



# What is the tune?

It is an 8<sup>th</sup> Century Irish (Gaelic) tune called SLANE

The tune has since been used in the Christian hymn Be Thou my Vision

SLANE is the name of a hill in Ireland where St. Patrick is said to have defied the king by lighting candles against royal orders not have light any fires

# **When and why and by whom was the CACC Hymn written?**

The hymn was the brainchild of COL Larry Morden and LTC Mark Ryan who were developing the CACC curriculum in the early part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They noted that every other military organization had a hymn or song and decided that the CACC should have one, too.

# **When and why and by whom was the CACC Hymn written?**

In 2004, Mrs. Morden suggested the hymn tune to her husband because it was her favorite. COL Morden and LTC Ryan brainstormed lyrics and in 2005 the hymn was first published and sung officially at the State Individual Major Awards competition that year.

# The Lyrics: Verse 1

- Faithful to the Corps we remain all our lives
- Service and duty and loyalty thrives
- Leading by good example and trying our best
- Thus we achieve more than all of the rest

# Verse 2

- Faithful to the vision of General Forbes
- Hard work and diligence has its rewards
- Personal courage grant us and we'll lead the way
- Armed with self-confidence on the straight path we stay

# Verse 3

- California's future and finest we are
- Ambitious and healthy we reach for the stars
- No goal's beyond our talent so aim high we must
- And in our values and our training we trust

# Verse 4

- Blue stands for strength and our lofty ideals
- Gold for the excellent and pride that we feel
- Essayons is our motto it means let us try
- Never give up and always reach for the sky



# The rationale for the lyrics

Habits of good character are infused:  
faithfulness, service, duty, loyalty, setting  
an example, trying our best, achievement,  
hard work, diligence, personal courage,  
self-confidence, ambition, health, goal-  
setting

# The rationale for the lyrics

The ten parts of the Cadet Code are included: Loyalty (verse 1), Education (verses 1-4), Ambition (verses 3 and 4), Duty (verses 1 and 2), Enthusiasm (verse 4), Respect (verse 1), Service (verse 1), Health (verse 3), Integrity (verses 1 and 3), and Personal Courage (verse 2)

# The meaning of the colors

- BLUE: strength and lofty ideals (as in the sky's the limit)
- GOLD: excellence and pride