



The Marching Virginians Alumni Association

THE MVAA

25 Years of MV's Together

*The Spirit of Tech.....*Never has such a statement been more true about a group of individuals.

If you were not in Blacksburg on October 16th, you were missed. If you were there, you will never forget. The largest group of MV Alumni, family and friends assembled on the practice field for an absolutely glorious afternoon of memories, practice, good food and FUN!

Charter members of the Marching Virginians marched next to current MV's in a half-time performance of grand display. A double State of Virginia, a deafening Superman

opener and a fabulous closing number from the "October Sky" soundtrack earned cheers from the stands.

Our 25th Anniversary was a time for memories, but more significantly, a time for beginnings. Our band, and our Alumni organization, are only just beginning. Not only are we working to tie together the past, but provide for the future. We should strive to make every Homecoming an event like 1999.

The days events were not only spectacular, they were special. Honored guests at our Banquet/Sophisticated Tailgate were



The Hokie bird Directs MV Tubas of Past and Present in the Hokie Pokie...The Premier of the "20 for the 25th" Tubas

Paul Torgersen -University President, Tony Distler- *The Voice*, Jim Sochinski- *Uncle Jim*, Roger Heath -Original Director of the MVs, and Sherry Huntley, the talented individual who engraved the names of contributors and honorees on the new tubas. These individuals were presented with custom framed pictures of the Marching Virginians as a recognition of their support. Harry Price - Previous MV Director, was also presented with a picture in absentia.

Major contributors to our "20 for the 25th" campaign were also duly recognized: Clay Davis, Jim Davis, Steve Castle, Tom Forlini, Bernard Kearns, Tom McLoughlin , Vic Stewart, Mike Sciarrino, Bob and Bonnie White. These individuals contributed at or above a level equal to the price of one tuba.

Our thanks to everyone who attended and ignited the flame to keep the spirit alive!



A Message From Dave

WOW! WOW! WOW!

What a weekend! What a celebration! What a group! Congratulations are in order to each and every one of you for a spectacular event! With abundant pride, continual smiles, and (YES) a little more gray hair, hundreds of MV alumni descended on campus to celebrate 25 years of The Spirit of Tech. A fantastic weekend, a marvelous performance, and memories to share. I hope you enjoyed the feeling of running on, playing Superman and Carry me Back, dancing the Hokie Pokie, and seeing 52,000 fans stand up and cheer! It was an awesome event!

First and foremost, I want to express my appreciation to the members of your Board of Directors. These volunteers spent countless hours planing for this event and following through on details. Even at the last minute, board members were dealing with (somewhat) late registrations, ordering and delivering tablecloths, and countless other tasks. To these board members, I say thanks from all of us – we couldn't have events like this without your support and efforts.

You're certainly beginning to hit your strides as an organization, and I encourage you to share your thoughts and concerns with any member of the board or myself. I can see golf tournaments,

bowl-site reunions, and hospitality events in the coming years, and I hope you'll take it upon yourself to plant the seed for such activities. I'll be happy to see you all at our upcoming bowl????

Personally, I continue to be amazed, awed, and inspired by each of you as you grow beyond your years on campus. The best way to keep this alive is simple—keep us updated with your address, recent moves and accomplishments, and the same information for your classmates and peers. We want to know where you are and what you're doing (no, we won't sell this information!). We keep our DB in the alumni office here, so send these tidbits to ME!



Again, Thanks so much for an awesome event! Have a great mil-

MVAA Board Eliminates Membership Dues Creates Annual Fund Drive

After much discussion, the MVAA Board of Directors voted in September to eliminate the MVAA Membership Dues in the year 2000 and beyond.

The decision is a direct result of the board listening to the MV Alumni and determining that all Marching Virginians Alumni should be included and listed as official members of the MVAA. All MV Alumni will now be allowed to vote during future MVAA Board elections, serve as an elected board member and receive the organization's newsletter twice a year. These privileges were previously provided only to dues paying members.

The board took the action with hopes that the organization can build on the enthusiasm created during the "Twenty for the 25th" campaign. No doubt, alumni interest and participation is at an all-time high. We want to build on the momentum created during the successful 25th anniversary campaign and develop an organization that truly contributes to the development and support of the Marching Virginians, the University and the MVAA.

With these goals in mind, the board has decided to create an Annual Fund. This fund will commence each year between

March and May and solicit donations from MV Alumni, friends and families of the Marching Virginians. The objective of the annual campaign will be to raise funds to support the Marching Virginians and the MVAA.

The Annual Fund will allow fellow alumni the opportunity to provide financial support to the organization based on their individual ability and personal desire to support the goals and objectives of the MVAA. No specific dollar amount will ever be requested. Any and all donations will be welcome. It is our belief that many MV Alumni will support the organization financially.

The funds will be used in many different ways. Instrument purchases, social events like Band Parent's Day, scholarships, regional MVAA outings, and award recognition programs are a few areas of interest the MVAA board has identified. We will also be seeking input from the MV Alumni to develop other ideas and uses for the funds.

We recognize that some members may not be able to support the organization financially at a given point and time, but are willing to volunteer their time to support specific needs of the organization.

Continued page 3

1999 Treasurer's Report

The following information is provided by Dave Sielaty, the MVAA Treasurer. A Treasurer's report will be included in all upcoming newsletters to keep all alumni informed as to how money contributed to the MVAA is being used. Any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report should be directed to Dave via email...DSielaty@LittleArch.com.

Cash information:

Beginning checking account balance:	\$ 2,324.80
Total income from homecoming dues:	<u>\$26,347.00</u>
Adjusted balance:	\$28,671.80
Homecoming Expenses paid:	(\$25,155.45)
Football Tickets:	\$13,500.00
Bus Tickets:	\$ 1,200.00
tshirts:	\$ 2,515.00
tailgate:	\$ 4,875.00
brunch:	\$ 2,239.69
refund/cancellations:	\$ 825.76

Ending Checking Account Balance: \$ 3,516.35



The Superman Fanfare and the double state of Virginia as never seen before

Check out the MVAA Website to Keep in Touch www.music.vt.edu/alumni/mvaa

The MVAA web site needs you! The first major project we will be undertaking for the MVAA web site is the construction of an extensive photo gallery covering the people, places and events of the Marching Virginians first 25 years. To make this gallery a success, we need all the shutter-bugs out there who witnessed and captured these moments to contribute. It's a great opportunity to embarrass your friends!

We would prefer to have slides or negatives in order to maximize the quality of the images. If you don't have the negatives, feel free to send your prints instead. Be sure to give an explanation of when and where the photos were taken. All materials will be returned after they have been used. Of course, in order to get these photos on the web they will need to be scanned. If you can

get them scanned, great! Just email them to...it1. ut02183@memo.volvo.com. If not, please mail slides or negatives to...

Jim Davis
2447 Gordon Road
High Point, NC 27265

We have other plans for the web site in the future, so keep checking in and don't hesitate to make suggestions. Thanks and GO HOKIES!!

****To be added to the electronic mailing list for direct email of newsletters and other info, please go to the web site and register for the MVAA Email List!****

-Annual Fund from page 2

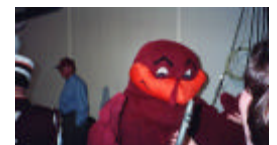
The reality is the MVAA can only be successful with the right blend of financial and physical support. Volunteering time and participating in events is as important as financial donations to the long-term success of the organization. Everyone's donation, be it time or money, is equally important!

I am excited about the direction the MVAA is taking and hope you will support the Board of Directors as we begin this new journey. We invite you to experience the excitement and share it with fellow MV alumni who may not be involved in the organization. Those who were fortunate enough to participate in this year's "20 for the 25th" Homecoming Week-

end Celebration know we are all part of a very special organization. From the Charter Members and Roger Heath, to the current members under the direction of Dave McKee, "The Spirit of Tech" lives in the Marching Virginians. And the "Spirit of Tech" continues in the Marching Virginians Alumni Association.

GO HOKIES!!

Sincerely,
Vic
Vic Stewart, MVAA President



The Hokie Bird greets alumni as they enter the field for halftime.

The Marching Virginians Alumni Association Board of Directors

Vic Stewart, President '84

Betsy Rose, President Elect '90

Cindy Bowman, Secretary'93

Dave Sielaty, Treasurer'89

Jim Davis, Technology '88

John Paganelli, Member at Large '91

Ed Gilikin, Member at Large '89 Clay Davis, Member at Large '84

Chris Bovee Wilson, Member at Large '89

- *To foster a spirit of interest and co-operation among band alumni toward the University
- *To support the Marching Virginians and its director
- *To encourage acquaintance and fellowship between alumni and current band members
- *To strive for greater recognition of the Marching Virginians
- *To be constantly alert for, and to stimulate discovery of, potential talent in High School band members for the Marching Virginians
- *To create good will for the Marching Virginians
- *To encourage respect for the high standards that the Marching Virginians strive to uphold

[www.music.vt.edu/
alumni/mvaa](http://www.music.vt.edu/alumni/mvaa)

Help Keep the spirit alive! Tell an old MV Buddy about our MVAA web site . Pass along an MV alum's address via the web or PO Box. Keep us posted on the significant events in your life. And most importantly, get involved in the MVAA by supporting the Annual Fund and/or volunteering your time.

The Marching Virginians Alumni Association
“Where the “Spirit of Tech’s” past, partners with the “Spirit of Tech’s” present, to support “The Spirit of Tech’s” future.



What a beautiful day in Blacksburg! Homecoming 1999, Lane Stadium as seen from the MV practice field on game day.