

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY YELLOW JACKET BATTALION



Reserve Officers' Training Corps

Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Friday, October 9, 2015

11:00 a.m.

F. S. Belcher Theatre

John W. Davis Fine Arts Auditorium

Institute, WV



Historical Sketch of West Virginia State University ROTC

The second Morrill Act of 1890 made training in agriculture and mechanical arts available to African-American citizens. Section four of the Morrill Act required military training as part of the curriculum. West Virginia responded on March 17, 1891, by enacting legislation to create a special land-grant institution for African-Americans. Federal funds provided \$3,000 for faculty salaries, and the West Virginia Legislature appropriated \$10,000 to purchase a farm and build a school building on the land. The institution was founded as the West Virginia Colored Institute.

Although not specifically included in the West Virginia Legislative Act, military training was conducted during the school's first year. The ROTC Department opened shortly after the establishment of a military corps in 1899. In 1915, West Virginia Colored Institute was renamed the West Virginia Collegiate Institute. In 1929, the college changed its name to West Virginia State College. In 2004, the college received university status and was renamed West Virginia State University. Military training continued at the college from 1899 until present with the exception of temporary suspensions from 1907-1916 and 1920-1942.

From its beginnings until 1915 the institution offered the equivalent of a high school education with a curriculum devoted primarily to agriculture, trades and teacher education. In 1915, the school was given the authority to award college degrees requiring instruction in Mathematics, Chemistry, French and English. The first college degrees were awarded in 1919.

Much of the credit for establishing the present Senior ROTC program goes to Mr. Daniel P. Lincoln and Professor Daniel L. Ferguson. Their success in conducting voluntary military training early in World War II kept alive the War Department's recognition of the college's desire to continue the ROTC program.

In 1942, LTC Payton Winlock established a Senior ROTC unit to provide instruction in Field Artillery. Artillery was taught until 1956 when the department was designated a General Military Science Program. Graduates could now be commissioned into any of the Army's 18 branches of service.

With the 1954 Supreme Court decision, *Brown v. the Board of Education*, West Virginia State College was propelled from a small, historically-black college to a racially integrated one. Program offerings expanded and new ones have developed as the college kept pace with the demands of students and the needs of the larger community. In 1970, the Military Science Department acquired elective status and ceased to be a mandatory program for all male students.

2015 ROTC Hall of Fame Induction Program

Master of Ceremony.....Cadet Enya Williams

Prelude..... West Virginia State University Wind Ensemble
Dr. Scott Woodard, Director

Arrival of Official Party –

National Anthem..... West Virginia State University Wind Ensemble

Invocation..... Cadet Aaron Thompkins

Welcome & Introductory Remarks.....Lt. Col. Derrick T. Spears
Professor of Military Science

PRESENTATION OF INDUCTEES AND RESPONDENTS

Captain George Coleman, (Posthumously)
Presented by: Lt. Col. (Retired) Henry Bellinger

Captain Roland Belcher, (Posthumously)
Presented by: Lt. Col. (Retired) Henry Bellinger

Closing Remarks.....Dr. Brian O. Hemphill
University President

Alma Mater..... West Virginia State University Wind Ensemble

Army Song..... West Virginia State University Wind Ensemble

Postlude..... West Virginia State University Wind Ensemble

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

WE WILL ALL CONVENE AT THE FERGUSON-LINCOLN BUILDING, RM. 111

WVSU ROTC Program Update and ReceptionLt. Col. Derrick T. Spears

Captain Roland Belcher

Class of 1963

Captain Roland U. Belcher was born on June 8, 1941 to Jack Belcher and Mary Catherine (Belcher) Hawkins, in Red Jacket, W.Va. He was the second of three children. Growing up, Captain Belcher displayed military qualities at a very young age. He was always trying to command his older sister, Libby Jean Belcher, to do house chores or be a guardian over his younger sister, Gaynell (Belcher) Whaley. He also had a way of bringing people together and leading them. That was evident by his lifelong friendship with Bobby Whaley, who not only became Captain Belcher's brother-in-law but also followed him into military service. Captain Belcher was educated in the West Virginia school system. He originally began his high school education at Liberty High School and completed it at Magnolia High School in Matewan, W.Va. During his time in high school Captain Belcher was active in sports, social clubs and even found time to play the drums for the high school band.

Upon completion of high school, Captain Belcher attended West Virginia State College (WVSC) where he was very active in the ROTC program and swim team, of which he became team captain. During his time in college, Captain Belcher experienced the joy of fatherhood for the first time with the birth of his beautiful daughter, Pamela. Upon graduating from State in 1963, he received his commission and went into the Army as a Second Lieutenant. He completed his basic training at Ft. Benning, Ga., before being transferred to Erlanger, Germany in 1964. Prior to his transfer, Captain Belcher married his high school sweetheart, Deborah Yvonne (Taylor) Belcher. She, too, followed Captain Belcher to Germany, and it was there that she gave birth to their son, Roland Belcher, II. Captain Belcher was stationed in Erlanger for three years. During that time, he was company commander of 196th Light Infantry Brigade. As company commander Captain Belcher received numerous awards and commendations for his outstanding service. He was sent to Vietnam in July 1967. Sadly, two weeks before the Tet Offensive on January 9, 1968, Captain Belcher along with most of his troops, were killed in a fire fight. Captain Belcher and his troops' actions are detailed in the book, "Through the Valley," by James F. Humphries. After his death, a memorial was erected for him at the Army base in Erlanger, Germany. He was buried in the National Cemetery located in Philadelphia, Pa. His name can also be found on Panel 34E, Row 4 of the Vietnam Memorial located in Washington, DC. During Captain Belcher's tenure in the Army, he was awarded the Silver Star Citation; the Purple Heart; the Army Commendation Medal; the National Defense Service Medal; the Vietnam Campaign Medal; the Vietnam Service Medal; the Vietnam Campaign Ribbon; the Combat Infantry Badge; and the Parachutist Badge.

Captain Belcher is survived by his daughter Pamela Moran (Bo) Melton; son Roland (Beryl Elizabeth) Belcher, II; and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of friends.

Captain George Coleman

Class of 1962

Captain George Coleman was born August 2, 1937 in Birmingham, Ala. the fifth of eight children born to Will Matthew Coleman and Norma Coleman. Captain Coleman attended Ullman High School in Birmingham, where he played varsity football. Although he was an above average student, Captain Coleman left school and enlisted in the U.S Army in 1954. His travels in the military included an assignment in South Korea. After completing his military duties, Captain Coleman enrolled in the Greene County Training School in Greene County, Ala. where he excelled academically, played football and basketball. He received his high school diploma in May 1958.

As a teenager, Captain Coleman was mentored by Rev. John Wesley Rice, Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Ala. and father of former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Rev. Rice advised Captain Coleman to continue his education at West Virginia State College.

Captain Coleman enrolled at West Virginia State College in September 1958 and majored in political science. He was inducted into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in the fall of 1959 and was a member of the WVSC football team for three years, playing the positions of quarterback and defensive back.

Due to his desire to resume a career in the military, Captain Coleman enrolled in the Army ROTC Advanced Course at WVSC and received his commission in 1962.

He was stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga. and received his Special Forces training at Ft. Bragg, NC. He received additional training at Ft. Gordon in Augusta, Ga. In June 1967, Captain Coleman was deployed to Vietnam for a 13 month tour of duty. He was killed on May 13, 1968, after 11 months in Vietnam as the result of mortar fire while stationed with a signal battalion. He received the Purple Heart and numerous other meritorious awards and medals.

While in the military, Captain Coleman traveled throughout the country spending much of his leave time visiting with family and friends and mentoring young people who came to him for guidance.

Captain Coleman married Wanda Springs on July 31, 1965, and as a result of this union two children were born. George Michael Coleman is an account executive for Nike Accessories and resides in Atlanta, Ga.. Gay Michelle Coleman Reid is an attorney with an international firm and resides in Atlanta, Ga. with her husband, Colonel Kenneth Reid, and their two children.

ROTC Hall of Fame

The West Virginia State University ROTC Hall of Fame was created to recognize the accomplishments of its graduates who have excelled in their chosen fields. Inductees include:

1980

Major General Edward Greer
Major General (Ret) Charles C. Rogers*
Major General (Ret) Harvey D. Williams
Brigadier General (Ret) Dallas C. Brown

1981

Brigadier General (Ret) Frank C. Bacon*
Colonel (Ret) George E. Peters, Jr.*
Colonel (Ret) Robert L. Peters*
Dr. Vincent E. Reed

1982

Colonel (Ret) Grover A. DuBose
Colonel (Ret) James M. Garrison, Jr. M.D.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Nelson R. Bickley
Dr. William J. L. Wallace (H*)
Dr. Prince A. Williams (H*)

1983

Brigadier General (Ret) Robert L. Stephens, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Preston A. Davis
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Haywood Martin

1984

Major General (Ret) Joseph E. Turner (USAR)
Colonel (Ret) Charles E. Stokes, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Richard V. White
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Howard L. Wilson

1985

Brigadier General (Ret) Walter F. Johnson, III
Colonel (Ret) Thomas E. Carter, M.D.*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Thomas D. Carter, Jr.*
Lieutenant Colonel James L. Hill

1986

Colonel (Ret) Paul H. Easley, Sr.
Colonel (Ret) Roscoe A. Swann, Jr.*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) John E. Baker*
Major (Ret) James W. Hawkins, Jr.

1987

Colonel (Ret) Vandy L. Miller
Colonel (Ret) Herman H. Jones
Colonel (Ret) James W. Vallandingham
Colonel (Ret) James W. Reed

1988

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) C. Milton Kates
Colonel (Ret) Alphonso W. Nabors
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Bernice McGhee
Colonel (Ret) Edwin A. Wilkerson

1989

Major General (Ret) Kenneth D. Gray
Colonel (Ret) William P. Greene, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Stephen S. Whisiker*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) John L. Whitehead*

1990

Brigadier General (Ret) James W. Monroe
Brigadier General (Ret) Jack Yeager
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Acie McGhee, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Ronald M. McLeod
Colonel (Ret) George S. Roberts (Posthumous)*

1991

Colonel Ronald E. Townsend
Colonel (Ret) Kenneth A. Ingram
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Henry R. Bellinger
Mr. Earl E. Jones

*Deceased

(H) Honorary Inductee

ROTC Hall of Fame

Continued

1992

Colonel (Ret) James A. Manning
Colonel (Ret) John Mackey
Colonel Donald Townsend
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Dennis Neighbors
Brigadier General Roscoe Cartwright (H*)
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Samuel Kelly (H)
Dr. John W. Davis (H*)
Mr. James Evans (H*)

1993

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Ronald H. Poole
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Rodney I. McCormick*
Dr. Beny J. Primm
Dr. Thomas D. Boston

1994

Colonel (Ret) Frankie D. Hoskey *
Major General (Ret) Terry L. Tucker
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Lazelle Free, Sr.
Major (Ret) George L. Rich, Jr.

1995

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Keith Sovine
Captain John Willis Hill Gravely*
First Lieutenant Herbert Henderson*
First Lieutenant Edward Scott
Sidney Taylor Brown (H)

1996

Colonel (Ret) Lew G. Tyree
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Thomas E. Haggins
Major Jeff Chandler Woods
Captain A. Dayton Carpenter

1997

Brigadier General (Ret) Earl M. Simms
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Carolyn L. Maddox
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Clifford Hill
Captain Jerry L. Hatcher

1998

Major General (Ret) John E. Barnette
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Ferguson B. Meadows*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Francisco B. Newman

1999

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) John F. Hailey*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Herbert L. Lawrence
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Charles E. Wilson
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Frank E. Duncan
Lieutenant Colonel Timothy A. Boyles
(Posthumous)*

2000

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Howard G. Hicks, Jr.*
Colonel (Ret) Cardell S. Hunter
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Frederick C. Franklin
Major (Ret) Charles S. Corprew, Jr.

2001

Justice Leander J. Shaw, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Osborne E. Reaves
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Robert H. Meggison
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Len O. Witcher

2002

Colonel Terry L. Melton
Lieutenant Colonel Edward E. Dickerson
Major (Ret) Stephen T. Reaves
Judge Booker T. Stephens (H)
Judge Herman G. Canady (H)
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Charles T. Ledbetter (H)
Colonel David G. Shaddrix (H)

2003

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Jesse L. Haynes*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Clarence O. Hill
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Harvey C. Johnson*
Major (Ret) Mexion O. Prewitt (Posthumous)*

ROTC Hall of Fame

Continued

2004

Colonel (Ret) Theodore A. Crawford*
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Francis V. Wilson
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Albert W. Powell
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Charles W. Marshall

2005

Colonel (Ret) Tom Adams, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Francis E. Crawford, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Roscoe D. Crawford
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Thomas L. Jones

2006

Lieutenant Colonel Charles P. McCormick
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Clarence "CJ" Jackson
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Willard O. Jasper
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Michael A. White

2007

Colonel (Ret) James J. Braxton, Sr.
Lieutenant Colonel Tyra Y. White
Lieutenant Colonel Vince D. Ross
Captain Peter S. Ridley, Jr. (Posthumous)*

2008

Brigadier General James A. Hoyer
Colonel Michael R. Kitts
Lieutenant Colonel Rodney D. Johnson Sr.
Lieutenant Colonel Samuel M. Allmond
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Quewanncoii C. Stephens,
Sr. (H)

2009

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Stanley M. Jenkins
Lieutenant Colonel Antoine B. Bethel
Lieutenant Colonel Johnnie D. Ross
Lieutenant Colonel Daniel B. Jones, Sr.
Sergeant First Class (Ret) Joseph Turner
(Posthumous)* (H)

2010

Judge Donald L. Graham
Major Celeita A. Stephens Kramer
Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr. (H)

2011

Colonel Gary A. Blackhurst

2012

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Donald Cornell
Carter (Posthumous)*

2013

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Barry Brasseur
Colonel (Ret) Harold G. Fisher (H)
Judge Reggie B. Walton (H)

2014

Commissioner (Ret) Anthony Conyers, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Haywood Holder
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Kenneth Rainelle Mosely
Captain Robert Lee Smith

*Deceased

(H) Honorary Inductee

West Virginia State University Army ROTC 15 Decorated General Officers

<i>Name</i>	<i>Year of Graduation</i>
Major General (Ret) Edward Greer	1948
Major General (Ret) Harvey D. Williams.	1950
Major General (Ret) Charles C. Rogers*	1951
Brigadier General (Ret) Frank C. Bacon*	1951
Brigadier General (Ret) Dallas C. Brown.	1954
Major General (Ret) Joseph E. Turner.	1961
Brigadier General (Ret) Walter F. Johnson, III	1961
Brigadier General (Ret) Robert L. Stephens	1962
Major General (Ret) James W. Monroe	1963
Brigadier General (Ret) Jack Yeager	1965
Major General (Ret) Kenneth D. Gray	1966
Brigadier General (Ret) Earl M. Simms.	1968
Major General John E. Barnette	1969
Major General Terry L. Tucker.	1972
Brigadier General James A. Hoyer	1983

*Deceased

Alma Mater

Ernest Wade '30

Martha Spencer '31

There is a place we love so dear—
Its name we'll ever praise and revere
'Tis West Virginia State we love—
Just one more step from there is Heav'n above.

REFRAIN:

West Virginia's praise we'll sing—
Lift our voices 'til heavens ring—
As we gaily march along—
We'll sing a song—
For Alma Mater
How we love her
Pride of all our loyal hearts—
From her we will never part—
Thoughts of thee will ne'er be few
Alma Mater we love you.

We'll love her more as days go by,
And send her praises to the sky;
To place her over all the rest,
And keep her e'er the dearest and the best.

Shadowed 'neath a deep blue sky;
Is STATE for whom we'll live and we'll die—
Arise! O men of God and sing;
We're loyal, and to her we'll always cling.

The Army Song

Verse:

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free
Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory

We're the Army and proud of our name

We're the Army and proudly proclaim

Chorus:

First to fight for the right, And to build the Nation's might,

And the Army Goes Rolling Along

Proud of all we have done, Fighting till the battle's won,

And the Army Goes Rolling Along.

Refrain:

Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey! The Army's on its way.

Count off the cadence loud and strong (TWO! THREE!)

For where e'er we go, You will always know

That The Army Goes Rolling Along.

Captain Roland Belcher
Class of 1963



Captain George Coleman
Class of 1962

Notes:

WD
Mil. Hal.

