The Virginia Tech class ring embodies and invokes memories, traditions and pride that tie Hokies, young and old, together. The tradition began in the 1911–1912 school session when four classes (1911–1914) designed their rings. Since the beginning, each Virginia Tech class has designed a ring distinctive and unique to its class. Today, Virginia Tech is one of only a few colleges and universities that redesign their ring collection each year.

Each year, the sophomore class selects a Ring Design Committee responsible for designing and marketing their class ring collection, adding elements that reflect their class experiences on the class side. All Virginia Tech ring designs have an eagle and crossed sabres, usually found on the university side and symbolizing the military heritage and traditions of the Corps of Cadets. The chain links that have encircled the ring bezel on Virginia Tech rings since 1940 represent class unity, the strength of many united as one.

Since 1991, the design process has included the recognition of a distinguished alumnus, alumna, or university president. The design, collection, and the namesake are announced to the class during the fall of their junior year at Ring Premiere. The Class of 2012 recognizes Charles M. Forbes ’49 as their ring collection namesake.
2012 NAMENSAKE
CHARLES M. FORBES ’49

The Class of 2012 has selected Charles M. Forbes ’49 as their class ring namesake and is proud to honor him for his many years of exemplary service to Virginia Tech. A member of the Class of 1949, Forbes graduated with a bachelor of science in industrial engineering. While at Virginia Tech, he served as class president and sat on the Ring Design Committee. In addition, he was a member of the corps of cadets and GERMAN Club. As a member of the Virginia Tech football team, Forbes played in the university’s first bowl game, the Sun Bowl. He was also the first Virginia Tech football player to rush over 100 yards in a single game, which was against Maryland. Forbes went on to serve as captain in the United States Air Force from 1951 – 1953. Forbes worked as an engineer with DuPont until 1955 when he moved to employee relations with the company, which began his long career of human resource work and eventually professional fundraising endeavors.

After thirteen years as chief fundraiser for Memorial-Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, he returned to Virginia Tech as the first vice president for development and university relations. He has maintained a strong relationship with Virginia Tech and has served the Virginia Tech Foundation Inc., Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center Inc, GERMAN Club Foundation Inc., Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties, Virginia Tech Athletic Fund, and the Virginia Tech Alumni Association. Along with his service to the university, Forbes has been instrumental in creating several university societies. Notably, he founded the Ut Prosim Society, which recognizes the contributions of significant donors to the university as well as the William Preston Society, recognizing the past service of members of the board of visitors. For his continuing service to Virginia Tech, Forbes was awarded the University Distinguished Achievement Award in 2001. He retired in the position of vice president for development and alumni relations at the University of Delaware in 1996.

Forbes has been married to his wife Pat for 54 years and they have two children. He is proud to be a member of the four-generation Hokie family. His father, A. F. Forbes was part of the Class of 1925; his son, Charles Scott Forbes ’81 completed his MBA degree at Virginia Tech; and his granddaughter, Sarah Huffman is a member of the Class of 2012.

2012 CLASS SPONSOR
EDWARD F. D. SPENCER

The Class of 2012 is proud to have Edward F. D. Spencer serve as our Class Sponsor. Spencer was appointed vice president for student affairs on November 1, 2008. He provides leadership and oversight for the 15 departments in the Division of Student Affairs, including areas such as housing and dining, career services, student activities, student health, recreational sports, and the Corps of Cadets.

Spencer was married for 39 years to the late Norrine Bailey Spencer. She had served at Virginia Tech since 1983 as associate dean for the Pamplin College of Business and from 2004-2008 as associate provost and director of undergraduate admissions. Together, Norrine and Ed have left a legacy of leadership and service to Virginia Tech.

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He is a proud father, grandfather, husband, leader, and role model. The Class of 2012 is pleased to honor Edward F. D. Spencer as our Class Sponsor.
Congratulations! You have completed your first two years of college and are continuing the journey of becoming part of the Hokie Nation. Take a moment to reflect and think about past semesters at Virginia Tech and how you have grown not only as an individual, but as a Hokie. In the years ahead, live out the motto, Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), and embody the virtues of the Pylons. Being a Hokie is not only about the mark you leave on your university, but about its traditions that become part of you.

Dating back to 1911, the Virginia Tech class ring has been redesigned by a separate committee from each class. The two sides of the ring represent the university and our Class of 2012. There are certain features that are traditional to every ring such as the Eagle and Crossed Sabres, with other elements that are unique to our class. As members of the Hokie community, we are united by the traditions of Virginia Tech. The Ring Design Committee is honored to present to you the uniquely designed Class of 2012 ring.

Marking the 101st anniversary of the Virginia Tech class ring, we encourage you to wear your ring with pride and respect for Virginia Tech. Always remember the special bonds and memories you shared during your time at Virginia Tech, and embrace the honor of becoming another in the Hokie Nation who have taken part in the University’s ring tradition.

Kaitlin Longest
Ring Design Chair
Class of 2012
CONSTRUCTION

In partnership with Balfour and after many meetings and sketches, the committee presents its work to an artist who professionally renders it on a ring shank drawing. After several rounds of revisions and improvements, the art is digitized and then drawn in a Computer Aided Design (CAD) program for the manufacturer. Balfour uses this CAD file to create a wax version of the ring for final approval by the committee. Once approved, a master mold is created. The ancient lost wax process is used to make the detailed rings that Hokies cherish. Each class ring is made to order, passing through the skilled hands of at least 30 craftsmen and is subjected to seven detailed inspections to ensure it meets all our quality standards.

1911
Four Virginia Tech rings were realized in the 1911-1912 school session – in this order, 1913, 1912, 1914, and 1911 which was created by Fred Prosser, Class of 1911, after that Class graduated. The 1911 ring was not technically the first ring but its design formed the basis for all future Virginia Tech rings.

1914
First class to select a committee for ring design.

1912

1922
First women’s miniature ring offered. Miniature rings were often used as engagement rings. (1925 ring depicted)

1923
The first year “Virginia Polytechnic Institute” is spelled out around the bezel.

1935
First ring dance is held on April 27, 1934 by the Class of 1935.

1937
The sabre arch was first introduced at what was also the first military-civilian ring dance.
CLASS of 2012
Men’s Collection
Charles M. Forbes Collection

CENOTAPH STADIUM TOP
BROTHERHOOD
SACRIFICE
UT PROSIM
CENOTAPH OVAL TOP
CENOTAPH SQUARE TOP

CLASS of 2012
Women’s Collection
Charles M. Forbes Collection

CHAPEL
LOYALTY
CENOTAPH OVAL TOP
SERVICE
HONOR
DUTY
LEADERSHIP
CENOTAPH MINIATURE OVAL TOP
**American Flag:** The national symbol of our nation’s patriotism and liberty, “Old Glory” waves proudly throughout the Virginia Tech campus. The seven stars on the flag honor those alumni who have received the Medal of Honor.

**Commonwealth of Virginia Flag:** Created in 1872 as the first land-grant university of Virginia, Virginia Tech proudly displays the Commonwealth’s flag which bears the state motto, “Semper Viridis” meaning “Always to Prosper.”

**Corps of Cadets Seal:** Representing the oldest tradition at Virginia Tech, the Corps of Cadets seal was created by Col. Harry D. Temple ’34, in 1965. This formal Coat of Arms was granted by the Army Institute of Heraldry, and was the first of its kind to be given to a unit outside of the Army.

**Crossed Sabres:** A representation of prestige and honor among the Corps of Cadets, the Cross Sabres are a traditional element of the ring’s design.

**Ut Prosim:** Virginia Tech’s motto adopted in 1896, “That I May Serve,” woven through each student and portrayed throughout the university’s rich past with its innovative future.

**The Progression of Virginia Tech Logos:** Displayed on the hanging banners, the past Virginia Tech logos are lined up with the 2012 Class Logo, bridging the university’s rich past with its innovative future.

**Class Logo:** The official logo of the Class of 2012.

**Drillfield:** At the center of the Virginia Tech campus, the Drillfield serves as a path to class, a stage for the Corps Pass-In-Review, a peaceful place to study and play, and a beautiful and memorable landmark of the Tech experience. The paths cross to form roman numerals XII for “2012.”

**Downtown Blacksburg:** Located just off campus, downtown Blacksburg is home to many local franchises as well as an exciting nightlife for Virginia Tech students.

**Virginia Mountains:** Located in the New River Valley, Blacksburg is surrounded by the majestic Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains. The eight mountain peaks represent the eight different colleges at Virginia Tech.

**Motto:** The Latin translation of the Class of 2012 Motto, Ignited by Passion, Devoted We Serve. Shadowing our University’s motto, Ut Prosim, the Class of 2012 Motto indicates that the students in our class are motivated to serve.

**Hokiebird:** The official mascot of Virginia Tech. First appearing in 1967, the Hokiebird evolved from the early Fighting Gobbler.

**Football – 25:** 25 symbolizes the dedication, procession, and tenure of our beloved head football Coach, Frank Beamer. Beamer, a graduate of the Class of 1969, has continued over the years to not only prove his incredible effectiveness on the football field, but to also capture the hearts of millions of Hokies around the world.

**Laneway Stadium:** Since 1965, Lane Stadium has been the home to Virginia Tech football and the crowds of past, present, and future Hokies. Just before the game, the football players touch the overhead block of Hokie stone in the tunnel before running onto Wrenn Field. At the Hokie Hi picnic at the beginning of the school year and now at the 3.2 Run in Remembrance, students can also go through the tunnel and experience the good luck ritual of touching the stone. The sign next to the stone reads: ‘For those who have passed. For those to come... Reach for Excellence.’

**Skipper Cannon:** Named in Honor of President John F. Kennedy, the Skipper Cannon is heard by thousands at Virginia Tech football games and other important events.

**Start Jumping:** A popular saying that any fan of Virginia Tech football recognizes and appreciates. The Blacksburg Bounce is tradition that has rocked Lane Stadium for years and will continue to do so with Hokie pride and spirit.
OPTIONS & PRICING

RING PRICING
MEN'S STYLES

Balfour Premium Silver

10K 14K 18K Celestium®

Centrip. 402CTW 62 X2XX-square $591 $1,250 $2,274 $2,274 $201
Centrip. 401CTW 62 X2XX-round $591 $1,250 $2,274 $2,274 $201
Centrip. 401CTW 62 X2XX-oval $526 $1,110 $1,952 $1,952 $201
Centrip. 401CTW 62 XX2-studion $526 $1,110 $1,952 $1,952 $201
Centrip. 292CTW 62 X2XX-square $491 $1,071 $1,952 $1,952 $201
Centrip. 292CTW 62 X2XX-oval $491 $1,071 $1,952 $1,952 $201
Centrip. 292CTW 62 XX2-studion $441 $941 $1,708 $1,708 $201

WOMEN'S STYLES

Balfour Premium Silver

10K 14K 18K Celestium®

Centrip. 129CTW 31 X5XX-square $391 $824 $1,498 $1,498 $201
Centrip. 129CTW 31 X5XX-oval $376 $810 $1,498 $1,498 $201
Centrip. 129CTW 31 XX2-studion $376 $810 $1,498 $1,498 $201
Centrip. 129CTW 31 XX2-studion $376 $810 $1,498 $1,498 $201
Centrip. 129CTW 31 XX2-studion $376 $810 $1,498 $1,498 $201

STONE PRICING
GENUINE STONES

12x11 12x10 8x6 DIAMONDS

Paloma Cameo Topaz $461 $1,500 $2,750 $2,750 $108
Medium Aquamarine $401 $1,400 $2,500 $2,500 $108
Sienna Topaz $301 $1,100 $2,050 $2,050 $108
London Blue Topaz $281 $1,000 $1,850 $1,850 $108
Lapis Lazuli $85 $350 $600 $600 $108
Rhodolite Garnet $405 $1,350 $2,400 $2,400 $108
Material Garnet $195 $650 $1,100 $1,100 $108
Medium Amethyst $230 $750 $1,300 $1,300 $108
Carnelian $30 $100 $190 $190 $108
Hematite $30 $100 $190 $190 $108
Blood Stone $35 $125 $225 $225 $108
Aventurine Quartz $25 $85 $150 $150 $108
Green Agate $20 $65 $120 $120 $108
Hope Blue Star Sapphire $100 $350 $600 $600 $108
Honey Tiger Eye $40 $140 $240 $240 $108
Brown Tiger Eye $40 $140 $240 $240 $108
Wyoming Jade $40 $140 $240 $240 $108
Hokie Stone Oval $22 $75 $135 $135 $108
Hokie Stone Square $30 $100 $190 $190 $108

PAYMENT OPTIONS

PAY IN FULL: Receive a 10% discount when you pay in full at time of order.

CUBIC ZIRCONIA

1 Pt. $10 2 Pts. $15 3 Pts. $20 4 Pts. $25 5 Pts. $30
6 Pts. $35 7 Pts. $40 8 Pts. $45 9 Pts. $50 10 Pts. $55
11 Pts. $60 12 Pts. $65 13 Pts. $70 14 Pts. $75 15 Pts. $80
16 Pts. $85 17 Pts. $90 18 Pts. $95 19 Pts. $100 20 Pts. $105
21 Pts. $110 22 Pts. $115 23 Pts. $120 24 Pts. $125 25 Pts. $130
26 Pts. $135 27 Pts. $140 28 Pts. $145 29 Pts. $150 30 Pts. $155
31 Pts. $160 32 Pts. $165 33 Pts. $170 34 Pts. $175 35 Pts. $180
36 Pts. $185 37 Pts. $190 38 Pts. $195 39 Pts. $200 40 Pts. $205
46 Pts. $235 47 Pts. $240 48 Pts. $245 49 Pts. $250 50 Pts. $255
51 Pts. $260 52 Pts. $265 53 Pts. $270 54 Pts. $275 55 Pts. $280
56 Pts. $285 57 Pts. $290 58 Pts. $295 59 Pts. $300 60 Pts. $305
61 Pts. $310 62 Pts. $315 63 Pts. $320 64 Pts. $325 65 Pts. $330
66 Pts. $335 67 Pts. $340 68 Pts. $345 69 Pts. $350 70 Pts. $355
71 Pts. $360 72 Pts. $365 73 Pts. $370 74 Pts. $375 75 Pts. $380
76 Pts. $385 77 Pts. $390 78 Pts. $395 79 Pts. $400 80 Pts. $405
81 Pts. $410 82 Pts. $415 83 Pts. $420 84 Pts. $425 85 Pts. $430
86 Pts. $435 87 Pts. $440 88 Pts. $445 89 Pts. $450 90 Pts. $455
91 Pts. $460 92 Pts. $465 93 Pts. $470 94 Pts. $475 95 Pts. $480
96 Pts. $485 97 Pts. $490 98 Pts. $495 99 Pts. $500 100 Pts. $505

WARRANTY

LENGTHS AND CONDITIONS OF GUARANTEE REGARDING DEFECTS IN MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP: The rings are warranted to be free of defect in workmanship and materials.

LENGTH AND SCOPE OF GUARANTEE REGARDING STONES AND STONE DECORATION: Any damaged simulated stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of the cause of damage.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RING RESIZING AND RING ADJUSTMENTS: The ring will be resized at any time at no charge.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED RINGS: If through normal wear and tear a ring is worn beyond satisfaction, it may be exchanged for a new ring. There is no charge for this remake. If a ring is damaged beyond satisfaction outside of these parameters, another ring can be purchased for the cost of Balfour’s existing remake charge.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR ORDERING ADDITIONAL RINGS: Additional rings may be ordered at any time. After December 31, 2012, the rings may be ordered at the prevailing price at time of order. Prevailing price will be determined according to cost of gold and stones at the time of ordering.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RESTORING RING FINISH: Should a classmate not be totally satisfied with his or her original choice of finish, refinishing would be completed at no charge.

CONDITIONS ON HOW REPAYMENTS ARE MADE, WHO CONTACT, AND HOW SHIPPING RATES ARE HANDLED: Prior to graduation, service dates will be established to handle any adjustments. All shipping, handling and insurance costs will be the responsibility of Balfour during these sessions.

OPTIONS, PRICING, GUARANTEE, AND CONDITIONS

**1940**

The rope motif that usually encircled the bezel is replaced by an interlinking chain and is still used today to represent class unity, usually in the form of linking class numerals. Teaching and Administration Building (named Burruss Hall in 1944) appears on the side of an element as a ring.

**1942**

Fred Waring’s Nightlight and V.P. is first performed at Ring Dance.

**1944**

Due to World War II, Ring Dance is suspended from 1944 – 1946.

**1949**

The end of the 40s saw a swell of veterans returning to VPI as civilians creating the need for a “CSB” (Civilian Study Body) side of the ring.

**1958**

First ring to depict the War Memorial Pomons.

**1969**

Charles Steger served on the committee to design his Class of 1969 ring.

**1942**

**1944**

**1949**

**1958**

**1969**
OVER THE PAST SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS, VIRGINIA TECH STUDENTS AND FACULTY HAVE GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE BELoved AND LASTING TRADITION OF RING DANCE. ESTABLISHED BY THE CLASS OF 1935, RING DANCE WEEKEND TAKES PLACE IN THE SPRING OF A STUDENT’S JUNIOR YEAR.

THE TWO-DAY CELEBRATION OPENS WITH A BANQUET THAT FEATURES ELEGANT DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT. THE CEREMONIAL RING PRESENTATION TAKES PLACE ON THE SECOND EVENING AND BEGINS WITH A COUPLE’S FIRST STEPS INTO SQIRES COMMONWEALTH BALLROOM AS THEY RECEIVE RIBBONS IN THEIR CLASS COLORS, USED TO TIE EACH OTHER’S RINGS ON THEIR WRISTS FOR THEIR RING PRESENTATION. TRADITIONALLY, THE WOMEN WEAR THE DARKER RIBBON WHILE THE MEN WEAR THE LIGHTER RIBBON.


SINCE 1934, THE RING DANCE AT VIRGINIA TECH HAS CELEBRATED THE PRESENTATION OF CLASS RINGS AND THE TRANSITION FROM JUNIOR TO SENIOR STATUS. THIS TIME HONORED EVENT HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST BELOVED TRADITIONS AT VIRGINIA TECH, AS AN ELEGANT WEEKEND AFFAIR OF FINE DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT.

MEMORIAL CENTER


PLEASE JOIN THE RING DANCE COMMITTEE AND THE 2012 LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR THE WEEKEND CELEBRATION. THIS WILL BE A MEMORY YOU WILL KEEP FOR A LIFETIME.

HOKIE FOR LIFE!

MATTHEW CLIVE BANFIELD
CLASS OF 2012 RING DANCE CHAIRMAN

Matt Banfield
Photo by: Denise Borges Class of 2012
I am excited to invite each of you to celebrate one of the most special and long-standing traditions at Virginia Tech. The celebration of the distinctive Virginia Tech class ring is an event that not only defines our Junior year, but also our entire experience in the Hokie family.

Since enrolling, we have participated in the rich traditions and legacies that have shaped this university into what it is today. From the exciting sporting events to the rigors of challenging academics, we have each created our own individual path. Our diverse experiences and strong sense of community have made us a unique and united class. The spirit of being a Hokie is a trait that we all share, and our class ring is a unique symbol of the commitment, dedication, and loyalty that we each have to our alma mater.

I encourage each of you to take advantage of this special opportunity by being part of the century-long class ring tradition. Every time we glance at our ring, we will remember the great memories we have from Virginia Tech. Whether it is the beautiful campus, class traditions, or spirit of the university as a whole, you will know that you have a life long bond as Hokies.

Living by our Class Motto, “Ignited By Passion, Devoted We Serve,” we continue to spread our Hokie Spirit with pride during our time together here and after we become alumni.

In the spirit of 2012,

Sandy Bass
President, Class of 2012