

# ALL IN THE FAMILY

Volume 4; Issue 1

Fall 2001

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## Where Do Academics Fit In At The Citadel?

Col. James A. W. Rembert, Professor of English

One who is a Citadel graduate, a senior member of the faculty and academic advisor to T Company for a quarter century might have three different angles on academic life at The Citadel. Not so. The perspective is the same, the conclusions are identical for graduate, professor and advisor. The single piece of advice one would give any cadet, especially a fourthclass cadet, and give firmly, is advice which virtually everyone here gives: do not let military duties swallow one's time, but focus first on academic duties. Cadet sergeants and officers, fingers pointing, voices insistent, threats forthcoming, impinge more directly on the consciousness of an eighteen-year old man or woman than do the mildly stated reminders of a benign professor who suggests that some rather diligent study might be necessary for success on tomorrow's exam. Not to study much for tomorrow's exam, whose low score can be made up perhaps on the next exam, is a reasonable choice for a knob whose squad sergeant says come by my room at 2300 hours with brilliantly shined shoes, which you seem to have shined with a Hershey bar for supper formation. What's a poor gal or guy to do? Never mind that the sergeant is violating regulations by insisting on the knob's shining up during Evening Study Period in order to be presentable by 11:00 p.m.

Here's what to do. First, shine whatever needs shining on the weekend, get help, get it right, and then reshining will be easier all during the week. If freshmen get caught in a military/academic bind like that suggested above, they should make an attempt to satisfy the squad leader's demands, but they should not let military duties eat into Evening Study Period, a sacrosanct time that each company commander, each company academic officer, each company academic sergeant, each active-duty Tactical Officer, each faculty advisor will say earnestly is a time which must be devoted to academic study. A freshman should not do military things during academic time, especially during Evening Study Period, which is several hours devoted to preparation for classes the next day. If knobs get behind the eight ball militarily, they must find a way to remedy their bad position in the afternoon or any time other than ESP, or MSP or ASP for that matter.

Now that is not the only problem. The main problem is wasting time during ESP and in the afternoons. My roommate and I forty years ago would not let classmates enter our room during ESP. We were rather large and strong, and we'd pick them up and throw them out onto the gallery, laughing, true, but nonetheless effective. It worked. He is now a doctor of law and I a doctor of philosophy. Knobs have a tendency to unwind after a day's stresses. Unwinding should take place after

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Class of 2003

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## FERPA—What?

When your cadets were sworn in as students of The Citadel on August 20, 2001, they immediately came under the protection of FERPA. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (as amended) is a federal law that requires educational institutions to maintain the confidentiality of student educational records.

The Citadel's policy regarding disclosure of information to parents has two parts. First, educational records may be disclosed to personnel within the institution who have a legitimate educational interest, *to parents of students who are dependents as defined by IRS standards*, to persons or organizations providing student financial aid, to accrediting agencies carrying out their accreditation function, to persons in compliance with a judicial order, or, in an emergency, to persons to protect the health or safety of the student or others.

We bring this up at this time of the year because of Parents' Day and the invitation to meet and talk to cadets' instructors on Parents' Day. When you meet your students' instructors, you can ask them about their education, their courses, their policies, their grading style, etc., but you cannot ask them questions about the student's performance or progress in the class because they are not authorized to provide that information.

Take a moment and reread the two sections provided that refer to parents. Notice that "The Citadel," not the individual professors, administrators, or staff members, is named as the institution providing/withholding information. When you receive your cadets' semester grades over the Holiday Furlough and Summer Furlough,

you are receiving official information from "The Registrar of The Citadel."

The second reference to providing information to parents concerns alcohol or drug violations: Colleges may disclose to parents, **WITHOUT A STUDENT'S CONSENT**, alcohol or drug violations of either the College's policies or local laws by students **UNDER 21** years of age. This disclosure may be to parents **"WITHOUT REGARD TO WHETHER OR NOT THE STUDENT IS A DEPENDENT"** (under IRS Tax rules). The Citadel will notify parents based on the discretion of the Commandant of Cadets.

Hopefully, this information helps you to understand why on Parents' Day professors seem to give you vague answers to questions like "How is s/he doing in your class" or "What should s/he be doing to keep the grade up." Your sons' and daughters' instructors are not hiding failing grades or poor attendance; they are trying to be as helpful as they can without breaking the law.

The Citadel also provides an Annual Notification to Students (SY2001-2002) informing them of their rights and protections under this act. You can read this document on-line at <http://www.citadel.edu/corps/ferpa/html>.

Feel free to direct any questions or concerns to Colonel Joe Trez, Special Assistant to the President for Legal Matters, at 843-953-4834 or [Trezj@citadel.edu](mailto:Trezj@citadel.edu).

## STUDENT VOICES

As a female from the North I thought the odds were against me. One: being a female and two: being from Chicago. My last two years at The Citadel proved my theory wrong.

Going into my knob year at The Citadel I brought with me white t-shirts, black socks, brasso, and some very special words my "Host Father," Mr. Lee, gave to me. He told me, "When it comes to that night when you have to study for a test or shine your shoes, you better study. Your grades are going to follow you wherever you might go. You can handle the disappointment of your sergeants for five minutes."



I quickly learned how important academics were to my future and made a goal to achieve Gold Stars every semester. Keeping a 3.7 GPA at the least was going to be a lot of work, but with determination and some sacrifices I knew it could be done. This is where the infamous "time-management skills" sets in. Using my afternoons, ESP, and even weekends I always knew what had to come first: academics. I'm sure I missed a few parties or an occasional afternoon nap but I knew in the end my grades would be the result of hard work and much sought after Gold Stars.

I overcame my apprehension of being a female from the North through the academic accomplishments I've made. I've maintained Gold Stars every semester, made life long friendships, and became adopted into the "Southern Hospitality."

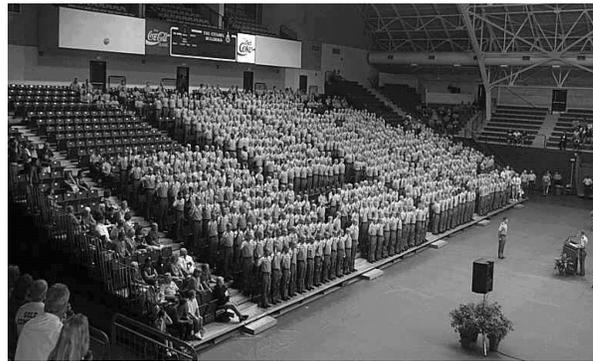
Ragan Freitag

Tango Company

# Welcome the Class of 2005



On Saturday, August 18, the Class of 2005 arrived at The Citadel. As parents waited outside the barracks, the new cadets reported for uniform fittings and moved into their "dorm" rooms. Following lunch in mess hall, President John S. Grinalds introduced to parents the main academic and administrative officers of the college.



Afterward, parents were invited to the information fair and the Parents' Picnic (hosted by The Citadel Family Association). The long and grueling weekend finally ended on Monday when the Class of 2005 took their Matriculation Oath in McAlister Field House. Photographs by CeCe Mikell and Marsha Mikell

## What Does a Faculty Council Do?

Col. Steven Silver  
Chair of Faculty Council  
Professor of Business Administration

You may be surprised, but the Faculty Council at The Citadel and The Citadel Family Association have a lot in common. Both of our missions center on the best interests of our cadets and students. Where we differ most is in our perspectives: the Faculty Council approaches student issues based on what they can do as educators while the CFA approaches issues based on what parents can do from the homefront.

A Faculty Council is an advisory group composed of representatives from each academic department. Their main function is to be a medium through which faculty and academic staff members communicate their con-

cerns to the Academic Board, which comprises the Department heads and Deans. Sound familiar? This is just about the same composition and function of the CFA.

In the past several years, the Faculty Council has taken up such issues as cadets' duty schedules and absences, cadets' falling asleep in class, attendance taking, violence in the barracks, and disrespect of other cadets at the annual talent show. Issues affecting cadets directly probably account for 20 to 25 percent of the business undertaken by Faculty Council. Most of the rest of our discussions concern such issues as working conditions, conditions of employment—for example, wearing of the uniform, tenure and promotion, and merit pay. Clearly, though, what happens in the classroom concerns us greatly. The Council takes

up these issues for discussion and determines if and how to present recommendations to the Academic Board for action.

As the Faculty Council and The Citadel Family Association share a common goal, that of supporting the academic mission of The Citadel, we invite you to present your concerns to the Faculty Council whenever we are in the best position to help you accomplish your goals. We meet regularly on the third Thursday of every month, and our minutes are posted on The Citadel's web page along with the minutes of all of the academic committees, including the Academic Board, at <http://www.citadel.edu/academics/committee.html>.

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graduation. They signed up for the stress, and they must learn to live with it. Adrenalin makes for good study-retention. No computer games, no bad stuff brought up on the Internet, which is also expensive to one's credit card, no phone calls to girlfriends, boyfriends, or mother second semester when freshmen get phones, no bullshooting sessions with roommate or other classmate when both should be studying.

All this sound too severe, too strict, too demanding on your poor, helpless child who is now in this mean old military college? Why did he or she want to come here? Why do you want him or her here? The discipline. The responsibility, the focus on important matters, no? No edu-

cation comes without pain, Aristotle said somewhere. Give your darlin' a copy of this advice. Ask him or her to focus, to study, to relieve tension only after noon on Saturdays. All other times are for study, except for some time grudgingly given to shining up. If your cadets are not committed, they won't do as well as they or you would like. If someone is getting in the way of that commitment, ask your freshman to get in touch with Col. John Carter, ombudsman on campus, in 207 Deas Hall, at 953-7953.

## Sponsors Needed

### Cadet Activities

The Citadel Fourth Class Sponsor Program is a program sponsored by Cadet Activities which matches fourth-class cadets with a sponsor family in the Charleston area. These sponsors provide a caring "home away from home" during the difficult first year, and often subsequent years at The Citadel. Sponsors include Citadel staff, faculty, local alumni, and interested individuals from the community. Cadets are paired with sponsors based on geography, personal interests, family background and/or cadet needs.

We have received over 350 requests for sponsor families from the cadets and parents of the incoming Class of 2005, but we only

## Parents' Day at The Citadel

Jim and Ann Pinson, Recruitment and Retention Committee

Many parents don't realize that Parents' Weekend at The Citadel marks a critical juncture in the lives of all of the cadets. This year, almost 700 cadets were abruptly removed from the families that have supported them throughout their lives. Parents' Weekend marks the first official family visit between new cadets and their families, boyfriends and girlfriends, and even pets. This reunion of families can often make a difference for a cadet between just getting by or succeeding during the first, life-altering semester here. Help us help your cadets succeed by making Parents' Weekend at The Citadel a part of your family calendar.

We started out five years ago officially hosting two knobs during our son's first year. Our group of "adopted" children has grown to include our son's classmates in Delta Company as well as the sons and daughters of the many parents of prospective cadets over the years. Each Parents' Weekend, we look forward to meeting our current knobs' parents. We now have nearly 30 cadets of all classes whom we sponsor.

Ed and Marsha Mikell, Delta 2000

have approximately 140 sponsor families.

Please consider opening your hearts and your homes to a fourth-class cadet who needs a little extra TLC on the weekends.

Individuals who would like to receive more information on the Citadel Sponsor Program may contact the Department of Cadet Activities at (843) 953-5111 or by email at [dortonm@citadel.edu](mailto:dortonm@citadel.edu). You can also visit the Office of Cadet Activities online at [www.citadel.edu/cadetaactivities/](http://www.citadel.edu/cadetaactivities/).

## 2001 Citadel Football

Sept. 1	at Georgia Tech	Oct. 20	at Georgia Southern
Sept. 15	at W. Carolina 6 p.m.		1 p.m.
Sept. 22	Appalachian State 4 p.m.	Oct. 27	Armed Forces Day
Sept. 29	Bulldog Classic		Wofford 2 p.m.
	S.C. State 4 p.m.	Nov. 3	at Chattanooga 7 p.m.
Oct. 6	at East Tennessee State	Nov. 10	Homecoming
	6 p.m.		VMI 2 p.m.
Oct. 13	Parents' Day		
	Furman 2 p.m.	Ticket Office	843-953-5121

# CFA Company Parent Contacts **Fall Calendar**

Each year with a new group of cadets in charge and a new group of cadets reporting for duty, we find that there

are new ways of doing things at The Citadel, new stories being told and created, and new worries for all parents.

And each year we have a new group of dedicated CFA volunteers who have agreed to be your resources for the 2001-2002 academic year.

Call these parents who have experienced many of your same worries, fears, and confusion for emotional support, information networking, or even coordinating rides home for holidays.

Remember that you can always call the school directly at 843-953-5000 (information).

Alpha— Brian & Diane Cahill  
803-865-2395

Bravo— Mike & Linda Shute  
856-935-9127

Charlie— Frankie & Shirley Cook  
2003  
803-791-1860

Delta— Stan & Dianne Townsend  
2003  
843-881-6590



PB— Chris Lynn  
2004

864-573-8900

Echo— Gene & Leslie Skibitsky  
2003

207-562-7095

F Troop— Ed & Cindy Piper  
2004

910-455-6942

Golf— Jim & Lynda Dunn  
2003

843-795-8889

Hotel— Richard & Brenda Conwill  
2003

904-292-0656

Band— Bill & Cydney Kastner  
2002

843-781-4251

India— Ben & Carol Salvatini  
2004

843-875-3709

Kilo— Jack & Dorothy Skipper  
2003

803-366-0665

Lima—

Mike— Dan & Paula Cannon  
2003

352-694-5449

November— Charles & Ann Lawson  
2003

864-226-1566

Oscar— John & Mary Braeunig  
2004

864-250-9032

Romeo—

Tango—

10/13 Parents' Day

11/10 Homecoming

11/16 Thanksgiving Furlough Begins

11/25 Thanksgiving Furlough Ends

12/18 Holiday Furlough Begins

1/13 Holiday Furlough Ends

\*based on the schedule posted on The Citadel's web site.

If you would like to serve as the primary parent contact for a Lima, Romeo, or Tango, and are a parent of a currently enrolled cadet, please contact Secretary Charles and Sherry Shults.

## The 2001-2003 Citadel Family Association Officers

### Chairperson

Daniel and Kathy Pascazio  
202 Sheffield Lane  
Summerville, SC 29485  
843-873-8965 (H)  
843-851-5408 (W)  
dpascazio@sdkc.com  
danielvpascazio@aol.com  
Cadet: Nick Pascazio  
Alpha 2002



### Vice Chairperson

Jerry and Cindy Wiley  
710 West Nuzum Street  
Fruitland, FL 34731-2054  
352-787-8814 (H)  
jwiley1234@earthlink.net  
Cadet: Robert Wiley  
F-Troop 2002



### Secretary

Charles and Sherry Shults  
111 Natalia Lane  
Lexington, SC 29072  
803-957-6162 (H)  
csshults@aol.com  
Cadet: Dallas Shults  
November 2003

CITADEL FAMILY ASSOCIATION  
c/o Office of Admissions  
The Citadel, 171 Moultrie Street  
Charleston, SC 29409  
Phone: 1-800-868-1842  
Fax: 843-953-7036  
admissions@citadel.edu  
<http://www.citadel.edu/cfa>  
CFA Calendar-At-A-Glance  
★  
Parents' Weekend  
October 13, 2001  
★  
Chairpersons' Winter Retreat  
January 19, 2002  
★  
Steering Committee Retreat  
February 9, 2002  
★  
CFA Annual Meeting  
March 15, 2002  
★  
Matriculation Day, Class of 2006  
August 19, 2002

# THE CITADEL FAMILY ASSOCIATION

## MISSION STATEMENT

THE CITADEL FAMILY ASSOCIATION (CFA) IS COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF CURRENT CADETS. ITS MISSION IS THREEFOLD:

1. TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO AND SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILIES OF CURRENT CADETS;
2. TO PROVIDE THE FAMILIES WITH A FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF COMMON INTERESTS; AND
3. TO TAKE REASONABLE STEPS TO SUPPORT COLLEGE INITIATIVES.