



2024-2025 Annual Report for Class of 1978

- Class of 1978 Superintendent's Endowment
- Class of 1978 Student Conference Endowment for the West Point Center for the Study of Civil-Military Operations
- The Class of 1978 Army West Point Rifle Team Endowment
- The Class of 1978 Endowment for the Pistol and Combat Weapons Team
- Frederic V. Malek West Point Visitors Center

The reporting period covered in this report represents 2023 endowment distributions and gift funds proffered to USMA for Margin of Excellence programs during Academic Year 2024-2025 or available for WPAOG programs and projects during calendar year 2024.

S400Z-01 CLASS OF 1978 SUPERINTENDENT’S ENDOWMENT

Endowment Performance Report
As of 12/31/2024

Endowment Description

Earnings from the endowment can be used for Margin of Excellence programs for the benefit of the Corps of Cadets.

Distribution Taken in AY 24-25	\$56,761
Endowment Balance	\$1,611,785
Distribution Available for AY 25-26	\$58,432

The endowments of WPAOG are invested under the direction of the Association’s Investment Committee, using policy guidelines established by the Board of Directors. The Committee retains professional investment management consultants and allocates assets to various investment managers and asset classes to minimize risk. For the year ending December 31, 2024, the investment returns of WPAOG were favorable to our related benchmarks, while the cumulative three years and five years returns were also favorable to those benchmarks. For more information on how WPAOG manages and invests endowments, see the WPAOG Investments Overview.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DIRECTORATE OF ACADEMY ADVANCEMENT
698 MILLS ROAD
WEST POINT, NY 10996-1514

Academic Year
2024-2025

Subject: Class of 1978 Superintendent's Endowment

Dear Class of 1978, Mr. Les Szabolcsi:

I hope this letter finds you well. I am reaching out to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous gift to the Class of 1978 Superintendent's Endowment. The Endowment supports the United States Military Academy through unrestricted gifts and is essential to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Funding is distributed at the Superintendent's discretion for programs that go beyond the core elements supported by the government. Collectively known as the Margin of Excellence, these programs benefit every cadet. Your support during the 2024-2025 academic year has been invaluable. Below are some examples of what your contributions were used for.

Academic Individual Advanced Development (AIAD)

The purpose is to provide cadets with unique educational experiences beyond the regular academic and military training, such as internships and research opportunities. Focus areas of the AIAD program enable cadets to engage in research, observe real-world applications of their studies, and gain insights in various fields, including science and engineering, defense, government, policy, diplomacy, national security, and cultural immersion. Typically, AIADs last two to four weeks during the summer academic break (late May to early August).

Two newer AIADs have been introduced by the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic (SCPME), one domestically and the other abroad. The domestic AIAD took place in Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and New York City, with a focus on the significance of character and honor within the Army profession. The international AIAD took cadets to important locations in France, Belgium, and Luxembourg, such as the D-Day beaches, NATO Headquarters, and Bastogne. This experience deepened their understanding of the historical and modern significance of Army officership, enhancing their appreciation for military leadership and the professional standards maintained within the Army.

Guest Lecture Program

Guest lecturers offer cadets the chance to connect with essential civilian practitioners, providing them with valuable civilian and non-military insights on current issues. The Defense and Strategic Studies (DSS) will welcome civilian professionals,

scholars, and subject experts to share distinct, non-military perspectives on modern strategic and policy challenges. The goal is for each of our four core courses to hold a guest speaker event accessible to all DSS cadets, promoting academic collaboration across programs and fostering discussions that advance cadets' academic development in the classroom.

Your funding supports travel, accommodation, meals, and other expenses for guest lecturers who are unable to travel under government Temporary Duty (TDY) funding. A key pillar of the DSS Program is to tackle modern challenges through a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach, with a steady influx of civilian guest speakers being vital to achieving this aim. Furthermore, the aim is to develop well-rounded individuals who maintain a constructive outlook and approach toward addressing contemporary issues in civilian-military relations. Regular interaction with civilians will help cadets develop a deeper understanding of the complexities within civilian-military relations, encompassing both security and policy frameworks.

Branching Events

Every year, the Accessions Division plans key events that target specific populations within the Corps to maintain a high-quality program that continues to meet USMA requirements for educating and counseling leaders of character throughout the branching process. Integral to that effort is our cadet engagement activities, where faculty from USCC, DMI, HRC, FORSCOM, and Branch Proponents spend time outside the classroom with high-performing students, distinguished visitors, and the entire Accessions Division.

Your donation has enhanced the Commandant's ability to communicate the "Branch Week" intent and created an opportunity for supporting units to engage cadets, staff, and faculty in a collective informal setting.

We are truly grateful for your support and want to emphasize that your contributions are appreciated and well-managed. Once again, thank you for your generous gift. Your support has a profound impact on our community.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Oakley
Director, Academy Advancement and
Alumni Affairs

S800E CLASS OF 1978 STUDENT CONFERENCE ENDOWMENT FOR THE WEST POINT CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF CIVIL-MILITARY OPERATIONS

Endowment Performance Report
As of 12/31/2024

Endowment Description

The purpose of this endowment is to support the Student Conference for the West Point Center for the Study of Civil-Military Operations. Funds from this endowment may be used to support, but are not limited to, costs associated with hosting guest speakers (e.g. honorarium, travel, lodging, etc.) as well as the staffing, administrative expenses, meals, and technology associated with this conference.

Distribution Taken in AY 24-25	\$20,000
Endowment Balance	\$1,262,594
Distribution Available for AY 25-26	\$45,628

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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
WEST POINT, NEW YORK 10996-1695

31 March 2025

Class of 1978 Student Workshop on Civil-Military Operations

The CSCMO continued to make substantial contributions to cadet and faculty education and development in the realm of Civil Military Operations during this academic year through its planning and execution for the Student Workshop on Civil-Military Operations (SWCMO). The generous endowment of the Class of 1978 has enabled the Center and its hosting Department of Geography, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Sciences and GIS to make these contributions in several of the four main lines of effort: Syllabus Integration (Guest Lecturers and Course Development); Service Learning (AIADs, Cadet Club and Training); Scholars and Scholarship (Cadets and Faculty USMA & Beyond); and most cogently Symposia and Sharing.

We were remiss to have been forced to cancel our annual Student Workshop on Civil-Operations due to the administrative constraints placed on us by the mandatory restriction of non-operational travel imposed by the Department of Defense. Without the means to travel our keynotes, panelists and other guests: we felt that we could not meet the objectives of the event.

We have endured a previous suspension in 2020 and quickly rebounded the following year. We have no doubt that we will bounce back again next year with a program that effectively highlights our education mission.

We continue to be reminded of how the Class of '78's commitment enables CSCMO to organize and provide tremendous opportunities for our community to advance their understanding and application of Civil-Military Operations. None of this capacity is possible without the generous contributions of the class, particularly those that take time out of their busy schedules to travel and spend several days with us here at West Point when they can.

We at the Center would like to personally thank every member of the Class of '78 for their vision and support, but more importantly, the interest and energy of those that have enabled this tremendous opportunity for cadets and faculty. We eagerly await the chance to resume this all-important event in 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Melkon".

John M. Melkon
Assistant Professor & Director
CSCMO

S800F THE CLASS OF 1978 ARMY WEST POINT RIFLE TEAM ENDOWMENT

Endowment Performance Report
As of 12/31/2024

Endowment Description

The purpose of the Class of 1978 Army West Point Rifle Team Endowment is to support the team’s needs to enhance cadets’ Division 1 athletic experience. This endowment may cover, but is not limited to, the costs of equipment, uniforms, practice and competition expenses, team-specific facility enhancements, staffing, recruiting and team travel, technological infrastructure, as well as the administrative expenses associated with this team.

Distribution Taken in AY 24-25 none *

Endowment Balance\$448,695

Distribution Available for AY 25-26\$15,791

* for AY 24-25 the distribution for this endowment was reinvested

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ARMY WEST POINT ATHLETICS

Dear Class of 1978, Mr. Les Szabolcsi,

The mission of the athletics department is to recruit, educate, train, and inspire leaders of character who are committed to the Army values, through an extraordinary Division I athletic experience. Their mission is our mission — and none of it would be possible without the unwavering support of the Army West Point family. That includes you.

Thank you for your generous support of the Army Rifle Team through contributions to the Class of 1978 Army West Point Rifle Team Endowment. These gifts are invested to create long-term, sustainable support for the program. The annual spin-off from the endowment provides financial stability that is essential to creating meaningful opportunities for our cadet-athletes in their relentless pursuit of excellence. Simply put, team endowments are the foundation on which great sport programs are built, and your investment is helping secure the future of Army Rifle.

This year, thanks to donor support and the strength of the program's endowment, the team had the unique opportunity to travel to Alaska to compete against elite national programs. This trip was more than just a competition; it was an unforgettable experience that expanded our cadet-athletes' exposure, built resilience, and deepened team camaraderie. In addition to competitive travel, the team also took part in a Humanex Team EX leadership development program, an initiative that aligns perfectly with our Academy's mission of developing leaders of character. Through this experience, cadet-athletes reflected on their strengths, communication styles, and shared team values, enhancing their connection and their performance both on and off the firing line.

On behalf of the Athletics Department, the West Point Association of Graduates, our coaching staff, and—most importantly—our cadet-athletes: thank you. Your continued support helps us deliver an extraordinary Division I athletic experience, and we are deeply grateful for everything you do to make that possible.

Go Army! Beat Navy!

Warm regards,

Steven Donohue

Associate Athletics Director, Athletics Development

S800G THE CLASS OF 1978 ENDOWMENT FOR THE PISTOL AND COMBAT WEAPONS TEAM

Endowment Performance Report
As of 12/31/2024

Endowment Description

The purpose of the Class of 1978 Endowment for the Pistol and Combat Weapons Teams endowment is to support the operations and activities of the Pistol and Combat Weapons Teams. This endowment may cover, but is not limited to, the costs of equipment, uniforms, practice and competition expenses, team-specific facility enhancements, staffing, team travel, technological infrastructure, as well as the administrative expenses associated with these teams.

Distribution Taken in AY 24-25	\$27,970
Endowment Balance	\$745,387
Distribution Available for AY 25-26	\$27,692

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
West Point, New York 10996

Dear Class of 1978, Mr. Les Szabolcsi,

On behalf of all of us at the West Point Pistol Team, we are deeply grateful for your planned donation, honoring West Point in the 2024-2025 season. Your gift allows for the cadets to continue to prosper and access extraordinary training.

This past season, our strong group of 20 cadets competed against some of the most respected collegiate programs in the country. We participated in competitions against Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Ohio State University to the United States Coast Guard Academy, US Merchant Marine Academy, and the US Naval Academy. In each one of these matchups, our cadet athletes displayed resilience, skills, and unity. Each of these cadets strive to be the best, which is made a lot easier by their uplifting teammates and building comradery. Their success is allowed to be experienced because of your gift. These experiences that you are funding gives the cadets a one of a kind experience that cannot be replicated in a classroom. The equipment, travel expenses, and training all allows them to excel and display West Point's skill. Additionally, we are able to host other teams, go to sister universities, and participate in the Tactical Defense Institute (TDI) in Ohio. We are deeply honored to be able to train at TDI since 1953, giving cadets a unique lens to further their shooting skills, interpersonal relationships, and combat skills. The additional funding granted to us allows this opportunity and tradition for cadets. Here, they intensely trained on advanced weapons handling of both the M17 and the M4, clearing buildings into the night. On behalf of all of us, we are grateful to travel to these events made possible by your gift. This funding is both critical for the cadets' success and for West Point to be the premier military college of America.

Despite the formidable competition, our cadets consistently excelled. Led by CDT Grace Ruland '25, who maintained an impressive performance with season highs of 2,199 points in air pistol, 2,246 points in sport pistol, and 2,148 points in standard pistol. Additionally, we took victories over the Navy and Coast Guard because of Jaden Beauchamp '25, who took 1st in all three events. We are all extremely proud of his performance and surgical shooting. Meanwhile, a lot of our shooters placed well on a nationwide basis, finishing in the top 20 or higher. In sport pistol, Jaden Beauchamp '25 took 8th, William Krotee '26 was 11th, Liam Stanko '25 became 13th, Ian Dooley '26 became 18th. Furthermore, our dedication and skill was displayed during the Collegiate National Championships. With a stacked team, composed of Jaden Beauchamp '25, Ian Dooley '26, William Kritee '26, Liam Stanko '25, they took home 2nd place in sports pistol. Finally, multiple West Point Pistol team members secured multiple All-American titles for CDTs, Jaden Beauchamp '25, Ian Dooley '26, William Krotee '26, and Marshall Krebs '26. These achievements are outstanding badges of honor for our shooters, the team, and West Point.

Every medal earned, match won, and new personal bests speaks to the extraordinary caliber of these cadet-athletes. It is a demonstration of the students dedication and skill, made possible by your support and donation.

Coach Carl Trompeter
West Point Pistol Team

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carl Trompeter". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK 10996

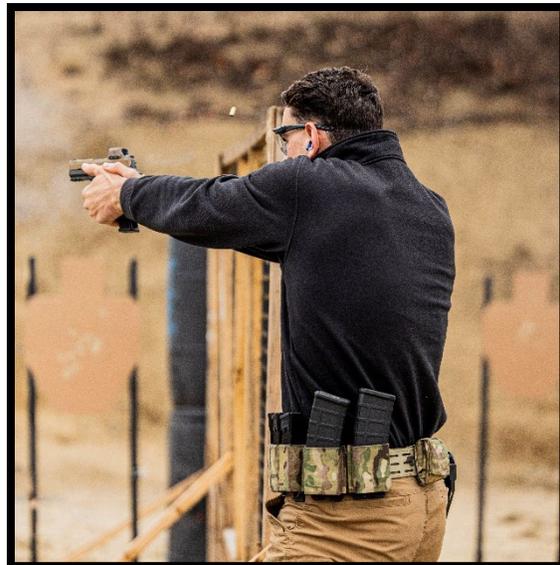
MACC-DCA

05 May 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Combat Weapons Team Stewardship Report, AY25

1. Of the Team's many accomplishments this past academic year, the one we are most proud of is winning the Relentless Warrior National Championship's top shot, high lady, and 2nd overall team. This event is hosted annually by Sig Sauer, and features teams from all of the service academies, the Royal Military College of Canada, and the senior military colleges to include Norwich, Citadel, VMI, Texas A&M, and Virginia Tech. Our cadets performed admirably and while Texas A&M came out on top this year, we look forward to earning the title back next year.



MACC-DCA

SUBJECT: Combat Weapons Team Stewardship Report, AY25

2. The team also hosted our 4th annual West Point 2-gun Match. The match was an incredibly popular event, with local clubs and CWT associates making the trip to compete. Our cadets designed each of the competition's eight stages and served as Range Safety Officers on West Point's premier range complexes. This competition was both a public relations outreach function and a fundraiser for the Team. Based on its success, we will begin planning for the AY26 2-gun Match over the summer.

3. This past fall, the team participated in matches hosted by the Black Rock Rod and Gun club's, Long Island Practical Shooting Association, and the Old Bridge Rifle and Pistol club. These organizations graciously host our cadets and their members are long-term friends of club. These competitive shooting experiences are invaluable in preparing the team for Nationals.

4. During Spring Break, the team's upperclassmen took a trip to Fort Benning where they were able to train with the US Army Marksmanship Unit, were hosted for a tour and discussion by the 75th Ranger Regiment, and were able to conduct the new Ranger School physical assessment and the Darby Queen obstacle course. The trip provided an exceptional opportunity to learn from World class shooters and develop their understanding of the Profession of Arms.



MACC-DCA

SUBJECT: Combat Weapons Team Stewardship Report, AY25



5. During the fall semester CDT Carl Spivey took leave of the team while conducting a semester exchange at the US Air Force Academy. Filling his roster spot here at USMA was CDT Georg Fichtinger, an Austrian cadet on a semester exchange. Georg embodied the CWT ethos, distinguishing himself during our physically demanding tryouts and his strong performance at every practice.

6. As OIC, my plan for next year is to continue to refine our Team's selection and training programs, with the intent of winning Relentless Warrior again and defending our National Championship. However, I always stress to cadets that my top priorities are making them 1) better people, 2) better officers, and only then 3) better shooters. This tried-and-true formula ensures that our students leave USMA as leaders of character and with a base of skills that will serve them well within the profession of arms.

7. This year the team said goodbye to our commissioning Firsties (Andrew Fratini, Megan Cooper, Hunter Howell, David Snyder, and Carlton Spivey) at our annual commissioning ceremony at the Tronsrue Range. An especially meaningful gesture takes place at the end of the ceremony. Team underclassmen purchase a CWT designed and custom-made knives and gift them to their newly commissioned teammates in recognition for their service to the team, and the careers upon which they are embarking. Seeing our graduates move forward to continue their pursuit of excellence within the profession of arms is a true gift.

MACC-DCA

SUBJECT: Combat Weapons Team Stewardship Report, AY25



8. Competitive shooting is a very expensive sport, and the Class of 1978's very generous gift allowed us to purchase the weapons, ammunition, equipment, and supplies we needed to train to defend our National Championship. It also allowed us to travel to different matches, such as the ones hosted by the Long Island Practical Shooting Association, the Old Bridge Rifle and Pistol Club in New Jersey, and our 3rd annual spring break trip, this one to Fort Benning. The support of the Class of 1978, along with that of the Department of Cadet Activities, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, and the Department of Military Instruction is greatly appreciated by our entire Team—coaches, OICs, and individual members.

9. The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned, at sean.marquis@westpoint.edu.

SEAN G. MARQUIS
MAJ, IN
Combat Weapons Team OIC



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
West Point, New York 10996

January - December 2024

Dear Class of 1978, Mr. Les Szabolcsi,

The Visitor's Center is the gateway to West Point. Its purpose is to inspire, educate and inform the public about the Academy. Its more than 60 exhibits demonstrate our Cadets' 47-month experience and offer a unique perspective into how the Academy develops leaders of character for our Army and Nation. It is also home to West Point Tours, the Visitor Control Center, the Army West Point Gift Shop and is next door to the West Point Museum.

This facility opened on Dec. 4, 2017, and has welcomed 122,917 visitors through Dec. 31, 2024.

In 2024, the Visitors Center welcomed a manager from the Garrison to run the VC when Jim Fox retires. The Visitor's Center has updated the 2024 Distinguished Graduate Awardees; Morale, Welfare and Recreation installed a TV with events open to the public in the Atrium; replaced the Rifle Range Exhibit with a new paint job and TV that will display pictures and video of the new Class summer training at the ranges.

Old Grads remain the most distinguished groups that we welcome. The feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive and appreciative. Some highly attended Grad events include the Ring Melt in January, Reunion activities in early and late May, where over 3,500 visitors passed through during Grad Week alone. Reunions, of course are also big attractions in the Fall, too, with September and October seeing especially large crowds pass through on home football weekends.

During the winter months, our busy times are Cadet class-related events from late January to mid-February, including 500th Night, Yearling Winter Weekend, 100th Night and Post Night, followed by Plebe-Parent Weekend in March.

Old Grads and Cadet families are not the only folks that pass through our doors though. The Visitors Center saw over 700 visitors from our local community stop by on Passover alone on one day in April.

Come Springtime, other high-volume events include Projects Day, Sandhurst and Retiree Activity Day. Each of these events saw hundreds of visitors flock to the facility for days on end.

Recruits for the various Army Athletics teams are another steady group that visits throughout the year, not to be confused with the thousands of Army sports campers, who stop at the Visitors Center for registration throughout the summer months.

Once again, the Visitors Center served as the Cadet Candidate sign-in and boarding spot for SLE 2024, which saw 1,000 CCs start their week-long exposure to life as a Cadet.

The number of foreign visitors were slightly on the rise as we see more foreign families visit, but nothing like the bus loads of foreign visitors we saw pre-Pandemic. Americans continued to return in numbers, to include the return of Fall river cruises.

The Visitor Control Center continued its full 16-hour a day, seven day a week schedule. The West Point Museum remained open six days a week even with it being under construction.

Later that month, we welcomed thousands of Cadet family members during Family Weekend.

Throughout the year we enjoyed visits from JROTC units from around the region, but also from as far away as Texas, Ohio and Illinois. School-age groups were mostly

from the northeast, but also from as far away as California. Other groups who made sure to include the Visitors Center in their itinerary were Boy Scouts Troops, the Pennsylvania and New Jersey State Police, as well as a variety of local Orange County and New Jersey Junior Police Academies.

The Summer months saw a typical rise in visitor numbers, including families on vacation, and events such as SLE, R-Day, Acceptance Day and Ring Weekend.

We saw only a little more than 123,000 visitors in 2024 as opposed to almost 120,000 in 2023. We had heard on multiple occasions that Chinese tours would come rushing back, again they did as families, but not as waves of tour buses as they had been until Jan. 2020.

The West Point Band even had a summer concert outside the Visitors Center on Aug. 18 drawing hundreds of local community members on a beautiful summer evening of music under the stars. October (19,652) is always busy because of football games, Fall foliage, Class reunions and Family Weekend (4,012 in three days).

The Visitors Center brochure continues to be very popular (9,178). It also includes information about West Point's social media platforms, Admissions, tours and how to get Army West Point sports tickets. We have reached out to more surrounding counties to obtain more brochures, maps and information on what visitors can visit. The Staff has also reached out to the various food establishments in Highland Falls, Fort Montgomery and other local areas for their menus and hours.

For any additional information on this report, please contact Rosemarie Smith at 845-938-2638 or e-mail at rosemarie.smith.civ@army.mil.