

SPECIAL EDITION



news **LEADER**

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A look at Eastern Region happenings

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Already considered successes, JROTC's top Cadets use annual Marshall symposium as motivation to do even more

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INSIDE: Speakers applaud participants, 6 / The event in pictures, 8-10

2007 General George C. Marshall  Leadership Symposium

Mission Accomplished



Michael Burnett, left, of Whitley County High School in Williamsburg, Ky., receives a congratulatory handshake from Maj. Gen. W. Montague Winfield, U.S. Army Cadet Command commander, at the symposium's awards ceremony. *Photo by Steve Arel*

Cadets returning home motivated, eager to pass along lessons learned

By Steve Arel
Public affairs officer

LEXINGTON, Va. — Mixing education with pleasure, 144 JROTC Cadets from around the country left the third annual George C. Marshall Leadership Symposium having learned at least one thing.

They are special people.

Not because of their attendance at the event that spotlights JROTC's top programs. But because of the differences they make back home at their schools and in their communities.

"You do more than what's required," said Command Sgt. Maj. Hershel Turner, Cadet Command command sergeant major. "You all are winners. You work hard. You don't stand in a crowd. You stand

above the crowd."

Much of the focus might have been squarely on the participating Cadets, but perhaps more attention centered on what the Cadets would do back home armed with information and ideas on being better leaders and better citizens.

The theme for the symposium, put on by the U.S. Army Cadet Command and the George C. Marshall Foundation, was how Marshall's famed leadership principles apply to attendees' respective JROTC units, schools, communities and lives. Facilitators, organizers and speakers consistently used their time in front of students — mostly juniors and seniors — to preach the importance of sharing lessons learned to others, saying they had a responsibility to pass along

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On the cover

Cadets sound off with a spirited chant as they come to attention during the third annual General George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium.

Photo by Steve Arel

Legalese

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their knowledge.

Before they left the four-day symposium held on the campuses of the Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University, many Cadets already had mapped out plans to meet with fellow JROTC members back home and even hold schoolwide seminars to disseminate information and ideas they see as relevant to all students, regardless of whether they are part of JROTC.

Julie White of Franklin High School in Tennessee is writing a speech for first-year Cadets. Magali Gomez of Deming High School in New Mexico is making a presentation to her battalion. Curtis Phelps of Rio Linda High School in California is speaking to his school, trying to entice more students to join.

"This has changed my life so much," White said. "I feel like I've been born again. I feel so much stronger and confident in myself."

Thirty-six programs were represented at the conference, with teams of four Cadets coming from as far away as Germany and Hawaii. Selections put participants in an elite group, with chosen Cadets making up five hundredths of 1 percent of the roughly 1,600 Army JROTC programs and 286,000 Cadets worldwide.

Officials based selections to the symposium mostly on performance in a recent multi-round online academic bowl, as well as other factors.

The conference focuses on Marshall's leadership principles of preparation, vision, learning and teaching, selflessness, caring, integrity, candor, action and fairness. The symposium, which wrapped up Saturday, challenged Cadets through instruction, lectures and projects during days that lasted as long as 14 hours.

Despite the length, Cadets saw the time investment as worthwhile. They fed off the energy of those speaking to them, carrying themselves with a high level of motivation and spirit exhibited through the reciting of the JROTC creed, the striking up of new friendships and even a rap song delivered by two Cadets about the JROTC experience.

Several Cadets said they found inspiration and validation of their service to JROTC not through speakers and lectures, but through fellow Cadets from other parts of the country who shared unique views on



Emily Kurz of Caddo Parish Magnet High School in Shreveport, La., motions to the audience during a skit in which she hosted a game show called "Who Wants To Be A General?" The skit was designed to illustrate what Cadets learned about Marshall's leadership principles and how they would apply them. Photo by Steve Arel

everything from their units to their culture.

Hana Lee of Punahou High School in Honolulu said the symposium was particularly eye-opening to her because of how rarely she interacts with Cadets from the mainland.

"We're like a different country," she said. "I have nothing in common with a lot of kids at school. When you come here, we're a world away but it's amazing how much you have in common and you get along because you have similar goals."

Lee, her battalion commander, said she picked up ideas for better organizing her battalion and running it more effectively.

"They opened my perspective," she said. "In Hawaii, it's worldly but isolated. ... I know I have room to improve. This program helped my leadership skills in general."

Justin Leachman left Virginia with an eye on the future. Heeding the direction of organizers to spread the lessons being

taught, he thought about how he could bolster the program at Bradwell Institute in Hinesville, Ga.

Part of the problem Leachman's battalion faces, he said, is that the leadership is comprised of upperclassmen. And unless those Cadets, including himself, focus on developing younger students and instilling strong leadership principles, the program will suffer.

"We're not just coming here and sitting through this," he said. "We're going to take it back and implement it."

What stuck with Leachman most was a comment from JROTC's deputy director, Leon McMullen: To motivate others, you have to be motivated yourself.

"I want to motivate others," Leachman said. "We've got to leave behind something. We've got to groom leaders and make sure the program is ready for the next year and the next year."

2007 General George C. Marshall  Leadership Symposium

In their own words

What some Cadets at this year's symposium said about their experience at the conference

"Our school has never been out where we can show our talent. It has opened our minds to things I didn't know."

BRIANNA WREN

Port Gibson High School
Port Gibson, Miss.

"This experience makes me feel I'm someone special. All the work I've done over the years, and it means something. I'm not only learning new information, but how to apply it."

KARAC LINDSEY

Van Horn High School
Independence, Mo.

"I feel it's motivated me to be an even better citizen. It's bringing out my leadership capabilities. I feel that this has enhanced the skills I already had."

SHANIQUA GRAY

Benjamin E. Mays High School
Atlanta

"It's a special thing to be here and a great opportunity. It'll help in the future. It has really helped me in learning to get things organized and become more efficient. Hopefully, being more efficient will make the (battalion) staff more efficient."

MORGAN OVERBY

East Surry High School
Pilot Mountain, N.C.



Sharayah Hernandez, right, of Wichita North High School in Wichita, Kan., marches with fellow Cadets to the George C. Marshall Museum. Photo by Steve Arel

"I wish my entire battalion could come to this. I appreciated seeing the people on the (chain of command) wall and being part of this distinguished group."

HAILIALOHA JENSEN

Hilo High School
Hilo, Hawaii

"You take all that you've learned with you to your battalion, pass it to others and it's like neverending. It'll make my battalion better. I want to have them steal some of the knowledge I

have stolen here. My goal is to share as much as I can."

MAGALI GOMEZ

Deming High School
Deming, N.M.

"It's an interesting exchange of ideas. My goal in ROTC is to work what I have learned in a way that gets more people to join. This will give us the tools and opportunities to bring our numbers up."

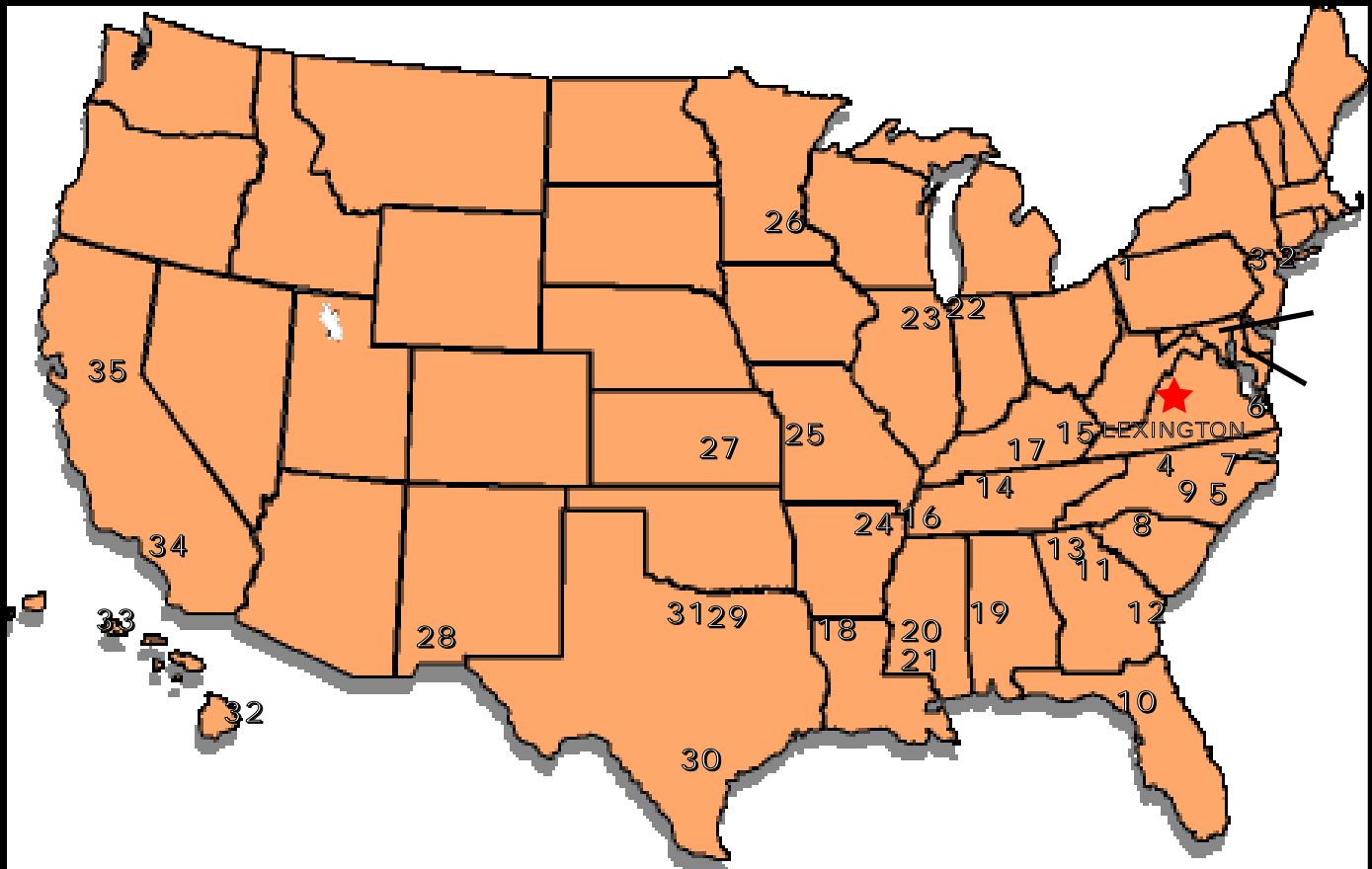
CURTIS PHELPS

Rio Linda High School
Rio Linda, Calif.

2007 General George C. Marshall  Leadership Symposium

Trek to Virginia

Locations from which participants traveled to take part in last week's Marshall symposium:



2ND BRIGADE

- 1. East High School, Erie, Pa.
- 2. Francis Lewis High School, Francis Lewis, N.Y.
- 3. RE McNair Academic High School, Jersey City, N.J.

4TH BRIGADE

- 4. East Surry High, Pilot Mountain, N.C.
- 5. Heide Trask High, Rocky Point, N.C.
- 6. Huguenot High School, Richmond, Va.
- 7. J.H. Rose High School, Greenville, N.C.
- 8. Union High School, Union, S.C.
- 9. West Blanden High, Blandenboro, N.C.

6TH BRIGADE

- 10. Bell High School, Bell, Fla.
- 11. Benjamin E. Mays High, Atlanta
- 12. Bradwell Institute, Hinesville, Ga.
- 13. RL Osborne High School, Marietta, Ga.

7TH BRIGADE

- 14. Franklin High School, Franklin, Tenn.
- 15. Shelby Valley High, Pikeville, Ky.
- 16. White Station High School, Memphis, Tenn.
- 17. Whitley County High School, Williamsburg, Ky.

8TH BRIGADE

- 18. Caddo Parish Magnet, Shreveport, La.
- 19. Demopolis High, Demopolis, Ala.
- 20. Murah High School, Jackson, Miss.
- 21. Port Gibson High, Port Gibson, Miss.

9TH BRIGADE

- 22. Hobart High School, Hobart, Ind.
- 23. Joliet Central High School, Joliet, Ill.

10TH BRIGADE

- 24. Marked Tree High, Marked Tree, Ark.
- 25. Van Horn High, Independence, Mo.

11TH BRIGADE

- 26. Humboldt Senior High, St. Paul, Minn.

- 27. Wichita High North, Wichita, Kan.

12TH BRIGADE

- 28. Demming High School, Deming, N.M.
- 29. North Side High, Fort Worth, Texas
- 30. South San Antonio High School, San Antonio, Texas
- 31. Southwest High School, Fort Worth, Texas

13TH BRIGADE

- 32. Hilo High School, Hilo, Hawaii
- 33. Punahoe High School, Honolulu, Hawaii

14TH BRIGADE

- 34. Army and Navy Academy, Carlsbad, Calif.
- 35. Rio Linda Senior High School, Rio Linda, Calif.

DoD SCHOOLS

- Vilseck High School, Germany

2007 General George C. Marshall Leadership Symposium



Motivating Cadets
to always be at their

BEST

Command Sgt. Maj. Hershel Turner, command sergeant major for Cadet Command, tells JROTC Cadets to find motivators who can help drive them to succeed. *Photo by Steve Arel*

Speakers praise Marshall participants, encourage them to continue helping themselves, others

By Steve Arel
Public affairs officer

LEXINGTON, Va. — He was shy and unmotivated. He failed to shine his boots. He meandered in a fog of sluggishness.

One day, the company first sergeant, riled by the persistent apathy, laid out a drastic but necessary edict to Hershel Turner, then a rookie private first class. If Turner didn't start living up to his potential, he would handle him the only way he knew how: by booting him out of the Army.

Facing the real possibility of a short-lived military career, Turner quickly discovered motivation inside. He became a stellar Soldier and amassed a career that has seen him elevate to the rank of command sergeant major, the highest enlisted grade, and

“There is no way you can motivate anyone if you are not motivated yourself.”

LEON McMULLEN
Army JROTC deputy director and symposium emcee

spend close to 30 years in uniform.

Today Turner looks back on that incident as the point where he turned around his career.

And his life.

“Motivation will bring you from the bottom to the top,” said Turner, the command sergeant major for U.S. Army Cadet Command. “Motivation brought me a little higher. Motivation made me a winner instead of a loser. Motivation is the key to

success.”

Cadets attending last week's JROTC George C. Marshall Leadership Symposium heard other similar examples of success from an array of speakers, many of whom applauded participants' selections to the prestigious event and challenged them to use their success to influence others not performing at a high level.

Retired Maj. Gen. Robert Wagner pointed to the Army JROTC motto: Motivating young people to become better citizens. He said that motto ought to be Cadets' mission as well, and they should work to inspire and develop others.

“We are not only developing ourselves,” said Wagner, the first commander of Cadet Command. “Do you accept that mission?”

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For almost seven years, Col. Carlos Glover has led Army JROTC. As retirement nears next spring, he looks back on his tenure and sees his position as an “honor” because of the countless Cadets exceeding standards and with whom he comes in contact daily.

He applauded Cadets for exhibiting courage in dealing with students who call them “frogs” or “pickles” when they wear their green Class A uniforms and stepping up to be involved with their schools and communities.

Glover told Cadets not to make excuses for sometimes coming up short, but rather to set lofty goals.

“You can work at McDonald’s, or you can own McDonald’s,” he said. “That’s up to you.”

Glover referred to Cadets as thieves, saying they have taken ideas and ways of doing things from others and incorporated them into their own lives. He encouraged them to continue stealing.

“It’s OK to be a thief today, as long as you take the stuff to reach your dreams,” Glover said. “Keep taking.”

Lt. Gen. Benjamin Freakley sees the news these days and is miffed by what America considers important stories.

Stars like Lindsey Lohan driving drunk and in and out of drug rehabilitation. Britney Spears’ parenting skills coming into question and losing custody of her children. Athletes who seemingly have it all making bad decision after bad decision and throwing away the opportunities they have been given.

Then Freakley, the commander of the Army’s Accessions Command, looks at JROTC Cadets and sees what is right with America. He sees young people capitalizing on an opportunity with the symposium to develop themselves as leaders.

Freakley urged Cadets to avoid and resist negative influences, such as drugs and alcohol. Those sorts of things can derail one’s path to success.

The general compared leading to weightlifting. If one wants to lift a certain amount of weight and simply walks by the weights without touching them, they will never hit the target. They have to stop and practice.

“Set goals, and be undeterred,” Freakley said. “Let nothing get in the way.”



Col. Carlos Glover, director for Army JROTC, encouraged Cadets to be “thieves,” taking ideas from positive influencers and using them as their own. Photo by Steve Arel

Though not in the official speaker lineup, Leon McMullen, deputy director of Army JROTC and emcee for the symposium, used his role to offer encouragement and words of wisdom to Cadets. Motivation became a regular topic.

He said Cadets need to approach everything they do with solid drive and determination, especially if they expect to influence others to succeed.

“There is no way you can motivate anyone if you are not motivated yourself,” said McMullen, a retired sergeant major. “Can’t nobody steal your motivation but you.”

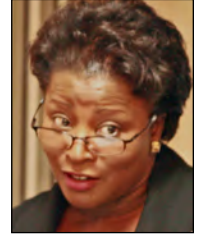
Cadets attending the symposium were in Virginia to learn new ways of being effective leaders, McMullen said. But more importantly, they were gathering information to take home and share with fellow Cadets and students.

“This symposium is not about you. Never has been,” McMullen said. “It’s about what you learn here and pass along.”

Quotable

Mary Rounds, Caddo Parrish (La.) Magnet School principal

“Sometimes it takes a single thing to shape us, to mold us into who we become. Because I was encouraged years ago ... I am where I am today.”



Retired Brig. Gen. Wesley Taylor, Marshall foundation president

“Leadership doesn’t come about in a passive mode. It takes an example to learn how to lead. You are here because you are learning that example.”



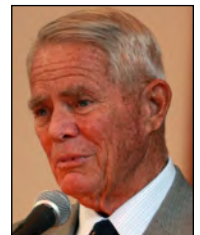
Lt. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, Accessions Command commander

“This (symposium) is a gift that has to be returned to your peers. ... The things you’re learning today will get you in great shape for tomorrow.”



Retired Maj. Gen. Robert Wagner, first Cadet Command commander

“Think about the JROTC mission. You are responsible for influencing others in your battalions and in your schools. We are not only developing ourselves.”



2007 General George C. Marshall Leadership Symposium



(Top) VMI Cadets file onto the campus parade field to perform a parade in honor of JROTC Cadets participating in the Marshall symposium.

(Above) Mark Cline, an illusionist and model-maker, motions to the crowd after he affixes four Cadets to balance by resting their torsos on the legs of each other during a presentation at the symposium. The Cadets' position allowed Cline to place plywood on them and set up a mock dining table.

(Left) Seth Wade of Union High in Union, S.C., poses as Gen. George C. Marshall during his group's presentation on leadership principles they learned. *Photos by Steve Arel*

I will work hard to improve my mind and strengthen my body.

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(Above) Karen McNew, an anchorwoman for TV station WSLs in Roanoke, Va., speaks during the opening ceremony at Jackson Memorial Hall on the campus of VMI.



(Right) Jessie Taub of J.H. Rose High School in Greenville, N.C., shoots a photo of medals earned by George C. Marshall and stored in a glass case at the Marshall Museum.

(Below) Retired Lt. Col. Justin Blum, a symposium facilitator, calls on a Cadet to answer a question about George C. Marshall. *Photos by Steve Arel*



(Left) Cadets recite the JROTC Cadet Creed during the leadership symposium's opening ceremony.

I will seek the mantle of leadership and stand prepared to uphold the Constitution and the American way of life.

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(Left) Arlene Pettway of J.H. Rose High School in Greenville, N.C., peers inside the No. 40 Key Motorsports truck that is driven in the Craftsman Truck Series.

(Below) Felicity Hill, right, of Caddo Parish Magnet High School in Shreveport, La., listens to the instructor during a class on effective note-taking.



(Left) Justin Leachman of the Bradwell Institute in Hinesville, Ga., describes himself using the Thinking Maps technique.

(Right) Cadets take a look at the No. 40 Key Motorsports truck that was on display during the Marshall symposium.
Photos by Steve Arel

