

WEST POINT SOCIETY OF DC

Winter 2019



**Winter Luncheon
Leadership and Ethics Conference
Career Networking Night
Founders Day**

WEST POINT SOCIETY OF DC

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President

KEITH WALKER '76

Vice President
PAT KANE '73

Executive Director
RICK FRENCH '86

Treasurer
RICK POLO '80

Secretary
GINNI GUITON '85

Asst Exec Director
PATRICK CLANCEY '03

Assistant Treasurer
VACANT

Membership
JOE SIMONELLI '87

Communications/PR
GABRIELLE QUATSE '10

Community Service
SARAH KOMM '07

Member Services
GEOFF PROSCH '69

Marketing/Development
MIKE ANDERSON '04

Admissions
RICH HUH '94

Career Services
CARL SAVINO '78

Leadership & Ethics
MARGARET BURCHAM '82
BRYAN WATSON '82

Diversity & Inclusion
TERRON SIMS II '00

Founders Day
BECCA LLOYD '04

Women Grads
VACANT

Athletics & Clubs
CHARLEY MITCHELL '73

Young Grads
BRANDON ARCHULETA '06

Special Activities
DAVE ROGERS '74

Old Guard
TESSA KNIGHT

Website Coordinator
CHUCK NICHOLS '65

Nominations
KRISTIN FRENCH '86

Parents Club
DAVE REICHENTHAL

Newsletter
JOEL LEVESQUE '89

Parliamentarian
CHRIS SOUCIE '92

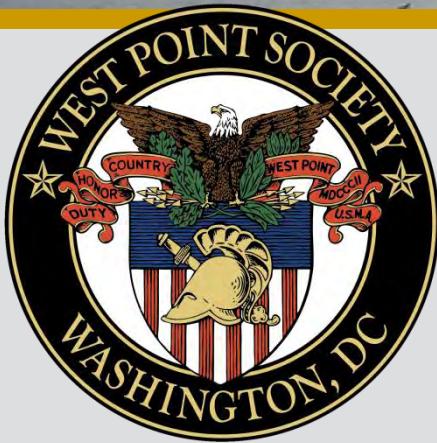
Senior Advisory Group
BILL DeGRAF '50

Advisors at Large
ANDRES PLOOMPUU '81
MARK TROUTMAN '85

WPSDC Address:
P.O. Box 40007
Arlington, VA 22204-7007

LTG (R) LARRY JORDAN '68
HERMAN BULLS '78
KATE KOHLER '96

WEST POINT SOCIETY OF DC



**Wednesday
23 January 2019**

**11:30-1:00 pm
Winter Luncheon**

**Patton Hall
Fort Myer
Arlington, Virginia**

<https://wpsdc.hivebrite.com/events/12644>

**RSVP NLT
Saturday
19 January 2019**

Winter Luncheon Speaker

Cadet First Captain David Bindon '19

Hailing from Canton, Michigan, David Bindon is the Brigade Commander, or First Captain, of 4,491 cadets at West Point.

While studying mechanical engineering, David has completed a number of technical projects: Fluid Dynamics analysis in urban and rural landscapes; a written primer for future cadets' use in summing the learning curve associated with his research; and porting flight software to cheaper, faster, and commercially available single board computers for the Joint Precision Airdrop System used in the theater of war.



Aside from his academic pursuits, David largely dedicates his time to the development of others. He has served in various leadership positions, ranging from a mentor for 22 high schoolers interested in the Academy to the commander of 1,430 cadets in a crucible summer training experience.

Having been recently selected as a Marshall Scholar, David will commission as an Aviation Officer in May and spend the following two years in the United Kingdom studying at the London School of Economics before reporting to Fort Rucker for flight school.



Winter 2018

Volume 1
Winter 2019

CONTENTS

- Pg 3 Winter Luncheon Speaker Bio
- Pg 5 Letter from the President
- Pg 7 Founders Day
- Pg 9 Community Service
- Pg 10 Leadership and Ethics Conference
- Pg 11 Career Advisory Services
- Pg 12 Admissions Report
- Pg 13 Nominations Report
- Pg 14 Membership



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 19 JAN West Point Women's Tennis at Annapolis
- 23 JAN Winter Luncheon
- 14 MAR West Point Leadership and Ethics Conference
- 21 MAR Career Networking Night
- 30 MAR Founders Day
- 12 APR West Point Leadership Ethics and Diversity in STEM (WPLEADS)

Letter From the President

Keith Walker '76



Dear Fellow Graduates,

For the third time in a row, Army beat Navy in the 119th Army-Navy Game, 17-10. Having defeated Air Force on 3 November 2018, the victory over Navy means that Army wins the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy for the second straight year. The Army team ended its season with a 70-14 win over Houston on 22 December 2018 in the Armed Forces Bowl. This year's total of 11 wins is the most in Army history! Next season, we extend the winning streak over Navy on Saturday, 14 December 2019, in Philadelphia.

WPSDC Luncheons.

Secretary of the Army Mark Esper '86 was a gracious keynote speaker at our **Fall Luncheon** on 19 September 18. He provided an update on our Army, his thoughts on the future, and stayed on to take questions. The Class of '86 was well represented!

We are excited to have **Cadet First Captain David Bindon '19**, of Canton, Michigan, as our **Winter Luncheon** keynote speaker. David will share his unique perspective on the Corps on Wednesday, 23 January at Patton Hall on Ft. Myer. Selected as a Marshall scholar, Cadet Bindon will commission Aviation in May and spend the following two years in the United Kingdom studying at the London School of Economics before reporting to Fort Rucker for flight school.

Military Officer Job Fair. Our Society held another successful **Military Officer Job Fair** on 5 December 2018 at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington. Our Grads and other military officers in career transition had an opportunity to interview face-to-face with 32 top companies, representing a wide array of industries. The companies were impressed by the quality of the candidates, their diverse experiences, and the organization and execution of the event. If you will be transitioning to a new job/career in 2019, recommend you attend both the upcoming **Military Officer Career Networking Nights** (21 March 2019 and 13 June 2019) and the 19 July 2019 **Military Officer Job Fair**. While these events are open to all officers in career transition, the primary focus is on our fellow Grads. Contact our Career Advisory Services Chair, **Carl Savino '78**, WPSDC.CareerServices@gmail.com if you have questions.



Letter From the President

Keith Walker '76



Founders Day 2019. **Founders Day 2019** is fast approaching -- Saturday, 30 March 2019 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington. **LTG Darryl A. Williams '83**, the 60th Superintendent, will be our guest speaker. Please see the Society's Website at <https://wpsdc.org> for details on the program.

Governance. The Society Board of Directors approved the new bylaws for the WPSDC and the WPSDC Foundation on 28 August 2018. These documents are posted on the website, along with the constitutions.

I Am pleased to announce that the WPSDC now has four Senior Advisors: COL (Ret) **Bill DeGraf '50**, **LTG (Ret) Larry Jordan '68**, **Mr. Herman Bulls '78**, and **Ms. Kate Kohler '96**. Senior Advisors serve to advise the President, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors on matters pertaining to the Society's affairs.

The Board of Directors has nominated **Ms. Gabby Quatse '10** as Chair of the Communications Committee. The General Membership will vote to confirm Gabby at the upcoming Winter Luncheon on 23 January.

Membership and Volunteers. If you are already a member of the West Point Society of DC, we appreciate your ongoing commitment, and hope that you will encourage your classmates to join. Remember, all of us are AOG members, but you must sign up to be a Society member. If you are not yet a member, go to <https://wpsdc.org> and join. You can keep up to date on all activities and events at this website.

Your Society depends on volunteers – please let me or any Board member know if you are willing and able to help. Current priority is to fill the (1) Activities Committee Chairperson vacancy and (2) Founders Day (FD) Subcommittees vacancies.

Specifically, our FD Chair, **Becca Lloyd '04**, needs a deputy who will help with the overall planning and execution of FD. The FD Sponsorship Sub-Committee needs at least 3 people (a Chair and two supporters) -- this is critical as the efforts of this group helps keep our ticket prices down. We also need two volunteers to help guests as they navigate and register on the website. Finally, we need several folks to help with registration and seating at Founders Day event itself..

On behalf of your West Point Society of DC, thank you for your interest in and contributions to West Point. GO ARMY! BEAT NAVY!

Keith
KEITH C. WALKER, '76
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army, Retired
President, West Point Society of the District of Columbia
and the National Capital Region



Founders Day

Becca Lloyd '04



Get your cocktail & formal attire ready! Founders Day 2019 is right around the corner, **30 March 2019 at Crystal Gateway Marriott in Crystal City, Virginia.** Our guest speaker this year is our **Superintendent, LTG Darryl A. Williams '83.** The menu has been tasted and selected. All guests will have their choice of beef, chicken, salmon or vegetarian dish! Beat Navy Cake for all and a sweet treat surprise for those who stay for the after-party! #WPSDCFD2019

This year we are excited to announce a new concept. Anyone who wants to forgo the dinner can purchase tickets to the reception and after-party only! This will accommodate everyone no matter how they prefer to celebrate the founding of our alma mater! The after-party will have a live band for entertainment and dancing into the night. Early Bird Ticket Sales start 21 January 2019.



MAKING RESERVATIONS

A dedicated website is now available for attendees to book their hotel rooms online. Rooms start at \$159.

Reservations can be booked at:

<https://book.passkey.com/e/49774772>



Benny Havens: Early Registration \$30/\$50 (Members (M)/Non-member (NM))

Late Registration \$55/\$70 (M/NM)

\$30 for Cadets & Cadet candidates

~Reception and After-Party (**Formal dinner not included**)

~Cash bar and heavy Hors d'oeuvre (1730-2030)

~No Access pass Grand Ballroom/Screens available to watch

Black and Gold Package: Early Registration: \$75/\$95 (M/NM); Year Group (YG) '14-'18: \$60/\$75 (M/NM)

Late Registration: \$95/\$115 (M/NM); YG '14-'18: \$80/\$95 (M/NM)

~Benny Havens, Dinner, and after-party

Platinum Package for 2: \$350/\$375 (M/NM)

~Benny Havens, Dinner, hotel room, parking & breakfast for 2

~Only available during early registration/limited availability

Class Package \$5500

- Hospitality Suite
- Black & Gold Package for 50 (5 Tables)

Founders Day

Becca Lloyd '04



Founders Day 2019 Event Sponsorship

Would your business benefit from reaching an influential population of USMA Alumni? We invite you to participate in supporting USMA as a **Founders Day Gala sponsor!**

Our event sponsorship packages will allow your business to reach an influential population of USMA alumni who are top-level executives and leaders of national and local businesses, organizations, and in the community. There are promotional opportunities before, during, and after the Founders Day event.

Thayer Package (\$1000) and Toasting Wine Sponsorship (\$1000; also \$500) – Includes 2 tickets to the Founders Day Gala; prominent publicity before, during, and after the Gala

Gray Package (\$1500) – Includes the Thayer Package plus access to 3 WPSDC Career networking nights, 4 tickets to the Gala, half-page company advertisement, and 2 Hot Job Posts on WPSDC Careers page

Black & Gold Package (\$2000) – Includes the Gray Package plus 1 VIP table for dinner (8 tickets to the Gala), a company information table inside the reception, full page company advertisement, and 3 Hot Job Posts on WPSDC Careers page

Platinum Package (\$5000) – Includes the Black & Gold Package plus Hospitality suite to host a pre/post event social, logo features on the Gala cocktail napkins and 5 Hot Job Posts on WPSDC Careers page

Silent Auction Donation (\$100 minimum) – Provide a gift of your services or products (e.g., gift certificate or gift basket) with the proceeds supporting Cadet activities

To participate as a sponsor, please contact the Founders Day Committee at FD_Committee@wpsdc.org or the Sponsorship Sub-Chair Joe Visinski at joe.visinski@gmail.com



Community Service

Sarah Komm '07



ALIVE! Last Saturday Food Distribution - Saturday, 26 January 19, 7:00 - 11:30 am

Come on out to John Adams Elementary School to help distribute donated food to families in need. This is a family-friendly event, so feel free to bring your kids! You can learn more about ALIVE and all they do here <https://www.alive-inc.org/programs.htm>

To volunteer, please contact **Sarah Komm '07** at sarah_komm@yahoo.com NLT 23 January 2019.



Open Volunteer Day at Arcadia Farm – Saturday, 6 April 2019, 9:00 am – Noon (rain or shine)

Come celebrate spring at the first Open Volunteer Day of the new year at Arcadia Farm at Woodlawn! We'll be doing some work on the farm, which can range from collecting eggs and feeding chickens, to painting signs, spreading mulch, or weeding in the gardens- whatever the farm ends up needing that day. Be sure to wear closed-toe shoes and dress for the weather. Gloves and tools will be provided. Kids welcome with adult supervision. Arcadia Farm is a non-profit that focuses on sustainable food practices and includes a program that trains Veterans to become farmers, and distributes fresh produce to schools and underserved communities. You can learn more about them at:

<http://arcadiago.org/programs/arcadia-farm>

Please contact **Sarah Komm '07** at sarah_komm@yahoo.com NLT 15 March 2019 if you would like to participate.

Want to help influence the lives of local students and promote West Point?

The **West Point Leadership and Ethics Conference (WPLEC)** Committee and the **West Point Leadership Ethics and Diversity in STEM (WPLEADS)** Committee are in the middle of planning for WPLEC on 14 March 2019, and WPLEADS on 12 April 2019, and both committees have key planning position vacancies they are looking to fill. They also have day-of volunteer opportunities. If you would like more information on what positions are available or you want to join either the WPLEC or WPLEADS team (or both!), please contact our Community Service Chair, **Sarah Komm '07** at sarah_komm@yahoo.com

Leadership and Ethics

Margaret Burcham '82



Want to make a difference in the lives of local teens AND promote West Point at the same time? Looking for VOLUNTEERS. The 12th Annual West Point Leadership and Ethics Conference (WPLEC) is a GO!! It will take place on 14 March 2019, at George Mason University Arlington Campus. We have 50 schools with 200 students and 55 faculty. We are waiting on a few schools to close out registration. The Logistics and Administration team is putting in place the final touches. Now all we need to make this year another success is...YOU.

We are still looking for a handful of volunteers. No experience or expertise necessary -just a passion to help the next generation of leaders. Check your schedule and if you are going to be available 14 March 2019 – reach out to our volunteers coordinator **Erin Patacsil '93** at erin.patacsil@gmail.com

As a reminder, schools participate in the conference by sending four 11th graders who have been identified as school leaders. Each will learn how to deal with leadership and ethical challenges using West Point's Ethical Decision-Making Model. It is based upon the model and framework taught to Cadets at the United States Military Academy. The day is designed to help develop leaders of character and instill a sense of lifelong integrity. This is accomplished in two ways. First, they will follow a workshop method where the students go through instruction, break-out sessions, and practical exercises, including scenarios that cause them to think and apply the Ethical Decision-Making Model. Second, they will be given the tools and guidance to go and share their learnings with others when they get home.

Several top students will be selected to write essays to win college scholarship awards.

Watch the 2018 video
here: <https://vimeo.com/265744925/571e968269>

We also have a facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/109865202359949/>



Tom Deirlein, '89 thanking the sponsors that made WPLEC 2018 a success!

Career Advisory Services

Carl Savino '78



Are you looking to do a career change in 2019? If so, your Society wants to help! In the coming year, we'll be hosting three **Military Officer Career Networking Nights** (scheduled for 21 March 2019, 13 June 2019, and 14 November 2019) and two **Military Officer Job Fairs** (19 July 2019 and a TBD date in early December). All of these events will be held in the Army Navy Country Club, located at 1700 Army Navy Drive in Arlington, Virginia. While especially for West Point graduates, these events are open to all officers in career transition, regardless of commissioning source or branch of service.

In 2019, we will continue to distribute a monthly Career Advisory Services (CAS) Newsletter to all West Point Grads living in the National Capitol Region. If you are seeking civilian employment, be sure to send a brief, one-paragraph write-up about your background and career interests to WPSDC.CareerServices@gmail.com so that we can include it in the CAS newsletter. We also encourage you to attend the monthly **Joint Service Academy Business Mixers** and the quarterly **Service Academy Career Conferences**, both of which are exclusively for U.S. Service Academy graduates.

Finally, a reminder that we enable current WPSDC members who are working for companies with openings to send a "hot job" or two to WPSDC.CareerServices@gmail.com and it will be posted on the West Point Society of DC website, though you will need to be logged into the site to access the job listings.

For more information on these and other career transition services, visit the Society's webpage (<http://wpsdc.org>) and look for the Career Advisory Services newsletter. Or, to answer questions, email **Carl Savino '78** at WPSDC.CareerServices@gmail.com. We live by our CAS motto – "Grads Helping Grads!"



Admissions Report

Rich Huh, '94



Those familiar with the DC area know that we are fortunate to be replete with talented future leaders who will make up a relatively large percentage of future West Point classes. This year will be no exception for the incoming Class of 2023 as we again expect strong representation from our Northern Virginia & District of Columbia students.

Since our area boasts an overabundance of talent from which to choose, we could use your assistance with our Admissions efforts. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer a very small portion of your time to help talk with students, evaluate them, mentor them, interest them with your whimsical tales of giving dress-offs to your roommate in Gym-Alpha, or any combination of these (except the last one).

For those interested in helping our local Admissions team, **MAJ Tim Light '08**, Southeast Regional Admissions Commander, will conduct an information and training session on Saturday, 9 February, from 0900-1200 at:

**American Legion Post 176
6520 Amherst Ave
Springfield, VA 22150**

For your reference, your local Congressional District Coordinators are:

- 1st Congressional District – **Pete Rayna '88** (peter.j.rayna.civ@mail.mil)
- 5th Congressional District – **Cooper Wright '66** (coopwright@aol.com)
- 8th Congressional District – **Mack Brooks** (son '00) (mack.brooks1@cox.net)
- 10th Congressional District – **Rich Meehan '91** (meehanrj@hotmail.com)
- 11th Congressional District – **Ray McCann '73** (mccannsas@gmail.com)

Lastly, I wanted to thank **COL(Ret) Mike Peffers '82** for his most recent service as our Virginia State Admissions Coordinator. Mike has been a stalwart in leading our NCR Admissions efforts for many years and has enabled hundreds of candidates to gain admission to West Point under his watch. I have assumed the role as your next Admissions coordinator and am grateful to Mike for his past efforts and continuing guidance.

If you are interested in helping to mentor the next generation of West Point leaders and/or planning on attending this informal training, please contact me (rich.huh@gmail.com), one of our District Coordinators, or anyone on our Admissions team. Go Army! Beat Navy!

Nominations Committee

Kristin (Knapp) French '86



What a victory the Army West Point football team had against Navy earlier this month = three-peat! Let's hope their winning trend continues!

So since the Army-Navy football game is over for another year, we know it's time to nominate deserving graduates for two WPSDC awards – the Castle Award and the Distinguished Member Award! Both will be presented at the March 2019 Founders Day

The **Castle Award** is presented to the USMA graduate who has distinguished himself or herself in exemplifying the ideals of West Point – in either a military or civilian capacity. The award recognizes graduates with outstanding qualities and character who have served our country well. To submit a nomination, either an individual or a class needs to submit a justification letter by **20 January 2019** to provide the WPSDC Nominations Committee enough time to review the packets and make their recommendation to the WPSDC Board of Directors. The nomination should contain sufficient supporting information to permit the Committee to evaluate how the nominee exemplifies the ideals of West Point. The nom/recipient must be a USMA Graduate and must be present to receive the award. Residence in the area or membership in the WPSDC is not a criteria.



LTG(R) Guy Swan '76 receiving the 2018 Frederick W. Castle Memorial Award for serving as the President of the WPSDC for five years



Sec Leon Panetta receiving the 2018 Thayer Award

The **Distinguished Member Award** is presented to West Point graduates who have made significant contributions to West Point, the WPSDC, their class or their community. The award recognizes graduates whose outstanding character and distinguished service compare to the West Point motto of "Duty, Honor, Country". Usually 1-3 persons are selected each year to receive the Distinguished Member Award. Nomination letters must arrive from either an individual or class **NLT 20 January 2019**. The recipient must be a USMA Graduate. As with the Castle Award, residence in the area or membership in the WPSDC is not a criteria.

I am sure there are many deserving USMA grads who are worthy of receiving these awards. Please send any/all nominations to me at kkfrench86@gmail.com by **20 January 2019. BEAT NAVY!**

Membership

Joe Simonelli '87



OUR Society remains one of the largest of all the West Point Societies. With almost 5000 graduates, ex-cadets, widows/widowers and associates of West Point in the area, many who transition in and out over the years, we have over 827 members of our Society. We span over three quarters of a century with our oldest member from the Class of 1940 and our youngest 2018. Since our newsletter goes out to all those individuals in the area, many do not know if they are members of the society. You can check your membership status by signing into our new website at <https://wpsdc.org>. Once signed in, go to the Membership tab and it will show you if you are a currently paying member and when your membership expires. If you are not current, you can pay using our Strip account. If you are a current annual paying member, you can always elect to become a **LIFETIME MEMBER!**

What are the **BENEFITS** of being a member of the society? First, you personally get discounted fees for the major WPSDC events such as Founders Day, Quarterly Luncheons, and Career Services events. Second, you help benefit our society as we have the financial ability to put on high-quality events for our Grads and make meaningful gifts to the Academy and Cadet Activities. Finally, and most important, you continue to actively enjoy the comradery we all share as members of the
LONG GRAY LINE.

Our **GOAL** is to increase membership by **10%**, that's only 83 graduates. That is something we can easily accomplish.

Here are the dues:

Annual Dues: \$50/year

Lifetime Dues: \$500/one-time

Graduates who passed their 60th anniversary will become Lifetime members, if they are a current annual member in the year of their anniversary (Class of 1958 and earlier). If you are Class of 1959 then consider joining now then transferring to lifetime membership this summer!

A strong membership is key to our success. If you are not a member, we hope you will consider joining for and being an active participant in the Society. If you are an annual paying member, please remember to renew your membership during the membership drive. To ensure you never forget paying your annual dues, consider becoming a **LIFETIME MEMBER!**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. If you have any thoughts or ideas about membership, to include what we can do better, please let us know. Please feel free to contact me at WPSDC.Membership@gmail.com