





LD
5655
V8
V46
1968
Spec

FOREWORD

This booklet has been prepared to acquaint you with the history of the V.P.L. ring and to explain and introduce to the Members of the Class of 1968, their ring which is the most beautifully designed and detailed ring ever to be offered to any class in the history of V.P.L.

This booklet contains important information for each member of the Class of 1968 with regard to the ring itself, and the meaning behind the different design features, as well as technical information that will be of interest to everyone who purchases a 1968 class ring. You will be purchasing the finest college class ring ever created and manufactured by the most modern process known to the jewelry industry. If you give your ring the care which has gone into its design and manufacture, it will be your most treasured possession for the rest of your life.

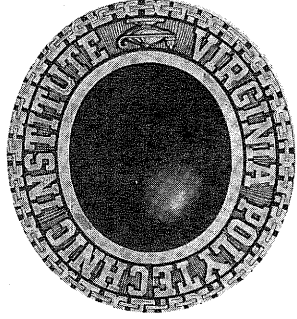
The Herff Jones Company of Indianapolis, Indiana, and the Ring Committee are proud to present this booklet to the Members of the Class of 1968.

cially appropriate that our athletic mascot should appear this year as we making great improvements in our athletic programs and emerging as a national competitor in inter-collegiate athletics as well as academically.

The curriculum shank of the 1968 V.P.I. ring maintains the same unity and directed emphasis shown by the university shank. The universal symbol of atoms for peace heads the curriculum side. Although this symbol is frequently used, it portrays our times and our future so vividly that it is almost the trademark of our generation. As we have moved into the Atomic Age, we have come to realize that we can do many things with our knowledge, but only if we prevent greed and selfishness from destroying us. Each V.P.I. student must realize that he will have a large and important part in building the world, and the type of world we live in depends on every one of us.

The Torch of Peace, which balances the Sword of Might on the university side, shows our hope that our world will turn out a safe and sane place in which to live and work. It also reaffirms our commitment to use our knowledge toward this end. The curriculum side shows the Confederate and University flags as symbols of the loyalty and pride that have been shown over the years in our country, and re-asserts our strong faith in tradition. Even a person who is not a Southerner can appreciate the flags as symbols of pride and dignity, which know no geographic monopoly. The strength of our nation lies in our ability to live and work together as a productive and progressive nation.

The founding date of our university, 1872, is proclaimed proudly by the banner over the shield and name of the individual students field of study. Each college has its own shield symbolizing the tools and knowledge necessary to our



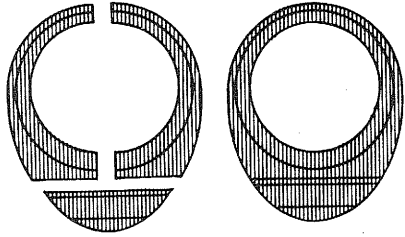
world today. The curriculum shank is closed by a small window showing a superimposed V.P.I. The heavy rolled edges and bold crenellations serve to frame and protect the interior design, and help maintain the unity and artistic strength of the ring. The chain surrounding the bezel, or stone-set, of the ring is made up of very subtle 6's and 8's. This symbol of unity and strength has a new and stronger meaning to the Class of 1968. As the first class under the voluntary Corps of Cadets, and designating the first ring under the United Student Body, we have met and overcome problems never before encountered at V.P.I. The beautiful lamp of knowledge, containing the flame of curiosity, as a symbol of knowledge and the learning process, serves as a fitting divider for the bold spellout of Virginia Polytechnic Institute around the stone. And with this crowning touch, the Ring Committee for the Class of 1968 presents to you, our classmates, a ring without equal, and containing as much of the pride and tender-loving-care demanded by our ring as we could possibly have given it.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Construction

The Herff Jones Company has perfected the die induction process of manufacturing college rings which today, is accepted as the most modern and successful way of manufacturing a college ring.

The die induction method of manufacture differs from the die stamping method of manufacture in that a die induction ring



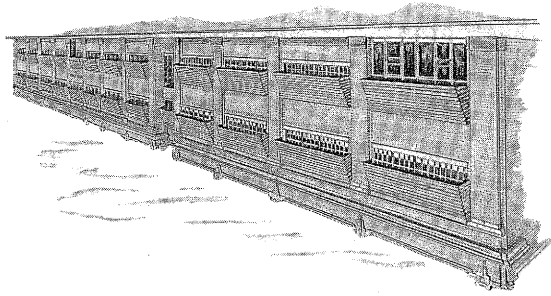
is made in one complete piece which eliminates the need of fitting ring parts together and the necessary solder seams which are usually evident in a die stamped ring. A die stamped ring is made in three separate pieces — each shank is a separate piece and the top portion of the ring (bezel) is a separate piece. These parts must be fitted together perfectly and then soldered together. Deep detail and unusual angles are not possible with the die stamping manufacturing process. Because your ring is manufactured by the die induction process, you will have a ring with the deepest detail and most beautiful contour ever offered to any class at V.P.I.

Gold

The gold used in your ring is alloyed to rigid specifications set forth by the Herff Jones Company. Because of the special formula required, you will receive a ring that is perfect in gold color and a ring that will give you a lifetime of wear and satisfaction.

Each ring will have a perfect balance of metallurgical characteristics which insures the wearer of maximum durability with regard to the detail on the ring. Naturally, fine jewelry requires

THE COMPANY



Almost half a century ago, a small group of men with extraordinary vision, an abundance of energy, and creative talent, pooled their human resources to found the Herff Jones Company. They were motivated by the idea of creating distinctive class rings.

This they did . . . and successfully.

The Herff Jones Company has advanced into a multi-product company . . . one which is moving forward in this adventurous present . . . one which is dedicated to excellence.

The invitation to bid for the 1968 V.P.I. class ring order was readily accepted and met with enthusiasm. More than 800 employees in the Indianapolis plant followed with extreme interest the result of the Ring Committee's decision and now stand ready to produce the most beautiful, high-quality class ring ever supplied to any class at V.P.I.

A concept of excellence and worthwhile creativity guides the Herff Jones Company in all its activities . . . in the products we create . . . in the craftsmanship with which we strive to fashion them . . . in the relationships we establish with our customers.

Our activities are characterized by automation, space technology and fast-paced changes. Innovation, at Herff Jones, is limitless. And all innovation is based on the exciting quest for distinctive, high-quality products and effectiveness in customer service.

We care about serving you.

good detail for many, many years to come.

Background Finish

The background finish or antiquing as it is sometimes referred to, is applied to each ring by an electroplating process. There are many finishes to choose from and they will all be shown in the special Class of 1968 Ring Display at the V.P.I. Library. These finishes, combined with a pleasant shade of coloring, will enhance a yellow gold ring, a white gold ring or a green gold ring.

Stones

All stones used in the V.P.I. rings are hand selected for uniform color and are precision gauged to the exact millimeter width, length and thickness. Most synthetic stones we offer are manufactured in West Germany and our exporters consistently send us the most perfect stones obtainable from this center of the world's synthetic stone market. Genuine stones such as diamonds, opals, black onyx, etcetera, are premium selected and we know that the stones offered to you are absolutely the finest obtainable anywhere in the world.

A faceted top stone is not as durable as a buff top stone. However, some people prefer a faceted top stone because of the extra light reflection which is generated by the facet cutting on the top of the stone. This type stone, however, requires better care as a faceted top stone will chip easier than a buff (smooth) top stone. For maximum wearability, we recommend you choose the buff top stone; however, the faceted top stones are available. A complete stone selection will be shown in the library display. All transparent stones will have a faceted back which gives maximum light refraction and reflection. Opaque stones such as onyx do not have a faceted back.

The Mohs scale of hardness is the scale used to rate the different stones. A diamond which is, of course, the hardest stone is rated at ten and the lower the rating, the softer the stone. The

following stones are available in the 1968 class ring and their approximate rating on the Mohs scale of hardness is given also.

Stone	Mohs Scale Rating
Alexandrite	8
Aquamarine	8
Bloodstone	7
Erlite	8
Synthetic Garnet	9
Kunzite	8
Onyx	5
Peridot	8
Synthetic Ruby or Spinel	8
Synthetic Sapphires	9
Sardonyx	5
Topaz	8
Tourmaline	7
Ultrahite	8
Zircon	8

GIVING YOUR RING PROPER CARE

Your 1968 V.P.I. class ring is probably the finest piece of jewelry you will ever own with regard to the care and skill that has gone into its production. If you give your ring reasonable care, it will last for a lifetime and the detail on the side of the ring will always be easily recognizable, with your cooperation. You should not wear your ring while participating in athletics or any strenuous activity. Get in the habit of taking your ring off and putting it in your pocket prior to doing any rough manual work with your hands.

Also, take your ring off and put it in your pocket before washing your hands since soap will accumulate in the deep recesses on the side of your ring. Soap and detergents can be injurious to the background finish. Certain acids and gas fumes are harmful to the finish of your ring. Just a bit of reasonable care on your part will prevent serious damage to your ring. We suggest you purchase a small jar of any one of the many jewelry cleaners found at most jewelry stores and use this jewelry cleaner to keep the ring sparkling bright as it will be when it's delivered in its original package. Monthly cleaning of your ring will prevent accumulations of dirt, acids, et cetera, in the deep recesses of the shanks.

Should your ring become damaged while you are still in school, it should be returned to the Office of Student Affairs. These repairs will be made without charge. After you graduate, should you damage your ring, it should be returned to the Herff Jones Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, and the quotation for the repair will be sent to you, should a charge be necessary.

ORDERING

The Herff Jones ordering team will be on campus the week of November 14 through November 17, 1966, to answer any questions you may have prior to or during the time of placing your order. The special ring display in the library will be transferred to the scene of ordering so that a last moment decision can be made. All order forms can be filled in completely by the student and then the finger size will be taken by one of the representatives. The deposit may be given in cash and check and/or money order, and if the latter, should be made payable to "Herff Jones Company."

Should anyone wish to place an order for a Miniature ring, a special order blank is available for this purpose. This is the same order form that is used by girls to order the Women's Official ring.

All Class officers and Members of the Ring Committee will be wearing ring samples. The following list gives a description of the ring worn by each Class Officer and Ring Committee Member.

NAME	RING SIZE	GOLD	FINISH	STONE
Gordon Mapp	Traditional	Yellow	Dark Burmese	Regular Blue Spinel with Diamond
Glenn Anderson	Traditional	Green	Dark Green	Buff Aquamarine
Eugenia Feagans	Official Women's	14K White Palladium	Brilliant Antique	Blue Linde
Dorothy Rusnak	Official Women's	Green	Dark Green	Faceted White Sapphire
Mahlon Burnette	Traditional	14K White Palladium	Brilliant Antique	Blue Zircon
Carl Belt, Jr.	Traditional	Yellow	Light Burmese	Linde Star Ruby
Lucian Robinson	Traditional	10K White	Brilliant Antique	Faceted Aquamarine
Pat Brugh	Traditional	14K Palladium	Brilliant Antique	Fire Blue Spinel
Paul Dodson	Traditional	Green	Medium Green	Buff Green Spinel
Bennet Cassel	Traditional	Green	Light Green	Buff Emerald Spinel
Michael Bogese	Traditional	14K Palladium	Brilliant Antique	Buff Aquamarine
Susan Spooner	Official Women's	Yellow	Medium Burmese	Faceted Peridot
Jack Weeks	Traditional	Yellow	Light Rose	Buff Garnet
Darryl McGuire	Traditional	Yellow	Dark Rose	Buff Ruby
Dr. James Dean	Traditional	Yellow	Brilliant Antique	Blue Sapphire
Dr. Massey	Traditional	Yellow	Dark Burmese	Buff Blue Zircon

The second ordering period will be in January and properly announced as to the exact time, date and place. The final ordering date will be in March and limited to special situations where a student was not qualified to order earlier.

Rings will be delivered prior to the Ring Dance.

BUILDING A TRADITION

MAHLON A. BURNETTE, III
Cadet Member-at-Large

Since the first V.P.I. ring in 1911, our ring has grown and acquired the respect which it enjoys today. The story behind the ring is the story not only of a class, but of an entire university, complete with tradition yet alive with our modern age. The Ring Committee itself exhibits this, as this year, for the first time, each member was chosen by the entire council of class officers. At a school already unique for allowing the complete ring to be re-designed each year by the students, this just gives a more dramatic example of the wide student responsibility throughout the university.

The fact that we are allowed to do so much ourselves is one of the many reasons we are so proud of our ring, and have chosen to design a fitting instrument of our pride, the largest class ring in the country. In an attempt to keep the ring contemporary and meaningful, many design elements have come and gone from the V.P.I. ring. Numerous styles of design have been used as tastes have changed, and much of the history of this century can be read from old V.P.I. rings. But certain things have become traditionally a part of our ring.

The eagles, used on the first ring in 1911, have been on every V.P.I. ring. The dynamic eagle on the 1968 ring can look back on a long list of dignified ancestors. Likewise, the saber, symbol of our military tradition since the founding in 1872 as a military school, has found a place on every ring. Other items, such as the use of the flags of our heritage, have stayed with the ring since they were first used. Since 1923 we have had Virginia Polytechnic Institute spelled out around the bezel, and all but three classes since 1940 have used a chain around the bezel to signify unity and strength of the class and university.

Except for the square stone used in 1912, and the 1913 ring, which used no stone, all V.P.I. rings have used an oval stone which has become larger along with the rest of the ring through the years. Other design elements, such as the school and curriculum shields, the motto and founding date, and various abstract symbols have been used with varying degrees of regularity. Consequently, any V.P.I. ring has models and examples to draw from to retain that distinctive V.P.I. touch, yet remain unique and personal to each class.

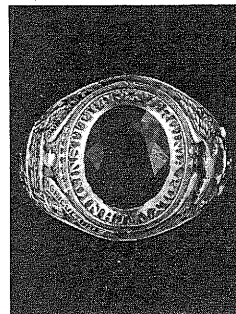
The V.P.I. ring itself has become part of another tradition. Since the Class of 1935 inaugurated the first V.P.I. Ring Dance, Ring Dance Weekend has emerged as a social event unsurpassed by any university or college in the country, and certainly the highlight of a Techman's career at V.P.I. The beautiful decorations, fabulous bands, and meticulous planning leave everyone with memories which are cherished for the rest of their lives.

With its rich background and strong traditions, the V.P.I. ring creates such excitement and enthusiasm that every spring the entire campus centers its interest on Ring Dance Weekend. We hope that you will enjoy yours, and wear the 1968 ring with as much pride as thousands of Techmen before you have worn theirs.

Class of 1940



Class of 1924



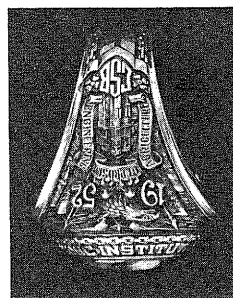
Class of 1947



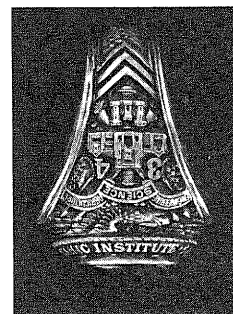
Class of 1925



Class of 1952



Class of 1934



Class of 1966



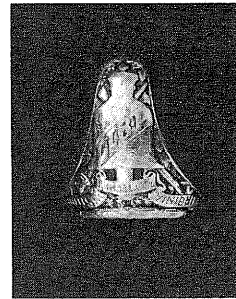
Class of 1965



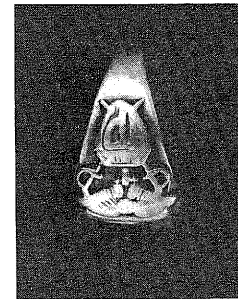
Class of 1968



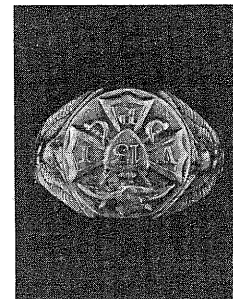
Class of 1911 Miniature



Class of 1912 Miniature



Class of 1913



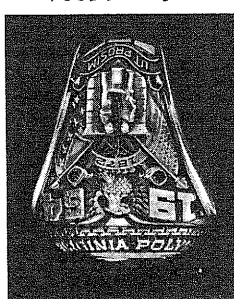
Class of 1958



Class of 1963



Class of 1964



GLOSSARY

