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2019 O'Callahan Society Newsletter

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O'Callahan Society 2019 Newsletter



2018 Holy Cross O'Callahan Society Dinner

The Vietnam War was one of the most controversial wars in American history and it forever changed our nation's views of war, peace, sacrifice, and heroism. 1968 was the War's pivotal year when American public opinion turned against it and the 18th Annual O'Callahan Society Dinner commemorated the 50th anniversary of that decisive year by recognizing the service and sacrifice of the hundreds of men from Holy Cross, Worcester Polytech, Worcester State, and Brown University who participated in the war. Eighteen graduates and former students of Holy Cross, twenty Brown alumni, and others from Worcester Tech and Worcester State did not return from that war. Instead of a single featured speaker, the Society sponsored a panel of four people who represented different aspects of the War:



L-R: Mr. Harry Kustigian, CDR Timothy Sullivan, USN (Ret),
CAPT Thomas Kelley, USN (Ret), CDR Joan Kelley, USNR (Ret)

- Captain Thomas Kelley, USN (Ret), Holy Cross '60, was a Surface Warfare Officer in the 'brown water' riverine Navy and received the Medal of Honor for his gallantry in combat. He was severely wounded but completed an active duty career and then a distinguished civilian career that included twelve years in charge of Veterans Services for the State of Massachusetts and the presidency of the Medal of Honor Society.

- Commander Joan Kelley, USNR (Ret) and Tom's wife, protested the Vietnam War as a college student but changed her perspective after a trip to Communist East Berlin. She became an attorney, joined the Navy Reserve as a Public Affairs Officer, and completed a distinguished career in local and state government in Massachusetts.

- Commander Timothy Sullivan, USN (Ret), Holy Cross NROTC '65 was an F-4 aircraft Radar Intercept Officer (RIO) who was shot down in November 1967 and spent 5 years and 4 months as a Prisoner of War (POW) for which he was decorated with the Silver Star. For his last 11 years on active duty, he ran the Navy's East Coast Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) School which provides POW training to naval personnel. After retirement, he, too, served in the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services.

- Mr. Harry Kustigian, originally from Worcester, served as a Marine jet engine mechanic in Vietnam and experienced the 1968 Tet Offensive first hand. His younger brother, Michael, was lost at sea on a Navy ship in May 1968 and subsequently declared dead in 1979.

The four members of the panel thus represented:

- Navy and Marine Corps combatants and home opponents of the War
- Air, surface, and ground forces
- Sacrifices from the loss of a family member, wounds, and prison

Four midshipmen were selected by the Unit to each ask one of the panel members a question: MIDN 1/C Nicholas Piccioli, MIDN 2/C Garrett Hawley, MIDN 3/C Hunter Lutte, and MIDN 4/C Kelly Vohr.

MIDN Hawley asked Captain Kelley why he joined the Navy and how Holy Cross prepared him for his service? Captain Kelley responded that military service was a tradition in his family as he had older cousins who had served and an uncle who had been a Marine on Guadalcanal in World War II. The Captain's poor eyesight limited his options but he was able to obtain a Navy commission through Officer Candidate School. He believes that the Jesuit approach to making each student a "Man for Others" provided him the foundation for his own approach to leadership as a Navy officer and in his subsequent activities.

MIDN Piccioli asked Commander Sullivan how the U. S. military's Code of Conduct helped him during his ordeal as a POW? Commander Sullivan provided a brief history of the development of the Code of Conduct as a reaction to the failings of some American POWs during the Korean War and the decisions by more than 20 American prisoners to defect to North Korea when the armistice was signed. These failings were attributed to breakdowns in leadership and camaraderie among the POWs and the Code of Conduct was intended to provide a basis for future POWs. The Commander believes the Code worked in Vietnam, although some 'tweaks' were needed and subsequently made.

MIDN Vohr asked Commander Kelley to describe her experiences as a war protester and as a woman in the Navy. Commander Kelley said that when she was a student at Emmanuel College in Massachusetts, the country was very divided over the Vietnam War and the Selective Service Draft meant that almost every household with military age men was at risk. Her twenty years of naval service was a privilege, a means of developing self-discipline, and an opportunity to do things she never thought she would be able to do.

MIDN Lutte asked Mr. Kustigian about the impact of the War on his family. "Devastating" was Mr. Kustigian's reply. Mr. Kustigian's brother was declared Missing in Action (MIA) in May 1968 and, when someone is declared missing, there is no closure for the family. Ironically, when brother Michael announced he was joining the military in 1967, the family convinced him to join the Navy instead of the Marines because he would be 'safer.' Brother Michael was declared dead in 1979 but the father died 25 years ago, still expecting his son to return, and the mother, still living at age 92, awaits her son's return.

In conclusion, Mr. Lester Paquin, Master of Ceremonies, asked each panel member to summarize the importance of lessons learned in Vietnam as they pertain to today's leadership challenges.

Captain Kelley: I stress the importance of teamwork and "taking care of the people around you."

Commander Kelley: Unless you're an E-1, you're senior to someone and must give your "best effort all the time."

Mr. Kustigian: "Watch out for others."

Commander Sullivan: Leadership is a 24-hour a day activity and you must know what yours and others' responsibilities are. "All of you are part of a team."

Brigadier General Christopher J. Mahoney '87 Promotion

Brigadier General Christopher J. Mahoney '87, a strike pilot in the A-6 Intruder and F/A-18, was nominated for promotion to Major General in January.



He has commanded Marine All-Weather Fighter/Attack Squadron 242 and Marine Aircraft Group 12 and currently serves as Deputy Commander, United States Forces, Japan. General Mahoney has attended the Australian Command and Staff College and the U. S. Air Force Air War College and holds Master's Degrees in Management from the University of Canberra and in International Strategic Studies (with highest distinction) from Air War College. He has over 5000 hours flight time, including over 4000 hours in the F/A-18.

First Woman Admiral from the Holy Cross NROTC Unit

On Saturday October 20, 2018, Captain Nancy J. (Stewart) Lacore, '90, U. S. Navy Reserve, was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral (Lower Half), the first woman graduate from the Holy Cross NROTC Unit to be so honored. In a ceremony held at the historic Pennsylvania House onboard Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia, it was standing room only, as there were close to 150 family, friends, and squadron mates in attendance. Rear Admiral Chris "Tree" Sadler was the presiding officer and guest speaker. RADM Sadler spoke of Nancy's exceptional leadership in a truly diverse set of assignments as a mobilized Reservist.



The entire family participated in the ceremony, with daughter Lucy introducing the history of the ceremony, daughter Lillian leading the Pledge of Allegiance, and the entire family assisting with the donning of her shoulder boards, jacket and cover. Nancy's remarks focused on the family and friends whose selfless sacrifice allowed her to continue her service, particularly over the previous year when she served as the Commanding Officer, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.

During the ceremony, Nancy was presented with a framed letter of recognition from her Holy Cross classmates (HC '90), highlighting that she exemplified the Holy Cross goal of living a life of service to others. They thanked her for "being an example to those who walk the campus today."

Rear Admiral Lacore is a helicopter pilot who transferred to the Navy Reserve in 2000. She mobilized for active duty tours in Djibouti and Afghanistan and commanded Reserve detachments for Destroyer Squadron Forty, US Naval Forces Europe-Africa, and US Fleet Forces Command before commanding Camp Lemonnier. She is a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College and Joint Forces Staff College and holds a Master's Degree from San Diego State University.

Unit News

Presidents' Review

The guest of honor for the Review was Captain William Boniface, USN (Ret), Commanding Officer of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit, 1994-98. He was joined by Rev Philip L. Boroughs, S.J., President, College of the Holy Cross; Dr. Gregory Snoddy, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Atudents, Worcester State University; Ms. Laura A. Murphy, Associate Dean for Health and Wellness Counseling Services, Worcester State University; Ms. Kimberly Millett, Program Director, Office of Military-Affiliated Students, Brown University; and Captain Larry G. McCullen, Commanding Officer and Professor of Naval Science, Holy Cross NROTC Consortium.

Among the award recipients, the O'Callahan Society recognized three midshipmen:

- Father Joseph T. O'Callahan Memorial Bowl, presented on behalf of the Holy Cross Jesuit Community to Midshipman 1/c Kevin Lagasse, HC by Rev William Campbell, S.J., Vice President for Mission.
- 1st LT John Power '42 Memorial Book Scholarship awarded to Midshipman 3/c Kieren Maynard, HC, by Rev Robert Keane, S.J., Captain, U. S. Navy (Retired).
- LTJG Frank Malinski '61 Memorial Book Scholarship awarded to Midshipman 4/c Natalie Scholtz, HC, by Rev Philip L. Boroughs, S.J., President, College of the Holy Cross.
- Advance Standing Award to Midshipman 1/c Hunter Brining, WSU (presented separately)

2019 Commissioning and Orders

Twenty-two midshipmen from the Class of 2019 will be commissioned into the Navy and the Marine Corps with orders to: surface warfare units [4], nuclear power school [6], flight school [5], Naval Reactors [1], SEALs [1], EOD [1], and Marine Corps The Basic School [4]. Seven WPI midshipmen will be commissioned on May 10 in a joint ceremony with Army and Air Force cadets, two WSU midshipmen will be commissioned in private ceremonies on May 18 and 19, and thirteen Holy Cross midshipmen will be commissioned in a pre-graduation ceremony at the DCU Center on May 24.

New Unit Commanding Officer

Captain Larry G. McCullen reported to the NROTC Unit in the Fall of 2018. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1984, serving as a Rescue Swimmer and Anti-submarine Warfare Operator during his first two tours of duty, before receiving his commission from Aviation Officer Candidate School (AOCS) in July 1992 and being designated a Naval Aviator in December 1994.

His operational tours include: Executive Officer, USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6); Commanding Officer, Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron SEVEN (HS-7); Department Head, HS-7; SECOND Fleet staff; and HS-5. He has logged more than 3,100 flight hours.

Captain McCullen's shore and staff tours include: instructor, Fixed Wing Training Squadron TWO (VT-2); Executive Assistant to the Commander, Joint Functional Component Command, Global Strike and Integration, United States Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Nebraska; and Special Assistant to the CNO for Joint Matters. He holds a Master of Aeronautical Science (with honors) degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Alumni News

Robert Riley '51 - Distinguished Supply Corps Alumnus

On September 26, 2018, Mr. Robert E. Riley, Holy Cross '51 and an active O'Callahan Society member, was presented the Distinguished Alumnus Award by the Navy Supply Corps Foundation in a ceremony at the Naval War College Officers Club in Newport RI. The Foundation was formed in 1971 and Bob is its 55th Distinguished Alumnus, according to RADM Linda Bird, SC, USN (Ret), Foundation President and award presenter.



Following graduation from Holy Cross, Bob received an MBA from Harvard University in 1953, then attended Officer Candidate School followed by Supply Officer School. Initially assigned to USS Iowa (BB-61) as Disbursing and Ship Stores officer, he later joined a destroyer that was being transferred to the Japanese, and lastly, was Disbursing Officer for the Portsmouth NH Retraining Command.

Bob then moved to the civilian world but remained in the Reserves for seven more years, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander. His civilian career included 25 years at a Boston Mutual Fund; three years at American Express; four successive positions within Prudential Corporation; and other ventures, including seven years managing investment operations for the Kennedy family. Twice named CEO of the Year by Financial World Magazine (1975, 1979), Bob stated that his ten years in the Navy Supply Corps were the most rewarding of his career and he credits Holy Cross and the Navy for providing him the ethical foundation for his commercial positions. Bob's wife, Carol, and a large contingent from his five sons and their families attended the ceremony.

Passing of Distinguished Alumni

In the past year and a half, we have lost three distinguished Holy Cross alumni.

Honorable Paul V. Mullaney, Holy Cross '42

Enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in World War II, earned a law degree from Boston College in 1948, joined the Marine Corps Reserve in 1950, and was activated for the Korean War. Three times wounded, he spent a year in the hospital and was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts. Elected to the Worcester City Council in 1960, he served there for ten years, including one term as the city's mayor, and was a judge in the Worcester County District Court 1978-91. In September 2014, he was honored at the O'Callahan Society dinner.

Edwin Paul Meyer, Holy Cross NROTC '44

Perhaps the last survivor of the first Holy Cross Naval ROTC class (February 1944), he served in the invasions of Leyte, Luzon, and Iwo Jima. Employed by Leon Barrett Centrifugals, Inc. for forty-two years, he was honored at the 2016 O'Callahan Society dinner and the midshipmen battalion conference room in Carlin Hall is now the Edwin P. Meyer '44 Room.

Lieutenant General Bernard E. Trainor, USMC (Ret), Holy Cross NROTC '51

His combat performance in Korea and Vietnam earned him the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, and Navy Commendation Medal, all with "V" for valor. In his later career, he was an influential thinker in the revision of professional military education. As a civilian, he was highly regarded as a military analyst and co-wrote an acclaimed trilogy about the Iraq wars. He was the first O'Callahan Speaker in 2001 and received the College's Sanctae Crucis Award in 2008.

Society News

2018 Annual Meeting

The members and friends of the Holy Cross O'Callahan Society gathered early on Saturday, September 29, for coffee and conversation before beginning its 10th Annual Meeting in Hogan Center. The meeting was called to order at 1000 by Board Co-Chair Bill McCarthy '76. Approximately 18 attended and a few board members participated on a conference call link. The following business was conducted:

- Board Co-Chair Jim Delehaunty '67 presented the Treasurer's report showing the continued increase in the O'Callahan Fund balance. Discussion noted that this fund is held and managed by the College as part of their much larger fund. The O'Callahan Fund growth will provide the Unit options for long-term and larger projects.
- Jim Delehaunty also reported on the actions of the Board's Executive Committee during the year using the most recent newsletter as a reference. He added:
 - o Mr. Tom McCue in the Admissions Office has been appointed the liaison between the College and the Unit.
 - o 56 of the 73 Midshipmen in the Unit are on scholarship.
 - o Navy leadership has indicated that officer staffing for the proposed increase in the number of Navy ships will be done primarily by increasing NROTC output.
 - o A second printing of the Unit History has been done to include changes and corrections identified in 2017.
- Commander Christopher Benjamin, the Acting Commanding Officer of the Unit encouraged members to check the Midshipman 'Crusader Battalion' Facebook page and he thanked the Society for its support.
- Board member Brendan O'Donnell provided an update on the Society's various publications (see section below). The updated and corrected list of graduates from the NROTC and PLC programs that was uploaded on CrossWorks in 2017 has been downloaded over 1,000 times and is one of the ten most downloaded items from the site.

The meeting adjourned at 1100 and members proceeded to Carlin Quad to join NROTC staff and families of the midshipmen at a well-attended open house and tailgate party hosted by the battalion.

O'Callahan Society Ongoing Programs

- 1. Mentoring:** pairs midshipmen with active duty or recently detached Society members from all over the country to provide the midshipmen with insight, guidance, and advice from a very impressive group of mentors. To sign up, please email Ken Marra at Kenneth.Marra@socom.mil.
- 2. Initiatives Fund:** since 2012, each spring we have asked for your support of Society Initiatives that enhance the experience of the students enrolled in the NROTC program. By now, you should have received this year's solicitation. Your generosity has allowed us to sustain and increase the Society's commitment to the NROTC Unit at the College.

Society Publications Update

1. Revised History of the Naval ROTC Program at Holy Cross: in 2017, the O'Callahan Society updated and corrected the roster of graduates from the NROTC Unit which resulted in significant changes to the numbers used in the 2016 history of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit. These and other changes were included in a revised 2017 NROTC Unit history booklet that may be found on the Holy Cross CrossWorks website at: <https://crossworks.holycross.edu/nrotc75/> under '2016 Submissions.'
2. Revised list of NROTC and PLC Graduates: the 2017 list is located at the same link under '2017 Submissions.' A revised list will be uploaded this summer to include the commissioning classes of 2018 and 2019, one correction to the original list, and additional information on some graduates such as warfare specialty, years of service, and highest rank. **If you would like your service added to the graduate list, please complete the Military Service Data Collection Form located under '2017 Submissions.'**
3. Naval History Magazine Articles. Following the April 2018 magazine article on the Holy Cross ROTC Crisis of 1970-71, the 'Acts of Valor' section of the magazine featured the Medal of Honor actions of both Captain Tom Kelley, '60 in the June 2018 issue and Father O'Callahan in the April 2019 issue.

Holy Cross Alumni Buried in Arlington National Cemetery

Father Keane and Tom Cadigan compiled the following list a few years ago. If you know of other alumni buried in Arlington, in overseas military cemeteries, or whose remains were not recovered while in military service, please send name, class, rank, and service to ocallahan@holycross.edu

Class	Name	Rank	Branch
1936	Joseph Edward Gallagher	Captain	USA
1939	George Homer Tarr, Jr., M.D.	CAPT	USN
1940	Anthony Thomas Shtogren	MGen	USAF
1941	Anthony A. Akstin	Lt Col	USMC
1941	John ("Moose") William Hanlon Jr.	LT(jg)	USN
1941	Martin Fahy Mulry	Lt Col	USAF
1943	Thomas J. Alberghini	2nd Lt	USMC
1943	Daniel Joseph Lynch	1st LT	USMC
1946	William Robert Dolan Jr., Ex '46	CDR	USN
1948	Thomas Edward Morris	RADM	USN
1951	Gerard P. Shabe	CDR	USN
1953	David Patrick Donohue	RADM	USN
1953	Patrick McKenna	CDR	USN
1953	Patrick Joseph Ryan	Lt Col	USMC
1956	Edward Richard Way	CAPT	USN
1959	Philip Tracy Cunningham	CDR	USN
1960	Donald William Rourke	Major	USMC
1964	Michael William Doyle	CDR	USN
1970	John Michael O'Sullivan	LT(jg)	USN
1976	Robert Roger Craner	Colonel	USAF
1995	Matthew Patrick Burke, M.D.	Major	USA

Calendar of Events

June 8, 2019 NROTC Open House / Reunion Weekend
1000 - 1130 – O’Callahan Room, Lower Calin Hall

October 19, 2019 O’Callahan Society Annual Meeting /Homecoming Weekend
0930 – Hogan Campus Center

Unfortunately, we will not have an O’Callahan dinner this Fall. It would have been an occasion to celebrate the Society’s 25th anniversary but the College’s Fall calendar precludes using a September date for this event. Later dates presented conflicts with other events. We look forward to a more favorable calendar next year and to resuming the dinner.

November 9, 2019 Annual Navy Marine Corps Birthday Ball / Sponsor Crusader Midshipmen Battalion
Location TBA – The Society will underwrite the ball. Members will be invited by the battalion.

