

# ALL IN THE FAMILY

Special Issue

Matriculation 2002

**Inside this issue:**

## Welcome to the CFA

Garden Corner	2
Who to Call	2
Major Events for Knobs	2
4th-Class Sponsor Program	3
Care Packages	3
Fall Calendar	3
2001-2003 CFA Officers	3

Spoken like a true mother, an excerpt from “Norwood Grinalds, Mother of the Corps,” in the Fall 2000 issue of *All in the Family*:

*For those of you who are watching this life passage for the first time, it can be a heart thumping experience. These young people of ours are packing up for an adventure no less daunting for them than boarding Endurance, with Sir John Shackelton in 1916 for Antarctica, was for his raw-boned, seasoned crew. The turning away from comforts of home, the surge of adrenaline when stepping into this boat of passage that has carried other initiates on other days to The Citadel, marks a moment of maturity and vigor that will be etched, as in stone, into their personal histories.*

*An interesting phenomenon occurs when your cadet arrives at The Citadel. Whereas once you perhaps felt in the dark about what was really going on at the core of your children's thought process, now, as the point of discipline and authority in their day-to-day lives shifts to their faculty, squad leaders, and Corps commanders, you amazingly become their confidente. Roles are reversed. We are like a strong rope, made of three cords – the cadet, the faculty/staff, and the parent. If we work together, we will run the race and win the prize.*

**Editor, CeCe Mikell**  
c\_mikell@hotmail.com

The Citadel Family Association is composed primarily of parents or guardians of current cadets. Its mission is threefold:

**Publicity**  
George & Marsha Clayman  
Josh Clayman, I/ 2004

- (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.

**Cadet Recruitment and Retention**  
Jim & Ann Pinson  
Talmadge Pinson, B/2003

From your knob's first day, August 17, 2002, you belong to a support system that is just a phone call/e-mail away to helping you understand the workings of the system of The Citadel. The invitation to the beach house, after you have said your good-byes, is another way we try to show you “we're with you, we're behind you, we are you” as you sit around and meet new parents, enjoy the beautiful ocean, and feel a sense of peace that your child has chosen an awesome journey of challenges and opportunities that will build confidence and leadership to follow them on through life.

**CFA Membership**  
Charles & Ann Lawson  
Chris Lawson, N/2002

Your membership in The Citadel Family Association is automatic and free. There are no membership dues, only four meetings each year. Our only “requirement” is that you experience the membership. This is strictly a volunteer based group. There are parents who volunteer to be representatives for each company so that if you need to speak on “parents' terms” and need a sounding board, it's only a phone call away. If you look at the “Mom's List” that came with the orientation package, that was compiled by the CFA. Our newsletter *All in the Family* is published quarterly by an editor with close family ties to The Citadel but who is also a dedicated volunteer currently working on her doctorate degree. The enthusiasm and insight that is poured into each publication is a true credit to

**Pre-Knob Coordinators**  
Bill & Cydney Kastner  
Reed Kastner, Band/2002

her love of The Citadel. Important dates are also listed to keep the parents in the know of upcoming events.

ALL IN THE FAMILY  
is sponsored by:



**SOUTH CAROLINA  
Federal Credit Union**

If you have not had the opportunity to become involved with the CFA, we encourage you to do so. We invite your input, your involvement, and your information. Please visit the Citadel Family Association home page at [www.citadel.edu/CFA](http://www.citadel.edu/CFA) or use the link from The Citadel home page for updated information.

## Who to Call

My hands were sweaty, my heart beat fast, my stomach was in knots, and I was terrified I would burst into tears at any moment. Well, that was Matriculation Day and the following week (Hell Week). How nice it would have been to have a parent in my child's company whom I could talk to and from whom I could get answers to my many "new" questions. — Lynda Dunn, Tango 2003

Alpha Brian & Dianne Cahill  
2004 / 803-865-2395

Bravo Mike & Linda Shute  
2004 / 856-935-9127

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

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

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

India Ben & Carol Salvatini  
2004 / 843-875-3709

Kilo Jack & Dorothy Skipper  
2003 / 803-366-0665

Lima Bob & Clare Jones  
2005 / 864-288-9405

Mike Dan & Paula Cannon  
2003 / 352-694-5449

Nov. Charles & Ann Lawson  
2003 / 864-226-1566

Oscar John & Mary Braeunig  
2004 / 864-250-9032

Romeo Randy & Elaine Cuthbertson  
2005 / 843-59-0415

Tango Teresa & Finbar O'Reilly  
843-762-3685

PB Chris Lynn  
2004 / 864-573-8900

Band Bill & Cydney Kastner  
2006 / 843-766-3526

## Important Weekends in Knob Life

NOTE—It is as important for parents to know and follow the schedule of the day as it is for your knobs to keep to their class, duty, and parade schedules.

**Matriculation Day**—is the day you and your cadet will "report" for duty at the side or rear sallyport (or door) of an assigned barracks. After reporting to a battalion TAC and being measured for and changing into uniform, you can help him/her move into the room. Following this initial phase of the day, you are invited to meet with religious officers and leaders, to lunch in the mess hall, to the President's address and information fair, and to the CFA Picnic at The Citadel Beach House. NOTE: Avoid displays of emotion *in front of company officers*, even hugging.

**Parents' Weekend**—marks your cadet's official entrance into the Corps of Cadets in a parade ceremony. He/she will need "normal" family contact, so please make a special effort to be with your knob on Parents' Weekend, or arrange for a

sponsor family to do something special with and for your knob.

**Holiday Furlough**—reunites knobs with families and friends and may foster doubts like "why did I chose The Citadel" and "why should I go back" after remembering "the real world." Please don't hesitate to call upon school officials or the CFA during these times.

**Recognition Day**—is an amazing day in the life of every knob. Upper-class cadets call knobs by their first names and will offer the same privilege to knobs. This day will remain important to your cadet as this will be the last privilege he/she will confer upon the knobs of the Class of 2009, perpetuating the legacy of earning respect. *This particular event is not open to the public or parents.*

## GARDEN SPOT

By Norwood Grinalds

If I could share one part of my life here at The Citadel with you, it would be the joy of my contact with the cadets. Nothing pleases me more than having a visit from one of them. Occasionally, the doorbell will ring and a cadet, standing erect, will ask, "Ma'am, did you really mean it when you said we could come over for a soda and a game of Chinese Checkers?" "Absolutely! Come right in." What joy!

By the middle of September all knobs, by companies, will have been to the President's house for dessert. No officers—not even General Grinalds—or upperclass cadets are allowed to be at the quarters, and the knobs get their first opportunity since arriving at The Citadel to relax and talk at will. I invite several of the staff wives to serve as hostesses, and we set up ice cream sundae bars and 10,000 cookies. The cadets eat and talk and laugh for an hour and a half until their company officers arrive at the front of the quarters to march them back to the barracks.



Hearty Cooking

Every day I make a large, heart-shaped chocolate chip cookie equivalent to five dozen cookies. All cadets are special, but I find one who needs a boost, perhaps has a health problem, a disappointment, or bad news from home. If I don't find that cadet on a given day, I give it to a cadet who has made a contribution to the chapel program, been cited for a remarkable deed, or has smiled at me.

I love these cadets, and I love living here at The Citadel with them.

## Need a Sponsor Family?

Call Cadet Activities 843-953-5111.

Many knobs who live far from Charleston find that they miss the comforts of home and feel like they don't have any way to feel "at home." Well, you'll be delighted to know that many Charleston families offer their homes, shoulders, showers, beds, and cooking services to Citadel knobs.

Many of you parents and families of knobs who do live here in Charleston will find that you become default sponsor families for your cadet's roommate or even a few others.

## Family Association Prayer Chain

New in 2000 and open to parents of all faiths, the Citadel Family Association Parents' Prayer Chain is a wonderful way for parents to come together, share their faith, and provide or ask for spiritual guidance for their cadets.

To join the list, go to <http://www.citadelprayerchain.org> and submit your email address to join the list. To submit a prayer request, email Dorothy Skipper at [skipfam@aol.com](mailto:skipfam@aol.com).



## Dear Soon-to-Be Citadel Parents,

Welcome to The Citadel!! There are a couple of things I hope you will keep in mind as your cadet's knob year approaches and progresses: For example, if you have a household dominated by women, make a special trip for male deodorant when you go buy supplies (thanks mom!). Also, when you come to visit and all your knob wants to do is eat and sleep, be understanding.

Seriously, be supportive of your cadet, and try to appreciate the culture shock they are experiencing; this will prove to be a gratifying year for everyone in the family. Get to know the other parents in your cadet's company. The extended Citadel family is comprised of the best people, and your cadet will appreciate the effort.

When you receive a frantic phone call from your knob, be supportive, but let the system work for you, though the results will be hard to recognize. When all your cadet wants to talk is military, ask about his or her grades. Remind them how important their grades are, and encourage them to seek help; there are countless programs and support groups geared for freshman alone. If you have a question, the best person to call is the company commander; it's his or her job to care, and he or she does.

This will be a year of learning and self-discovery; with the right guidance and support, anyone can thrive. The entire Citadel institution is focused on the freshman year. There is an unbelievable amount support and help available: tell them to use it! My fondest memories and highest academic achievements remain those from freshman year. I only have my parents and my math tutor to thank! Be supportive and relish the results!

With Great Anticipation,

Cadet Brett S. Berry, '02  
President, The Citadel Class of 2002

## ATTENTION— Parents Of Athletes Reporting Early

The CFA extends a special invitation to you to attend the Matriculation Day CFA Picnic at The Citadel Beach House.

Since you all report with your knobs several weeks before Matriculation Day and the majority of the knob class, we want you to feel welcome at all of our activities.

When you bring your knobs to campus in early August, to report for school and for training, we will be there as part of Orientation. We will be there afterwards for your questions. And we are always here for you as members of The Citadel Family Association.

## Care Packages

NOTE—Knobs don't get to come home for the weekend!!!



When your cadet is a knob, the US Postal Service can be your best friend. After email, snail-mail may be the only way you can communicate with your cadet until second semester when knobs usually earn the privilege of keeping a phone in their rooms.

Snail-mail is also a great way to send your cadet some of the comforts of home—care packages. The number 1 tip from parents is to use the Number 1 box from the post office; it will fit in the knobbie bag and is less likely to be "shared" with upperclass cadets. You may want to pick some up from the campus post office for free.

## The 2001-2003 Citadel Family Association Officers

### Chairperson

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November 2003

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CFA Calendar-At-A-Glance  
\*  
Matriculation Day, Class of 2006  
August 17, 2002  
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Parents' Weekend  
October 11-13, 2002  
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Chairpersons' Winter Retreat  
January, 2003  
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Steering Committee Retreat  
February, 2003  
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CFA Annual Meeting  
March 14, 2003 (tentative)  
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Matriculation Day, Class of 2007  
August 16, 2003

# 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 A 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.