



THE OLMSTED FOUNDATION

Fall 2025

Volume 14 Issue 4

Anderson Assumes Command of US Africa Command



General Dagvin Anderson (OSC 00, Brno).

Lt Gen Dagvin Anderson (OSC 00, Brno) was recently promoted to General in the US Air Force and is the new commander of US Africa Command. Gen Anderson's previous assignment was as the Director for Joint Force Development (J7) on the Joint Staff. Prior to being assigned as the J7, Anderson was the commander of Special Operations Command-Africa. Anderson is the first US Air Force officer to command US Africa Command.

Gen Anderson is the eighth Olmsted Scholar to achieve four-star rank. He is also a graduate of Washington University in

St. Louis and studied at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic as an Olmsted Scholar. He holds a Master of International Public Policy degree from the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Anderson is also a command pilot with over 3,400 flight hours in a variety of aircraft.

Foundation President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott represented the Olmsted Foundation at the AFRICOM Change of Command at Kelley Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany.



Gen Dagvin Anderson receives the guidon from Navy ADM Christopher Grady, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, during the US Africa Command change of command ceremony (Photo by SSG Emely Eckels).

Hilbert Takes Command of Eighth Army in Korea



Lieutenant General Joseph Hilbert (OSC 03, Leipzig).

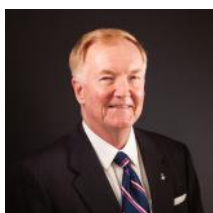
MG Joesph Hilbert (OSC 03, Leipzig) was promoted in October to Lieutenant General and assumed command of the Eighth Army. He also was named Chief of Staff, Combined Forces Command, Republic of Korea.

LTG Hilbert was most recently a special assistant to the Commanding General, United States Army Pacific. Prior to that assignment, he was the Commanding General, 11th Airborne Division and US Army Alaska at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

Hilbert's previous assignments include commander of 7th Army Training Command in Grafenwöhr, Germany, and director of Force Development at the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G8, in Washington, DC

Hilbert is a graduate of Moody Bible College. He received a Master of Arts in European Studies from Leipzig University as an Olmsted Scholar. While at the Army War College, he earned a second Master of Arts in Security Studies.

Chairman's Corner



As I reflect on the events of the last quarter, I am convinced more than ever of the need for Olmsted Scholars deployed in the Joint Force around the globe. The unprecedented attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities underscored the power and global reach of the US military. The conflict in Ukraine continues to exact significant casualties on both sides, increasingly reminiscent of the Great War in which my grandfathers fought after the turn of the 20th century. On a more positive note, continuing pressure on the Iranian-sponsored Axis of Resistance has resulted in the collapse of the Assad regime in Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and Hamas in Gaza. We all rejoiced to see the remaining Israeli hostages released after two long years in captivity. For once, after decades of war, there is a chance for real peace in the Middle East.

Against this backdrop, Olmsted Scholars continue to study and serve in locations all around the world. We at the Foundation are proud of your achievements, and we encourage you to continue to advance the dual agenda of peace and security in your roles as active duty and retired Scholars. On the first Saturday in June, we welcomed the newest class of Olmsted Scholars at our Annual Meeting at the Society of the Cincinnati's Anderson House in Washington, DC. Sold out event!

We recently completed our Fall meeting of our Board of Directors in Washington where we welcomed MG (Ret.) Skip Davis, USA as the newest member of our Board. Skip replaces the venerable LTG (Ret.) Pat Donahue, USA who has just completed eight years of incredible service to the Board. We thank Pat for his service, and we wish him well as he continues to serve the nation and Scholars everywhere.

Finally, I would like to wish all of you a productive and inspiring quarter ahead and a Happy Thanksgiving. Warm regards to you and your families, wherever you are in the world!

James G. Foggo
Admiral, US Navy (Ret.)
Chairman of the Board

President's Perspective



Fall is almost a perfect time in Washington, DC—the air is crisp, the crowds have thinned, and the maples along Rock Creek and the Potomac are beginning to glow in shades of amber and red. Yesterday, the streets of our Nation's Capital came alive as more than 45,000 runners took part in the Marine Corps Marathon, including several of our own Olmsted Scholars. Their perseverance on that course mirrors the commitment and endurance that define our community of warrior-scholars.

This issue of the *Olmsted Foundation Newsletter* highlights exactly what our program was designed to achieve—the **shaping of future warrior leaders**. Across the globe and across every branch of our Armed Forces, Olmsted Scholars are commanding warfighting and combat units at the very tip of the spear. From General Dagvin Anderson leading US Africa Command, to Lieutenant General Joe Hilbert commanding Eighth Army in Korea, to Brigadier General Brian Denaro directing US Space Forces – Indo-Pacific—and Marine Colonel Edward Holton

taking command of the storied 2d Marine Regiment at Camp Lejeune—our graduates are applying the broad perspectives and cultural understanding gained through their Olmsted experiences to lead in some of the most demanding positions in national defense.

Each story in this edition reminds us that the Olmsted vision—to develop leaders with *a broadened understanding of the world and its peoples*—is thriving. Our Scholars are living proof that intellectual curiosity and operational excellence are not competing values but complementary strengths.

As we move deeper into this season of gratitude, I extend my best wishes to all members of the Olmsted family—for your service, for your leadership, and for the example you set. May you enjoy a meaningful Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends, confident that our Foundation's mission continues to bear remarkable fruit.

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

Denaro Appointed US Space Forces – Indo-Pacific Commander



Brigadier General Brian Denaro, newly appointed US Space Forces Indo-Pacific commander, speaks at the SPACEFOR-INDOPAC change of command ceremony (US Air Force photo by SSgt Wren Fiontar).

Brigadier General Brian Denaro (OSC 06, Guangzhou) took command of US Space Forces – Indo-Pacific in July. In this role, he oversees the planning and execution of integrated and synchronized joint, allied and partner space operations to protect and defend US interests in the Indo-Pacific region.

He most recently served as the Director, Plans and Programs, Office of the Chief Strategy and Resource Officer at Headquarters Space Force in the Pentagon.

Brig Gen Denaro is a graduate of the Air Force Academy. As an Olmsted Scholar he earned a Master of Business Administration from Sun Yat-sen University in China.

Denaro was the featured speaker at the 2024 DC Area Scholar Assembly. During his speech, Denaro spoke of emerging threats from adversaries and emphasized how his Olmsted experience taught him to think differently about those threats, reinforcing the idea that military leaders need to be educated broadly.

Denaro also received the 2024 Yablonski Award, given each year to the Olmsted Scholar who best exemplifies enthusiasm for the ideals embodied in the Olmsted Scholar Program and dedication to the Olmsted Foundation.

Holton Takes Command of 2d Marine Regiment



Colonel Edward Holton gives his remarks during the change of command ceremony in July at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (US Marine Corps photo by LCpl Hunter J. Kuester).

Marine Corps Colonel Edward Holton (OSC 13, Bologna) accepted command of the 2d Marine Regiment at Camp Lejeune in July. The mission of the 2d Marine Regiment is to generate, train, and certify forces in order to conduct expeditionary operations in support of II Marine Expeditionary Force. Prior to this assignment, Col Holton was the Executive Secretary Military Assistant, in the office of the Secretary of Defense.

Col Holton is a graduate of the US Naval Academy and earned a Master's degree in International Relations at the University of Bologna as an Olmsted Scholar.

Holton served as the Foundation's Active Duty Director for the Marine Corps from 2022 - 2024.

Foundation President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott attended the change of command on behalf of the Olmsted Foundation.



Colonel Edward Holton, left, the incoming commanding officer, receives the 2d Marine Regiment unit colors from Col John Roma, the outgoing commanding officer (US Marine Corps photo by LCpl Hunter J. Kuester).

Donahue Farewelled by Foundation Board



Chairman of the Board ADM (Ret.) Jamie Foggo presents LTG (Ret.) Patrick Donahue with a certificate of appreciation.

At the end of the October Foundation Board Meeting LTG (Ret.) Patrick Donahue (OSC 87, Innsbruck) was farewelled and thanked by Chairman of the Board ADM (Ret.) Jamie Foggo (OSC 87, Strasbourg) for his years of service as a director of the Foundation. He was presented with a certificate of appreciation and other small gifts honoring his eight years as a Director.

LTG (Ret.) Donahue retired from the US Army in 2017. His final two assignments were as the Deputy Commanding General, US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) at Fort Bragg, NC, and as Commanding General, US Army Africa/Southern European Task Force in Vicenza, Italy.

Since retirement he has been a Vice President at Lockheed Martin.

Donahue is a 1980 graduate of the US Military Academy and holds two Master's degrees. As an Olmsted Scholar he studied in Innsbruck, Austria.

Foundation Board Welcomes New Director

At the October meeting of the Olmsted Foundation Board of Directors, MG (Ret.) Gordon (Skip) B. Davis Jr. (OSC 89, Montpellier) was welcomed as a new director. Davis fills the seat vacated by LTG (Ret.) Pat Donahue (OSC 87, Innsbruck).

MG (Ret.) Davis is the former J3, US European Command and former commander, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan.

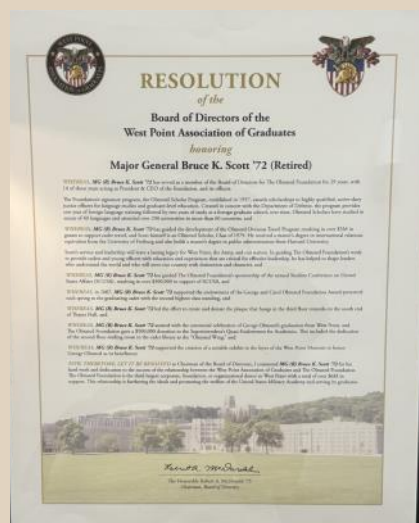
Davis is a 1981 graduate of the US Military Academy and holds several Master's degrees, including two from the University of Montpellier III / Paul-Valery, earned while he was an Olmsted Scholar.

Since 2021, Davis has been a Senior Fellow at the Center for European Policy Analysis; a Senior Research Fellow at the Arthur D. Simons Center for Ethical Leadership & Interagency Cooperation; and a member of The Alphen Group.



MG (Ret.) Gordon (Skip) B. Davis Jr. (OSC 89, Montpellier).

Scott Honored by West Point Association of Graduates



The certificate awarded to Foundation President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott.

Foundation President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott (OSC 79, Freiburg) traveled to the US Military Academy in mid-October to attend the Student Conference on US Affairs (SCUSA). The annual conference is funded in part by the Olmsted Foundation.

During his visit, Scott was presented with a certificate signed by the Honorable Robert A. McDonald, Chairman of the Board of the West Point Association of Graduates. The certificate honors Scott's many years of service and the role he played to forge a strong relationship between the Olmsted Foundation and West Point.

The certificate reads in part "Now, therefore, let it be resolved as Chairman of the Board of Directors, I commend MG (R) Bruce K. Scott '72 for his hard work and dedication to the success of the relationship between the West Point Association of Graduates and The Olmsted Foundation."

While at West Point, Scott also briefed a group of cadets pursuing graduate scholarships about the Olmsted Scholar Program.

Foundation Supports Virginia Tech Global Scholars Program



Executive Vice President COL (Ret.) Mark Elfendahl and MajGen (Ret.) William Seely display the signed MOU between the Foundation and Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (Photo by Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets).

The Olmsted Foundation and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets recently concluded a new agreement by which future Olmsted overseas travel grants to Virginia Tech will be used to support the Corps of Cadets' Global Scholars Program.

On September 8, 2025, Foundation President and CEO, MG (Ret.) Bruce K. Scott, USA and the Commandant of the Corps of Cadets, MajGen (Ret.) William Seely, USMC jointly signed a memorandum of understanding establishing the new relationship. The Global Scholars Program is a merit-based opportunity offered to top-performing cadet leaders at Virginia

Tech. It offers them the opportunity to travel abroad and apply history to better understand the complexities of international issues facing the United States today.

At a signing ceremony at the Corps of Cadets headquarters in Blacksburg, Virginia, MajGen Seely expressed his enthusiasm for the new relationship and suggested the Global Scholars Program might be expanded to include a wider variety of overseas destinations, including those in both Europe and Asia. Representing the Olmsted Foundation, Executive Vice President COL (Ret.) Mark Elfendahl agreed and emphasized how the program provides cadets the opportunity to learn about the history of their chosen profession and deepen their appreciation for the profession of arms, while also being exposed to foreign countries, languages, and cultures. He added that, as part of the new agreement, Olmsted grants would be used only for cadets on track to receive active-duty commissions in one of the Armed Services.

Planning for the coming year of overseas travel in Europe is already underway, and a number of cadet leaders have already begun to express interest in the opportunity. Among the recent graduates of Virginia Tech's Global Scholars Program is US Navy Lieutenant Kyrsten Dallanegra, who was selected earlier this year as a member of the Olmsted Scholar Class of 2026 and is slated to study in Valparaíso, Chile starting next year.

Dann Takes Strike Fighter Squadron Command

Commander William Dann (OSC 21, Coimbra) assumed command of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 103 in September at a change of command at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The squadron flies the F/A-18F Super Hornet.

After two combat deployments from 2010-2013 in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, CDR Dann was selected to attend the Empire Test Pilot School at Boscombe Down, United Kingdom. Prior to becoming an Olmsted Scholar, Dann was a test pilot at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland.

Dann is a graduate of the US Naval Academy and holds several Master's degrees, including a Masters in International Relations earned as an Olmsted Scholar in Coimbra, Portugal.

President and CEO MG (Ret.) Bruce Scott attended the change of command on behalf of the Foundation.



Commander William Dann (OSC 21, Coimbra).

Wall Assumes Wing Command

The 22d Air Refueling Wing welcomed Colonel Joseph Wall (OSC 12, Freiburg) as its new commander during a change of command ceremony on July 28th at McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas. The guidon was passed to Col Wall in a ceremony presided over by Maj Gen Charles D. Bolton, Eighteenth Air Force commander.

Col Wall comes to McConnell from Royal Air Force Mildenhall in the United Kingdom, where he served as deputy commander of the 100th Air Refueling Wing. He began his flying career in the KC-10, with assignments at Travis Air Force Base, California, and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.



Col Joseph Wall (OSC 12, Freiburg) and his wife Trysta, with children Tavin, Tenley, and Trace.

Wall is a graduate of the University of Miami, Florida. As an Olmsted Scholar, he earned a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg and holds two other Masters degrees.

Wall is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours, including 800 hours in combat and combat support missions.

Join Us for Light the Night 2025



Olmsted Foundation Light the Night teams have been highly successful in previous years.

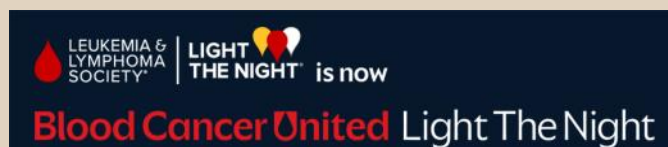
Join us at 7:00 PM on Friday, November 7th at Reston Town Center for this year's Light the Night event!

The Olmsted Foundation Team will once again come together in memory of Colonel Robert Yablonski (OSC 80, Lyon), Captain Steve Murphy (OSC 96, Kyiv) and Brigadier General Tony Smith (OSC 62, Paris), and in support of the ongoing fight against leukemia and lymphoma.

Our team—made up of Olmsted Scholars, their families, and friends—is proud to continue raising critical funds to help find a cure. Last year, we raised over \$25,000, and over the past sixteen years, Olmsted teams have contributed more than \$217,000 to this vital cause.

We invite you to join the team or make a donation to help us reach new heights in the 2025 fund drive.

Visit our team page <https://pages.ils.org/ltm/nca/NorthVA25/thegeorgecarololmstedfoundation> to be part of the effort that brings hope and honors those we remember.



Olmsted Scholar Promotions and Selections

Promoted to General in the US Air Force and Assigned as Commander, US Africa Command:

- ◆ Lt Gen Dagvin Anderson (OSC 00, Brno)

Promoted to Lieutenant General in the US Army and Assigned as Commander, Eighth Army and Chief of Staff, Combined Forces Command, Korea:

- ◆ MG Joseph Hilbert (OSC 03, Leipzig)

Selected for Regiment Command by the US Marine Corps:

- ◆ Col Robert Gerbracht (OSC 09, Kyoto)

Selected for O-6 Command by the US Air Force:

- ◆ Col John Blocher (OSC 09, Budapest)
- ◆ Col Timothy Bronder (OSC 14, Poznań)
- ◆ Col Daniel Wynn (OSC 15, Guilin)
- ◆ Col Kevin Anderson (OSC 17, Valparaíso)

Selected for O-6 Command by the US Air Force (Alternate):

- ◆ Col Scott Wallace (OSC 13, New Delhi)
- ◆ Col Thomas Walsh (OSC 14, Ljubljana)

Selected for promotion to Colonel by the US Marine Corps:

- ◆ LtCol Nicholas Freeman (OSC 11, Hangzhou)
- ◆ LtCol James Armstrong (OSC 14, Podgorica)
- ◆ LtCol Michael Walls (OSC 14, Kyiv)
- ◆ LtCol Ryan Stevens (OSC 15, Kiel)
- ◆ LtCol Colin Culkin (OSC 16, Xiamen)

Selected by the US Air Force for Senior Developmental Education:

- ◆ Lt Col John Gerlach (OSC 18, Lyon)
- ◆ Lt Col Hunter Grunden (OSC 19, Aix-en-Provence)
- ◆ Lt Col Thomas Daniels (OSC 21, Granada)

Selected for Senior Service College by the US Army:

- ◆ LTC Ronald Garberson (OSC 13, Chiang Mai)
- ◆ LTC Michael Kendall (OSC 13, Hangzhou)
- ◆ LTC Tim Boswell (OSC 14, Paris)
- ◆ LTC Dale Trakas (OSC 14, Istanbul)
- ◆ LTC Andrew Hightower (OSC 15, Kuala Lumpur)
- ◆ LTC Jonathan Nielsen (OSC 15, Buenos Aires)

Selected by the US Air Force for Senior Developmental Education (Alternate):

- ◆ Lt Col Esther Anderson (OSC 20, Seoul)

Selected by the US Air Force for O-5 Command:

- ◆ Lt Col Nicholas Burke (OSC 17, Tel Aviv)
- ◆ Lt Col Christopher Bukowski (OSC 20, Tokyo)
- ◆ Lt Col Adam Bergoo (OSC 21, Santiago)
- ◆ Lt Col Jason Johnson (OSC 21, Kraków)
- ◆ Lt Col Ryan Fortney (OSC 22, Buenos Aires)

Selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel by the US Marine Corps:

- ◆ Maj Kyle Faherty (OSC 16, Rabat)
- ◆ Maj Nathan Liversedge (OSC 17, Tbilisi)
- ◆ Maj Michael McHugh (OSC 20, Florianópolis)
- ◆ Maj Michael Sweeney (OSC 23, Valencia)

Selected by the US Air Force for Intermediate Developmental Education:

- ◆ Maj Reuben Luone (OSC 24, Thessaloniki)

Promoted to Major by the US Marine Corps:

- ◆ Capt Mike Jacobs (OSC 26, Bratislava)

Please help the Foundation keep your record current. All Olmsted Scholars are encouraged to go to the Foundation website and update their Scholar profiles. You can access Scholar profiles by going to the Foundation website at <https://olmstedfoundation.org/> and clicking login on the top right corner.

Scholars in the News

ADM (Ret.) Jamie Foggo (OSC 87, Strasbourg), US Navy, Holding the Front Line Against Terrorism: NATO's Essential Role in Iraq, *The Jerusalem Strategic Tribune*, <https://jstribune.com/foggo-natos-essential-role-in-iraq/>.

Col Phoenix Hauser (OSC 08, Beijing), US Space Force, 'Sparring in space' – BBC gains rare access to US base tracking global missile strikes, *BBC*, <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cy8k2nd7e9no>.

Col Phoenix Hauser (OSC 08, Beijing), US Space Force, Inside America's space missile tracking hub, *BBC*, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3SCdY40lqQ&ab_channel=BBCNews.

OSC 2026 Welcomes LCDR Benjamin Field

OSC 2026 Scholars studying at DLI East had the opportunity to meet LCDR Benjamin Field (OSC 26, Almaty) during his recent Scholar orientation in Falls Church. Field was at sea during the June 2025 orientation. He will study Russian at DLI West before moving to Kazakhstan.



Olmsted Scholars studying at DLI East and their families meet for dinner to welcome LCDR Benjamin Field to OSC 26.



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



www.olmstedfoundation.org