

GOW AT A GLANCE

A Monthly News Snapshot from The Gow School



CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Trustee and Volunteer Appreciation
- Campus News
 - Commencement Weekend Highlights
 - Honoring Neil Howe '91 - Lowell "Link" Lundell Excellence in Teaching Recipient
- Alumni and Faculty Spotlights
- Introducing Gow's Custom Cycling Kit
- Gow's Giving Day June 20th

Alumni and Faculty Highlights



Gow Alumni Spotlight **CASEY CANN '94**

Learn more about Casey's meaningful 22-year career in the US Coast Guard and how Gow prepared him for adventure, challenge, and leadership.



Faculty Focus **CHARLIE BROWN**

There are few faculty who have had a greater impact on Govians than Mr. Brown. Learn about his love of teaching, the arts, his family, and what Gow means to him.

Please join us for

GOW GIVING DAY

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

24-hours to make your Annual Fund gift,
win great prizes, and help Gow!

GIVING IS EASY:

Scan the QR code to give online
Visit gow.org/support-gow
Send a check to Gow
Call 716.687.2075



Gow's fiscal year ends June 30

THANK YOU!



June 20	Gow Giving Day
June 30-August 3	Gow School Summer Program
September 2	Gow School Year Begins
September 20	Grandparents' Day
October 11-12	Fall Parents' Weekend
October 12-20	Fall Break

COMMENCEMENT 2024

Commencement was a memorable and celebratory event, beginning with the presentation of athletic and academic awards to recognize Gow students' exceptional talents and hard work. The Senior Dinner at the historic Roycroft Inn in East Aurora brought together students, faculty, and families to reflect on shared achievements and cherished memories and view the 2024 Senior Video. The Friday Commencement ceremony featured an inspiring welcome from the Head of School, John Munro, and speeches from each graduate highlighting their personal journeys and future aspirations. This blend of celebration, recognition, and forward-looking optimism made Commencement a weekend to remember for our entire Gow community. Thank you for celebrating Gow and the accomplishments of all of our students!

Neil Howe '91 Receives Lowell "Link" Lundell Excellence in Teaching Award

Congratulations to Neil Howe, longtime Gow faculty member and graduate of the Class of 1991. Chosen by fellow faculty and staff, this award recognizes outstanding teaching and



dedication to Gow. Tom Giallanza, Chair of the History Department, presented this award to Neil at Commencement.

A graduate of Muskingum University, Neil has taught history Reconstructive Language, and economics at Gow since 2000. He and his wife, Carrie, live on campus and have three children. Pictured, Neil with his wife, Carrie, son David, and Dale Hazen, retired biology faculty.

#1 - Kieran '24 and his family; **#2** - Donnie '28, Charlie '24, Noelle '24, and Oliver, '24; **#3** - Noelle '24 receiving the Peter Gow Award from Head of School Mr. Munro. This is the highest honor bestowed to a senior at Commencement; **#4** - Gannon '24 with his mom and sister; **#5** - Andrew '24 and Mr. Gullo; **#6** - Eliana '25, Grace '25 and Elena '27; **#7**: 1939 Competitive Spirit Award presented to Ruben '24 and Kieren '24 by Mark Szafnicki, Director of Athletics; **#8** - Bryan '26, Nathan '26, David '25, and Advisor Mr. Howe '91; **#9** - Head of School Munro with Peter '24; **#10** - Robin Nakajima and Kate '26; **#11** - Anneleise '24 and her mom; **#12** Andrew '24 and his family; **#13** - Lena '28, Sira '25, JJ '25, Finley '25, and Tobi '24; **#14** - Sergio '24, Michael '24, Colin '24 and Tyler '24; **#15** - 2024 Graduates Kieren, Tobi, Josie, Charlie, and Peter





GOW ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CASEY CANN '94

United States Coast Guard



Confidence, discipline, leadership. These are the attributes of a Gow education that alumnus Casey Sullivan Cann '94 said prepared him for his esteemed career in the military. "The Gow School had a huge impact on my life and was a driving force and motivator that guided me during my years in the United States Coast Guard. There is not a day that goes by where I do not think of Gow," said Casey.

Casey started at Gow after struggling for years with dyslexia. He recalls the hours his Gow teachers spent with him and how he eventually became a confident learner. After graduating, he earned an associate's degree before pivoting to the Coast Guard.

Raised in Florida, he was always around boats and was attracted to the Coast Guard because it was a smaller military branch than the Navy. What started as four years in the service turned into a successful 22-year-long career in the Coast Guard. "I think a career in the military is incredible, especially for Govians. Right out of the gate, you get amazing experiences and exposure to a career that takes you across the world," Casey said.

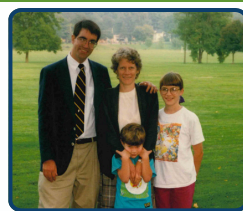
From his initial deployment on a buoy tender in Baltimore working on navigation aids in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River, to homeland security and counterterrorism roles in Puget Sound and along the Canadian border, he has embraced every opportunity. Casey worked to protect the DC Harbor after September 11th, taught in Charleston, SC, and deployed to The Middle East as a part of a team that stopped, boarded, and searched vessels of interest in the Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, and Gulf of Oman.

He retired from the Coast Guard in 2020 and now teaches at the Maritime Law Enforcement Academy in Charleston, SC. A family man with a wife and two daughters, he enjoys speaking to current Gow students who are considering a military career. "Gow gives you the life lessons, the tools, and the discipline to push forward. I call it my positive baggage, and I consider it a gift that my parents gave me which laid the foundation for my career and life," he said.



Faculty Focus: CHARLIE BROWN

41 years as Gow's Math Enthusiast, College Counselor, Musician, and Mentor



Pictured: Gardening with Mr. Parsons; in the College Placement Office with Ms. Mirsky; with David Gow and Dan Kelley; his family; teaching in Main; on the Weston patio

On any given night after dinner, students can be found sitting around Math Teacher Charlie Brown's dinner table at Hill House. A Gow faculty member for 43 years, Mr. Brown has always welcomed students into his home for nightly extra tutoring and homework help. "One thing that hasn't changed in all my years at The Gow School is the students coming up the hill after dinner for extra math help. David Gow impressed on us as teachers, if we know that a student is struggling, it is our job to give them the help they need," he said.

Shortly after graduating from Amherst College, Mr. Brown was hired in the fall of 1982 by David Gow, the third headmaster of the School. During his decades of service to Gow, he has served as Math Chair, Soccer and Lacrosse Coach, Dorm Parent and Academic Dean of The Gow School Summer Program, and more. Currently, he teaches Calculus and Pre-Calculus and serves as the Director of College Counseling. He points to the transformation of the Gow student as his inspiration. "In my position, I see students come in who are scared of their own academic shadow. But they walk out confident because they know what they can do. So much of the Gow student experience is that they no longer feel ignored when they are struggling. They have a voice in their education and say, 'I know what I need, I know how to get it, and this is not a dream, it's now my reality,'" he said.

A Buffalo native, Mr. Brown raised his own family right on campus. He and his wife Alice have two children, Louisa and Rowland, who grew up playing in the woods, by the creek, and on the ski hill. "Gow is a big family. It is a great place to raise kids because they can go out and play," he said. When Mr. Brown is not teaching math or hosting extra tutoring sessions, he performs in the choir at St. Matthias Church in East Aurora. Each holiday season, he invites Gow students to join him to sing in the choir for the Handel's Messiah in East Aurora.

"What makes the secret sauce of Gow? It's actually not a secret sauce at all because it's all the flavors and how they come together - the family feeling, figuring out what a student needs, watching them evolve and students gaining confidence. That is the recipe," he said.

Thank You for your dedication

The Gow School Trustees play a vital role in shaping Gow's vision for the future and managing the school. We are grateful for their belief in Gow and its mission. We want to thank five longtime Trustees, **Sam Diarbakerly '11**, **Steven Ibbotson '80**, **Creighton Murch '64**, **Daphne Uliana**, and **Skip Wilday**, who will complete their terms on June 30. We are grateful for their commitment, talents, and visionary insights which have helped to shape our school today.

Porter Follett '13, Alumni Association President, and **Jason Woodcock** (Eve '28), President of the Parents' Association, will also be completing their terms. Porter and Jason have led their respective organizations and helped to engage and inspire our community. We are truly grateful for their creative ideas, enthusiasm, and unwavering belief in Gow's life-changing mission.

ORDER YOUR GOW CYCLING KIT TODAY!

Back by popular demand, Verge has reopened our online store so you can order your custom Gow bibs and jerseys!



TO ORDER:

- Visit: <https://shop.vergesport.com/us-en/account/teamstorelogin>
- Register for an account and log in.
- Enter team store password: GOW24 (Case sensitive and no spaces).
- Please note that items are European fit and may run smaller than US sizes.
- Orders may take 6-7 weeks to ship.

PRICING (PLUS POSTAGE AND HANDLING)

- MEN'S OR WOMEN'S RELAXED FIT (PRIME) SHORT-SLEEVED JERSEY - \$80
- MEN'S OR WOMEN'S FITTED (STRIKE) SHORT-SLEEVED JERSEY - \$100
- MEN'S OR WOMEN'S RELAXED FIT LONG-SLEEVED JERSEY - \$115
- MEN'S OR WOMEN'S THERMAL LONG-SLEEVED JERSEY - \$90
- MEN'S OR WOMEN'S CLUB LENGTH BIBS - \$110
- CYCLING CAP - \$20



Thank you, and be sure to send us a photo in your Gow cycling kit!

TRUSTEES



SAM DIARBAKERLY '11 is a private wealth advisor at Claro Advisors in Boston. Sam resides in Boston and Naples, FL where he enjoys playing golf.



STEVE IBBOTSON '80 is the retired president of FBC. He and his wife, Diana, have two adult children and live in Malta and Palm Springs where they enjoy biking, ski and hiking.



CREIGHTON MURCH '64 (PA John '23, James '23) is an investment manager who served as Chair of the Board. He and his wife, Janice, have two Govian sons who attend Highpoint University. They live in Kirkla who served as Cha



DAPHNE ULIANA (PA Nick '14, Sam '14) and her husband, Joe, live in PA where she is active in politics and has helped sponsor and pass several laws to benefit those with learning differences.



SKIP WILDAY (PA Courtney '18, Oksana '21, Trek '21) is a retired financial advisor who served as Chair of the Board. He and his wife, Greta, live in Ellicottville, NY where they enjoy biking, skiing, hiking, and travel.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



PORTER FOLLETT '13 lives in Denver CO, works in real estate, and likes hiking, skiing, and travel. Porter has enjoyed being the Alumni Association President and helping to engage more alumni in Gow.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



JASON WOODCOCK (PA Eve '28) works in technology and leadership development. He lives in Lagrangeville, NY with his wife, Christine, a professor at SUNY New Paltz, and their daughter, Eve. Thanks for expanding PA programs and communications!