2017 Annual Dinner Program

The O'Callahan Society, College of the Holy Cross
O’CALLAHAN SOCIETY

Celebrates 45 Years of Women in Holy Cross NROTC

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Distinguished Guest & Dinner Speaker

The Hon. Jeh C. Johnson

Former Secretary of Homeland Security & General Counsel of the Department of Defense
Dear Members, Friends, and Guests,

Welcome to the seventeenth annual O’Callahan Society Dinner! This year we are celebrating the women of the Naval ROTC program at the College of the Holy Cross. We are fortunate to have in our midst this evening several women commissioned through the Holy Cross NROTC program, including the very first, Lieutenant Colonel Kelley McAvoy Nielsen ’76, USMC (retired).

Over the years, we have been fortunate to have a number of distinguished flag and general officers as our speakers. This evening we are especially honored to welcome the Honorable Jeh Johnson, former Secretary of Homeland Security and General Counsel of the Department of Defense, as our guest of honor and speaker.

It is again a great pleasure to welcome the Rev. Philip L. Boroughs, S.J., 32nd president of Holy Cross and a strong supporter of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit.

Now in his second year as Commanding Officer of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit, which includes midshipmen from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester State University and Brown University, we are pleased to welcome back Captain Mark Edwards, U.S. Navy.

Tonight, the O’Callahan Society is particularly pleased to welcome the new class of incoming midshipmen. We congratulate you on the successes that brought you here, and we thank you and your families for your willingness to serve our country.

We would also like to extend a special welcome to all past and present members of the armed forces and their families for the sacrifices they have made. We are honored you are joining us this evening.

An evening such as this requires the work of numerous dedicated individuals. I would like to thank Lester Paquin, our MC this evening and a member of the Society ab initio; Society Board members, Sue Dooley ’81 and Kara Dallman ’87, who put together our recognition of women for tonight’s program; Tom Cadigan ’02 in the Alumni Relations Office; Tom Parsons and his staff in Graphic Arts; ENS Eric Fast WPI ’17 of the Unit Staff; and the Midshipmen Battalion Staff for their support. On behalf of the Society’s Board, I would like to thank Jim Delehaunty ’67, the Executive Co-chair of the O’Callahan Society. Under Jim’s tireless leadership, the O’Callahan Society continues to expand its support for the Midshipmen Battalion. To both Jim and his bride, Kathy, our heartfelt thanks for your dedication and commitment to Holy Cross and the Naval ROTC!

Have a wonderful evening!

Bill McCarthy ’76, Co-chair
Rear Adm. U.S. Navy (retired)
**Today’s Events**

**HOMECOMING AND DINNER PROGRAM**

**Society Annual Meeting**
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee
- 10:00 a.m. Meeting
  
  *Hogan Campus Center, Room 403*

**NROTC Battalion Tailgate**
- 11:00 a.m. Tailgate
  
  *Carlin Quad*

**Holy Cross v Lafayette**
- 1:00 p.m. Football Game
  
  *Fitton Field*

**Society Annual Dinner**
- 6:00 p.m. Reception
  
  *Father Dunn Room*
- 7:00 p.m. Patriotic Opening
  
  *Hogan Campus Center, Ballroom*
- 7:15 p.m. Dinner
  
  *Hogan Campus Center, Ballroom*

**Evening Program**

- Colors Ceremony/National Anthem
- Invocation
  
  *Rev. Philip L. Boroughs, S.J.*
  
  *President, College of the Holy Cross*
- Introduction
  
  *Lester Paquin*
- Dinner
- Introduction of Keynote Speaker
  
  *VADM Bruce MacDonald ’78, JAG, USN (Ret.)*
- Keynote Speaker
  
  *Hon. Jeh C. Johnson*
  
  *Former Secretary of Homeland Security*
- Benediction
  
  *Rev. Robert L. Keane, S.J.*
  
  *Captain, CHC, USN (Ret)*

**Looking Back**

**PAST SPEAKERS**

**2016**
- VADM Peter Daly, USN (Ret.)
  
  *Holy Cross ’77*
  
  CEO, U.S. Naval Institute

**2015**
- VADM Bill Moran, USN
  
  *Chief of Naval Personnel*

**2014**
- Admiral Michelle J. Howard, USN
  
  *Vice Chief of Naval Operations*

**2013**
- Vice Admiral Barry Costello USN (Ret)
  
  *Holy Cross ’73*
  
  *Commander, Third Fleet*

**2012**
- RADM Garry J. Bonelli
  
  *Deputy Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command*

**2011**
- Philip J. Crowley, COL, USAF (Ret.), Holy Cross ’73
  
  *Former Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs*

**2010**
- CAPT Ronald Harrell, USN
  
  *Professor of Naval Science, Commanding Officer, Holy Cross NROTC*

**2009**
- VADM Peter Daly, USN, Holy Cross ’77
  
  *Deputy Commander, United States Fleet Forces*

**2008**
- VADM Bruce MacDonald, JAGC, USN, Holy Cross ’78
  
  *Navy Judge Advocate General*

**2007**
- RDML Arnold Lotring, USN, Holy Cross ’78
  
  *Commander, Naval Service Training Command*

**2006**
- RDML William McCarthy, USN, Holy Cross ’76
  
  *Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force*

**2005**
- RADM Louis Iasiello, CHC, USN
  
  *Chief of Navy Chaplains*

**2004**
- Robert Kelly, CAPT, USCGR
  
  *General Counsel, HawkEye Systems*

**2003**
- Jay O’Callahan, Holy Cross ’60
  
  *Renowned Storyteller*

**2002**
- RDML Thomas Steffins, USN, Holy Cross ’69
  
  *Director, Force Protection, U.S. Atlantic Fleet*

**2001**
- Bernard Trainor, LTGEN USMC (Ret.), Holy Cross ’51
  
  *Noted Author and Military Commentator*
Jeh Johnson was Secretary of Homeland Security from December 2013 to January 2017.

As Secretary of Homeland Security, Mr. Johnson was the head of the third largest cabinet department of the U.S. government, consisting of 230,000 personnel and 22 components, including TSA, Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Services, U.S Citizenship and Immigration Services, the Coast Guard, the Secret Service, and FEMA. His responsibilities included counterterrorism, cybersecurity, aviation security, border security, port security, maritime security, protection of our national leaders, the detection of chemical, biological and nuclear threats to the homeland, and response to natural disasters.

In three years as Secretary of DHS, Mr. Johnson is credited with management reform of the Department which brought about a more centralized approach to decision-making in the areas of budgets, acquisition and overall policy. He also raised employee morale across the Department. In October 2016, Secretary Johnson and the Director of National Intelligence issued the statement of the U.S. government publicly accusing the Russian government of attempting to interfere with the U.S. election.

In his final days as General Counsel of the Defense Department, Johnson delivered the first of his two notable addresses at the Oxford Union in England, entitled “How Will the War Against al Qaeda End?,” which received international attention and acclaim.

In October 1998, Mr. Johnson was appointed by President Clinton to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force, and served in that position until January 2001. Earlier in his career, he was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York (1989-1991).

Mr. Johnson is now a partner with the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, LLP, resident in the firm’s New York and Washington, DC offices. He has been affiliated with Paul, Weiss on and off since 1984, and first became a partner in the firm in 1994.

Mr. Johnson is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is a graduate of Morehouse College (1979) and Columbia Law School (1982), and the recipient of nine honorary degrees.
2017 NROTC
FACULTY AND STAFF

Captain Mark Edwards USN
Commanding Officer, Chair Naval Science
Commander Christopher Benjamin, USN
Executive Officer

Captain Timothy Wrenn, USMC
Marine Officer Instructor
Lieutenant Ryan Kelly, USN
Surface Warfare Instructor

Lieutenant Edwin Konrad, USN
Submarine Warfare Instructor
Lieutenant Colby Carrier, USN
Aviation Warfare Instructor
SSgt Patrick DeForge, USMC
Assistant Marine Office Instructor

Mr. Dominic Dilorenzo, Chief Petty Officer, USN, Ret
Unit Supply Technician
Mrs. Cynthia Hayes
College Secretary

The NROTC at Holy Cross
2017 NROTC GRADUATES

ENS William Byrne, USN
Newton, MA
College of the Holy Cross
Mathematics
Surface Warfare
USS Fort McHenry
Mayport, FL

ENS Gyneth Campbell, USN
Albany, NY
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
International Relations,
Mechanical Engineering
Surface Warfare
USS Chung Hoon
Pearl Harbor, HI

ENS Bridgid Carey, USN
Bethesda, MD
College of the Holy Cross
English, Russian
Aviation
Pensacola, FL

ENS Samantha Chernin, USN
Shrewsbury, MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Aerospace Engineering
Surface Warfare
USS Michael Murphy
Pearl Harbor, HI

ENS Sean Cruess, USN
Farmington, CT
College of the Holy Cross
Biology
Submarine Warfare
Charleston, SC

ENS Gabriella de Peralta, USN
Alliance, OH
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Electrical, Computer Engineering
Surface Warfare
USS Lake Champlain
San Diego, CA

ENS Eric Fast, USN
Stonington, CT
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Aerospace Engineering
Aviation
Pensacola, FL

Anne Grimmke, USN
Greenwich, NY
College of the Holy Cross
Psychology
Surface Warfare
USS Arleigh Burke
Norfolk, VA

2nd Lieutenant Ross Reynolds,
USMC
Leominster, MA
Worcester State University
Criminal Justice
Marine Corps Basic School
Quantico, VA

ENS Andrew Simeone, USN
Barre, MA
Worcester State University
Mathematics
Surface Warfare
USS Fort McHenry
Mayport, FL
The NROTC at Holy Cross

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN HOLY CROSS NROTC

In 1971, Rev. John E. Brooks S.J., President of Holy Cross, announced that the College would prepare to enroll women in 1972. Capt. Richard Schnorf, Commanding Officer of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit, was advised by the Navy that his unit was authorized to enroll female midshipmen. Holy Cross was one of just four units authorized to enroll women.

In the spring of 1972, 129 years after its founding, Holy Cross began selecting and making final preparations for an estimated 250 women students to enroll in the fall. This first group of students included second and third year transfers as well as the first-year class of ‘76. Overall, they would constitute about 10% of the student body. This percentage rose gradually. In 1980, with arrival of the class of ‘84, women reached 50% of the student body.

The first woman was commissioned from Holy Cross NROTC midshipmen battalion in May 1976, see Kelley McAvoy’s story. During the next five years, 5 more women midshipmen graduated. They were less than 2% of the midshipmen commissioned during those years. However, since 1982, women have been 22% of the midshipmen commissioned.

Including the five who were commissioned this past May, 76 women have graduated from Holy Cross, 27 from Worcester Tech and Worcester State and another from Assumption. Overall, 90 women have been commissioned into the Navy and 14 into the Marine Corps. Many have extended their service beyond the minimum required by the NROTC program.

HOLY CROSS
NROTC UNIT
WOMEN TIMELINE

1941
HCNROTC Unit established

1972
HCNROTC Unit, 1 of 4 units, authorized to enroll women

1973
First woman NROTC Marine option, scholarship enrolled

1976
First woman commissioned, Second Lieutenant, USMC

1980
First woman commissioned, Ensign USN

1981
First woman selected Midshipmen Battalion Commander

1984
First WPI woman commissioned

2002
Nine commissioned, largest class of women; total 51

2017
First WSU woman commissioned

2017
Five women commissioned; total 104
In the spring of 1972, Kelley McAvoy was completing her senior year at North Quincy High School in Quincy, MA. Her mother, Dorothy, read an ad for Navy ROTC scholarships in the local newspaper but set it aside because Kelley did not meet the minimum age 18 requirement. Kelley enrolled at UMass Amherst.

The next year, Dorothy saw the ad again and encouraged Kelley to apply. There were several family members who had served in the military including Kelley’s aunt. She had been a Marine officer and was married to a career Marine officer. Coincidentally, he served a tour of duty as the Marine Officer Instructor at the Holy Cross NROTC Unit in the late 60’s.

Kelley applied for a Marine Option NROTC scholarship as well as a transfer to Holy Cross. She was selected by both and enrolled in the fall of 1973, a member of the class of ’76. A major in psychology, she graduated and was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant, USMC, the first of now more than 100 women commissioned into the Navy and Marine Corps from the Holy Cross NROTC Unit.

In May 1976, Kelley married 2nd Lieutenant Tom Nielsen ’75 USMC. They served over 20 years in the Marine Corps, with duty assignments based from Camp Lejeune, Headquarters, Marine Corps, and Okinawa, Japan. Both Kelley and Tom retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. While serving, they raised three daughters, Kendal ’03, Brice and Chelsea. Kelley and Tom now live in Jacksonville NC, home of the Marines at Camp Lejeune. Kelley is a Director at Coastal Carolina Community College in its Division of Continuing Education.
Last year to mark the 75th anniversary of NROTC at Holy Cross, the O’Callahan Society researched and published the *History of the College of the Holy Cross Naval ROTC Unit*. This was a four-month effort. It was spearheaded by Brendan O’Donnell ’71, its principal researcher and author. In 2017 he continued his research with the assistance of Ensign Bridgid Carey ’17 and others.

As a result, the 75-year statistics published in last year’s dinner program have been revised. Total commissioned 2383; Women commissioned 99. The revised Unit history and statistics will soon be available online on CrossWorks under the following link: http://crossworks.holycross.edu/nrotc75/

Also, Brendan identified Harold D. Fredericks ’47 as a Silver Star recipient not yet recognized in the NROTC Unit. His framed photograph and citation will soon join 23 others on the walls of the O’Callahan Room in Carlin Hall. Lt. Col. Fredericks retired from the Marine Corps in 1968. He died in Corvallis, Oregon in 2009.

**Silver Star Citation**

*Awarded for actions during the Korean War*

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant Harold D. Fredericks, United States Marine Corps, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity as a Platoon Commander of Company H, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, FIRST Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 3 December 1950. Assigned the mission of assaulting the left flank of an enemy-held ridge following a barrage which had pinned down his company during an assault against a strong hostile force of estimated battalion strength and occupying well-entrenched positions on a high, ice-covered hill in the vicinity of Sinhung-ni, First Lieutenant Fredericks moved forward after an air strike and mortar fire had been called on the hostile emplacements and, fearlessly exposing himself to the enemy’s intense fire while leading his platoon over the open, frozen terrain which offered no cover or concealment, directed a brilliantly executed attack to seize the objective. Immediately effecting a skillful reorganization, he deployed his platoon in defensive positions and continued to direct and control its accurate and effective fire against the retreating enemy. By his daring and aggressive leadership, indomitable fighting spirit and superb combat tactics, First Lieutenant Fredericks served as an inspiration to all who observed him and contributed to the success achieved by his company. His staunch devotion to duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.
In 1938 the Reverend Joseph T. O’Callahan, S.J. came to the College of the Holy Cross to chair the mathematics department. In the summer of 1940 with war raging in Europe, he was commissioned a lieutenant junior grade into the Chaplain Corps of the U.S. Navy, its first Jesuit chaplain. Upon reporting to Pensacola Naval Air Station in November, in addition to his chaplain duties, his duties included teaching calculus to young naval aviators. Later Father O’Callahan reported to the aircraft carrier USS RANGER and took part in combat operations in the Atlantic and the invasion of North Africa. In the spring of 1944, he was transferred west, eventually reporting to Pearl Harbor Naval Station in December.

On March 2, 1945, Lieutenant Commander O’Callahan boarded the aircraft carrier USS FRANKLIN to assume the duties of the senior chaplain to more than 3000 Sailors, Marines, aviators and officers. In the early hours of the next morning, the ship weighed anchor for the western Pacific. On March 19, he and his shipmates stepped onto the pages of history.

While conducting combat air operations against the Japanese home islands, FRANKLIN was attacked by a single enemy aircraft. Its bombs set off conflagrations and explosions that were fueled by the carrier’s stores of gasoline and munitions. The ship was ravaged for more than twenty-four hours, resulting in over 1000 casualties including over 800 dead. If the fires and the detonations were not controlled, FRANKLIN would sink with greater loss of life.

For his actions that helped save their ship, Captain Gehres recommended his chaplain for the Medal of Honor. When Father O’Callahan received the award from President Harry Truman in January 1946 he was Commander O’Callahan, the first Navy chaplain to receive that honor.

Father O’Callahan returned to the College to teach theology and philosophy. However, in a few years, the injuries that he suffered on that fateful day forced him to give up classroom teaching. Living on campus, he remained mentally active, serving as a mentor to young Jesuits and writing an account of his Navy service that was published in 1956.

Father O’Callahan died in 1964 at age 58. He was buried with military honors in the Jesuit cemetery. This is one of three places on campus where he is remembered. His headstone is different from the ones of his brother Jesuits. In addition to the traditional Jesuit Latin inscription it is also inscribed with the date and place of his heroic actions and its recognition in the Medal of Honor.
Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

CAPT. Brendan J. O’Donnell, ’71 USN (Ret.)

To our Midshipmen:

Thank you for choosing to serve—you are truly “men and women for others.”

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men (and women) to do nothing.

— Edmund Burke

~ Bill McCarthy ’76
Rear Adm. U.S. Navy (ret)
THANK YOU to all who served!

May God Bless:

CPT John J. Burke, USMC
February 5, 1968

LTJG Thomas E. Gilliam, USN
August 22, 1967

They paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Class of 1965

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Harold P. Naughton, Jr. P21

Chairman, Joint Committee on
Public Safety and Homeland Security

State House, Room 167
Boston, MA 02133-1054
E: Harold.Naughton@MAhouse.gov
T: (617) 722-2230
District: (978) 365-1955
In memory of

Lawrence J. (Larry) Celmer
Captain of Marines
Holy Cross Class of 1962

More than a half century ago, on March 18, 1967, in the Quang Ngai Province of the Republic of Vietnam, Captain Larry Celmer, a Marine Infantry Officer serving his second tour of duty in country made the ultimate sacrifice for his God, his Nation and his beloved Corps. He was truly a Marine’s Marine and, indeed, the very best Holy Cross had to offer.

May he always rest in peace. Lest we forget.

Semper Fidelis,
1962 Holy Cross NROTC UNIT, AFROTC UNIT
and Fellow Classmates

CONGRATULATIONS
to
Matthew Casale
and the entire NROTC Class of 2018!
Thank you to the members of the O’Callahan Society for their generous support of the Holy Cross NROTC Program.

~ The Casale Family

In memory of
Major
Patrick L. Townsend
NROTC College of the Holy Cross
1977/1981
Founding Member of the O’Callahan Society
THE O’CALLAHAN SOCIETY

Authorized by the late Rev. John Brooks, S.J., ’49, the O’Callahan Committee was formed in 1994 to support the ROTC at the College. Among other things, the Committee sought donations to fund the recognition of student achievements and the activities that enhance their experiences as they prepare for commissions in the armed forces.

In 2009 the O’Callahan Society was formed under auspices of the College’s Alumni Office. It’s mission is “…to safeguard and advance the values and traditions associated with the Jesuit, liberal arts education tradition of military and naval officers and to support the continued viability of the NROTC program …” To facilitate donations, the College and the Society established the O’Callahan Society Initiatives Fund at Holy Cross. Donations to the College and designated to the O’Callahan Fund support the NROTC Unit at the College.

Major Burzak USMC (MOI ‘83-’85)

Thirty plus years on and counting... looking for a few good parties to become members of the O’Callahan Society

Join today... add your name to the Society's e-mail list by contacting us at ocallahan@holycross.edu.

Non sibi sed patriae Semper Fidelis

All of us in the Class of 1945 in the NROTC program owe a great deal to the good Fathers and the Naval Instructors of Holy Cross in those war time years.

J. William Middendorf ‘45
Former Secretary of the Navy
In loving memory of our dear friend

“We stick together” — The fighting Sullivans
CDR Paul F. Quinn, USN (RET)
Class of ’72
Secretary, USS THE SULLIVANS (DDG 68) Foundation

Welcome back from Summer Cruise
Congratulations to Class of 2018

In Memory of
Thomas M Delehaunty LTjg USNR
Hellcat Pilot - 92 combat sorties with VF-46
Aboard USS Independence CV -22

~ Kath & Jim Delehaunty ’67, P90

To the memory of
LT Joseph C. Zemaitis, USAF ’51

~Bob Zemaitis ’52
In Memory of
Rev. John E. Brooks, S.J.
And with congratulations to graduates
of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit
J. Kenneth Poggenburg, Jr. ’56

“Any man who may be asked in this century
What he did to make his life worthwhile
Can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction,
I served in the United States Navy.”

President John F. Kennedy
August 2, 1961
U.S. Naval Academy

Best Wishes,
Captain William McGurk ’63, USN (Ret.)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Capt. Louis Cortellini, USN (Ret.) ’80
Mary Ellen Cortellini ’80

Remembering

Lieutenant (JG) Russ Keene,
United States Navy
Holy Cross/NROTC, Class of 1963

Bill Dempsey, USNR (Ret.) ’63
THE NAVY HYMN

The “Navy Hymn” is Eternal Father, Strong to Save. The original words were written as a poem in 1860 by William Whiting of Winchester, England, for a student who was about to sail for the United States. The melody, published in 1861, was composed by fellow Englishman, Rev. John Bacchus Dykes, an Episcopalian clergyman. The original words are:

Verse 1: Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd’st the mighty ocean deep
   Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
   For those in peril on the sea!

Verse 2: O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walked’st on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
   For those in peril on the sea!

Verse 3: Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
   For those in peril on the sea!

Verse 4: O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger’s hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe’er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
   Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.