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## 2021 O'Callahan Society Newsletter

O'Callahan Society, College of the Holy Cross

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# O'Callahan Society 2021 Newsletter



**Note: Fall 2020 on-campus activities were cancelled by the College due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Society's 2020 annual meeting was held virtually and the 2020 annual dinner was cancelled. Most students and all midshipmen returned to school in January 2021 but in-person events were still limited.**

## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The O'Callahan Society congratulates the staff and midshipmen of the Holy Cross Naval ROTC Unit on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Unit's establishment in July 1941. All alumni and friends of the Unit join you in celebrating one of the nation's oldest NROTC Units.

## 2020 "Stay-at-Homecoming"

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Holy Cross conducted its first ever "Stay-at-Homecoming" in September 2020 in lieu of the traditional Homecoming Weekend. Activities on Saturday, September 19, began with a virtual presentation by the College President, Father Philip Boroughs, S. J., in which he noted that the College has 2,992 students, 735 of whom are freshman. However, only 225 are living on campus and each one was individually approved, based on such criteria as a need for laboratory or other College facilities, distance from home (such as foreign students), or other unique needs. Perhaps another 600 students are living off-campus in the local area. All who enter the campus are required to maintain social distancing and follow other health procedures.

## Rear Admiral Nancy S. Lacore, Holy Cross '90

As part of the day's activities, the O'Callahan Society held its annual meeting virtually (see later section) and, in lieu of the annual Society dinner, attended a virtual presentation arranged by the Unit Commanding Officer, Captain Carlin.



This year's guest speaker was Rear Admiral Nancy Lacore, HC '90, the first woman graduate of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit to become an admiral. Admiral Lacore began her career as an H-46 pilot and transferred to the Navy Reserve in 2000. After several command assignments in the Reserves and one mobilization assignment in Afghanistan, she returned to active duty to command Camp Limonier in Djibouti in 2017 followed by her current assignment as Chief of Staff, Naval Forces Europe-Africa.

Of particular note among the Admiral's achievements was a 'Valor Run' she performed in 2014 where she ran 160 miles from Chesapeake VA to the Women in Military Service in America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery in honor of the 160 American women who had lost their lives serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. The O'Callahan Society was one of her sponsors on this run.

In her wide-ranging remarks and responses to questions, RDML Lacore covered many topics.

- Naval Forces Europe-Africa:
  - o AOR has 108 countries, 14 million square miles, and over one billion people
  - o Mission:
    - Maintain security and deterrence through forward presence
    - Protect trade on the oceans
  - o Trends:
    - Europe:
      - Rapidly declining and aging population
      - Friction between Greece and Turkey (Navy follows State Dept lead)
    - Africa:
      - Youngest and fastest growing population among the continents
      - Average age 19½ years
      - Population will double by 2050
- Global Power Competition:
  - o Especially China:
    - Chinese investing heavily in Africa as part of their “Belt & Road” Initiative to participate in infrastructure development in almost 70 countries.
    - US investment is declining and China portrays the US as unpredictable
  - o Russia: seeking to expand influence in North Africa and the Middle East
- COVID-19 Response: three priorities:
  - o Protect people
  - o Maintain mission readiness
  - o Support the whole of government
- Navy Accessions (Officer and Enlisted):
  - o Understand the restrictions imposed by the pandemic
  - o Remember that “you can’t teach leadership remotely.”
- Diversity:
  - o Recognize that women are different and identify needed changes that range from uniforms to anthropomorphic measurements
  - o “All women” units are not the way to go, need integrated units
  - o Task Force “One Navy” looking at changes to service entry, training and education, and legal and health care disparities
- Needed Navy Innovations:
  - o Doctrine such as the Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations (EABO) concept
  - o Personnel, especially in retention and retirement
  - o IT such as flexible personal communications
- Motivation for joining the Reserves:
  - o Husband was also active duty and co-located tours were difficult to find
  - o Too many children (she has six)
  - o Great civilian job opportunities
- Personal Advice:
  - o Trust your instincts
  - o Biggest challenge was her tour as a base commander

## **General James N. Mattis, USMC (Ret)**

The Unit Staff and Midshipmen have proven to be adept at turning COVID-19 adversity to their advantage by using their weekly virtual leadership laboratories to engage speakers who otherwise wouldn't have had the time to travel to the campus.

The highlight of their Fall Semester was a 90-minute session with General James N. Mattis, USMC (Ret), former Secretary of Defense (2017-2018) and Commander, United States Central Command (2010- 2013). Arranged by Midn 1/C Victoria C. Kahler, WPI '21, the Fall Battalion Commander who has a personal connection to the General, General Mattis shared his views on leadership in response to a previously submitted set of questions and to several follow-up questions.



A condition of the General's participation was to limit distribution of the taped video session but O'Callahan Society members were privileged to be included in this limited distribution.

## **2021 Winter Homecoming**

Although most students had returned to campus in January, the Unit continued its resourceful approach to pandemic challenges by hosting a virtual Winter Homecoming presentation on February 13. Captain Carlin noted the Unit has 51 midshipmen (42 Navy, 9 Marine) with 31 from Holy Cross, 15 WPI, 2 WSU, and 3 from Brown. The 17<sup>th</sup> Class mids finally received their indoctrination in February, a grueling three days of physical workouts and training exercises.



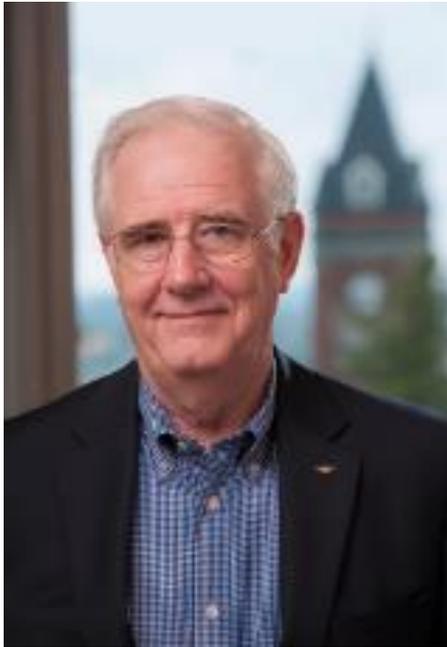
The guest speaker for the presentation was VADM Peter Daly '77, USN (Ret) and the current CEO of the US Naval Institute. He spoke to Navy and Marine Corps operations and challenges and, after reviewing current deployments, identified seven key challenges:

- Tension between “ready today” and “ready tomorrow” (operations vs maintenance).
- Rise of other great powers, especially China with its dictator, predatory business practices, and the world's largest navy.
- Defense budget uncertainty with a probable reduction in the near future.
- Ongoing US commitments in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Strategic Deterrence in the form of the Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine which consumes a large portion of shipbuilding resources.
- Research and Development and the need to invest in artificial intelligence, unmanned vehicles, cyber security, hypersonics, directed energy weapons, and other new technologies.
- People development in an older (average age 28) force, half of whom are married.

After his opening remarks, the admiral fielded several questions from midshipmen that touched on the impact of a high operating tempo, curbing mis-information in the flood of information, and the admiral's recommendations to new junior officers reporting to their first assignments.

## **Jim Delehaunty *In Hoc Signo* Award**

Jim Delehaunty, Co-Chair of the O’Callahan Society since 2012, was one of four recipients of the 2020 Holy Cross Alumni Association *In Hoc Signo* award for exceptional service to the College. The awards were presented in a virtual ceremony on September 18, 2020 as part of the College’s first ever “Stay at Homecoming.”



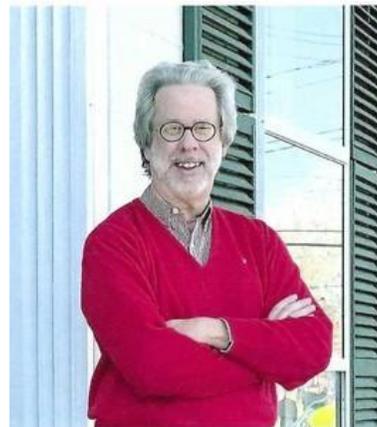
As Co-Chair, Jim has spearheaded efforts to increase annual fund-raising which has allowed the Society to increase the amounts of its annual awards to midshipman, expand midshipmen attendance and sponsorship at various activities, and fund several projects to improve the appearance and functionality of the Unit wardroom. Society members are familiar with the exceptional speakers who have graced our annual dinners and the multiple communications avenues he uses to keep the Society membership informed. He initiated this newsletter in 2009 and served as its first editor. Certainly a highlight of his tenure were the 2016 activities to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit as one of the nation’s oldest NROTC programs.

The more than 1,500 members of the O’Callahan Society represent a unique mix of alumni and friends from the educational institutions who have participated in the Holy Cross NROTC Unit and we unite in thanking Jim for his tremendous efforts which well-deserved this award.

## **Lester W. Paquin Passing**

The O’Callahan Society mourns the passing of one of our most prominent members, Lester W. Paquin, on March 11, 2021. A founding member of the Society and Secretary of the Executive Committee, he was best known to our members as the master of ceremonies of the annual Society dinner for more than a decade. In this role, he authored several moving tributes to Holy Cross veterans which are reproduced in the History of the Holy Cross NROTC Unit.

A generous man with many talents, Lester was active in veterans affairs including serving as Secretary of the Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans Board of Directors and he volunteered in many organizations in his home town of Barre including the Historical Commission, Historical Society, Library Association, Senior Center, and “Players.” As an author, playwright, lecturer, and actor, he touched many lives and the Society extends our deepest sympathy to his family and his many friends.



## **Unit News**

### **Presidents' Review**

Even though most students returned to campus in January, many activities, including reunions and the 2021 Presidents' Review, were cancelled due to COVID-19. Honorees received their awards individually and 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 Hunter Lutte, WPI '21.
- 1st LT John Power '42 Memorial Book Scholarship awarded to Midshipman 3/c Drake Hamblin, WPI '23.
- LTJG Frank Malinski '61 Memorial Book Scholarship awarded to Midshipman 3/c Andrew Lydon, HC '23.

### **2021 Commissioning and Orders**

Twelve midshipmen from the Class of 2021 were commissioned into the Navy and the Marine Corps with orders to: surface warfare units [4], nuclear power school [3], pilot training [3], NFO training [1], and Marine Corps The Basic School [1]. A commissioning ceremony for all seniors was held on May 22 and was officiated by the Honorable Andrew C. Card, former chief of staff to President George W. Bush, former Secretary of Transportation, former president of Franklin Pierce University, and a former Navy officer.

### **“Miles for Murph” Run/Walk**

From September through Veterans Day in November, the Midshipmen Battalion participated in the “Miles for Murph” charity run/walk. Named for LT Michael P. Murphy, a Navy SEAL who received the Medal of Honor (posthumously) for actions in Afghanistan in 2005, the event funds five groups associated with the SEALs and LT Murphy. Participants covered either 56 or 112 miles over 50 days and the Battalion entered two teams, Alpha and Bravo Companies. The O'Callahan Society paid the registration fees for the midshipmen.

### **Captain Marv Carlin, USN Takes Command of the Unit**

CAPT Carlin, a native of Kent Island, Maryland, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1994 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1996. After training in the H-46 Sea Knight, he reported to HC-8 in Norfolk and deployed aboard USS Seattle (AOE-3), USS Kearsarge (LHD-3), USS Inchon (MCS-12), and USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71). After serving as Atlantic Fleet Helicopter Operations School Officer-in-Charge, CAPT Carlin deployed on USS Arctic (AOE-8)

After an assignment as Helicopter Tactical Wing, Atlantic Fleet Assistant Operations Officer, CAPT Carlin transferred to the new MH-60S and reported to HC-6, deploying aboard USNS Sirius (T-AFS-8). He also worked at Standing Joint Forces Headquarters - Core Element before going to HSC-28 where he served as Training, Admin, Safety, and Operations Officers while deploying as Detachment Officer-in-Charge on USNS Arctic and at Naples, Italy.

CAPT Carlin then served in the Joint Systems Integration Command before becoming Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron TWO (HSC-2). Next he was Air Boss aboard USS BATAAN (LHD 5), then served at the Combined Joint Operations from the Sea Center of Excellence, and then as the N8 Resources and Requirements Director for Commander, Naval Forces Europe/Africa and Commander, US SIXTH Fleet.

## Alumni News

### Honorable William K. Joyce '51 Passing



W. K. Joyce Awarded Silver, Bronze Stars

William K. Joyce '51 passed away July 21, 2020. A graduate of Holy Cross, he was commissioned a Marine Corps Second Lieutenant through NROTC and received the Silver Star for his actions as a platoon leader defending an outpost in September 1952 during the Korean War. He also received a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts during the War. After the war, he was a career Foreign Service Officer with the State Department.

### 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign

In addition to Lieutenant Joyce, four other Holy Cross graduates (all Marines) received the Silver Star for heroism during the Korean War, three of them at the Chosin Reservoir: First Lieutenants Paul V. Mullaney '42, Robert E. Parrott '46, and Harold D. Fredericks '47. In early November 1950, infantry Lieutenant Mullaney was wounded capturing an enemy position and repelling a counter-attack; in early December, artillery Lieutenant Parrott was wounded repelling a ground attack on his position west of the Reservoir; and, also in early December, infantry Lieutenant Fredericks assaulted and captured part of an enemy-held ridge east of the Reservoir.

Paul Mullaney eventually became Mayor of Worcester and a Worcester County judge; Robert Parrott eventually commanded the 12<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment and retired as a Colonel; Harold Fredericks commanded one of the first two Marine battalions to land at Danang, Vietnam in 1965 and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

The fifth Holy Cross Marine, First Lieutenant James J. F. McGoey '49, received a Silver Star for rescuing a wounded Korean Marine under heavy enemy fire in June 1951. Lieutenant McGoey was unfortunately killed in action less than three months later.

### Colonel Peter K. Foley '62, USAF (Ret)

The mission of the O'Callahan Society is to support the Holy Cross Naval ROTC Unit which produces Navy and Marine Corps officers from four participating schools but many Society members are veterans of other military Services. In recognition of that service, this issue of the newsletter highlights another Holy Cross hero, Colonel Peter K. Foley '62, USAF.

Colonel Foley received two Silver Stars as an F-105 pilot in the Vietnam War. Flying 200 combat missions over North Vietnam, he also received a Bronze Star, six Distinguished Flying Crosses, and thirty Air Medals, making him one of the most highly decorated members of the Holy Cross community. Colonel Foley died in 2016 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery (as is Colonel Parrott, USMC).

# Society News

## 2020 Annual Meeting

The members and friends of the Holy Cross O'Callahan Society gathered virtually on Saturday, September 19 2020, for its 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1 PM by Board Co-Chair Bill McCarthy '76. And the following business was conducted:

- Peter S. Von Loesecke '77 was announced as the newest member of the Society's Board.
- Treasurer Report presented by Jim Moran noted that two large donations made 2020 the most successful fund-raising year for the Society although the total number of donors declined (from 250 to about 200).
- Executive Committee Report from Jim Delehaunty:
  - Captain Carlin has reported as the new Unit CO.
  - In March, a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorial of the attack on USS Franklin (CV-13) was planned but cancelled by the pandemic. Instead, the Midshipmen Battalion used the Father O'Callahan autobiography books provided by the O'Callahan Society as the basis for one of their virtual leadership laboratories.
  - Commissioning was also held virtually with the 17 midshipmen dialing in from different locations. RADM Shoshana S. Chatfield, President of the Naval War College and a graduate of Boston University and its NROTC Program, was the commissioning officer and guest speaker.
  - Presidents' Review, Class Reunions, and midshipmen summer cruises were cancelled due to the pandemic.
  - At the request of the Midshipman Battalion, the Society agreed to fund the registration fees for the "Miles for Murph" charity run/walk.
  - In response to a question about the management of the O'Callahan Society Fund, Jim noted that this is not an investment fund but rather an operational account associated with alumni and under the supervision of the College.
- Mentoring Program under Ken Marra's leadership has been very active: all 17 2020 seniors participated. He will soon have this year's requests and will be soliciting mentors.
- The Society is open to suggestions for other ways to support the midshipmen. You may contact any member of the Board with ideas or email [ocallahan@holycross.edu](mailto:ocallahan@holycross.edu).

## 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](mailto: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 list of NROTC and PLC Graduates: has been updated to include the Classes of 2020 and 2021 and will be placed on the Holy Cross CrossWorks website in June at: <https://crossworks.holycross.edu/nrotc75/>
2. Revised History of the Naval ROTC Program at Holy Cross: in recognition of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Unit, an updated history will be placed on the Holy Cross CrossWorks website later this summer.
3. A booklet with sketches of Navy and Marine Corps Medal of Honor, Navy Cross, and Silver Star Recipients from Holy Cross and WPI has been prepared and will be posted on Holy Cross CrossWorks in June.
4. Naval History Magazine granted the O'Callahan Society permission to combine and print their three 'Acts of Valor' articles on the Holy Cross Medal of Honor recipients (Captain Kelley, Father O'Callahan, and Lieutenant Power). Holy Cross Graphics printed the booklet which has been distributed to the Unit.

## Holy Cross Alumni Buried in Arlington National Cemetery - Updated

A few names have been added by alumni and family. 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](mailto:ocallahan@holycross.edu)

<b>Class</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Branch</b>
1936	Joseph Edward Gallagher	Captain	USA
1939	George Homer Tarr, Jr., M.D.	CAPT	USN
1940	Anthony Thomas Shtogren	MGen	USAF
1941	Anthony Andrew Akstin	Lt Col	USMC
1941	John ("Moose") William Hanlon Jr.	LT(jg)	USN
1941	Martin Fahy Mulry	Lt Col	USAF
1943	Thomas Joseph Alberghini	2nd Lt	USMC
1943	Daniel Joseph Lynch	1st LT	USMC
1946	William Robert Dolan Jr., Ex '46	CDR	USN
1946	Robert Edward Parrott	Colonel	USMC
1948	Thomas Edward Morris	RADM	USN
1951	Robert Thomas Cutting	BG	USA
1951	Gerard Peter Shabe	CDR	USN
1951	Bernard Edmund Trainor	Lt Gen	USMC
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
1962	Peter King Foley	Colonel	USAF
1964	Michael William Doyle	CDR	USN
1970	John Michael O'Sullivan	LT(jg)	USN
1974	Robert Joseph Sise, Jr.	LT	USN
1976	Robert Roger Craner	Colonel	USAF
1979	Paul William Fineran	CDR	USNR
1995	Matthew Patrick Burke, M.D.	Major	USA