

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 56 No. 1

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January 10, 2007

Hail and farewell



New project manager for scout helicopters
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At ease



Retiree's keepsake modernized antique
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Over there



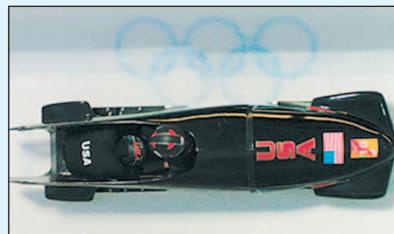
Reservist redeploys after holidays
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Around town

Patriot riders show respect
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Win or lose



World Cup bobsled season openers
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Winning year for Soldier support

Commanding general praises Team Redstone

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

This year brings the challenge of continuing to support the war effort, according to the commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal.

"We are still an Army at war that requires our focused efforts every day," Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury told the *Redstone Rocket* in an interview Dec. 21. "And we must maintain our level of intensity in that effort. The general officers of Team Redstone are asked to be at every funeral for deceased Soldiers in this GWOT (Global War on Terror) that are buried with full military honors in this geographical area.

"Our goal and our desires are to ensure our Soldiers are so well supported and equipped that we won't have to go to any more funerals."

Pillsbury, who arrived at the Aviation and Missile Command in December 2003, expects that this will be his last year here. He doesn't have any orders but he anticipates departing sometime this summer, probably for another assignment.

"My plans (for 2007) are to continue to command this organization. I'm loving every day working with (deputy) Dr. (Richard) Amos, the chief of staff (Col. Tom Newman), PEOs and the work force. But all good things come to an end and it looks like Becky and I will depart Redstone Arsenal sometime this summer for a location to be determined," he said.

Last year's efforts

Looking back at 2006, Pillsbury praised the efforts of the command and Team Redstone.

"For the Aviation and Missile Command, I would rate the performance about an A minus. The wonderful work force continued to support the Soldier, both deployed and redeployed Soldier, magnificently. I couldn't be prouder of the effort throughout Team Redstone and the AMCOM LCMC (Life Cycle Management Command)," Pillsbury said.

"The minus is a direct reflection of some leadership decisions that I made and do not reflect at all on our magnificent work force."

He particularly praised the support to the deployed forces during the past year.

"The one thing that I'm most proud of is the support to the deployed forces. It remains my No. 1 priority. And I don't think we can get any better than what we've done," he said. "So I continue to be amazed and awed by the level of effort that our entire work force takes to support our deployed forces. I



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HOOK 'EM HORNS— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, is a University of Texas fan.

will never be more proud of an organization than I am of this one."

Resetting the force

Reset, repairing the equipment from the war theater for return to the battlefield, is "the most critical mission we have at Redstone for the future of the weapon systems that we are responsible for," according to Pillsbury.

"The resetting of our force upon redeployment must get better," he said. "On the missile side, the work by Brig Gen. (Mike) Cannon (program executive officer for missiles and space) and his team in coordination with IMMC (Integrated Materiel Management Center) has got it about right. The aviation side was challenged this year by a lack of effort by one of our prime contractors which resulted in a backlog of work. That effort (with Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation at its Beeville, Texas, site) was at no fault to our PM Reset Office yet resulted in the backlog, and ultimately we closed that site (in November).

"The aviation reset office and work force out in the field are doing a marvelous job but we need to continue to constantly improve our efforts."

He is optimistic about this year at the Aviation and Missile Command.

"The outlook for calendar year 2007 as we go into second quarter of FY '07 is rosy and I am extremely optimistic. There are a

couple of reasons for that. First is the level of resources provided by Department of Army are unprecedented. And no organization that I know of can take resources and turn them into contracts which results in support to the Soldier better than Team Redstone. Second, our work force is one year more experienced in this fast-paced, high op-tempo environment forced on us by the Global War on Terror."

Priorities for year

"My priorities remain the same (for 2007)," he said. "That is, to support the deployed Soldier, reset the force and maintain and sustain a world-class work force. I want to personally thank the Garrison commander (Col. John Olshefski) and staff for setting the conditions for Team Redstone to be successful. I would also like to thank (Huntsville) Mayor Loretta Spencer, (Madison) Mayor Sandy Kirkindall and (Madison County) Commissioner Mike Gillespie for their help in also setting the conditions for us to be successful."

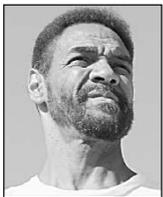
Asked to disclose the toughest part of commanding AMCOM and Redstone, he replied: "The toughest part about being commander of AMCOM and the senior commander at Team Redstone is not having enough resources to do all the things that I think are necessary."

See Pillsbury on page 3

An open lane random survey

What's your New Year's resolution or wish for 2007?

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Gary Winton
retired major
"That the situation in Iraq be brought to an equitable solution, and that our Soldiers be brought back home as quickly as possible."

David Reagan
chief of Junior ROTC
"My resolution is to make extra effort for a positive influence on high school ROTC programs in the brigade. We have Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana with 476 instructors and 33,000 cadets."



Pvt. Alice Stamm
Bravo Company
"To completely stop smoking."

Pvt. Joseph Connelly
Bravo Company
"To graduate (from advanced individual training as a calibrator). And to work out more often so I can show Drill Sgt. (Donald) Osborne how real men lift weights."



Quote of the week

"There's nothing better than to be able to say that we're the best."
— *Ike Rooks, radio announcer for Alabama A&M University's 2006 SWAC championship football team*

Letters to the Editor

Secretary of defense takes full responsibility

It is an honor, and a humbling responsibility, to take the helm of this department in a time of war and to lead men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our country. In the coming weeks, I will visit some of the key military posts and commands at home and abroad, as well as consult with this department's senior civilian and military leaders and staff. I look forward to meeting and hearing from the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who are the true heart and strength of America's armed forces. As the president has asked for my unvarnished advice, I expect the same of you.

Over the years of leading big institutions, I have learned something important: Leaders come and go, but professionals endure long after the appointees are gone. The key to successful leadership, in my view, is to involve in the decision making process, early and often, those who ultimately must carry out the decisions. I will do my best to do that.

This department is always engaged in a host of different activities that aid our nation's defense. All are important, all are valuable. The most important issue we face is the situation in Iraq. By removing the brutal and dangerous regime of Saddam Hussein, and by confronting the extremists and insurgents who have sought to derail any progress since, the United States and our coalition partners have provided the Iraqi people a unique opportunity to have a decent future.

The violence in Iraq must be contained and reduced. Failure in that part of the world would be a calamity that would haunt our nation, impair our credibility, and endanger Americans for

decades to come. A successful outcome in Iraq, one that will help protect our nation and serve her long-term interests, will require all elements of America's national power to work more effectively together, in cooperation with allies and partners in the region.

Afghanistan has made great strides since being liberated five years ago, but that progress is now at risk. The United States and our allies have made a commitment to prevent the Taliban from taking over Afghanistan again. We intend to keep it. How we face these and other challenges over the next two years will determine whether Iraq, Afghanistan, and other nations at a crossroads will pursue paths of gradual progress, or whether the forces of extremism and chaos will become ascendant.

As we address these challenges, it is important that we carry forward the process of what has been referred to as defense transformation. President Bush made it a priority at the beginning of his administration to help our military become more agile, more lethal, and more expeditionary. Much has been accomplished; much remains to be done. This task remains a necessity and a priority today. It is also essential that we make every effort to ensure that tax dollars are spent wisely and carefully, and we continue to maintain and enforce ethical standards of doing business.

In a department as large as this one, neither task will be done perfectly, but it is important that we strive to do our best. Our country is at war. I take this job with the knowledge that my decisions will have life-and-death consequences for

See Responsibility on page 3

Gym equipment needs work

This letter is submitted as a shout-out for help and/or assistance for the men and women who frequent Pagano Gym on a regular basis. Like most of the people that frequent this gym, the reason we continue to utilize this gym is because we love the atmosphere and the camaraderie established among friends. I have been a faithful patron of this gym for the past nine years and can't help but notice the lack of effort being put forth in repairing the things that break down in the gym.

Because of the volume of people that utilize this gym, we expect things to break down on occasion just from regular wear and tear. But, the repair time to fix these things is ridiculously slow. It should not take three months to fix a hinge on a door to the sauna area or two months to replace a broken soap dispenser. For the past three weeks, we have complained to the staff at the gym about a broken bench in the sauna room, which could cause serious injury if someone should step on a plank of deteriorated wood. We get the same type response every time a complaint is rendered — we are working on it. I don't dispute that the complaint is registered and a work order submitted, but I do have a problem with the response time to fix the problem areas when a complaint is rendered. The staff at the gym may dispute this claim because they recently invested money into new weight/cardiovascular equipment. The new equipment is nice and much needed, but like anything else, will eventually break without periodic maintenance/repair checks.

For those of you that never took the time to notice as you enter into Pagano Gym, there is a plaque on the wall with a picture of a young servicewoman — Capt. Barbara Pagano, Ordnance. The gym was named in her honor either because of dedicated service or for some brave act committed while she was alive. Capt. Pagano had a very short life span (1952-87), but did enough over this period of time to be honored with a gym in her name. I would like to see the staff at Pagano Gym rededicate themselves to keeping this gym operational/functional in her honor, as well as, all the men and women that have dedicated their lives to serving this country. I hope this letter will bring attention to a situation that needs attention. Thanks!

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for allowing us to address your concerns about maintenance issues at Pagano Gymnasium. You will be happy to know that the hinge on the sauna room door and the soap dispenser have been repaired, and the bench in the steam room has been replaced. In addition, all of the gymnasium's equipment is on a maintenance schedule, and several gymnasium employees have attended equipment maintenance training with emphasis placed on the upkeep of the new equipment. We appreciate your interest in helping us identify areas in need of attention."

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Pvt. Destiny Kean

Job: Student in 94 Alpha (land combat electronic missile system repair), Bravo Company

Where do you call home?
Port Huron, Mich.

What do you like about your job?

It's really hands-on. I really get into work.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to play pool and spend time with my battle buddies (including Pvt. Cassie Toney of Bravo Company).

What are your goals?

My goals are after I finish



here to go to college in electronics, and hopefully get my master's in electronics. (Graduates from 94 Alpha training Jan. 17 after nearly eight months here.)

What's your favorite type of music?

My favorite type of music is definitely country. I love Shania Twain.

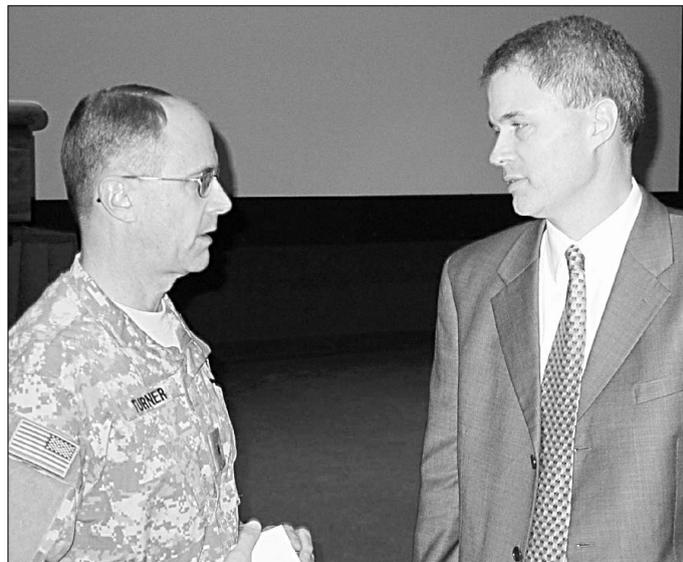


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Center of attention

Brig. Gen. Frank Turner III, commander of the Army Developmental Test Command, based at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., talks with James Johnson, director of the Redstone Technical Test Center, during Turner's visit Jan. 3. RTTC received an award as the No. 1 center for test quality in fiscal 2006. Johnson has been selected to become director of test management at headquarters Army Developmental Test Command. A promotion ceremony for this Senior Executive Service position is planned for February.

■ Commander focuses on supporting deployed forces

Pillsbury

continued from page 1

What most pleases him as commander is "working with the wonderful people here at Redstone and the surrounding communities."

On the ongoing process known as Condition Based Maintenance, Pillsbury said, "It will revolutionize aviation logistics and will save countless billions of dollars over the first decade after implementation, while improving readiness dramatically."

He also addressed the Aviation Classification

Repair Activity Depots serving in the war theater. "The AVCRAD mission in Kuwait has been critical to the success of AMCOM's mission in OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom) and OEF (Operation Enduring Freedom). We must ensure that they stay right-sized for the mission."

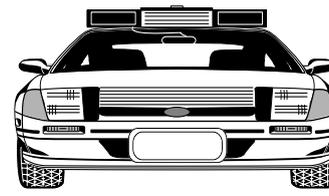
Missile support

"Where do I see the missile community going in the future?" he asked hypothetically. "We must energize TRADOC (Training and Doctrine Command), we must educate TRADOC on the capabilities resident in PEO Missiles and Space in order to ensure missile technology remains up to date."

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Dec. 28: An individual stopped at Gate 9 to obtain a visitor's pass and did not have a driver's license. He was checked; and this revealed a warrant for his arrest from Muscle Shoals Police Department. He was arrested by Redstone Police and released to Muscle Shoals Police Department after being issued a citation.



Dec. 31: An individual was found to be operating his vehicle while under the influence of alcohol after stopping at Gate 9. He

was arrested by Redstone Police, processed and placed in the detention cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level. He also received a violation notice.

Traffic accidents reported: three without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 8 speeding, 1 expired tag, 1 driving under the influence, 1 following too close.



DoD photo by Helene C. Stikkel

Defense secretary

Robert Gates, second from left, is sworn in as the 22nd secretary of defense by Vice President Richard Cheney at the Pentagon Dec. 18. Gates' wife, Becky, and President George W. Bush look on.

Army Materiel Command exceeds retention goals

WASHINGTON — For the second year in a row, the Army Materiel Command has received the U.S. Army Retention Award for exceeding its fiscal year retention goals.

"Anyone who's been around the Army knows how important it is to help Soldiers stay on board. This award is very dear to me because it means we're keeping great Soldiers in the active Army. Everyone at AMC won this award and I'm very proud of all of you," AMC commander Gen. Benjamin Griffin said as he accepted the award from AMC's Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Elder, at a ceremony Dec. 15.

AMC exceeded its goal in initial term by 138 percent, midcareer by 126 percent, career by 123 percent, and reserve component by 117 percent. AMC was one of only four Army commands and direct reporting units to achieve this accomplishment, according to Elder. (*Army Materiel Command release*)

■ Open letter from new defense secretary

Responsibility

continued from page 2

America's troops, as well as their families. I have accepted that responsibility, and will never forget it.

To all of the men and women of the U.S. military, you serve in the finest traditions of those who have worn this nation's uniform these past 230 years. It is a high honor to serve with you as secretary of defense. May God bless you and may God bless the wonderful country we have sworn an oath to protect.

Robert M. Gates
Secretary of defense

Hail and farewell

Helicopter project under new leadership

Robinson takes reins
for scout aircraft

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

Col. Keith Robinson is the new project manager for the Armed Scout Helicopter Project Office within the Program Executive Office for Aviation. Robinson assumed the project manager's position in a Bob Jones Auditorium assumption of charter ceremony Dec. 20.

The Armed Scout Helicopter Project Office oversees the management of the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter and the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior. The ARH will replace the Kiowa Warrior helicopter, which was first fielded in 1985, and will be a dual crew station, single-pilot-operable aircraft capable of operating worldwide in all airspace.

"We are bringing a capability to the Army and supporting an existing capability and that requires us to have one manager who is accountable for making the kinds of decisions in the near term that will have long term consequences from a materiel perspective but have real day to day consequences for the aviation war fighters that we support," PEO aviation Paul Bogosian said. "Your primary mission will be to support the war fighter, day-in and day-out; equally important your mission is to see through the investment, development and fielding of the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter, which is the primary program coming out of the Comanche termination. Flexibility and adaptability skills will be needed in this life-cycle mission. You have the support and confidence of everyone."



Courtesy photo

ACCEPTING CHARTER— Col. Keith Robinson receives the flag for the Armed Scout Helicopter Project Office.

ty and adaptability skills will be needed in this life-cycle mission. You have the support and confidence of everyone."

Robinson has had numerous acquisition assignments including assistant product manager for the Longbow Apache helicopter, product manager for the UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter, and test execution director for the Ground-based Mid-course Defense Joint

Program Office.

"I've known a lot of people in here since I was a lieutenant," Robinson said. "Not only do we have an Army Strong, but also we have an Army Family. This room represents for me our Army Family.

"Command is a privilege, and this is privilege. I am humbled and honored to have been given this opportunity. We are set for success, and we will be successful."



Photo by Chuck Crowley

All smiles

Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation, presents Marianne McGee, executive assistant for the Deputy PEO Aviation, with a plaque for her service to PEO Aviation. McGee is retiring with more than 36 years service, including more than nine years for the PEO Aviation headquarters.

Units add 29 Soldiers in month

Twenty-nine Soldiers arrived at Redstone units during December. The Garrison provided the following list, which may include some who were already here but were reassigned to other units:

- 1st Sgt. Jerry McIntyre, Aviation and Missile Command; Capt. Carly Skarphol, MEDDAC; Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence Bonkoski, Logistics Support Activity; Chief Warrant Officer D. Donald Dehnel, HHC 59th Ordnance Brigade; Chief Warrant Officer Jeffery Swindle, HHC 59th; Lt. Col. Mark H. Smith, MEDDAC; Maj. John Henry Grimes, Space and Missile Defense Command; Master Sgt. James Pierce, LOGSA; Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Blevins, Garrison; Sgt. 1st Class Robert Coppage, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class William Ewings, Headquarters & Alpha

Company; Sgt. 1st Class Lashay White, Bravo Company;

- Sgt. Thomas Champion, Garrison; Sgt. Colegula Davis, Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School; Sgt. Marquette Scott, NCO Academy; Sgt. Christopher Stewart, OMEMS; Sgt. Quashana Stewart, HHC 59th; Spc. Joe Felty, OMEMS; Spc. Samuel Allen Kelsey Jr., HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Lyquinta Bruno, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Sean Davis, OMEMS; Staff Sgt. Antwone Dubose, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. John Hittner, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Harry Lynn Lassiter Jr., HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Reginald Leday, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Marcus Lockett, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Jeffery Reuter, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Felton Thomas, OMEMS; and Staff Sgt. Amanda Wall, Charlie Company.

Lt. Gen. Campbell takes command of SMDC

Succeeds retiring commander Lt. Gen. Dodgen at Space and Missile Defense Command

Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell was promoted in a private ceremony at Fort Myer, Va., on Dec. 18 before assuming command of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Army chief of staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker hosted both events.

As commander of SMDC/ARSTRAT, Campbell is also commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense — a component of the U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. Gen. James Cartwright, commander of USSTRATCOM, conducted an adjunct change of command officially making Campbell commander of the JFCC-IMD.

Prior to this assignment, Campbell was chief of staff at USSTRATCOM. Other previous assignments include director of plans, U.S. Space Command; deputy commanding general, Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, Texas; commanding general, 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Fort Bliss; and assistant deputy chief of staff for combat developments, Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Va.

Outgoing commander Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen is scheduled to retire from active duty this month.

SMDC/ARSTRAT conducts space and missile defense operations and provides planning, integration, control and coordination of Army forces and capabilities in support of USSTRATCOM missions; serves as proponent for space and ground-based midcourse defense; is the operational integrator for global missile defense; conducts mission-related research, development and acquisition in support of Army Title 10 responsibilities; and serves as the focal point for desired characteristics and capabilities in support of USSTRATCOM missions.

With headquarters in Arlington, Va., SMDC/ARSTRAT has major subordinate elements in Huntsville; Colorado Springs, Colo.; White Sands Missile Range, N.M.; Fort Greely, Alaska; and the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Other elements provide satellite communications and early tactical missile warning. (Space and Missile Defense Command release)



Courtesy photo

IN COMMAND— Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, the new commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/ARSTRAT, is pictured here with his wife, Kathy (left) and daughter, Erin. His son, Scott, is not pictured.

Logistics assistance reps finish training

A graduation ceremony was conducted Dec. 21 at Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, to recognize nine Logistics Assistance Representatives who have completed 11 weeks of Phase 1 Advanced Technical Training at LAR University at CCAD.

Bob Jones, LAR University director of aviation training, welcomed attendees and thanked the Corpus Christi commander Col. Timothy Sassenrath for his continued support of the LAR University training program at the depot.

Sassenrath and Jeff Cinader, chief of AMCOM Cargo/Utility Branch, were on hand to jointly make the presentations to the graduates. Sassenrath addressed the graduates and noted that the LAR training program at Corpus Christi continues to meet the challenges of Army aviation by providing unparalleled, technically relevant aviation maintenance training that has a significant impact on Army readiness and mission accomplishment worldwide.

The AMCOM LAR University training program is in its fifth year at Corpus Christi.

Depot worker retires with 65 years service

By GALE SMITH

Joint Munitions Command public affairs

HAWTHORNE, Nev. — He worked for the Department of Defense longer than anyone and was the oldest DoD employee. Louis Dellamonica, 94, retired Jan. 2 from the Hawthorne Army Depot after an extraordinary 65 years of service.

HWAD commander Lt. Col. Hardee Green presided over the retirement ceremony that honored Dellamonica's long and illustrious career on Dec. 15. Distinguished visitors included Kathryn Condon, executive deputy to the commanding general, Army Materiel Command, and Brig. Gen. James Rogers, commanding general of the Joint Munitions Command. Quiet and unassuming, Dellamonica seemed genuinely embarrassed by all of the attention.

Honors included a personal letter from President Bush; a letter, coin and photo from former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld; and awards from Nevada's two U.S. Senators, Harry Reid and John Ensign, and Congressman Jim Gibbons. Condon presented Dellamonica with a note and coin from Gen. Benjamin Grif-

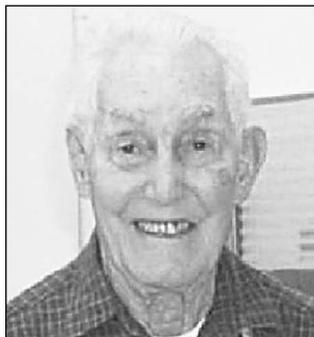
fin, commander of the Army Materiel Command, and the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal and Award. Rogers gave him the Superior Civilian Service Award.

Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, commander of the Army Sustainment Command, has nominated Dellamonica for the Army Ordnance Hall of Fame. In addition, the Army Materiel Command has renamed its 10 Outstanding AMC Personnel of the Year Award in his honor.

Dellamonica's personal qualities are best summed up in his own words: "Pride means do-it-yourself to the best of your ability, disregarding whether you are a big wheel, little log, keystone or cobblestone."

Dellamonica attended the groundbreaking of the Hawthorne Naval Facility in 1929 with his family at the age of 17.

Following the ground breaking, his next association with the depot came during college as an electrical engineering major at the University of Nevada in Reno. He worked on various projects to supply the facility with electricity. After college he accepted a job there, just a few days after the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.



Louis Dellamonica

Disability doesn't stop employee of year

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — A production materials handler from Tobyhanna's Work In Progress Control Area accepted the Department of the Army Disabled Employee of the Year Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon Dec. 5.

Born without arms and legs, Chester Bogart said he has never let his handicap prevent him from living a normal life. He was among 14 Defense Department honored at the 26th Annual DoD Disability

Awards.

"My mother always encouraged me to try to do things on my own," Bogart said, attributing his success to his supportive parents. "They always backed me in whatever I did in life."

Bogart has tracked and expedited parts for several industrial cost centers in the depot's Production Management Directorate for more than 22 years. (Tobyhanna release)



Photo by Leroy Council

SIMPLY THE BEST—Tobyhanna Army Depot's Chester Bogart is awarded the Department of the Army Disabled Employee of the Year Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon Dec. 5.

Helser honored for human resources work

Diane Helser of AMCOM has earned certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources.

The certification, awarded by the Human Resource Certification Institute, signifies that Helser possesses the theoretical knowledge and practical experience in human resource management necessary to pass a rigorous examination demonstrating a mastery of the body of knowledge in the field.

"Certification as a human resource professional clearly demonstrates a commitment to personal excellence and to the human resource profession," said Susan Meisinger, SPHR, president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management.

HRCI awards two levels of certification: Professional in Human Resources and Senior Professional in Human

Resources. To become certified, an applicant must pass a comprehensive examination and demonstrate a strong background of professional human resource experience.

HRCI is the credentialing body for human resource professionals and is affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management, the world's largest organization dedicated exclusively to the human resource profession. The institute's purpose is to promote the establishment of professional standards and to recognize professionals who meet those standards.

Helser has 27 years of experience in human resource management for the Army. Her previous assignments include the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center and the Huntsville Center, Corps of Engineers.

Coast Guard member honored posthumously

MOBILE — Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Clint Jaye, 46, was posthumously promoted to chief petty officer Dec. 18 during a funeral service in Monroeville.

With 28 years of military service, Jaye was honored during the ceremony for his dedicated years of service to the Coast Guard.

During his career as a Coast Guard machinery technician, Jaye served at Port Security Unit 308 and the Coast Guard Cutters Cimmaron, Sweetgum, Cypress,

Eagle, Saginaw and Wedge.

With more than 100 Coast Guard members in attendance from various units, the funeral included full military honors in addition to a fly-over by a HH-60J Jayhawk helicopter.

Jaye's family and community noted their appreciation for the support they received after his death.

Jaye died of cancer Dec. 13, and at the time of his death, was assigned to the Coast Guard Cutter Wedge. (Coast Guard release)

Modernized antique car keeps retiree happy



Photo by Skip Vaughn

STREET ROD— Garrison retiree Dwight Gooch spent two years rebuilding his 1933 Ford.

Athens resident's vehicle draws attention on road

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The stares and friendly waves keep coming from passers-by. Some people want to stop and ask about this unique car.

Dwight Gooch is used to all the attention. That's just part of owning a 1933 Ford which he modernized to drive long distance.

"It's a modernized antique car. It's called a street rod," said Gooch, who retired Jan. 3 from the Garrison's Exhibit Section after 39 years service including four years in the Navy. "It's not a kit car. It's all original steel (body)."

He purchased the relic from a guy in Indianapolis for \$30,000 and worked on it for two years, spending a lot of time and money rebuilding the vehicle. Now he calls it his "keeper" which he wouldn't think of selling — even for a hefty profit.

This is the 10th vehicle he's modernized in 35 years and the only one he still has.

"They're not exactly restored, they're modernized," the Athens native said. "They have the original body, but they have late-model running gear."

The car has its original so-called "suicide doors." They're attached backward; and they earned their nickname for their tendency to fly open when the car hit a bump. This meant the occupants in the old days would probably end up getting ejected. "I'm going to add seat belts," Gooch said. "And I've got door locks (already added)."

Gooch, 59, belongs to the National Street Rod Association. He drives to shows in Knoxville and in Louisville, Ky. "When we go to Louisville it's 11,000 cars and you have to be pre-1949 to get in," he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PURRFECT— Lift the hood to see a new crate 330 hp, 350 cubic inch Chevy engine and a Chevy 350 turbo transmission.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SUICIDE DOORS— The car has its original so-called "suicide doors." They're attached backward; and they earned their nickname for their tendency to fly open when the car hit a bump. This meant the occupants in the old days would probably end up getting ejected. "I'm going to add seat belts," Dwight Gooch said. "And I've got door locks (already added)."

Serving to 'protect the American way of life'

Reservist home for holidays before returning to Baghdad

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

Transitions are always tough. Change often comes slowly. But,

knowing that doesn't make it any easier to manage.

Capt. Rosalind Walker, a wife and mother, an AMCOM employee and Reserve Soldier, works with transition every day. It is the focus of her job as a maintenance logistician in Baghdad, Iraq.

Deployed last summer with the 108th Division, Walker just

completed a two-week leave, spending time in Monrovia with her daughter Maya and husband, Gregory, who is a professor at Defense Acquisition University. On Jan. 4, she spent a few hours sharing information and stories of her wartime experience with military personnel, community leaders, media and members of the Madison Cheer Brigade during a special presentation at Madison City Hall.

"It's hard to leave my family, especially my 7-year-old daughter," she said of her deployment. "But, I chose to wear the uniform several years ago, and always knew as long as I still wear the uniform, it's a possibility that I will get called to war.

"I have an obligation and a commitment that I have to fill. I serve to protect the American way of life and protect our country from all enemies, domestic and foreign. I am fighting terrorism in Iraq to protect the United States."

Walker works on the Maintenance Logistics staff for the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq, supporting all the logistical operations for the Iraqi Army forces, including the Iraqi police.

"My position requires me to travel all over Iraq, visiting nine different sites, managing the maintenance contract and putting in place a four-level maintenance plan that would work for

the military and police forces, Walker said.

"We are getting ready to transition the maintenance contract over to the Iraqi Army forces ... What we're trying to do is get all the equipment the coalition has given Iraqis and put it in a maintenance plan. It's a big thing transitioning from coalition control to Iraqi control."

It is part of the plan for 2007 – training the Iraqi police so they can adequately provide police protection within the Iraqi provinces and training the Iraqi armed forces to defend the country as a whole. The unit in Iraq prior to the 108th Division

See Walker on page 12



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PERSONAL TIME— Capt. Rosalind Walker of the Army Reserve's 108th Division spends a happy moment with her daughter, Maya, 7. Her two-week leave from service in Iraq was filled with personal time spent with her family, which includes her husband, Gregory, a professor at Defense Acquisition University. When she returns in June, Walker will come home to a new house and her job in logistics for Extended Range Multipurpose Aircraft.

UAH students donate to deployed Soldiers

The Army Reserve Soldiers of the 108th Division have been able to make a difference in the lives of Iraqi school children thanks to school supply donations made by student groups at the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

Several student groups have sponsored donation drives in recent months and the Army Reserve Center in Huntsville has mailed the donations to the 108th. The division's chaplain has made sure they have been distributed to Iraqi school children.

One group – the UAH College Republicans – has also sent donations for the Soldiers themselves, including things like beef jerky, raisins and peanuts, band-aids, chapstick and freeze dried ice cream. They are now working on collecting donations of additional school supplies for Iraqi children.

"I heard Soldiers are getting a kick out of a bag of potato chips that were sent to them," said Emily Mattox, vice president of the UAH College Republicans. "I was thinking about our Soldiers and what we could do to really boost their morale."

Mattox was joined by UAH College Republicans president Robert Towner and member Paul Delongchamp, who is a member of the Army

ROTC program at Alabama A&M University. The group, which has about 15 members, hopes to have a positive impact on Soldiers.

"A lot of media is sort of condescending to the military," Mattox said. "The media's side of the war and the Soldier's side of the war are so different that it's like two different wars they are talking about. You never hear about the little girls who are going to school now. You never hear about how many would be dead without us being there."

Towner said the "casual supplies" the UAH groups are sending to Soldiers are also delivered with the morale support of the students.

"I think what we are doing shows a great ability for people our age to take time out of our day to show our support and concern for the Soldiers," Towner said. "This makes us feel better because we are giving to them. It makes us feel better than any sort of praise we may get."

The UAH groups are among many other local groups, such as the City of Madison and Dynetics Corp., which have donated either Soldier or school supplies to the 108th Division.

To donate to the UAH effort, contact Towner at 530-6684 or robert.towner@gmail.com or Mattox at 348-4106 or emm0001@email.uah.edu.

Investigators well-represented in contest winners' circle

Three-member division wins for essays, displays

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The three members of the Criminal Investigation Division have been winning more than their share of Team Redstone's essay and display contests.

The post sponsors these contests as part of its Equal Employment Opportunity celebrations such as women's equality, disability awareness, Hispanic heritage, Asian Pacific heritage, African-American heritage and American Indian heritage.

Members of the Criminal Investigation Division won a first place and two second place awards for the American Indian Heritage Month contests in November. The awards were presented Dec. 19 at the 59th Ordnance Brigade.

"Agent (Christopher) Coffey got us involved during Women's Equality (in August), and we got excited because he won an award," Richard Browning, criminal intelligence manager in the division, said. "So we decided to participate as an office."

Browning won first place in the American Indian month essay contest; and his boss, Special Agent Patrick Jones, took second place. The division tied with Bravo Company for second in the static display contest.

Other winners included Sharon Lee of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, third place in the essay contest; Wyatt Farnior, an 8-year-old student at Columbia Elementary School, honorable mention in the essay contest; Missile Systems Electronic



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TROPHY FOR DISPLAY— The NCO Academy tied with the Missile Systems Electronic Training Department for first place in the static display contest. From left are 59th Ordnance Brigade's Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle, commander Col. Jose Enriquez and NCO Academy representatives Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Allen Sr., Staff Sgt. Jerry Reardon and Sgt. Jenny Krause.

Training Department and the NCO Academy, first place tie in the display contest; and Headquarters & Alpha Company, third place in the display contest.

The awards were presented by Col. Jose Enriquez, commander of 59th Ordnance Brigade. He addressed the significance of the observance months.

"It's important that we recognize within the military the diversity and different backgrounds that we have that make up the military," Enriquez said. "It's not just for the military, but also the civilian population — the Department of Army and Department of Defense civilians — along with the military that make us a whole team, that make us truly Army strong. So, we need to reflect back as to what we're made up of as the Army, where we come from and what we're all about."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ESSAY WINNER— Richard Browning of the Criminal Investigation Division receives his first place award from Col. Jose Enriquez, commander of the 59th Ordnance Brigade, for the American Indian Heritage Month essay contest.

Walker

continued from page 10

focused on giving equipment – hundreds of Humvees, SUVs and all kinds of equipment — to the Iraqis, and the “108th is now transitioning the maintenance of those things over to the Iraqis,” Walker said. “When we leave, the 104th will come in, and stabilize the maintenance plan and make sure the plan we put in place will work.”

The difficulty, Walker said, is getting the Iraqis to maintain the equipment themselves.

“For me, I think we pushed too much (of needed equipment) and didn’t put in the logistics concept when we pushed,” she said. “Nobody thinks of logistics until things break. Then it’s ‘How are we going to get it fixed? Where’s the maintenance plan?’ ... They’ve got a lot of military equipment. But, they have to have an understanding of maintenance. And, that’s the challenge.”

The situation is compounded because as the 108th works to get a maintenance plan in place, it is also having to work with U.S. contractors to repair hundreds of vehicles and other equipment that the Iraqis don’t know how to maintain.

“We’re pushing piece by piece, we’re pushing the power to them,” she said.

“I don’t fix the problem. I push it to them and let them fix the problem; because, if I don’t, they’ll sit back and let me fix the problem ... We’re trying to ease out of the picture. When they can stand on their own we can come home.”

Walker’s efforts are also compounded by the multiple ministries she must work through to get maintenance contracts implemented. Many of those ministries – transportation, finance, oil, defense, interior – don’t always work well together.

The war, itself, also slows down the transition process. There are times when personnel Walker is working with will suddenly disappear or they will have to be absent to deal with a family tragedy. One colonel was gone for several days when his first cousin and nephew were kidnapped and then killed because the family didn’t have \$4,000 to pay in ransom. Another colonel was pulled from his home, and beaten and mutilated in front of his family and neighbors. While he was in the hospital, the Iraqi Army reported him as AWOL, which meant the colonel couldn’t get paid.

“If you can’t wear the uniform and

report to work, they make you AWOL, even if you are in the hospital,” Walker said. “We were able to raise money for the colonel to help him and his family. But, after he got out of the hospital, he quit the Army.”

Walker has seen some success among the divisions she works with. Recently, one division picked up the parts and equipment they needed to maintain their own equipment. For that accomplishment, Walker received a general’s coin from Gen. George W. Casey.

Upon her return to Iraq, Walker’s work will take her into the red zone, where she will be the only female working in a building of about 1,000 Iraqis.

“I am one of the few females that can visit their locations and have the respect from several of the top generals ... They need me to be hand-in-hand to do the training for the transition,” she said.

“I’ve been given a challenge to complete by the time I come back in June. Hopefully, it will go well and we can move them forward ... (The Iraqis) really appreciate the efforts and security that the coalition forces are providing them while they prepare themselves to move the military forward.”

The 108th is stationed on Saddam Hussein’s palace grounds, which resembles a mini-resort, “except that it gets bombed” from outside the five-mile zone around the palace. There are times both during the day and night when Soldiers have to take cover from bomb attacks. Whenever moving from one place to another, Walker must carry a M4, M9 and ammunition and wear a 35-pound ballistic cover.

“You always wear a weapon. That’s a normal uniform,” she said. “You always wear one weapon and the other gear has to be within reach.”

Her days begin with a workout at the gym, and continue with 12- to 15-hour work days seven days a week. Much of her work takes Walker outside the palace on convoys to the nine forward operating bases.

“It’s unsafe to move even 10 miles down the road,” she said. “We have a (Rough Riders) convoy of several gun trucks and SUVs just to go 10 miles down the road at 70 miles an hour ... Once we had to jump the median and stop oncoming traffic (to continue to quickly move the convoy). We told drivers to move out of the way. One didn’t stop and we shot to blow their tires out. They know they are supposed to stop for any convoy.”

Inside the palace grounds, there is a



Photo by Kari Hawkins

IN APPRECIATION— Capt. Rosalind Walker presents Madison Mayor Sandy Kirkindall with a certificate and a U.S. flag that was flown over Baghdad on Sept. 11, 2006. The gifts were given in appreciation for the care packages and e-mails sent by the City of Madison and its Madison Cheer Brigade. The City of Madison adopted the 38 North Alabama Soldiers of the 108th Division when they deployed to Iraq in June.

Baskin Robbins and a 30-seat movie theater where all the latest movies are shown. Soldiers can go swimming — Walker actually took swimming lessons last summer — and they can participate in things like body building contests and basketball competitions.

“You have to make time off for yourself to keep your sanity,” she said.

Walker is looking forward to returning from Iraq in June, when she will come home to a new house in Monrovia that she and her husband are now building, and to a family that includes her daughter Maya and three stepchildren – 18-year-old Martin, who has recently enlisted in the Air Force; 20-year-old Greg, who is in the Air Force’s technician training school; and 23-year-old Andreian, who is making plans to join the Atlanta Police Force. She will also return to her job in logistics for Extended Range Multi-Purpose Aircraft and to three more years in the Reserves before retiring with 20 years of military service.

“I’m coming home and, hopefully, I won’t be going back,” Walker said.

“But, there are several Soldiers from the 108th who are willing to stay. There is

one administrative personnel Soldier who is a grandmother of six and the mother of three. Sgt. Madison is choosing to extend her stay six months because she wants to be closest to her youngest son, who is deploying to Faluja.”

In her presentation, Walker thanked all those who have sent her e-mails, cards and care packages, particularly the Family Readiness Groups from the 4th Chemical Battalion and the 108th Division. She especially thanked the City of Madison for adopting the 38 Soldiers from North Alabama who are in the 108th Division, student groups from the University of Alabama-Huntsville for school supplies that have been distributed to Iraqi children, and employees of Dynetics Corp. for the “21 boxes of everything you can imagine.”

“Being in Iraq has taught me a lot. I truly love the United States and the freedom we have,” Walker said.

Editor’s note: Redstone Arsenal employees who would like to contact Walker can e-mail her at rosalind.walker@iraq.centcom.mil or rosalind.walker@us.army.mil.

REDSTONE ARSENAL ARMY FAMILY ACTION PLAN CONFERENCE REDSTONE OFFICERS AND CIVILIANS CLUB

FEB. 27-28, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
REGISTRATION FORM

DATA REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974; AUTHORITY: 5 USC 301, 10 USC 3013,
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Identification of participants in the Army Family Action Plan Conference.
ROUTINE USES: Used to record the names and addresses of attendees at the Army Family Action
Plan Conference. Used to contact participants. DISCLOSURE: Disclosure is voluntary. If the
requested information is not provided, registration for the conference may not be possible.

1. FIRST NAME: _____ MI: _____ LAST NAME: _____
MAILING ADDRESS: (Line 1) _____
or OFFICE SYMBOL (Line 2) _____
CITY _____ STATE: _____
ZIP: _____
DAYTIME PHONE: _____ FAX: _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Do you require Daycare: _____ If So, Ages of Children: _____
You must register at the Child Development Center to use their facility.

COMPLETE ALL THAT APPLY:

2. YOUR MILITARY AFFILIATION?
(If not applicable, go to item 3.)
- a. Are you a:
 Soldier or Retiree
 Spouse of Soldier or Retiree
- b. Are you or is your sponsor:
 Active-duty
 Reserve
 National Guard
 Retired
- c. Rank: _____
d. Job Title: _____
3. YOUR DA CIVILIAN AFFILIATION?
(If Active Duty Military go to item 4.)
- a. Are you a:
 DA Civilian Employee
 Spouse of DA Civilian
- b. Are you or is your sponsor:
 APF (GS, WG)
 NAF (NF)
- c. Series/Grade: _____
d. Job Title: _____
4. YOUR MARITAL STATUS?
 Single Married Widow/Widower
5. YOUR FAMILY TYPE?
 Dual-Military Sole-parent Traditional Other
6. YOUR CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION?
 Delegate Admin support
 Facilitator Issue Support
 Recorder Youth Delegate
 Subject Matter Expert
7. HAVE YOU EVER PARTICIPATED IN AN
AFAP CONFERENCE? WHERE / WHEN?
 Installation level; what year(s)? _____
 MACOM level; what year(s)? _____
 DA Level; what year(s)? _____
 Never participated at any level
8. YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST (pick 3 and indicate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice):
____ Medical/Dental _____ Commissary/AAFES
____ Family Housing/Facilities Maintenance _____ Morale, Welfare and Recreation Activities
____ Traffic/Transportation/Personnel(civilian & military)/Finance

Please return this form to your organization's AFAP point of contact or send to: Cathy Hays,
IMSE-RED-MWA, Bldg 3338, Redeye Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35758-5000 or fax to 955-9171
or e-mail: cathy.hays@redstone.army.mil or visit www.redstonemwr.com to register and submit a
Quality of Life Survey.

Army Family Action Plan Conference Quality of Life Survey

This is your opportunity to make suggestions or express concerns
about programs, services, or benefits affecting you and your family.
These will be discussed at the Redstone Arsenal Army Family Action
Plan Conference scheduled Feb. 27-28.

Consider what could be improved in the following areas to include
but not limited to: Medical and Dental Services, AAFES, Commis-
sary, Military or Civilian Pay, Allowances, Entitlements, Relocation,
Housing, Traffic, Travel, Transportation, Education, Child Care,
Morale Welfare and Recreation.

(Please type or write legibly)

How would you improve the Army's programs, services, or bene-
fits?

(Be specific and recommend solutions. Give brief examples. Issues
can be anything affecting the quality of life at Redstone or impacting
the total Army family. Issues must have attainable solutions. Person-
al complaints will not be addressed. Comments may be continued on a
separate sheet. One issue per page.)

Please include the following in the event we need clarification:
(Optional)

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Send your completed survey to Army Community Service, building
3338, Redeye Road, Directorate of Morale Welfare and Recreation,
U.S. Army Garrison, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898-5000 or fax to 955-
9171.

If you would like to participate as a conference delegate, please
contact your organization's AFAP point of contact or send to Cathy
Hays at 876-5041, fax 955-9171, or cathy.hays@redstone.army.mil or
visit www.redstonemwr.com to complete the registration online and
complete this Quality of Life Survey. Surveys for the AFAP Confer-
ence will be accepted until Jan. 23.

Patriot riders show respect for veteran families

Volunteer group members attend funerals nationwide

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

Respect. Honor. Tribute.

Those key words define a group of volunteers known in North Alabama and throughout the U.S. as the Patriot Guard Riders.

They come from all walks of life – accountants, construction workers, lawyers, engineers, homemakers. Some are veterans. Many, but not all, ride motorcycles.

Yet, they all have one thing in common: a sense of patriotic duty to display the nation's colors with pride and sympathy at the funerals of fallen veterans. Their sense of patriotism has also spilled over into other events affecting Soldiers and their families, including deployment and welcome home ceremonies, and community recognition events such as Huntsville's annual Veterans Day Parade.

Wherever they ride – on motorcycles or in cars and trucks – they carry the American flag with pride.

“Our main mission is to respect, honor and pay tribute to our fallen heroes,” said Scott “Chappy” Carle, an Alabama Ride captain for the Patriot Guard Riders of North Alabama and a military software writer at Intergraph Corp.

The North Alabama group formed in November 2005 and has grown to include about 1,000 members. They are part of a statewide organization and also a national organization that includes about 71,000 members.

“We’re all over the state from Mobile to Florence to Gun-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FLYING THE COLORS— Patriot Guard Riders of North Alabama offer their support to the families of fallen veterans by flying the nation's flag at funerals and providing escorts for funeral processions. They also carry the flag at local patriotic events such as Huntsville's Veterans Day Parade. Organizers of the North Alabama group are, from left, Len Bullington, Tommy Poss, Scott Carle and Marco Shindlebower.

tersville,” Carle said.

“It seems our numbers get a little heavier around military bases,” said fellow guard captain Len Bullington, who works as a Huntsville firefighter at the Martin Road station.

Carle and Bullington are among five captains who organize Patriot Guard Riders for funerals and other events in North Alabama. The other captains are Marco Shindlebower, Tommy Poss and Steve Mozian. Alabama's state captain is Greg “Catfish” McDaniel.

While most funerals attended by Patriot Guard Riders in Alabama recognize the heroism of World War II or Vietnam War

veterans, they have also been present at two recent funerals for veterans of the Global War on Terrorism. The Alabama riders were present at the June 16, 2006, tribute to Huntsville's 1st Lt. Scott Love and at the Dec. 10, 2006, funeral of Hartselle's Cpl. Jon-Erik Loney.

In January, Patriot Guard riders from throughout the state will be present at the Prattville Lions Celebration Party to recognize their win as state football champions and to Gov. Bob Riley's inauguration on Jan. 15.

Patriot Guard Riders were formed in Kansas in response to a group of anti-war zealots who began protesting at the funerals

of veterans. The American Legion Riders Chapter 136 in Kansas first took a patriotic stand against these zealots at the funeral of Sgt. John Doles in Chelsea, Okla.

The mission was so successful that the national Patriotic Guard organization was formed in October 2005. A nationwide communications and recruiting system via an Internet web site helped to organize statewide organizations with a primary focus on recruiting veterans and motorcycle groups. Since then, riders from such groups as the VFW, American Legion, Rolling Thunder, American Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments,

Combat Vets Motorcycle Association, Intruder Alert, Leathernecks Motorcycle Club and hundreds of individual riders have joined with the Patriotic Guard Riders across the U.S.

Communication both throughout the nation and on the state level is done through the Patriot Guard's national web site at <http://www.patriotguard.org>. But, the national organization relies heavily on its state chapters to fulfill its mission on a local level.

Each state chapter organizes its presence at veteran funerals and patriotic events, which are also published on the national web site with an invitation to any Patriot Guard member who wants to participate.

“We use the web site and e-mails a lot to communicate with each other,” Carle said. “We really don't have meetings, per se. We do try to get together every once-in-a-while in Huntsville. But, mainly, we see each other when we ride as Patriot Guard Riders.”

Alabama's Patriot Guard Riders also often attend veteran funerals and other events in nearby states.

“I limit myself to 250 miles one-way,” said Poss, who works at TVA/Browns Ferry and who is a Vietnam era Navy veteran. “I've gotten up at 3 a.m. to go to Athens, Ga., or Little Rock, Ark., for a veteran's funeral.”

“I've been on 37 missions since March,” added Shindlebower, who is retired from TVA/Browns Ferry and Vietnam era Air Force veteran. “The majority are funerals. But, I was also at the deployments of the 128th and 1169th and at the Purple Heart memorial dedication.”

Riders

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The Patriot Guard Riders learn of a veteran's death from notices posted by the Department of Defense. They also read through newspaper obitu-

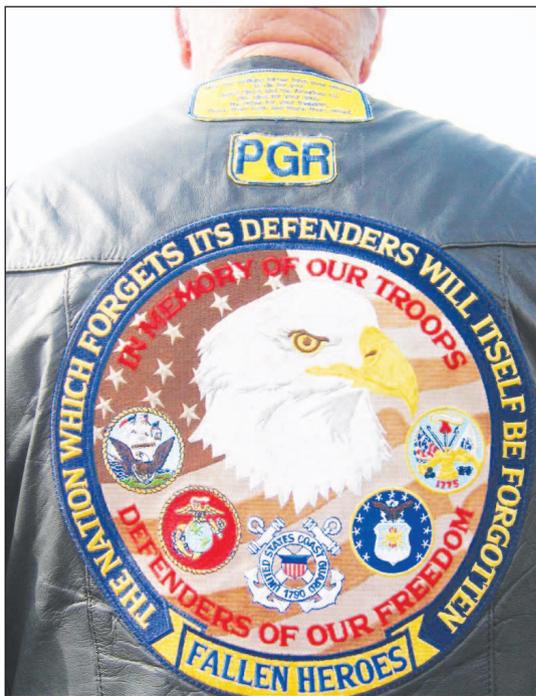


Photo by Kari Hawkins

PATRIOTIC PATCHES— Many Patriot Guard Riders wear black vests covered with patches and pins from the national organization. Marco Shindlbower wears a patch on the back of his vest.

aries for funerals of law enforcement and firefighter personnel. A Guard captain will then contact the grieving family to ask permission to participate in the funeral.

If the family wants the Patriot Guard present, the captain will then contact guard members. On week days, an average of 50 to 100 riders will attend the funeral or event. On weekends, that number can increase to about 200.

Although the main goal is to show honor for the veteran and their family at funerals, Carle said the riders are on hand to provide whatever support a grieving family needs.

“We try to be there for the family,” he said. “Our goal is what does the family want us to do. We’ve escorted the bodies of veterans from airports to the funeral home, and we’ve escorted hearses from the funeral home to the cemetery. We’ve been pall bearers. We’ve been shoulders for a grieving spouse to cry on.”

Many times, the riders are the first to arrive at a funeral and the last to leave. They often organize a column of flags for the funeral procession.

“We want these families to know they are appreciated and that their sacrifice is appreciated,” Carle said. “We make sure that what the family sees is respect.”

On the national web site, there is a listing of pending missions, confirmed missions and completed missions. Also, on the web site are appreciation letters from veteran families.

“There are letters about what families encountered and how much they appreciated what we were able to do for them,” Poss said.

Anyone can join the Patriot Guard Riders. Though the organization grew out of a motorcycle group, members are not required to ride motorcycles. For more information, check out the organization’s web site (www.patriotguard.org) or contact Carle at Chappy@patriotguard.org.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

RIDE WITH PRIDE— Members of Alabama’s Patriot Guard Riders came out in full force to ride in Huntsville’s Veterans Day Parade.

Mentoring program signup under way

Six-month learning cycle challenges participants

AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources) announces Cycle V of the People Empowering People Mentoring Program. Cycle V will begin March 6 and end Sept. 8.

The six-month mentoring cycle consists of a variety of educational and guided learning experiences to include mentor/protégé

training, lunch and learns, independent mentoring sessions, and a culminating capstone experience — a staff ride. Staff rides have a specific focus such as leadership, continuous improvement, or application of a specific technology.

The People Empowering People Mentoring Program was approved in June 2004. Mentoring is an opportunity for the command to leverage its diverse strengths and enhance profes-

sional development through mentoring relationships. The Aviation and Missile Command has had four mentoring cycles; and 124 protégés and mentors have gone through the program.

The program represents a cross-section of AMCOM organizations. The protégé portion of the program is open to permanent AMCOM employees at the GS-3 level through the GS-13 level. If you are interested in being a mentor, you must be at the GS-12 level

or higher.

Participants' feedback indicates the program benefits the mentors and protégés in a variety of ways — from learning problem solving skills, exposure to the “big” picture, to professional development.

What happens in a mentoring relationship can have a profound, deep and lasting impact. The process of creating effective learning relationships through mentoring challenges participants

to think about what they might become.

Be a part of shaping AMCOM's future — sign up as a mentor or protégé during the application acceptance period through Jan. 19. Call Jackie Timme, mentoring program manager in AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources), at 876-6061 for more information or visit the G-1 web site at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal.do?sp=301150>.

PIF does avionics upgrade on presidential helicopter

Cockpit avionics fix designed to improve aircraft capabilities

By LAURA STONE

For the Rocket

As part of the Naval Air Systems Command VH-60N Cockpit Upgrade Program, the Prototype Integration Facility has teamed with NAVAIR to design, fabricate and integrate the NAVAIR adapted Common Avionics Architecture System into the NSH-60F helicopter.

The NSH-60F is used for hardware and

software testing prior to application to the VH-60N helicopter fleet which is used to transport the U.S. president, vice president and other visiting heads of state.

CUP is designed to improve the capabilities of the aircraft, simplify training and enhance situational awareness. Consisting of five multi-function displays, three control display units, two general purpose processing units, and two data concentrator units, the CAAS utilizes Ethernet as its primary system interface to facilitate growth and a higher level of redundancy. CAAS also employs common, reusable processing elements in each hardware

component and incorporates open systems avionics architecture to enable future upgrades and technology insertions. The new avionics suite also includes upgrades in navigation, communication and mission equipment.

NAVAIR approached the Prototype Integration Facility to facilitate the program because of the PIF's flexibility and ability to easily team with other government agencies and industry.

“The PIF was the most natural fit in terms of a teaming relationship,” Jim Tomasic, VH senior platform coordinator, said. “By working together, we were able to compress the 14 months schedule to 10

months with manageable risk.”

The aircraft is scheduled for delivery in April. The PIF and NAVAIR are working concurrently on the upgrade, with NAVAIR personnel stationed at the Prototype Integration Facility through the duration of the program. NAVAIR is working with the facility on other efforts as well as possible follow on efforts with this program.

Editor's note: Laura Stone is project coordinator for Yulista Management Services at the Prototype Integration Facility, part of the Aviation and Missile Research and Development Center.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Holiday cheer

Members of the Madison Cheer Brigade share Christmas gifts with Pvt. Brandi Muncher, standing at left, a member of the Army Reserve's 3rd Brigade, 108th Division, and her daughter, 4-year-old Victoria Starr, and her niece, 13-year-old Sara Robinson. The Madison Cheer Brigade – represented by Mason Overcash, front; Madison Mayor Sandy Kirkindall, second from right, and Cameron Overcash, right, – provided presents, gift cards and monetary donations to four local Reserve families, including Muncher's family, who are experiencing financial hardships. Also pictured with the group is Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. John Perry, left. "This is the second year we've done this," Kirkindall said. "A lot of times, the active duty Soldiers can have their needs met by resources on post. A lot of times, Reserve and National Guard families are the ones who run into problems when their Soldier is deployed or when their Soldier returns from a deployment. We are glad we were able to meet the needs of all four of these families."

Listen up to hearing precautions

Hearing conservation is protecting your hearing from a potentially damaging level of noise, according to the Garrison Safety office.

Noise can interfere with sound you want to hear (for example, conversation). But it's more than just a nuisance, it's a hazard too. Noise can damage hearing, temporarily or permanently. It may also create stress that can affect your physical and mental well-being, and cause accidents when workers can't hear instructions or warning signals.

Good hearing helps you:

- Enjoy life. Many of life's most-valued pleasures involve hearing, such as the sounds of nature and everyday life, music, voices of family and friends, and more.

- Communicate with others. Being with other people is easier and more rewarding if you can hear and understand sounds clearly and correctly.

Without good hearing, it's difficult to lead a full life — on the job or off. But you can protect your hearing from damage or loss by taking the following precautions:

- Understand the fundamentals of hearing and sound.

- Use protective devices in noisy areas (on the job and off).

- Have your hearing tested periodically.

Conservation is important because your hearing is priceless. (*Garrison Safety release*)

Santa brings cheer to children of Redstone

Man-in-red escorted through housing areas

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

As Santa Claus and his group of temporary elves arrived in Redstone Arsenal's Columbia Centre neighborhood for a special pre-Christmas Eve visit, they were greeted by 15-month-old Thomas Ehemann and his mom, Megan.

The mom and son were the first to see Santa arrive on the morning of Saturday, Dec. 16, during the annual Santa Run. But, when Megan handed Thomas over to the elves to be placed on Santa's knee, the little boy covered his eyes and shied away from the jolly old man in red.

It was a warm, sunny day for a visit with Santa, brought to the children of Redstone Arsenal by the Sergeants Major Association, and the Redstone Arsenal Fire Department and Military Police. Besides Columbia Centre, Santa visited children in Voyager Village, Apollo Landing, Freedom Landing, Pathfinder Pointe, Endeavor Village, New Endeavor Village, Saturn Pointe and Challenger Heights.

While Thomas was a bit shy, many other children in Columbia Centre ran from their houses and eagerly jumped up into the back



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SANTA VISITS NEIGHBORHOODS— With fire truck sirens wailing and plenty of “Ho, Ho, Hos!,” Santa Claus and his temporary elves from the Sergeants Major Association drive through the neighborhoods of Redstone Arsenal to visit with the children of military families during the annual Santa Run. During one stop in the Columbia Centre neighborhood, Santa visits with 10-year-old C.J. Hanson, son of Staff Sgt. Christopher and Crystal Hanson, while his mom and brother, 5-year-old Matthew, stand just outside the pickup truck with members of Santa's escort crew.

of a fire department pickup truck to talk with Santa about their Christmas wishes. In return, they received a Santa hug and Christmas candy.

Sarah Seltzer, 1, daughter of Staff Sgt. Scott and Penny

Seltzer, asked for a new doll. C.J. Hanson, 10, son of Staff Sgt. Christopher and Crystal Hanson, asked for a toy robot.

“How about Spiderman?” asked 4-year-old Elijah Jennings, son of Spc. Clayton and

Tiffany Jennings, as he sat on Santa's lap with his 9-month-old sister Zyiera.

“Spiderman? Oh, I love Spiderman,” Santa replied.

“And, Superman?” Elijah asked.

“OK,” Santa said. “Do your mom and dad want anything for Christmas?”

“My dad already got everything,” Elijah replied.

Four-year-old Kederreon Hinton, son of Sgt. Keith and Junisha Hinton, asked Santa for a bike and Spiderman.

“His room is Sponge Bob, but he wants Spiderman,” Junisha Hinton said, with a laugh.

At first, 7-month-old Connor Wright, dressed in his own Santa suit, was content to sit on Santa's lap. But, then, his Santa hat fell off and, as the real Santa tried to readjust it, the little baby began to cry. Connor quickly went back to the arms of his mom, Elizabeth, while his dad, Soldier Christopher Wright of Army Counterintelligence, consoled him.

There was room for lots of children – and animals — on Santa's lap. Eight-year-old Angel Armstrong, daughter of Spc. Jason and Tiffany Leslie, felt so at home with Santa that she asked if her puppy, 7-month-old Ariel, could also sit on his lap. And, of course, Santa happily complied.

At the end of Santa's neighborhood visit, little Thomas Ehemann, and his mom Megan, and dad, Staff Sgt. Raymond Ehemann, were there to wave goodbye to the jolly man in red and the sergeants major who were his elves for the day.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SHARING SANTA'S LAP WITH HER PUPPY— Angel Armstrong, 8, daughter of Spc. Jason and Tiffany Leslie, and her puppy, 7-week-old golden retriever Ariel, enjoy their time on Santa's lap.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

LITTLE LOOK-A-LIKE – The pacifier in his mouth is the only thing that gives away that 7-month-old Connor Wright isn't the real Santa. Connor was willing to sit on Santa's lap until his own Santa hat fell off. Then, as Santa tried to readjust it, Connor began crying. He was quickly returned to his mom and dad, Counterintelligence Soldier Christopher and Elizabeth Wright.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

BOY'S WISH LIST— Joey Seltzer, 4, tells Santa what he would like for Christmas while his sister, Sarah, 1, and his dad, Staff Sgt. Scott Seltzer, listen to what his list includes. The Seltzer family, which also includes 7-year-old Thomas, 9-year-old Grace and mom Penny, always enjoy their Christmases together.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CANDY AND PRESENTS— Jalissa Johnson, 3, tells Santa what she hopes to get for Christmas while her brother, Jaron, 4, unwraps the candy Santa gave him. The two are children of Marine Staff Sgt. Tasha Johnson.



Office of Command Historian

Historic visit

Gerald Ford, then a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, visited Redstone Arsenal on Nov. 22, 1957. Rep. G. H. Mahon (center), chairman of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, and Rep. Ford (right) look on as Dr. Eberhard Rees, deputy director of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency's Development Operations Division, explains a telemetry record of a rocket engine static firing during the congressional group's tour of ABMA and Redstone. This photograph appeared in the Nov. 27, 1957 *Redstone Rocket*.

Soldiers shine in World Cup bobsled competitions

Teams earn medals in season openers

By TIM HIPPS
Family and MWR Command

WASHINGTON — Sgt. Shauna Rohbock and Spc. Steve Holcomb won back-to-back gold and silver medals, respectively, during the first two weeks of the 2006-07 World Cup bobsled season.

Rohbock teamed with Valerie Fleming to win their first career World Cup gold medal in the season-opening, two-woman race Dec. 1 in Calgary, Alberta. The duo struck again and set a course record Dec. 8 in Park City, Utah, to remain unbeaten through the first two stops on the World Cup circuit.

Holcomb teamed with Brock Kreitzburg of Akron, Ohio, to win silver medals in both of the two-man races – the first two medals Holcomb has won in World Cup competition.

Both Soldiers are members of the Utah National Guard who competed at the Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy – Holcomb as a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program and Rohbock represented the National Guard Outstanding Athlete Program.

Rohbock and Fleming, silver medalists in Torino, lowered Utah Olympic Park's track record with a time of 48.73 seconds, eclipsing the mark of 48.81 set by then WCAP Spc.

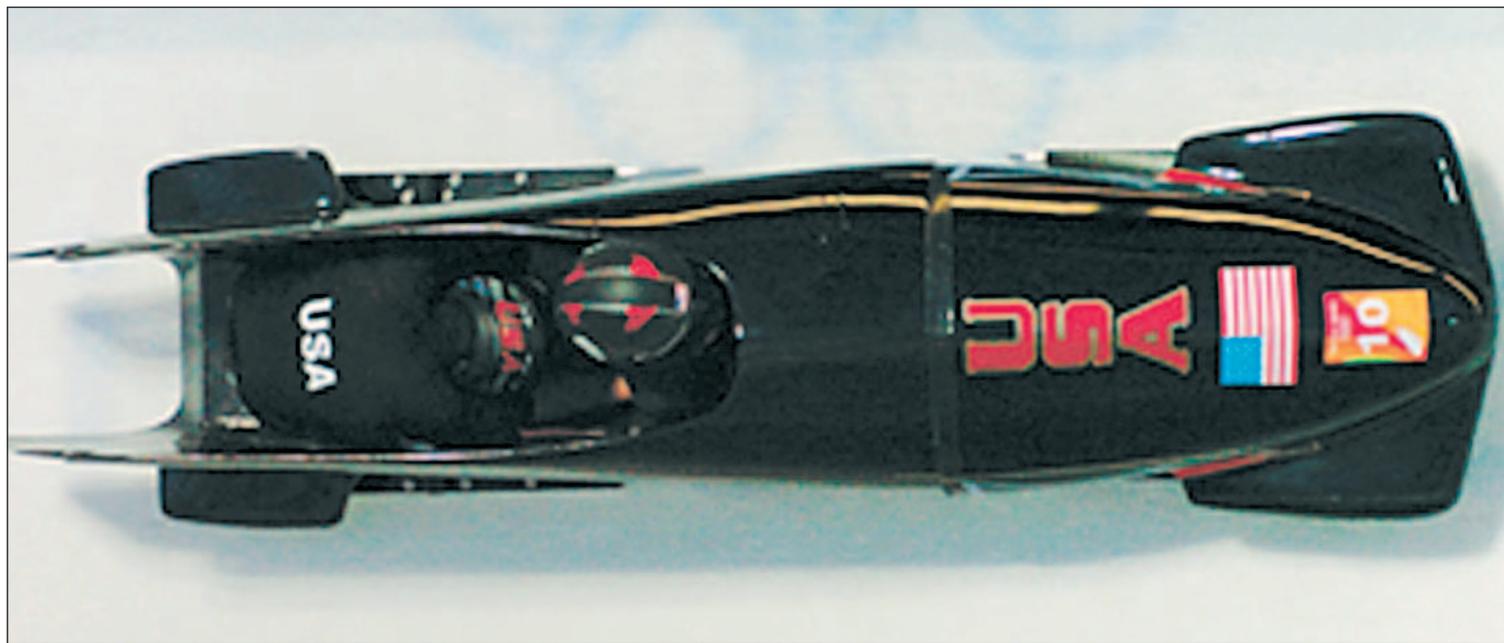


Photo from ArmyMWR.com

BUILT FOR SPEED— Sgt. Shauna Rohbock and Spc. Steve Holcomb opened the 2006-07 World Cup bobsled season with back-to-back gold and silver medals, respectively.

Jill Bakken and Vonetta Flowers, who combined to win the first Olympic gold medal in women's bobsledding at the 2002 Winter Games.

At the 2006 World Cup season opener, Rohbock, of Orem, Utah, teamed with Fleming, of Foster City, Calif., on runs of 56.94 and 57.32 seconds to prevail with a winning time of 1 minute, 54.26 seconds at Canada Olympic Park. The German duo of Cathleen Martini and Janine Tischer was second in 1:54.95. Olympic and world champion Sandra Kiriasis of Germany and teammate Romy Logsch fin-

ished third in 1:54.98.

"It's a great start to the season and it's very good for Shauna's confidence," Team USA women's coach Sepp Plozza said. "The women's field is small, but the fastest pilots are here."

In the two-man competition at Calgary, 2006 Olympians Holcomb and Kreitzburg finished only .56 seconds behind Germany's Andre Lange and Kevin Kuske, both double gold medalists in the 2006 Olympics. The American pair had two of the quickest starts of the day.

"It was a bit of a surprise – obviously a good surprise – with Holcomb winning his first World Cup medal ever," U.S. men's bobsled head coach Brian Shimer said. "Usually two-man hasn't

been his strongest discipline, but it's showing that he's really maturing into a great pilot."

In the four-man event at Calgary, Holcomb drove Team USA to a fifth-place finish.

"I'm pretty happy with the way the weekend went," Holcomb said. "All week we've been doing pretty well training and things kind of came together in the two-man. It's a great way to start the year."

Holcomb and Kreitzburg repeated as two-man silver medalists a week later in Park City, where they teamed with Jesse Beckom and Alex Sprague aboard USA1 for a sixth-place finish in the four-man event.

"Having my best finish ever here in front of my home crowd

and my family is really cool," said Holcomb, a native of Park City. "All of a sudden it just clicked. Things are coming around and now we're going fast. I am surprised that my two best finishes ever are in two-man. I never would have guessed that."

"It's exciting to be a part of it and to see Holcomb progress," Kreitzburg added. "He's really stepping up and driving well in two-man. Steve is getting more and more confident every week, and with him driving well, hopefully we'll also be able to do really well in four-man."

Editor's note: Tim Hipps works at Family and MWR Command public affairs. This article appeared on ArmyMWR.com.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Running recognition

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski, left, presents an award to Chief Warrant Officer Harry Hobbs, coach of Redstone's Army Ten-Miler Team, and other members of the running team Dec. 18. Redstone finished second in both the all comers and government agency categories at the annual race held in October in Washington, D.C.

Retiree drives into sunset in his 1933 street rod

Car

continued from page 8

He and his wife, Debra, have two daughters in college: Paige, 22, a senior at the University of Alabama; and Ellen, 20, who is almost finished at Calhoun College.

He drew his usual stares and waves when he drove the car to Redstone from his Athens home Dec. 19.

"It'll run 120 (mph) easy," Gooch said when giving someone a ride around the Sparkman Center parking lot. "It's got a new 350 cubic inch Chevy motor."

While others have their own hobbies, vehicles have been his pastime for years.

"That's all I've ever done for a hobby," Gooch

said. "I don't hunt and fish, that kind of stuff. I've just always tinkered with cars."

Now that he's retired he has more time to do artwork and draw house plans. He has been an illustrator for 40 years, so he plans to slow down and enjoy retirement.

His 1933 Ford three-window coupe includes a new crate 330 hp, 350 cubic inch Chevy engine, a Chevy 350 turbo transmission, a Chevy S10 truck rear end (coil over shocks), a Mustang II front suspension with disk brakes and rack and pinion steering, a Walker radiator (electric fan), vintage heat and air, and power windows.

There's also a 1972 Chevy van tilt column (LaCarrea leather wheel), custom 1960s style bench seat, American chrome aluminum wheels, 1934 Ford commercial truck head lights, new stainless steel bumpers, and a re-chromed original grille.



Sports & Recreation

Leisure travel

After the hectic holiday season, why not reward yourself with the vacation that's worlds away from ordinary? Planning a trip "Down Under" is much easier and less expensive than ever thanks to Redstone's partnership with MWR Australia. All you need to do to get started is log onto www.ittaustralia.com to begin creating your own itinerary or choose from many unique vacation packages. Once you have found the perfect itinerary for you and your family, just choose Redstone Arsenal's ITR office from the web site's listing, and it will contact you right away. For more information, call Redstone Leisure Travel 313-0090 or the ITR Office 876-4531.

Bowl-a-thon

The 22nd annual Bowl-A-Thon, Junior Achievement's largest fund-raiser, will be held Jan. 27-28 and Feb. 3-4 at three local bowling centers — AMF Parkway Lanes, Plamor Lanes and Redstone Lanes. If interested please sign up as soon as possible. For more information, call the JA office 533-4661.

Youth bowling league

Child and Youth Services bowling league is held Saturdays from Jan. 13 through March 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. This league is for all Redstone community children ages 8-17. The cost is \$60 plus the \$18 CER fee if not already paid. The registration cost includes 20 games of bowling, rental shoes, league shirt, and awards. A current sports physical must be on file at the time of registration. For more information, call 313-3699.



Conferences & Meetings

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel have Bible studies each Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. The morning Bible studies are at 9:30 a.m., the lunch Bible study at 11:30 a.m., and the evening Bible study at 6:30 p.m. Nursery care is provided for all Bible studies. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 489-3018 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404.

Civil War round table

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Elks Club, 725 Franklin St., north entrance. Local historian Nancy Rohr will speak on the Civil War memoirs of the Wharton sisters, who "were born and raised in Huntsville and saw it all," according to a prepared release. The meeting is free to the public; and visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$6.95. For information call 858-6191.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer Users Group will meet at 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. HPCUG member Elwyn Dobbs will discuss Open Office from Sun Microsystems. Ron Schmitz, leader of the Hardware Special Interest Group and co-leader of the Windows/Internet SIG, will speak at 9:15 a.m.

on how to clean out and speed up computers. Visitors are welcome. For information call 830-2232.

Federal retirees

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Willa Morgan, district vice president, will review the NARFE 2006 national convention. Chapter service officer Ernest Williams will address federal income tax highlights and changes for tax year 2006. Refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m., and the program at 10. For more information, call 881-4944 or 882-2406.

Fleet reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Jan. 27 at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565 Exit 3. For information call Gene Aittala 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

Old crows

The Association of Old Crows, a professional association for members of the Electronic Warfare/Information Operations fields, will meet 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Jan. 31 at the new Dynetics headquarters facility, 1002 Explorer Boulevard in Cummings Research Park. Scheduled speaker is Col. William Stevenson, program director for aircraft survivability equipment. For information call William Clemons 659-0810. Sandwich lunch will cost \$7.50. RSVP before Jan. 30 via e-mail to clemons@crows.org.

Transformation conference

The Defense Acquisition University South Region will hold its fourth annual conference "Transforming Acquisition in Support of the Warfighter" Feb. 21-22 at the Huntsville Marriott. This event supports transformation through a series of speakers, panels and workshops designed to provide all members of the acquisition work force with increased awareness of and insight into Department of Defense transformation in action. The event is open to all members of the AT&L work force, other federal employees and industry regardless of career field. For more information regarding the agenda and registration, visit the conference web site at <http://www.mssi-online.com/DAU> or e-mail DAUSouth.Conference@dau.mil.

Defense summit

The second annual Joint Integrated Air & Missile Defense Summit will be held March 5-8 in Huntsville. This event is being planned by the Tennessee Valley Chapters of the National Defense Industrial Association, Women In Defense, and the Huntsville Chapters of the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association and the International Council On Systems Engineering. For information on the summit, visit the web site www.JIAMDSummit.org.

Toastmasters

Tennessee Valley Toastmasters meets the first and third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Radisson Inn, 8721 Highway 20 West, Madison. For information call 876-8706 or e-mail amy.donlin@us.army.mil.

Strategic speakers

Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in room 3018 of building 5225 (Von Braun Complex). Toastmasters is a

Rocket Announcements

non-profit organization that assists with the development of communication and leadership skills. For more information, call C. Purifoy 651-3621 or 313-4696 or e-mail cpurifoy@bellsouth.net.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710 or War-rant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9-5 Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:45. The shop is accepting winter items. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Water cooler refills

The Thrift Shop has begun to stock water cooler refills as part of its goal to raise more money to give back to the community. Water cooler replacement bottles, 5-gallon jugs, are available at good prices at the shop. For more information, call Christi Graves 881-6992.

Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Chapel services

Weekly services at Bicentennial Chapel, on Goss Road, include: Weekdays (except Friday) - noon Catholic Mass. Saturday — 5 p.m. Catholic Mass. Sunday — 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, 10:45 a.m. CCD, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, 11 a.m. Protestant Worship Service. Many Bible studies are throughout the week. For information call 876-2409.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting applications for Merit Awards. Eligibility is as follows: dependents, or members in good standing as of Oct. 17, 2006; high school senior/GED (must be a graduating high school senior or have obtained GED); undergraduate student, pursuing an undergraduate degree; graduate student, pursuing a graduate degree; member or spouse, pursuing an undergraduate degree. Forms are available at the OCWC monthly luncheons, Education Center and Army Community Service. For more information, call K.C. Bertling 541-0450 or e-mail samnkc@knology.net.

Grissom High reunion

Grissom High School Class of 1977 is planning a reunion in July. Organizers are looking for all graduates from that year. If you are a grad or know one, please e-mail GHS77@comcast.net.

Weather closings

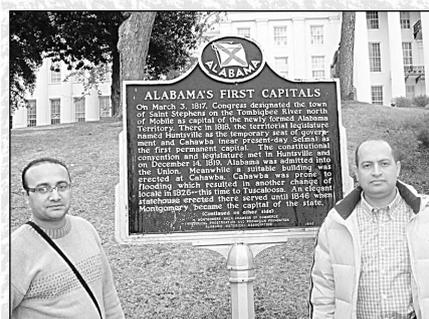
If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: radio - WDRM 102FM, WEKR 1240AM, WEUP 1600



Photo by Kim Henry

Elite club

Paul Bogosian, left, program executive officer for aviation, and Brig. Gen. Bill Phillips, deputy PEO for aviation, thank Bob Howell, manager of the Officers and Civilians Club, for his support at the first ever PEO Aviation Dining-In held Oct. 27. "Bob Howell is a wonderful person who continues to give so much to our community — works unbelievable hours, a tireless servant," Phillips said.



Courtesy photo

State visitors

Egyptian military students Mohamed Shehata and Mahmoud Hekal, both majors, visit the state capitol in Montgomery Dec. 21 with the International Military Student Office. The group visited Birmingham Dec. 27.

AM, WGSV 1270AM, WJAB 90.9FM, WLRH 89.3FM, WRAB 1380AM, WTKI 1450AM, WVNN 770AM, WWIC 1050AM and WZYP 104.3FM; television — WAAY (Channel 31), WAFF (Channel 48) and WHNT (Channel 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures: you can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement, or you can find adverse weather announcements on the Team Redstone Internet site (<http://www.redstone.army.mil>) by clicking on "Links" and then Adverse Weather; on the AMCOM Portal Intranet site (<https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/>) by clicking on Adverse Weather under Key Sites; or the AMCOM Internet site (<http://www.amcom.redstone.army.mil>) by clicking on Adverse Weather.

Science apprentices

The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program announces applications for 2007. The Defense Department initiated the SEAP in 1980, under the direction of the Executive Office of the President, to involve academically talented high school and college students in hands-on research activities and student-mentor relationships during the summer. The high school and college programs are designed for students who are U.S. citizens and 15 years old by the beginning of the program June 4, 2007. The apprentice program is divided into 8, 10 and 12 weeks. Applications should be available from senior counselors at all public, private and parochial high school and college placement services. Possible career placement areas at the Army Garrison-Redstone Arsenal include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The deadline for applications is Jan. 31. If the student is unsuccessful in getting an application from the high school senior counselor or college placement service, call Julie Lumpkins of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center 313-4834.

King observance

Team Redstone will have a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Program on Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon at Bob Jones Auditorium. Scheduled speaker is U.S. District Judge U.W. Clemon of the northern district of Alabama, who in 1980 became this state's first black federal judge. Members of the Redstone/Huntsville community are invited. For more information, call Demetria Cruz 876-9718.

Green to gold

The Army ROTC at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana seeks talented young enlisted Soldiers who want to earn baccalaureate degrees. If you are a quality enlisted Soldier with officer potential and have served at least two years on active duty, then you are allowed to voluntarily participate and enroll in Army ROTC through these Green to Gold Programs. For more information call toll-free (877) 863-4768, e-mail arotc@uiuc.edu, or visit the web site <http://www2.uiuc.edu/unit/armyrotc/>.

Lateral entry

If you are qualified prior service or a member of the National Guard or Reserve and wish to become an officer, the University of Illinois Army ROTC Lateral Entry Program may be for you. The Lateral Entry Program allows eligible students to contract into the Reserve Officer Training Corps as cadets when they are academic juniors, seniors or graduate students with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation. For more information call toll-free (877) 863-4768, e-mail arotc@uiuc.edu, or visit the web site <http://www2.uiuc.edu/unit/armyrotc/>.

Admin professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its 12th annual seminar, "Pathways to Professional Excellence," on Feb. 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Judy Kehr, educator for Hoover High School, will speak on communicating across cultures and generations. For the afternoon sessions, attendees can select two of the six developing topics by local presenters. The course is in TIPS by the course number PPE ; and the vendor name is International Association of Administrative Professionals. Tuition costs \$125; and student rates are \$50. You do not have to be in the administrative career field to attend. For more information, call Susan Douglas 842-6795 or Ellen Mahathey 842-9888.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comptrollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. This scholarship is open to high school seniors, undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found at <http://www.asmconline.org/national/nationalawards.shtml> or you may call Judy Smith 313-2379 or Debbie O'Neal 876-2671. Application deadline is Feb. 28. Packages may be mailed to AMCOM, Attn: AMSAM-RM-FD, Judy Smith, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898 or taken to Smith in building 5300, third floor, work station 53B062.

Losing weight

Sparkman Center workers who want to lose weight can join the Sparkman Center Weight Watcher group which meets each Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 5308, room 8124. A new Weight Watcher session will begin Jan. 18; and there will be a weight watcher open house Thursday. The new session will last 17 weeks. The cost will be \$176, which is a special rate — if 20 members sign up. For more information, call Ferne Wlodarski at 876-5640 or e-mail m.ferne.wlodarski@us.army.mil.

Tax assistance volunteers

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is a free service helping servicemembers on active duty, military retirees, and their dependents prepare and file federal, state and local tax returns each year. Last year's center had more than 3,000 returns prepared, resulting in over \$2 million in refunds. It is now accepting volunteers for the upcoming 2007 tax season. Scheduling will be flexible and volunteers are needed in both the tax preparation and front desk operations areas. No prior experience is necessary because comprehensive training will be provided. To volunteer or for more information, call Capt. Paul Laracy 313-6782 or Randy Duff 420-3223.

Call for papers

A call for papers has been issued for the "Workshop on Algorithms for Autonomous & Aided Target Recognition" June 6-7 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, e-mail Angie Cornelius at angie.cornelius@us.army.mil.

Youth volunteers

The Volunteer Center of Madison County, which provides a connection between volunteers and community needs, announces the launch of its new Youth Volunteer Corps program Saturday. The Youth Volunteer Corps is a year-round program focused on offering meaningful and organized community service opportunities to youth, ages 11-18. Youth Volunteer Corps members can participate in community service projects weekdays after school and two Saturdays a month. Youth, ages 11-18, and their parents are invited

to the kickoff and registration Saturday from 2-3 p.m. in the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library Main Branch. For more information, call Taralyn Caudle at the Volunteer Center of Madison County 539-7797.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is now accepting applications for the 2007-08 school year. Scholarships are available for children and spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers. Applications are available online at www.aerhq.org. For more information call Kristi Foster, AER officer, 876-5397, or e-mail kristi.foster@redstone.army.mil.

Online workshop

Do you have a child with special education or health needs? Attend a free "webinar" – online workshop — today and you'll learn the knowledge and skills you need to become a more effective advocate for your child. The workshop times today are 8 a.m., 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. Specialized Training of Military Parents is a national organization dedicated to empowering military families with the training and information they need to promote success for their special needs child. Join Heather Hebdon, founder and director of STOMP, as she presents information for special needs parents. A webinar is a free interactive online workshop available through Military OneSource. Anyone with Internet and phone access can attend, but you must first register. Visit www.military-onesource.com and click on the Webinar

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link under the Events and Community section on the left side of the page. Choose a session date and click on the registration link. Once you have registered, you will receive an e-mail confirmation providing the information that you need to join the session. For questions regarding registration, send an e-mail to webinars@militaryonesource.com.

Unity breakfast

The Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. will hold the 22nd annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast on Jan. 15 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. Dr. Freeman Hrabowski III, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, is the scheduled speaker. The Birmingham native is a noted lecturer who has co-authored two books, "Beating the Odds" and "Overcoming the Odds." The two bestsellers focus on parenting and high-achieving African-American males and females in science. For ticket information, call Timothy Richmond 859-3964 or Herman Thornton 852-8428.

Engineer week

National Engineers Week, Feb. 19-25, will include competition for special awards. The week is co-sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers and IBM. For more information, call Morton Archibald 658-5189 (cell) or 880-1693 (home).

Welfare requests

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club distributes money to nonprofit groups each year and is now accepting applications for grants. If you would like an application, they are available by mail (RSAOCWC, Attention: Welfare Chairman, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808), and via the Internet by requesting a form by sending an e-mail to: ocwcwelfare@mchsi.com. Forms are also available in the OCWC newsletter Southern Exposure (January and February issues) and at Army Community Service. All requests must conform to the OCWC Welfare Request Form. The request deadline is Feb. 28. Requests will be accepted by mail (postmarked no later than the deadline) and e-mailed or hand delivered no later than the deadline. The 2006-07 Welfare Committee will not consider requests by any delivery method after the deadline. For more information, call Pam Powell 864-2900.



Courtesy photo

Ranch visit

Members of Team Redstone visited the Big Oak Ranch in December. The ranch, based in Springville, serves as a home for children ages 6-18 who are orphaned, abused, neglected or homeless. It is among the agencies that receive contributions through the Combined Federal Campaign. In this picture, Cory Parks, left, and Taylor Vinson, both of the Integrated Materiel Management Center, learn how to execute a pick and roll from one of the residents at the Big Oak Boys' Ranch in Rainbow City (near Gadsden). The Girls' Ranch is in Springville.

CFC agencies

Any federation, charitable organization or combination thereof, wishing to be selected for the PCFO must submit a timely application to the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign in accordance with the Office of Personnel Management's regulations. The primary responsibility of the PCFO is to support the federal government's CFC Board of Directors in managing a comprehensive local workplace fund-raising campaign while ensuring the fiscal integrity, accountability and transparency of the process in accordance with 5CFR, Part 950. The selected federation and/or charitable organization selected to serve as

Rocket Announcements

PCFO will be required to sign a memorandum of understanding with the LFCC. More information may be downloaded from <http://cfc.redstone.army.mil> and also the Office of Personnel's web site: www.opm.gov/cfc. Deadline for receipt of applications is Feb. 15. All interested parties may contact Donna Johnson, LFCC chairperson, AMSAM-CFC, building 3708, by phone at 876-9143 or e-mail to donna.johnson@redstone.army.mil.

Road detour

The Patton Road overpass project is planning road closure with detour of Martin Road at the Patton interchange for this weekend. Traffic will be detoured from Martin Road around the interchange ramps while remaining bridge spans are removed. Note there will be no closure during working hours, only Saturday and Sunday.

Wine club

Join the Officers and Civilians Club in 2007 for its Wine of the Month Club. Members of the wine club will receive one bottle of red and one bottle of white wine each month. Members will also receive recipes from the ROCC chef that pair with that month's wine selection. The wine will come packaged in a gift bag. The cost will vary monthly, but will never exceed \$40. For more information, call 830-2582.

Club dining hours

The Officers and Civilians Club has new dining hours as of Jan. 1. Lunch will be served Tuesday (German and ROCC) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday (German only) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday (ROCC only) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Friday (ROCC only) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dinner will be served Friday (ROCC) from 6-9 p.m., Friday (German) from 5-9 p.m., Saturday (ROCC) from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday (German) from 5-9 p.m. For more information, call 830-2582.

International night

The Officers and Civilians Club will hold International Night on Jan. 26 at 6 p.m. Sample foods from Germany, Italy, Mexico, Thailand and the United States. Tickets are \$10 for ROCC members and \$12 for non-members. For more information, call 830-2582.

Firehouse pub

The Firehouse Pub's new hours are Sunday through Tuesday, closed; Wednesday

and Thursday from 4-9 p.m.; Friday from 4-11 p.m.; and Saturday, closed. For more information, call 830-2582 or 842-0748.

Home alone class

Child and Youth Services will hold a Home Alone Class on Jan. 31 from 4-5 p.m. at the ChildWise building, 1413 Nike St. This free class is open to Redstone community youth ages 10-13. It discusses important issues like Internet safety, taking telephone calls, preparing snacks and meals, and more. For more information, call 313-3609 or 313-3735.

Advertising awards

Jan. 18 is the deadline for entries in the ADDY Awards competition, hosted locally by the Tennessee Valley Advertising Federation. Each year the ADDY Awards recognize creative excellence in all forms

of advertising. The competition is open to any company or organization, both TVAF members and non-members. There are more than 80 categories this year so avoid the last minute rush and start entering your advertising pieces today. Drop off your entries at Redstone Federal Credit Union on Wynn Drive. To read the rules go to www.tvaf.org. The ADDY Awards will be held 7 p.m. March 3 at the Marriott by the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Tickets are \$50, which includes social hour, dinner, program, entertainment and a free Winners Book to each attendee.

Community volunteers

Do you have a few hours to volunteer with Soldiers and family members? Volunteers are needed at Army Community Service. Training and orientation are provided. If interested call volunteer coordi-

nator Kim Anton 876-5397 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Coalition dinner

The North Alabama Veterans & Fraternal Organizations Coalition will host its annual award and recognition program Jan. 17 at the Cahaba Shrine Temple on Pulaski Pike. The reception begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7. The coalition is a group of more than 40 military and community organizations that organize and support military and patriotic events in North Alabama, including Huntsville's Veterans Day Parade, Operation Christmas Bear, Blue Star Banner ceremonies, and deployment and welcome home ceremonies. To RSVP for the awards program, call David Carney 652-2460 or e-mail david.r.carney@us.army.mil.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
AS OF 04 Jan 07																			
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																			
SCBK06698222	General Engr	10-Jan-07	TMDE	GS-0801	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X										
SCBK06743022	Equip Spec	10-Jan-07	TMDE	GS-1670	12	12	55,360 - 81,572	X	X										
SCBK06740791	Secretary (OA)	12-Jan-07	Acq Supp Ctr	NK-0318	3	3	39,177 - 61,945	X											
SCBK07730591	Comp Engr	16-Jan-07	USADTC	GS-0854	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X											
SCBK06702138	Architect	17-Jan-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0808	12	12	62,751 - 81,572	X		X		X	X	X	X				
SCBK06702138D	Architect	17-Jan-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0808	12	12	62,751 - 81,572												X
SCBK06696103	Prgm Mngr	18-Jan-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0340	15	15	103,723 - 134,838	X											
SCBK06696103D	Prgm Mngr	18-Jan-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0340	15	15	103,723 - 134,838												X
SCBK06695742	General Engr	18-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
SCBK06695742D	General Engr	18-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838												X
SCBK06714342	Lead Aerospace Engr	18-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
SCBK06714342D	Lead Aerospace Engr	18-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838												X
SCBK07743300	Lead Budget Analyst	18-Jan-07	AMC	GS-0560	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X											
SCBK07729194	Prgm Analyst	18-Jan-07	Acq Supp Ctr	NH-0343	2	2	28,559 - 68,066	X											
SCBK06674977	Supv Competition Analyst	23-Jan-06	AMC	NH-0301	4	4	88,178 - 134,838					X	X	X					X
SCBK06674977D	Supv Competition Analyst	23-Jan-06	AMC	NH-0301	4	4	88,178 - 134,838												X
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SERVICE.OPM.GOV																			
SCBK06702138D	Architect	17-Jan-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0808	12	12	62,751 - 81,572												X
SCBK06695742D	General Engr	18-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838												X
SCBK06714342D	Lead Aerospace Engr	18-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838												X

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

- A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
- B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documentation service required).
- C - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
- D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documentation service required).
- E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)
- F - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documentation service required).
- H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
- I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)
- R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)
- T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documentation service required)
- V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
- U - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com or you may telephone 876-7772.

Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee. Visit www.amccareers.com or www.cpol.army.mil, search for Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647, for more information.