

**Allie Kauzlarich**

5th place - Triple Jump

8th place - 1600 meter run

6th place - 800 meter run

**Sutton Long**

6th place - Long Jump

3rd place - 400 meter run

7th place - 200 meter dash

**Calli McMullen**

State runner up - High Jump

1st place - 400 meter run (56.45 seconds)

**Keely Murner**

6th place - 300 meter hurdles

**Murner, Long, McMullen and Aycock**

1st place - 4x400 meter relay (Team A)  
(4:08 minutes - school record)

**Ciara Rice, Abby Kirkland, Mitchell and**

**Kauzlarich:** 6th place - 4x400 meter relay (Team B)

## 2014 GHSA Class A-Public Softball State Champions Georgia Military College Prep School

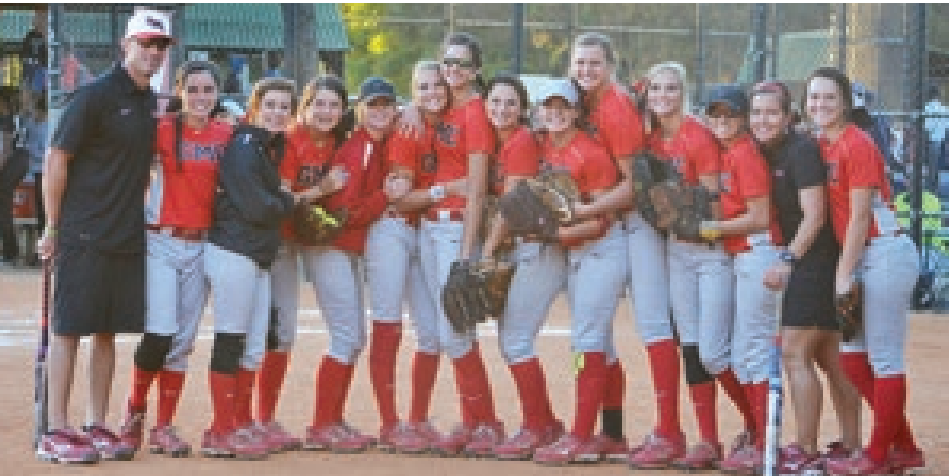
On November 2, 2014 the Georgia Military College Prep Softball team clinched the first state softball championship in GMC school history. The Bulldogs defeated Wilcox County by the score of 11-2 in the state finals.

GMC's overall record was 29-5, including premier wins over several GHSA Class 5A

and 6A programs. GMC also defeated the 2014 GHSA A-Private State Champion Eagles Landing Christian, by the score of 6-1 and 9-2 during the regular season.

The Bulldogs set a school record with 29 team home runs and an all-time high team batting average of .370. The pitching staff's

earned run average was 1.08 and team fielding % was .966. The team is comprised of 3 seniors, 7 juniors, and 2 freshmen.



*2014 GMC Bulldog Softball Roster*

**Keely Murner** (SR)

**Dixie Raley** (SR)

**Macy Watkins** (SR)

**Whitley Dunn** (JR)

**Kaylie Harding** (JR)

**Karlie Harding** (JR)

**Sinclair Harding** (JR)

**Sutton Long** (JR)

**Taylor Long** (JR)

**Sarah Margaret Mason** (JR)

**Natalie Martin** (FR)

**Kate McGhee** (FR)

**Julie Brooker**, Head Coach

**Allen Simmons**, Head Coach

**Jeff Ward**, Head Coach

**Scott Niblett**, Manager

**Chase Sheffield**, Manager

## 2014 State Champions

### 2014 National Runner-Up (Mixed Division)

### U.S. Army Cadet Command Raider National JROTC Championship

Georgia Military College Prep School Raiders competed in the U.S. Army Cadet Command Raider National JROTC Championship November 8-9, 2014 at the Gerald Lawhorn Boy Scout Camp in Molena, Ga.

Eighty-eight teams from 49 high schools representing 18 different states competed in this national championship. Each team competed in five events: One Rope Bridge Over

Water, Cross-Country Rescue, 5K Team Run, Physical Team Test and the Gauntlet.

GMC Prep's mixed team won first place in both the Cross Country Rescue and Physical Team Test events and second in the 5K Team Run, earning them National Runner-Up Championship honors against 25 other teams.

The GMC Prep Raiders are in their third year of existence. In 2013 the mixed team was Region Champion, State Runner-Up, and placed 5th in the nation. In 2014 the mixed team was Region and State Champion and placed 2nd in the nation.

2014 GMC Prep Raider Mixed Team Roster

**Jeff Conner** (SR)

**\*Tom Drew** (SR)

**Liam Fairbrass** (SR/nominated to attend US Military Academy)

**\*\*Molly Jones**, Raider Company Commander (SR/nominated to attend US Military Academy and US Air Force Academy)

**Andrew Kirkland** (SR)

**Mark McCabe** (JR)

**Emma Mercer** (JR)

**Marina Williams** (JR)

**Will Caldwell** (SO)

**Abby Kirkland** (SO)

**Chase Sheffield** (SO)

**Allie Kauzlarich** (FR)

Coach: Sergeant First Class **Christopher Swars**

\* **Tom Drew** placed third in the nation in the Ultimate Raiders competition, which is an individual event testing physical fitness, obstacle completion, and endurance.

\*\* **Molly Jones**, placed in the nation's top-10 overall in the Ultimate Raiders competition.





## GMC Football Has 19 Moving on to Four-Year Schools



Solomon Parker, Southeast Louisiana University  
Case Woodard, Catawba College  
Dominique Taylor, James Madison University

John Mote, US Military Academy  
Devante Covington, University of South Carolina  
Dezmin Reed, Appalachian State University

Antonius Sims, Appalachian State University  
Chase Nixon, Alabama State University

The Georgia Military College football team will have 19 of its football student-athletes moving on to four-year schools, including 12 who signed letters-of-intent on National Signing Day.

Along with seven student-athletes who signed letters-of-intent, punter John David Mote signed a certificate of commitment to attend the United States Military Academy in West Point.

Mote is the first student-athlete from GMC to move on to West Point and pursue a degree and play for the Black Knights.

Additionally, seven GMC football student-athletes graduated in December and have already enrolled at their respective four-year schools.

Along with this list of signees, a list of signees who have signed to play at GMC in the fall of 2015 is posted at [www.gmcbulldogs.com](http://www.gmcbulldogs.com).



### 2015 Football Regular Season Schedule

Sat., August 22	<b>Navarro College (Texas)</b>	Milledgeville, Ga.	1 p.m. ET
Sat., August 29	<b>Middle Georgia St. College</b>	Milledgeville, Ga.	6 p.m. ET
Sat., September 5	@ Kilgore College (Texas)	Kilgore, Texas	2 p.m. ET
Sat/Sun. Sept. 12/13*	vs. ASA College (N.Y.)	Neutral Site –TBA	1 p.m. ET
Sat., September 19	<b>College of DuPage (Ill.)</b>	Milledgeville, Ga.	1 p.m. ET
Sat., September 26	OPEN		
Sat., October 3	<b>Nassau Community College (N.Y.)</b>	Milledgeville, Ga.	3 p.m. ET
Sat., October 10	@ Tyler Junior College (Texas)	Tyler, Texas	2 p.m. ET
Sat., October 17	<b>Jireh Prep (N.C.)</b>	Milledgeville, Ga.	1 p.m. ET
Sat., October 24	<b>Arkansas Baptist College</b>	Milledgeville, Ga.	1 p.m. ET
Sat., October 31	@ ASA College (Miami)	Miami, Fla.	1 p.m. ET
Sun., November 8	vs. Lackawanna College (Pa.)	Huntington, W.Va.	1 p.m. ET

Home games are **bolded**

All times are eastern time (Milledgeville, Ga.) | Game times are subject to change

\*-ASA College (N.Y.) game TBD on Sept. 12 or 13

## Hewitt Finds a Home with Herd

By Jack Bogaczyk, [www.HerdZone.com](http://www.HerdZone.com)



Neville Hewitt (JC '13), No. 6

The reservoir of resilience that helped Marshall inside linebacker Neville Hewitt bounce back from neck surgery must run really deep.

It's been tapped before, again and again, by a young man and football player who is both a survivor and the 2014 Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year.

Surgery on Feb. 25 to fix a herniated disc, pinched nerve and bone spurs – missing spring practice and being limited in the August pre-season as he recovered – just more hurdles.

It's appropriate that the 6-foot-2, 219-pound senior is the Herd's leading tackler.

At the 2014 Marshall Football Banquet, Hewitt was voted by teammates as the team's Defensive MVP and one of the season captains. When Hewitt – one of 19 MU seniors – got up to speak at the affair, he stunned a crowd of about 300 onlookers.

"I talked about switching (from jersey No. 43) to No. 6," Hewitt said. "I said the reason I wanted 6 last summer was that's the number of years my mom has been in prison. It was back around my sophomore year in high school."

Hewitt said his mother, Deon Jones, is in a rural Georgia prison for drug trafficking.

How much longer will she be there?

"I don't know; I never asked," Hewitt said. "Did you ever hear somebody say, 'There are some things you're better off not knowing?' That's how this is for me. I never asked."

Hewitt, who came to Marshall last season after two junior college seasons at Georgia Military College, just finished a 3.0 academic semester in business management, is on track to graduate in May 2015. How he got to this point from struggles in Conyers, Ga., is a stunning story.

"A lot of people have had adversity in their lives and Neville is one guy who has had plenty of it," said an admiring Herd Coach Doc Holliday. "It's amazing what the guy has accomplished. The type of kid he is, he's just a wonderful kid and I'm so proud of him and the way he's been able to overcome those obstacles.

"He deserves everything he gets – and more."

Hewitt's teammates appreciate his cheerful work ethic and resourcefulness. Those traits are rooted in how he grew up.

For all intents and purposes – from the time he couldn't land a football grant-in-aid because of academic shortcomings while playing strong safety at Rockdale County High School – Hewitt was homeless.

He said he speaks with his father – another Neville Hewitt – "a little bit." The elder Hewitt lives in Maryland. And once his mother was

incarcerated, Hewitt said he was living with her then-boyfriend.

"My mom, she left me and my younger brother with the guy she was dating then," Hewitt said. "My senior year of high school, it was crazy. Close to signing day, I wasn't qualified, so I called a few schools.

"I still remember ... It was Jan. 22, 2011. I had dreams. But a coach I knew at Middle Tennessee told me, 'Sometimes, you've got to do things you don't want to do to get to where you want to go. I was in my room crying. I had offers from Buffalo and Western Kentucky, but I didn't call them because I didn't want to go there.'"

So, Hewitt went the junior-college route. He still had big dreams. He chose Georgia Military College – "No more dreams," he said, smiling – and found structure he wanted and needed. He also saw the junior college as "a pipeline for UGA and other SEC schools."

Marshall assistant coach and recruiting coordinator Todd Hartley was a Georgia graduate assistant then. "I'd seen Neville and knew he was a player," Hartley said earlier this week, "but there was no way he was going there, not then."

That's when what little support Hewitt had evaporated, he said.

"When I signed with Georgia Military, my mom's ex-boyfriend I'd been living with, he wanted me to go to a bigger school I guess to get some kind of benefits," Hewitt said. "It was crazy. What happened was then he stopped coming to the house. There would be nights where the water was off, or the lights would be off.

"It was just me and my younger brother, and he went to live in Florida with my grand-

mother. I played basketball at my high school, too. I'd take a shower in the morning because there might not be water at night. I couldn't do anything else, two meals a day, breakfast and lunch at school. Some of my friends figured out what was going on and their parents had me over."

When Hartley was hired by Holliday at Marshall, the young assistant had kept tabs on Hewitt, and Hewitt said MU was "my first offer in my sophomore year" at Georgia Military.

"That night before I committed here (Jan. 23, 2013) all I could think about was Marshall. A coach once told me, 'When you know where you want to go, you're going to know.' I couldn't sleep, but I knew. Coach Holliday and Coach Hartley told me they needed me here."

Hewitt's grandmother, Carmen Witter of Stone Mountain, Ga., co-signed his National Letter of Intent. When he goes "home" these days, "I go there, but I'll be all over the place," Hewitt said.

Hewitt was voted by Herd teammates as one of six season co-captains who will served in that role for the Boca Raton Bowl. He was chosen as a game captain by the coaching staff six times this season.

Holliday said he kind of marvels that Hewitt has great leadership skills when a good number of his formative years were spent without much guidance.

Hewitt is unfailingly positive. He smiles easily. He hasn't asked anybody to feel sorry for him. And when asked how gratifying it was to be recognized by C-USA coaches as the league's Defensive Player of the Year, Hewitt took a moment to answer.

"It hit me a few days ago," he said. "And it was like, 'Wow, I came a long way.' I kind of teared up a little bit, but then I got over it."

The source of his motivation isn't difficult to discern.

"I think about my mom every day," he said. "What happened, it's motivated me every day. When I was growing up, she always taught me, 'Do everything the best you can do it, to the best of your ability.'"

Hewitt said when he graduates, he isn't certain how he wants to use his degree, but "I do know I want to do something with kids, something that involves mentoring."

It's a subject with which he's had plenty of points of reference.

## Bert Williams Earns Spot in GMC History

GMC's junior college football team completed the 2014 regular season with a 20-8 win over Lackawanna College on November 9, 2014, at Joan C. Edwards Stadium on the campus of Marshall University.

With the victory, GMC finished the regular season with a winning record at 6-4 and also gave head coach Bert Williams his 119th win with the Bulldogs in his 15th season on the Milledgeville campus.

That moved Williams past GMC coaching legend Lew Cordell, who compiled a 118-36-7 record at GMC from 1936-58.

Williams now has an impressive 119-41 mark at GMC, which also includes a National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) championship in 2001, two more national championship game appearances ('02, '13) and nine bowl games.

"I can't even explain how it feels," Williams said following the game. "Honestly, it's kind of surreal and hard to even think about being talked about with someone who had such an impact on this school. I am honored just to be thought of with him today. I'm just proud of these kids for overcoming the adversity. They did a great job."

Following the game, the Bulldogs presented Coach Williams with a game ball and plaque on the field to commemorate the win.

Williams entered the 2014 season ranked No. 28 for all-time wins (113) and No. 14 all-time

in winning percentage (.753) in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

Among active coaches, he was ranked No. 5 for wins and No. 4 for highest winning percentage as the season got started in August.

In the 10-year span from 2000 to 2009 when GMC went 82-25, Williams' teams ranked No. 4 for most wins at 82, No. 5 for highest winning percentage (.766) and No. 3 for cumulative final season ranking over than period.

GMC's 2001 national championship run was capped off by a 31-19 win over Butler Community College (Kan.) in the Sea Island Company Golden Isles Bowl in Brunswick, Ga.

During the four-year span prior to this season (2010-13), Williams ranked No. 17 for cumulative final season ranking as GMC went 30-12.

Williams was elected to the NJCAA Coaches Hall of Fame in 2010 – the only active coach to be so honored – and his 2001 national championship team was elected to the NJCAA Teams Hall of Fame in 2007.

Williams was named national Coach-of-the-Year by the National Junior College Football Coaches Association in 2001, by AFM/Schutt in 2002, and the NJCFCA and American Football Coaches Association in 2013.

Williams has also previously served as president of the NJCFCA and American Community College Football Coaches Association (ACCFCA).

He still serves as permanent secretary for

the ACCFCA and is the liaison between the AFCA and the junior college coaches' association.

Williams and his GMC staff have developed 70 NJCAA All-Americans, including Jovon Robinson as the National Offensive Player-of-the-Year in 2013.

National honors also went to Jermaine Harris as the Lea Plarski Award Winner in 2002 and Randy Jackson as National Defensive Player-of-the-Year in 2002.

Williams is a native of Augusta, Ga., and graduated from Westside High School.

He played collegiately at Davidson College (N.C.) where he was a four-year letterman on the Wildcats' football team (1986-89) and earned a Bachelor's of Arts in History.

Williams began his coaching career at the University of Georgia and then went to Union College (Ky.) before landing at GMC in 1997 on the staff of head coach Robert Nunn.

Completing his 18th year at GMC, Williams is married to the former Catherine Ann Coffman of Atlanta and they have two sons – Parker (17) and Zachary (13).



## GMC Rifle Captures Third Straight NRA Intercollegiate National Title

The Georgia Military College rifle team brought home its third straight National Rifle Association (NRA) Intercollegiate Air Rifle Championship in the ROTC division in March 2015.

The Bulldogs captured the title with an aggregate score of 2,145 points (out of 2,400) and outshot the Illinois State University ROTC team, which finished second with a score of 2,031.

Leading the way for GMC's ROTC team in the air rifle competition were Cadet Keila Outen (Cumming, Ga.) with a score of 556 points (out of 600), Cadet Tyler Willingham (Rochelle, Ga.) with a 553, Cadet Drae Robinson (Merritt Island, Fla.) with a 526 and Cadet Samantha McLeod (Milledgeville, Ga.) with a 510.

The GMC ROTC team, along with coaches Mary Ellen Eaton and LTC (Ret.) Duane Clayton, received the championship trophy during the NRA awards banquet at the Iron Works Convention Center in Columbus, Ga.

"They came together as a team," GMC head coach and range coordinator Mary Ellen Eaton said. "I told them – remember, if you shoot a 9 and come up with at least a 90, then six rounds would get them a 540 score. So they just have to concentrate and focus on hitting that target. And they did. They strive for excellence as a team."



**GMC ROTC Championship Rifle Team and Coaches (L-R) Coach and Range Coordinator Mary Ellen Eaton, Cadet Drae Robinson, Cadet Keila Outen, Cadet Samantha McLeod, Cadet Tyler Willingham and LTC (Ret) and Coach Duane Clayton.**

GMC also competed in the smallbore competition for the first time in eight years and came away with individual gold and silver medals.

Cadet Tyler Willingham (Rochelle, Ga.) won the gold medal with a score of 532 points (out of 600) while Outen took home the silver medal with a score of 530.

## Helen Oh Represents USA At ISSF World Championship

Georgia Military College rifle team member Helen Oh represented the United States at the 51st International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championship in September 2014, in Granada, Spain, and came home with an impressive performance and an unforgettable experience.

Oh competed in the 10m Air Pistol Women's Junior event and placed 51st with a score of 363.



Oh, who is from Walnut, Calif., and attended John A. Rowland High School in Rowland Heights, Calif., has competed several times in the Junior Olympics and in the Winter Air Gun Championships. She earned a spot on the international team by finishing second in the USA Shooting National Junior Pistol Championships in July at Fort Benning, Ga.

**Helen Oh**

Oh, who is one of 10 students participating in the Coast Guard preparatory program at GMC said, "This (international competition) was a wake-up call for me to take my shooting more seriously and improve my game. It was a great experience to be a part of the U.S. team and to represent my country at the international level."

"I am extremely proud to have had this opportunity. I felt honored being an athlete from the U.S. representing my country and this experience is giving me the drive to push myself at this level."



**Celebrating with his family, Parker Williams signed a letter of intent to play football for Georgia Southern University.**



**Troy Campfield signed a letter of intent to play basketball for Chattahoochee Valley Community College. He is shown with his family.**



**GMC senior, T.J. Lowe on National Signing Day signed a letter of intent to play football for GMC Junior College. He is shown with family.**

Congratulations to GMC Prep senior **Macy Watkins** and GMC Coach **Julie Brooker** for receiving honors during the Georgia Dugout Club 2014-15 Awards Ceremony on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza in Atlanta. Watkins was honored as the GHSA A-Public Softball Player of Year and Brooker was named GHSA A-Public Softball Coach of the Year.





## '55 The Honorable Powell Moore

(HS '55) a graduate of the University of Georgia (UGA) Grady College, spoke about his career experiences in national politics during a lecture at UGA on November 3, 2014. The lecture entitled *"Washington Insights Over Half a Century: Midterm Elections in the Sixth Year of a Two-Term Presidency"* drew a crowd who heard about his experiences ranging from his job as Sen. Richard B. Russell's press secretary to serving as Assistant Secretary of State and an Assistant Secretary of Defense to his most recent position as Representative of the U.S. Secretary of Defense to the Organization for Security and Cooperation (2006-2009). Moore served in staff positions under Presidents Nixon, Ford and Reagan.



Powell Moore

## '60 The Honorable William T. Moore Jr.

(JC '60), U.S. District Judge, joined two fellow jurists on the wall of fame at the federal courthouse in Savannah, Ga. with the unveiling of his official portrait in November 2014. The event, which involved a four-judge bench headed by Chief Judge Lisa Godbey Wood, honored Moore for a career marked by "his integrity, his intellect and his demeanor." The portrait, painted by Moore's sister-in-law, artist Julia Bythewood Hodges, will be placed on the wall in Moore's courtroom on the third floor of the Wright Square courthouse. Moore noted he has spent 50 years in the law, including 20 years as a federal judge. He was



William Moore

asked whether the portrait meant he was ready to retire, Moore said. "No, I'm not getting ready to retire. ... There's still a lot to be done as far as I'm concerned," Moore said. "When the time comes, I will know it ... But the time is not right at this time." Moore took particular note of his six grandchildren in the courtroom. Most people will always refer to him as "judge," but to them he is just "grand-dad," Moore said, adding that's the way he likes it. Besides, Moore said, he wanted them to attend the session to hear all of the nice things others were saying about him.

## '61 William C. "Billy" Hansell

(HS '61, JC '63) was treated to a visit and lunch with GMC buddies - Band Company Cadets from 1962 - in Griffin, Ga. in August 2014 during a



(L-R) Billy Hansell, Dess Smith III, Terry "Falstaff" Johnson, Dean "Time Out" Mills, Cliff Owdom

mini-road trip for the touring troubadours from Band Co. It was the first time since 1995 that Dess Smith and Dean Mills had seen Billy. Cliff Owdom and Terry Johnson saw him about four years ago on an earlier one of the now famous Band Co. road trips. Johnson shared about the visit, "Billy and I became good friends at GMC. Life took us in different directions, but I always knew we would be friends forever."

## '70 COL Lonnie Dale Vona

USA (Ret.) (JC '70) has retired after serving for 42 years as an Army Infantry Officer and JROTC Senior Army Instructor.

Vona's last active duty Army assignment was as the Chief of Staff of the United States Army Infantry Center, Fort Benning, Ga. He began his career in the Army as a second lieutenant at Fort Benning in 1972 and ended his career as the senior colonel at Fort Benning in 2002. No stranger to the ROTC Community, Vona served a tour as an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Furman University. While teaching at Furman, he was selected as ROTC's Instructor of the Year (Leo Codd Award). He also commanded Cadet Command's Second Brigade stationed at Fort Dix, N.J. Upon retirement from active duty, Vona immediately accepted the position of Senior Army Instructor at Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Fla. (2002-2005). At Hillsborough High School, an inner city school, he



Vona

coached and built a State Championship Rifle Team. He then transferred to Newsome High School in Lithia, Fla. where he opened a new JROTC program (2005-2014). During his nine years at Newsome High School, Vona's JROTC program quickly became known as an excellent unit within Cadet Command. His cadets achieved many State level championships in Color Guard, Rifle Team, Drill Team and Raider Challenge Team competitions. His Rifle Team was 3rd in the Nation at Fort Benning's 2013 Army National Competition. Vona credits his own JROTC experience at Plant High School and his GMC experience with setting the foundation for his successful military career. Both programs gave him the self-confidence to face life's challenges, and he often told his cadets "success breeds success." COL Vona now lives in Valrico, Fla.

## '77 Rhonda Harding Hincapie

(HS '77) is once again in happy possession of her GMC class ring, which was lost by her daughter while swimming in the ocean with her friends in June 2006 at Moonlight Beach in Encinitas, Ca. It was returned through the help of Dan Knight, member of a metal detecting club on the East Coast that prides itself on helping return lost items. Knight read about the ring in an online "forum" when it was first recovered and pointed out the e-link to Earlene Hamilton, alumni coordinator at GMC. Hamilton in turn was ultimately able to contact the West Coast "detectors" Gene Edwards, a Viet Nam veteran, and his wife Wendy, who had found the ring in 2008 about two feet under the wet sand. Hamilton then put Edwards and Hincapie in touch by email, and as the saying goes, the rest is history. After meeting the Edwards and receiving her ring, Hincapie wrote to Hamilton, "This is such an amazing story that my ring was found ..... It's truly a gift!"



Hincapie (center), Wendy and Gene Edwards

## '82 Deborah (Simmons) Raley

(HS '82) and husband Charles of Jewell, Ga.

proudly shared their twin daughters' recent accomplishments. Ansleigh Lynn Raley (center) was crowned Little Miss Glascock County Consolidated School (GCCS) 2015 and Ashleigh Marie Raley (second from left-pink dress) was 1st Runner Up.



Ashleigh Marie Raley (second from left) and Ansleigh Lynn Raley (center)

## '83 Emery Joe Morgan

(JC '83) competed in his first Ironman distance race of 140.6 miles in Wilmington, N.C. at the Beach to Battleship Triathlon in October. The distance started with a 2.4 mile open water swim, then



Morgan

## Georgia National Guard Promotes GMC Alumni to Top Leadership Roles



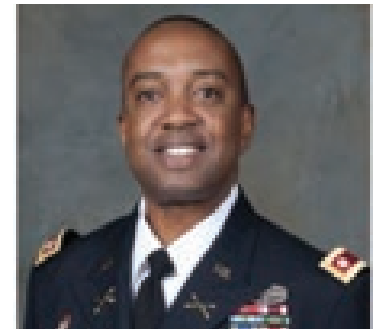
Dickerson

**The role of brigade commander in the Georgia National Guard is an elite leadership role critical to the success of the armed forces. In fact, there are only five brigade commanders in the state – and GMC alumni now hold two of those five commands.**

**Col. Jeffrey C. Dickerson**, (JC '87), and **Col. Reginald G. A. Neal**, (JC '89), assumed command of their posts in Dec. 2014 and Feb. 2015 respectively.

For selection for a brigade commander assignment, a candidate must hold key developmental jobs of increasing responsibility during their military career and typically hold the rank of colonel. Additionally, the education of the candidate is a key factor in selection, and both officers agree their educations at GMC were critical turning points in their lives.

"When I look back on my life and ask what I did to set conditions for my future, going to GMC is one of the top two things I ever did," says Dickerson. "GMC developed my leadership skills, gave me discipline, and gave me the self confidence I needed to be successful in the



Neal

military. I have benefitted so much from my time at GMC, and am so proud to be a graduate."

Neal agrees, saying his time at GMC has always been a defining one in his life. "Life as a cadet in the '80s was tough, but I learned if I was willing to overcome those challenges through hard work and determination I could make it," says Neal. "When it was all over I understood that the only limitations are the ones you place on yourself."

Dickerson commands the 1,200 soldiers of the 560th Battlefield Brigade in Cumming, Ga. This brigade is responsible for reconnaissance, surveillance and intelligence gathering for commanders.

Neal is a few hours due south in Macon, Ga., commanding the approximately 3,500 soldiers of the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT). The IBCT is the Army's base combat fighting force and contains two combat infantry battalions, a field artillery battalion, an engineer battalion and a support battalion. Its ability to deploy rapidly and operate in complex terrain distinguishes it from other brigade combat teams.

## GMC Names New Executive Director for Sandersville Campus

In January 2015, GMC named **COL E. Yancey Walker, IV**, (HS '72) United States Air Force (Ret.), as executive director of its Sandersville campus. In his new role, COL Walker is responsible for all campus operations.

"I'm already inspired by the sense of energy among our faculty, staff and students. I'm also grateful for the enthusiastic support extended by our local government officials, community leaders and alumni," he says.

COL Walker earned a bachelor's degree from GCSU, an MBA degree from Augusta College and holds a Master of Health Administration degree from Duke University. Following a lengthy career in healthcare administration in the U.S. Air Force, he retired as a colonel in 2005. He then served as CFO for his church in San Antonio. "I've now come full circle back to GMC," he says. "This school served as my own professional and personal springboard, and I'm very much ready to give back."

a 112 mile bike ride, and ended with a 26.2-mile run. He placed in the top five in the Master Clydesdale Division with a time of 14 hours and 17 minutes. Morgan is now retired from the Columbia, S.C. Police Department after 25 years of service and is currently working at the Irmo, S.C. YMCA as a wellness coach. He plans to continue competing in triathlon races as his retirement hobby.

**'84 COL Jonathon McColumn** (JC '84) was promoted on December 6, 2014 to Brigadier General in the US Army. McColum, a Middle Georgia native, is stationed in Des Moines, Iowa but had the ceremony at the Museum of Aviation in his hometown of Warner Robins, Ga. because his mother can't travel. McColum said of the day, "I don't have the words to describe what this means to have so many people from so many places throughout the United States be a part of this." McColum is an ordained Baptist preacher and in addition to his GMC degree holds a degree from Georgia College. He has served twenty-eight years in the Army and Army Reserve, including stints supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan as a contracting officer. With his promotion, McColum will officially take command of the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), at Fort Des Moines Joint Reserve Complex in Iowa.

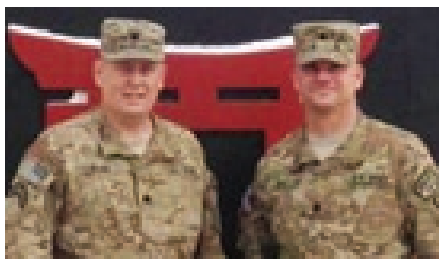


**BG Jonathan J. McColum receives his stars from his daughter, Jewell, left, Ret. Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, and father Harold.**

**'90 COL Frederick J Hughes, IV**, (JC '90) was recently selected to serve as the Chief of Staff for the US Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command (RDECOM) at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. RDECOM, a subordinate command of the US Army Materiel Command, is responsible for delivering new technologies and capabilities for the US Army through its eight major laboratories and engineering centers. COL Hughes is married to Suzanne Julien-Hughes. The couple has two children, James and Laura.

**'94 LTC Ed Ivey** (HS '92, JC '94) and **LTC Derek Bean** (JC '93) shared a picture that

was taken in Bagram, Afghanistan in January 2014 where both were serving as Battalion Commanders. LTC Bean commanded the 101st STB from Fort Campbell, and LTC Ivey commanded the 142d CSSB out of Fort Bliss. Both are now back in the United States where LTC Bean is currently attending the Air Force War College, and LTC Ivey is Deputy Commander for the 7th Trans Brigade.



**Bean and Ivey**

**'96 Ollie Strickland** (HS '96 and former GMC employee) was among UGA alumni named to the "Bulldog 100" which, on an annual basis, recognizes the 100 fastest-growing companies owned or operated by UGA alumni. To be considered for the list, each organization must have been in business for at least five years, experienced revenues in excess of \$100,000 for the calendar year, and be owned or operated by a former UGA student who owns at least 50 percent of the company or be the CEO, president or managing partner.

**Chris Wieters** (HS '96) was awarded the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation on July 16, 2014. Chris' financial planning practice serves clients in several states and is based in Atlanta and Macon, Ga. He and his wife, Krista Wieters, welcomed the arrival of their second son, Andrew Raymond Wieters, on February 7, 2015.



**Wieter and sons**

**LTC Justin T. Mufalli** (JC '96), currently stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., will be moving in May 2015 to Fort Sill, Okla. to take command of 1st BN, 19th Field Artillery in July 2015.

**J. Lee Weems** (JC '96, Adjunct Faculty) was elected to a two-year term on the

Board of Directors for the Georgia Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors.

**'98 MAJ Roberto Salas** (JC '98) is currently stationed at the Pentagon and has been selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, and for Battalion Command.

**'01 MAJ Patrick S. Southerland** (JC '01) is currently serving his fourth combat deployment. He is happily married with two beautiful daughters.

**'02 Braxton Cotton** (JC '02) was the guest speaker for GMC's ceremony on January 17, 2015 honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In his introduction, GMC President Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV said that Cotton mirrored the determination exemplified by Dr. King through his accomplishments. Cotton is currently one of five Parole Board members who make decisions regarding paroles, pardons, reprieves and commutations for the state of Georgia.



**Cotton**

**'05 Jonathan Benjamin Bright** (HS '05) was recently sworn into the Georgia Bar Association at the Baldwin County Courthouse in Milledgeville. His parents, District Attorney Fred Bright and wife Cindy, were in attendance. Bright is now an associate at the law firm of Fish & Richardson in Atlanta, where he

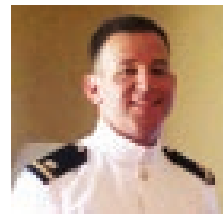


**Jonathan, Cindy and Fred Bright**

specializes in patent litigation. He graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law in 2014, where he was on the Georgia Law Review. Prior to law school, Bright attended Georgia Tech and received a BS in Electrical Engineering in 2010 and a MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering in 2011. He also worked as a graduate research assistant at the Georgia Tech Research Institute and participated in the Cooperative Education program.

**'06 CPT Marcus Ruzek** (JC '06) is currently deployed to the Middle East. In civilian life Ruzek is a Program Director for Veterans and Military Support at The Marcus Foundation. He and his wife Morgan have one son, Marcus Jr., and are expecting a second son.

**'08 Ensign Zach Seagraves**, USN, (HS '08) recently graduated from CECOS (Civil Engineering Corps Officer School) and is a SEABEE stationed in Gulfport, Miss. Seagraves is currently serving as Bravo Company Platoon Commander in NMCB 11 (National Mobile Construction Battalion). He is the son of Scott (HS '80) and Karen Seagraves (HS '78) and is married to the former Laura Lane.



**Seagraves**

**CPT Gary Bostic, Jr.** (JC '08) is currently assigned to 1st Brigade 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas as an Operations Officer awaiting command of a Tank or Bradley Company. After graduating from GMC as the Regimental Commander with an A.S. in General Studies, he attended North Georgia College and State University where in 2011 he received a B.S. in Physical Ed (Nutritional Focus), and a minor in Leadership. In 2014 Bostic graduated from Columbus State University with an M.S. in Organizational Leadership. Bostic married his wife Koti (Bostic) on May 4, 2014.

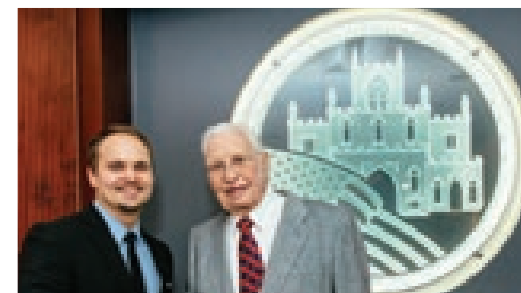
**CPT Blake M. Bowles** (JC '08) is stationed at Ft Hood, Texas and took command of Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 69th ADA BDE in February 2015.

**CPT Matthew Vincent Cerniglia** (JC '08) is currently assigned to Fort Bragg, N.C. as the Provost Marshal for 2BCT, 82nd ABN DIV. After graduating at GMC, Cerniglia went to the University of North Georgia (formally North Georgia College & State University), where he graduated in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Cerniglia branched Military Police (Active Duty). His first duty station was Fort Lewis (JBLM), Wa. He is a Military Police Captains Career Course (MPCCC) graduate and completed his master's degree in Business and

Organizational Security Management from Webster University in 2014.

**CPT Michael C. Flynn** (JC '08) is currently serving with the 48TH IBCT, Georgia Army National Guard. He returned from Afghanistan in September, 2014 and took command of Bravo 148TH BSB in March 2015.

**'09 Chad McLeroy** (JC '09) realized he wanted to pursue a career in Art/ Design, while attending GMC, which lead him to attend Valdosta State University (VSU) after obtaining his associate's degree at GMC. He graduated from VSU in 2011 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a focus in graphic design. McLeroy lives in Atlanta, Ga. where he works at Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart and Associates as an environmental/graphic designer. Through his employment there, McLeroy was the designer who created the rendering on the wall in the new Usery Community Room, which opened in 2014. Former U.S. Secretary of Labor, W. J. "Bill" Usery, Jr. (HS '40) asked that the room be christened the Usery Community Room to reflect "the largest part of his public life at GMC and the navy." Many of his personal collections are displayed in the room.



**McLeroy and Usery**

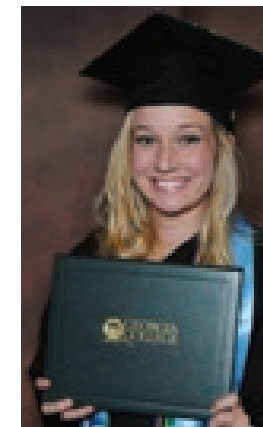
**'10 Bailey Grant** (HS '10) graduated from LaGrange College in May, 2014 with a degree in Religion/Church Leadership. After graduation she served on staff at Neptune Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla. Grant recently began serving with Young Life of East Cobb in Atlanta and is living in Roswell, Ga.



**Grant**

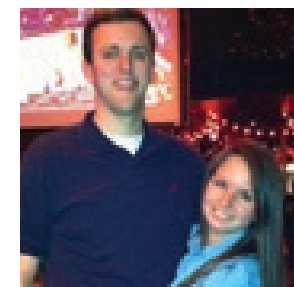
**Lindee Lord** (HS '10) graduated from the Georgia College and State

University School of Nursing on December 13, 2014. Lord was a two time dean's list recipient and is an Alpha Delta Pi alumna from Georgia Southern University, where she served as the Alumni Relations Chair. She was inducted into the Delta Epsilon Iota Honor Society in 2011. Lord has recently joined Newton Medical Center as an RN, BSN in the Emergency Department in Covington, Ga.



**Lord**

**Caroline Smith** (HS '10) graduated in May 2013 from Georgia College and State University with a BS degree in Exercise Science. She was a two time dean's list recipient, a cheerleader, and a member of the Exercise Science Club where she was head of the Fundraising Committee. Caroline has recently joined GMC as a Recruiting Coordinator for the Human Resources Department. She and Kyle McDade (HS '05) will marry in May. They are enjoying their precious 5 month old son, Cody



**Smith**

**John Austin Vance** (HS '10) graduated summa cum laude from the University of Georgia on December 19, 2014, earning a B.B.A. in Banking and Finance, and a B.B.A. in Economics. During his time at the University of Georgia, he was very active in his fraternity, Sigma Phi



**Vance**



Epsilon, where he served on the Executive Board as the Vice President of Recruitment. Vance was also an active member of numerous other groups on campus including the Dean William Tate Honor Society, Student Managed Investment Fund, Terry College of Business Student Ambassadors, and was named “Who’s Who at the Terry College of Business.” He will begin his career in Atlanta this June as an Investment Analyst for Prudential Capital Group.

**1LT Joshua Cotton** (JC ‘10) was promoted to Captain in the US Army Chemical Corps on March 27, 2015.

**CPT Gluck F. Hunter** (JC ‘10) and his wife Kandice are expecting twins, a boy and a girl, in May 2015. Hunter is currently with the 3d Cavalry Regiment and stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

**CPT Don T. Lopes** (JC ‘10) is assigned to Task Force Corsair 2-82, 82nd Airborne Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) at Fort Bragg, N.C. and is currently deployed in Kandahar, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Resolute Support.

**1 LT Kong M. Thao** (JC ‘10) with the HHBN, DIVARTY, 82nd Airborne Division Artillery at Fort Bragg, N.C. recently shared a bit of advice for recent Early Commissioning program graduates - “Focus on school first. Don’t let being a 2LT at your new school get to your head, because my best friend who came in with me at the same time didn’t make it because he didn’t finish school on time.” And, in the spirit of mentorship, Thao also offered, “Tell everyone they can feel free to email me, or call me about anything.” (kong.m.thao6.mil@mail.mil)

**’11 1LT Emmanuel Sosa** (JC ‘11) deployed to FOB Shank in Logar Province, Afghanistan in June 2014. He completed over 50 combat missions which denied the enemy the freedom of movement to attack coalition forces on the main highways leading to Kabul. On October 18, 2014 while on patrol, Sosa stepped on the pressure plate of an Improvised Explosive Device. He was medevaced to BAF (Bagram Air Force Base) and treated for traumatic brain injuries and minor cuts and bruises. For this, Sosa received a Purple Heart. He returned home in December 2014 and is currently the 1st Platoon, Platoon Leader for Fox Troop, Sabre Squadron, 3d Cavalry Regiment.

**’14 Jenna Bethea** (HS ‘14) is currently attending the University of Kentucky where she is a member of the Rifle Team. She placed 12th out of 184 competitors in the National Junior Olympics Air Rifle competition for 2015. She has represented Georgia Military College and her freshman year at the University of Kentucky in fine fashion!

**Kevin Myers** (HS ‘14) is a proud member of the Georgia Tech Marching Band, where he plays trumpet.

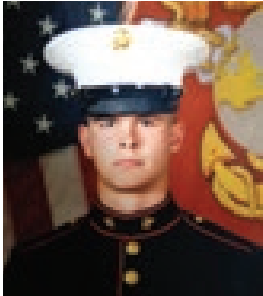
**Michael E Sibley** (JC ‘14) recently worked as part of the leadership team



Myers

with Food Aid International, a non-profit organization that worked with other community organizations to package over one million meals that will be sent to the country of Haiti.

**Jared William Sowell** (HS ‘14) left for boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. in November that same year. While at boot camp Sowell qualified as a rifle expert; was platoon high shooter; was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class; and graduated boot camp on January 30, 2015. After a short visit home, he then went to the Infantry Training Battalion at Camp Geiger, N.C. and attended his required Marine Combat Training. Sowell finished the training on March 20, and will remain attached to the same battalion for his Marine Occupational Specialty training where he will continue training to be an O331 machine gunner. He will graduate from his formal schools in April 2015 and will be deployed to the Fleet Marine Force as needed.



Sowell



“Let no one weep for me, or celebrate my funeral with mourning; for I still live, as I pass to and fro through the mouths of men.” -- Quintus Ennius

**Daniel Ewell Atkins, Jr.**  
(JC 1933)  
June 6, 1997

**George D. Head, Jr.**  
(JC 1937)  
January 10, 2015

**COL Frank C. Davis, Jr.**  
(HS 1939, JC 1942)  
April 2, 2015

**LTC Monroe Fletcher “Buddy” Stamps, Jr. USAF (Ret.)**  
(HS 1942)  
January 29, 2015

**W. Bruce Salter**  
(HS 1943, JC 1944)  
March 17, 2015

**Lamar F. Holmes**  
(HS 1945)

**Frederick Dennis Badger**  
(HS 1946, JC 1948)  
December 8, 2014

**Bobby E. Mercer**  
(HS 1950)  
January 22, 2015

**Walter Andrew Quinn, Jr.**  
(JC 1950)  
August 10, 2014

**Henry Franklin “Frank” Beckum**  
(JC 1952)  
February 20, 2013

**James H. Branan**  
(HS 1951, JC 1953)  
February 3, 2015

**The Honorable George Justus Hearn, III**  
(HS 1952, JC 1953)  
September 5, 2014

**William Paul Rodgers, Jr.**  
(JC 1953)  
October 17, 2014

**Jonathan Earl Horsley, III**  
(HS 1956)  
June, 2014

**Andrew Robert McKnight**  
(JC 1957-1958)  
December 11, 2014

**COL Robert “Bob” Marlin Alford, USA (Ret.)**  
(HS 1958, JC 1960)  
February 10, 2015

**L. Jackson “Jack” Lyle , II**  
(JC 1962)  
February 13, 2015

**William W. Mitchell**  
(HS 1959, JC 1962)  
October 11, 2014

**Paul Pennington**  
(HS 1959, JC 1962)  
September 13, 2014

**Robert Wing**  
(HS 1962)  
January 4, 2015

**Victor Bryant O’Quinn**  
(HS 1969 – 1971)  
March 18, 2015

**Vaughn J. (VJ) Rawson**  
(JC 1969)  
January 8, 2015

**John “Buckwheat” C. Farris**  
(HS 1972, JC 1974)  
March 16, 2015

**Don Martin Johnson**  
(JC 1974)  
December 31, 2014

**Roy Kenneth Hartwell**  
(JC 1982)  
July 12, 2014

**Anthony “Tony” Carl Snow**  
(HS 1986, JC 1988)  
September 16, 2014

**William Matthew Carr**  
(JC 1990)  
June 14, 2014

**William Gerald “Jay” Giddens**  
(JC 2000)  
April 11, 2015

**Taylor Dell**  
(JC 2014)  
December 23, 2014

**Helen W. Dennard**  
(Former Faculty)  
October 23, 2014

**Martha P. Silsby**  
(Former Faculty)  
December 12, 2014

**Karen Suzanne Williams Constantinidis Jarrell**  
Faculty  
April 17, 2015

58 years ago ....



1957 Little GMC City Elementary

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. Or, you may contact Earlene Hamilton at: (478) 445-0205, fax: (478) 445-2867 or email: ehamilton@gmc.edu. You may also mail to: The Cadence, Office of College Relations, 201 East Greene Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061 Please provide your class year(s), degree(s), address, phone number and email. If you include a photograph, please be sure to identify all people pictured. We look forward to hearing from you!



GEORGIA  
MILITARY  
COLLEGE

A LIBERAL ARTS JUNIOR COLLEGE

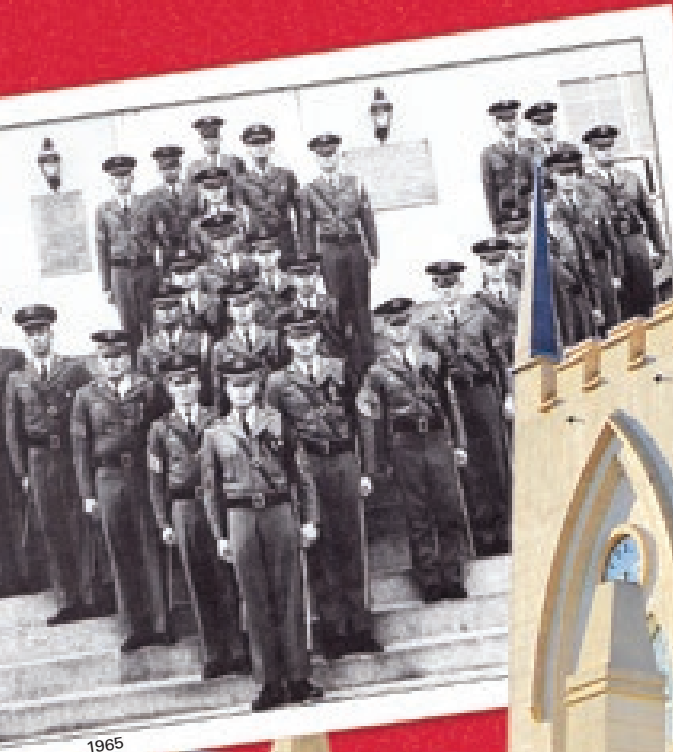
OFFICE OF COLLEGE RELATIONS  
201 EAST GREENE STREET  
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