



# THE BUGLE



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CARLISLE

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## Seniors Receive Rings in November Presentation



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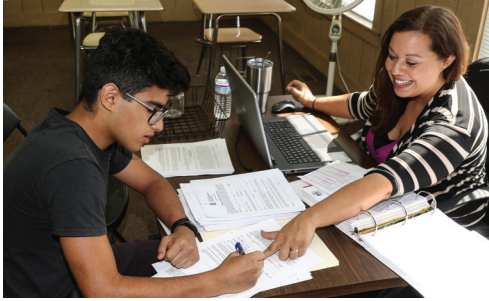
# REGISTRATION AT CMA

The 2017-2018 School Year opened with a full house for the first time in years. Admissions Director, Casey Robinson, and his assistant, Marshall Sheorn, worked long hours and several out of town events, as the school year also began with a waiting list.

The process runs smoothly as signs are set up around the campus to lead the new students and their parents to the various stops for enrollment. They start the first day with their photo for records and paperwork that takes them throughout the Risher Administration Building. In the accounting department, fees are paid and parents set up weekly allowances for their sons. Optional trips are offered that can be paid for at that time. However, there are a limited number of spots available on trips such as to Washington, D.C., Florida, and ski lodges. The parents then move on to meet the nurses and athletic trainer as they go through the necessary medical forms and records. Since the young cadets are given a copy of the courses of study for the semester when they first arrive, they have the option to see the registrars or dean of students to make any necessary changes.

As they exit the administration building, they head over to White Field House to get fitted for all uniforms and athletic wear. It actually looks like a large department store as CMA's faculty members greet each family and distribute the necessities to start the new school year.

Cadets who are in the cadre actually arrive on Friday to get instructions on helping the new cadets who arrive on Saturday. They escort the families around to their destination, helping them to move into their barracks. The returning cadets arrive on Sunday and happy reunions begin as they move back into their last year's barracks and meet their new classmates. And, thus, another year begins at Camden Military Academy.





# 2017 Spartan Challenge begins with company designed shirts and flags.



Introduced to the corps of cadets in 2009, the Spartan Challenge continues to be a team building, fun spirited atmosphere of camaraderie for the young men who have been together only a few weeks. Points are given for the 18 events that take place throughout the campus for the one day event. Results are shown below, along with the events/winners. (Shown above (l-r) Alpha Co., Battalion Staff Supporters, Band & Staff Co.; (l-r) Bravo Co. and Charlie Co.; Below are Delta Co.; cadets lined up for Kuno Ice; The Circle of Death, Hillbilly Relay, Lift Challenge & Brick Challenge.)



The Winners Are:  
 1st - Delta  
 2nd - Charlie  
 3rd - Band & Staff  
 4th - Alpha  
 5th - Bravo

Company T-Shirt - Delta Co.  
 Company Flag - Charlie Co.  
 Brick Challenge - Charlie Co.  
 Soccer Challenge - Band & Staff Co.  
 Lift Challenge - Band & Staff Co.  
 Circle of Death - Delta Co.  
 Rifle Shoot - Delta Co.  
 Tennis Challenge - Alpha Co.  
 Frisbee Golf - Band & Staff Co.  
 Hillbilly Relay - Delta Co.  
 Glider Fly - Charlie Co.  
 Rafting Challenge - Delta Co.  
 Academic Challenge - Band & Staff Co.  
 Citizenship - Delta Co.  
 Beam Walk - Delta Co.  
 Centipede Walk - Delta Co.  
 Volleyball Challenge - Delta Co.  
 FCA Run for Your Life - Charlie Co.





**The 2017-2018** school year begins on Monday after registration weekend. Cadets are privileged to attend their classes wearing the CMA Athletic T-shirts and shorts for the first several weeks. Because of the numerous alterations and orders for the non-stock clothing that have to be placed in order to dress 300 new and returning young gentlemen, they are



allowed to wear the more casual wear. It also doesn't hurt that the weather is still very warm in August and September. As shown above the classrooms are casual then the smiling faces reveal the proud everyday cadet uniforms. The academy has optional trips that are available for parents to choose for their sons to register for, according to availability.



The first one is always scheduled Sunday on the weekend after registration. Shown left is a group at Caro-winds in September. Other trips that cadets went on in September included white water rafting and attending a Sunday NFL Panthers game in Charlotte.

A College Fair, held at Francis Marion College, in August was also a special trip for interested cadets. Various college representatives



set up tables throughout the gymnasium and answered questions from students who were in attendance from numerous schools in the Midlands and Pee Dee Region.

Shown left is a group of CMA cadets who enjoyed an evening at Lugoff-Elgin High School for the

Fellowship of Christian Athletes program. Students from Kershaw County area schools enjoyed hearing speakers and musicians for the evening outing. One of the Lugoff-Elgin's alumni, Monty Lee, currently coaches baseball at Clemson University. He is shown pictured with cadet Wyatt Hart.

### Cross-Country

This year's Cross Country season has been unbelievable. I have been incredibly pleased with my results compared to last year. I have cut a full two minutes off of my time and I am still getting better. Our run to third place in the state of South Carolina has been surreal. We banded together as a group of young men working toward a common goal.



With each other's help and guidance, we were all able to unlock our full potential. I'd like to thank Coach Heflin for his useful life lessons and his watchful eye as he guided us on to a better path. Without him leading, we wouldn't have been so successful. I have enjoyed my second year on this team as part of a great brotherhood. I am already looking forward to next year's season and making more special memories as we become great young men and leaders.

*Written by Nicolo Pucciarelli*



## Scouting

This picture is from the scouting trip to Congaree National Park, 20-22 October. The scouts are in front of the root system of a giant tree that rotted out, then fell during one of the recent storms. The tree had an estimated width of 4 feet, was about 120 ft. tall, and about 70+ years old.

During the weekend, there was a "Merit Badge University" weekend at the Simonson's house. Some 14 Eagle required merit badges were earned so far from this trip, with more being earned before Thanksgiving.

LTC Greg Simonson has been a teacher at CMA for over 25 years. In 2000, he became the Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 38 at CMA. As a faculty member, he found the unique partnership between scouting and the school that would help to positively transform the lives of Scouts and their families for years to come.

He also serves as an important member of the Wateree District Committee, which serves Kershaw and Fairfield Counties. By chairing the district's Advancement Committee, Greg provides great direction and dedication to ensuring that Scouts are advancing in rank and are afforded great opportunities to do so. He also serves as a Merit Badge Counselor for various badges, and led the Wateree District Life to Eagle Seminar in 2013 and 2014.

Greg's Scout training has included everything from Safe Swim Defense and Hazardous Weather training, to various Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader trainings since 1994. He has received the Scouter's Training Award in 2004 and the District Award of Merit from Wateree District in 2011. He has also been recognized twice with the District Scoutmaster of the Year Award, as well as once for the District Scouter of the Year Award.



## Debate Club

When the President, Andrew Levine, and I came up with the Debate Club last year, we laughed at the idea of actually getting it off the ground. It was only when we actually had our first meeting last year did it 'hit' me that this club could actually turn into something. Today Andrew and I are giving lectures to the club, educating the club on the most up-to-date competition rules, and preparing them to be able to effectively hold an argument.

We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays and discuss a variety of things ranging from classes on logical fallacies to building a solid argument in debate. With David Marshall and Eve Carlin as our supervisors, we hope to prepare ourselves to be able to maybe take home a Debate Competition trophy. I am excited for my team and I am ecstatic about what we might be able to accomplish this academic year. *Written by Will Larsen*



## Pre-season Baseball

The Baseball conditioning has started. When you go, you bring a glove, water bottle, and a baseball bat (optional). Then when you start, you start by playing catch to warm your arms up; then you go to the batting cage. In the batting cage, you hit 16 baseballs from a pitching machine. Then the baseball coaches (Maj Reeder; Cpt Dean; Ltc Beckham), pay a lot of attention to the batter to correct them. When it comes to playing catch, the coaches also criticize how you throw to make you better. When I first went, I only had a speedy throw, but absolutely no accuracy. Through the help of Cpt Dean, I am getting much better and hope to get a shot to pitch for JV Baseball. *By Donovan Lee*



## Dog Men

Seventh graders spent the week of Halloween working with candy, data, statistics, functions and Google sheets. The highlight was when Col. Thorp treated seventh graders to the story of the legend of Dog Man! There were a lot of screams when two Dog Men entered Mrs. Boland's classroom.



## Pecan Festival

"I had a great time at the Pecan Festival last weekend. It was great spending time with some good friends of mine from school and meeting some new people that I don't usually get to see during the regular school day. Whiteville was a lovely town and I loved the atmosphere. The people there were all very nice and welcoming. During the *Tour of Homes* I got to meet a lot of nice people who all had very nice things to say. My belle and her family gave me a tour of town afterwards. All the food I had there was amazing. I am very grateful and thankful I got a chance to go to Whiteville with CMA this year. It was definitely a highlight of my year. I think I will head down to Whiteville next year for the festival if I can get out of school." *Written by Austin King*

Suzanne King, one of the organizers, writes, "The presence of the Camden Military Cadets at our 25th N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival was the highlight of the event. They are a great representative of the Academy. The cadets, under the wonderful direction of Mr. John Heflin, for the last 15 years has been an exciting and memorable time. We thank your school for allowing the cadets to participate each year."

The N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival advertises that since 1993, it has been celebrating the "Superior Nut." From a celebrity queen, Camden Cadets and Pecan Belles to showing off Whiteville's most distinguished houses, the festival offers something for everyone. On Saturday, the festival begins with a fantastic parade and then a free street fair for everyone, sights, tastes and entertainment. Food and craft vendors from all over NC/SC, a fun Kids Block, a spectacular Car Show and live entertainment throughout the day. There is also a wildlife exhibition at the NC Forestry Museum for folks of all ages. And best of all, there will be pecans galore, from pies to pecan ice cream to whole and shared pecans to take home or share.

Cadets participating this year shown below in top picture (Sitting L-R) Wyatt Hart and Nick Furlow; (Standing L-R) Austin King, Colby Frederick, Philip Dine, Justin Wilson, Devan McKee, Michael Hanlon.



## The Headmaster is 60

At CMA, our headmaster, Eric Boland, recently celebrated his 60th birthday (I hope the boss doesn't mind me putting that in print)! A surprise party was planned for him. We were careful not to let him have any idea but we attempted to reach past students and players that Col./Coach/Dr. Boland had impacted over the years. The response was amazing! Former cadets and students flocked back to CMA to celebrate his milestone birthday. There were plenty of experiences shared that day from Col Boland and former cadets. Numerous stories of the positive influence Col. Boland had on so many young men during his 34 years at the academy were told. He actually still communicates with many of them to this day. Occasionally, we may be in a meeting and Col. Boland will receive a call from a former student asking for advice, inviting him to a graduation or a wedding or even sharing the birth of their children. It is amazing to see the admiration so many former cadets from all across the world has for this mentor at our academy.

*By Casey Robinson*



Shown above are COL Boland's surprised reaction and Celia Boland; left are alumni from CMA Class of 2003, Devin Hill and Terrance King who were on the 2002 undefeated football team.



Left is Russell Dickerson, CMA'73, and Bobby Ingram, CMA'71 who accidentally met each other at a recent basketball game. They were good football players "back in the day" and hadn't seen each other in over 46 years.



**South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson** took time out of his busy schedule to visit Camden Military Academy in October and speak to the corps of cadets. He was also accompanied by Jeffrey Young, his Chief Deputy. He began by stating that his office is that of the top legal officer in South Carolina. His experience is based on his personal, military, and professional life. His office is the defender of the Constitution, with 90 lawyers under him, and they have collected \$100-200 million in fines, penalties and restitution from criminals for the State of South Carolina.

The Attorney General's Office is the oldest office in South Carolina, as it began with the King of England's commission of Nicholas Trott in 1698 to deal with pirates.

Attorney General Wilson is also a Colonel in the Army National Guard and JAG Senior lawyer in the military. In his personal life, he started as an Eagle Scout. "Leadership is not about the perks and benefits," he told cadets. "When you're in a leadership position, it's really about serving those people who have placed you in that position." He was the youngest over a platoon and his job was to take human capital and train and staff and resource the unit to be the best. Coaching sports is the same in that coaches create the culture for leadership. When elected as the youngest top lawyer in the state, it was his job to recruit and train staff members. Things that are taught at CMA, such as leadership abilities, will go with cadets the rest of their lives. It's a place for better leaders because of their commitment to school, family and church. Others may be involved, but not committed. How you act in the process makes a difference--100% committed and being all in.

Part of his job encompasses something that's a real interest with the cadets, as well as most teens these days: the use of phones, pads, and computers, and it's of interest to him because of internet crimes against children. That is why the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force was created - to patrol the internet for the people who are out to do harm. Social media can be dangerous to children and teens because of predators that use it to find their victims.

He stated that, besides the threat of predators, the internet can ruin people -- especially the younger generation. He explained that if inappropriate sexual material of themselves or friends is on a phone, they could face charges of possession of child porn, with prison sentences of 2 years up to 10 years. Also, if videos are taken of foolishness or being stupid, reputations could be destroyed.

Nothing goes away with social media. Irresponsible use and cyber-bullying ruin lives and cause destruction of life. It can also destroy careers, since employers look at social media profiles.

Use the "Granny Rule" if posting online, which is asking yourself whether you would want your grandmother to see what you're about to post. He told cadets, "You decide your own futures. Think of it like a thermostat that you can control, not like the thermometer which only reflects the current temperature. The thermostat changes the environment or situation." He challenged cadets to be a thermostat. "Change for the better, be committed, and maintain character, leadership, positive attitude, and integrity."

He took time to answer questions that several cadets asked during and after the assembly, along with posing for pictures.

Shown below (l-r) are cadets Mike Barker, Chris Verderber, Yohann Offredo, Attorney General Wilson, Jack Furlow, and Matthew Rush.



## Seniors Receive Class Rings

On November 17, 2017 the senior cadets received their class rings from Colonel Eric Boland before the Thanksgiving break began. Colonel Boland always speaks to the young gentlemen during this particular service about one of the first steps in getting to the graduation process and beyond.

"When the practice started of men wearing rings is anybody's guess. Men have worn rings for various reasons all throughout history.

The tradition that started wearing of rings on the third finger of the right hand started in the 12th century with knights of a noble birth. They believed that wearing the ring in this position would give them double strength and God speed.

The wearing of class rings first started in 1835 at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

The tradition of class rings at Camden Military Academy started in 1958. A Camden Military Academy ring is meant to represent success and brotherhood of a special class.

We have talked a lot this year about brotherhood. Once you receive this ring you will be part of a brotherhood of men who have received similar rings for 59 years. And membership in this brotherhood brings responsibility.

You have a responsibility to do good and to live and share the life lessons that you have learned here from the people around you. Our responsibility is not to do for you, but teach you to do for yourself. You have a responsibility to live out the bonds that you have made with your classmates and to always be there for them.

When you look at the stone, think of it as a window into the past and the present. Look out later and look in later.

Wear your ring proudly and let it always remind you that you are part of something special. And that something is bigger than you as an individual. If the light goes out, then know it can be rekindled.

To the class of 2018, I want to say to you that my hope for you is when people lay burdens on your shoulders, when mountains must be climbed and difficult roads travelled, and when hope can scarcely shine forth, that you will always find a friend who you can trust, who has your back and will weather the storm with you, and that friend is in this place. And he will also wear the ring."

(Shown below with Colonel Boland are (clockwise) cadets Yohann Offredo, Andrew Levine, Mike Barker, Amadou Diabate and Matthew Rush.)





## BoeingSC DreamLearners

By Cadet Bloggers

Thank you for choosing me to go on this amazing trip to Charleston to witness how Boeing manufactures, sells, researches, and tests their planes. The in class activity using an actual budget and making an "Airplane" taught us the many costs that go into making an Airplane. Any and everyone who participate in the making of the plane need to be paid, including pilots, managers, mechanics, etc. Also I learned that Boeing airplanes and just all airplanes in general are EXTREMELY expensive. Just their smallest plane can set you back 250 million dollars, not including gasoline and the cost of maintaining said airplane. I also learned that not all airplanes come the exact same way, as I would expect considering how perfect everything in an airplane needs to be in order to fly. The example mentioned was that someone actually tried to fit an airplane with a skating ramp for his son, which is an incredible thing to include on an airplane.

During the video outlining the basic interior of the plane, I was amazed at how comfortable even the basic class looks. From personal experience, plane rides have not been the highlight of any trip, to put it into nice terms. With these Boeing planes, it looks like even the longest flights can render comfort to passengers with reclining chairs, touch screens, and built in wifi.

Again, thank you (CMA) for including me on this trip and I hope you will consider me for other educational trips in the future.

Jackson Lewis



The trip to the Boeing Plant was very informational and entertaining. My group learned about the Boeing company and how their planes are made. We were able to witness the actual manufacturing of the famous Dreamliner series. After we learned about the assembly process, we completed a fun exercise. We were broken up into teams, where each member was designated a certain job. The task was to put together an effective airplane that could fly far and compile the costs of the process. My team was the winning section of our group! Our teamwork and knowledge combined to complete a special experience. The trip was a great learning experience, and a way for young men to learn more skills to become successful. Our day was great, and my only complaint is that our visit to Charleston went by so fast.

Nicolo Pucciarelli



Shown above are team winners (l-r) cadets Ryan McMakin, Kyler McCaskill, Maxwell Herrick, William Smith, Nicolo Pucciarelli, Nick Yearack, and Jonathan Cyrus.

**The Martin Luther King** program at CMA started as they usually do with the posting of the colors and the cadet corps singing "America the Beautiful." Chaplain Timothy Hunter gave the invocation. Colonel Eric Boland introduced his former student and friend. He told the cadets that Ricardo Priester scored the highest number of points in a game ever recorded at the academy. That is, until, "Coach Priester" came back to CMA to teach and coach a young man named Larry Blair. Blair topped his record for the highest number of points scored in a game.

Coach Ricardo Priester (CMA'94) spoke to the corps of cadets for the Martin Luther King Day program at Camden Military Academy on January 15, 2018. He started with the phrase that he felt "Back Home."

He thanks God for the opportunity given him to pursue his dreams and to be given the hope to get them started here. He thanks his parents every day that they made the choice to send him to CMA and is grateful every day for their love, their sacrifice, and their support to get him to Camden. He told the cadets to never take your parents or loved ones for granted. They only want to help you to reach your dreams and goals and it started at CMA with him.

As a lot of the cadets who attend here, he didn't want to be here. But he found that it changed the course of his life forever. "Coach" and Mrs. Boland are like his second parents and John Heflin and Speedy Johnson always had his best interests at heart with their guidance and mentorship.

Ricardo emphasized that the cadets must always have HOPE and FAITH and always WORK for their dreams. He said he will always remember the words that Colonel Lanning Risher would repeat in his talks with the corps, "Right is right if nobody does it. Wrong is wrong if everybody does it."

The following article was printed last year about our alumnus, Ricardo Priester.

### The People Sentinel

By Laura McKenzie

April 21, 2017

A basketball makes a special sound as it is bounced, its rhythm changing with the pace of the athlete and the texture of the floor surface. It doesn't foretell greatness. It just responds to its handler.

The sound of the dribble seems loud to an 11-year-old alone on the courts of Fuller Park but is easily drowned out by the cheers of University of South Carolina fans at the Final Four.

With each bounce is a heartbeat. "One team, one goal, one heartbeat" is the motto of Ricardo Priester who shot baskets for hours at Fuller Park as a youth with his buddies from Barnwell Arms Apartments. It gained rhythm at Guinyard-Butler Middle School under the guidance of Everett Jenkins and Barnwell High School under the late Chip Atkins.

During his last semester of tenth grade, Priester's parents, Willie James and Rhonda Priester, made the tough decision to send their only child to Camden Military Academy. "I was slacking off in school work. My parents saw an opportunity. It was tough at the time but, looking back, it was the best thing that ever happened to me," said Priester.

Camden Military Academy gave Priester the opportunity to concentrate and "lock-in" both academically and as an athlete. Eric Boland worked with Priester on his attitude and skills.

Priester excelled. He earned All-State honors, was named Conference Player of the Year both in 1992-93 and 1993-94, was 1st Team All-Conference two years in a row and named the S.C. Independent School Player of the Year in 1993.

He earned a full basketball scholarship to Wingate University in Wingate, N.C. More practice, more shots, more guidance, more dedication, more opportunity. It was there under coach Jeff Reynolds that he learned that basketball is a brotherhood, a family. "He taught me that there are two things in life you can control – your attitude and your effort. I learned to compete but never settle for less than my best. To fall short of your best is a tragedy."

"I wanted respect," said Priester, but learned that respect had to be earned. "I first learned that from my grandmother and my parents; then, from my coaches and teachers."

It was also at Wingate that he took a class under a softball coach who made her students come up with a coaching philosophy. "She made me put it all together," Priester said. "Before then, I had never planned on being a coach. It opened doors for me."

One team, one goal, one heartbeat.

After college Priester would attend workouts with the Charlotte Hornets, play with the Union County Slam with XBA in Charlotte and then play pro ball in Bonn, Germany and Bydgoszcz, Poland.

While the sound of bouncing balls was never distant thunder, Priester also enhanced his education, finishing both undergraduate and grad school. "Education is a life-long journey," said Priester last week. "It gave me opportunities as a student athlete and as a teacher."

Yes, teacher.

(continued on page 9)



## How was your 2017?

By Casey Robinson  
Admissions Director



Did you keep your new year's resolutions? Did you exceed the goals that you set for yourself? Like many of you, as one year ends and a new one begins, CMA is reflecting on the past year and looking ahead to the next and Camden Military Academy is looking forward to an exciting 2018! In the past year, CMA achieved many significant goals. There were many physical, facility improvements including the installation of permanent bleachers at the football field, new furniture in many of the barracks and the completion of our crown jewel project—a new \$2 million, 2-story barracks! The academy also reached and maintained capacity for the first time since the recession. The future looks very bright! As we begin 2018, I wanted to share some of our goals for the new year - Camden Military's new year resolutions.

Most importantly, in order to have a school, you must have students. Interest in our military boarding school remains very high. In fact, inquiries into the academy is at an all-time high. Additionally, there is a waiting list to enter the Official Military Academy of South Carolina. This academic year we have set an enrollment record with cadets attending from nearly 40 states. Additionally, interest in CMA continues to grow globally as well. Currently in the 2017-18 school year, we have over 16 countries represented in the cadet corps and word continues to spread about a premier military boarding school located in our small, historical, charming town in South Carolina. We hope to build on the interest and enrollment momentum that began in 2017.

The academy is looking forward to additional campus enhancements as well. Landscaping around the newest barrack will begin soon. Academy officials are hard at work to determine the vegetation to be planted and work will begin as soon as the weather is optimal for planting. In addition, vibrant new, easy to read signage is also on its way to CMA. Our current signage is very adequate but sometimes

is hard to read in the pre-dawn or dusk hours. Our goal is to have a beautiful entrance to our campus with clear signage directing our visitors to the various buildings and activities of our campus.

When you look to the future, you never want to forget the past. Camden Military Academy has a large alumni network which also includes the graduates of Camden Academy and Carlisle Military School. However, our alumni network is largely inactive. Increasing our alumni networks and increasing alumni involvement will benefit the academy and the current cadets. The academy has produced many notable and highly influential alums and it is vital for our current cadets to hear from these individuals as to how CMA helped shape them into who they are today. Therefore, a goal of 2018 is to actually honor the past!

Have you ever noticed the Camden Military cadets' involvement in the local community? You may have seen our band or color guard at numerous parades and events but our students give back in a variety of ways. Our cadets host the Special Olympics of Kershaw County each year in addition to providing volunteers at Food For The Soul, escorts at pageants, volunteering at numerous public school and community festivals participating in a variety of roles from valets to security. In our newest and most recent endeavor, a group of cadets recently participated in the 2017 Kershaw County Trick or Treat Trail, winning second place in the decorated booth contest. Although our cadets are already deeply involved in serving our community, we look to increase our involvement even more.

The facility projects, increased attendance and community service of 2017 were awesome. However, we realize that there is always the potential to better oneself and that is exactly what CMA will seek to accomplish in the upcoming year while maintaining our strong commitment to academic excellence and helping each young man at our academy achieve his true potential in school and life. As eventful and accomplished as 2017 was for CMA (and I hope it was for you as well), I am hoping for an even more momentous 2018 for both you and Camden Military Academy!

(continued from page 8)

Priester, 41, is the Literacy Arts and Life Skills teacher as well as head basketball coach at Lancaster High School although he started as a second grade teacher. He's been there since 2005 and is considered to be one of the top basketball coaches in South Carolina.

It is at Lancaster that Priester is able to take all the love and guidance from his family, coaches and teachers and funnel them into young athletes. One such athlete is Sindarius Thornwell.

Thornwell arrived late on the first day of practice. He had an attitude of superiority and cockiness about him. "He was good but we weren't going to tell him that," recalled Priester.

Priester sent him back to the locker room to take off his jersey and go home. Thornwell hadn't earned his right to be on the team.

The next day Thornwell returned and asked to play. He worked to earn his place on the team.

"He is an outstanding young man but very competitive. We'd bump heads because of his competitiveness."

Priester coached Thornwell for three years, teaching him about what it means to be a part of one team, to have one goal, to feel one heartbeat. Thornwell transferred to Oak Hill Academy his senior year and then went to the University of South Carolina....

"Adversity brings out the best in you," said Priester. "It's not all about the mistakes you make. It's about your response."

That work shaped an athlete that became an integral part of the USC men's basketball team, averaging 21.4 points per game and 7.1 rebound points per game.

Last month at the Sweet 16 playoffs, Thornwell contributed 24 points. At the Elite 8, he scored 26 points. At the Final Four, he contributed 15 points.

And even though the Gamecocks were eliminated by Gonzaga in the Final Four, Thornwell would be selected as the SEC Player of the Year.

For Priester, it was special. One team, one goal, one heartbeat. He felt it.

He also knows Thornwell is a great student who has earned SEC All-Academic honors four years in a row with a high GPA.

Thornwell isn't the only great athlete Priester has guided as a large number of his students have gone on to get scholarships and some have even had a chance to play pro ball.

But for Priester, the goal is not only athleticism, but education.

"There are a lot of great players who never get the chance to play in the Final Four. "Everyone can achieve an education. That is the great equalizer. I'm living proof of that."

"I want to keep making a difference in the lives of others. It's not only what they achieve. I want to see what kind of husbands and fathers they become," said Priester.

That's something Priester will find out soon for himself. In May, Priester and Renee Meyrose expect the birth of their son, Ricardo Marquis Priester II. A new heartbeat.

They came from their home in Charlotte to Barnwell just before Easter to see family and friends, to reconnect.

For Ricardo Priester, Barnwell is a place where he will always find one team, one goal and one heartbeat.

It's home.

**Shown below left to right are cadets Jack Furlow, Matthew Rush, Deven McKee, Nick Wilson, Ricardo Priester, and Chaplain Hunter.**





## CMA Alumnus, Will Mitchell, featured as Coach of the Week

South Mint Street

Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: 704-358-7000 Fax: 704-358-7618

### Carolina Panthers Announce

#### Lewisville High School's Will Mitchell as Coach of the Week

Charlotte – The Carolina Panthers and Toshiba are proud to announce the selection of Coach Will Mitchell of Lewisville High School (Richburg, SC) as a recipient of the team's High School Coach of the Week honor for the 2017 season. Coach Mitchell is in his sixth season as the Lion's head football coach.

Mitchell took the reins of the Lewisville football team in 2011 to find the program in a downward spiral. The weight room equipment, practice fields, and uniforms were in poor condition and the team morale wasn't far behind. Mitchell fundraised enough money to help furnish updated equipment and uniforms. The players grew as a team by participating in passing tournaments and senior exposure camps during that initial summer. After a challenging start of rebuilding a program with a storied history, Mitchell has put the Lions back on the winning track by making the state playoffs every year. Last season, he led his team to the third round of the playoffs and the Lions are currently ranked third in the South Carolina Class A polls.

Mitchell has been instrumental in the energy that has resurfaced in Richburg. His teams are active participants in Richburg's local civic events. He has implemented a senior leadership program with all rising seniors in his program in which they participate in a series of leadership conferences, while also serving as mentors to local elementary school students. He played a vital role in the development of the Lewisville Hall of Fame, which has generated a great deal of community involvement and pride. In addition, Mitchell, along with other surrounding high school coaches, started a College Fair in which college coaches visit Richburg to watch film and review transcripts of college prospects from local high schools.

In recognition of Coach Mitchell's contributions to his school and community, the Carolina Panthers and Toshiba will donate \$1,000 to Lewisville High School to support the school's athletic department. Coach Mitchell and the other 2017 Carolina Panthers High School Coach of the Week honorees will be recognized when the Panthers take on the Green Bay Packers later this season.

The 2017 High School Coach of the Week program presented by Toshiba is a joint initiative of the Carolina Panthers and the National Football League. The program is designed to recognize North and South Carolina high school coaches who make positive impacts in the lives of their student-athletes and their school communities, while promoting player health and safety.

All High School football coaches throughout the Carolinas are encouraged to apply for the High School Football Coach of the week program, regardless of size, division, organization or league. Evaluations of coaches are based off impact towards their community, schools, and individuals.

For more information on the efforts these coaches make both on and off the field, please contact McKayla Sanders at 704-358-7834 or [mckayla.sanders@panthers.nfl.com](mailto:mckayla.sanders@panthers.nfl.com).

Pictured below are CMA alumnus, John Mitchell, CMA Class of 1964, with his son, Will, CMA Class of 1989.



## Carlisle Military School Reunion "We are Carlisle" In Bamberg, SC Saturday, April 14, 2018

As we head into the "homestretch" for our April 14th Commemoration and Reunion a majority of the major issues to make for a successful event have been addressed. What remains are a host of details which will be worked and sorted out in the coming weeks. It is planned to provide additional updates to, at least one per month, to keep everyone well informed.

There are really only two critical issues that all of us need to participate in to make sure this event is not just successful, but memorable:

**Registration. It is highly desired that all who plan to attend please pre-register.** By sending in your registration it helps the planning committee make the appropriate allocations of funds to support this event (luncheon, and ordering hats, lapel pins, printing of programs, and pre-printed name tags). Moreover, it will insure registered attendees are able to pass through our reception process hassle-free. Walk-ins, on the other-hand, may face the possibility of waiting in line (to hand-write their own name tags or to purchase a hat/lapel pin, and lunch as we'll not be able to accept credit cards and only a limited ability to make change). Furthermore, if there are too many walk-ins, we may come up short on our planned estimate for excess number of seats for lunch (or other items that need to be ordered and paid for in advance). Again, the address to send in your registration fee (\$35 and \$15 per guest) / donation is:

**WE ARE CARLISLE  
PO Box 249  
Bamberg, SC 29003**

**Outreach.** Up until the day of the event we ask all Carlisle men to take every opportunity in spreading the word about this event - and provide assistance to any Carlisle man who may not have access to the internet. This entails providing them the basic information such as date/time/place, as well as the address for them to send in their registration fee or donation. Additionally, please obtain their contact information - even if only their address and telephone number - and submit it back to [carlislereunion2018@gmail.com](mailto:carlislereunion2018@gmail.com)

Here is a general schedule/flow of events (please note there may be some minor adjustments as Bamberg finalizes all their events and participants - but should not have any significant impact on us). The following should allow you the information needed to plan your travel. **Bamberg, SC on April 14th, 2018**

9:00 am - Reception desk will be officially open at the Job Corps Center (map will be provided later) - but we will have at least one committee member on the Job Corps campus and available to assist any early arrivals.

10:00 am - Parade begins (participants begin lining up at 9 am) - full route will be provided in a later update, but it will progress down Carlisle Street and end up at our old parade ground (now Bamberg's sports complex). Bamberg is planning other events, such as groundbreaking for their Veterans Memorial Walkway (where the Carlisle plaque will be eventually placed) immediately following the parade, details TBD.

12:00 noon - Commemoration Program begins at the Job Corps Center to include the unveiling/dedication of the Carlisle plaque (list of speakers TBD)

1:00 pm - Luncheon at Bamberg First Baptist Church (next door on Carlisle St); performance by Camden Military Drill Team (exact time before/after lunch TBD); walk around tours of Job Corps Center and surviving Carlisle buildings

3:00 pm - Bugle call to assembly (same spot cadets used to form at Carlisle); Alma Mater; "Echo" Taps; conclusion of program. NOTE: We would like to know if there are any former Carlisle buglers who would be willing to volunteer.

3:30/4 pm - Laying of wreath at gravesite for James F. Risher (South End Cemetery - less than 1/2 mile from Job Corps Center down S. Carlisle St.). Any and all who are willing to attend before they depart Bamberg.



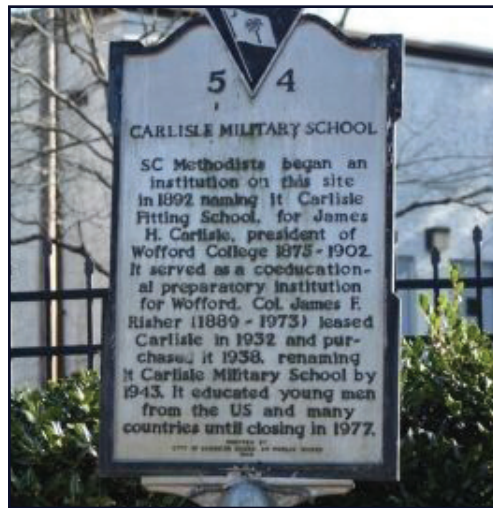
## PASS IN REVIEW

**Camden and Carlisle Friend, Nick Tucker**, passed away in July 2017. Nicholas Unger Tucker, Carlisle Military School, class of 1952, was a member of the CMA Board of Trustees and supported the school as a Gold Knight of the Excalibur Society, which is a lifetime donor of over \$100,000.

In 2005, he received the Camden Military Academy Service Award for his love for the school, his valuable expertise to the Board of Trustees, and friendship for both Carlisle and CMA alumni. He once said, "I believe strongly in what Camden is doing today to preserve the Carlisle legacy and help young men."

Nick lived in Myrtle Beach, SC, where he established a successful real estate development business and was an instrumental figure in property development along the Grand Strand. He enjoyed hunting and flying his own plane to favorite adventures throughout the country. He was known by most as "Great Nut," the endearing term that his grandchildren called him.

He will be sorely missed and his signature "Do Good" farewell was always at the end of his departure from a phone call or visit.



### Carlisle Reunion Committee Members

CMS 1961 – Bob Dennis - rgdebbus2033@gmail.com – 843-709-2033

CMS 1964 – Doug Truluck – doug@truluck.net – 843-696-2122

CMS 1965 – Bill Garbini – billgarbini@gmail.com  
or landbarbini@comcast.net – 843-607-1258

CMS 1965 – Charlie Mitchell – jcmjr46@att.net – 843-345-2637

CMS 1965 – Bob VanNess – 843-478-7347

CMS 1965 – George Benton – bentonshell@gmail.com – 803-245-5298

CMS 1966 – Jerry Counihan – jerrycounihan@yahoo.com – 912-656-0917

CMS 1967 – William "Billy" Hamilton – hamiltonfurn@lowcountry.com – 843-635-1713

CMS 1969 – Glenn B. Kudlevicz – dawgdozefarm@aol.com – 843-870-1374

CMS 1972 – Danny Anderson – sparkedan@aol.com – 843-830-0271

CMS 1972 – Robert Humphries – rkilja@yahoo.com

**ATTENTION ALL CMA ALUMNI!** If you are interested in a gathering at Myrtle Beach, SC, please contact Ricky Rygg. His email is rickrygg@aol.com or send message to PO Box 10280, Southport, NC 28461. Doesn't matter what class you were in. It's a start of the planning process.



**Eugene Varn Risher, CMS'50**, passed away in August 2017. He was born in Bamberg, SC, and son of the Late Colonel James F. Risher, and Emma Jane Varn Risher.

After graduating from Carlisle and The Citadel, he did graduate work at the University of Edinburgh and attended Harvard University as a Nieman Fellow. He served in the US Army for two years before beginning his career as a journalist with the Charleston Evening Post. He later became affiliated with United Press International, and also served as its Bureau Chief in Vietnam and as UPI White House Correspondent for Presidents Nixon and Ford.

His brother, Colonel William "Billy" Risher, CMS'44, was the headmaster of Carlisle Military School from 1958-1977. His brother, Colonel Lanning P. Risher (CMS'48), was headmaster of Camden Military Academy from 1958-1995 and is currently serving on its Board of Trustees.

### The Administration

When we hear someone say "Building men for the future of America," we instantly think of the man who has made this ideal his life's work.

Col. James F. Risher, our President, has been molding boys' characters since he first started teaching at Carlisle Military School in 1924. He enlarged his opportunities in 1939 by purchasing the school, and again in 1958 by acquiring CMA.

It can truly be said that South Carolina is in his debt for "making men out of boys" and providing them with an education they might never have received.

(1967 CMA Excalibur Yearbook) Col. Risher visited CMA frequently and spoke to the corps in the dining hall.



### PASSED AWAY

Walter Raymond, Gerich, Walkinsburg, PA, CMS'38

William H. Varn, Jr., Smoaks, SC, CMS'40

Wyatt Edgar Propst, Moncks Corner, SC, CMS'46

John Peter Manos, Murrells Inlet, SC, CMS'48

Eugene Varn Risher, Alexandria, VA, CMS'50

Nicholas Unger Tucker, Myrtle Beach, SC, CMS'52

Rev. James Elmo Hunter, Greenville, SC, CMS'53

Hubert K. Leonhardt, Matthews, NC, CMS'53

William Parker Miller, Quinby, SC, CMS'53

Robert B. Paine, Jr., Hartsville, SC, CMS'53

Thomas Edwin Wilson, Savannah, GA, CMS'53

Joel Moore Hunter, Molena GA, CMS'54

William Long Metts, Waynesville, NC, CMS'54

James R. Shiell, Ridgeville, SC, CMS'54

Charles Frederick Collins, Viera, FL, CMS'56

Robert Eugene Gordon, Grand Junction, CO, CMS'57

William R. Clayton, Carlsbad, CA, CMS'58

Reginal Gooding Smith, Hampton, SC, CMS'58

George Washington Emerson, Jr., Kannapolis, NC, CMS'59

Joseph Roland Fagan, Bamberg, SC, CMS'61

Louis Dehaven Pace, Winona, MN, CMS'63

Wayne Marvin Thigpen, Pawleys Island, SC, CMA'63

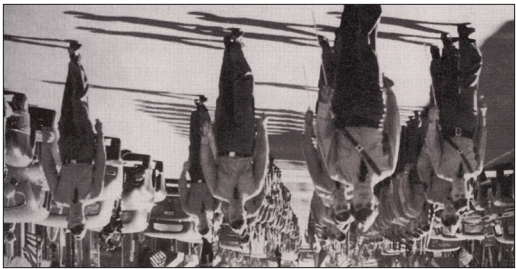
Thornton Odell Lane, Jr., Myrtle Beach, SC CMA'64

John William Peat, Brighton, MI, CMS'66

Richard E. O'Dell, Roanoke, VA, CMA'66



**The Cadets are coming back to Bamberg...** see page 10 for details for the upcoming, all classes of Carlisle reunion in BAMBERG, SC. The committee has asked for the Camden Military Academy Color Guard, Band, and Blackjacks drill team to participate in a one time celebration for the attendees of Carlisle Military School.



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CARLISLE  
Fall/Winter 2017-2018

## 2017 HOMECOMING AT CMA



It was an honor for Camden Military Academy to recognize three former employees during the homecoming parade on October 28, 2017. As with the majority of the long term employees at CMA, they all held a special admiration and friendship by the headmaster, Colonel Eric Boland, and the staff and faculty of the academy.

Each one of them was presented a bouquet of flowers from a cadet and a special "retirement clock" with the CMA brass hat Coat of Arms from Colonel Boland.

Priscilla Dawn Robinson received her award first. She was the head bookkeeper from September 1, 1990 - December 31, 2016. Her daughter, Rhea, married a CMA alumnus, Jonathan Van Houten (CMA'94), and their two daughters have had the privilege of having an on-hands grandmother around whenever she was needed.

Magnolia McCoy was then recognized with her bouquet of flowers and retirement clock. She worked in the dining facility as the Assistant Food Director from March 18, 1993 - August 30, 2017. She assisted in feeding thousands of young gentlemen under 3 headmasters, Colonel William Orris, and Colonel Boland.

Sylvia J. Watkins was the third young lady recognized. She also was in our dining hall working with all the young cadets from February 14, 2006 - August 16, 2017. Her quiet personality and caring smile made her a pleasure to work with. Her son, James, still works on campus under the leadership of Billy Watford.



CAMDEN-CARLISLE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
CAMDEN MILITARY ACADEMY  
520 HIGHWAY 1 NORTH  
CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA 29020



The Carlisle-Camden tradition means honor, integrity, standing for what is right and for what is fair. It means being loyal to our country, to our fellow man, and to our God. And, more importantly, it means instilling these values in the young men of the corps of cadets of Camden Military Academy today. . . . It is interesting and rewarding to watch a boy who comes to us with little self-esteem, no leadership ability, and no defined system of values grow into a fine young man who can stand before a crowd, express himself clearly, be sure of his values, and stand up for what is right. . . . The hundred years from 1892 that we now celebrate would be meaningless were it not for the cadets of today. And without these cadets, the next hundred years would not even be a consideration. . . . They are the centerpiece of the Academy and of the whole Carlisle-Camden tradition.