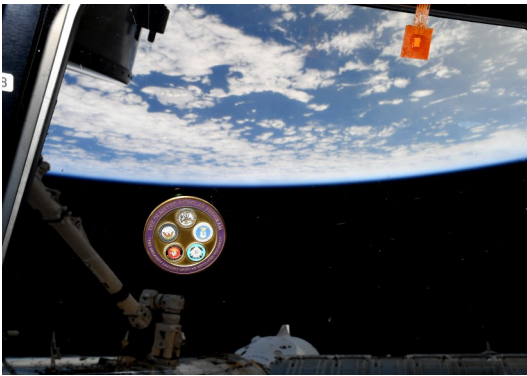




Col Michael Hopkins Calls into Olmsted Board of Directors Meeting from Outer Space



An Olmsted Foundation coin floats in front of a window of the International Space Station (ISS). In the background, the SpaceX Dragon craft is docked at the ISS.

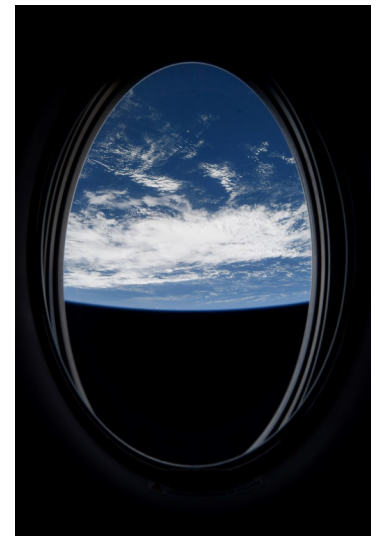
Members of the Olmsted Foundation Board of Directors were treated to a very special surprise recently when Colonel Mike Hopkins (OSC 03, Parma) called into their 17 March meeting from the International Space Station (ISS) to provide a real time update on his mission in outer space.

Speaking from an altitude of about 220 miles over the Earth, Hopkins discussed the launch, docking at the ISS, and the various missions he and his team have completed since their arrival, including two extended space walks. He also offered some interesting perspectives on international relations in outer space and how it has differed greatly from the rhetoric and actions often observed here on earth. For example, despite the continuing strain in US-Russian relations, Hopkins said his team and the Russian cosmonauts

aboard the ISS have continued to work and collaborate in a completely cordial and trusting way. In addition to commanding the US mission, Hopkins serves simultaneously as Flight Engineer aboard the ISS. “US-Russia tension doesn’t exist up here,” Hopkins stated, noting that his experiences as an Olmsted Scholar definitely helped prepare him for this time in space.

Ambassador Kristie Kenney complimented Hopkins on his achievements and his contributions to international relations. She also expressed confidence he would continue to find ways to build bridges and connect with America’s international partners in outer space.

After about 20 minutes, Hopkins informed Board members he needed to get back to work. However, the brief call highlighted the fact that the ISS is traveling around the world at a velocity of more than 15,000 mph: When the call began, Hopkins was over the Patagonia region of South America; when it ended, he was already passing over Eastern Africa. Hopkins and his crew are scheduled to return to Earth on or about 1 May.



Mike Hopkins (OSC 2003, Parma) shared with the Foundation this photo of the view from his “office” in outer space.



Brigadier General
Leo Kosinski (OSC
00, Tokyo).

Scholar Promoted to Major General by US Air Force

Congratulations to Brigadier General Leo Kosinski (OSC 00, Tokyo), who has been selected for promotion to the rank of Major General by the US Air Force. Brig Gen Kosinski is presently the Deputy Commander of the Fifth Air Force, and the Director of the Joint Air Component Coordination Element - Japan, Yokota Air Base, Japan. His previous assignment was the Director for Logistics, US Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany. A US Air Force Academy distinguished graduate, Brigadier General Kosinski received his MBA from Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, where he studied as an Olmsted Scholar.

Chairman's Corner



Word of mouth advertising by Scholars is probably the most effective way to identify and recruit top performing officers for the Olmsted Scholar Program and encourage/mentor them to complete the sometimes convoluted Service application process. We can't always count on Service sponsoring organizations to publish guidance in time to catch potential applicants, particularly as our target audience is often deployed during the application window. I want to challenge all of our active duty Scholars to identify, recruit, and mentor at least two officers.

You have the best perspective, know who the top performers are, and have the greatest credibility speaking with officers in the target audience. My Olmsted experience began when my first Commanding Officer, Rear Admiral (then Commander) "RAK" Taylor (OSC 67, Grenoble), spoke glowingly of his experience, and pushed me to apply. I was not selected on my first try, but he encouraged me to try again and guided me in what I could do to improve my chances of selection. On my second try, again I missed selection. Although Admiral Taylor had moved on to another assignment, he kept in touch and kept encouraging me to apply. The third time was the charm, and I had a life-changing experience in Bordeaux, France! But it never would have happened if an Olmsted Scholar hadn't pushed me to pursue this dream. You know who we're looking for – top performing operational leaders who have the greatest likelihood of going on to be selected for O-5 command in their respective fields. We have worked with Services to identify the ideal windows for their top performers to complete an Olmsted assignment and remain highly competitive for command. It isn't the same window, perhaps, as when you applied or the same "career sweet spot" that existed when General Olmsted first created this opportunity. But your Board of Directors and Headquarters have the flexibility to work with Services and ensure we target the best people, so don't hold back from helping us identify, encourage, and select future military leaders to benefit from General Olmsted's vision. Find two top officers and get them to apply!

*Kurt W. Tidd
Admiral, US Navy (Ret.)
Chairman of the Board*

President's Perspective



First and foremost, this newsletter celebrates the newly selected Olmsted Scholar Class of 2022! I hope you will take some time to see who these new members of the Olmsted family are (and how young they are becoming).

Like the orange-eyed Cicadas now emerging from the soil in the Washington, DC area after 17 years of hibernation, Olmsted Scholars past, present, and future are starting to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions. The Scholar Class of 2019 is returning home from its two year in-country experience. This class was greatly affected by restrictions and quarantines. Many were able to travel in their first year but were severely restricted in their second. Still, most were able to complete their studies (nearly all online) and earn degrees or certificates. The Class of 2020 is in place and has completed one or two semesters of classes. Hopefully by the end of Summer they will be traveling as well. Finally, the Class of 2021 has completed language training largely online and is moving to overseas towns and

universities. Only one member of the Class of 2021 was able to conduct a familiarization trip, so this class is beginning as all of us did prior to the Class of 2003.

We were also forced to change meetings and gatherings over the past year. The last three Board meetings have been virtual, and we had to cancel last year's Anderson House event. We will have an in-person Orientation for the Class of 2022 in June, but as previously announced our annual Anderson House gathering will take place Sunday, September 5, 2021. We will send out invites mid-July with the specifics, so please be on the lookout.

In closing, I would like all of you, RIGHT NOW, to turn to page 3 and look at the great success Scholars from all Services continue to have in selections for promotion and command. As our Chairman emphasizes above, we continue to select "top performing operational leaders who have the greatest likelihood of going on to be selected for O-5 command."

*Bruce K. Scott
Major General, US Army (Ret.)
President & CEO*

Olmsted Foundation Farewells Tricia Nelson



Olmsted Foundation President & CEO Bruce Scott presents Tricia Nelson with a certificate of appreciation for her hard work for the Foundation over the last 5 years.

At the end of March, the Olmsted Foundation staff said farewell to Tricia Nelson. Tricia joined the Olmsted staff in late 2015 as its first Social Media and Events Coordinator. She was instrumental in creating a strong social media presence for the Foundation on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, as well as Instagram. The Foundation wishes her all the best as she moves on to her next endeavors.

Annual Meeting, Reunion, and Reception Rescheduled

The Olmsted Foundation Annual Meeting, Reunion and Reception will be held on Sunday, September 5, 2021 at Anderson House. Traditionally held in June, the event is being postponed due to pandemic restrictions. Invitations will be sent out toward the end of July.

This event was cancelled in 2020 because of the pandemic, and we look forward to being together again in 2021.

Scholar Wins Best Thesis

MAJ Richi Pazdzierski, USA (OSC 18, Osaka) recently received a special "Best Thesis" award from Osaka University in recognition of his research contributions. As an Olmsted Scholar in Japan, MAJ Pazdzierski studied Japan's civil-military relations and the Japanese Self-Defense Force's efforts to deter aggression against their southwest islands."

New Social Media & Events Coordinator Joins Staff



Rae Schafer has joined the Foundation staff as the new Social Media and Events Coordinator. Rae has worked with the Foundation as publisher of its quarterly newsletter since its creation in 2012 and Rae Schafer was the managing editor of the *60th Anniversary Olmsted Foundation Register of Scholars and Foundation Officers*.

Rae is an active volunteer in her synagogue, as well as in her local elementary school. Her background includes teaching math and computer science, Academic Dean at National University, and Program Associate at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. She is the spouse of Maj Gen (Ret.) Paul G. "Snoopy" Schafer, US Air Force.

Please continue to send your news and updates to Rae. Her email address is rschafer@olmstedfoundation.org.

Olmsted Scholar Promotions and Selections

Selected for promotion to Colonel by the US Air Force:

- ◆ Lt Col Christian Ogrosky (OSC 10, Beijing)
- ◆ Lt Col Thomas Graham OSC 11, Krakow
- ◆ Lt Col Scott Johnson (OSC 11, Ljubljana)
- ◆ Lt Col John Welch (OSC 11, Tel Aviv)
- ◆ Lt Col Fernando Cruz (OSC 13, Moscow)

Selected for promotion to Colonel by the US Army:

- ◆ LTC Ryan Sullivan (OSC 08, Shanghai)
- ◆ LTC Joshua Kaser (OSC 09, St Petersburg)

Selected for promotion to Captain by the US Navy:

- ◆ CDR Nathan Luther (OSC 06, New Delhi)

Selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel by the US Army:

- ◆ MAJ Andrew Hightower (OSC 15, Kuala Lumpur)
- ◆ MAJ Sean Hollars (OSC 15, Gdansk)
- ◆ MAJ John Nielsen (OSC 15, Buenos Aires)
- ◆ MAJ David Spangenberg (OSC 16, Paris)
- ◆ MAJ David Veney (OSC 16, Helsinki)

Selected for DARPA Service Chief Fellowship by the US Navy:

- ◆ CDR JD Kristenson (OSC 09, Beijing)

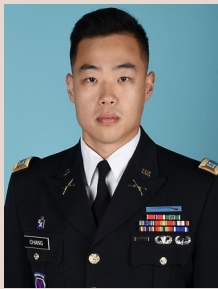
Meet the Olmsted Scholar Class of 2022



1stLt Jason Black, USMC

Infantry

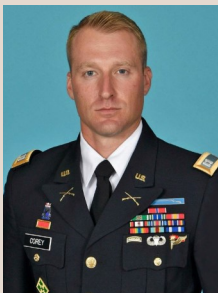
Helsinki, Finland



CPT Eddie Chang, USA

Infantry

Louvain, Belgium



CPT Elliot Corey, USA

Infantry

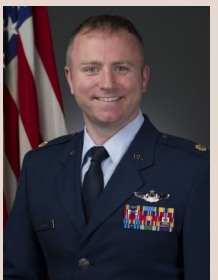
Bologna, Italy



LCDR David Elsenbeck, USN

Surface Warfare Officer

Madrid, Spain



Maj Ryan Fortney, USAF

C-17 Instructor Pilot

Buenos Aires, Argentina

LCDR Andrew Catoire, USN

SEAL

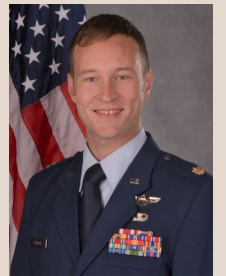
Lyon, France



Maj Daniel Cohoon, USAF

F-15E Instructor Pilot

Jerusalem, Israel



Capt Adam Cribb, USAF

A-10 Instructor Pilot

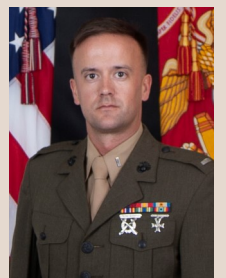
Lima, Peru



1stLt Eric Everhart, USMC

Air Intelligence

Chiang Mai, Thailand





Capt Matthew Fryer, USAF

B-1 Evaluator Pilot

Taipei, Taiwan



LT Riley Harsh, USN

Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Florianopolis, Brazil



CPT Julian Hutchins, USA

Infantry

Valparaiso, Chile



LCDR Zachary Lamb, USN

E-2 Naval Flight Officer

Muscat, Oman



Maj Robert Lenzen, USAF

CV-22 Instructor Pilot

Bratislava, Slovakia



Maj Ryan Martelly, USAF

HH-60 Instructor Pilot

Kyoto, Japan



LTJG Nathaniel Matthews, USCG

Operations Afloat - Cutterman

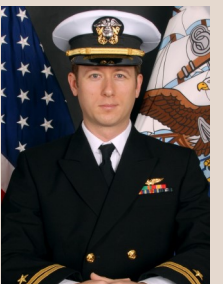
Tromsø, Norway



Capt Mason McLean, USMC

Communications

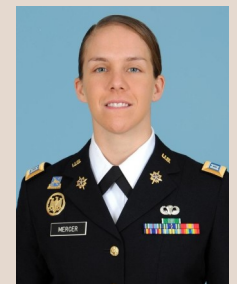
Thessaloniki, Greece



LT Andy Mencil, USN

EA-18G Electronic Warfare Officer

Almaty, Kazakhstan



CPT Jane Mercer, USA

Military Intelligence

Poznan, Poland

Our Neighbor the Nazi Hunter

by Maddie Rowley, wife of Jay Rowley (OSC 20, Jerusalem)



Efraim Zuroff was featured in Newsweek in 2016.

The night after Jay and I moved into our Jerusalem apartment in late August of 2020, our realtor came over to drop off a few items. We were in quarantine and couldn't leave the house, so the coffee maker she brought was like manna sent from heaven (pun intended).

"You know who your neighbor is right?" she asked.

We both shook our jet-lagged heads.

"He's a local celebrity named Efraim Zuroff. He's a Nazi hunter."

I remember thinking, "A what?" before move-in logistics consumed our lives for the next few weeks.

Fast forward to now—seven months later. Dr. Zuroff has become one of our closest friends. We have a set pizza night nearly every Thursday, and a few nights a week, we'll hear three soft taps on our front door. Efraim comes inside, sits in his designated chair for half an hour and answers all of my hard-hitting questions about Israel and Judaism. It usually goes something like this:

"Do you ever wish you could just eat a bacon cheeseburger?"

"No," said Efraim, who observes a strict kosher diet. "You can't crave something you've never had, right?"

"What's the deal with the burning bush in Exodus? Do you believe that really happened?"

"Whaddaya mean did it really happen? Of course it did, *nu?*" said Efraim, in a thick New York City accent mixed with a little Yiddish flair.

Efraim was born and raised in Brooklyn but made *aliyah* in 1970 at the age of 22. The word "*aliyah*" means "to ascend" in Hebrew and is used to describe the immigration of Jews to Israel from countries all over the world.

He grew up attending Orthodox Jewish schools where he said, shockingly, nobody really talked about the Holocaust.

"I was named for my grandfather's youngest brother who was a Holocaust victim. He was likely murdered in Lithuania's *Ponar* mass murder site, as were his wife and two sons," said Efraim. "We never spoke about it in our house."

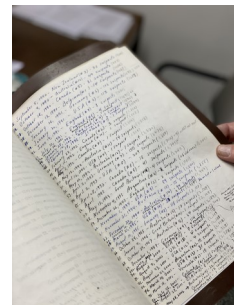
But when Efraim saw a map in the *New York Times* before the start of the 1967 Six Day War in which Israel was surrounded by heavily armed Arab countries, the only word that came to mind was "Holocaust."

"I'll never forget that reaction," Efraim said. "I thought, 'there's going to be another Holocaust.' But why did I think that when I knew virtually nothing about the first one?"

Efraim said he later realized that the answer to this lies within the collective memory that lives within almost all Jews. "The Holocaust is part of your baggage," said Efraim. "It's always there."

Since then, he's made the *shoah* (Hebrew word for Holocaust) and Holocaust education his life's work. Early on in his career, the US Department of Justice's Office of Special Investigations contacted Efraim to help find Nazis who had fled to America.

One of Efraim's assignments over the six years he worked with the DOJ was to try and find the informant who reported that German SS officer Dr. Josef Mengele, also known as the Angel of Death, was arrested and released by the U.S. Army in Vienna in 1946.



A notebook with lists of Nazi's names is displayed by Ephraim Zuroff.

Continued on Page 7

“It turned out the story was true,” Efraim said. “The US officers didn’t know who he was, so they let him go.”

Efraim sorted through stacks of microfilm from the International Red Cross’s Tracing Center for information. He never found the informant, but he did find thousands of records containing information about Nazis and their immigration destinations.

“The ones that went to America even had an address,” said Efraim. “It was a historic moment.”

From there, Efraim opened the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Jerusalem, which is part of a global human rights organization focusing on the Holocaust. He has served as the Director and Chief Nazi Hunter there for 35 years.

Efraim has tracked down thousands of Nazi war criminals who fled to evade prosecution, and in 2002 he launched Operation Last Chance, which offers financial rewards for information leading to the prosecution and punishment of Nazis.

These days, as the number of living Nazi war criminals dwindles, Efraim works to combat Holocaust distortion in places like Eastern Europe, while keeping the collective memory of the Holocaust alive.

During one of his first weekly visits, Efraim said “Everyone here in Israel has a story.”

I’ve found that while living next door to Efraim, that statement couldn’t be more true.

You can follow more of Efraim’s work on [Twitter at @EZuroff](#).



Efraim Zuroff in front of a Operation Last Chance Poster

Scholar Spends Time on a Brazilian Submarine



LT Butler aboard the *BNS Tupi*.

Lieutenant Taylor Butler (OSC 19, Sao Paulo) recently had the unusual opportunity to embark on Brazilian Navy Submarine *BNS Tupi*. In early March, she spent four days at sea aboard the Brazilian submarine off the southeast coast of Brazil.

In an email to the Foundation after completing the mission, LT Taylor commented, “the term the Brazilians use for time underway submerged is *imersão*, which literally translates to immersion.

They have patches that show their *horas de imersão*. And, of course, I was thinking to myself...this must be what the Foundation meant when they said it was meant to be an immersion program! I was totally immersed.” Taylor is the first American woman to have joined a Brazilian sub crew.



LT Butler with some of the BNS Tupi crew.



Foundation Recognized by LLS

The Olmsted Foundation was recently awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for its efforts in raising over \$100,000 over the years for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Light the Night fundraising walk.

Each year, the Foundation participates in Light the Night to honor the memories of Colonel Bob Yablonski (OSC 80, Lyon), Captain Steve Murphy (OSC 96, Kiev) and Brigadier General Tony Smith (OSC 62, Paris).

IN MEMORIAM

COL James Abrahamson (OSC 64, Geneva), US Army (Ret.) <https://www.cremnc.com/obituary/james-abrahamson>

Foundation and Scholars in the News

CAPT Carey Cash, US Navy, “Murphy’s Law: Advice for Naval Leaders,” (article on CAPT (Dec.) Steve Murphy (OSC 96, Kyiv), US Navy), in the February 2021 issue of *Proceedings* <https://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/2021/february/murphys-law-advice-naval-leaders>

Col Tobias Switzer (OSC 09, Santiago), US Air Force, “Learning to fly: How the US Can Fix the Problems Plaguing Aviation Advising Missions” in Modern War Institute <https://mwi.usma.edu/learning-to-fly-how-the-us-military-can-fix-the-problems-plaguing-aviation-advising-missions/>

COL Christina Bembenek (OSC 09, Rabat), US Army, “Conspiracy Stand Down: How Extremist Theories Like Qanon Threaten the Military and What to Do About It” in *War on the Rocks* <https://warontherocks.com/2021/03/conspiracy-stand-down-how-extremist-theories-like-qanon-threaten-the-military-and-what-to-do-about-it/>

LtCol (Ret.) Brendan Mulvaney (OSC 03, Shanghai), US Marine Corps, “Ongoing organizational reforms of the People’s Liberation Army Air Force” on Taylor & Francis Online <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01402390.2020.1730818?journalCode=fjss20>

LT Taylor Butler (OSC 19, Sao Paulo), US Navy, “Olmsted Scholar Embarks Brazilian Submarine” on Defense Visual Information Distribution Service <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/390853/olmsted-scholar-embarks-brazilian-submarine>

Suzanne Bassalla (OSC 96, Tokyo), “USJC President & CEO Suzanne Basalla Reflects on 3.11” on US-Japan Council <https://www.usjapancouncil.org/news/suzanne-basalla-3-11/>

Olmsted Foundation in “Olmsted Foundation continues support of international trips for cadets” February 3, 2021 by Clark Leonard in UNG Newsroom <https://ung.edu/news/articles/2021/02/olmsted-foundation-continues-support-of-international-trips-for-cadets.php>



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