



Veterans Center Newsletter

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Trivia:

The first 10 individuals to email us back with the correct answers will receive an FSU Veterans Keychain Lanyard. Email us with the correct answers at vets@frostburg.edu.

Question 1:

What is the acronym for the intergovernmental military alliance based on the North Atlantic Treaty, signed in 1949?

Question 2:

Who was the President who signed the bill into law designating November 11th as Veterans Day?

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Left to right: Hailey Jenkins, Isaac Esene, Aisa Wrights, Clarissa Lang, Marcus Stuart, Taylor Reams, and Hope Smart.

Student Veterans of America NatCon

“The SVA National Conference (NATCON) is the largest gathering of student veterans anywhere in the world. With SVA chapters at over 1,500 campuses across the U.S. and in several countries abroad, NATCON serves as a focal point in the academic year to share ideas, best practices, and network with student veterans, military-connected students, their families, supporters, and allies, as well as corporate, government, and nonprofit partners, and more” (SVA Headquarters). The theme for NATCON 2023 was “On the Shoulders of Giants.” Some of the keynote speakers included Jared Lyon (SVA National Headquarter CEO), Honorable Denis McDonough (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs), Rebekka Eschler (Transgender American Veterans Association), Cedric King (Retired U.S. Army and Motivational Speaker, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Legion of Merit Recipient), and Jamie Gray Hyder (Actress and Model).

Our students were able to gain skills thru workshops within the three days of the conference, meet other students going thru their same experiences, network with chapter leaders, and sell themselves for possible jobs at the SVA Campus Career Fair with over 300 employers ready to provide opportunities for our students whether in internships or jobs when they graduate. From January 5th – 7th, 2022, our students’ schedules were packed from 7 AM until 10 PM each day, taking in all opportunities that presented themselves to help their futures.

"The SVA Conference was such a pleasant experience. I participated as a speaker, and through that experience, I developed my public speaking and interpersonal skills. Throughout the conference, there were several sessions filled with valuable information—specifically, the LinkedIn for Veterans seminar. The changes I was told to make during that workshop drastically improved my networking capability and made my LinkedIn more attractive to employers. As a graduate student at the Hagerstown campus, we have a tiny veteran community. It was great to connect to such a large base of veterans. This conference alone has made an exponential change in the trajectory of my career path. I'm grateful for the opportunity; I believe all student veterans should attend."

-Isaac Esene



Student Veterans Spotlight



Kayla Smith

Kayla is from Lonaconing, Maryland. Currently she is dual enrolled at Allegany College of Maryland as part of the RN to BSN program. She has been in the Maryland Army National Guard for almost 7 years as an Engineer, specializing in carpentry and masonry. In 2019, she had the opportunity to serve in Afghanistan as part of Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Enduring Freedom. During these missions, she had learned many combats medical skills and then decided that nursing and emergency medicine were the next specialties for her to start exploring.



Andrew Maistros and his son.

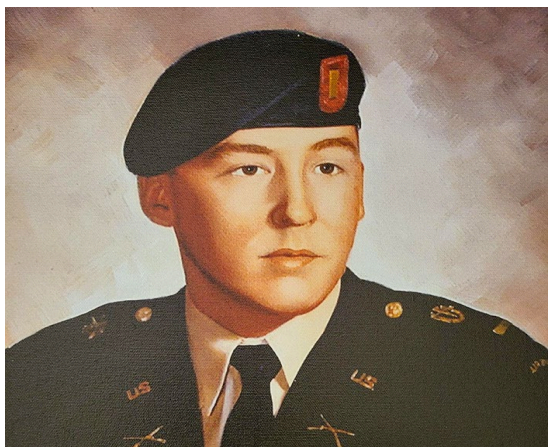


Andrew Maistros

Andrew is a Cumberland native and 2004 Fort Hill graduate, who joined the Marine Corps in 2005, deployed to Afghanistan 2009/2010 serving in Bravo Company 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion as a gunner/assistant squad leader. He is pursuing a degree in materials engineering. He hopes to one day develop an eco-friendly plastic that can be digested; he plans to focus working on and with the idea to better disposable plastics. He enjoys spending time with his family and wants to do his part to make the world more environmentally friendly so that his son Thaddeus can continue the dream of making America more environmentally friendly.

Conference Room Dedication Ceremony: Harold D. Martin

On November 15th, 2022, the Veterans Center held a room dedication ceremony to honor First Lieutenant Harold D. Martin. The FSU Class of '66 launched a campaign and raised an additional \$13,000 to dedicate and name a room in Martin's memory. The Class of '66 demonstrated their unending togetherness as a way to honor their fallen classmate.



First Lieutenant Harold D. Martin

First Lieutenant Harold D. Martin, a member of Company B, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces and was assigned for duty in

Vietnam to advise and assist the Vietnamese people in their struggle for freedom. On October 23rd, 1968, he was very seriously wounded when

his unit engaged a hostile force in a firefight while conducting a search and clear mission. He expired from his wounds later the same day in the 8th Field Hospital. First Lieutenant Martin was a highly respected and dedicated member whose contributions to justice and freedom serve as an inspiration to all who knew him.

The FSU Veteran Center and those who visit us will always remember First Lieutenant Martin by visiting the Conference Room!

Upcoming Dates/Mission Moment

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

March – Women's Veteran Month

Memorial Day – May 29th, 2023

- Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for mourning the U.S. military personnel who have died while serving in the United States armed forces.

Mission Moment:

On March 9th, 2023, the Veterans Center and the National Society of Leadership and Success hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive. We were able to collect 29 units of blood to be donated to those in need. It was a successful event and we wanted to thank those who volunteered and those who donated.



<https://www.countryliving.com/life/g24793588/veteran-day-quotes/>