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NORWICH RECORD

THE MAGAZINE OF NORWICH UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2023



Homecoming 2022

Alumni Return to the Hill

EXPOSURE





POSTCARD FROM THE LEDGE

Norwich Future Leader Camp participants rappel Deer Leap near Killington, Vt. The two-week summer program teaches high school students small group leadership, leadership ethics, and problem-solving skills.

Photo by Mark Collier

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Cover photo by
Karen Kasmauski

V/R

LETTERS

FROM OUR READERS

Dear Editor:

I was glad to read [in the Summer 2022 issue] that Norwich will have a rifle team again this year. I was on the rifle team when I was a student at Norwich. We won a lot of medals and awards for the school and recognition in shooting circles. We shot in matches against UVM, the University of Maine and New Hampshire, West Point, CCNY, and Annapolis. LTC Glenn Steckel was our coach. The Norwich training enabled me to qualify with the NY National Guard for pre-Olympics at Montreal, Canada. I always [believed that] a military school could not do without rifle and pistol teams.

YOURS TRULY,
ROBERT SVOBODA '58

To the Editor:

The Norwich Record is increasingly irrelevant and does not provide interesting and relevant news and information about the state of the university. I have several bones to pick with the content of the summer edition, as examples of needs for a major rethinking of the purpose and content of this publication.

Where is information on: the fall sports schedule; [alumni] club activity, including a schedule of freshman send-offs; golf tournament schedules and pictures of recent events; incoming freshman data (and upper class); Corps vs. civilian make-up, popular majors; geographic data where students are coming from; new or popular student activities on campus; Homecoming information, graduation information?

Page 2 and 3 of the summer [2022 issue] show a picture of incoming Navy and Marine Corps officers. How about a little context? How many graduates went into the military? How many in each service branch? What assignments in each branch? What trends are apparent in the number of graduates going into the military? How are civilian students faring in the job market for new graduates? What is the hiring success of graduates? What types of jobs and fields are they entering? ...

I realize that some of this "missing" information is available online and distributed through emails to alumni and other constituencies. But that then begs the question: what is the role and relevance of the good old traditional *Norwich Record* in an era of social media? I, for one, would like to know more about topics such as the composition, tenure, and qualifications of our faculty and staff, not just profiles of some that have major or interesting accomplishments, beyond the profiles and

descriptions provided on the most senior level appointments. How deep and experienced is our bench and core, so to speak?

In summary, I feel the *Record* does an inadequate job of connecting me to the university as it is today: its schedules, its student, faculty, and staff composition; there is no feeling as to the "pulse" of the university and how its strong heart beats today.

RALPH DUNHAM '78

Hi *Norwich Record*:

I receive the quarterly *Norwich Record*. I enjoy reading and seeing all the changes at NU.

KAREN H. WEINHOLD P'18
CONCORD, N.H.

To the Editor:

You are the recipient of the prestigious Harmon Award, created and crafted by me, in recognition of your service and contribution to Norwich University. I had wanted to present it to you personally but unfortunately, every time I tried to plan a campus visit something interfered.

O'B '64

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“I am incredibly thankful for this experience, because I know it will make me a more competent Army officer.”

—Toni Adipietro '23 reflecting on her summer 2022 Olmstead Foundation International Fellow trip to Kyrgyzstan

“Your efforts make Norwich one of the most admired and respected communities in the world. It is my honor and pleasure to serve alongside each of you.”

—President Mark C. Anarumo writing in a Thanksgiving holiday email to faculty and staff

“THE QUESTIONS I LOOK AT ON AI ARE VERY DIFFICULT AND, IN SOME WAYS, UNANSWERABLE. WE ARE GOING INTO AN INCREDIBLE FIELD OF [THE] UNKNOWN.”

—John Abele, the retired founding chairman of Boston Scientific Corp., giving the Oct. 12 keynote address at the 2022 Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium.

“It's critically important that you understand the nexus between artificial intelligence and robotics. And, by the way, if you have a cell phone, you're being influenced by this right now.”

—Prof. William T. Morris, PhD, giving remarks to introduce the panel session, “Sci-fi AI and the Future of Armed Conflict” at the Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium on Oct. 12.

“We had another amazing day of volunteerism. Thank you to the 11 Norwich students, 10 of [whom] were international students, on their service week, which started today with us.”

—Amy's Armoire and Donation Center, a nonprofit thrift store that supports foster and adopted children and their families in Barre, Vt., commenting on the NU Families Facebook on Nov. 22

QUOTED

“CONFLICTS EXPOSE AND REVEAL THE TRUTH. CONFLICTS ALLOW US TO SPEAK OUT. I WASN'T SILENT; I SPOKE FREELY ABOUT HOW I FEEL ABOUT THIS AGGRESSION IN MY INTERVIEWS, ARTICLES, AND IN THE SOCIAL NETWORKS.”

—Exiled Russian photojournalist Dmitri Beliaikov, a research fellow with NU's John and Mary Frances Patton Peace & War Center, quoted by online news site *VTDigger* in an article published Nov. 6.



THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP UNIVERSITY

Norwich has been recognized for over two centuries as an institution devoted to the creation of leaders. Other schools have pursued a similar purpose to varying degrees of success, yet there has always been something special about a Norwich graduate. Despite our relatively small size, Norwich has managed to build leaders who have served at the highest levels of government service, in the military, and across all industries. We are disproportionately successful in ways the rest of the world respects and envies.

The natural question to ask in the face of this success is why? What is it about the Norwich model that leads to the creation of alumni who are so remarkably successful? General Gordon Sullivan '59, USA (Ret.) famously referenced the Norwich "secret sauce." As we move into the future, we are identifying the ingredients of the sauce and making sure we preserve the recipe.

In previous editions of the *Record*, I shared the backgrounds of our current on-campus cabinet members and summarized how we will approach building an institution ready to create leaders for the 21st century. Summarized again here, we are committed to a whole-of-institution focus on student success and are determined to leverage our distinctiveness to become *The National Leadership University*. We will create the leaders needed by our nation, and our world, ready to thrive in the challenging and increasingly complex global environment in which we live.

To ensure we achieve these lofty and critical goals, in 2023 we will launch two new leadership academies: The Federal Service and Leadership Academy, and the Global Leadership Innovation and Service Academy. These intensive, in-house learning centers will challenge and prepare our Corps and civilian students for careers in non-uniform federal services, such as the CIA, NSA, and numerous others, and prepare our graduates to lead successfully in an increasingly complicated international community. We want the world to know they *need* Norwich graduates if they want leaders who will successfully face any challenge.

Our students are already demonstrating tremendous interest in these new leadership programs, and we should not be surprised. The current generation of college-age students, including those serving in the military, want to lead earlier than any previous age cohort. Whether in uniform, in industry, business, or non-uniformed service, these young men and women crave the opportunity to lead early and to be challenged often. As we know, the experiential learning program at Norwich creates significant challenges for all willing to prove themselves. We will be adding to our proven model, formalizing and delivering on the integration of contemporary leadership development for all students. We will give our students the tools they need; I am confident they are ready to receive them.

We have the talent in place to make this all happen quickly. Every Norwich student, whether Corps or civilian, is fortunate to have tremendous mentors and role models for inspiration and

guidance. They include our committed faculty, ROTC and Commandant staff, student life professional staff, our world-class centers, and athletic coaches, among others. That list does not begin to touch on the deep bench of leadership talent and career mentors found among our extraordinary alumni, who serve at the highest echelons of our nation's military branches and government civil service, and as leaders in many of our nation's most successful and innovative companies, nonprofits, small businesses, and large corporations.

Over the past few months, we have enjoyed observing the continued accolades and accomplishments of our Norwich alumni. One recent example is the extraordinary achievement of Air Force officer Thomas Bussiere '85. In October 2022, Lt Gen Bussiere, serving as deputy commander of United States Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, was nominated by the President for promotion to four-star general. He was confirmed in December 2022, making General Bussiere the first Norwich graduate to achieve the rank of four-star general in the Air Force. Bussiere, who visited Norwich last year and spoke to the *Record* (Winter 2022 issue), affirmed the bond between NU alumni currently serving in our nation's military, saying, "I think the long-standing, multi-decade connection of Norwich grads is strong and sound. I can guarantee in the Department of Defense that Norwich graduates—officer, enlisted, civilian, Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines, and now (Space Force) Guardians—are connected and stay connected." We are so proud of you, Tom, and know that our service members, our country, and the world will benefit from your leadership.

Another incredible achievement was the recent promotion and assignment of Douglas Stitt, a distinguished military graduate of the Class of 1990. Doug started the year as a two-star general doing great things for our nation and proudly served as speaker for the 2022 Norwich University Joint Commissioning Ceremony. Soon after his visit, we learned of his promotion to lieutenant general and as a three-star was assigned as Director, Personnel Management for Headquarters of the Army, one of the most demanding and critical jobs in the entire Department of Defense. Doug, we are so proud of your amazing accomplishments and incredible success and are excited to see all you will do for our Army, our nation, and a world that seems at greater risk now than any time in the past 30 years.

In the private sector, countless Norwich alumni continue to





launch exciting and transformative businesses. Among them is a thriving cybersecurity and artificial intelligence company led by Cesar Nader '01, USMC (Ret) whose company, X Corp Solutions, is leading innovation in cybersecurity, blockchain technology, intelligence/counterintelligence, and emerging technologies in support of national security. Another is Xelevate, co-founded by married NU alumni Marcy Eisenberg '97 and Andrew Biechlin '97, a Leesburg, Virginia, company pioneering drone and unmanned aerial vehicle testing and training. Remarkably, 11 of the company's 12 employees are Norwich graduates; clearly, they are blessed with extraordinary talent and are poised for continued success!

I cannot imagine a more challenging or critical time that demands the creation of leaders with Norwich credentials. For 203 years, Norwich has proven we know how to prepare and graduate the leaders needed for their time. We have assembled the Norwich team that will build and deliver the programs that will prepare the next generation of leaders needed now and in the future.

As The National Leadership University, Norwich will be a key partner for all sectors of service and every profession. Our alumni have established an incredible reputation for our institution. It is now up to us to preserve, solidify, and expand the things that make Norwich such a remarkable institution. Working together, we will make leaders the world needs and who will make us all proud.

Norwich Together, Norwich Forever!

Mark Anarumo, PhD
Maj Gen (VSM)
President
Norwich University

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NEWS FROM THE HILL

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Photo courtesy USAF

FOUR-STAR TRAILBLAZER

Air Force Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere '85 (profiled in the 2022 Winter *Record*), has been appointed four-star general and commander of Air Force Global Strike Command at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. The Vermont native becomes the first Norwich graduate and Air Force officer to reach the rank of four-star general. President Joe Biden nominated Bussiere, the No. 2 officer at U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM) at Offutt AFB in Nebraska, in October. In his new role, Bussiere will manage more than 30,000 airmen and strategic assets including nuclear and non-nuclear aircraft.



FUN FACT

PRIZE-WINNER

A *Norwich Record* profile of alumnus Mike Smullen '76, a former pharmaceutical executive and co-founder of Florida-based medical marijuana startup AltMed, won a CASE prize for feature-writing, sharing top honors with alumni magazines from Harvard, Yale, Brown, Bowdoin, and Boston University. Go Wick!

5 STORIES TO CATCH ON NORWICH.EDU



Photos by Mark Collier (left) and Aram Boghosian

1. SHARP SHOOTERS

The Cadets Rifle Team kicked off its first season since 2005 with a thrilling win over SUNY Plattsburgh, 3853-3803. Captained by first-year students Thomas Harwood, Jacob Cohn, and Logan Hassell, the Cadets won the air rifle match, lost the small bore competition by a whisker, to win the match overall. Next up for the co-ed team were MIT and the Coast Guard Academy.

2. FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

Victor Satzewich, a professor of sociology at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, is the latest recipient of the Fulbright Canada Research Chair in Peace & War Studies at Norwich. At NU, Satzewich will study how the Ukrainian diaspora is mobilizing support

for Ukraine during the Russian invasion. "Ukrainian Americans have been consistently lobbying the U.S. government and members of Congress to ensure political and military support for Ukraine for nearly a decade," Satzewich says. "I want to better understand how the community persuades Americans to care about the war in Ukraine and to see how they handle the fear of compassion fatigue as the war drops off the public's radar."

3. TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Professor of Computer Security and Information Assurance Huw Read, PhD, (pictured above) was named a Dana Professor in recognition of his outstanding teaching, scholarship, and service. "This appointment is a deep

testament to Dr. Read's hard work and commitment to our students and to the institution," said NU Provost and Dean of the Faculty Karen F. Gaines, PhD. During his tenure, Read has led a team of NU students working on cybersecurity at Super Bowl 50 and secured NSA/NSF grant funding for CenCyber summer camps for high school students from across the U.S.

4. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Page Spiess, PhD, received the 2022 Vermont Women in Higher Education Carol A. Moore Scholarship. A senior lecturer in the College of Science and Mathematics Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Spiess was an inaugural fellow in NU's Institute for Innovation in

Teaching & Learning. The PhD will use the award to complete a professional certificate in restorative justice at Vermont Law School. The program "will increase my ability to work with students, faculty, and staff and to train Restorative Justice Facilitators within the Academic Integrity system that I run as Academic Integrity Officer for residential programs," she said.

5. BOSTON POLICY TRIP

A dozen Norwich students traveled to Boston for a three-day immersion in disaster-response planning, visiting state and federal institutions that address emergency management at state and regional levels. Students and faculty met with NU alumni at the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and FEMA, as well as the Massachusetts State Police and the FBI, where law enforcement agents discussed how state and federal agencies partner to address a range of issues. The trip was sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts, the Francis and Mary Patton Peace & War Center, and the University Honors Program.

SOCCER ALL-AMERICAN

Senior forward Joseph Thongsythavong was named a First Team All-American by the nation's college soccer coaches, a first for a Cadet soccer player.

The mechanical engineering major from Salem, Mass., finished his final season as the two-time Great Northeast Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year.

He also tied for first in Division III in total points (52) and points per game (3.06), and his 21 goals in 17 games over the season were fifth in the nation.

Thongsythavong became the most prolific scorer in program history, finishing his three-year Norwich Men's Soccer career with 58 goals and 143 points. In 2021,

he set a new Cadets record for the most goals in single season with 22.

"Our program is very proud of Joey. He had a tremendous season and massive impact on the teams," said Head Coach Adam Pfeifer.

*Health and feminist economist
Jacqueline Strenio, PhD, joined the
School of Business faculty in 2021.*

Photo courtesy Jacqueline Strenio



5 QUESTIONS

Assistant Professor of Economics Jacqueline Strenio, PhD

What sparked your interest in the field?

I had no idea what economics was until I got to college and took my first economics class. I thought it was such an interesting way to understand how the world works. The economist John Maynard Keynes said a master economist is someone who can speak in words and write in numbers. This ability to move between disciplines and engage in public policy discussions really appealed to me.

How is the traditional definition of economics changing?

I take this broader conceptualization of what economics is. For a long time, a lot of economists would have defined economics as the study of scarcity or how we make optimizing decision under conditions of scarcity. I think that the best definition of

economics is the study of social provisioning—how we get what we need to survive and thrive. GDP is a really useful indicator of what's being produced, for example. But perhaps better measures of economic growth and development are what people have the capability to do and to be.

What is the focus of your research?

A lot of my research takes this capabilities approach to economic growth and development. My PhD dissertation, for example, focused on the economic causes and consequences of intimate partner violence. In the past, many economists looked at economic factors that can be protective or risk factors for experiencing violence. But I was interested in expanding that and asking, what is the scope of the problem? If you experience intimate partner violence, in

what ways can that affect your long-run economic well-being?

Approaching that question in that way also draws from my training as a health economist. One of the things health economists always do is cost of illness studies. For example, you'll read in the news that the cost of diabetes is \$327 billion. It's important to put things like that in monetary terms, because it helps draw attention to an issue and direct resources to it. So what are some of the consequences of intimate partner violence beyond the individual? We know we should intrinsically care, because it's a deprivation of the human right to live a life free from violence. But as a business or as a university or as a society, why else should we care? Sometimes putting a dollar value on that, for better or worse, helps us take the next step.

“We raise ... interesting issues that don’t have an easy solution.”

It’s been five years since I submitted my dissertation. But from the data I looked at, it’s kind of intuitive. If you experienced intimate partner violence during college or as a young adult, you were more likely to end up on government assistance, you had lower lifetime earnings to date, and found it harder to hold down a job.

You teach a class on public finance, which explores the role of government in the economy. How do you engage your students?

We raise some really interesting issues that don’t have an easy solution. I ask my students, for example, if children should be considered public goods. Public goods are things that should be supported by the government and freely available to all because they have benefits to everyone. For economists, it’s a really contentious point. On one hand, some economists say, “Yes, 100 percent. Children provide this good to society that everyone gets to enjoy, whether or not you incur the costs of raising them. So there should be more government support for raising them.” Other economists say, “No, of course not. All the benefits of children are private, so the cost should be private as well.” I find that a really interesting debate, and I like to leave it up to my students to discuss. I don’t force them to reach a decision point. We definitely haven’t come to a consensus in any of my classes.

How do you like to spend your free time?

My students all know this, because I talk about it all the time: I like to hang out with my dog and go hiking or skiing in the mountains of Vermont. He’s a recent rescue from Oklahoma named Rollo, like the Viking not the candy. He’s a chocolate Lab with some caramel spots on him. So ironically he does look like the candy. ■

Interview condensed and edited for length and clarity.

Jacqueline Strenio, PhD, teaches classes on Health Economics and Policy, Public Finance, Structure and Operation of the World Economy, and the business capstone class, Administrative Strategy and Policy.

NEW NSA CYBER GRANT

In September, Norwich was awarded a two-year, \$5M grant from the National Center of Academic Excellence–Cybersecurity (NCAE-C), housed in the National Security Agency. Norwich was designated the lead institution to manage a coalition of nine higher-education institutions to develop the NCAE-C Careers Preparation National Center (CPNC). The center will build on existing and new NCAE-C efforts to develop college graduates with the knowledge, skills, and competencies required for government and industry employment. The CPNC team will address federal, state, and local government and industry requirements and student professional development to better prepare NCAE-C cybersecurity majors for today’s and tomorrow’s work roles.

As the lead institution, Norwich will receive \$982,000 over the next two years. CPNC staff will continue to develop and oversee regional exercises, implement competency integration into NCAE-C validated programs of study, develop a competency statement e-library, and measure competency development tools and competition competencies. The center will also collaborate with additional partners, including the CAE Community National Center, NCAE-C Education Pathway National Center, and NCAE-C Candidates and Peer Review National Centers.

Based at Norwich, the program office is led by Associate Vice President of Strategic Partnerships Sharon R. Hamilton, PhD, Col. USA (Ret.). In her role, Hamilton will guide the governance, process, and infrastructure to develop and promote collaboration and joint engagement across the CPNC coalition, NCAE-C National Centers, and critical government and industry Partners.

“We are excited to build on and expand our cybersecurity competency development and documentation efforts,” Hamilton said, noting that the center’s team is comprised of the highest quality two- and four-year institutions and educational professionals in the field. “We are eager to identify opportunities to link the CPNC efforts with our NCAE-C Norwich Cyber Institute grant and other initiatives to further benefit students, faculty, and the cybersecurity workforce.” ■



ATHLETICS

TORI CHARRON'S RAPID RISE IN PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY

After a pro season in Toronto, the 2014 grad signs on as GM for New Jersey's Metropolitan Riveters

BY SEAN PRENTISS

During her senior year at Norwich, Tori Charron wrote a paper about how to become a collegiate hockey coach. "Hockey is a true passion of mine," she wrote, "[and] becoming a collegiate coach is something I aspire toward." While Charron has yet to realize *that* dream, she has done something more impressive: She was recently named general manager of the Metropolitan Riveters, one of only seven professional women's hockey teams in North America.

Charron, who was raised near Windsor, Ontario, transferred to Norwich in 2012 to play women's hockey. During her two years with the Cadets, the star forward dazzled with 59 goals and 31 assists in 59 games. Both years, she earned ECAC East Player of the Year and CCM All-American honors. She also scored the winning overtime

DREAM JOB

Tori Charron '14 (second from right) with coaching staff of the Metropolitan Riveters professional women's hockey team in East Rutherford, N.J.

Photo courtesy Tori Charron

goal to clinch the 2014 NCAA Division III quarterfinals for the Cadets against Elmira College, her former team, and propel Norwich to the NCAA Division III Finals against Plattsburgh.

Off the ice, Charron excelled in the classroom and majored in business management. Her aim was to leverage the skills learned in the classroom to lead her into coaching. "I remember sitting in my advisor's office, realizing it was the first day of the rest of my life," Charron says, recalling the moment she declared her major. "I don't know where I would be if I hadn't gone to Norwich. So many people on campus helped me succeed." Charron graduated cum laude.

After graduation, Charron first put her degree to work as an engineering products manager. Later, in partnership with her brother, she assumed ownership of her father's mechanical contracting company. Her career path initially led Charron to step away from hockey. "With a commitment to the family business, it wasn't feasible to commit to playing professional hockey," she says.

Despite considering herself retired from hockey, Charron still participated in a weekly skate for high-level female players. After one game, the coach for the Toronto Six (a 2012 expansion team in the Premiere Hockey Federation), asked Charron if she had thought about playing professionally. "There's a place for you on the Six," the coach told her.

Charron signed a contract, becoming one of four Norwich graduates to play in the Premiere Hockey Federation last season, joining Kaycie Anderson '15, Sarah Schwenzfeier '18, and Amanda Conway '20, as well as former league players Kim Tiberi '18, Kayla Parsons '15, and Adelle Murphy '17.

Charron played just one pro season. "When I joined the Six, I was the oldest player on the team. The PHF is so strong. It's hum-

bling to play with those players. There is always a younger player with more talent,” she says. “But I knew that if I could contribute in other ways, there would be opportunities with hockey.”

That opportunity came quickly. After retiring from professional hockey at the end of last season, Charron made a nearly unheard-of move in pro sports: She transitioned from scoring goals to signing players as general manager of the PHF’s Metropolitan Riveters in East Rutherford, N.J. “I am involved in every aspect of the Riveters,” she says. “I help set up the medical team, help players settle in the area, do marketing, and sign players.” One of her first moves as GM was to offer a contract to Kaycie Anderson ’15, Charron’s former teammate and roommate at Norwich.

When asked how Norwich prepared her for being general manager, Charron says, “At Norwich, you learn to communicate with different types of people with different priorities: athletes, Corps, civilians. And that is what I do as general manager. The players want something. The medical staff needs something else. And the business side has their needs.” When asked about being GM, Charron says, “This job merges my passion for hockey with my aptitude for business. I have every former player’s dream job. And I get to help these women be the best they can be on the ice.” ■

Winner of the National Outdoor Book Award, Associate Professor of English Sean Prentiss teaches creative writing at Norwich. His feature story on Cadets women’s hockey coach Sophie LeClerc ’10 (“The Most Connected Team ... Wins”) appeared in the Fall 2020 *Record*.

RESEARCH

NIH GRANT FOR BRAIN RESEARCH

Neuroscience Prof. Megan Doczi, PhD, nabs a four-year, \$480K grant to mentor student researchers during her ongoing investigations of the neural pathways that regulate metabolism

Since joining the Norwich faculty 11 years ago, Associate Professor of Biology Megan Doczi, PhD, has strived to understand how neural pathways in the developing hypothalamus, an area in the central nervous system, can be altered by exposure to insulin, glucose, and other metabolic factors. More specifically, she studies the way certain membrane proteins known as voltage-gated potassium ion channels can regulate brain activity by increasing or decreasing electrical signaling in neurons.

While Doczi uses chicken embryos in her experiments, their genetic similarity to human embryonic brains provides insight into the effect that human diets, health, and behaviors can have on brain development. She points to the real-world example of the influence pregnant mothers can have on the development of their unborn children, when they consume diets high in sugar, which can result in a spike in fetal insulin.

“What is that [insulin spike] doing to the metabolic pathways of the brain of that developing fetus?” Doczi asks. “Large concentrations of insulin could ... [make] certain neurons hyperexcitable in the central nervous system.”

“If that happens in an area that is specialized for food-seeking behavior, then that could prime the organism to have some type of metabolic deficiency or disorder later in life.”

Doczi notes that our hypothalamus plays a key role in establishing and regulating our “set point,” or homeostasis, and food-seeking behaviors, adding that what happens to people in the womb could be affecting them as adults.

Poor diet and excessive calorie intake in mothers “could be contributing to the reason why we have this ... generational increase in obesity within our country and in the western

world,” Doczi says.

“That’s a very broad picture,” she adds, noting that her lab does not study humans or obesity. “I’m looking at the very basic level of ion channel proteins in developing neurons and how they could play a role in regulating some of these metabolic processes later on in adulthood.”

The new NIH funding will enable Doczi to train 10 Norwich undergraduates in research skills involving molecular biology, biochemistry, electrophysiology, and fluorescent labeling of proteins to enable them to gather research data. “We work together to generate, analyze, and interpret that data, and then I have them write up the work for publication” with close editorial oversight from her, Doczi says.

Previous student research assistants have gone on to pursue medicine and others are now working towards PhDs at R1 research universities. “They have had these amazing [research] experiences at Norwich University and gone on to do some wonderful things of their own.”

Doczi says the NIH funding, awarded through the Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program (R16), is intended to involve students typically underrepresented in biomedical research, including women, minorities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. The grant, Doczi notes, would not have been possible without the support of numerous present and former colleagues, including Simon Pearish, PhD; Karen Hinkle, PhD; and President Emeritus Richard W. Schneider, RADM (USGCR, Ret.)

“All of my previous research has been a stepping-stone to get to this level of the project,” she says. “Now it’s just a matter of getting even more students involved.” ■

INSIGHT

Legal Marijuana

Vermont legalizes marijuana sales. Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Connie Hassett-Walker, PhD, weighs the pros and cons.



On November 1, the Capital Cannabis Company, a marijuana dispensary, opened for business in downtown Montpelier across the street from the city manager's office, where residents can vote in state and national elections. It's all legal.

How far we have come.

As a researcher with an enduring interest in issues connected to race, class, crime, and justice, as well as substance use, I was curious to visit Capital Cannabis on opening day. A woman exiting the dispensary held open the door as I entered, announcing, "There's a line." Indeed, there was, but it moved quickly. An employee asked for ID to ensure prospective customers were 21 years old and over. When I thanked him for implying that I might be underage, he smiled and explained that they were being meticulous. Then he showed me a laminated menu of items to purchase, including flower (loose cannabis that can be smoked in a pipe), edibles, tinctures (liquids that are ingested orally or under the tongue), and pre-roll singles (a.k.a. joints) and packs. Items listed on the menu had names like Strawberry, Farmers Daughter, and Red Dragon. The feel and look of the store was bright, clean and legal—not unlike the experience of buying coffee at Starbucks. It was a far cry from the stoner vibe of Eric Stoltz's drug dealer character Lance in the movie *Pulp Fiction*, or The Dude played by Jeff Bridges in *The Big Lebowski*. For the record, I did not purchase anything from Capital Cannabis.

According to the Marijuana Policy Project, selling marijuana for adult recreational use became legal in Vermont in October, making the Green Mountain State the 11th to legalize the sale of recreational marijuana to adults. (In Vermont, the legal age is 21.) The Vermont Cannabis Control Board has been busy, issuing licenses to a variety of businesses. The Marijuana Policy Project reports that 30 operations have applied for retail licenses, and more are anticipated in the future. Legislatively, Gov. Phil Scott allowed bill S.54 to pass without his signature. This legislation pertains to the regulation and tax of cannabis sales. The Vermont legislature also passed, with the governor's signature, a law that expunges cannabis possession offenses. Businesses can begin selling pot to adults over 21 once they pay a license fee and train employees to spot problematic indicators, including excessive consumption or a substance use disorder, according to a September 14, 2022, article by Fred Thys in the *VTDigger*.

The momentum for legal marijuana has been building for some time. As per Weedmaps.com, legalization of medical marijuana passed the state's legislature in 2004. Subsequent bills were passed outlining, and expanding, which medical conditions and health-care professionals qualified for medical marijuana. In 2018, Gov. Scott signed H.511, removing criminal penalties for adults over 21 who possess small amounts of cannabis. The Vermont Cannabis Control Board was established in 2020 to ensure equity in who gets to establish a legal weed business, being mindful that historically marginalized groups have been particularly harmed by past War on Drugs-era policies.

Yet marijuana remains illegal at the federal level, classified as a schedule 1 controlled substance. As such, involved companies proceed with caution. Businesses that sell marijuana in Vermont must obtain their supply from Vermont growers as it is illegal under federal law to transport cannabis across state lines, notes Carla Occaso in *The Bridge* (September 24, 2022). According to the Montpelier semi-monthly newspaper, marijuana growers—also known as cultivators—are active throughout the state, including 14 in Washington County. There is also a need for banking services. According to online news site *VTDigger*, four financial institutions, including Brattleboro Savings & Loan, have dipped a toe into the state's marijuana banking business. Some cannabis businesses are opting to operate on a cash-only basis for now. (Montpelier's Capital Cannabis Company, for example, accepts cash or debit cards, but not credit cards at this time.) As per *VTDigger*, the Vermont State Employees Credit Union opened 80 new accounts for recreational marijuana businesses in 2022, with most of the applications coming from cannabis growers.

From a public health and criminology perspective, experts across disciplines continue to debate the pros and cons of marijuana legalization. For criminologists on the “pro” side of the debate, it does not make a lot of sense to clog up jails and prisons with individuals convicted of a non-violent marijuana-related offense. According to the Vera Institute of Justice, the average cost to incarcerate an individual for a year in Vermont is around \$50,000. Beginning in the mid-1970s, the U.S. War on Drugs is now largely viewed as a failure, unsuccessful in stopping Americans' drug use and succeeding in costing billions of dollars while ballooning up correctional facilities. Rounding out the “pro” argument is the allure of new business opportunities and tax revenue to benefit states and their residents.

On the “con” side of legalized marijuana, the big question is whether legalization will lead to increased drug use and addiction. If so, how best to combat that? Scholarship in this area is very new and inconclusive. Recent research by Yuyan Shi at the University of California, San Diego, found that recreational cannabis legalization did not increase usage of prescription opioids among individuals receiving Medicaid. A study, by Mallie Paschall of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, of California adolescents found that the state's legalization of recreational marijuana was associated with increased cannabis use among teenagers from 2017 through 2019. Other research by the RAND Corporation's Rosanna Smart on states' cannabis policy evaluations found that recreational cannabis laws did not greatly impact adolescent marijuana use, but that college student use potentially increased.

Time will tell whether legal recreational marijuana use is a good or bad thing for Vermont and other states. Or maybe it is somewhere in between. Laws prohibiting marijuana use have done little to stop people from using and selling it, so perhaps it is time to try something new. ■

Connie Hassett-Walker, MPA, PhD, is an assistant professor of criminal justice in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

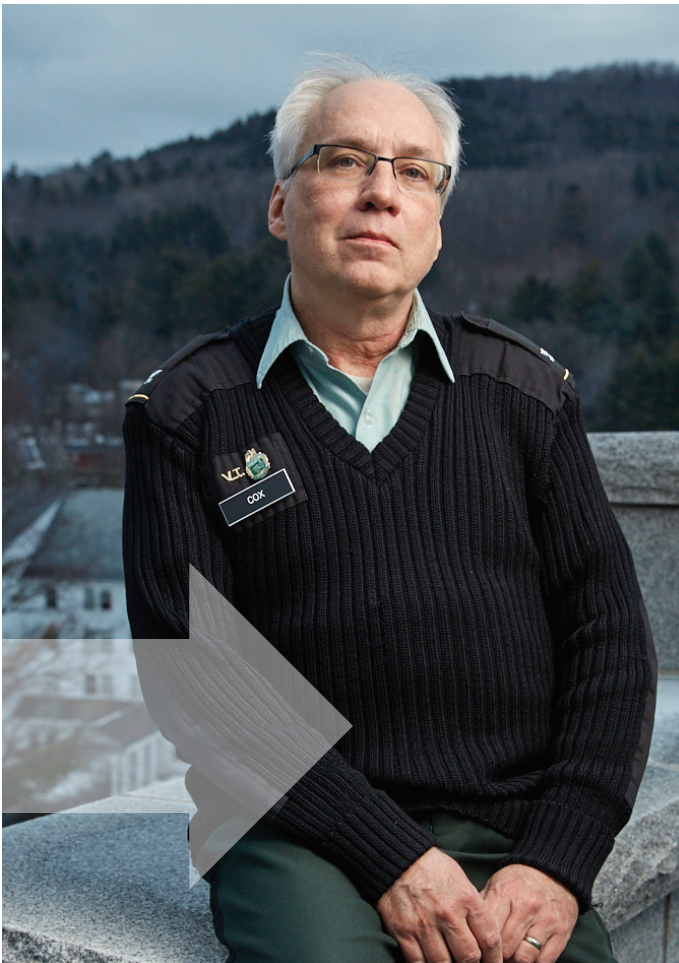
TALK

PROF. F. BRETT COX TALKS A.I. WITH SCI-FI AUTHOR MARTHA WELLS

The Dana Professor's interview with the Nebula and Hugo Award-winning author was a highlight of the Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium

If you haven't already discovered the Murderbot Diaries by best-selling science fiction author Martha Wells, stop reading now and go track down *All Systems Red*, the first novella in the series. There, you'll meet Murderbot, a moody, lethal, and ultimately winsome robot-human construct programmed as a security unit. A rogue artificially intelligent bodyguard that has hacked its governor module, Murderbot prefers to stream media rather than face its neurodivergent difficulty in dealing with human emotions. For

sci-fi fans already familiar with her series, Wells' appearance at the Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium in October was an inspired choice for the symposium focused on the theme, "Robots Rising: Arming Artificial Intelligence." Attendees were treated to an hour-long conversation between the award-winning author and one of the Hill's own science fiction writers, Dana Professor of English F. Brett Cox. Excerpts of their conversation, edited for length and clarity, follow.



Brett Cox photo by Matt Furman; Martha Wells photo courtesy WikiCommons



“I wanted to really think about what an AI might want for itself, that an AI would not want to be a human.”

COX: What drew you to speculating about the future of constructed beings of artificial intelligence as opposed to any other science fiction topic?

WELLS: Before this series, I wrote mostly fantasy. But when I got this idea, it was so obviously a science fiction idea and it was so obviously the idea of basically an enslaved person who is treated as a tool. Someone who ends up with the moral choice between saving people that it's actually started to feel some emotion for or doing nothing. That really had to be a science fiction story. And an AI was the best way to tell that story. I also had recently read Ann Leckie's *Ancillary Justice* trilogy and *Autonomous*

by Annalee Newitz, which really get into the idea of not only what AI might be like, but the human perception of AI and the difference between what a real AI might be, might want, what its agenda might be, and what it might think of itself versus what a human ascertains it would want.

There were also a lot of novels coming out around that time that I felt were really putting human assumptions into AI, the assumption that every AI would immediately want vengeance for being held captive. There's also the idea that an AI being would want to be human. Leckie deals with that in *Ancillary Justice*, where the AI in question starts out as a starship and ends up with these multiple perspectives and multiple different bodies, which it considers peripherals. I wanted to really think about what an AI might want for itself, that an AI would not want to be a human. Being human would be basically a comedown for a being that had that much control over itself and many multiple perspectives.

COX: What do you see as the role of the fiction writer as opposed to that of the journalist, science writer, or historian in considering these issues?

WELLS: I think it's always been to think about these possibilities that are in the future and think about them now, because what do you do with the first sentient robot? You've created a person, basically. As a writer, do you treat it like a person? Or do you treat it like a thing to get people thinking about these things as early as possible? It's going to be the people that thought about those things when they were reading these stories as college students or young professionals before going into these decision-making positions who are going to have the mechanism already built in their minds to be able to deal with this. It's like any kind of storytelling. A few years ago I was speaking with someone at an event about science fiction and fantasy in general. He would buy books for his cousins and nieces and nephews, and they wanted what he thought were really dark dystopian sort of post-apocalyptic books. It was worrying him a little bit. And I said that's how kids learn to deal

with these ideas, especially people my age. When we were growing up, we were kind of bombarded with the idea that we were going to die in nuclear war, the Bermuda triangle, quicksand—whatever. You're going to die all these ways. Stories help you deal with that. They're cathartic in some ways. But they're also building these mechanisms so that you can think about these things in different ways and think past them. I think that's why we've always had fiction in our cultures, and they've always been very powerful.

COX: There's the stereotype that writers come out of English programs and science fiction writers come out of, well, science programs. But you have a degree in anthropology, and you have workplace experience as a programmer. Talk a little bit about how your specific academic and workplace experience informed your approach to dealing with these issues and the stories.

WELLS: I started out as a system operator for two Lane mainframes, big mainframes designed for business uses, which I don't think they're used anywhere anymore. Later I worked on a PC network that was attached to them. I started as a backup operator and became the system operator. I did programming in COBOL, which tells you how long ago that was, and built databases. You'll notice that in a lot of the ability of Murderbot to figure things out. A lot of the stories deal with mysteries. *Rogue Telemetry*, in particular, is a whodunit mystery story. The solution Murderbot proposes at one point is to use a database to figure out who the murderer is. That was kind of was my model for figuring out how it might think, because that was basically my introduction to computers. Trying to work on the logic of things, and also trying to get to people to stop putting stupid things in the database and breaking it. In my experience, you can't create a [database] form that someone else can't mess up—no matter what you do. ■



Coming Home

Hundreds of alumni returned to the Hill during 2022 Homecoming festivities in September to gather with friends and classmates, meet current students, and celebrate their shared passion for Norwich



BY DIANE SCOLARO

Homecoming is a chance to welcome our alumni home. We say “home” because for so many Norwich graduates, the years they spent on the Hill as young men and women, just 18 to 22 years old, were the most formative years of their lives. During Homecoming Weekend, they come “home” to where they grew up and became the adult and person they were destined to be.

There’s always a moment or two that I find tears running down my cheeks. Inevitably, I feel my emotions catch during the Alumni Parade. The Saturday morning march onto Sabine Field is an emotional showcase of our alumni from NU’s oldest classes to its newest. This year, Bob Crecco represented the Class of 1947, our oldest class, followed next by Gene Ward from the Class of 1949. Bob and Gene both refused to ride in a golf cart during the parade. They walked the length of Sabine Field, and were proud to do that, carrying their guidon. What I found so impressive and moving was not just their stamina but their pride. They’re still here, and it was important for them to make the trip home to Norwich to represent their class. It is always a special thing to witness.

The groundwork for another special moment for me begins a month or so before Homecoming, with the arrival of all our incoming students, particularly rooks in the Corps of Cadets. You see that moment where their moms are hugging them, they’re crying and proud of their sons and daughters for getting into Norwich. Then you fast-forward a month—or, indeed, a half century—and you see our Old Guard return 50 years after graduation. They are so proud to walk under the arc of swords to receive their Old Guard medallion. But there on the sidelines are their wives, taking pictures of them in the same way that their mothers did when they first arrived as students at Norwich. And so, one gets to see it come full circle or just begin for those who are just arriving or just graduated, and those alumni who have carried Norwich with them in their hearts and in their lives for all those years. ■

As told to Sean Markey.

Diane Scolaro is associate vice president of the Office of Alumni and Family Engagement, where she has overseen Homecoming planning for the past 12 years.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KAREN KASMAUSKI



Alumni gifted unused sabers to cadets in need during Friday's Retreat during Homecoming Weekend.

Below: Betsey (Symmes) Harms VC'75 and her husband, Paul '75, of Elizabethtown, Ky.



Still got it. Members of the Class of 1966 (above) strut their stuff during the Alumni Parade.



Members of the Class of 1977 (above) marched to their own tune (bagpipes) during Saturday's Alumni Parade. Below, a presentation of sabers during the Friday Retreat.





The Cadets played Castleton during Saturday's afternoon football matchup (above). Vermont College alumnae JoAnn Kelly '72 and Meredith Lewis '72 receive their Old Guard medallions.





TEXT BY SEAN MARKEY

“We’ve been here three times in the past 50 years, and it’s exactly the same,” says Steve Glines from his perch on the steps of College Hall, the iconic administrative home of Vermont College, since renamed the Vermont College of Fine Arts, in Montpelier. “She wants to see it every time.” Steve’s wife, Susan, is a 1972 graduate of the formerly all-women’s college, the same year that it was acquired by Norwich. The couple drove from their home in Littleton, Mass., for Homecoming to mark her 50-Year Class Reunion with fellow VC graduates. Many of the 40 or so expected attendees are here this morning for a tour of their former campus, dressed in matching Vermont College blue fleece jackets.

“Are you still nursing?” a classmate asks Susan.

“Yes, still milking it,” she replies with a smile.

Today’s get-together was organized in part by Gail Lull VC’72, an energetic early childhood educator from Newburyport, Mass. As the old friends assemble, Susan Glines reflects on how her college experience impacted her life. “It changed the whole trajectory,” she says, noting that at the time, Vermont College was home to one of the top associate degree programs in the country. She recalls its small student body, intimate faculty-to-student ratio, and social mixers with Norwich, Dartmouth, and other all-men’s colleges with affection. “It was a very unique experience.”

Amid the amiably chatting crowd are Betsey (Symmes) Harms VC’75 and her husband, Paul ’75, who drove from Elizabethtown, Ky., in their RV, as they do nearly every year to attend Homecoming at Norwich. The couple met as undergraduates. Paul gallantly offered Betsey a ride home one evening after patronizing a Montpelier bar called the Industrial Revolution, which was located on the second floor of an old brick building. “We’re disappointed we can’t find the I.R.,” Betsey says now.

The tour group pops inside College Hall, climbing the stairs to its beautifully restored upper-floor chapel. Don Lewis ’72, who has accompanied his wife, Meredith VC’72, from their home in Maine exclaims, “Wow,” craning his neck to look up at the stenciled ceiling. “It kind of gives you chills, doesn’t it?” ■

Celebrating Vermont College

Marking a 50-year reunion and anniversary



Above: (From left) Mary Hall VC'74, Don Lewis '72, Gail Lull VC'72, and Merri Lewis VC'72 tour the old Vermont College campus in Montpelier with College Hall in the background. Below: Karen Mikszewski VC'72, Merri Lewis VC'72, and Susan Glines VC'72 browse the Vermont College of Fine Arts Bookstore.





They Will Try

A young Women's Rugby team takes on Castleton during Homecoming Weekend

Team captain Emily Ngo '23 (above, holding ball), from Turlock, Calif., addresses her teammates in the NU Rugby Clubhouse before the match. "Feel the cheers, take it in, and defend for each other. You got it?" she says. "Remember we're fighting for each other."



“Today’s the day, just let it go. Let it hang out ... go and have a blast, okay? And work hard. That’s all we ask,” says Women’s Rugby Head Coach Austin Hall (pictured above), addressing his players in the NU Rugby Clubhouse before the start of a home game against Castleton over Homecoming Weekend. “We’ve been thinking. We’ve been using our brains for two weeks, trying to learn the game of rugby. Today is not about our brains. It’s about our hearts. It is having fun, enjoying ourselves, being with our friends, being with our teammates, who are going to become our best friends—I promise you.”

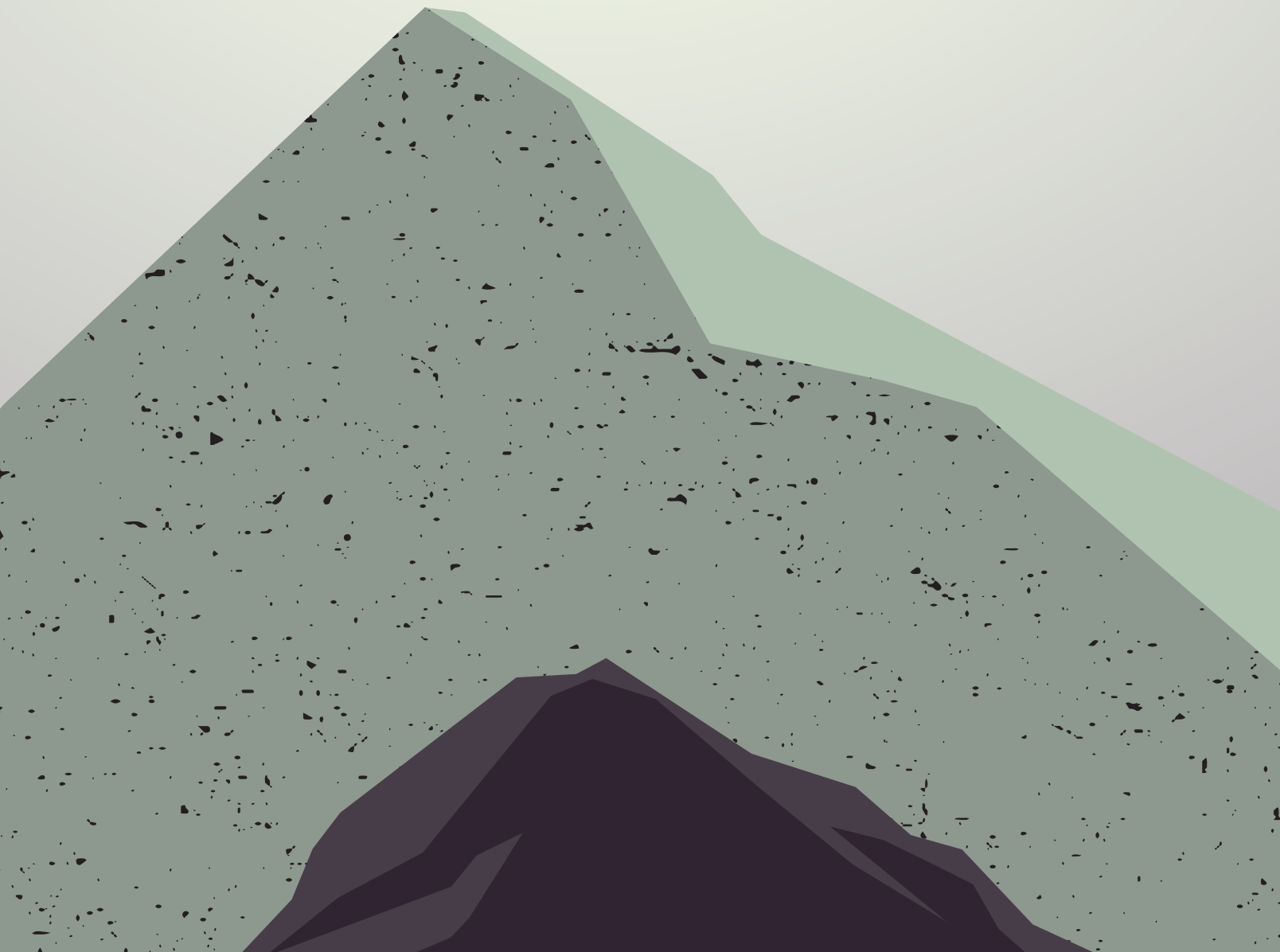


“Let it fly,” Assistant Coach Austin Hall ’09 urges his players. “I’m sure everyone’s familiar with the expression, *Err on the side of caution*. That doesn’t apply to rugby. Err on the side of audacity, okay?”

THE BELIEVER

Has William McIntosh IV '95 cracked the secret to living an extraordinary life? In his quest to serve others, the former pro hockey player has skated from California to Florida, helped train Navy SEAL candidates, and joined the search for missing persons

➤ **BY BETH LUBERECKI**



They're not stuck in neutral. They're now able to move on with their lives and focus on their next chapter."

That idea of turning the page in one's life and moving on to the next chapter is a concept McIntosh has been exploring ever since he decided to major in English at Norwich. Exposure to great works of literature "changed a lot of the way that I was living my life," he says. "I started looking at life a little bit more as the story that we write of our lives is dictated by our actions."

"We're writing the book of our life every day," he reflects. "Every day that you get up in the morning, what you make a decision to do and the plan that you have for that day or that week or that month, is the story of your life. That's just kind of how I've always thought since Norwich."



In high school, McIntosh originally set his sights on the Air Force Academy. But he wound up following in the footsteps of his father, William McIntosh III '67, and enrolled at Norwich, where he played hockey, rugby, golf, football, and lacrosse.

"The first impression I had of him was, here was a kid who wanted to do everything," says Anthony Mariano, the longtime former director of athletics at Norwich, who knew McIntosh's father and coached the younger McIntosh as a Cadet.



William McIntosh IV '95 had a feeling that a black hole in the ice on the Winooski

River contained answers long sought by the community of Duxbury, Vt. McIntosh and his daughter noticed it while driving by, and he believed it could be key to solving the mystery surrounding Donald Messier, who has been missing since 2006.

McIntosh had been serving as a volunteer investigator in the search for information about Messier, just one of nine missing persons cases for which the Rhode Island resident and founder of his own search, rescue, and recovery company has volunteered his time.

After spotting the anomaly in the ice, McIntosh sent photos and a search plan to others working on the case. This fall an underwater sonar dive recovery team investigated the area, and McIntosh's hunch proved correct: The team found Messier's truck beneath the water.

The discovery didn't answer every question that remains, but it did help Messier's family and friends get one step closer to learning what happened to their loved one. And McIntosh has been continuing the hunt for evidence.

He says helping people find some kind of closure, whatever the outcome may be, is one reason why he gets involved in these searches.

"We all hold our breath in life when there is a feeling of unfinished business," he says. "We have this heaviness on our hearts. I find that the sense of closure allows people to take a deep breath



Photos courtesy William McIntosh IV

“And when I say everything, he wanted to be an athlete. He wanted to be as good of a student as he could possibly be. He wanted to have rank in the Corps of Cadets. The sky was the limit with Bill, and that was kind of the attitude that he took while he was at Norwich.”

Hard work and determination were key to McIntosh's success. “I was a good athlete,” he says. “I wasn't the greatest athlete, but I was one of those guys who gave you everything I had until I was broken.”

McIntosh's dad was usually in the stands, and when things started getting hard on the field or the ice, he would point at his heart. “He would just look at me and keep pointing at his heart, and that meant dig deep,” McIntosh says. “Go deep inside of yourself right now, because your team needs you. It would automatically trigger me to take it to the next level, to take a deep breath and go after it.”

McIntosh also began laying the groundwork for a life that would be filled with volunteer service. During his senior year, he founded the Dog River Cleanup as well as the Students Against Drunk Driving car-crushing fundraising and awareness events.

At graduation, when NU's then-president Richard W. Schneider, RADM USCG (Ret), challenged him to do something that would make a difference for Norwich and the world, McIntosh dreamed up a seemingly impossible adventure: Used to skating hours a day for hockey, the superfit athlete set himself the quest of rollerblading from California to Florida to raise awareness and funds to support literacy programs and the Special Olympics.

McIntosh skated a total of 2,981 miles over 35 days. Along the way, he was supported by people such as former professional baseball player Jeffery Kittler, who served as trainer and skated 500 miles of the route, and John Cullen, another skater from Rhode Island. “He was with me every inch of every mile, and we are still friends today,” McIntosh says. His cousin, Andrew Newman, drove the support vehicle.

That experience, McIntosh says, taught him life lessons that he still draws upon today. To remember, for example, that for every hill or mountain you must climb, there's always a downhill on the other



side, and that when the road you're traveling seems long, “take it one pole at a time, one town at a time, one state at a time, one hill at a time.”

“The skate taught me that you can do anything in life if you set your mind to it,” he says.

As he skated across the country, McIntosh often thought about a poem by Walter D. Wintle. Titled “The Man Who Thinks He Can,” it was one the 23-year-old had read to become prefect in high school and also used to recite to himself before hockey games:

*If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't,
If you like to win, but you think you can't
It is almost certain you won't.
If you think you'll lose, you're lost
For out of the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will
It's all in the state of mind.*

*If you think you are outclassed, you are
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man,
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the man who thinks he can.*

THE FIRST IMPRESSION I HAD OF HIM WAS HERE WAS A KID WHO WANTED TO DO EVERYTHING.

“I always revert to that poem,” McIntosh says today. “That poem is what pushes me to do the things I do. I don't know why. It was meant to come into my life; it was meant to push me.”



McIntosh's life has been full of extraordinary chapters. Shortly after his cross-country skate, the Cadet had a brief turn as a professional hockey player in Tennessee and Oregon. McIntosh says his career playing at a high level, though short-lived, taught him that “the game” was bigger than he was. “It was more about the kids coming to the game, who had a dream of playing at a high level. It was about the child in a wheelchair who would never be able to skate,” he says. “It was about a lot more than hockey.”

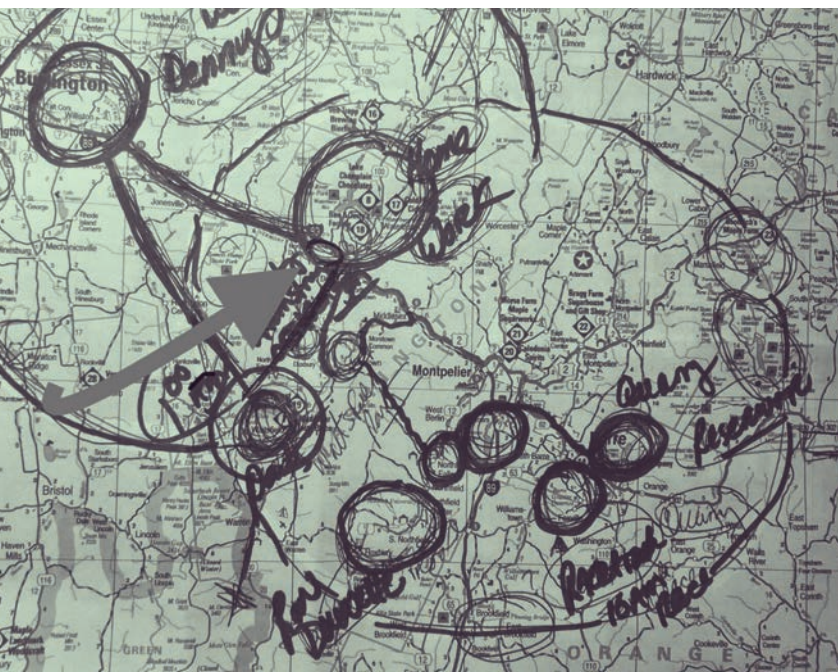


**MCINTOSH'S
DAD WAS
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Skating at right wing for the Nashville Knights and center for the Eugene Snowcats, McIntosh played games with the same intensity he did in high school and college. "I gave 110% for my team," he says. McIntosh brought his trademark tenacity, looking to apply the "two percent rule" popularized by a Florida college football coach.

"I went to practice and into every game trying to make myself two percent better every day," he says. While relatively short, McIntosh's pro hockey career was long enough that his speech is still pattered occasionally with the bromides favored by professional athletes. A favorite: "Hard work outweighs talent when talent doesn't work hard."

For the past decade, McIntosh has brought that same kind of mindset to his work as a volunteer instructor for Navy SEAL candidates. He works with candidates for Naval Special Warfare through



**I WASN'T THE
GREATEST
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I WAS ONE OF
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a private mentoring program called SEAL RDAC (Recruiting District Assistance Council) and has helped train more than 500 candidates in undisclosed locations all over New England. He learned about the program through his involvement with the Brian Bill Memorial Golf Tournament.

“Those lessons that I learned in my life through sports and the skate across America resonate with my guys,” he says. “Though I didn’t go into the military, they see that I’ve gone through some very difficult situations that a lot of people haven’t taken on. They respect the fact that I’m in the trenches with them, running with them, diving with them, jumping with them. I’m in the pool with them; I do everything with those guys. I’m able to serve my country in a different way.

“And that’s what I’ve been doing all my life,” says McIntosh, the recipient of the 2020 Norwich University Alumni Association Sustained Service Award. “I try to serve. I think it was our Rook book that said serve your fellow man, and that’s what being a citizen-soldier is all about. You’re serving your fellow man, whether it be in the community that you’re in, a team that you’re on, or within your country. I kind of live by that.”



McIntosh has created a career for himself that allows him to spend much of his time volunteering, including coaching sports teams for his three teenage children. Early on he dabbled for several years in home renovation and land development, experiences that helped him land a job with Toll Brothers, serving as an assistant project manager for a 185-house subdivision in Massachusetts in the early 2000s.





that supports the Brian Bill '01 Memorial Scholarship at Norwich, established in memory of the Norwich graduate and Navy SEAL who lost his life in Afghanistan in 2011. "When President Schneider asked me to help build the tournament I said, 'I am in sir,'" McIntosh recalls. "These four words led me down a path that I will never have a single regret [about]. I have met some of the most amazing people."

"From the very beginning, he has been fantastic," says Patricia Parry, Brian's mother. "And he has been there every year since. He's been a big, big supporter and has become involved with young men who would like to be SEALs because of this It means the world to us, because this is Brian's legacy. He wasn't married. He didn't have children, and we want his legacy to live forever. We want people to know who he was."

McIntosh has become someone Parry can turn to for help or advice. "He's a very kind and generous man and is always very positive and encouraging," she says. "He loved and still loves Norwich University and is just proud to do what he can to support not only Brian but also Norwich."

The arc of McIntosh's life story seems like a series of stepping-stones that have led him higher and higher, where his intense drive to help others benefits from skills that allow him to make an impact in so many different areas, from coaching and mentoring to search and rescue. His knowledge of topography and land development, for example, also informs his work as an instructor for Navy SEAL candidates and his efforts to find missing persons. His years on hockey rinks and sports fields now come into play as he coaches and mentors the next generation of athletes.

What has inspired his lifetime of giving back to others? McIntosh says it's the honor and pride of serving your fellow man.

Mariano, his former coach, says he's not surprised at McIntosh's trajectory post-Norwich. "I think his time at Norwich really helped build the character that he

YOU HAVE TO VISUALIZE THAT YOU'RE STANDING ON THE GREATEST STAGE.

has, and he kind of already had that going in," Mariano says. "He came in with the attitude of *I'm going to do whatever I would like to do in these different situations. And if say I'm going to do it, I'm going to do it.* That's what he's done his whole life, and you've got to be impressed with that."

McIntosh is a firm believer in visualizing your dreams. It's something he's done for himself and something he espouses in his coaching, mentoring, and while working with potential SEAL candidates.

"Whether you want to be a ballerina or you want to be a Navy SEAL, you have to visualize that you're standing on the greatest stage and that you're getting that award for being the ballerina or the Navy SEAL trident," he says. "If that's what your goal is, set it. Shoot for the stars. Go for it. If you only shoot for being on the tree line, you're going to end up on the ground still. You really have to shoot for the stars."

To McIntosh, all things are possible. "To anyone who reads this article," he says, "I want them to come across with the idea that you can do anything if you set your mind to it, if you set your dreams right, and if you go for it and put the effort in." ■

"That taught me that business, so I created my job title of land developer, because it allowed me the freedom to do what I wanted to do in my life."

He's since gone on to develop several properties in Rhode Island, including a nearly 13-acre subdivision, known as McIntosh Farms, and a 4.6-acre subdivision called Highland Farms. "I built a job that allowed me to have the freedom to do what I love, which is coach my kids and mentor young men and help," he says. When taking on a subdivision project, McIntosh says his approach is to build a great team—engineer, surveyor, designer, and renovation group. "I have hands that are literally not doing anything, because my team's doing it all," he says. "So I go and do these other things."

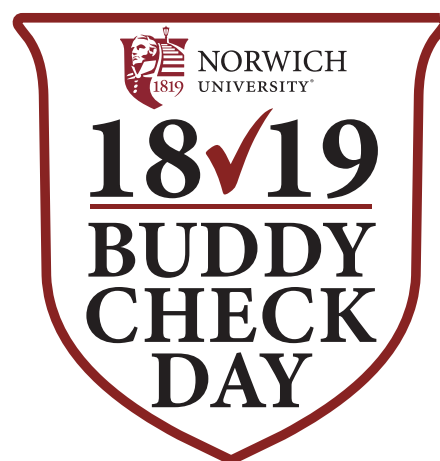
That includes years of involvement with the Brian Bill Memorial Golf Tournament

CONNECT

with NU friends
and classmates on
Buddy Check Day



The most fundamental responsibility of Norwich alumni is to look out for each other. Beginning in January 2023 we will launch Buddy Check Day on the 18th-19th of every month. We will send you an email—and text if we have your mobile number—as a reminder to get in touch with each other for the camaraderie and to check on each other's well-being.



“We’ve Got Your Back!”



For more information and to update your contact information, visit:

alumni.norwich.edu/BuddyCheck

TRADITIONS



Fellowship of the Ring

This year marks the 100-year anniversary of the Norwich Class Ring. Steve Gagner '03 & M'17 recalls a remarkable gesture from his friend and fellow cadet Matthew Shanks '98

I was unsure of my future when I decided to leave Norwich in December 1997 to enter the Army, but it was a Norwich cadet (now alum) that brought everything back into perspective for me. Matthew Shanks '98 was a friend of mine on the Ranger Challenge Team that year. We had spent many hours together, and he was disappointed to hear that I was leaving. The day before my departure, he called me into his room (he was the regimental XO), and he talked to me about what I had gone through and what I had accomplished during my short time at Norwich. He seemed distraught when I told him I didn't know if I would return. That's when he gave me his Norwich class ring. He told me that every day that I was in the Army, I should conduct myself befitting of a Norwich cadet and that, after my obligation, I should return to NU to receive my own ring.

His actions amazed me. The class ring is a treasured memento that every cadet dreams about for three long

years—yet he was willing to loan it to me to ensure that I would remember the place that I needed to return to. Never have I met someone who embodied the ethos and traditions of Norwich like Matt. Every day that I served, I would wake up and see his ring on my nightstand and dream about the day that I would receive and wear my own. For three years it sat on my end table until I made the decision to return.

I feel comfortable knowing that Norwich, although it may change from year to year, will always remain true to the past, because it is in the hands of people who love it as much as those that have gone before them. ■

Editor's note: Look for special coverage of the Centennial Anniversary of the Norwich Class Ring tradition in the next issue of the *Norwich Record*. Do you have a story to share? Email the alumni office at alumni@norwich.edu.

“I feel comfortable knowing that Norwich, although it may change from year to year, will always remain true to the past, because it is in the hands of people who love it as much as those that have gone before them.”



LIVES

A Pair of Titans

Philip Marsilius '43 and Fred Weintz '47 left an indelible mark on Norwich

This past fall, Norwich found itself mourning the loss, in quick succession, of Philip Marsilius '43 and Fred Weintz '47, who were remembered by President Emeritus Richard W. Schneider, RADM, USCGR (Ret.) as two "extraordinary Norwich men."

Both were formidable friends of the university, generous benefactors, and titans of the Board of Trustees. Marsilius served on the board for 25 years from 1962 to 1987 and as chair from 1970 to 1987. Weintz brilliantly led the board's investment committee as chair for nearly 40 years from 1983 to 2020.

"I cannot share with you enough how much both of these men impacted our university and left it a better place than they found it," David Whaley '76, the university's former executive vice president and current corporate secretary, wrote in an email conveying news of their passing.

"Both Phil and Fred were giants in everything they were involved in,"



LASTING LEGACY

WWII veteran and former NU Board of Trustees Chair Philip Marsilius '43 (third from left) at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Bicentennial Stairs dedication during Homecoming 2019.

File photo by Karen Kasmauski

was the immediate response of Gen. Alfred M. Gray, former Commandant of the Marine Corps and a Norwich trustee for 16 years. “It was a privilege to know them and have the opportunity to watch them.”

Marsilius, who was 100, and Weintz, 96, were among the last of the university’s WWII veterans. Marsilius’s graduation in 1943—he was both valedictorian and class president, the latter three years running—was moved up three months so the cadets could enter the war. Weintz interrupted his studies following his freshman year to enlist in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1944, serving as a

radio operator on B-26 bombers.

Marsilius went on to complete his master’s degree at MIT, then joined his brother in running the family business, a precision machine-tool manufacturer based in Bridgeport, Conn., and beyond. Throughout, he maintained close ties to his undergraduate alma mater, an active sense of duty, and a “fierce” loyalty to Norwich.

In his 25 years serving on the NU Board of Trustees, 17 as chair, Marsilius guided Norwich through major changes, including the admittance of women into the Corps of

Cadets, the merger with Vermont College, and the purchase from Goddard College of its low-residency, adult programs. He was key in the hiring of two Norwich presidents: Loring Hart and Maj. Gen. W. Russell Todd, USA (Ret.).

“He helped to stabilize the university’s governance and brought order to the board,” Schneider recalled. “His skills at building consensus and leading a board through tough times were unparalleled.”

Weintz completed his bachelor’s degree at Stanford and earned an MBA from Harvard Business School. He soon joined the investment giant Goldman Sachs, where he remained for the entirety of a highly successful career.

Weintz served on a variety of boards, which reflected his life of wildly varied interests—from the Sierra Club to the National Lighthouse Museum to work on population and international health at Harvard University’s School of Public Health. But what he accomplished as chair of the Norwich Board of Trustees’ investment committee, growing the university’s endowment from anemic levels in 1983 to its current robust health of some \$260 million, and educating everyone about its importance and the need to preserve it, was one of the sources of his greatest satisfaction.

“He felt that chairing the Norwich investment committee was one of his biggest success stories,” Weintz’s son Karl said.

Even in the last weeks of his life, Karl added, his father recalled with fondness “fiscal year 2005” when Norwich’s investment performance outranked every other school. “Beating Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford—everybody!”

“He was brilliant, absolutely brilliant,” Schneider said. Weintz’s dedication was

especially remarkable, Schneider added, because he’d only spent one year on the Hill. Asked what inspired that devotion, Schneider said, “Because of our values.”

The NU President Emeritus said both men “lived our Norwich University values their whole lives—of serving America, serving family, and serving the community,” adding that both possessed the sine qua non Norwich traits of leadership and service. “Fred and Phil were great role models for us all.”

In an interview with the Sullivan Museum and History Center, recorded in 2015 when he was 93, Marsilius said he had intended to serve only one five-year term as a trustee. But toward the end of every term there always seemed to be a reason to stay on—especially the pleasure it gave him “to see [Norwich] prosper and grow and begin to really have a place in the academic world—a strong place, and one you can be proud of.”

Long after Marsilius had left the board, when Schneider was a young university president, Marsilius would phone every now and then, just to check in. “He called me just to say hi, encourage me, tell me old Norwich stories,” Schneider recalled, adding that when he needed encouragement, “well, sometimes I’d call him.”

“He so loved us. He so believed in us and believed in our mission,” Schneider said. “We were just so aligned values-wise, his view of the world and what it means to be an American. We were just the right school for him, and he was just the right chairman for us. He was a remarkable force.”

Immersed as they were in full and busy lives with distinguished careers and a multitude of duties and distractions, the two titans nonetheless found time for Norwich, giving back to the university that had given to them. They are among the 78 men and women whose names are carved in granite on the university’s Bicentennial Stairs, dedicated in 2019—a testimony to their service, sacrifice, support, and trailblazing achievements. ■

PHILANTHROPY

Gifts to a Beloved Alma Mater

They didn't graduate from the Hill—their husbands did.
Why these four widows continue to support Norwich

BY SARAH RUTH BATES

Myrna Schultz W'60 met her husband-to-be, Richard Schultz '60, on a weekend. "The following week," she says, "he had already taken me to see Norwich." Richard "adored the school. He felt that Norwich made him into the human being that he was. And all of that translated into me." Myrna has continued to give to Norwich in the years since Richard's passing.

Other widows who have continued to give to the school feel similarly. Nancy Samia W'61 says that Norwich helped her husband, Roger Samia '61, "become the man that he was." Mary Jo Segal W'60 says that for husband Jason, "Norwich was the beacon."

He "attributed all his success to Norwich," Mary Jo says. Jason worked in the jewelry business. In that line of work, you could only succeed as far as your word was trusted. His word was. "He was known as a man who was scrupulously honest, and that is Norwich. You told the truth." Jason sold custom jewelry for years, until a Harry Winston representative approached him. The rep said, "I've heard great things about you. You're a man of your word." So Segal

got into the diamond business. "If he said it was a Color D diamond, it was a Color D diamond," Mary Jo says. "And he attributed his good reputation to what was expected of him at Norwich. Your word was your honor."

That integrity extended beyond the workplace. Mary Jo told their daughter, "If you're smart, you will never lie to your dad. He'll know, and he will appreciate the truth. And she really took it to heart and turned into a wonderful mother and person."

Norwich became family to these widows' husbands and to the women themselves. Roger Samia's father had passed away when Roger was only eight years old. Because of that, Nancy says, "Norwich had a very profound influence on who he was, for his whole life." Roger and his classmates "were all like extended family. It was a very warm situation. I don't know of any other school that was like that. It was a wonderful thing."

Joyce Oliver's W'51 family connection to Norwich has continued through her granddaughter, Emily, Class of 2019. Emily "made us all proud with what she did at Norwich. Her grandfather would be so proud of her." This past year, Emily walked

the Norwich stage a second time, to graduate with her master's degree. She wore her grandfather's class ring on a chain.

Norwich wasn't an easy four years for these widows' late husbands. "It was always freezing cold," Myrna Schultz recalls. Her spouse recalled that the radiator "would freeze solid." "It was pretty old-school back then," says Mary Jo Segal. Her husband Jason used to say, "By God, they're not gonna get me down. I will finish this."

That grit made the widows' husbands who they were, and they never forgot it. Maureen Brennan, the widow of Francis X. Brennan '64, remembers the time he addressed cadets in 1996 on the heels of a recent accident. "He looked like he'd been run over by a Vermont tractor," she recalls, but he still went. "He was all dolled up in a navy-blue blazer and a white shirt and cargo shorts, because he couldn't get pants on" due to his injuries. "He was on his crutches, in a spotlight, speaking to the cadets. He referenced the motto of the school, which was a personal go-to for him: *I Will Try*. Always, *I Will Try*." That day, Francis showed up. So Maureen and her daughter keep showing up, too, in his memory. They

HONORED ALUMNUS

Francis X. Brennan, one of NU's most highly decorated Vietnam Veterans, is the among the 78 alumni celebrated on the 2019 Bicentennial Stairs.

Photo by Mark Collier

established the Francis X. Brennan '64 Scholarship. Norwich, Maureen says, "was a significant part of Fran's life. It became a significant part of our life."

Before he passed, Richard Schultz made his own funeral arrangements. He chose Norwich as one of two beneficiaries for donations given in his name. "Richie loved Norwich, everybody knew that," his widow Myrna says. "Everybody knew that if you gave money to Norwich, you were giving to the most beloved piece of Richie's life."

A year after his death, Myrna established the Richard S. Schultz '60 Symposium Fellowship. "It was just a natural thing," she says. "I continue to give to honor Richie. That's his legacy. And he would be so proud."

This past year, Myrna's daughter threw her a surprise 80th birthday party. "I didn't need any gifts," she says, "but if they wanted to do something, they could give to Norwich. In honor of my birthday, and in memory of Richie." ■



Brian Gibbons '99 and Brian Dunne '13 (top left) chat with Tina Judd-Christian '83 (center, top right) and friends.



Guests also had the opportunity to speak with current Norwich students (middle left). Cheri Caddy (center, middle right) chats with friends. Diane and Frank Vanecek (bottom right).



Norwich Provost Karen Gaines, PhD, (center, above) enjoys a signature cocktail and live jazz with Hill alumni.



Left: NUAA Board of Directors member Mary Anne Burke (center) and Nancy Martin '83.



Right: Office of Development Senior Vice President Elizabeth Kennedy '01 (center).

PARTRIDGE SOCIETY

A 2022 Homecoming Fun-Raiser!

Good company, signature cocktails, and live music jazzed up our annual thank you to new and upgraded Partridge Society members

TEXT BY REED CURRY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY KAREN KASMAUSKI

During the past year, the Partridge Society Board gathered input from the community and collaborated with university leadership to improve how we celebrate new and upgraded members. We heard that people want to be thanked in smaller groups and would like more opportunities to connect with current students.

In response, the Board was pleased to add a new event to the Homecoming schedule to recognize donors who have recently achieved lifetime-and-above milestones. The Friday evening reception featured signature cocktails designed by NUAA President Brian Gibbons '99. Hosted by President Mark Anarumo, the soiree was a welcome addition to the Homecoming schedule and will be an event the Partridge Society Board looks forward to hosting again in 2023. ■

Reed Curry is an associate vice president in the Office of Development & Alumni Relations.

FLASHBACK

SEASONS GREETING



DECEMBER 1976: JOLLY CADET

Left, right, ho, ho, ho! Cadets march on the Upper Parade before the winter break.

Photograph by Homer E. Smith



PARENTS WEEKEND 1990
A rook and her parents share a happy moment in this photo taken by longtime NU staff photographer Homer E. Smith.

Class Notes

Class of 1962

Class agent **Daniel Sweeney** reached out this summer to share a chapbook published by fellow classmate **Ray Dionne**. Ray's book, *Harvest Day*, tells the story of a young college student, Tricia, whose life is changed by her enigmatic math professor, Cornelius Kelly, a war hero and wounded warrior. It captures the story of two spiritual journeys. Daniel wrote from Massachusetts on the letterhead of IKON Communications Consultants, the Wellesley-based marketing communications company he founded in 1972. Ray lives in Carlsbad, Calif., with his wife, Lourdes. Their daughter, Britt, lives and works in the Bay Area. A Vietnam veteran, Ray is a former army and foreign service officer, who spent most of his career working for USAID in the State Department.

Class of 1968

In October, **Robert Begiebing** wrote to say LSU Press is about to publish his 10th book, *Norman Mailer at 100: Conversations, Correlations, Confrontations*, timed to commemorate the



1. (From left) Class of 1969 friends Phil Boncore, Ethan Allen, Tom Smelstor, Brendan Garvin, Ed Hackman, Doug Eagan, and John Mulhern.
2. Walt Banaszak '69 holds his granddaughter River during a family vacation in Hawaii.

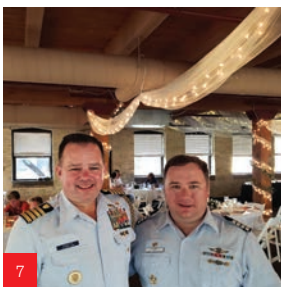
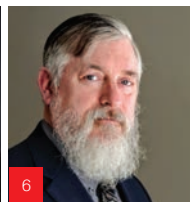
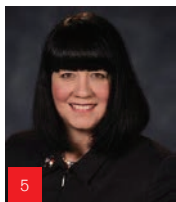
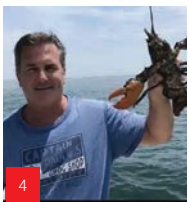
centenary of the birth of the two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist. Robert is a professor of English emeritus at

Southern New Hampshire University. More information can be found on his website: www.begiebing.com.

Class of 1969

John Mulhern and six other members of the Class of 1969 gathered in New Hampshire in July. "It was our 10th gathering at Ed Hackman's home on Lake Winnepesaukee, N.H. A time to share memories that date back to our freshman year in 1965 through our friendships that have lasted 57 years," John writes. "The stories of old get a little embellished every time they are told, but the camaraderie is the real thing." *See Photo 1.*

Walt Banaszak, wrote to say that he and **George Bowne** '75 attended President Mark C. Anarumo's Presidential Inauguration Tour in Westbury, N.Y., in May. "The update was informative and appreciated," Walt said, adding that he also enjoyed Easter in Kona, Hawaii, with his family: son Matt, a special education teacher and ocean lifeguard; daughter-in-law Julia, a school psychologist; granddaughter River; daughter Kristen Finch, who recently earned a second master's degree at UNC Greensboro; and



- 3. NU Club of Chicago Student Sendoff.
- 4. The late Steven Fleming '86.
- 5. Frances Perez-Willite '88.
- 6. Michael Smith '88.
- 7. Coasties Eric Doucette'92 and Rob Kumpf '13.



ALUMNI MEET-UP

Air Force officers and CGCS alums Col. **Chris Auger** M'99, 1st Lt **Chris Danieli** M'18, and 2nd Lt **Alex Digiacomo** M'20 recently served together at a deployed location in the Middle East. Auger is an F-15E weapon systems officer and vice wing commander, Danieli is an F-16 pilot, and Digiacomo is a security forces officer.

daughter Katie, an attorney for the FAA in Alaska. Walt is happy to report that he is retired. *See Photo 2.*

Class of 1982

Ken Johnson, the chief administrative officer, senior vice president, and senior principal of GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA), a Bedford, N.H.-based geotechnical, environmental, ecological, water, and construction management service company, has been elected as a member of the Geoprofessional Business Association (GBA) Council of Fellows. Johnston served on the GBA Board of Directors 2015–21 and was the organization's president 2020–21. Now in its 53rd year, GBA serves geotechnical, environmental, and other geoprofessionals in the U.S., Canada, and worldwide to help them optimize performance, manage risk, and achieve business success. The non-profit association serves 260 member firms and is headquartered in Rockville, Md. Johnston joined the association's Council of Fellows at its semi-annual meeting in October. GZA CEO Patrick Sheehan said: "With over 40 years of business experience and leadership skills, Ken has been an excellent asset to both GZA and GBA. All of us at GZA are proud to see Ken's career-long commitment to advancing professionals in the geotechnical and environmental consulting field is being recognized as he assists GBA in their continuing mission." Congratulations, Ken!

Class of 1983

Congratulations to Col. **Gregory S. Valloch**, USA (Ret.), who recently published the book, *The Great War Through a Doughboy's Eyes* (Palmetto Publishing, 2022). The nonfiction tome shares the journal entries, letters, and photos of his maternal grandfather, Howard Percy Claypoole, a corporal in the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I. Gregory dedicates the foreword of his book to former Norwich Associate Professor of History Dennis Klinge, thanking him for "instilling in me a love of history and for teaching one of the best courses on the Great War ever taught."

Class of 1984

Keith Gelin and his wife, Lori, hosted a Summer Sendoff on behalf of the NU Club of Chicago. The event introduced first-year students and their parents to the Norwich family and was a resounding success. Alumni in attendance included **Tom Zignitch** '92, **Nivin Jazrawi** '13, **Daniele Mannucci** '00, **Paul Fousek** '01, and **Adam Tobiasz** '16. Representing the Hill were **Julia Bernard**, NU's vice president of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and **Leah Cifuentes** M'19, assistant director of class giving. *See Photo 3.*

In June, **Henry Mau** retired after a total of 35 years of government service. He, his wife Sabine, and two children will remain in the Williamsburg, Va., area, where he is now working as a USG contractor.

Class of 1986

Chris Faux sent in a tribute to his friend, former NU Class President **Steven “Flem” Fleming**, who passed away last summer at his summer home on Martha’s Vineyard. “He will always be remembered for his welcoming smile, contagious laugh, and his ability to make whomever he spoke with the most important person in the room,” Chris writes. “Steve would spend hours solving your problems while never burdening you with his. Steve’s passing is a significant loss to anyone who knew him ... he is greatly missed by his wonderful family and Norwich brothers!!” See *Photo 4*.

Class of 1988

Frances Perez-Wilite led the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs (ACVBA) as chairperson from January to March 2022. Comprised of veteran small business owners and veteran service organizations, the ACVBA serves to advise the executive and legislative branches of government, promoting effective policy and legislation to help veteran-owned small businesses grow and prosper. “Fran’s steadfast leadership allowed the ACVBA to shift to a virtual format and continue its important work,” Larry Stubblefield, Associate Administrator of the Office of Veterans Business Development, noted. “With her valuable advice and support, SBA continued to enhance

the growth of veteran-owned small businesses and private enterprises despite the pandemic.” Fran was a strong leader on the ACVBA and continues to provide invaluable service to SBA and veteran business owners. See *Photo 5*.

Michael Smith, P.E., was recently promoted to senior technical leader at Weston & Sampson Engineers. Smitty has been with the firm in their Waterbury, Vt., office for 14 years and will be leading the company’s market development for industrial wastewater and pre-treatment under their wastewater program. Weston & Sampson, founded in 1899, is a 750+ person civil and environmental engineering firm serving the Eastern Seaboard. Smitty lives with his wife, Debra, and youngest son in Elmore, Vt. His oldest son recently attended Norwich University. See *Photo 6*.

Class of 1989

In June, Col. **Jayson A. Altieri** ’89, USA (Ret.) received the Air Force Historical Association’s Best Article Award for his article “Government Girls: Crowdsourcing Aircraft in World War II,” which was published in the Vol. 67, No. 1 issue of *Air & Space Power History*. Altieri is an assistant professor of leadership at the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. He is a retired U.S. Army colonel with more than 33 years of active and reserve service, including three combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. He previously held national-security-level posts at the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency in



ALUMNI MEET-UP

Adam Lazar ’05 shared the above photo taken during a historic trolley tour of the City of Brotherly Love. The event was organized by the NU Club of Philadelphia. Pictured left to right: **Adam Lazar** ’05, **Jim Garvey** ’73, **Laura Garvey**, **Nadine Johnson**, and **Steve Johnson** ’73. “If you look closely, you can see the statue of Rocky Balboa above Nadine,” Adam writes.

Bethesda, Md.; NATO in Brussels, Belgium; and the National War College in Washington, D.C. His current book project, *A Guest of Mr. Lincoln: The Wartime Service of Sergeant Joseph H. Wheelless, 32nd North Carolina, Confederate States Army*, is expected to be published in early 2023. Altieri currently serves on NU’s College of Liberal Arts Board of Fellows and served on the Civil Air Patrol Board of Governors 2012–18, chairing the panel for his final two years. He lives in Prattville, Ala.

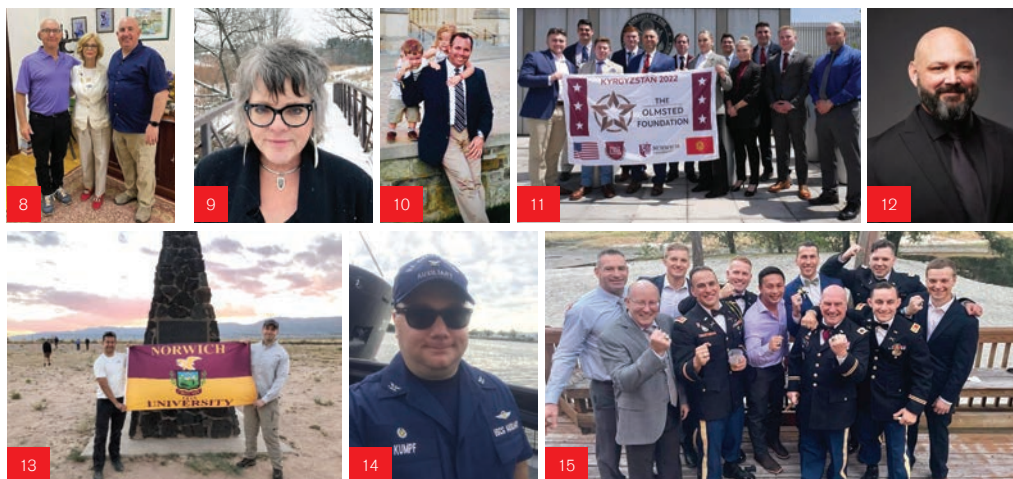
Class of 1991

Bill Hayden was recently awarded the Washington State Bar Association Award for Professional Excellence (APEX) for his leadership raising awareness of injured veterans and for his pro bono work directly supporting injured veterans.

Class of 1992

NU Club of San Antonio club officer **Derek Zamagni** raved about the club’s summer Student Sendoff. The scene is repeated, with local variations, every year at over 40 NU Clubs around the country to welcome the next class to Norwich.

Capt. **Eric Doucette** and **Rob Kumpf** ’13 met up in Grand Haven, Mich., in August during the city’s Coast Guard Festival. Eric is currently the senior-most NU Coast Guard alumnus and is serving as chief of staff of the Ninth Coast Guard District in Cleveland, Ohio. Rob is NU’s senior-most Coast Guard Auxiliary alumnus and is currently serving as district captain–east in the Ninth Coast Guard District–Western Region. See *Photo 7*.



10. Trevor Albertson '02 with his children, Patrick and Mary.
 11. Norwich students on a summer field study in Kyrgyzstan with Michael Mele '03 & M'08 (center, red tie) and Prof. Travis Morris (far right).
 12. Andrew Allen M'05.
 13. Alex Redznak '12, M'18 (left) and Nick Fierro-Martinez '13
 14. Rob Kumpf '13.
 15. Left to right: Col. Brian Kaplan '01 (Ret.), Maj. David Mullen Jr. '78 (Ret.), Staff Sgt. David Pasciuto '18, Capt. Michael Heimall Jr. '16, Capt. Kevin Seery '18, Capt. Justin Chan '18, Nico Fitzsimons '16, Col. Michael Heimall '87 (Ret.), Capt. Sean Harbison '16, Capt. Alex Stewart '15, Capt. Thomas Eastwick '15.

Class of 1994

Matt Stavro M'09 shared an update on a recent trip to Albania, where he met up with fellow CGCS M'09 classmate **Brunilda Paskali**.

Class of 1996

Troy Wing assumed command of the 171st Operations Group and was promoted to the rank of colonel, effective August 1st. Troy is a KC-135 evaluator pilot with the Pennsylvania Air National Guard stationed in Pittsburgh. He is a graduate of the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Ala., and previously served as commander of the 147th Air Refueling Squadron.

Class of 1999

Sherry Ferno retired from the Alaska Air National Guard in June after 32 years of service in the Air National Guard. Sherry enlisted in 1990 as an airman with the Vermont Air National Guard and was commissioned in 2009. She retired as a major working with the Inspector General.

Chris Steingrube MSIA '13

“finally finished” an MGA-shaped cargo trailer and will be posting it soon for auction. Chris began the project last January. All proceeds will go to the Make-a-Wish foundation. You can check out a video about the project here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIztLhiPIZQ

Class of 2000

In October, International Latino Book Award-winning author **Ann Dávila Cardinal**, a graduate of the adult degree program at Vermont College, published the novel, *The Storyteller's Death*. It's family saga centered around a Puerto Rican woman who finds herself gifted (or cursed?) with a strange ability. Congratulations Ann! See Photo 9.

Class of 2002

In June, **Trevor Albertson**, PhD, was appointed as the new vice chancellor for the Yosemite multi-college district in Northern California's Sierra Nevada mountains and Central Valley. He will be the second-in-command of a public-college district consisting of two colleges, three

large campuses, as well as numerous other instructional centers and sites. The district serves more than 550,000 residents across 4,500 square miles in six counties. It enrolls approximately 35,000 full-time equivalent students in bachelor and associate degree programs and has some 2,000 employees. Trevor also completed his last assignment as the president and superintendent of Lassen College in northeastern California, where he led the single-college district since 2019. Meanwhile, his peer-reviewed book *Winning Armageddon*, which chronicles the development of American foreign policy and nuclear strategy during the early Cold War, has been lauded by numerous critical reviewers in the field since its publication in 2019. Trevor is nearing completion of his next scholarly book, which will examine the firebombing of Japan in 1945. See Photo 10.

Class of 2003

Michael Mele M'08 hosted a group of Norwich cadets at the U.S. Embassy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, over the summer. Mike was serving as the

assistant regional security officer as a special agent with the Diplomatic Security Service. Prof. Travis Morris, who directs the John and Mary Frances Patton Peace & War Center at Norwich, led 11 cadets on a field study sponsored by the George and Carol Olmsted Foundation. The goal of the field study was for the cadets to educate themselves on the topics of peace and war within Central Asia through an immersive experience by interconnecting with a foreign culture. Michael was able to share his experience and extend a warm Norwich welcome to all. See Photo 11.

Class of 2005

Andrew Allen M'05 has joined University of Oklahoma as director of research initiatives for the Office of the Vice President for Research and Partnerships. An Oklahoma native and member of the Chickasaw Nation, the retired Air Force commander will apply his leadership experience and expertise as a test pilot to advance OU's strategic research efforts. “I had the privilege of serving my country for 25 years; now

I can serve my state,” Allen told the *Owasso Reporter* news weekly. *See Photo 12.*

Class of 2009

Alan M. Anderson M’09 has been elected to the Board of Governors of the St. Louis County Historical Society in Duluth, Minn. He also has been named to the Board’s Executive Committee.

“Founded in 1922, the society is dedicated to discovering, preserving, and disseminating knowledge about the history and prehistory of St. Louis County as well as the State of Minnesota,” Alan writes. “In addition to collecting and preserving objects of material culture and historical research material, the society maintains and operates a museum and historical research center in Duluth serving the St. Louis County and northeastern Minnesota region.” Alan received a PhD in war studies from King’s College London and is an honorary member of the Norwich Board of Fellows.

Class of 2010

Earlier this year, **Miguel Ondina** M’10 of Flower Mound, Texas, unexpectedly ran into a Norwich staff ride and Pres. Mark Anarumo in Montana at the site of the Battle of Little Big Horn, known by the Lakota and Plains Indians as the Battle of Greasy Grass. “Different from Gen. Custer’s encounter of the Sioux and their allies, it was a very pleasant surprise for us to meet the Norwich staff ride at the battlefield,” Miguel said in an email. “By the size of your group and the

number of visitors to the park it [is] easily understood that military history is still very much alive in our country. We definitely need more conscious study and discussion of history than what we are getting.” Miguel shared a selfie taken with Pres. Anarumo.

Class of 2012

In July, **Alex Redznak** M’18 and **Nick Fierro-Martinez** ’13 and visited the Trinity Site in White Sands Missile Range, N.M. They were able to tour ground zero of the first nuclear bomb detonation on the event’s 77th anniversary, while also reviewing the history of the Manhattan Project. Both alumni are U.S. Army captains who were enrolled in the U.S. Army Functional Area 52 (Counter Nuclear and WMD Proliferation) Officers Course. Truly a unique experience! *See Photo 13.*

Class of 2013

Rob Kumpf was recently selected to serve as the Director of Training for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, a 21,000-strong uniformed volunteer component of the U.S. Coast Guard. His term began Nov. 1 and runs for two years, during which time his team will be responsible for modernizing and expanding all training within the organization across the U.S. and its overseas territories. Rob has been a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary for a decade following a decade of service in the Army. During that time, he has contributed over 15,000 hours of volunteer service. *See Photo 14.*

After graduating from Norwich with his B.S. in management, USA Maj. **Kevin Hoerold** commissioned as a military intelligence officer, serving as an Assistant Intelligence Officer in the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team in his first assignment. He deployed twice to the Baltic States in support of Operations Persistent Presence and Atlantic Resolve.

Kevin then served as a tactical intelligence officer in the 1st Ranger Battalion. Promoted to captain, Kevin was re-assigned to the 1st Ranger Battalion as the senior intelligence officer. Most recently, he served as the 75th Ranger Regiment’s Military Intelligence Company commander. Kevin has deployed five times to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel. His military education includes the Military Intelligence Basic Officer Leader Course, Ranger School, Airborne School, Jumpmaster School, Signals Intelligence Officer Advanced Course, and the Military Intelligence Captain’s Career Course. Kevin received the LTG Weinstein Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence in 2020. This fall, Kevin began graduate school as a Downing Scholar. He is married to Halyna Protsiv of Lviv, Ukraine.

Class of 2014

Matthew Latter was recently engaged to Hannah Maloney of Myrtle Beach, S.C. Congratulations, Matthew and Hannah!

Class of 2015 & 2016

LTJG **Ryan Smith** ’16 and LTJG **Daniel Crisci** ’15 brought a little bit of the Hill to the Big Easy: Both were stationed at U.S. Coast Guard Sector New Orleans. They sent in a picture displaying their Norwich pride.

Class of 2016 – 2018

Kevin Seery ’18 shared news that Capt. **Michael Heimall** ’16 and **Ainsley Vail** ’17 & M’18 celebrated their marriage on September 24 in North Carolina. “The Heimall family is currently the largest Norwich Legacy family,” Kevin notes. *See Photo 15.*

Class of 2021

In September, 2nd Lt. **Kathryn “Missy” Preul** led the U.S. forces contingent in the 83rd Annual Commemoration parade of the outbreak of World War II in Lubuska-Zielona Gore, Poland. September 1, 1939, marked the first day of the Nazi blitzkrieg into Poland and today is an enormously important annual commemoration in Poland. A Scottsdale, Ariz., native, Missy commands a Bradley fighting vehicle platoon (Apache Troop) with the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division at Ft. Carson, Colo., and is currently stationed as an expeditionary force in Poland.

Class of 2022

Thomas N. Herron recently commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and will continue his officer training

in Quantico, Virginia. Thomas graduated magna cum laude from Norwich last spring with a B.A. in political science and minors in transnational crime and naval science. Thomas previously served on the U.S.S. *Newport News* (CA-148). The new Marine officer says he “had the honor and privilege of being commissioned by his grandfather, Lt. Thomas J. Herron, USN (Ret).”

Class of 2026

Ethan Ayers-Kuhn was pinned by his grandfather Leonard Ayers '60 at the 2nd Annual Homecoming Legacy Family Brunch during Homecoming. Ethan and his grandfather posed for a picture with Ethan's mother, Charlotte Ayers-Suitor, and NU President Mark C. Anarumo. ■

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 April 1, 2022 and September 30, 2022.

Four-Star General Members

Matthew & Teresa
Andresen P'23

Three-Star General Members

Jeannette Atwood W'53
Judy Jeffords W'69
William Steele '59

Two-Star General Members

Mr. & Mrs. Michael
Babyak, Jr. '92
John '72 & Marlene Campbell
Drew Ganter '89
Richard S. King '68
Richard J. Kisloski '67
Francis '60 & Gertrude
Moran, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony
A. Nickas '82
David '74 & Georgina Warren

One-Star General Members

Lowell Brooks, Jr. '57
James '87 & Cynthia '88 Fagan
Ronald '69 & Connie Harper
Alex Maricich
Anthony Paen
Louise Riggs W'67
LTC Thomas H. Wright,
Jr., USA (Ret.) '75

Lifetime Members

Glenn '84 & Rae '82 Carlson
COL & Mrs. Mark Flavin,
USA (Ret.) '73
Martin J. Hanifin '86
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Holden '68
Michael P. Johnson '85,
M'07 & P'11
Mark Lester '92
Paul Madden '88 &
Maureen Clark

Mark P. '82 & Linda
Madsen P'19

Sydney G. Marchant '60
Col Douglas M. Marshall,
III, USAF (Ret) '76
Nancy E. Martin '83
Jacqueline H. McDonald
Wallace '66 & Angela McLean
R. Pierce Reid M'14
Howard F. Russell '68
Robert A. Saldarini '67
Jeanette E. Thoden W'70
Patrick '77 & Anne Tria P'16
Dolores Vought W'54
Matthew & Shelly
Wineriter P'24

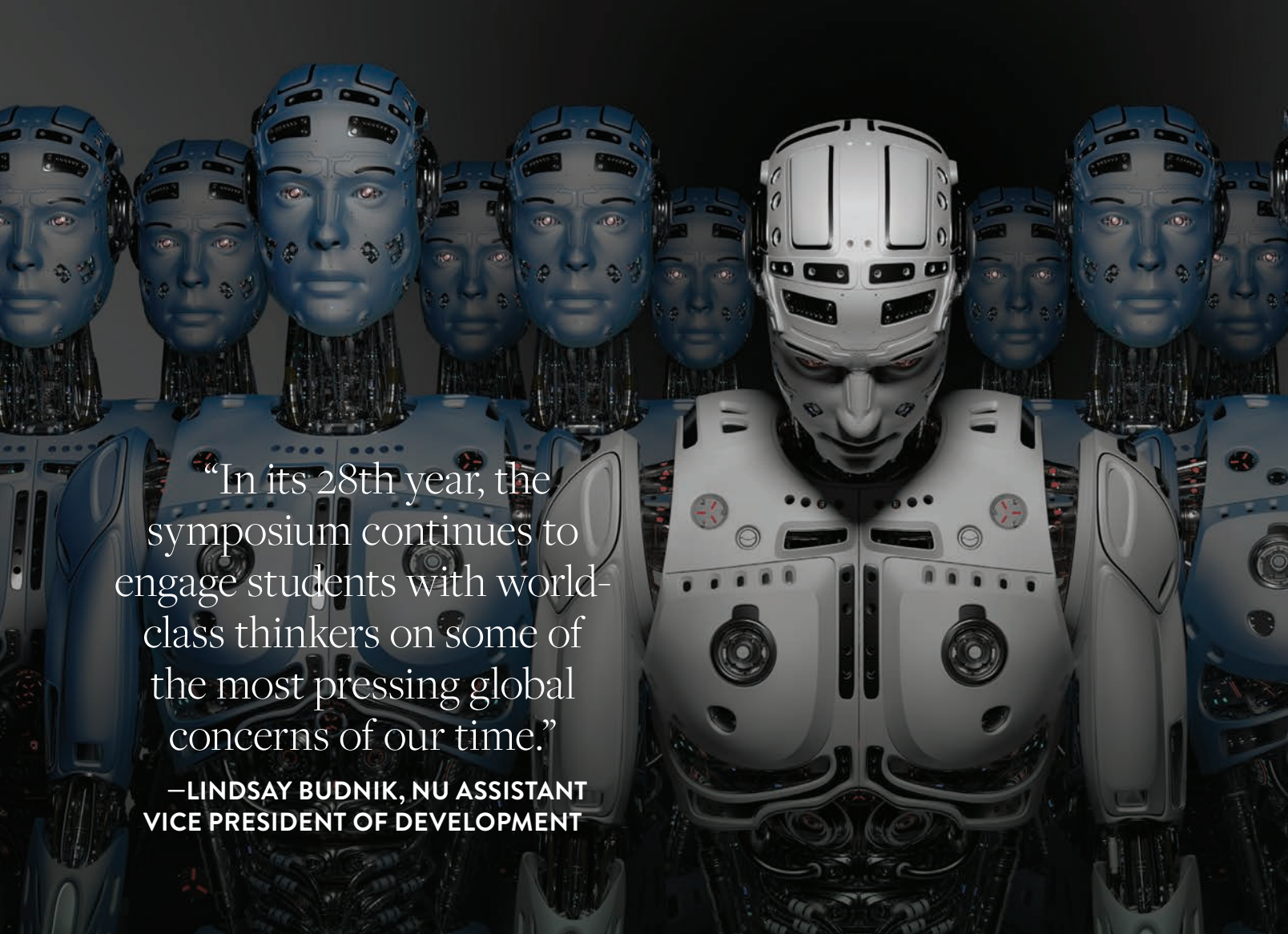
1819 Circle Members

Jack '67 & Francie Bergquist
Mr. & Mrs. William
C. Curtiss '62
Sydney G. Marchant '60

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. 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.

- 1943 Beverly (Daniels) Hopwood, 98, 7/16/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1943 Philip R. Marsilius, 100, 9/1/2022
- 1944 Robert W. Christie, 99, 7/11/2022
- 1947 J. Fred Weinz, 96, 8/15/2022, H'01 and *Trustee Emeritis*
- 1949 Carmelo J. Mazzotta, 95, 5/25/2022
- 1950 Eleanor (Goddard) Forger, 91, 6/10/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1952 Christian P. DeCarlo, 94, 3/28/2022
- 1952 Philip D. Briggs, 93, 5/18/2022
- 1953 Alfred S. Gardner, 90, 7/18/2022
- 1954 Donald B. Vought, 89, 6/16/2022
- 1955 Donald O. Morehouse, 89, 6/25/2022
- 1955 Roberta Alexander, 89, 7/16/2022, *wife of Robert M. Alexander '55*
- 1955 Patricia Barlow, 87, 8/12/2022, *wife of Allan R. Barlow '55*
- 1955 Richard W. Harvey, 89, 9/6/2022
- 1956 Clyde H. Dolan, 87, 5/2021
- 1956 Ralph R. Romano, 87, 9/19/2022
- 1956 David R. Norling, 89, 10/14/2022
- 1956 Thomas W. Donaldson, Sr., 89, 10/21/2022, *father of Thomas W. Donaldson, Jr. '82 and Brian Donaldson '90.*
- 1957 Judith MacDonald, 79, 7/6/2022, *life partner of Earl Ringer '57*
- 1959 Henry A. Putkisto, 87, 5/24/2022
- 1959 Newton G. Pendleton, 85, 6/17/2022
- 1959 Leonard L. Giles, 87, 7/23/2022
- 1960 John W. Adey, Jr., 84, 6/20/2022
- 1960 William R. Lang, Jr., 87, 7/30/2022
- 1960 Anthony L. Redington, 83, 8/18/2022
- 1960 Guy S. Huntley, 84, 10/13/2022
- 1961 George A. Granville, 83, 9/23/2022
- 1962 Leo "Jay" Aylward, 81, 8/3/2021, *brother-in-law of Dan Hooker '58 and uncle of Michele Aylward '98*
- 1962 Conrad Gordon, 80, 9/9/2022, *husband of Linda (Johnson Stebbins) Gordon VC '62*
- 1962 William G. Clark, 83, 9/26/2022
- 1963 Rebecca S. Johnson, 79, 4/27/2022, *wife of Richard H. Johnson '63*
- 1963 Peter H. Durgin, 82, 5/23/2022
- 1963 Diana (Garvin) Collins, 79, 5/31/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1963 David C. Kobrin, 81, 7/6/2022
- 1963 Joseph T. Tumidajewicz, 81, 9/3/2022
- 1963 Arthur L. Dickerman, 80, 9/9/2022
- 1964 Lawrence J. Budnick, 80, 6/22/2022
- 1964 Janice M. Jaekel, 78, 6/23/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1965 Bradford D. Sheff, 79, 5/25/2022
- 1965 Deborah (Wright) Byrne, 79, 6/1/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1967 Joan Vander Eyk, 78, 4/18/2022, *wife of James L. Vander Eyk '67*
- 1967 Timothy R. Donovan, 77, 5/23/2022
- 1967 James E. Kryzynski, 78, 5/26/2022
- 1967 Jerry K. Cooper, 77, 7/12/2022
- 1967 Domenic Barbero, Jr., 76, 10/14/2022
- 1968 Richard F. Murphy, 76, 6/16/2022
- 1968 Robert V. Guptill, 76, 7/7/2022
- 1968 John A. Kozen, 76, 8/16/2022
- 1969 Mary (Irons) Varunes, 75, 6/4/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1970 Jeffrey S. Plunkett, 75, 5/25/2022
- 1971 Diana Huntress Dowse, 72, 5/27/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1972 Carol Kelly, 53, 3/11/2007, *Vermont College*
- 1974 Patrick F. O'Donnell, 70, 7/2/2022
- 1974 James F. Scott, 71, 8/20/2022
- 1975 Mark L. Shaw, 69, 4/20/2022
- 1975 Rockwell T. Rookey, 70, 9/3/2022
- 1976 Cecil C. Sutherland, 68, 6/2/2022
- 1977 Kathleen (Provost) Bailey, 65, 7/31/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1979 Douglas P. Rossi, 67, 1/24/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1984 Clark A. Smith, 60, 9/27/2022
- 1985 A. Irene Jones, 94, 7/1/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1985 Marylou Potter, 83, 8/20/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1986 Steven T. Fleming, 58, 8/14/2022
- 1987 Paul G. Malewicki, 59, 6/8/2022
- 1987 Phyllis C. Murphy, 77, 6/26/2022
- 1988 James Trierweiler, 81, 5/6/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1988 Genevieve R. Baines, 93, 9/28/2022, *widow of Prof. Wallace Baines and mother of Laurie Baines-Sullivan '76 and Cathie Baines '80*
- 1991 Elizabeth (Campbell) Chromeck, 75, 8/1/2022
- 1992 Marc Nichols, 71, 4/26/2022, *Vermont College*
- 1992 Joan E. Tucker, 72, 8/1/2022, *Vermont College*
- 2009 Michael C. Mallon, 36, 8/24/2022
- 2012 Stephen A. Roth, 32, 8/18/2022
- 2013 Hans R. Larsson, 53, 5/19/2022, *CGCS*
- 2013 Nicholas P. Losapio, 31, 6/8/2022
- Edwyn Hayes, 59, 5/15/2022, *former rugby coach*
- Gerald L. Painter, 94, 8/17/2022, *Trustee Emeritus*
- Barbara L. Davis, 72, 10/23/2022, *former staff member*



“In its 28th year, the symposium continues to engage students with world-class thinkers on some of the most pressing global concerns of our time.”

—LINDSAY BUDNIK, NU ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Robots Rising: Arming Artificial Intelligence

The 2022 Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium will explore cutting-edge topics on the impact of AI and robotics on warfare and ethics, while looking to grow its endowment for the long haul

Norwich has been a leader in producing cyber talent for over two decades. Recently announced plans to create a new campus center on artificial intelligence, machine learning, and quantum computing will help the university extend its leadership role to these evolving fields. Which is why, when it came time to choose the theme for October's upcoming 28th annual Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium (*Robots Rising: Arming Artificial Intelligence*), it was a natural fit to tie the two initiatives.

“We have such a reputation in the cyber world, because we were ahead of everyone else,” says symposium executive director Prof. Travis Morris, PhD, who also directs the John and Mary Francis Patton Peace and War Center at NU. “We want to continue to do that, and AI is the next realm. ... What the symposium does is leverage that conversation across the entire campus.”

The Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium brings authors and experts in military history,

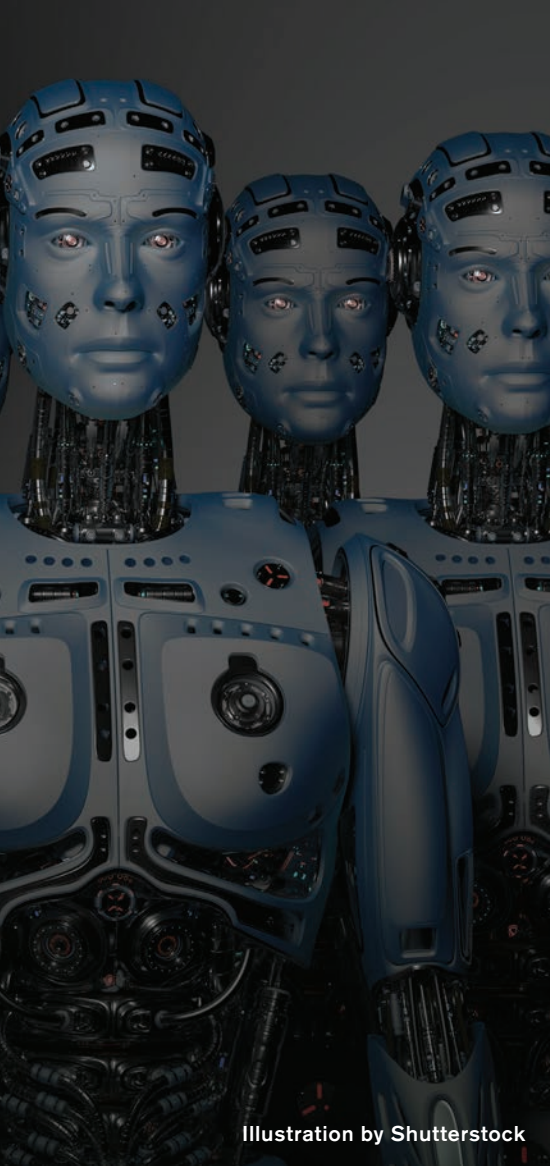


Illustration by Shutterstock

intelligence, and current affairs to campus to offer perspectives on pressing global concerns. The two-day symposium Oct. 12–13 examined the rise of robotics and artificial intelligence and their impact on a range of issues, from warfare to ethics.

Guest authors included August Cole, a non-resident senior fellow at the Brute Krulak Center for Innovation and Creativity at Marine Corps University. He is the co-author, with futurist Peter W. Singer, of *Burn In: A Novel of the Real Robotic Revolution* and *Ghost Fleet: A Novel of the Next World War*. “You know you’ve arrived when your book has a movie trailer,” Morris says of *Burn In*. “He brings a really unique and diverse perspective on AI.”

Sci-fi and fantasy author Martha Wells of the critically acclaimed *Murderbot Diaries* series also spoke. Morris says the symposium wanted to invite a sci-fi writer

because “they aren’t beholden to current limitations. ... Sometimes what’s been [imagined] in sci-fi gets translated into reality, and [Wells has] been writing about this for many years.”

Additional speakers included Sharon Weinberger, executive editor for news for *Foreign Policy*, who brings journalistic insight from having covered defense and intelligence topics as national security editor at *The Intercept*. Her most recent book is *The Imagineers of War: The Untold Story of DARPA, the Pentagon Agency That Changed the World*. Robotics expert Liran Antebi, a research fellow at Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies, lent international perspective.

During the symposium, author Wesley Morgan will receive the 2022 Colby Award, given annually to the author of a first solo work of fiction or nonfiction that has made a major contribution to the understanding of military history, intelligence operations, or international affairs. Morgan is a military affairs reporter who embedded with U.S. troops in Afghanistan as a 19-year-old college student and later covered the Pentagon for Politico. His prize-winning book, *The Hardest Place*, details the U.S. military’s difficulties in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley.

The 2022 symposium featured a keynote address by John Abele, the founding chairman of Boston Scientific Corporation and a pioneer in the application of AI and robotics in the medical industry. “He’s a superstar, and we’re fortunate to have [had] him attend,” Morris says.

As in past years, Norwich students had the opportunity to present original research during the event and engage with guest authors and experts. “For those who are interested in or are fluent [to] some degree in the topic, it enabled them to mingle with people who are leading the charge in these areas,” Morris says. “I have seen students and faculty make connections with authors, and it leads to internships and collaboration projects. In some cases, it has even altered students’ career paths.”

The Norwich University Military Writers’ Symposium is the only program of its kind at an American university. It has been made possible through longtime philanthropic partner Col. (IL) Jennifer Pritzker, IL ARNG (Ret.) of the Pritzker Military

Foundation (PMF). Last year, the foundation posed an ambitious matching gift challenge to grow the symposium’s endowment, which was renamed the Carlo D’Este ’58 Military Writers’ Endowment in memory of the distinguished Norwich alumnus, author, and symposium co-founder.

The endowment supports the symposium’s operating costs as well as year-round student enrichment opportunities on military history and current affairs. Through 2025, Norwich aims to raise \$500,000 for the endowment; the PMF will match the university’s fundraising progress, empowering the endowment to generate enough income annually to make the symposium a self-sustaining event in perpetuity.

“The Pritzker Military Foundation’s incredible support further enables Norwich to bring world-class scholars, authors, and innovators to campus through the symposium,” says Assistant Vice President of Development Lindsay Budnik. “To be able to offer such dynamic and relevant programming to young people is so powerful. Students have a truly unique opportunity to engage with some of the world’s most pioneering minds in military affairs in and out of the classroom. The symposium encourages them to think critically, shaping their perspectives and, possibly, the trajectory of their future goals.”

“None of this would be happening without the Pritzker Military Foundation,” Morris says. “They are the gas that makes the engine run every single year. Our partnership with them is what enables this event to go on, and when the endowment for it is complete, that will mean this event is protected moving ahead. That’s a good thing for Norwich and a good thing for the symposium.”

For more information or to make a gift to support the Norwich University Military Writers’ Symposium, contact Lindsay Budnik, assistant vice president of development at Norwich, at (802) 485-2824 or lbudnik@norwich.edu.



“Norwich is a small, large
community. It’s small in
numbers, but large in reach.”

—KEVIN HOSIE, CLASS OF 2017 CLASS AGENT



Generations of Giving

The Classes of 1967 and 2017 have strengthened a connection around fundraising

As seniors, the Class of 2017 stood out for their fundraising efforts. “The class ... is a model for a graduating class in rallying the class around its senior class gift,” says Assistant Vice President of Development Reed Curry. “It had a group of students, who are now alumni, who care very deeply about the school, and from the start they wanted to make an impact with their gifts.”

As they prepared for their 50th Reunion, members of the Class of 1967 noted dedication of their younger counterparts “and they wanted to support that effort,” Curry says. The ’67 grads wound up making a matching gift of \$5,000. In turn, the Class of 2017 repaid that kindness by presenting the Old Guard their medallions at 2017’s Homecoming.

Now the two groups of alumni are building on their Guardian Class relationship five years later, as the Class of 2017 prepares to celebrate its 5th Reunion and the Class of 1967 marks 55 years. The latter have again made a \$5,000 contribution to the 2017 class gift, and both classes aspire to connect at Homecoming 2022.

“It’s good to be in touch with the younger generation,” says Bill “Buz” Thomas ’67, chair of the gift committee for the Class of 1967’s 55th reunion. “If we can help them get off to a good start in terms of their continuing relationship with the university, then it helps us all.”

Thomas knows that it can be hard for younger alumni to stay close to Norwich as they’re busy with new careers, military service, and starting families. He observes that it’s also harder to reconnect with the university once that closeness is lost. “If

we can bring that bond up to a greater level through connecting and staying in touch with [the Class of 2017] and sharing some of the fundraising, it can only be a good thing,” he says.

The Class of 2017 reunion committee has a 100 percent participation goal and an \$85,000 fundraising goal for its 5th Reunion, and it’s almost 90 percent of the way there.

“Norwich really molded us and transformed us into the people we are today,” says Kevin Hosie ’17, class agent for the Class of 2017. “We all understood early things like ‘service before self’ and all those core values in our mission statement. I think a lot of that got ingrained in us very early on at Norwich.”

Hosie believes that ethos has been a major contributor to the fundraising success of his class, adding that modest support can make a big difference. “Even if it’s a small donation, it can create a huge impact,” he says. “Small things add up to big things very quickly.”

That the Class of 1967 is again offering a matching gift to the Class of 2017 on the occasion of its 5th Reunion speaks to the character of the Norwich community and the importance it places on tradition, values, and taking care of one another, Curry says. “This happens because volunteers like Kevin and Buz get involved and are willing to reach out to their classmates. Alumni giving is a critical part of what keeps Norwich not only strong but, frankly, around as an institution for over 200 years now.”

Forging Connections

Doing good while bonding in the great outdoors, Fins & Feathers events bring together alumni with a shared passion for fishing, hunting, and Norwich

After graduation, the founders of the Fins & Feathers alumni group kept close connections, like many Hill classmates, meeting up regularly to fish, hunt, and do other outdoorsy things. As a number of them began serving on the Board of Fellows and other Norwich committees, they saw the potential to use their outdoor get-togethers to do more for the school.

“It was really just a group of us hanging out and enjoying stuff we like to do,” says Vin McDermott ’90. “As Norwich was sort of evolving and changing, particularly with its new leadership, we were evolving also. And we thought, what can we do to help the school?”

Several years ago, the group of friends held its first Fins & Feathers fishing tournament, aided by NU Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations Liz Kennedy ’01 and colleagues. “Liz and her team have really supported us well and have done a terrific job,” says Hugh McLaughlin ’87.

That event has grown from a handful of anglers to the roughly 150 participants who gathered in June for the 4th Annual Offshore Fishing Battle in Provincetown, Mass. The group also hosts an annual pheasant hunt and skeet shooting event. Moreover, new Fins & Feathers chapters have launched in New Jersey and California. As more alumni get involved with the outdoor affinity group, they are adding additional events to the mix.

“We would love to grow this thing across the country,” McLaughlin says. “And it can be whatever you want it to be: You can take four guys and go bird hunting, and to me that’s a Fins & Feathers event. As long as you’re bringing Norwich alumni together, it’s good for the alumni, and it’s good for the school.”

To date, Fins & Feathers has raised more than \$300,000 for Norwich through its events. Some of those dollars have gone into the President’s Fund, while others have been used to support various scholarships. The group has also donated to university projects with special meaning for Fins & Feathers members, such as the campaign for a new weight room for the men’s

and women’s hockey programs. (Many group members either played hockey at Norwich or were fans of the team.) The alumni group’s latest endeavor is endowing a scholarship in honor of Debra Evans ’87, the late wife of Fins & Feathers committee member Dan Evans ’87.

“What I’ve learned through charity and fundraising is that there is no one charity that outweighs another,” says Donald F. O’Neill ’87, who ran a Nantucket fishing tournament for 18 years that’s raised more than \$1 million for various causes. “It’s more about just getting involved and getting other people involved and helping out where needed.”

“The school benefits from our fundraising, and we benefit as individuals from the social aspect of gathering and planning the events,” McDermott says. “That helps us keep our connections strong, and it feels like a team environment. It’s a forum for us to do good, and we feel good about that.”

Fins & Feathers actively seeks to involve current students and younger alumni, asking them to help with social media and other tasks and encouraging them to invite their friends to attend events. Those efforts have led to networking opportunities for everyone involved in Fins & Feathers. Sometimes it leads to jobs or mentorship connections for young alumni.

“We can connect the more senior alums to some of the junior alums,” McLaughlin says. “That part’s been very exciting.”

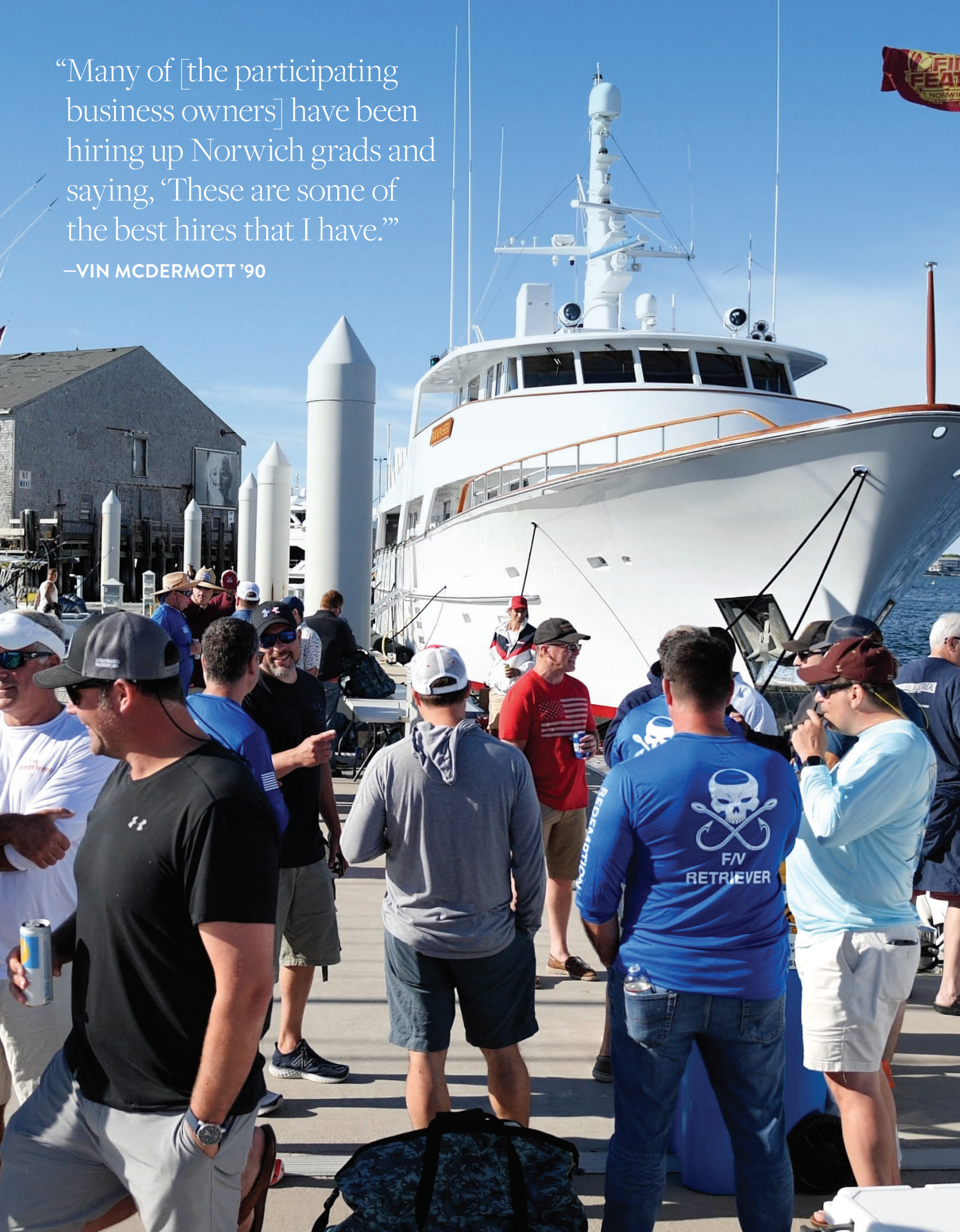
“These guys are making networks across 20 or 30 years of different classes,” says NU Maroon & Gold Athletic Association Associate Director Paul Morgan, who helps support the group. “It really is indicative of the bond that Norwich alums have with each other and are willing to make from any generation.”

For more information about Fins & Feathers, visit alumni.norwich.edu/finsandfeathers.

Photo by Ronny DiMasi

“Many of [the participating business owners] have been hiring up Norwich grads and saying, “These are some of the best hires that I have.”

—VIN MCDERMOTT '90



PARTING SHOT



Photo by Karen Kasmauski



PRITZKER
MILITARY
FOUNDATION

PRITZKER CHALLENGE

2021-2025

The Pritzker Military Foundation, on behalf of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library, has posed a \$500,000 matching gift challenge through 2025 to grow the Carlo D'Este '58 Military Writers' Endowment.

Should Norwich meet this challenge, the endowment will reach over \$1,000,000, thus generating enough income annually to fund the Norwich University Military Writers' Symposium in perpetuity.

The Carlo D'Este '58 Military Writers' Endowment honors the legacy of beloved symposium co-founder Carlo D'Este, and supports the operating costs of the symposium.



To make a gift please
scan the QR code:



To learn more, contact:
Laurie LaMothe at
(802) 485-2028 or llamothe@norwich.edu

Or visit: alumni.norwich.edu/deste



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