



# THE OLMSTED FOUNDATION

Fall 2021

Volume 10, Issue 4

## Foundation Welcomes Scholars at Meeting, Reception, and Dinner



Guests gathered around the reflecting pool during the Annual Meeting.

Postponed from June, the Olmsted Foundation Annual Meeting, Reception, and Dinner was held in September at Anderson House in Washington, DC. President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott opened the meeting by welcoming the US Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps as they led the national anthem and Pledge of Allegiance. In his opening remarks, General Scott acknowledged how long it had been since Scholars had been able to gather because of the pandemic, and how pleased he was to see such a good turnout. LTG (Ret.) Nadja West was introduced as a new member of the Board of Directors, and Col (Ret.) Sean Cosden was introduced as the Foundation's new Vice President. By tenting the entire backyard of the Anderson House, the event could be held outside despite the rainy conditions.

Retiring Olmsted Executive Vice President Dave Estep was then farewelled by Bruce Scott. A series of gifts was presented including a United States flag recently flown aboard Air Force One, a jar of Dijon mustard to remind Dave of his years as a scholar in Dijon, France, and open-ended tickets to Dijon on Air France for Colonel Estep and his wife Susan. In an emotional speech, Estep spoke about how much he had enjoyed his time on the staff of the Olmsted Foundation.

The meeting ended with the introduction of the 2022 Scholar class and spouses, followed by dinner and an enjoyable evening of socializing.



Retiring Executive Vice President Dave Estep is farewelled by President and CEO Bruce Scott, who presented him a retirement gift for a return trip to Dijon, France.

## US Coast Guard Commandant Presents 2021 Olmsted Lecture



Admiral Karl Schultz presents the 2021 Olmsted Lecture.

The 2021 Olmsted Lecture was held at the National Press Club on Tuesday, October 19. Olmsted Foundation Chairman of the Board ADM (Ret.) Kurt Tidd and President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott offered welcoming remarks. Admiral Karl Schultz, Commandant of the US Coast Guard, presented "The US Coast Guard and the Geostategic Importance of Maritime Governance." The Admiral described for attendees the global reach of today's US Coast Guard, and spoke of its different alliances and engagements around the world. His speech was followed by a lengthy question and answer period. Those attending had an opportunity to meet the admiral at the reception which followed the lecture. The lecture is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-90jBGFzC4Y>

## Chairman's Corner



Elsewhere in this quarter's newsletter you will read about a number of outcomes from our Fall Board of Directors Meeting and our Olmsted Lecture at the National Press Club. Between now and our Spring Board meeting, our headquarters team and Directors are busy processing Service nominations and conducting interviews with the next class of potential Olmsted Scholars.

Each year scores of officers who have already passed rigorous Service screening and selection processes are interviewed by a panel consisting of our Foundation President, Vice President, other HQ officers, and one or more Directors, to determine their motivation and aptitude to become the next class of Olmsted Scholars. All the nominees are exceptionally well qualified, based on prior academic achievement and validated foreign language aptitude. More important, all have proven superior military performance across a variety of operational assignments as junior officers. All are capable leaders demonstrating potential for success in positions of increasing responsibility within their service specialties.

When the full board of directors meets in the Spring, they select that small handful of the very best applicants to continue their leader development and return to their Services as officers possessing uniquely effective intellectual agility and the flexibility to prevail in today's exceedingly complex security environment. The Olmsted Scholar experience develops leaders able to perform under pressure, amidst uncertainty and ambiguity. Our Scholars start as proven performers who become even more accomplished strategic contributors, of enormous value to their Services and the Nation.

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

## President's Perspective



Greetings from Falls Church where we are having a truly magnificent Fall! Unquestionably, Fall is my favorite season in Washington, DC. Weather is generally great, the colors are fabulous, and the air is crisp and refreshing after what are increasingly longer, hotter Summers.

I am breaking tradition a tad now, as I feel compelled to pass along some wonderful news that broke over the weekend. The Air Force colonel's promotion list came out just recently, and there are 11, let me say that again, **ELEVEN** Olmsted Scholars on this promotion list. So, instead of waiting until the next newsletter to announce this news, here they are:

- ◆ Lt Col Phoenix Torrijos (OSC 08, Beijing)
- ◆ Lt Col Lewis Vaughn (OSC 09, Nanjing)
- ◆ Lt Col Daniel Rueth (OSC 10 Sofia)
- ◆ Lt Col Jamil Musa (OSC 11, Rabat)
- ◆ Lt Col Geoffrey Bowman (OSC 12, Osaka)
- ◆ Lt Col Neil Senkowski (OSC 12, Berlin)
- ◆ Lt Col Joseph Wall (OSC 12, Freiburg)
- ◆ Lt Col Elia Hickie (OSC 13, Rio de Janeiro)
- ◆ Lt Col Mark Hickie (OSC 13, Rio de Janeiro)
- ◆ Lt Col Michael Sullivan (OSC 13, Beijing)
- ◆ Lt Col Timothy Bronder (OSC 14, Poznan)

This result is truly remarkable and unprecedented! Once again, it is proof positive of the value the Services place on Olmsted Scholars. I hope it inspires all of you to continue urging the best and the brightest to apply. If you have time, I urge you to drop each one of these new colonel selects a brief note.

I would like to close my column with a final word of recognition and thanks for the outstanding service that our retiring Executive Vice President has given to the Foundation and its Scholars for almost the last 20 years. Dave Estep has served on the Staff for more than 16 years, and he was a member of the Board of Directors for an additional two years. Dave has helped countless Scholars and candidates. He always insured that if there was a problem or any kind of an issue, he was there to fix it. I personally, and the entire Staff, will miss him and his beautiful wife Susan tremendously. Collectively, they have now finished their third career, and they are extremely excited about beginning their fourth: **GRANDPARENTS!**

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

## Estep retires from Olmsted Foundation after 18 Years of Service

Olmsted Executive Vice President David Estep (OSC 1986, Dijon) retired from service with the Foundation on October 31, 2021 after more than 18 years of faithful service to the organization.

A 1978 graduate of the US Air Force Academy, Colonel Estep served for 26 years on active duty as a mobility pilot. His service included multiple deployments to the Middle East and places all around the globe. As a Scholar, Estep studied French at the Defense Language Institute, received a Diplome in International Law from the University of Bourgogne in Dijon, France, and earned an MPA from the Kennedy School at Harvard. He later went on to command the 437th Air Expeditionary Group at Rhein-Main AB in Germany. During his final two years in uniform, he served as the Foundation's active duty Director for the US Air Force.



Admiral Tidd and General Scott present Colonel Estep with a farewell gift upon his retirement from the Foundation staff.

Colonel Estep joined the Foundation Staff in 2005 as Vice President for Special Programs. In that role, he created the Foundation's undergraduate program with Service academies and Senior Military Colleges. When a sudden terminal illness forced former Executive Vice President Bob Yablonski to retire in 2008, Estep assumed that position. Ever since then, he has successfully managed the Olmsted Scholar Program and the Foundation's budget through times of continuity and change.

During his years of service to the Foundation, Colonel Estep was involved in the selection of more than half the 727 Scholars selected since inception of the program, including nearly every Scholar currently on active duty today. These Scholars, and the many important systems and procedures Colonel Estep devised and put in place at the Foundation, will be a lasting legacy for many years to come.

Colonel Estep and his wife, Susan, plan to enjoy their retirement in the Dallas Ft. Worth, Texas area near their children and grandchildren.

## Foundation Welcomes Cosden as New Vice President



The Foundation is pleased to welcome Col (Ret.) Sean Cosden (OSC 06, Sofia), US Air Force, as its new Vice President/Secretary. Retiring from the Air Force after 24 years of service, Cosden is a 1997 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and attended Sofia University *St. Kliment Ohridski* where he earned a Master of Arts degree in International Political Relations and Security. His most recent assignment

was as the Director of Operations (A3) for Ninth Air Force (Air Forces Central), Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina. Cosden additionally served as the Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché to the Republic of Ireland and subsequently commanded the 370th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group, leading the Air Forces' train, advise, and assist mission to the Iraqi Air Force. An A-10 pilot with over 220 combat hours, Cosden has received the Legion of Merit and Defense Meritorious Service Medal among other awards.

## Mulvaney Wins 2021 Yablonski Award



Barbara and Paul Daniel present the 2021 Yablonski award to Lt Col (Ret.) Brendan Mulvaney (OSC 03, Shanghai).

The 2021 Robert Yablonski Esprit Award was presented to Lt Col (Ret.) Brendan Mulvaney (OSC 03, Shanghai) at the Annual Meeting in September. The award is named for Robert Yablonski (OSC 80, Lyon), who served as the Foundation's Executive Vice President and on the Board of Directors. The award was presented by his widow, Barbara, and her husband, Paul Daniel.

The citation for this year's award reads in part: "Over the years, Brendan has served as an ambassador for the Olmsted Foundation and its programs. An outspoken advocate and recruiter for the OSP, both within the Marine Corps and at the US Naval Academy, Brendan has assisted interested candidates and mentored many Scholars post-OSP on their career options and helped them identify opportunities to leverage their Olmsted experience."



## CENTENNIAL OF HISTORIC OLMSTED BROTHERS MEETING

On November 26, 1921, the 24th Army-Navy Game took place at the Polo Grounds in New York City before a crowd of roughly 45,000 spectators. In attendance at the game were Vice President and Mrs. Coolidge, Secretary of War John W. Weeks, and Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Robert E. Coontz. Cadet First Captain and regimental commander, George H. Olmsted of Iowa, led the West Point Corps of Cadets as they marched onto the field that cold, rainy day. Likewise, his older brother, Jerauld L. Olmsted, who served as commander of the regiment at Annapolis, led his fellow midshipmen onto the field. Their meeting 100 years ago on the “fields of friendly strife” was the only time in history that two brothers ever led their respective academies as they marched on to support their teams in the annual Army-Navy game.



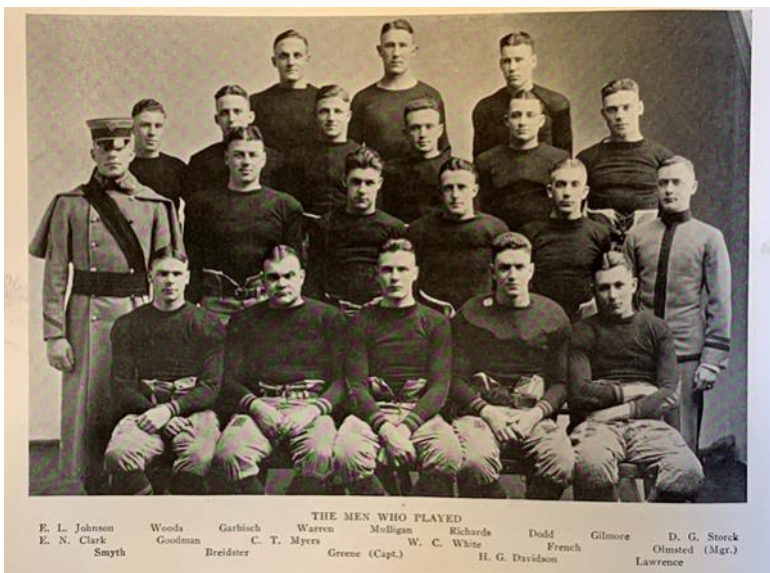
George H. Olmsted, 1922 *Howitzer*.

The game itself was a long, hard, physical slog in the mud. Army, led by legendary coach Charles Daly, hoped to use its speed to drive the ball in spurts and score touchdowns quickly. But as various contemporary accounts of the game attest, it was Navy that proved the stronger team, leading Army in passes, yards gained, tackles, and first downs. After a sustained defensive struggle, Navy found the end zone toward the close of the first half to take a one touchdown lead. Army battled furiously throughout the second half, but the Cadets were never able to score. In the end, Navy prevailed 7-0 and took an overall lead in the series with 12 wins to 11 for Army, with one tie.



Jerauld L. Olmsted, 1922 *Lucky Bag*.

Although George and Jerauld Olmsted were both members of the Class of 1922, they were a year apart in age, with Jerauld the elder of the two. However, both had been selected as leaders of their respective schools in 1921, and for good reasons.



The 1921 US Military Academy football team. George Olmsted, who managed the team, is shown at the far right, second row in dress gray.

As a Cadet, George Olmsted excelled in every endeavor he pursued. In addition to serving as Cadet First Captain, he graduated ranked second in his class, was elected class president three years in a row, managed the Army football team, and was the featherweight boxing champion. He also served as the first chairman of the Cadet Honor Committee, which had been established by Superintendent Douglas MacArthur to provide a regulated process to govern enforcement of the Cadet Honor Code. Above all, George was always a truly selfless leader and admired friend.

Jerauld Olmsted enjoyed an equal level of success as a midshipman at Annapolis. Not only did he serve as commander of what, at the time, was a Regiment of Midshipmen, he graduated ranked first in his class academically, led and managed the soccer team, and served as editor-in-chief of the yearbook. Having spent a year in the Navy prior to arriving at Annapolis, he was also a trusted mentor and valued tutor to his grateful classmates. Like his brother, he was admired and highly respected by his classmates.

1921 was a fascinating year for cadets and midshipmen alike. All those who had entered West Point and Annapolis during the summer of 1918 had done so during final year of World War I. With the country at war, cadets at West Point had been told initially that their class would graduate in three years in order to help bring new officers into the Army more quickly. However, after the armistice, and over the course of the ensuing two years, it became apparent that the Army was once again shrinking rapidly and would not need so many officers so quickly. George Olmsted was named First Captain by MacArthur at the beginning of his third year at West Point.

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His selection at that point in time was predicated on the belief that he and his classmates would all graduate in June of 1921. But not long thereafter, Congress got involved and decided to return West Point and Annapolis to the four-year courses of instruction that were the established norm. In another rare historical occurrence, George Olmsted and his classmates were given the option to graduate in three years or remain for the full four-year program. Persuaded in large measure by example of their class president, nearly every member of what then became the West Point Class of 1922 decided to remain at the academy for the fourth year. Consequently, George Olmsted's tenure as First Captain was extended by MacArthur into the 1921-22 academic year, thus making him the only Cadet First Captain who served in that position for a period of longer than one academic year.

George and Jerauld Olmsted would go on to win significant notoriety at the time of their near simultaneous graduations from West Point and Annapolis. The New York Times published a large, two-page spread showcasing the graduation ceremonies and highlighting the fact that both brothers had been selected and served as the top leaders of their respective academies.

Tragically, just a year after graduating from Annapolis Jerauld died suddenly of an unknown illness believed to have been polio or spinal meningitis. Jerauld's death spurred George to leave active duty and return to Iowa to support his father and the growing family insurance business. Over the following 20 years, George built a network of insurance companies and banks throughout the central parts of United States that thrived and survived throughout the Great Depression and into the 1940s.



George and Jerauld Olmsted lead USMA cadets and USNA midshipmen onto the field at New York City's Polo Grounds on November 26, 1921.

George was recalled to active duty in World War II, during which he served once again under Douglas MacArthur, this time in the China Theater of Operations. During his service in China, George became convinced that the greatest American military leaders must be educated broadly. After serving once again during the Korean War, George returned permanently to civilian life and expanded his very successful banking and insurance conglomerate on the international level.



The New York Times the morning after the game.

In 1959, George Olmsted established The Olmsted Foundation and endowed the Olmsted Scholar Program to provide outstanding young military leaders an opportunity to learn a foreign language, pursue graduate studies overseas, and acquire an in-depth understanding of foreign cultures to better equip them to serve as senior leaders in the armed forces. Since then, a total of 727 military officers have been selected as Olmsted Scholars, including 140 graduates of West Point. These graduates are memorialized on the large perpetual plaque that hangs in the third floor rotunda of Thayer Hall just outside Robinson auditorium.

George Olmsted later became a major benefactor to West Point and other Service academies. In 1986, he donated the funds needed to establish the West Point Museum, now known as Olmsted Hall, on the grounds of the former Ladycliff College in Highland Falls, just outside Thayer Gate. As part of this development, the entire contents of the former museum, housed until that time in Thayer Hall, were removed and relocated at the new museum.

Looking back today – a century removed from this unique and historic game – the legacies of George and Jerauld Olmsted can still be felt by cadets, midshipmen, academy alumni, and anyone else who attends or watches this year's Army-Navy Game. It is a legacy of service. It is a legacy of excellence and achievement. But in George's case, perhaps most of all it is a legacy of leadership and generosity to the beloved, rock-bound Highland home that made him the man he later became.



## Olmsted Foundation Welcomes Three New Directors

The Foundation's Board of Directors elected three new Directors effective at its October 20, 2021 meeting.



**LTG (Ret.) Nadja West** retired in 2019 as the Surgeon General of the US Army. Previously she commanded Europe Regional Medical Command, as well as several US Army Hospitals. She is also on the Board of Trustees of Mount Saint Mary's University. General West is a 1982 graduate of the US Military Academy, and received her MD in 1988 from George Washington University.



**COL Robert Gleckler** (OSC 04, Bochum) has joined the Olmsted Board as the new US Army Active Duty Director. He is currently the Army Senior Plans Advisor, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense – Policy, Plans & Posture Directorate. COL Gleckler is a 1996 graduate of Towson University, and received an MA at Ruhr University as an Olmsted Scholar.



**LtCol Matthew Crouch** (OSC 09, Shanghai) is the new US Marine Corps Active Duty Director. He is currently a Strategist on the Joint Staff J7 Joint Force Integration, Joint Force Development Team. LtCol Crouch graduated from the US Naval Academy in 2000, earned an MA in Political Science from University of Maryland in 2001, and an MBA from Fudan University as an Olmsted Scholar.

## Olmsted Team Completes Light the Night Walk



Olmsted Scholars and families gather in Reston, Virginia for the annual Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night event.

For the thirteenth year, the Olmsted Foundation participated in the annual Light the Night walk in Reston, Virginia, sponsored by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The Olmsted team walks 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).

As of publication, the Olmsted team had raised over \$25,500 this year, and was ranked in the top five corporate teams. Over the last 13 years, Olmsted Foundation teams have raised a total of more than \$150,000 to support the fight against blood cancers.

Thank you to all the Scholars and family members who supported or donated to this year's event. More information about the Light the Night walk can be found at:

<https://pages.ils.org/ltn/nca/NorthVA21/thegeorgecarololmstedfoundation>

## Scholars Earn Honors

Lt Col T. Justin Bronder (OSC 14, Poznan), US Air Force, spent last year studying at National War College. During the year, he was competitively selected as a National Defense University Scholar to work on a USSTRATCOM-sponsored project on future options for nuclear arms control. He completed National War College as a distinguished graduate and earned the NWC Alumni Association Traeger Award for excellence in writing - one of the top awards NWC offers.

Col Fernando Cruz (OSC 13, Moscow), US Air Force, recently graduated from the Eisenhower School at National Defense University as a distinguished graduate.

Congratulations to these successful Olmsted Scholars on their accomplishments during their war college year.

## Olmsted Scholar Promotions and Selections

### Selected by the US Air Force for Wing Command:

- ◆ Col Barry E. Little (OSC 07, Nanjing)

### Selected by the US Air Force for Group Command:

- ◆ Col Dean E. Berck (OSC 10, Rio de Janeiro)
- ◆ Col John W. Blocher (OSC 09, Budapest)
- ◆ Col Thomas J. Graham (OSC 11, Krakow)

### Selected by the US Air Force for Senior Development Education:

- ◆ Lt Col Melissa L. Dombrock, (OSC 2015, Rabat)
- ◆ Lt Col Patrick R. Parrish, (OSC 2016, Santiago)
- ◆ Lt Col Maureen E. Tanner, (OSC 2012, Strasbourg)
- ◆ Lt Col Lewis M. Vaughn III (OSC 2009, Nanjing)

### Selected by the US Army for Senior Service College:

- ◆ LTC Joshua Kaser (OSC 09, St. Petersburg)
- ◆ LTC Walter Reed IV (OSC 12, Cadiz)
- ◆ LTC Joshua Taylor (OSC 09, Buenos Aires)
- ◆ LTC Kenneth Wainwright, Jr. (OSC 12, Jerusalem)

### Selected by the US Army for promotion to Major:

- ◆ CPT Joseph Bailey (OSC 21, Aux-en-Provence)
- ◆ CPT Frederick Beebe (OSC 21, Rio de Janeiro)

## IN MEMORIAM

CAPT (Ret.) Lawrence Ewert (OSC 66, Florence),  
US Navy.

## Scholar Selected for CGA Athletic Hall of Fame

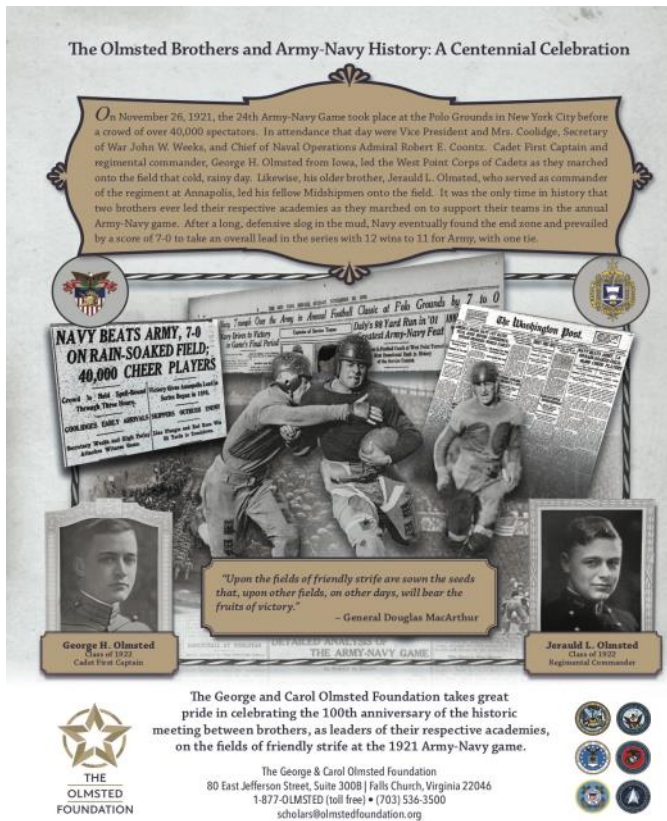


The US Coast Guard honored its most recent inductees into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Olmsted Scholar LCDR Melissa Marinelli (OSC 18, Buenos Aires) is pictured at front row center.

LCDR Melissa Martinelli (OSC 18, Buenos Aires) was recently inducted into the Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame.

Martinelli was a star basketball player for the Coast Guard Academy Bears during her time as a cadet. She is the team's all-time leader with 1,853 points and 906 rebounds. She holds the school record for career field goal percentage (.507) and points per game (17.5). She was a three-time All-NEWMAC first team selection, one of only two players in program history to earn first team honors for three straight seasons. She was also named the 2006-'07 NEWMAC Rookie of the Year.

She led the Bears to the only championship in program history when the team won the 2008 ECAC Championship by registering a school record 25 wins to finish 25-5.



The George and Carol Olmsted Foundation  
 80 East Jefferson Street, Suite 300B  
 Fall Church, VA 22046

Advertisement placed in the football programs of the US Naval Academy, US Military Academy and US Air Force Academy honoring the centennial of the 1921 Army Navy game.

## Foundation and Scholars in the News

ADM (Ret.) Jamie Foggo (OSC 87, Strasburg), US Navy, *DOD Reads* podcast, <https://anchor.fm/dodreads/episodes/Admiral-James-Foggo--USN-Ret-e165s1q>

The Honorable Kristie Kenney, *DOD Reads* podcast, <https://anchor.fm/dodreads/episodes/Season-3-Kickoff---Ambassador-Kristie-Kenney-e14oq6r>

CAPT (Ret.) David Sauve (OSC 01, Santiago), US Navy, "Repeal of the Copper Law: new opportunities" in *El Mostrador* <https://www.elmostrador.cl/noticias/opinion/2021/09/22/derogacion-de-la-ley-del-cobre-nuevas-opportunidades/>

COL (Ret.) David Mosinski (OSC 90, Zurich), US Army, *Life Lessons and Lost Wars: Army Episodes across 5 Decades (1977-2019)*, Fulton Books, Inc. <https://fultonbooks.com/books/?book=life-lessons-and-lost-wars>



[www.olmstedfoundation.org](http://www.olmstedfoundation.org)