

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION

ATHLETIC & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Celebrating 80 years



Kuon

MESSAGE FROM THE **CHAIRMAN**



Dear Fellow Trustees, Friends and Guests,

It is an honor and a pleasure to welcome you to our 80th Anniversary Celebration of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's Athletic and Scholarship Programs (A&SP).

Since we celebrated our 75th Anniversary five years ago, we have dramatically expanded our support to the physical mission of the Academy, and the state of the Physical Mission is on an incredibly positive trajectory.

In this 80th year, Navy athletics culminated a "Decade of Dominance," earning our 10th consecutive Patriot League Presidents' Cup, another Army-Navy Star Series, 14 Conference Championships. In addition, over the last 10 years, Navy has won 84 Patriot League Championships.

In the classroom, our athletes and Foundation students continue to excel, as well. 2023 was the 9th straight year that a Navy student-athlete earned the honor of being the USNA Valedictorian. Further, varsity athletes boast an amazing graduation rate of 94%. And all this culminating with the Naval Academy being ranked the #1 public school in America, as announced by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Our prep school program, which now includes 16 schools across the country, continues to enjoy great success. Many of our Foundation-sponsored students—who are now midshipmen—are with us this evening, as are several administrators from those schools. Their partnership has been essential to the success of A&SP for 80 years. And we will continue to rely upon it for the next 80 years.

The first class midshipmen among us this evening will soon learn their service assignments—nearly the culmination of four years of hard work to prepare them to lead in the Navy or Marine Corps after graduation and commissioning next May.

As we will hear from our speakers this evening, these young men and women will enter a geopolitical environment marked by conflicts and tensions in the Middle East, the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Indo-Pacific region. These are complicated and consequential times and as you can see, we are in very good hands with the character and quality of these young leaders among us tonight. Every single one of these future officers has benefitted from your support, loyalty and philanthropy.

The presence, feedback and generous contributions of our A&SP trustees and all alumni are instrumental in our evolution as an organization—an enterprise providing the connection, communication and support services for the Naval Academy, and particularly the Physical Mission. We are all instrumental in shaping these future leaders of our nation.

Thank you for joining us, and enjoy the evening.

Admiral William Moran '81, USN (Ret.)

Chairman, Athletic and Scholarship Programs, U.S. Naval Academy Foundation

2024 PROGRAM

WELCOME

Commander Gregory Glaros '86, USN (Ret.)
CEO, SYNEXXUS Inc.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Midshipman Clarisse Absalon '25

INVOCATION

Mr. Chadwick K. Watson '88

REMARKS

Admiral William Moran '81, USN (Ret.)
Chairman, Athletic and Scholarship Programs
U.S. Naval Academy Foundation

Vice Admiral Yvette Davids '89, USN
Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy

DINNER

REMARKS

Vice Admiral Jim Malloy '86, USN (Ret.)
President and CEO,
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington

Captain Chris "Chowdah" Hill, USN
CO, CNV 69

TOAST

CLOSING REMARKS

Admiral William Moran '81, USN (Ret.)

"NAVY BLUE AND GOLD"

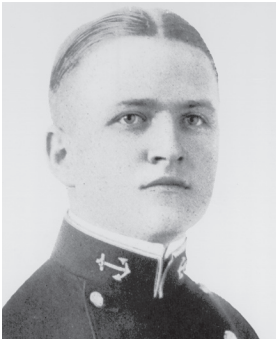
DESSERT AND COFFEE

OUR HISTORY



"RIP" MILLER

Seventy-five years ago, "Rip" and Es Miller had a beautiful view of the Severn River from their home where they hosted gatherings for their friends. H. McCoy "Piggy" Jones of the Class of 1919 was a frequent visitor during the waning years of World War II when the two old friends discussed the many changes taking place at their beloved Naval Academy, and with Navy athletics. This was the genesis for the first Naval Academy Foundation, now the Athletic and Scholarship Programs division of today's Naval Academy Foundation.



H. MCCOY "PIGGY" JONES, CLASS OF 1919

Rip arrived at Navy as an assistant football coach in 1926, loved the school and went on to become head coach and ultimately assistant director of athletics. A Notre Dame graduate, Rip had been one of the famed "Seven Mules" in the line in front of the Four Horsemen backfield of the Notre Dame national championship team of 1924. Rip and Piggy saw the average size of entering classes increase from about 430 pre-war to a peak of 1,200 by the Class of 1946. Entering class sizes averaged about 1,050 during the '50s. Gaining entrance to the Academy was very difficult, with strict physical, moral and academic requirements. The successful

completion of a special academic examination was required as well as a nomination by a member of Congress. The examination took two and a half days of testing in algebra, plane geometry, English, United States history and a U.S. Naval Academy Aptitude test. It was so rigorous that special preparation was generally required. Naval Academy records at the time indicate that 82 percent of entering midshipmen had additional scholastic training beyond high school—college, junior college or prep school. The cost of this preparation was borne by families of candidates—a cost many middle-class families simply could not afford. Even after this rigorous entrance exam, the course of instruction at the Academy was so difficult that only 73 percent of entering classes eventually graduated. Plebe year courses included plane trigonometry, calculus, naval boilers, engineering drawing, algebra, chemistry, composition and literature, a foreign language, military training and physical education. The courses became even more demanding for the last three years. Midshipmen took 156 credit hours of courses as compared with the 120 normally required for a bachelor's degree

OUR HISTORY



VADM ROBERT B. "THE BEARD" PIRIE,
CLASS OF 1926



CAPT JOE BELLINO '61, USNR

in civilian institutions, and the failure of a single course could mean immediate dismissal.

With the increase in the size of the Navy, the need for trained Naval Academy graduates tripled. The pool of qualified candidates for admission needed to be increased, primarily from the middle class, without lowering standards. Athletes who could maintain the success of the Academy's athletic teams while still meeting the leadership, moral and academic standards of the school became a very important part of this admission pool.

Rip and Piggy designed a program that, based on need, could provide a prep school education for a year after high school to prepare candidates for the entrance examination. The Naval Academy Foundation program was established in 1944 to meet that need. Piggy and other distinguished graduates initially visited schools like Phillips Andover and The Hill School to establish a prep school environment for these candidates. They had some success, but not in the numbers necessary to meet the Academy's needs. They then solicited and received funding for prep school scholarships from graduates and other private individuals.

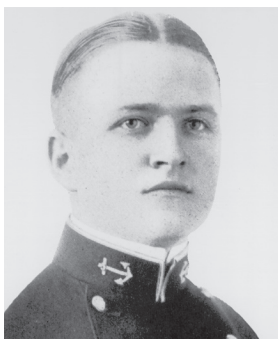
Initially the Foundation operated on a very informal basis, often having meetings in Rip Miller's home on the Severn River. A key figure in the development of the Foundation was Vice Admiral Robert B. "The Beard" Pirie of the Class of 1926. He had a keen interest in the Foundation from its inception and worked closely with Piggy and Rip to help keep the program alive during a period of meager financial resources. After retiring from active duty, he became president and chairman of the Board of Trustees. His aggressive and imaginative leadership brought to the Board of Trustees many distinguished and influential leaders of business and industry, government officials and senior military leaders. Seventy-five years later, the program's Trustees continue to include many previous Superintendents of the Naval Academy, Distinguished Graduate Award recipients, Chiefs of Naval Operations and business leaders.

It was not until 1963, when Commander R.T.E. "Bud" Bowler '45, USN, came on board as the Foundation's executive director, that the organization was placed on a solid financial footing through the establishment of the

OUR HISTORY



ROGER STAUBACH '65



ADM JIM HOLLOWAY '43, USN (RET.)

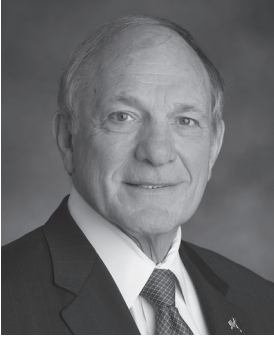
Honor Scholarship Program recognizing the service and heroism of members of the naval service. Commander Bowler's initiative was further pursued by Rear Admiral C. Elliott Loughlin '33, USN, who became executive director in 1968 and Chairman of the Board in 1986. Since then, through the generosity of several Naval Academy classes and many individuals, the program has grown to the point where the Foundation has more than 150 scholarships in place for the prep school program and sponsored outstanding students at many of the country's finest prep schools.

Rip Miller put together a highly successful program for identifying athletes for the Naval Academy, many of whom were the recipients of Foundation scholarships. Among them were Captain Joe Bellino '61, USNR, and Roger Staubach '65, both of whom received the coveted Heisman Trophy as the nation's top college football player. Studies of the recipients of these scholarships show that on average they maintained a higher grade point average than the Brigade as a whole, graduated at a higher rate and remained in the service for a longer period. While initially a higher percentage of

recipients were recruited athletes, today about a quarter of recipients are in this category.

In early 2000, the original Foundation merged with the Naval Academy Endowment Trust to form today's U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, a single entity authorized to raise and manage all non-appropriated funds in support of the Naval Academy and the Brigade of Midshipmen. Admiral Jim Holloway '43, USN, worked with fellow Trustees Admiral Chuck Larson '58, USN, and Rear Admiral Pete Conrad '53, USN, to accomplish this merger. The Athletic and Scholarship Programs division of the Naval Academy Foundation continues to manage the Honor Scholarship Program and support fundraising activities by utilizing personal contacts and enhancing programs for athletic excellence. Through its combined efforts with the development division of the Foundation, financial support for athletics has grown substantially. Under the guidance of Admiral Holloway, then chairman of both divisions of the new Foundation, the sum of \$5 million was provided to kickstart the renovation of Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. Major

OUR HISTORY



RADM TOM C. LYNCH '64, USN (RET.)

funding was also provided for the Glenn Warner Soccer Facility and housing for football coaches.

Rear Admiral Tom Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), served as chairman from 2004 to 2024, spending 20 years supporting major capital athletic projects and reinvigorating programs to provide annual Athletic Excellence support to the Academy of more than \$2.5 million per year. These funds helped nurture and support a wide range of Academy varsity, club and intramural sports as well as Naval Academy Prep School athletic programs. Rear Admiral Lynch also increased the number of Foundation

Trustees from 175 to 250, while striving for more ethnic, age, geographic and gender diversity among the cohort. During the current *Called to Serve, Daring to Lead* campaign, Trustees contributed or pledged more than \$47 million in support for the Naval Academy.

The future of Athletic and Scholarship Programs remains bright thanks to the many devoted alumni and friends who continue to serve as Trustees, and the leadership of Admiral Bill Moran '81, USN (Ret.), who assumed the position of chairman in the spring of 2024. Admiral Moran comes aboard to help USNA, NAAA and the Alumni Association and Foundation meet the challenges that exist in the ever-changing landscape of college sports today, including NIL in college athletics and potentially paradigm-shifting changes to conference alignment and service academy relevance in major college athletics in the future.

At the core of the A&SP mission and Admiral Moran's priorities is our commitment to excellence in both athletics and academics, channeling the support of the USNA alumni network to nurture the talents and aspirations of midshipmen, enabling them to excel not only on the playing field but also in classrooms and beyond.

The collective efforts of A&SP Trustees can and will propel us to new heights, ensuring that the legacy of the Naval Academy endures for generations to come. Through the continued support of our alumni, we will enhance the athletic programs, provide scholarships to deserving students and foster an environment where excellence is not only expected, but celebrated.

NAVAL ACADEMY **LEADERSHIP**

Many Naval Academy Superintendents have served as Foundation Trustees after their service as Superintendent. Shown with their dates of tenure, these include:

Vice Admiral Charles S. Minter Jr. '37 (*January 1964 – June 1965*)

Vice Admiral James F. Calvert '43 (*June 1968 – June 1972*)

Vice Admiral William P. Mack '37 (*June 1972 – August 1975*)

Admiral Kinnaird R. McKee '51 (*August 1975 – August 1978*)

Vice Admiral William P. Lawrence '51 (*August 1978 – August 1981*)

Vice Admiral Edward C. Waller III '49 (*August 1981 – August 1983*)

Admiral Charles R. Larson '58 (*August 1983 – August 1986*)
(*August 1994 – June 1998*)

Rear Admiral Ronald F. Marryott '57 (*August 1986 – August 1988*)

Rear Admiral Virgil L. Hill Jr. '61 (*August 1988 – June 1991*)

Rear Admiral Thomas C. Lynch '64 (*June 1991 – August 1994*)

Vice Admiral John R. Ryan '67 (*June 1998 – June 2002*)

Vice Admiral Jeffrey Fowler '78 (*June 2007 – August 2010*)

Vice Admiral Michael H. Miller '74 (*August 2010 – July 2014*)

Vice Admiral Walter E. Carter '81 (*July 2014 – June 2019*)

Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck '83 (*July 2019 – August 2023*)



DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE TRUSTEES



The Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA) is given annually to living graduates of the Naval Academy who have made distinctive contributions to their field or community, such as military service, business, education, science, technology, medicine, sports, philanthropic works, humanitarian works, contributions in the arts or to society at large with a discernible embodiment of the Naval Academy mission. Many recipients of the DGA have served, or currently serve, as A&SP Trustees. They include:

Admiral Charles S. Abbot '66
Major General William A. Anders '55
Ambassador Richard L. Armitage '67
Admiral Julius S. Caesar '77
Vice Admiral James F. Calvert '43
Admiral Walter E. Carter '81
Admiral Henry G. Chiles Jr. '60
Captain John W. Crawford Jr. '42
Admiral James C. Dawson Jr. '70
Vice Admiral Robert F. Dunn '51
Admiral Leon A. Edney '57
Admiral Sylvester R. Foley Jr. '50
General Carlton W. Fulford Jr. '66
Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani Jr. '70
Admiral Thomas B. Hayward '48
General Robert T. Herres '54
Admiral James R. Hogg '56
Admiral James L. Holloway III '43
Mr. Ralph W. Hooper '51
Vice Admiral William D. Houser '42
Admiral Timothy J. Keating '71
Admiral Frank B. Kelso II '56
Admiral Charles R. Larson '58
Captain Wendy B. Lawrence '81
Vice Admiral William P. Lawrence '51

Rear Admiral Thomas C. Lynch '64
Admiral Henry H. Mauz Jr. '59
Admiral Kinnaird R. McKee '51
Dr. John J. McMullen '40
Rear Admiral Robert W. McNitt '38
Admiral Richard W. Mies '67
Vice Admiral Charles S. Minter Jr. '37
Admiral Thomas H. Moorer '33
Admiral Robert J. Natter '67
Ronald L. Nicol '75
General Peter Pace '67
Admiral Joseph W. Prueher '64
Vice Admiral John R. Ryan '67
Rear Admiral Robert H. Shumaker '56
Admiral Leighton W. Smith Jr. '62
Sean G. Stackley '79
Mr. Roger T. Staubach '65
Admiral Edward M. Straw '61
Mr. J. Ronald Terwilliger '63
Admiral Carlisle A. H. Trost '53
Admiral James D. Watkins '49
Admiral Robert F. Willard '73
Michael Yeager '76
John F. Young '78

FOUNDATION **PREP SCHOOLS**

The young men and women chosen to participate in A&SP's prep school program may choose the school they wish to attend. Schools currently in the program are:

- Avon Old Farms School (Avon, CT)
- Blair Academy (Blairtown, NJ)
- Georgia Military College (Milledgeville, GA)
- Hargrave Military Academy (Chatham, VA)
- The Hill School (Pottstown, PA)
- The Kent School (Kent, CT)
- The Kiski School (Saltsburg, PA)
- Marion Military Institute (Marion, AL)
- The Mercersburg Academy (Mercersburg, PA)
- New Mexico Military Institute (Roswell, NM)
- Northwestern Preparatory School (Crestline, CA)
- The Peddie School (Hightstown, NJ)
- Portsmouth Abbey (Portsmouth, RI)
- The Salisbury School (Salisbury, CT)
- Western Reserve Academy (Hudson, OH)
- Wyoming Seminary (Kingston, PA)



FOUNDATION **PREP SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Thirty-five midshipmen in the Class of 2025 completed the Foundation's Preparatory School program prior to attending the Academy. They will be commissioned as ensigns or second lieutenants on 23 May 2025. Shown with the school they attended, these midshipmen are:

Everet Andrew—*Mercersburg Academy*
Max Awtry—*Mercersburg Academy*
Owen Beisty—*Mercersburg Academy*
Elise Chaffin—*Georgia Military College*
Isaiah Drake—*Santa Monica College*
Erik Eads—*Avon Old Farms School*
Savannah Gasca—*Northwestern Preparatory School*
Kayla Gibbons—*New Mexico Military Institute*
AJ Hinton—*New Mexico Military Institute*
Julia Horton—*Peddie School*
Peyton Jankowski—*Kent School*
John Kum—*New Mexico Military Institute*
Alexandra Kwasniewski—*Mercersburg Academy*
Emma Martinsen—*Georgia Military College*
Lucas Merritt—*Marion Military Institute*
Tristram Moore—*Georgia Military College*
Brendan Munnelly—*Salisbury School*
Erik Nordquist—*The Hill School*
Sean Ostrowski—*Salisbury School*
Abigail Parker—*New Mexico Military Institute*
William Peters—*Marion Military Institute*
Cole Petruscha—*The Kiski School*
Michael Ponenti—*Peddie School*
Reed Romo—*Salisbury School*
Tanner Russell—*Northwestern Preparatory School*
Hannah Sarver—*Marion Military Institute*
Yasen Spanta—*The Kiski School*
Gabriel Spencer—*The Kiski School*
Nathan Stephens—*Marion Military Institute*
Richard Swann—*Avon Old Farms School*
Tara Thompson—*Georgia Military College*
Eric Tingle—*Marion Military Institute*
Julian Trilling—*Mercersburg Academy*
Ryan Wahba—*Portsmouth Abbey School*
Jack Walsh—*Portsmouth Abbey School*

THE PHYSICAL MISSION

36 VARSITY SPORTS—15 CLUB SPORTS—INTRAMURALS

THE MARGIN OF EXCELLENCE

