

# NORWICH RECORD

THE MAGAZINE OF NORWICH UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2023





The aurora borealis lights up the skies over the campus of Norwich University on the night of September 27, 2022. This view of campus is from Winch Hill looking north along the Dog River Valley and the town of Northfield.

# Contents

## FEATURES

P. 1 News from the Hill

P. 9 Wall Street meets Main St.

P. 13 Call in the Cavalry!



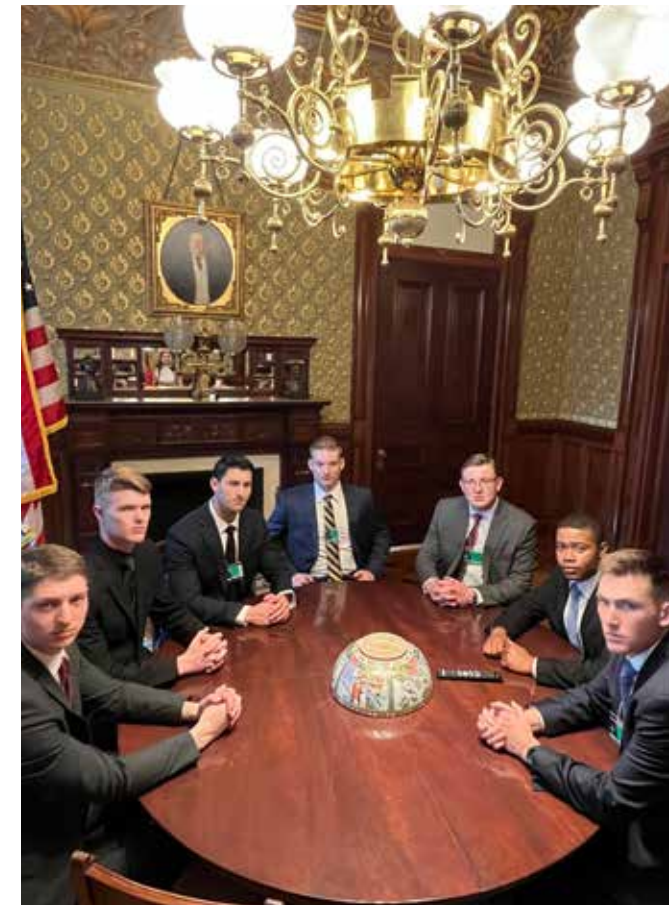
P. 17 Doc Martin Scholarship Benefit Dinner

P. 21 A “Real” Simulation of Artificial Intelligence

P. 27 Taking Aim at Reclaiming our Identity and Heritage

P. 35 All Hands on Deck!

P. 39 Class Notes



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Mark Collier

## THE PRESIDENT'S VIEW

Norwich University has been shaping the world since our founding in 1819. We have been able to do so through steadfast devotion to our foundational values while ensuring we were postured to excel in an ever-changing world.

Considering our long history, it is worth celebrating how we have perpetuated a high level of relevance despite constant change in higher education, technology, warfare, student dynamism, cultural pressures, and many other fields of influence. Our country and global community are much different than when Captain Alden Partridge first opened the doors of our remarkable institution in 1819; we can say without question that change in its many forms has come at an astounding pace. Our university, throughout our history, has proven unique in our ability to adapt to change while staying true to our mission and guiding values. We have remained a leader in higher education through ensuring modern curriculums and a singular experience for our students, while at the same time staying true to Captain Partridge's vision.

Our mission statement is something I have been highlighting with increasing frequency and volume every time I speak about Norwich. It has provided an ideal foundation and has served as our identifying cornerstone even amidst the rapid change all around us. Our mission statement was first published in 1843, and remains one of the most beautiful and elegant in all of higher education:

“To give our youth an education that shall be American in character – to enable them to act as well as to think – to execute as well as conceive – ‘to tolerate all opinions when reason is left free to combat them’ – to make moral, patriotic, efficient and useful citizens, and to qualify them for all those high responsibilities resting upon a citizen of this free republic.”

As we move through the third decade of the 21st century, we have begun to rededicate ourselves to our founding principles. We will be very deliberate about highlighting the ways we have shaped our nation and the world, including as the Birthplace of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. As an extension of this founding quality, and in the spirit of our continued dedication to service, we now offer a direct pathway to service in the United States Coast Guard through the Auxiliary University Program. We should all be proud how this new program was born of passion for service, and how it was brought to our campus through the hard work of Cadets and Coast Guard auxiliaries alike. It is humbling and encouraging to watch students and servicemembers work together to take our beloved university another step further into the future while serving their country.

While preserving alignment with our founding principles, we must also maintain focus on the future. An example of this commitment is our initiative to bring a Bloomberg Financial Laboratory to campus in Mack Hall, which will be named in honor of alumnus Larry Budnick '64, who passed away in June 2022. The 12 terminals embedded in the lab will provide our students the opportunity to develop a deep understanding of modern finance and give them the chance to operate the same real-world financial tools used by leading banks and corporations. Whether following the stock ticker or earning certifications through the terminals, our students will have full access to modern, industry-standard financial tools and information. Through study and practice, the skills developed inside the lab will create in Norwich students the ability to conceive, act and execute in both the modern and future financial worlds.

While the Bloomberg initiative is a nod toward the future, our proud history continues to guide who we are. One example of our commitment to our identity is the restoration of our rifle team, which dates to 1915. The team has been active intermittently throughout the past century, but has not been active at Norwich since the early 2000s, at which time it produced Emily Caruso '00, who went on to become a four-time U.S. national champion, a Pan American Games champion, a six-time World Cup medalist, and two-time Olympian. In celebration of our past excellence and our desire to return competitive shooting to Norwich, we are proud to welcome competitive NCAA rifle back to campus. The team returned this year under the leadership of Coach Patrick Knapp '20, a retired Marine and former marksmanship instructor. The return of this team celebrates our roots as the first private senior military college and our understanding that as a creator of talent for the profession of arms, we must create foundational competencies in the areas of weapons handling and marksmanship.

We are also proud to announce that the new Norwich boxing club is thriving on campus. While our wrestling team has returned to all-American form, and jiu jitsu flourishes as a campus club, boxing offers an additional vehicle to learning



personal combative skills. Recent graduate Gabriel Williams '23 established the club during his time at Norwich to bolster physical fitness and combat prowess while also developing his accountability, dedication and preparation skills for all facets of life. Known as the “sweet science,” boxing is tough but requires finesse, and compels athletes to pay close attention to the small things. The mental lessons it can teach are exceptional. Norwich boxing is yet another experience students at our great university can access to develop themselves into leaders and high performers.

As we work together to move our institution forward, we will surely face significant challenges. I have said often that we are developing leaders at Norwich who are ready to solve problems we cannot possibly predict, in fields that do not yet even exist. The rate and complexity of change has never been faster; we must be ready to face whatever comes next. Guided by the spirit of our founder Captain Partridge and the many great leaders of our past, we will be ready. Our adherence to our mission and guiding values will ensure we produce leaders with relevant skill sets ready to serve as impactful citizens now, and well into the future.

Norwich University has been a global leader in higher education for more than 200 years and will remain at the forefront through the dedication of our entire Norwich community. We all will have a role to play as we build toward a future of which we can be enthusiastic and proud. I look forward to serving alongside all of you as we continue the journey.

Norwich Together, Norwich Forever!

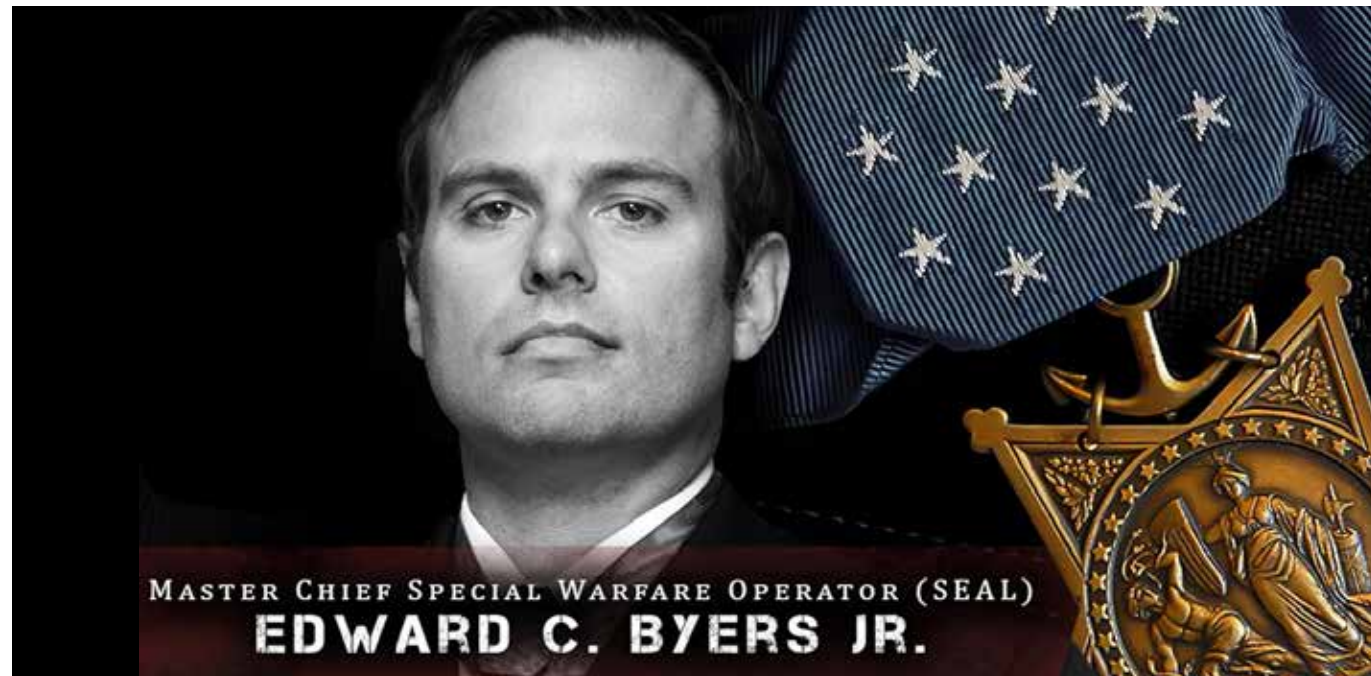


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# NEWS FROM THE HILL



## Norwich University hosts first Medal of Honor Day event

Norwich University hosted its inaugural Medal of Honor Day on March 22. The day consisted of a series of curated events that paid homage to the Norwich alumni who have gone on to receive the coveted U.S. Medal of Honor award.

The Medal of Honor is awarded by the sitting president of the United States to members of the Armed Forces who distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their own lives above and beyond the call of duty while: engaged in action against an enemy of the United States; engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

The President of the United States, in the name of the United States

Congress, has awarded more than 3,520 Medals of Honor, including 19 second awards to the nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen since the decoration's creation in 1861. In its 203-year history, Norwich University has had nine Medal of Honor recipients.

Bringing a close to the day's events was an evening keynote address, followed by Q&A, with Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Edward C. Byers. Byers was presented the Medal of Honor from President Barack Obama during a White House ceremony on February 29, 2016. He was awarded for his efforts during a hostage rescue while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2012 and is only the 11th living service member to receive the Medal of Honor for bravery displayed in Afghanistan.

He joined the Navy in September 1998 and had 11 overseas deployments with nine combat tours before retiring as Master Chief Byers in 2020. His personal decorations include the

Bronze Star with Valor (five awards), the Purple Heart (two awards), the Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, the Navy Commendation Medal (three awards, one with Valor), the Combat Action Ribbon (two awards), and the Good Conduct Medal (five awards). Outside the military, Byers is the founder and CEO of Minerva 6 Solutions, an executive consulting and advisory firm that specializes in the cross-domain space between corporate and government. His charitable work includes serving on the board of the C4 Foundation and on the honorary advisor board of the Navy SEAL Foundation. He holds a national paramedics license, a Bachelor of Science in Strategic Studies and Defense Analysis from Norwich University, and an MBA from The Wharton School.

Norwich University's Medal of Honor Day was sponsored by the Todd Lecture Series. To learn more about the series, visit <https://www.norwich.edu/tls>.

## 4 STORIES TO CATCH ON NORWICH.EDU

### 1. Dave Whaley retirement

After four decades of service to the university, David Whaley '76 will retire at the end of June. He first followed his older brother, Hank, to Norwich as a Rook 51 years ago before graduating with the Norwich Class of 1976. Whaley spent his years with the university in a variety of roles but will retire as the Corporate Secretary to President Mark Anarumo. He's impacted thousands of students and there isn't a square inch of the Norwich brand that doesn't bear his imprint.

### 2. VPEM Kim Reilly

Norwich is thrilled to announce that Kimberly Reilly has joined the senior administration team as the new vice president of enrollment management. She reports to Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff Danielle Pelczarski, and will be responsible for leading Undergraduate Admissions, Financial Aid and Student Services. With more than 20 years of experience in higher education, Reilly brings a rich

history of expertise in enrollment and admissions management, student services, marketing and institutional advancement.

### 3. Research grants

Norwich has received more than a quarter of a million dollars in funding for various research opportunities since the fall of 2021. Most recently, the Vermont Biomedical Research Network has recognized three Norwich professors with Pilot Awards as well as providing two additional professors with Project Awards. These notable awards have been earned by five Norwich women in the STEM and liberal arts fields: Dr. Natalie Cartwright, assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Sarah Gallant, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry; Dr. Connie Hassett-Walker, assistant professor of criminal justice; Dr. Rachele Pojednic, assistant professor of health and human performance; and Dr. Helene Sisti, assistant professor of psychology.

### 4. Passing of Tim Donovan

It is with heartfelt sadness that the Norwich family grieves the passing of Col. Tim Donovan '62. Together, we mourn the loss of a national hero and all-time Norwich great. "His passing is a devastating blow to the Norwich community,"



said Norwich President Mark Anarumo. Donovan arrived on the Hill in 1958 from Bristol, Connecticut, and studied engineering and English while serving in the Corps of Cadets. After graduation, he served his nation for more than 30 years in the United States Army. Donovan is the recipient of numerous awards, and Commandant Bill McCollough said that Donovan "was a daily walking example of courage and grit."



### Air Force ROTC alum, Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere '85, promoted to General

He graduated from Norwich in 1985 and commissioned in the Air Force ROTC detachment. After 37 years of service, Air Force Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere has been appointed four-star general and commander of Air Force Global Strike Command at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana.

Prior to President Joe Biden's nomination in October, Bussiere was the No. 2 officer at U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) at Offutt AFB in Nebraska. In his new role, Bussiere manages more than 30,000 airmen and strategic assets, including nuclear and non-nuclear aircraft. The command also oversees a variety of intercontinental ballistic missiles, helicopters and other services.

Former USSTRATCOM Deputy Commander Bussiere was previously responsible for strategic deterrence, nuclear operations, global strike, missile defense, joint electromagnetic spectrum operations, analysis and targeting, and missile threat assessment. He also previously served as commander, Alaskan Command, United States Northern Command; commander, Eleventh Air Force, Pacific Air Forces; and commander,

Alaskan North American Aerospace Defense Command Region, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

Bussiere has held a variety of flying, staff, and command assignments, and has 3,400 hours as a command pilot in the T-38 Talon, F-15C Eagle, B-2A Spirit, B-1B Lancer, and F-22 Raptor. He has led F-15C combat missions during Operations Southern Watch and Vigilant Warrior in addition to B-2 combat missions during Operations Allied Force and Iraqi Freedom.

In addition to his Norwich education, Bussiere is a graduate of the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies and the U.S. Army War College Advanced Strategic Arts Program.

## George Commo Steps Away

### George Commo steps away from broadcasting Norwich men's and women's Hockey following 2022-23 season

After an illustrious 25-year career of serving as the voice of Norwich hockey, George Commo has decided to step away from the microphone.

Commo has been the hockey play-by-play voice for the Norwich Cadets men's ice hockey team since the 1998-99 campaign and has called all four of the Cadets' national championships in that time span (2000, 2003, 2010, 2017). This season, Commo was the color commentator for men's hockey, sitting alongside WDEV's Craig Durham, as well as the play-by-play voice for Norwich women's hockey.

Commo's first foray into the sports world came in 1974 when he took over as a sports reporter for one of WVNY-TV's evening newscasts. A year later, he was brought on to handle play-by-play duties when WVNY broadcasted the University of Vermont's hockey team's trip to the Eastern College Athletic Conference Semifinals, and before his time with Norwich, Commo spent 18 years as the voice of UVM.

He has previously been named as both the Vermont Sportscaster of the Year and the

Associated Press Broadcast Play-By-Play Award winner on multiple occasions, as well as an honorary inductee into the Norwich Athletics Hall of Fame in 2016.

Despite his intent to step away from hockey, Commo will continue to call other sports and penned a letter to his Norwich family earlier this year:

*Hi everybody, this is George Commo. I'm here to announce something I hate to be announcing, but all in really all is done. Regretfully, after 25 seasons I will be ending my time on the Norwich hockey Cadets' broadcasts at the end of this 2022-2023 season.*

*I imagine you have noticed Craig Durham has taken over the play-by-play role this season and he will continue in that role. It is easier leaving knowing the program is going to be in his capable hands.*

*So, why am I leaving?*

*I am now in my ninth year dealing with Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's affects different people in different ways, but it does not go away. It gradually gets worse. In my case, it has gradually slowed me down, and in calling hockey play-by-play, the last thing you need is to be slowed down. I still do a good job on other sports, but hockey is just too fast.*



*Then there is the travel issue. I live in Burlington. That means every Norwich home game is 100 miles round trip, and that's before you add in the away games. Throw in snow, sleet and freezing rain and it just gets tougher. I used to say if I hadn't been a sports announcer, I would have been an over-the-road trucker. Not anymore.*

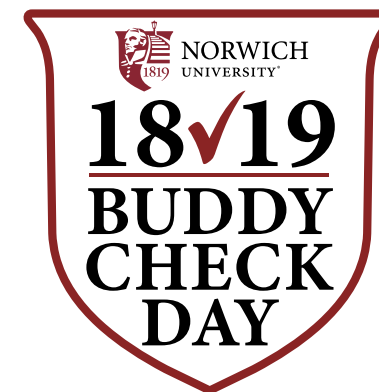
*I AM NOT retiring! I plan to stay closer to home, and to continue doing the sports I still do well for as long as I can do them. And we still have the rest of this Norwich season to get through. Hopefully the Cadets will carry us deep into March. A fifth national championship would be a heck of a way to go out!*

*Finally, the thank yous. Way too many to mention here. But, to everyone at WDEV from Ken Squier on down, to everyone at Norwich – especially to Mike McShane and Cam Ellsworth, to their staffs and all the great players I have had the pleasure of watching over the many years at Kreitzberg – and to Dave Moody, Jon Noyes and Cory Gustafson, three of the best color men any play-by-play guy could ever ask for.*

*Oh, and to you Norwich fans ... YOU ARE THE BEST!*

*Thanks.*

**NU Buddy Check** is a chance to connect with friends, classmates and family members to catch up and check in. It can also be a way to check on the mental health of people you know and care about. On the 18th and 19th of every month, we will send you an email – and text if we have your mobile number – as a reminder to reach out. You don't have to be an expert to notice if someone is going through a difficult time. If you sense changes in someone's behavior or mood and think they might be in crisis, there are ways you can help. The simple act of having a conversation can help save a life.



**“We've Got Your Back!”**



### The Council on Undergraduate Research names Norwich University the 2022 Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments recipient

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) awarded its 2022 Campus-Wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments to Norwich University. This award recognizes institutions with outstanding programs that provide undergraduate students with high-quality research experiences.

The award is in its eighth year and draws on the CUR's Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research to determine the recipient. The criteria includes exceptional undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity programs, and campuses must demonstrate depth and breadth in their undergraduate research initiatives, as well as continual innovation.

“Norwich University's steadfast commitment to undergraduate research is reflected through much more than just their campus culture,” said Lindsay Currie, CUR's executive officer. “They demonstrate a dedication to the professional growth of students and faculty across all disciplines, commitment to ensuring diverse populations have opportunities for success through grants, and the power of a mission-driven institution.”

Norwich's Provost and Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Karen Gaines, explained how the university's mission drives the institution's approach to research. “Norwich University is known for fostering future leaders and has been teaching students to act as well as think for over 200 years,” she said. “We are humbled to receive national recognition for the program we have built over the past 20 years. We are proud that our program embodies the core Norwich values of service, leadership and collaboration, and provides opportunities for students to engage in research and creative work across all academic disciplines.”

Undergraduate Research Program Director, Dr. Allison Neal, said that having the chance to participate in research “Transforms the way students view themselves, their academic field and the generation of knowledge,” and added that “We are dedicated to making undergraduate research central to the Norwich experience and accessible to all of our students.”

“We are incredibly grateful to the Council on Undergraduate Research for recognizing our program,” said Neal. “We hope that the increased prominence and visibility this award gives our program will help us build and strengthen our program's offerings, increase the number of students served, and continue to provide transformative experiences for our developing student scholars.”



**What an exciting year it has been in Cadet Athletics – Championships, All-Americans, Players of the Year, Coaches of the Year, and more.**

This year, five different Cadets earned All-American honors for their sports: Ann-Frederique Guay '23 (women's hockey), Drennen Atherton '23 (men's hockey), Joey Thongsythavong '23 (men's soccer), Leo Clayburgh '23 (men's rugby) and Rashawn Fraser '23 (men's rugby). Additionally, Thongsythavong became the first Cadet to be named United Soccer Coaches first-team All-American, and both Guay and Atherton were finalists for their respective National Player of the Year awards. For the second year, the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) has also honored multiple Cadets as All-Americans; this year, 11 student-athletes were recently named NSCA All-Americans for their dedication to strength, conditioning, and their athletic accomplishments.

An incredible 11 Norwich athletes were honored by their various conferences with multiple top conference awards. Men's and women's swimming and diving brought home four major awards after winning Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) titles in both sports. Nikky Avise '23 finished her incredible career as perhaps the best women's swimmer in school history by being named the GNAC Women's

Swimmer of the Year and setting multiple program records. She was joined by Men's Swimmer of the Year Martin Adlianitski '25 and Men's Diver of the Year Jack Brennan '23. Men's and women's hockey teams finished a strong season with a pair of major individual awards. Ann-Frederique Guay was named the New England Hockey Conference (NEHC) Women's Player of the Year, while Drennen Atherton repeated as the NEHC Goalie of the Year. Men's soccer also doubled up, with Kam Jorgenson '25 winning GNAC Defensive Player of the Year and Joey Thongsythavong repeating GNAC Offensive Player of the Year with a unanimous selection.

Trevor Chase '23 was the first-ever Cadet to be named New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year in football. Much like Thongsythavong, Chase was unanimously selected as the recipient of the award.

Three Cadets collected GNAC Rookie of the Year Honors: Adrian Riendeau '26 in swimming and diving; Judson Nash '26 in men's cross country; and Matt Printup '26 in golf.

A pair of student-athletes won the

Garrity and Looke Awards. These two awards are presented to the senior athletes – one from the Corps of Cadets and one Civilian student – who have distinguished themselves athletically and academically while displaying leadership. Nikky Avise, women's swimming and diving, and Callum Jones '23, a dual-sport athlete representing men's Lacrosse and men's hockey, were honored with the Garrity and Looke Awards, respectively.

The Charles Crosby Courage Award, named after Charlie Crosby '63, is annually presented to the graduating student-athlete who has overcome significant adversity during their college career. Crosby was a three-sport athlete and Cadet during his time at Norwich and spent six years in the Army. Following his service, he found his way home to Norwich again where he served as the sports information director while battling leukemia for nearly 20 years, and he would eventually be enshrined in the Norwich University Athletics Hall of Fame. This year's recipient of the Charles Crosby Courage Award is Brendon Jones '24 of men's hockey. His family has faced life-threatening illnesses since he was in high school, and Jones has led a successful

student-athlete career despite the challenges he has faced.

The past year has also seen magnificent individual accomplishments, whether recognized with an award or not. Donovan Lewis Jr., a current graduate student-athlete and Norwich class of 2022 grad, completed a remarkable career for men's basketball by finishing as the sixth all-time leading scorer in Norwich history. Volleyball standout Sarah Farnum '23 finished her career as the school record holder in assists per set as she cemented her place as one of the best players in program history. Dual-sport student-athlete Maren McGinn '25 showed tremendous flexibility, leading the GNAC conference with 55.4% shooting during the basketball season before immediately jumping into softball, where she was the top pitcher on the team and second in batting average. Additionally, she was named Academic All-District after the basketball season. Graduate student-athlete and 2022 Norwich grad Michaila Furchak continued to climb the women's lacrosse all-time lists and hit the 100-career point milestone midway through the 2023 season. Sophomore wrestler Mason Sprinkel '25 showed a glimpse of the future when he defeated the number eight ranked wrestler in the country and finished the year with a fifth-place finish at regionals. Baseball ace Matt Ingraffia '24 topped the 100 career strikeouts mark, with over half of those coming this season alone.

Men's cross country claimed the first conference title of the school



year when they took home the trophy midway through the fall semester. After their championship season, Coach Michael McGrane garnered GNAC Coach of the Year honors. Norwich swimming and diving was dominant and capped the year by winning conference championships on both the men's and women's sides. Head Coach Jennifer Cournoyer and her staff won Coaching Staff of the Year for both men's and women's swimming and diving. Men's rugby swept the New England Wide Collegiate Conference Championships to advance to the National Collegiate Rugby 7's Tournament.

Norwich University hockey, both men's and women's teams, qualified for the NCAA postseason tournament. Women's hockey claimed their playoff berth by winning the NEHC Tournament through an epic run, giving up only a single goal throughout the tournament. Men's hockey earned an at-large bid, courtesy of their strong season which saw them end it nationally ranked at fifth in the country. During the regular season, Norwich handed the eventual national champions their first loss in

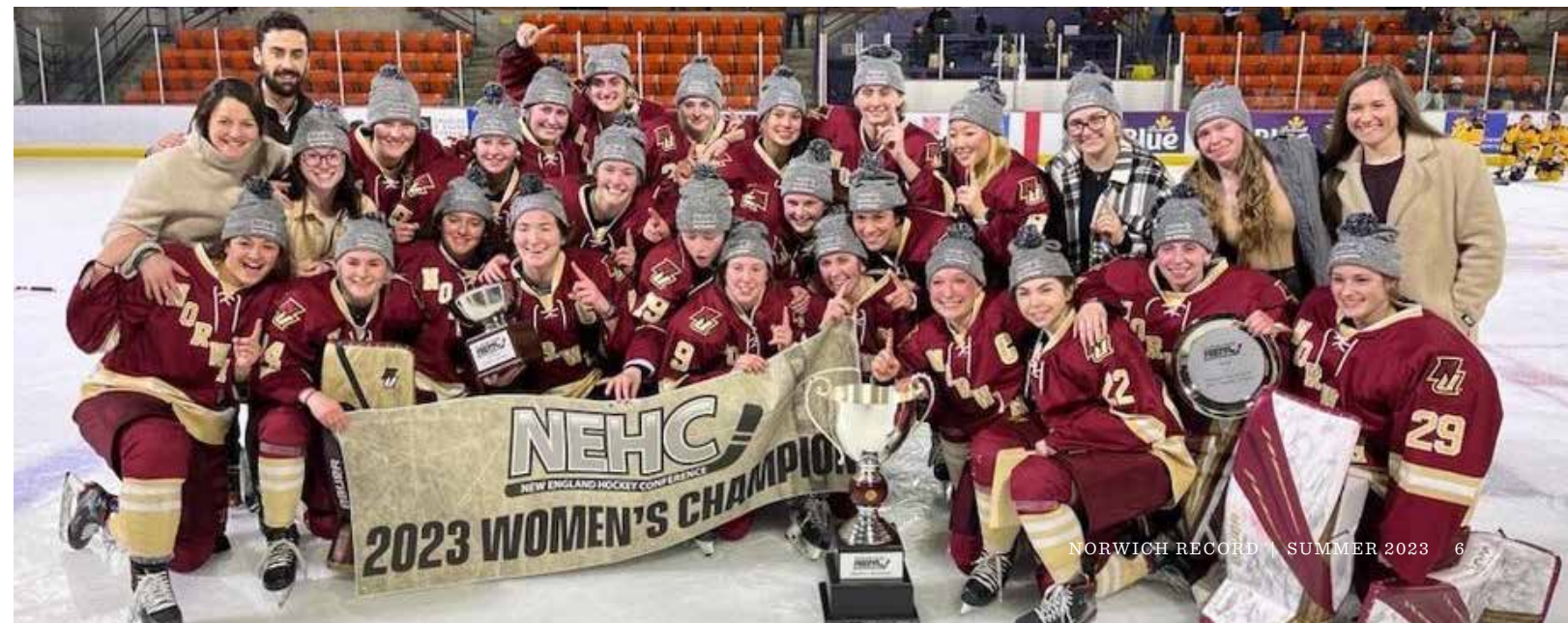
**NEWS FROM THE HILL**

a phenomenal game at Kreitzberg Arena.

Coed rifle and golf both made triumphant returns to campus this past fall, and each of the programs had an extremely successful first year. Also in the fall, football successfully retained The Mug and The Maple Sap Bucket after defeating rivals Coast Guard and Castleton. This year's senior class is the only class in Norwich history to have gone undefeated against these rivals and proudly possess the two trophies their entire career. The GNAC recently recognized the Cadet tennis team with the Team Sportsmanship Award, an award men's basketball also won in the winter.

The GNAC announced that Aliah Curry '15 would be part of its upcoming Hall of Fame class. The women's basketball great graduated as the all-time leading scorer in GNAC and Norwich history with 2,267 points. The prolific scorer was the only sophomore to ever break into the 1,000-point club, became Norwich's all-time leading scorer midway through her junior season, and has already been named to the New England Basketball Hall of Fame.

The past year has been exciting, and the future looks bright. As we celebrate our past year's success, we also look forward to what can be accomplished during the upcoming seasons.



## Norwich receives \$16.4 million in federal funding for creation of National Cyber Fusion Research and Development Center

Norwich University received over \$16 million in federal funding in support of the university's commitment to creating the best cybersecurity educational program in the country. Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT), cast his final vote in the Senate on a bill that will fund over 30 projects across Vermont, including two for Norwich.

Leahy secured \$16.4 million in congressional directed spending for the Norwich University multi-disciplinary Cyber Fusion Research and Development Center to create educational and workforce training opportunities in areas such as cybersecurity, information operations and dominance, computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and real-time decision-making practices.

"Innovations in cybersecurity and the importance of cyber education and workforce development is critical to our state and our nation," said Norwich President Mark Anarumo. "Norwich is honored to receive this federal funding, which demonstrates the value placed on our institution as critical to building the leaders needed in critical fields. I share my very

personal gratitude for Senator Patrick Leahy, who continues to champion the abilities and efforts of Norwich University and our dedication to securing the future of this great country."

Norwich has a long history of being an educational leader in the cyber domain. In 1999, the university created a degree in Computer Security & Information Assurance as one of the first cybersecurity-based programs in the country.

"In our increasingly complex world, which is interconnected globally via vulnerable critical technological systems, cybersecurity competency is absolutely necessary to maintain a civil and democratic society," said Anarumo.

Norwich has updated its academic offerings to include an online cyber security degree, established several cyber-based units, including Norwich University Applied Research Institutes – NUARI, NU Center for Advanced Computing and Digital Forensics, and is a founding member of the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium. Norwich has established the Norwich DoD

Cyber Institute to provide and expand cyber experiential opportunities for students interested in pursuing DoD careers. Additionally, Norwich has received a variety of grants to develop the Distributed Environment for Critical Infrastructure Decision-Making Exercise (DECIDE®) cyber exercise platform, established a GenCyber summer camp for high school students, and created an artificial intelligence, machine learning, and quantum computing academic and experiential learning center.

"Cyber dominance is key for national security," said Anarumo. "Norwich continues to lead in the fields of cybersecurity education, research and training, steadfast in our long-held tradition of educating future leaders to both build and defend the republic."



## TECHNOLOGY

# WALL STREET MEETS MAIN ST., NORTHFIELD, VT

Bloomberg takes up residence at Norwich with its top-notch financial laboratory aimed to prepare students in the global financial world

STORY BY ZACK BENNETT

Norwich students will soon have a slice of Wall Street in Northfield when a Bloomberg Financial Laboratory is built on campus in Mack Hall. The laboratory began construction in early June and will be completed by mid-August in time for the fall 2023 semester.

The laboratory will comprise 12 terminals where students can learn about and interact with global financial markets. Access to Bloomberg's software and vast banks of information through these terminals will allow students to improve their financial education and set themselves up for success in the world of finance by earning certifications. The lab will also feature a stock ticker panel where students can observe the market in real-time.

Bobby Carroll '97, vice chair of the Board of Fellows for the School of Business, said he noticed a need to improve students' understanding of finance. "They were making big, life-changing decisions with debt – mostly student loans – and they didn't always understand what they were getting into," he said. "I felt there was a need for someplace where people could become financially literate. And not just the business school, but everybody."

"Bob had a great idea," said Michael Babyak II '92, chair of the Board of Fellows for the School of Business. "He brought that to light, and it became one of our core initiatives."

Carroll is the managing director for the Fortune 500 company Blackstone where he works on a trading desk. "I use Bloomberg

every day, and I went to them and asked them if they had a program where they work with universities," he said. "Not only do they have a program, but almost every top business school in the country has it."

"There are certifications you can earn, so when you graduate, you have Bloomberg certifications," said Carroll. "You're instantly marketable to any major Fortune 500 company, bank or government. The list goes on and on if you're certified in Bloomberg."

The lab will be accessible to all students, and the Norwich School of Business will incorporate it into their academic plans. Dr. Seth Soman, the new director of the School of Business, said that students could use these terminals to help analyze stocks, bonds, and a multitude of additional financial information. "This will be a gold mine for students," he said.

Naturally, this will be a significant tool for business students; but the impact of the lab will be felt across disciplines. "It's a great multidisciplinary piece," said Babyak. "When you're looking at, say, criminal justice majors, if they're doing a paper and want to find out what's going on with regulations for white-collar crime, Bloomberg has some of the best news and databases for doing research."

To prepare for the upcoming laboratory, a group of students and faculty were joined by Babyak and Carroll on a trip to Bloomberg itself in New York City in March. "It was very eye-opening to see the company and what they're doing with the market," said Soman.

Two business students who went on the trip were Ana Coto '24 and recent graduate Peter Wisowaty '23. Both have been Investment Club members, serving as vice president and secretary. "It was amazing to hear about everything the terminals will provide to our school," said Coto. "It covers all market sectors and features charts, statistics and communications platforms." She added that she is excited to add Bloomberg to academic programs and that it will "Help prepare students for the global job market."

"Part of my role on the trip was seeing how the Investment Club could use the Bloomberg Terminals to further our studies and improve what we're doing with our money," said Wisowaty. "It's something we want to integrate because both the macro tools and some of the more technical tools help you get an analysis of everything, and it can help push what and how you're thinking



(Left to right) Ana Coto '24, Alphonsus McConnell '23, and Peter Wisowaty '23 are all smiles in New York's Grand Central Station after the tour of Bloomberg.

## NEWS FROM THE HILL

about the market.”

Coto and Wisowaty highlighted how excited they are to have an avenue to become Bloomberg-certified on campus. “They offer courses and certifications through the terminal on being able to use the terminal, financial markets, currency exchanges, all these types of things,” said Wisowaty. “Unfortunately, I’m a senior and won’t be a part of this, but I’m very excited for the next generation,” he said.

U.S. Army Cpt. Noah Clemmer ’17 is a past president of the Investment Club and said that having something like this lab would have provided a vast amount of resources during his time at Norwich. “Exposure to this information at such a young age would provide a bedrock foundation,” he said.

Clemmer was part of the club’s founding group of students. To get the club started, he said they were “Looking for contributions or donations to make it real with some money in an account that the club could manage.” The late Larry Budnick ’64 caught wind of the fledgling club and met with the group. “It was awesome because he had a lot of great questions, and I think he was equally as excited to start it as we were,” said Clemmer.

Budnick believed in the group and decided he would provide

***“You’re instantly marketable to any major Fortune 500 company, bank or government. The list goes on and on if you’re certified in Bloomberg.”***

the seed money for the club on one condition: the funds generated had to give back to the school and help fund scholarships. With the club in agreement, it was launched. Budnick assisted the club in building a solid foundation and portfolio that would carry them into the future. “Larry and I always had conversations and said that we had to create this so it can continue to live on,” said Clemmer.

Budnick was always a strong advocate for education in business and provided legendary support for students at Norwich, and the new laboratory will be named in his honor. “Larry was such an excellent mentor and supporter of these students. He was so proud of their success,” said Dean Aron Temkin. “This new lab is a very fitting tribute to Larry and his long-time dedication to Norwich.”

Lawrence J. Budnick, Jr. ’64 Bloomberg Financial Laboratory has received support from private donors and the George I. Alden Trust out of Worcester, Massachusetts, which has committed \$150,000 to the project. The foundation of this project is made possible by generous gifts from the Norwich family, much like when Budnick provided the foundation for the Investment Club.

For more information about how to support the Lawrence J. Budnick, Jr. ’64 Bloomberg Financial Laboratory”, please contact Lindsay Budnik, assistant vice president of development at Norwich University, at (802) 485-2824, or through email at [lbudnik@norwich.edu](mailto:lbudnik@norwich.edu).

Rendering of the completed laboratory.



Norwich students, faculty, staff and alumni outside the Bloomberg headquarters in New York City.

# CALL IN THE CAVALRY!

Norwich Cadets discovering the history and experience of military equine partnerships and excellence

STORY BY ZACK BENNETT

Norwich University is renowned for creating leaders. The university provides a multitude of paths towards student leadership, but a specialty unit like the Cavalry Troop offers a truly unique opportunity for Cadets. “You’re gaining leadership experience you won’t get anywhere else,” said Samantha McCullough ’24, reflecting upon her years spent in the troop.

McCullough is a first sergeant of the troop who has spent years of her personal life riding horses before becoming a Cadet. She saw this specialty unit as a chance to foster her love of horses while in school and prepare her for life in the military after graduation.

Cadets learn leadership from the first day they set foot on campus as a Rook, but leadership looks different in a specialty unit like the Cavalry Troop. “Within the Cavalry Unit, you have to become a leader, but you also have to do that with

*“You’re gaining leadership experience you won’t get anywhere else.”*

an animal,” said McCullough. “The animal comes before anything else. If you ride the horse and something happens, your first duty is caring for the animal.”

Although horses are not used in the military in the way they once were, the Cadets learn invaluable leadership lessons. “It’s a different way of approaching leadership because instead of being worried about the well-being of people, you’re in charge of the well-being of animals who don’t speak our



Evon Delisle '21 mounted atop a horse on the Hill.

language,” she said. “It translates to putting people’s and the company’s needs before your own. At the end of the day, you’re there to get a mission done in accordance with your people.”

McCullough said the skills she gains through these experiences are versatile, and she can use them wherever she goes. “For me personally, I’m going to commission into the Army,” she said. “I could bring this kind of leadership experience to my first duty station.”

The Cadets head off campus to Vermont Firefly Farm in Roxbury to hone their skills. Laura Hamilton and her husband own the farm and Figure 8 Riding, a full-service lesson and training program. She has been working with the students for nine years and has seen the program grow and improve.

“When we first started working together, there were about six students in the program,” said Hamilton. “Most of them had never ridden before.” She brought them through the riding basics and said, “They got quite good.”

Hamilton has enjoyed her time with the troopers and is honored to work with them. “They’re very teachable. They listen, they’re respectful, and they’re committed. They give me their full attention when they’re here,” she said. Thanks to their life as a Cadet, they’re ahead of most beginners physically. “They can use their bodies in ways that most beginners can’t.”

Once troops are up to speed on horseback, she can advance their education and career prospects at the same time. Hamilton has the group complete mounted police clinics where the Cadets gain certifications for mounted police work.

Hamilton’s confidence in the troop’s skills has grown so much that now she invites them to show off their skills to the public. “I brought them to Equine Affaire, where they did mounted drill demonstrations,” said Hamilton. “We took them out there and they did a lot of public relations activities, like manning a booth in the breed barn to promote the Cavalry Troop.”

McCullough has also had the opportunity to show Hamilton’s horses individually when Hamilton sponsored her at a show at the Champlain Valley Fairgrounds. “It’s a really large horse show,” said Hamilton. “She competed in several classes, both riding and in-hand on the ground and did very well.”

McCullough sees these experiences as fun and a way to promote the Cavalry Troop’s skills to the world. “If we have troopers who can show, it gives more opportunity to show both the Cavalry’s and our skills,” she said.

*“They decided they’d provide funding for the unit because they believe in the work that horsemanship does for a person.”*

While the troops were constantly conquering new challenges and showing the world what they could do, there was a time when the institution of the Cavalry Troop faced adversity.

“During my sophomore year, there was very, very few of us in the troop,” said Francis Smith ’17, a former Cavalry Trooper. With such low participation, there were questions about whether the program could continue receiving funding.

Smith and Alyssa Pinard ’16, a fellow trooper, couldn’t bear the thought of the troop dissolving. The pair of troopers began working to keep it alive and put together a business proposal with the hopes of finding a source of funding for the troop, and Pinard scouted the local area for potential barn owners and trainers before eventually finding Hamilton.

“My parents are businesspeople,” said Smith. “We pitched them the business proposal about funding the troop, and they graciously said yes, they want to be in as the donors. They decided they’d provide funding for the unit because they believe in the work that horsemanship does for a person.”

It has been nearly 10 years since his parents, Jerry Smith and Terry Romero, said yes to funding the troop, and the family is still providing their support.

“Norwich produces successful people. You don’t go to this kind of school if you’re not motivated,” said Romero. “It’s a highly driven, high-impact kind of place. A lot is demanded, and the Cadets give a lot,” she said. “We’re happy to do it.”

Smith echoed his mother and said the family is “very, very pleased” to foster new generations of riders at Norwich. “We hope to see that horsemanship is kept alive at Norwich,” he said. “We unequivocally believe in this program with our entire beings.”

(Left to right) Samantha McCullough ’24 (front left) is followed by Katie Connolly ’25 (back left) and Ian Mace ’23 (back right) as they ride through the rain during a Labor Day Parade.



# DOC MARTIN SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT DINNER

Harold “Doc” Martin’s legacy helps create opportunity and growth through generosity and recognition

STORY BY ZACK BENNETT

The Harold “Doc” Martin Scholarship is one of the newest ways Norwich gives students from all walks of life a chance to grow into tomorrow’s leaders. Martin, who graduated with the Class of 1920, was the first African American Cadet in the university’s history, and the scholarship named in his honor is made possible through generous donations from both alumni and friends of the university. Many of those same supporters of Norwich came together in February during the Harold “Doc” Martin Scholarship Benefit Dinner at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

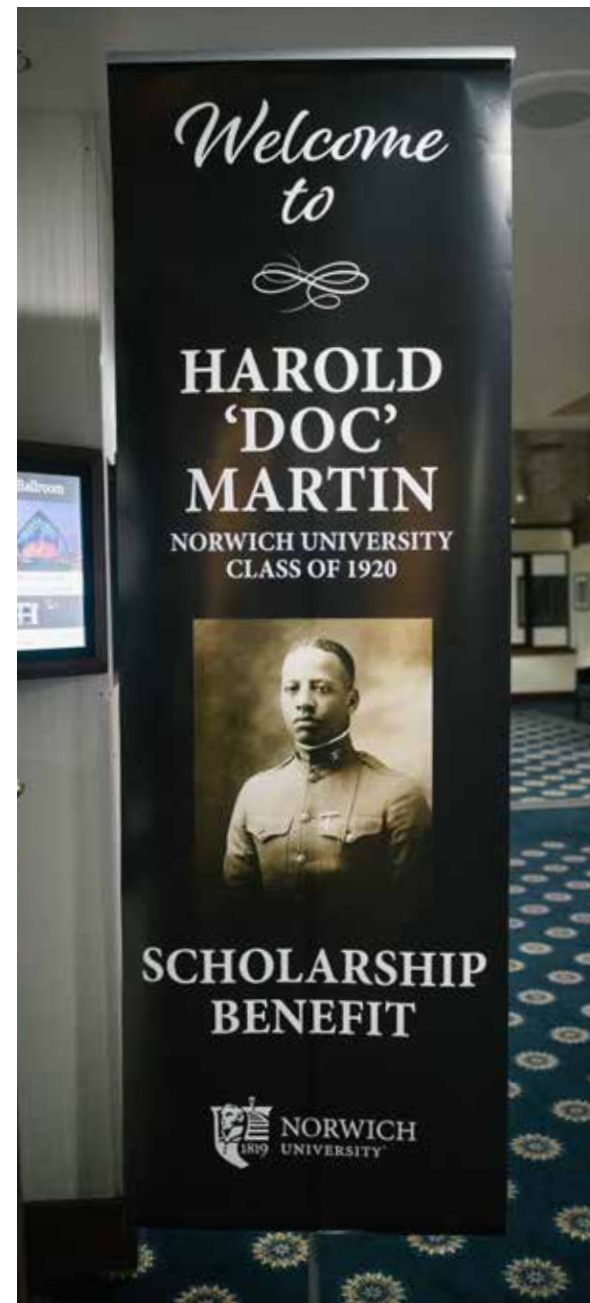
The Harold “Doc” Martin Scholarship Committee hosted the benefit. Its goal was to raise money for the scholarship fund, and the plan was very well met. By the end of the night, around \$200,000 was raised.

“We are just thrilled and excited, and just so thankful, that we were able to raise that kind of money to help other African Americans and other nationalities come to the school,” said Lisa Martin, Doc’s granddaughter.

Lisa and her brother, Doc’s grandson, and namesake, Harold Martin, were two of the many members of the Martin Family who attended the event. “Access to education has always been important to our family, and it started with Doc’s parents,” said Harold. “It’s carried on through the years, and it has been rewarding to cultivate relationships with the committee and meet back up with them.”

When Harold previously came to the bicentennial celebration at the university, his son was unfortunately unable to make it. “This was an opportunity for him to experience firsthand a part of what we have experienced, and it was good for the whole family.”

While Norwich is a renowned institution, being a senior military college means those inclined to serve tend to pay the most attention to the university. “To get the word out



A banner welcomes guests to the benefit at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.



(Left to right) Joshua Hamilton '26, Kayla Jacobs '25, Kimeisha Moyston '25, Gwendolina Ephraim '25, Chris Brown '26, Tim Morris '26, and Patricio De'Regis '26 made the trip from Northfield to Washington D.C. for the benefit in February.

there is really important,” said Lisa. “If you have a fundraiser like this where you can raise this much money, it’s like the cream on top – it’s wonderful.”

One of the ways that funds were raised at the benefit was through auctions. There was a wide variety of things to bid on, such as NHL hockey tickets, a trip to a Hilton resort, and a ceremonial Jordanian dagger. Two of the highlights in the auction were a fully functioning miniature Howitzer cannon and a South African hunting safari. The pair sold for a combined \$11,000.

The cannon was obtained by Nicole Harris ’94. “A friend of mine is a welder by trade and is a pretty crafty guy,” she said. “We live in Vicksburg, Mississippi, right where the military park is. He builds these cannons based on ones he’s seen in the park.” Since they live “out in the country,” he can take them to a field and test them where Harris said they will fire a ball bearing “clear across the river.”

Harris approached him with the idea of purchasing one to be sold in the auction, but when he learned what it would be used for, he donated it free of charge.

Bakari Dale ’99 provided the safari hunting trip for the auction. He is an avid outdoorsman who loves hunting and fishing and was inspired to combine his passion for the outdoors with his love for Norwich.

“When I first heard of the benefit, I looked at it, and it was very similar to how some of the hunting events I participate in are organized,” he said. “We have a beautiful dinner where ticket proceeds go to a scholarship or other initiative.” As a past president of the Harold “Doc” Martin Society, Dale was already familiar with Doc’s legacy and was eager to support the scholarship through the donation of the hunting trip.

Today, Kayla Jacobs ’24 is the president of the Black Student Union, an organization that fills a similar role to the Harold “Doc” Martin Society. She attended the benefit and said that it was “absolutely beautiful.”

Jacobs said that she loved getting to meet all the alumni who were supporting the scholarship. “They wanted to talk to us, and they made sure we knew that,” she said. “They approached, asked us questions, gave us their cards and took pictures. It was amazing.”

“It was great to meet other black alumni because I’ve met maybe one or two, and it wasn’t even in person,” said Jacobs. “I feel like new students here can see this and know that as long as you do what you need to do, get good grades, and be an outstanding person, you’ll get your chance at Norwich.”

Dr. Julia Bernard, vice president of diversity, equity, and inclusion, facilitated the trip to benefit the students. “Having the students there was just phenomenal,” she said. “They got to meet the alumni and hear their stories and know that someone who might have had struggles did this before them successfully.”

*“When I think about what I’ve learned from Doc’s incredible story, I’m more inspired to support the scholarship and the next generation of students coming through Norwich.”*

In addition to the Martins and Norwich alumni, guests were treated to appearances by other esteemed individuals. Two of them were retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Cedric T. Wins, superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, and Lt. Col. Enoch “Woody” Woodhouse, a Tuskegee Airman who served alongside Doc. Wins gave his remarks to the group gathered to honor Doc, and Woodhouse joined the group virtually after a video was shown to the crowd.

Willie Wright ’93 is a member of the scholarship committee and chaired the event. He ended the evening with his closing remarks. “When I think about what I’ve learned from Doc’s incredible story, I’m more inspired than ever to support the scholarship and the next generation of students coming through Norwich.”

To learn more about Doc Martin’s incredible journey and how you can support the scholarship, visit us online at [alumni.norwich.edu/docmartinscholarship](http://alumni.norwich.edu/docmartinscholarship).



Event emcee and Harold “Doc” Martin Committee member Willie Wright ’93 takes the stage and greets the crowd.



Norwich President Dr. Mark Anarumo shows off a limited-edition bottle of WhistlePig whiskey with custom Norwich labeling, which later sold at auction for \$1,050.

## GOVERNMENT

# A “REAL” SIMULATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Norwich students participate in real-world policymaking with informed debates, while visiting the White House, the Pentagon and beyond

STORY BY ZACK BENNETT

Practice makes perfect. The phrase borders on cliché, but the fact remains that an experience is an invaluable tool for learning anything in life. In that spirit, Dr. Michael Thunberg, associate professor of political science, annually assigns a simulation project tied to an experiential learning trip to Washington, D.C., in his U.S. Security Policy class.

The class's assignment takes the form of a scenario that students must tackle as a team, replicating situations they might face in the professional world of foreign relations. Thunberg, who is assisted by Assistant Professor of History Dr. Nick Roberts, makes it a point each year to ensure that the class's project is as timely and relevant to current events as possible, workshopping the scenario until a couple of weeks before departure while preparing students for the challenge.

“We spent weeks leading up to the trip doing background work and learning how to make a policy-based decision,” said Abigail Williams '23, a criminal justice major in Thunberg's class. “We were working on policies, debating them, and creating our own decisions.” She and her classmates would present their work to the class for feedback. “It got torn apart to get us into the mindset that when you're working in D.C., whomever you're briefing will be able to tear it apart,” she said.

Behind the scenes, Thunberg had settled on the general topic of artificial intelligence (AI) for this year's project. With AI taking the world by storm through programs like the AI chatbot, ChatGPT and controversies surrounding AI-generated art, there was hardly a more relevant choice.

As their departure date crept closer, the project's hypothetical scenario was finally revealed to students: U.S. AI has mistakenly attacked Israel, and

Israel doesn't know it yet. Their work would be mainly centered around the decision-making process of proceeding after discovering the accidental attack, a process they had practiced in class for the last couple of weeks.

From there, the class was split into two teams. Students assumed professional roles in each team to mimic the workplace in foreign relations. Specifically, they took on the roles of agency directors involved in foreign affairs and policymaking. “We would act as whatever role we had, and that's how we would interact with our peers,” said Colin Stover '24, a student in the in Studies in War and Peace Program. “My agency was the CIA, so I came at it from an intelligence perspective.”

With teams in place and practice under their belt, the group prepared to ship off to Washington for their week-long trip. While most educational trips to Washington are often treated as a fun field trip, making stops at memorials and museums and taking commercial tours, Thunberg takes excellent care to make the trip a thoughtfully crafted experience for his students that can help them with their project. “I didn't want them doing anything they could do or schedule on their own while on the trip,” he said.

Thunberg uses alum connections to make it all possible. Norwich alums are spread throughout Washington, from the White House to the Pentagon and everywhere in between. As exciting as each tour is, there is always the deeper purpose of using these experiences to help students complete their projects. “You're learning to balance all this information that's coming at you from different places and trying to ask the right questions that can help you on the project,” said Williams, reflecting on the trip.

Once they arrived in the capital, they didn't waste any time. Their first day was spent in the White House, lined up with the help of Hansen Mak '99. He serves as the budget review and assessment director in the Office of the National Cyber Director at the White



Thunberg's class visits the State Department and flies the Norwich flag among the flags of nations.

## NEWS FROM THE HILL

House and met with the students to join them on their tour. “Seeing certain things can leave a lasting impression,” he said. “It can be an eye-opener for many who have come to D.C. and seen the White House through the fence but never stepped inside it.”

“The first day helped support their project,” said Thunberg. The class was immediately met with an impressive tour where they strolled down the West Colonnade into the West Wing. They explored the Oval Office, Cabinet Room and Roosevelt Room. “Seeing these places and connecting it to the idea of decision-making laid on the gravity of what the folks in the upper levels of the government actually do,” he said.

“The West Wing of the White House was amazing,” said Williams. “You learn that you didn’t know the State Department does all of these things, and there’s a lot more that goes into what happens in this building than you realize.”

“Seeing and not just hearing about where things are getting done, I think, can give an idea that ‘I could do this too,’” said Mak. He added that he could sense “a level of excitement” from the class and that they were inquisitive and always wanted to know more.

The trip continued similarly. Adam Raezler ’09, vice president of a consulting and lobbying firm, McKeon Group, set up an exclusive tour of the Capitol through his connections with Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy’s team. “I wanted to make sure they got a further insight into how U.S. government functions beyond the basic government classes,” he said. “How they function on topics of concern and relevance to the students and the program they’re in at Norwich.”



A team of students responds to Friday’s final injection and prepares to advise principal decision-makers.

Raezler met with the group and talked with them about building careers in Washington and how policy operates and functions in relation to defense and foreign affairs. “You can tell these are highly motivated, really driven students,” he said. “They’re all engaged and asked a ton of questions.”

The scenario the students handled was “incredibly timely,” said Raezler. “We’re seeing such a race towards the use of AI in defense and for security purposes, and

***“I wanted to make sure they got a further insight into how U.S. government functions beyond the basic government classes.”***

the project addressed a very complicated scenario and their options. You have to make tough decisions on how you work on certain things.”

Thunberg said that his class could “Draw connections between the Oval Office, the tunnel that the president-elect walks out of to be inaugurated, and the separation of powers between the legislative and executive branch” when this tour was considered alongside their venture into the White House.

A moment that drove that connection home was when the class was invited to step out onto the Speaker’s Balcony, where you get “Truly the greatest view of D.C.,” according to Raezler.

“We didn’t even know it was going to happen until we were told to walk out the door,” said Williams. “Standing there and seeing where the inauguration happens was amazing.”

The rest of the institutions the class saw were equally inspiring. They went to the Pentagon, where Thunberg said the students learned about budgeting and “How to conceptualize the billions of dollars” accounted for in the Pentagon’s budget. They also talked with Col. Winfield Adkins ’96 and Lt. Gen. Laura Potter, both Army, whom Thunberg said had “Awesome insights that helped students frame some of their exercises and the project’s scenario.”

The class continued their trek through Washington and got an insider’s look at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, which, among other things, is known for gathering crucial information about the Osama bin



(Left to right) Matthew Walker '23, Keegan Coulter '23, Matthew Matula '23, Colin Stover '23, Ian Borton '23, Gabriel Williams '23, and Wil Bazant '23 sit in a ceremonial room in the Eisenhower Old Executive Office Building.



Dr. Michael Thunberg, surrounded by the class, sits at the Vice President's desk in the ceremonial office at the Eisenhower Old Executive Office Building.



Laden compound U.S. Armed Forces raided. “It gave me some cool perspective on an agency I didn’t know much about,” said Stover. “Looking at it from an intelligence standpoint in my role for the simulation, I was able to think about intelligence we did and didn’t have.”

“Their presentations are impressive, and the students got a lot out of that,” said Thunberg. “We also met with the chief of staff, where the students had an open session to ask questions.”

The class made two separate stops at the State Department in the following days and had the chance to hear from speakers who provided context on global issues relevant to their project, as well as how their project might be addressed from the State Department’s perspective.

Following their second stop there, the team again met with Raezler and 2022 Colby Award winner Wesley Morgan, a journalist and author of *The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley*. Teams spent an hour talking with each before they switched speakers. “All of the ways that public relations, communications, and journalism goes into this kind of work are not always considered when you’re learning in class,” said Roberts. “They were able to bring

in unique perspectives, and it was one of the best moments where the students were able to dig into the simulation.”

The class went through the Terrorist Screening Center on Thursday morning. This was the last tour on their exhaustive trip through the government agencies, but they were kept on their toes during the week by Thunberg and Roberts and had work to tackle for the simulation throughout.

On top of their tours and talks throughout the trip, students were faced with two “Pretty significant pressure points,” in the simulation, according to Thunberg. One was a mock congressional hearing conducted by some of Thunberg’s connections in the State Department who have experience testifying before Congress. The other was a mock press conference made up of more of his connections at the State Department who have experience in press interactions. “We had all kinds of guests come in and really trip them up on their words, and they got to experience things like an ambush interview,” said Roberts, reflecting on the realistic experiences that the students could not get in a classroom setting.

The class conquered the challenges, and when they finally wrapped up their trip at the Terrorist Screening Center, they

spent their Thursday afternoon writing three presidential briefing memos. “They needed to be able to pitch all three of these the next morning, so they pretty much worked all afternoon before going into the exercise on Friday,” said Thunberg.

When Friday morning came, it was time for the class to split into their teams and prepare to undertake the final stretch of the assignment. “Once we got into the last day, all stakes were in,” said Williams. “We had to make the briefs for the end of it, all almost completely different from each other.”

With briefs in hand, they presented the policy proposals that they had worked on the previous day. Thunberg led the class through the project and guided them to their first decision point and threw the class a curveball. “They came in thinking it would

***“They had 15 minutes to take everything they’d done that day and distill it into a consumable product they could present to the ‘president.’”***

be all international, and we gave them their first decision point, which was more about domestic politics,” he said. “We threw them off their game a little bit and shook them,” he added, but they stood firm, and “Their engagement was spot on.”

The class cleared their first hurdle and pressed on with their second, and final, decision point. Once in their meeting, the team delivered their decisions to the person acting as the president and outlined the resulting consequences. “They had 15 minutes to take everything they’d done that day and distill it into a consumable product they could present to the ‘president,’” said Thunberg.

With their briefings, the “press” and congressional hearings in the rearview mirror, the students had finally reached the finish line. They had successfully handled an accidental AI attack against an American ally. “It’s hard to articulate how well it went, the students did well, and the exercise they did was outstanding,” said Thunberg. “It was exceptional. Truly exceptional.”

“I learned a lot about the cyber side and foreign policy,” said Williams. “It was a great time and stressful, but I found it much fun overall.”

It was finally Friday evening, and following the team dinner, they had their first moments of free time since arriving in the capital. The class didn’t have much leisure time to spend around Washington before heading back to Northfield, but now they could enjoy themselves knowing they reeled in the rogue AI that had been absorbing all their attention over the past five days.

(Left to right) Matthew Walker ’23, Kaleb Price ’25, Lexi Johnson ’23, Dr Michael Thunberg, Molly Van Stone ’24, Keegan Coulter ’23, and Isabella Ross ’25 brandish the Norwich flag in the West Wing of the White House.



(Left to right, clockwise) Colin Stover ’23, Abigail Williams ’23, Alexis Matte ’23, Matthew Matula ’23, Gabriel Williams ’23, Will Bazant ’23, Ian Borton ’23, and Adam Raezler ’09 discuss the political influence and implications of national security issues.



# TAKING AIM AT RECLAIMING OUR IDENTITY AND HERITAGE

Norwich revitalizes its historic rifle team with overwhelming support, including a shooting range with Norwich roots

STORY BY ZACK BENNETT

Norwich University was in crisis because of the COVID-19 pandemic when President Mark Anarumo began his tenure in summer 2020. Although he had many high-priority objectives on his list, one stood out, even during a worldwide pandemic. He wanted to reestablish the Norwich rifle team, which had laid dormant for nearly two decades.

While some might not have anticipated that a team of marksmen would be such a high priority, especially amid a pandemic, Anarumo always wanted to bring it back. “There are certain things I know a senior military college should have, and one of them is a competitive shooting team,” he said.

For him, it was an issue of identity. The team’s history at Norwich dates to 1915 and has been intermittently offered over the last century. “We wanted to reestablish the foundation of our great heritage and history,” he said. “We want to be very clear about who we are. We are the original senior military college, and our rich heritage includes the concept of the citizen-soldier, the birthplace of ROTC.”

It would take some time to get rolling, considering the immediate threat of COVID, but eventually, things began to fall into place hardly a year later.

In summer 2021, Anarumo was enjoying meeting new students and their families during a student sendoff in Virginia when he mentioned that the university would be working on bringing the shooting team back to the school. One of the future Cadets in the crowd was Jasmin Mann ’25, and his comment about the rifle team immediately caught her ear.

Mann was not only a future Cadet but a competitive marksman herself who had spent the past four years competing through her high school Marine Corps JROTC program, where her father was her coach. She was



*“We wanted to reestablish the foundation of our great heritage and history.”*

Aiden Burris '26 takes aim during a home match against MIT at the Baroffio's range.

thrilled to learn that the sport would be returning. “Since I shot in high school and we didn’t have a team at Norwich, I wanted to have an opportunity to continue and for others to have the opportunity as well,” she said.

As the crowd started to dwindle and the soon-to-be Norwich students and their families were milling about, she kept her eye on Anarumo. She noticed that he had just finished a conversation, jumped at the chance to introduce herself, and asked about the rifle team, “How might we get that started again?”

“I told her to focus on coming to Norwich and being a Rook, and when the time is right, let’s continue this conversation,” said Anarumo, knowing the challenges that await Rooks once they arrive in Northfield. They exchanged contact information and planned on reconvening.

Time flew for Mann once she arrived on campus and entered Rookdom. As the early months passed, it was finally time for the traditional Rook picnic at Abare Farm.

Anarumo joined the Rooks on their day out, although he tried to keep a low profile and let the Cadets enjoy their rare time away from campus. “I was trying to give them time to enjoy themselves and not worry about spending time with anyone, let alone the president,” he said.

***“It just had gotten to be a line of coincidences and meetings that just made it scream that we had to do this.”***

Anarumo found himself shooting trap alongside a Norwich alum, Mike Hourigan ’85. Unbeknownst to the new president, Hourigan is a competitive shooter and former coach of the Norwich rifle team, where he was at the helm from 1987 to 2000. As they were shooting, their meandering conversation made its way to competitive marksmanship.

“We were just small talking and started talking about bringing the rifle team back,” said Anarumo. “I told him that we were going to get it done, and he said he wanted to help us reestablish it.”

The day wore on, and Mann bumped into Anarumo on the farm. “I ran into him there, and I hadn’t seen him since the sendoff because I was so wrapped up in Rookdom,” she said. Naturally, their conversation turned to bring the rifle team back to Norwich.

By a stroke of luck, Hourigan was standing nearby. “She had walked up to the president, and I was just in the area and heard them talking about shooting,” he said. He was particularly excited because he had spent the last nearly 20 years “politicking to get the rifle team back,” and within a few hours, he realized that it was perhaps closer to fruition than ever before.

The three talked marksmanship at Norwich, and the day wound down. Much like the sendoff, the conversation was left with some hope of seeing the program back at Norwich one day soon.

Fast forward to Parent and Family Weekend a few months later, and Anarumo was at home, giving students space to enjoy their time with loved ones, when he noticed a car driving slowly past the president’s house. “I got a text



Coach Patrick Knapp '20 reviews the team's performance.

saying, ‘I’d love to show you something,’ from Jasmin’s father,” said Anarumo. Moments later, Mann and her father were on his doorstep with an air rifle and practice kit.

They took the kit to his side yard and set up shop. Mann, in her uniform, lay on the ground and showed Anarumo how it all worked. “They explained it to me, showed me how you can teach the basics of breathing, trigger pull and how to adjust the sighting,” said Anarumo.

They shot targets for a while and demonstrated how things worked, and even let Anarumo have a try. “We had a lot of fun together,” he said.

Considering it was Family Weekend, Anarumo was hesitant to take up too much more of their already-scarce time together. “I was trying to be respectful of their time and told them how much I appreciated this,” he said. “The fact that the Manns chose to take part of their precious family time during Rook fall semester to perpetuate this idea was stunning. It was a very Norwich moment.”

The Manns walked back his concerns, telling him how important this was to them. “It was a beautiful exchange with a family who was equally invested as I was in bringing the rifle team back,” said Anarumo. “That’s the thing about Norwich people; we don’t just talk about things, we actually do it. It’s not just talk.”

The Manns packed their kit and headed out to finish their Family Weekend together. Now, it was clear to Anarumo that it was time to seriously work on bringing rifle home to Norwich. “It just had gotten to be a line of coincidences and meetings that just made it scream that we had to do this,” he said. “There were all these chance encounters that were perfectly timed that made me know this was the right time to pull this off.”

Anarumo began the process of reinstating the team and started by bringing Hourigan into the fold. “I had a couple of meetings with the president, and away we went,” said Hourigan.

New Director of Athletics Ed Hockenbury was one of the first stops on the path to the team’s resurrection. “President Anarumo is a strong supporter of athletics and opportunities for Norwich students, and he recognized the team’s fit at our university,” said Hockenbury. “There’s such a strong connection to our history. The rifle program was successful at Norwich for quite a long time, and it’s that combined with the opportunity for students that made bringing it back so attractive for us.”

Bringing back the team was a challenge for Hockenbury, though a welcome one. “First of all, I’m tasked with this new sport, and I know nothing about it. I’ve never shot a gun in my life,” he said. “What equipment do they need, what type of ammunition do they use, what do they wear, what should our schedule look like?” he pondered.

As fate would have it, the rifle team’s deep connection with the university that he praised would be his rescue when he was



Aiden Burris '26 and Logan Hassle '26 compete against MIT.

introduced to Hourigan. “I was trying to learn a lot in a short time, but Mike already knew it all,” said Hockenbury. “He was very generous and helpful to the team and me.”

They needed to find someone to take the reins of the new program. “Here we are in Northfield, Vermont, and I’m thinking, boy are we going to struggle to find a coach,” said Hockenbury. His expectations couldn’t have been more wrong.

He posted the position online and immediately received multiple high-quality candidates. A recent Norwich alum who is a retired Marine and was a marksmanship instructor in the Corps caught his eye in Patrick Knapp ’20. “Where Patrick rose to the top is that he has experience as a marksman, and he has experience in teaching others to shoot at a high level,” said Hockenbury. He was on the phone setting up an interview with Knapp by the end of the day. The next day, Hockenbury was interviewing him with Hourigan by his side. Before long, he was officially Coach Knapp.

Throughout the interview, it became clear that Knapp had invaluable expertise that couldn’t be ignored. “We knew that

students who joined this team would likely be Corps students,” said Hockenbury. “I knew his military background would hold a great connection with this team.”

In the second instance of fate’s intervention, Knapp had found the posting “out of sheer luck” while applying to a Navy ROTC position at Norwich – which he also landed. “I found the coaching position online and just decided to throw my application in,” he said.

Hourigan decided to return to his alma mater’s team, this time as a volunteer assistant coach – helping Knapp clear the hurdle of assembling his first coaching staff. Putting together a staff can be difficult for any first-year collegiate coach, but luckily, Knapp and Hourigan found a natural fit.

The Norwich alumni network flexed its muscles again when Hourigan introduced Knapp to Todd Mansfield ’02, a former rifle team member who shot under Hourigan at the university; as he did with Hourigan, Knapp instantly connected with Mansfield and brought him on as a volunteer assistant coach.

Both Hourigan and Mansfield are passionate about competitive shooting and Norwich. They are employed full-time outside the program and donate their time and efforts to the team. Hourigan comes to coach when he can but credits Mansfield with shouldering a considerable load. “He’s been a godsend to the students,” said Hourigan. “He’s more of a consistent coach where I’m more of an every-now-and-then guy.”

“I’m absolutely – and so is the team and the university – very fortunate to have Todd,” said Knapp. “He’s an amazing coach and mentor, and the students love him. They go to him not just for shooting stuff but for life challenges – which is the idea of coaching, right?”

Mansfield is passionate about the team and the sport, saying, “We’re here, and we hope never to go away again.”

The staff was in place, but as Hockenbury had thought about when tasked with the team’s return, they needed equipment. Rifles, ammunition and other equipment will quickly run up a bill, mainly because the team shoots both small-bore

.22 caliber and air rifles. One of the particular challenges when it comes to the rifles themselves is that competitive marksmanship rifles are expensive and customizable, meaning that ideally, each student will have one to call their own.

Luckily for the program, the support from alums would continue pouring in. Pratt Valentine ’86, a retired Marine and former Norwich track and field athlete, was scrolling Facebook one day when he saw that the rifle team was returning. While in the Marines, he became interested in competitive shooting, though most of his experience surrounded the AR-15 platform.

“I was once told if I wanted to get good with a rifle, to get myself a bolt-action .22 rifle,” said Valentine. “So, I did.”

He bought himself an Olympic-style Anschütz .22 caliber rifle to improve his marksmanship. “Shooting rifles like this help you learn natural point of aim, sight alignment, sight picture and trigger squeeze,” he said.



The Norwich Rifle Team takes down MIT at the Baroffio's range.

Valentine used the rifle to hone his skills while competing but said his interests wandered down other paths as life went on. “I hadn’t shot the rifle since 2006 or so, really,” he said. “I didn’t have as much desire to use it as often as I once did.”

“When I heard they were bringing back the rifle team, I thought to myself that I’d love to send it to Norwich,” said Valentine. “Why not donate it? They’d get better use of it.”

The type of rifle Valentine donated is worth thousands of dollars, and Knapp said his support was “incredible.”

With equipment starting to come together, securing a range was one of the final formalities. Norwich used to have an on-campus range, but “It had been repurposed into a storage area due to modern requirements for baffling, ventilation and whatever else,” said Anarumo.

Once again, Hourigan knew just who to talk to. He still competed locally in the Vermont Winter Postal League and knew where to start poking for range space. Through participation in the league and a connection with one of his former student-athletes, Viki Baroffio ’98, he knew that the Baroffio family owned a range just six or seven miles up the road from the campus.

“I’ve known the Baroffios since I’ve been in town,” said Hourigan. “They’ve always supported the team, all the way back to when Viki was on the team.”

Before long, the school rented the facility from Bruce and Penny Baroffio, Viki’s parents, who own the range. “We’re glad to have them; we support Norwich any way we can,” said Bruce. “It’s too bad we had a military college without a rifle team for a long time.”

Like something out of a storybook, the building itself has Norwich roots. “When they were tearing out the old range, my dad got a call from one of the gunnies,” said Bruce. “He told us to come up and take anything we wanted. If it’s bolted down, unbolt it.” They did just that, and their range was built using pieces of the old Norwich range.

The program now had a coaching staff, equipment beginning to stockpile and a range to call home. But that’s only half the battle. The team still needed marksmen.

Knapp didn’t have to wait too long to start filling his roster. “The word got out that we were standing the shooting team back up,” he said. “Athletic Director Hockenbury had a ‘Meet the Coaches’ night, and students just swarmed me.” There was such an abundance of interest that he had to ask for the students’ “15-second resumes” just to be able to talk with everyone.

Of course, Mann didn’t let this opportunity slip past her. “When they announced they’d have rifle, I went down with some of my freshmen since I’m a Cadet Corporal, and I have a platoon I work with,” she said. “I went down there because I hadn’t met Coach Knapp and talked with him.”

In a remarkably short amount of time, Knapp was able to put together a roster with a strong foundation built almost exclusively of freshmen, with Mann being the lone sophomore. “We got fortunate with our young students this year,” he said. “It’s going to be a great base to build a foundation for stability.”

One of the young athletes joining was a then-incoming freshman, Aiden Burris ’26. He boasts experience shooting on both his high school team and the school’s Navy JROTC team, where he qualified for, and competed in, the Navy Nationals. “When I applied to Norwich and got my Army ROTC scholarship, I reached out to Coach Knapp because I heard that the rifle team was coming back the year I was coming to Norwich,” he said.

The roster currently sits at eight athletes, and “It’s a tight team; they’ve bonded really well,” said Knapp. Eventually, he sees the “sweet spot” at around 15 athletes. Already keeping an eye on the future, he has a handful of interested Rooks who have sent in resumes for next year. “If we can get four or five that are very competitive, good shooters, we’ll be right about where I want us to be,” he said.

***“We’re going to be much more deliberate and demonstrative about our excellence. The character of our school and how we create leaders is something the world will be finding out about very quickly.”***

With the team’s core now in place, Knapp, his staff and the student-athletes were ready to take on the inaugural season in the Mid-Atlantic Rifle Conference (MAC). Although the team competes in the MAC, Knapp describes the sport as one “Where each team throughout the nation is shooting against each other” through aggregate scores. “It’s a big, broad picture, going against everybody,” he said. “We might be one weekend shooting against MIT, but you’re also looking at scores from teams in Alaska and schools like North Carolina State and Army.”

The team faced the State University of New York Plattsburgh in its first match back and put a victory in the books with a nail-biting, 50-point win. Over the next couple of months, the team would compete in seven more matches, finishing the season with a record of three wins and five losses.

“Norwich students are always very willing to take on any challenge, and this is a wonderful example,” said Anarumo. “It speaks to the quality of our student-athletes, our professional staff and coaches, and our partnership with the community.”

The team had athletes post scores into the 550s this year, which is “very, very good,” according to Knapp. One of those athletes was Burris. “When you’re going against teams that have been competing for years, and we’re able to compete with them truly, I think we surprised some teams,” he said. “I think for these next years to come, we’re going to get very competitive.”

“We’ve had really good scores this year, but we want to work on being consistent for next year,” said Knapp. He’s aiming to bring the team into the 2,400 or 2,500 block for aggregate score “With the idea that in the third year, we’ll be working into 2,700 and making our way towards national championships.”

Bringing hardware home to Northfield has been the intention since day one. “I want to keep growing the program. I want to ensure we have the right equipment and they’re set up for success,” said Anarumo. “I want to get us to a national-championship level, quickly.”

Knapp shares his vision. “We want to make this team one of the standouts in the NCAA, and we can do that,” he said. “I think many people thought it would be a slow year for Norwich, but we came out and hit the ground running. People took notice of us.”

“We can no longer afford to be a well-kept secret at Norwich, in any way,” said Anarumo. “We’re going to be much more deliberate and demonstrative about our excellence. The character of our school and how we create leaders is something the world will be finding out about very quickly.”

**To support the rifle team, please visit: [givecampus.com/campaigns/37985/donations/new](https://givecampus.com/campaigns/37985/donations/new)**



Aiden Burris '26 sets his sights on a target.

## MILITARY

# ALL HANDS ON DECK!

Norwich's new Coast Guard Auxiliary Program helps fill a void at Norwich as well as for the Coast Guard

STORY BY ZACK BENNETT

The history of the United States Armed Forces is filled with moments of brilliance, innovation and determination since the creations of the Continental Army, Navy and Marines in 1775. The especially unique Revenue Cutter Service was born 15 years later in 1790, and eventually evolved into the form we recognize today: the United States Coast Guard.

Like the Coast Guard, Norwich University has been embedded in America's military history for more than 200 years, educating and preparing citizen soldiers for leadership. The university birthed the Reserve Officers' Training Corps and has produced esteemed leaders across all branches of the military. Now, Norwich has officially added the Coast Guard to its ranks on campus. With the newly chartered United States Coast Guard Auxiliary University Programs (AUP) on campus, Norwich Cadets and civilian students alike can take a distinctly unique path to embody the spirit of service to their country.

AUPs are essential in fulfilling the Coast Guard's need for personnel. They can educate and train while offering real-world experience within the Coast Guard. Those who join this program "accept a very different lifestyle," said Sgt. Maj. Brad Gallimore, Norwich's AUP faculty advisor. "What these students do amazes me. They're not just in it for themselves; they want to make life better for everyone."

The Coast Guard aims to commission 500 new officers each year over the next half-decade. However, less than half of that number is commissioned by Coast Guard Academy graduates. "The Coast Guard Academy is small. The Coast Guard is looking to other military schools and academies to fill the gaps," said Gallimore. After completing the program and graduating from Norwich, the Cadets and civilian students who joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary and participated in the AUP's Program of Study can apply for commission through either a direct officer commission program or an officer candidate school. AUPs have been installed nation-



Cadets and auxiliaries on board a 47 ft. MLB performing towing maneuvers in Portland Harbor, Sector Northern New England.

## NEWS FROM THE HILL

wide and have proven successful, with upwards of 70% of program graduates commissioning into the Coast Guard as officers.

Norwich University became one of the “primary target schools” to bring an AUP to in 2021, according to Russell Gasdia, Auxiliary branch chief of AUP development. “Our focus was on military and maritime schools, and Norwich was one of the more prestigious schools without an AUP.”

Gasdia began his work towards bringing Norwich into the fold during the summer of that same year by contacting his network of connections. They eventually led him to Cadet Derek Furtado '23, who became the spark plug for the program's development on Norwich's campus.

Furtado was a junior when he met Gasdia and had been interested in joining the Coast Guard since high school. After graduation, he decided to attend Norwich to prepare himself for the challenges he'd face in the Coast Guard and became an enlisted reservist. “I've always dreamed of flying helicopters, and I'm studying mechanical engineering to prepare myself for that one day, hopefully,” he said. The Auxiliary's interest in Norwich was the perfect opportunity for Furtado to help bring the Coast Guard to campus.

With Furtado committed to bringing the AUP to Northfield, Gasdia guided him through the infancy of standing up the program. Armed with his determination and the backing of an Auxiliary branch chief, Furtado spearheaded the initiative to bring an AUP to Norwich.

Recruiting the initial cohort of auxiliaries fell squarely on Furtado's shoulders. He spread the word around campus, talking with anyone who would listen to his recruitment pitch. “Norwich has a unique set of people and outcomes, and I knew we could make it work,” he said.

He eventually assembled a group of five recruits by the fall of 2022. Before the first semester of his senior year was over, the program was being stood up at Norwich as a chartered AUP. This January, he was joined by Norwich



Emmett Allen '26 and Auxiliary Unit Liaison Charlie Poltenson chat on the bridge of the 47 ft. MLB.

President Maj. Gen. (VSM) Mark Anarumo, President Emeritus and retired Coast Guard Rear Adm. Richard W. Schneider, and U.S. Coast Guard First District Commander, Rear Adm. John W. Mauger, during the official charter signing ceremony.

“There was already Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps around Norwich, and now there's Coast Guard in blue uniforms on campus,” said Furtado, now the official AUP unit leader.

“Working with Norwich University and Derek, who has shown commitment and leadership from the start, was outstanding,” said Gasdia. “I've worked with around six schools, and I don't play favorites, but my experience with Norwich I hold close to my heart.”

The program has received additional support after becoming official. Charles Poltenson, a 17-year member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and past division commander, joined the network of auxiliaries supporting Norwich's program as their AUP unit liaison. He travels to the university twice a month to work with the students and help facilitate the program. “I love working with students, and the cadets are a real pleasure,” he said.

***“There was already Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps around Norwich, and now there's Coast Guard in blue uniforms on campus.”***

Since launching, the program has proliferated and is now up to nearly 25 auxiliaries. “It was hard to get going, but now every week, it seems like I meet with three or four interested students,” said Furtado.

One of the Cadets he recruited early on is Hannah Shaner '24, who now helps him shoulder the recruitment load as the AUP executive officer. “The second we got the chartering ceremony, more people started applying,” she said. She spends much of her time running meetings with applicants, keeping training records and overseeing field training exercises.

Similar to Furtado, her gaze was drawn to the Coast Guard while she was in high school. “My interest was piqued my freshman year when I learned about it through JROTC,” she said, pointing to the smaller size compared to the Army and its family feel as draws for her.

To join the AUP, all participants must first join the Coast Guard Auxiliary. They join what is known as a flotilla, and Norwich University participants have two options for flotillas: they can join the one closest to their home address or join Burlington's.

Shaner joined the Auxiliary near her hometown in Pennsylvania and completed a series of training requirements that included FEMA Incident Command courses, a Department of Defense Cyber Awareness Challenge, a safe boating course, and other Coast Guard courses, as well as Department of Homeland Security required training.

Furtado is a native of Plymouth, Massachusetts, and serves his community during the summer months as a reservist with the United States Coast Guard Station Boston, about an hour north of his hometown. He is a summer boat crew member and is qualified in small-boat tactics. “I basically give active-duty guys a couple of weeks off,” he said. “Working around my hometown is a neat thing, and I take a lot of pride in it.”

“The AUP has let me see every part of the Coast Guard,” said Furtado. Auxiliaries can work in essential roles through their respective flotillas, such as public boating courses and vessel safety checks, and according to Gasdia, “This provides experiences that other colleges and universities without AUPs can't.” They participate in virtually every effort the Coast Guard puts forth, barring direct law enforcement and military missions.

Furtado graduated in April and plans to put his mechanical engineering degree to work in the Coast Guard's Machinery Technician Apprenticeship School and become a certified machinery technician to chase his dream of one day flying. Although he's leaving Norwich less than a year after the chartering of the program he helped raise, it will be left in good hands. Shaner will leave her position as AUP executive officer to pick up where Furtado left off as the unit leader. The program is young and growing, but she feels confident moving into a leadership role “knowing Norwich has the AUP's back.”

Unit Liaison Poltenson knows the AUP on Norwich's campus is primed for success. “If I didn't think these Cadets were worth the time, I wouldn't be doing this,” he said. “I see these kids, and I think to myself, yeah, they've got it.”



(Left to right) Auxiliary Unit Liaison Charlie Poltenson, Hannah Shaner '24, Emmett Allen '26, Master Chief Daniel Morales, Maverick Landry '26, Michael Cowenhoven '25, and Norwich AUP Faculty Advisor Command Sergeant Major Brad Gallimore in front of Portland Head Light.

## RADM Richard W. Schneider Coast Guard Scholarship

Norwich students seeking careers in the Coast Guard can gain financial aid through the RADM Richard W. Schneider Coast Guard Scholarship. A group of 1968 Norwich graduates banded together and created this scholarship in Schneider's honor. Although not a Norwich grad himself, the class of '68 named him an honorary member of their class.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors at the university who aim to serve in the Coast Guard are eligible for this scholarship if they have joined the Coast Guard Reserve or are interning with a Coast Guard facility. They must also remain in good academic standing and demonstrate financial need.

Hannah Shaner '24 aboard a Coast Guard 47-ft. life-saving vessel on Casco Bay.





**Class of 1963**

As most of you know by now, 2023 is the 100th anniversary of the Norwich class ring which will be celebrated at Homecoming 2023. The Alumni Office received a copy of a note about the ring that alumnus Charles “Aboo” Hall ‘63 sent to his classmates. We would like to share it with you.

“Hello Fellow Classmates,  
 Aside from my health, my faith, my children and my love of my late parents, perhaps the most meaningful life’s gift is my Norwich ring which I earned upon my graduation in 1963. My parents worked hard to afford this beautiful ring and I treasure it. My Norwich ring symbolizes the effort I put into my time there and the love I have for my university. It is not an easy task to arrive as a Rook, to survive that first year, and then to gain confidence and to thrive as an upperclassman. Those of us who met this challenge are better people because of our courage and commitment. Norwich, my classmates and the pride that I have in my accomplishments there will stay with me from now until I leave this earth. I was able to overcome obstacles later in life because of my adherence to fairness and hard work.”



1. Charles “Aboo” Hall ‘63 the year he received his class ring.  
 2. Mike ‘90, Ava and Jack ‘23 LaPage  
 3. Al Wilder ‘82

Here’s to “Aboo” and all his classmates who will celebrate their 60th reunion September!

**Class of 1979**

Steve Field ‘79 has retired and moved to Northern Thailand with his wife of 32 years, Noi. Anyone in the area is welcome to stop in. You can contact Steve at: steveandnoi@yahoo.com.

**Class of 1982**

Al Wilder ‘82 was happily surprised by his wife, Melissa, for Christmas. Knowing that he appreciated Norwich University swag, she contacted the Alumni Office to see what was available. As there were a few remaining Christmas ornaments left over from past building dedications, a deal was struck. They now have seasonal pride of place on the Wilder Christmas tree.

**Class of 1988**

Shawn LoPorto ‘88, P’18 and Teri Hart were married in Colorado on April 28.

**Class of 1990, 2023 and 2027**

Mike LaPage, ‘90, proudly announces that his son Jack ‘23 has come down from the Hill while his daughter Ava ‘27 is heading up the Hill.

**Class of 1991**

Richard Porqueddu, ‘91 and MBA ‘03 has been accepted to Georgia Tech MSAE program with 16 out of 24 credits completed. He is majoring in Aerospace Engineering with a tract in Combustion and Propulsion.

Avantax®, a leader in tax-focused financial planning, welcomes Walter “Wally” Pardo ‘91, CWS®, PPC™ and his New Jersey-based Wealth Financial Partners LLC team. Pardo is looking to Avantax for new growth opportunities, including the ability to expand services and investment expertise with the support of Avantax’s Home Office specialists, as part of Pardo’s commitment to the marriage of tax and financial planning. To read more, please go to: <https://www.avantax.com/about/news/avantax-welcomes-walter-pardo-and-his-new-jersey-based-wealth-financial-partners-team>.

**Class of 1995 and 2018**

Col Trevor Hough ‘95 (USA, Ret.) and Curt Spalt ‘18 connected in April while both were students at Dartmouth College’s Tuck School of Business. Hough and Spalt recently completed Tuck’s Next Step Executive Business program designed for elite athletes and military veterans.

**Class of 1997**

Rev. Jason Stump ‘97 began his new calling in ministry as the pastor of Oakland Christian UCC in Suffolk, Virginia. Rev. Stump is “looking forward to working with the congregation and community in honoring faith traditions through innovative and engaging ways that seek God’s will for a more loving world.”



1. Left to right: Col Trevor Hough ‘95 (USA, Ret.) and Curt Spalt ‘18  
 2. Front, L to R: Jackson Spinrad, Fred ‘57 & Barbara Kreitzberg, Nava Spinrad; Back, L to R: Hannah ‘12, Emmett, Sam Spinrad ‘12  
 3. Stan Fisher’s *Sustaining the Carrier War*

**Class of 2004**

Starting mid-June, Alison Muratore ‘04 is now living in Rio de Janeiro! She’ll be here through December 2024 so if you find yourself in the area, Murator invites you to catch up over caipirinhas. Saúde!

Corinne LeFrancois, ‘04 and M’09 married Jeffrey Fildey in January 2023. They are expecting their first child in October.

**Class of 2009**

In 2009, CDR Stan “Fish” Fisher, USN, PhD, received his MA in Military History. He is now at the U.S. Naval Academy where he is Military Deputy to the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Recently, “Fish” published his first book *Sustaining the Carrier War*. He credits his

Norwich University Professors Dr. Hal Friedman and Dr. Miles Yu in the book’s acknowledgements.

**Class of 2012**

In June 2022, Bryce Barros ‘12 was selected for the Council on Foreign Relations’ (CFR) Stephen M. Kellen Term Member Program. As a CFR Term Member, Barros has received the opportunity to participate in a sustained conversation on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy. In addition, the program allows these younger members to interact with seasoned foreign policy experts and participate in a wide variety of events designed especially for them. Each year, a new class of term members between the ages of 30 and 36 is elected to serve a fixed five-year membership term.

Dan Kemp, MMH ‘12, one of the original Graduate Writing Center Fellows, has completed a major writing project of his own with the release of his first novel. *Door Number Three* is the first in a projected series regarding the adventures and misadventures of a hard-luck defense contracting firm called Athenaem, Incorporated. Released in February by the veteran-owned Cannon Publishing, it’s gotten excellent reviews on Amazon. He hopes to have the sequel *Doubling Down* complete in time for a Christmas release.

Hannah (Dustin) Spinard ‘12 and Sam ‘12 Spinard are pleased to announce the birth of their son Emmett Liam. Emmett and his siblings Nava May and Jackson Henry are great-grandchildren of Barbara and Fred Kreitzberg (‘57).

**Class of 2015**

Deandra Musial ‘15 and M’16 married Frederick William Nevin II on September 16, 2022, at Bill Miller’s Castle in North Branford!



## Class of 2018

**James M. Deitch '18** completed his Professional Certificate in American History at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, on 5/12/2023. He started the doctoral program in History at Liberty on 3/15/2023.

**Samantha Boelter '18** will be presenting her findings on Effa Manley and her support for players moving into Major League Baseball at the Society for American Baseball Research's 2023 Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference. The Conference will be held from July 20 to 23 in Detroit.

## Class of 2021

As of June 2022, **Elizabeth Coots, M'21** has been employed at the Montgomery County, Ohio, Records Center and Archives. She is the records center supervisor and is a digital archivist. "Thanks to my internship at the Vermont Granite Museum for my MAH in Public History, I am using the skills gained there to help set up a digitization and digital preservation program for the archive."

## Class of 2022

**Brennan Morelli-Mulvaney Corps of Cadets '20 and Anastasia McGoldrick Mulvaney Civilian '22** were married in October 2022. While we don't know how many of the classmates attended, the groom's cousin Ryan, who acted as ring bearer was photographed wearing eight NU class rings.

**Isaac Mounce M'22** has put his Norwich experience to good use. Since graduating with a master's in military history degree, he has presented at Texas Tech University's Vietnam Center & Sam Johnson Archive Vietnam Center. His presentation was a strategic, operational and tactical analysis of the Cambodian Incursion, based on his Capstone paper. Mounce is currently a lesson content writer for the tutoring site study.com. If you want to see his work on there, just search his name.



1. Deandra (Musial) '15 and Frederick Nevin on their wedding day
2. Anastasia McGoldrick Mulvaney '22 and Brennan Morelli-Mulvaney; Ring Bearer Ryan
3. Isaac Mounce, M'22 at his graduation
4. Pictured from left to right is Dan Curran, Carlito Ancheta, Bryce Sullenger, Ryan Van Splunder, Carson Heskett and Jack Tellifson
5. Deandra (Musial) '15 and Frederick Nevin on their wedding day
6. Timothy Williams '92 (left) and Evan Williams '23 (right)

In April 2023, six class of 2022 alumni graduated from United States Army Ranger School with Norwich pride! The are: Dan Curran, Carlito Ancheta, Bryce Sullenger, Ryan Van Splunder, Carson Heskett and Jack Tellifson.

## Class of 1992 and 2023

Proud Legacy father Timothy Williams '92 attended the Cybersecurity Research Forum at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, to see his son **Evan Williams '23** present a paper entitled IoMT Devices and Vulnerable Data in which he focused on identifying what recoverable information might be found in the applications used to connect to home-health "Internet of Things" Medical Devices (IoMT). According to his mentor, Dr. Matthew Bovee, Williams' paper was well-received and generated many questions.

## PARTRIDGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP KEY

**Chairman's Six Diamond Club**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$10,000,000 or more

**Chairman's Five Diamond Club**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$8,000,000-\$9,999,999

**Chairman's Four Diamond Club**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$6,000,000-\$7,999,999

**Chairman's Three Diamond Club**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$4,000,000-\$5,999,999

**Chairman's Two Diamond Club**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$2,000,000-\$3,999,999

**Chairman's One Diamond Club**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$1,000,000-\$1,999,999

**Five-Star General**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$750,000-\$999,999

**Four-Star General**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$500,000-\$749,999

**Three-Star General**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$250,000-\$499,999

**Two-Star General**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$100,000-\$249,999

**One-Star General**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$50,000-\$99,999

**Lifetime Level**  
cumulative lifetime giving of \$20,000-\$49,999

**Annual Membership**  
fiscal year gift of \$1,000 or more

**1819 Circle Membership**  
planned or deferred gift to the university

**Garrison Associates Membership**

consecutive annual giving in five-year increments

## PARTRIDGE SOCIETY

The mission of the Partridge Society is to encourage alumni, parents and friends of Norwich University to help the university achieve its financial goals and to formally recognize those who do so.

The Partridge Society Board of Directors welcomes the following new and promoted Lifetime and 1819 Circle Members and acknowledges new levels achieved between September 30, 2022, and April 30, 2023.

**Chairman's Two Diamond Club**  
Frederick '58, H'02 & RoxAnn Haynes & Family

**Chairman's One Diamond Club**  
David '54 & Nina Luce

**Four-Star General Members (\$500,000-\$749,999)**  
Mr. & Mrs. E. Miles Prentice, III

**Three-Star General Members (\$250,000-\$499,999)**  
John K. Mulligan '72  
Landers '87 & Jennifer Symes

**Two-Star General Members (\$100,000-\$249,999)**  
Patrick Carr, III '70  
Dan Cox '71

Daniel Evans '87, P'19  
Jim '70 & Carolyn Fouts  
Tina E. Judd-Christiano '83  
COL & Mrs. William Magdycz, MD, USA (Ret.) '85

Stephen & Alicia Quigley P'22  
Bob '59 & Pat Reath  
Michael & Annette '83 Redmond  
Mr. & Ms. Gary B. Simon P'22

**One-Star General Members (\$50,000-\$99,999)**  
Andrew Bannon '96  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher L. Budnick '86, P'20

Ms. Dorothy Byrne  
Mr. & Mrs. John P. Collins '90  
Clement R. Confessore '58  
August '66 & Carolyn '64 Daub  
LTC Paul '66 & Mrs. Susan '66 Jones, USA (Ret.)

Erik Liebegott '92  
Bruce '81 & Linda '81 Litchfield  
Joseph F. '64. & Marilyn S. Luzzi, Jr. '64  
Vincent '90 & Patrice McDermott  
John '61 & Helen Newton  
Lowell '93 & Dr. Silvia Price  
John D. Ridill '67  
Myrna L. Schultz W'60

**Lifetime Members (\$20,000-\$49,999)**

Dr. Mark Anarumo & Ms. Kristi Cooley  
Christopher & Bette Ann Anderson '72  
Robert '90 & Andrea Arone  
Peter F. Braeuler '73  
Mr. & Mrs. Alan E. Brennan '82 & P'14  
LTC Jacob '01, M'12 & Dr. Hilary '01  
Coons, USA

Daniel Fitzpatrick '69  
Lisa Gardner  
Jim '69 & Penny Gilles  
Robert '86 & Terry Goodman  
Mark M. Gudalis '78  
COL Walter '70 & Kathleen Gunning, USA (Ret.)

Mr. & Mrs. Michael A. Hamilton '89  
Peter '72 & Sheila Hawes  
Stewart '72 & Lindi Ives  
Stephen A. Knych '82  
Mark E. '87 & Kay J. Lang  
Rod '73 & Sybil Maxson, Jr.  
Judge & Ms. Charles McCoy  
Charles & Marlene Meng G'23  
Andrew '65 & Barbara Morse  
LTC Albert R. Pettingill, Jr., USA (Ret.) '63

Craig Provost '90  
Bruce '73 & Frances Robson  
Kenneth R. Rose '66  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Sevi  
Charlie '55 & Pat Sinatra  
Col Timothy '77 & Mrs. Amy '78 Van  
Splunder, USAF (Ret)  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Vrachos, Jr. '70  
Robert '84 & Kathleen '85 Welsh, Jr.

**1819 Circle Members**

George W. Bowne '75  
John T. Campbell '72

## ROLL OF HONOR

The following list reflects notifications of deceased Norwich family members received by the university from May 13, 2022, to October 28, 2022. Full obituaries, when available, can be viewed online at [alumni.norwich.edu/obituaries](http://alumni.norwich.edu/obituaries). To inform the university of the passing of a member of the Norwich family, please contact the Alumni Office at (802) 485-2100 or [inmemoriam@norwich.edu](mailto:inmemoriam@norwich.edu).

1947 John R. Phalen, 96, 2/2/2023  
1949 Robert D. Forger, 94, 1/24/2023  
1949 Doris (Mosher) Swenson, 94, 3/10/2023, Vermont College  
1950 W. Russell R. Todd, 95, 2/12/2023, Class of '50 and President Emeritus of Norwich University  
1951 Erwin M. Kaplan, 95, 11/17/2022  
1952 Ann P. Peterson, 91, 11/22/2022, Widow of Rodney Peterson '52  
1952 Anne Bartoletto, 91, 1/27/2023 Widow of A.J. Bartoletto '52  
1952 Richard E. Van Ness, 92, 3/15/2023  
1953 Richard Gale, 90, 2/7/2023, Vermont College  
1954 Allen W. Blankinship, 91, 12/3/2022  
1955 Dorothy (LaCount) Laiho, 88, 9/17/2022, Vermont College  
1955 Dominick F. Passalacqua, 90, 10/17/2022  
1955 Martin E. McKinley, 89, 10/23/2022  
1955 Craig W. Butterfield, 90, 11/25/2022  
1955 Beverly B. Morehouse, 89, 1/25/2023, Widow of Donald Morehouse '55  
1955 James F. Slingo, 89, 3/1/2023  
1956 David R. Norling, 89, 10/14/2022  
1956 Frederic H. Ford, 89, 11/11/2022  
1956 Eileen Goldschmidt, 80, 11/17/2022, Wife of Bruno Goldschmidt '56  
1956 Charles H. Perenick, 89, 12/5/2022  
1956 Bruno Goldschmidt, 89, 1/25/2023  
1957 Paul A. Bagalio, 90, 12/11/2022  
1957 Charles J. Morrell, Jr., 87, 12/22/2022  
1957 Carroll W. Stafford, 89, 12/29/2022  
1957 Robert H. Metcalf, 87, 1/6/2023  
1957 Andrew C. Nickas, 89, 4/19/2023, Class of '57 and uncle of Anthony Nickas '82  
1958 Elizabeth Linzey, 88, 12/21/2022, Widow of Raynor Linzey '58  
1958 Royal E. "Buzz" Larson, 87, 4/17/2023  
1959 John R. Mueck, 85, 10/24/2022  
1959 Judith (Pardy) Bryant, 83, 12/1/2022, Vermont College  
1959 Nancy R. Jordan, 83, 3/17/2023, Wife of Josef Jordan '59  
1960 Roger B. Kennedy, 84, 11/15/2022  
1960 Joan (Daugherty) Sheffield, 83, 12/31/2022, Vermont College  
1960 Richard Douma, 85, 1/14/2023  
1960 Bradford J. Faxon, 85, 1/21/2023  
1960 Virginia H. Johnson, 85, 2/8/2023, Widow of Robert Johnson '60  
1960 Harry I. Taylor, 84, 3/17/2023  
1961 Stewart J. McNulty, 86, 1/30/2023, Class of '61 and husband of Joyce (Spenard) McNulty VC '61  
1961 Nancy Samia, 82, 1/31/2023, Widow of Roger Samia '61  
1962 Dorothy (Bergman) Ippolito, 80, 9/7/2022, Vermont College

1962 Warren H. Reich, 84, 11/12/2022  
1962 Timothy H. Donovan, 83, 1/21/2023, Class of '62 and long-time Commandant of Norwich University  
1962 Frederick "Dick" Armento, 83, 3/13/2023  
1962 Jane (Ulrichs) Phillips, 80, 4/6/2023 Vermont College  
1963 George S. Yochmowitz, 82, 10/11/2022  
1963 Donald D. Clark, 81, 10/31/2022  
1963 John M. Conners, 81, 1/3/2023  
1963 Ferdinand S. Pacione, 83, 1/14/2023  
1964 George R. Randall, 80, 10/29/2022  
1964 Nicholas L. Chandler, 82, 11/20/2022  
1964 G. Elaine (Mabes) Thompson, 78, 1/22/2022, Vermont College  
1964 Michael A. Filaseta, 81, 12/5/2022  
1964 Sally Willis, 82, 12/12/2022, Wife of Dudley Willis '64  
1964 Carleton A. Brown, 81, 1/16/2023  
1964 Harold B. Wilber, 80, 4/3/2023  
1966 Richard A. Zampini, 79, 10/10/2022  
1966 Michael F. Gandley, 78, 11/5/2022  
1966 Wallace E. Lyman, 79, 12/12/2022  
1966 Kenneth R. Rose, 79, 5/8/2023  
1967 Domenic A. Barbero, Jr., 76, 10/13/2022  
1967 John L. Boland, 77, 1/6/2023  
1967 James R. Wood, 78, 1/11/2023  
1967 Sidney N. Klein, 77, 1/23/2023  
1968 David J. Driscoll, 77, 2/4/2023  
1969 Robert R. Landry, 75, 1/12/2023  
1969 David N. Johnson, 76, 2/26/2023  
1969 Paul J. Mishorich, 75, 4/16/2023  
1970 Paul L. Foster, 73, 10/17/2022  
1970 Mark S. Titus, 74, 12/8/2022  
1970 Robert C. Pattison, 74, 1/14/2023  
1970 Bryant C. Jublou, 75, 1/23/2023  
1971 Michael D. Short, 73, 11/3/2022  
1971 Richard W. Hartnett, 74, 11/7/2022  
1971 Rihard M. Howard, 73, 11/28/2022  
1971 Benjamin L. Benoit, 73, III 11/29/2022  
1972 James F. Gleason, 74, 1/26/2023  
1972 Ione "Patti" (Itgan) Stewart, 71, 3/8/2023 Vermont College  
1973 Susan (Bailey) Struzenski, 69, 12/5/2023  
1974 George E. Thomas, 71, 1/6/2023  
1976 Susan (Bergeron) Sylva, 67, 12/15/2022, Vermont College  
1977 Robert S. Winchell, 68, 10/30/2022  
1977 S. Dexter Peirce, 68, 1/6/2023  
1977 Barbara Rosen, 67, 3/26/2023, Wife of Stephen N. Rosen '77  
1978 Maureen R. Hogan, 68, 10/28/2022 66 VC '76 NU '78

1978 Glenn L. Gannon, 68, 2/10/2023 66  
1978 Jeanne Kelleher, 68, 2/18/2023 68 Wife of Kevin Kelleher '78  
1979 Maureen P. Lancelot, 64, 12/18/2022, Vermont College  
1979 Walter M. Staples, 65, 12/23/2022  
1979 Marcia J. Osterhoudt Perry, 73, 1/18/2023  
1979 Gerald E. McGrath, 66, 2/18/2023  
1979 Arthur S. Colby, 65, 3/5/2023  
1983 Penelope Doan, 81, 2/26/2023  
1986 Steven T. Fleming, 58, 8/14/2022  
1986 Carleton T. Geary, 59, 12/29/2022  
1986 Joan M. Spencer, 84, 4/6/2023, Vermont College  
1987 David R. DeVeau, 58, 1/12/2023  
1988 David Hennings, 56, 11/9/2022, Husband of Monique (Bentsen) Hennings '88  
1988 Romayne Strilka-Switch, 87, 11/13/2022 Vermont College  
1988 Michael M. Kingsbury, 79, 12/1/2022  
1988 Maryanne (Roseberry) MacLeod, 80, 1/16/2023, Vermont College '88  
1989 Cecilia A. Noss, 82, 11/27/2022, M '89  
1989 Patricia A. King, 79, 12/23/2022  
1989 Jane E. Bryant, 82, 2/14/2023  
1992 E. Patrick McGuire, 91, 11/15/2022, Vermont College M '92  
1993 Lori Ann Parsons, 60, 10/29/2022, Vermont College  
1995 John Berdy, 72, 1/10/2023, Vermont College M '95  
1996 Archie "Tom" Edwards, 87, 1/28/2023, Vermont College M '96  
19971 Martha M. Vertreace-Doody, 77, 11/12/2022, M '97  
1971 Jeanette O'Hare, 85, 12/10/2023  
1998 Robert A. Gendron, 68, 2/7/2023 Father of Robert F. Gendron '14  
2000 Joan M. Mussmacher, 87, 2/17/2023, Vermont College, Professor and Coach at VC and NU  
2002 Tracy L. Taylor, 68, 1/27/2023 M '07  
2005 Vincenzo Misuraca, 68, 10/22/2022, CGCS M '05  
2005 Trista D. Russo, 39, 10/25/2022  
2006 Erica (Rutledge) Conaway, 40, 11/3/2022  
2007 Thomas E. Barnes, 52, 10/13/2022, CGCS  
2009 James A. Sagerholm, 94, 11/3/2022, CGCS M '09  
2010 Thomas E. Dent, 92, 11/15/2022, CGCS M '10  
2014 Frank C. Mahneke, 84, 3/16/2023, CGCS  
2025 Donovan M. Kurt, 19, 11/3/2022, Former member Class of 2025  
Trustee Emeritus J. Fred Weitz, 96, 8/25/2022

# IRA Rollover to Gift Annuity Helping You Increase Your Income and Giving

## What Is a Charitable Gift Annuity and How Does it Work?

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) is a contract between you and Norwich – in exchange for your charitable gift, we agree to pay you a fixed income for your lifetime. Upon your passing, the annuity ceases and the remaining principal is used to further our mission.

A CGA is a simple written agreement signed by you and our organization. Once you contribute cash from your IRA, the CGA begins to make quarterly payments to you for your lifetime. The payment rate is based on your age to your nearest birthday.

## Benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity

- Lifetime income and financial security
- Attractive payment rates
- Opportunity to support our work

## What the Security 2.0 Act Provides

- Once-in-a-lifetime tax-free distribution from your IRA for a gift annuity
- Maximum allowable distribution amount of \$50,000 in 2023
- Lifetime income payments of 5% or greater
- Lowers your taxable estate



## Other Considerations

- Charitable gift annuities may be set up to pay income to you or your spouse
- Under the Act's provisions, you must be 70½ or older to take advantage of this opportunity
- A charitable gift annuity is a general obligation of our organization and is backed by all of our assets



**NORWICH**  
UNIVERSITY

Expect Challenge. Achieve Distinction.



To learn more about this type of gift, please call Megann O'Malley, Director of Planned Giving, at (802) 485-2282, or email at [momalley@norwich.edu](mailto:momalley@norwich.edu).

[norwichgiftplans.org](http://norwichgiftplans.org)



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158 Harmon Drive  
Northfield, Vermont 05663

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123 Main Street  
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