

Redstone Rocket

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Iraq veteran: 'I would love to go back'

Guardsman proud to wear uniform

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Sgt. Randal "Jackson" Franks knows what it's like to hang out in a dangerous neighborhood.

He spent time on plenty of threatening streets during his deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, with the 690th Chemical Co., Alabama Army National Guard.

Though his primary duty was to help provide physical and private security details for Iraqi public officials, including Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, Franks also helped to secure areas where official U.S. and Iraqi vehicles were broken down, and where U.S. and Iraqi troops were attacked or ambushed. And, it was during those times that he became familiar with the mean streets of Baghdad.

"There was always the potential for us to get attacked. There were some close calls," Franks said. "Everywhere you'd go something would get blown up. You were hanging out in bad neighborhoods."

Today, Franks is back home, far from the danger of Baghdad's streets. Since returning in early January, Franks has been getting settled back into his job as a recruiter for the Alabama Army National Guard, working out of its Johnson Road armory. But, he wears a combat action badge on his uniform that is a reminder of his close calls with danger.

Franks earned that badge during a fire-fight in Baghdad while on patrol as a member of a quick reaction force, a rotating force of Soldiers who are called in to secure an area after an attack or a bombing.

"A VBIED (vehicle borne improvised explosive device) blew up at the office of one of the officials we were assigned to protect," Franks said. "We were called out to secure the area. There was another VBIED that hadn't gone off, so we had to keep the area secure until a bomb squad could clean it up."

During the mission, the Soldiers along with soldiers from the Iraqi army took sniper fire. The vehicle Franks was traveling in got hit during the firefight. Franks and other Soldiers returned fire. One sniper was captured.

The 27-year-old Franks recounted the story recently without showing fear for the plight he and other Soldiers had found themselves in. It was all part of the business of Soldiering in the volatile city of Baghdad.

Franks is one of those Soldiers who joined the Alabama Army National Guard for the adventure and opportunity it offered. As a young boy, it was inevitable that he would grow up to be a Soldier. Some of his happiest boyhood memories are of playing Soldier with toy guns in the woods near his home. Taking on the role of a real-life Sol-

dier has given Franks a sense of purpose and direction in his career and life.

Franks joined the Alabama Army National Guard in April 1999 as a traditional Guard Soldier – serving one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer. He went full time in March 2004.

Eight years into his Guard experience, Franks still feels the pride of putting on a Soldier's uniform.

"After basic training, I had that pride, that sense of accomplishment that you feel when you've just done something that probably 97 percent of citizens probably don't have the courage to try," he said.

"I joined for the adventure. I've gotten to jump out of airplanes. I've gotten to do some things that other people even in the military may never get an opportunity to do."

One of those opportunities came along when Franks heard about the December 2005 deployment of the 690th. He contacted the unit's headquarters in Mobile to check on openings, volunteering to fill an empty slot.

"It was something I wanted to do," he said. "It's part of my job. It's part of my duty. As a recruiter, I felt like I could very well enlist someone that may go to Iraq. So, I wanted to go to Iraq and experience it for myself."

See FRANKS on page 11



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FAMILY OF SOLDIERS— Sgt. Randal Franks, a recruiter for the Alabama Army National Guard, is proud to work alongside his sister, Sgt. Hannah Smith of the 279th Signal Battalion, Alabama Army National Guard. Smith decided to join the Guard after seeing how much her brother enjoyed his military service. They both work out of the Guard's armory on Johnson Road.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

RETURNING TO ROUTINE— Sgt. Randal "Jackson" Franks, a recruiter for the Alabama Army National Guard, is now back at work in Huntsville after returning in early January from a deployment in Iraq, where he served in a security detail for Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, among other things.

Redstone rolls up sleeves for Red Cross

An open lane random survey

How much sleep do you need and why?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Kim Henry
AMCOM Public Affairs
"To feel good, I feel like I need at least 10 hours. But I don't typically get that. My mother says I'm just like a puppy dog because I just need sleep."

Julie Frederick
AMCOM Public Affairs
"I require lots of sleep right now (at 37 weeks pregnant) because in about three weeks I get none. So anytime I can take a nap, I'm good with that."



Robert Brown
Garrison Directorate of Information Management



"I need eight hours on the average. And it's mainly to mentally become refreshed. As much of our work is knowledge based, our minds have got to stay alert. And if you don't get enough rest, you can't stay alert."

Pvt. Chrystal Harp
Charlie Company
"I would think I would need eight hours, because that's the recommended amount. And seeing that I get six hours right now, eight hours probably would be better."



Quote of the week

'Accept the challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory.'

— Gen. George S. Patton

Post blood drives continue with need

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
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The Red Cross Bloodmobile is a common sight around Redstone Arsenal. It is often parked outside the Post Exchange and Commissary or in front of various organizations on post. Just because it's a regular part of the scenery, however, doesn't mean it should fade into the background.

Team Redstone represents the largest group of blood donors in the North Alabama area. It has done so for more than half a century, according to Lisa Charness, American Red Cross account manager.

"The first bloodmobile went out on Redstone Arsenal in 1951," she said.

From June 2005 to June 2006, 3,831 pints of blood came from on post. While that's an impressive amount, Charness said local supplies still run short sometimes.

"Last year we weren't able to collect enough blood within our own state to a point where we had to import units from other states because we're not getting enough blood here," she said.

While the Red Cross appreciates every individual donation, the perishable nature of blood makes it important for people to keep on giving.

"It's (blood) usually good for 42 to 46 days," Charness said. "A donor can donate every eight weeks or 56 days."

She commends area donors for being

"We need blood every day. The need is there every day. There is an increase in participation whenever there is some kind of disaster. We send blood where it's needed the most."

— Lisa Charness
American Red Cross

quick to step up when disaster strikes both in the immediate area and other parts of the world. However it is important to remember that it doesn't take a hurricane or terrorist attack for people to need blood.

"We need blood every day. The need is there every day," Charness said. "There is an increase in participation whenever there is some kind of disaster. We send blood where it's needed the most."

Cooperation between Redstone personnel and the Red Cross makes blood drives on post possible. Drive coordinators in various organizations handle getting the word out to their specific buildings and areas. Everyone on post has probably received a flyer or e-mail for their office's blood drive at some point. Participating in these easily accessible drives is particularly important for people with rarer blood types.

"We need O negative because that is the universal donor. Everyone can receive O negative," Charness said. "Unfortunately, only 7 percent of the population has O negative blood. We need all types, but specifically O negative and O positive we need all the time."

There are some restrictions on who can donate. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. They cannot be currently taking antibiotics for an infection. They cannot be pregnant. A comprehensive list of other medical and travel restrictions is available from the Red Cross.

"As long as you are in general good health you should be able to donate blood," Charness said. "The travel restrictions have to be looked at specifically for the individ-

ual. If you've been to certain areas, for example our military who have been over to the Middle East, they generally have to be back for a year in the United States before they can donate again."

Some people may believe that they are excluded from donating blood mistakenly, such as those with tattoos or body piercing. Charness urges people to double check their personal eligibility with the Red Cross before deciding they are not allowed to donate for themselves.

"Those restrictions have been modified," she said.

She also acknowledges that donating blood can be a little scary for first timers, but said that many often find that the idea was more daunting than the reality once they actually do it.

"I strongly encourage them to just give it a try," Charness said. "The little bit of pinch that you feel when you have a needle inserted in your arm is such a small price to pay for saving someone else's life."

For more information on donation criteria call the Madison/Marshall County Red Cross chapter at 536-0084 or visit its web site, www.redcrossrelief.org. For a list of installation blood drive locations, contact the coordinator within your organization.



Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab

Deputy chief

Chief Warrant Officer Roslyn Barbee has been promoted to deputy chief of the Warrant Officer Training Division. She is the first female in this position and the senior ranking female in the Army in her career field. Chief Warrant Officer Lee Wilson is taking over as the WOTD chief.

Get moving on weight-loss program

Time again to lose weight before the swimsuit season arrives.

"Movin' and Losin'" is a weight-loss program sponsored by Morale Welfare and Recreation. It's an eight-week exercise and weight loss team competition.

Offices and groups of military and civilian workers can compete against other five-member teams to see who can lose the most weight. To enter a team, call assistant sports and fitness director Phylissa Shannon at 313-1202.

Registration deadline is Jan. 31. There will be a rules and orientation meeting Feb. 1 at 10:30 a.m. at Redstone Fitness Center, building 3705. The first weigh-in is Feb. 6.

The last program, from July to September, had 21 teams with 107 participants and resulted in 436.5 total pounds lost.

"This has been one of the most successful programs I have ever done," Shannon said. She can be reached by e-mail at phylissa.shannon@redstone.army.mil.

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Name: Staff Sgt. Brian Rogers

Job: Training operations
NCO for Charlie Company

Where do you call home?
Baltimore, Md.

What do you like about your job?

It's a new challenge for me because I've never done this. So it's a great challenge for me (coming from a logistics background) to do real good and accomplish all my tasks.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to bowl and I also like to roller-skate. And I like to work out at the gym.



What are your goals?

To finish up my master's (in electrical engineering) and finish 20 years in the Army.

What's your favorite type of music?

R&B/jazz – I love jazz.

Contractor worker killed in Iraq identified

An Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville contractor employee killed in Iraq Jan. 4 has been identified.

Amir Kaun, from Pakistan, was killed during a small arms fire incident. Kaun worked as a driver for Global Freight Services, which is headquartered in the United Kingdom.

Thirty-five contractor employees have been killed since September 2003 while working for the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program.

"Our condolences go out to the families," program manager Bill Sargent said. "Our personnel are highly trained and experienced and are doing a superb job, but it remains a very dangerous mission."

The incident is under investigation.

Huntsville Center is the Army Corps of Engineers' Center of Expertise for Military Munitions. Huntsville Center's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program is responsible for receiving, transporting, segregating and destroying captured or any other munitions posing a danger in Iraq. Storage and disposal of the ammunition is performed at several locations throughout Iraq.

To date, more than 400,000 tons of ammunition have been destroyed by the Huntsville Center program, significantly reducing risks to Iraqi citizens and U.S. personnel serving in Iraq. (Huntsville Center release)

UAH student earns national recognition

A cooperative education student from the University of Alabama-Huntsville has been chosen as the National Co-op Student of the Year by the American Society for Engineering Education.

Marvin Barnes, a senior chemical engineering major at UAH, has completed three co-op assignments with the United Space Alliance dating back to May 2004.

He will be presented his award at the 2007 Conference on Industry and Education Collaboration in Palm Springs, Calif., in early February.

The UAH Cooperative Education Program allows qualified students to gain valuable experience in their field of study while earning a degree. At United Space Alliance, he not only has learned the company's role in the space program, but also experienced working with engineers of other disciplines.

"Before I began working for USA, I had no idea about the day-to-day aspects of an engineering job," Barnes said. "Working at USA has made me conscious of the attributes and demands that a career in engineering entails, such as the need for good communication skills."

"Through observation and my various assignments, I have learned that engineers must write reports that can be easily understood by others in order to show the results of their projects, or to justify reasoning behind particular courses of action."

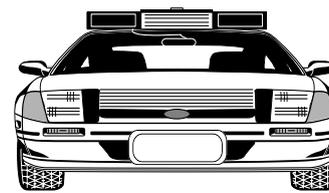
United Space Alliance is a prime contractor for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for the operation and maintenance of the space shuttle. (UAH release)

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Jan. 12: An individual stopped at Gate 9, lost, and was found to be driving with a suspended driver's license, and had eight warrants for her arrest. She was arrested by Redstone Police, issued violation notices and released to Cullman Police Department.

Jan. 15: An individual was



observed selecting items in the Post Exchange and exiting without rendering proper payment. She was arrested, processed and

released to her unit. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

Violation notices issued: 16 speeding, 1 defective equipment, 2 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 parking, 2 following too close, 1 suspended/revoked driver's license, 1 improper license plate.

Pushing defense agencies toward paperless world

Service encourages electronic documents

Did you ever think that the paperless environment would actually come to fruition? According to a recent study, "Each day, this nation generates over 600 million pages of computer printouts, 230 million photocopies, 76 million letters, and over 24 million documents; this is estimated at 45 sheets of paper for every worker."

It is also estimated that the average organization makes 19 copies of each document, spends \$20 in labor to file each document, spends \$120 in labor searching for each misfiled document, loses 1 out of every 20 documents, spends 25 hours recreating each lost document, and spends 400 hours per year searching for lost files. Achieving a paperless environment is actually more difficult than initially envisioned, and it is apparent that we must take the step to transition if we are to save millions of taxpayer dollars per year.

Electronic Document Management is the storage of documents, images, and other data such as e-mail or video, in order to track, search and retrieve documents, as

well as to perform collaboration, workflow and records management. Conversion of paper documents into electronic images for archival or retention purposes is also part of the EDM process.

The objective of EDM is to move an organization toward achieving a paperless environment, which results in saving the government millions of dollars annually. A variety of file types — including TIF, GIF, EXCEL, WORD, and PDF — may be stored in an EDM solution. From a management perspective, there are many benefits to implementing this type of a system, such as; enhanced security, remote access, cost savings, maintaining document integrity, and the immediate availability of documents, all of which increase the level of customer service and operational effectiveness and efficiency within an organization.

The Document Automation and Production Service, a component of the Defense Logistics Agency, has been providing professional document services to the Department of Defense and the federal executive branch since 1949. DAPS not only serves as the DoD single manager for printing and high speed high volume duplicat-

ing, but is also recognized as the preferred provider of document conversion and/or automation services in the Department of Defense.

DAPS has successfully converted more than 400 million pages of paper documents, engineering drawings, aperture cards, microfiche and microfilm to digital documents. DAPS has now made an up front investment in the required software, hardware and expertise allowing for an affordable EDM solution to be implemented quickly and easily for serviced customers. In addition, DAPS utilizes commercial-off-the-shelf products which may be configured to meet an organization's unique requirements allowing for flexibility and scalability as needed.

If you feel an EDM solution would benefit your organization or you are interested in a DAPS representative discussing your unique requirements, contact your local DAPS Office or call the DAPS customer account manager at (850) 452-3025, ext. 3118 for more information. DAPS is also available online at <http://www.daps.dla.mil>. (Document Automation and Production Service release)

New workload arrives at Letterkenny Depot

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — Officials at Letterkenny have announced the arrival of the first Avionics System Processor used on the Arrowhead Modernized Targeting Systems of the Apache Helicopter. The M-TADS is repaired under a cooperative partnership between Letterkenny and Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control in Orlando, Fla.

After discussions at the June 2006 Pennsylvania Letterkenny Business Opportunity Showcase, Lockheed Martin decided to invest \$1.5 million of capital into the TADS/PNVS Special Repair Activity that moved from North Carolina to Letterkenny in fall 2005.

"This investment illustrates Lockheed Martin's commitment to enhance our partnership with the Letterkenny Army Depot. This capability will expedite Arrowhead Electronic Circuit Card Repairs, helping U.S. war fighters meet their defining moments in the Global War on Terrorism," said Tom Simmons, vice

president, Fire Control, at Lockheed Martin.

In addition to new equipment, Lockheed Martin has also introduced new technology to the depot through the Letterkenny/Lockheed Martin Partnership. Lockheed Martin is training depot employees in Ball Grid Array Soldering techniques.

"The application of this surface mount technology will position LEAD for new workloads and is important as the depot strives to position itself to support the war fighter in the future," Mike Murray, Letterkenny director of maintenance, said. "We are extremely pleased with the working relationship we have established with Lockheed Martin."

The M-TAD's repair became operational Jan. 1. The partnership now has the ability to test and repair most of the electronics contained in the M-TADS. Operationally fielded in June 2005, M-TADS provide Apache pilots advanced targeting that enhances mission capability. (Letterkenny release)

Engineer finds change of pace through deployment

*Serving in Iraq
proves rewarding*

By **ANDREA TAKASH**
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

An element of danger exists everywhere Chuck Riley goes in Iraq. He works until after 8:30 p.m. every day. He gave up 180 channels of American TV for the joys of sometimes sharing communal showers and toilets. He misses his home and family.

So what entices the engineer to follow 89 of his Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, colleagues to a demanding occupation far from home in harsh conditions?

As team leader for Huntsville Center's Russian Chemical Demilitarization Program, Riley is accustomed to foreign travel, but he looked at an Iraq deployment as a brand new adventure.

"I decided to deploy to Iraq for many reasons," Riley said. "I saw the deployment as an opportunity for advancement, a change of pace and differing perspectives."

A change of pace is a good way to describe the first few months of Riley's deployment.

"I was initially assigned to the Maysan Resident Office in Basrah as the resident engineer," he said. "Then I was requested, two weeks later, to move to Diwaniyah for the area engineer position. After five weeks in that position, I was offered the chief of Engineering and Construction position at Tikrit, where I am currently stationed."

As the chief of Engineering and Construction, Riley manages a broad spectrum of projects for the Corps' Gulf Region North District.

"I am responsible for three area offices, seven provinces of Iraq and the construction work

performed by the Gulf Region North District," he said. "I also supervise the Project Management Branch for GRN."

Now six months into his 14-month deployment, Riley said his experience has lived up to his expectations.

"Even though I miss my wife, family, the familiarity of home and 180 channels of television, I really do enjoy my job," he said.

"The work that I am doing here is very rewarding."

Not only is the job rewarding but Riley said the living conditions are not as dreadful as one might imagine.

"I live in a containerized housing unit," he said. "It is basically a premanufactured modular living unit. Some have a shower, toilet and sink in addition to sleeping quarters. These units

are called 'wet' CHUs. Others are 'dry.' With a dry CHU you are privileged to enjoy communal toilets, showers and sinks."

Riley also mentioned that he has a variety of good food options to choose from.

"The dining facility is no cost and all you can eat. The food is well prepared, and the facilities are clean," he said. "You can put on a lot of weight if you don't

watch it. In addition to the dining facility at Tikrit, we have Pizza Hut, Burger King, Taco Bell, Green Bean Coffee and Subway, to name some that I recall. However, not all operating bases have these extras."

If the fast-food chains and comfy living quarters don't entice people to sign up for an enriching deployment, Riley offered some words of encouragement and advice.

"It's a great change of pace; you will never be bored or lack something to do," he said. "Don't believe what you see on TV. They seldom show the real Iraqi people — people very similar to you and me who only want to make their lives better, work at their jobs and come home to their families safely each night.

"They don't show the reconstruction work being done by the Corps of Engineers and the improvement to the quality of life brought by a new school, hospital or health care facility. They don't mention new or repaved roads and bridges, new or rebuilt electrical power stations and water or sewer treatment plants."

For those contemplating deploying overseas, Riley invites them to call him at 540-542-1481 and ask questions about the working conditions.

"Travel by ground is the most dangerous and is generally avoided where possible," Riley said, but he also wants people to know that in a wartime environment you take certain extra steps to ensure safety. "Travel around the country from operating base to operating base is fairly safe by fixed or rotary wing aircraft."

Riley likes to put things in perspective. "Living and working on an operating base over here is about as safe as working in any office in the United States," he concluded.



Courtesy photo

FIELD TRIP— Chuck Riley and Frank Garcia, Resident Engineer for the Corps' Tikrit Resident Office, tour a completed water treatment plant.

Space defense commander likes view from Huntsville

Campbell calls city 'national treasure'

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Foregoing discussion on technical issues or specific projects, the newly named leader of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command focused his comments at the Air, Space and Missile Defense Association's annual membership luncheon primarily on where his heart is – providing Soldiers on the battlefield with the best support and capabilities available to get the job done.

Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, who took over as the commanding general of USASMDCA/ARSTRAT on Dec. 18 and who is also commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, spoke to a record crowd of more than 500 military, government and industry leaders Thursday at the Von Braun Center.

Commenting briefly on BRAC, Campbell said his job is to stabilize command moves to Redstone Arsenal. He said BRAC is proceeding quickly and he hopes to “plant the flag” at the Arsenal in mid to late June.

Consolidating in Huntsville is good for the command, he said, because, despite the easy use of communication technology by geographically separated commands, “there is something to be said about being face to face that makes a radical change in the way we do business.”

Campbell is excited about the opportunities of having the command headquartered at Redstone Arsenal.

“This is a great team in Huntsville, a unique team, a national treasure,” he said.

Besides his comments on local BRAC developments, Campbell's speech centered primarily on the Army's commitment to support President Bush's

Iraqi and military strategy.

Campbell said that in all work performed by SMDC/ARSTRAT and other Army commands “we want to make sure we do what's right for the Soldier and the country.”

Describing the war in Iraq as a “hard road,” Campbell said “we are, in fact, in a long war. We see the evidence of that every day ... There are no bets on how long we're going to go.”

Iraq is not the only concern, he said. The nation's adversaries “around the world are using technology to their advantage,” Campbell said.

Terrorists are growing in strength through those technologies, from the IEDs used in Iraq to the Internet used worldwide.

“They are advertising and communicating and attracting people in nanoseconds,” Campbell said.

“They are hard to trash, hard to beat back. They are absolutely masterful at using information. They may not have all the money. But, they are smart people who know how to get in the seams and hammer away at us ... They know where our potential weaknesses are and they are aiming for them.”

Although advanced technology is necessary to combat terrorists and insurgents who threaten

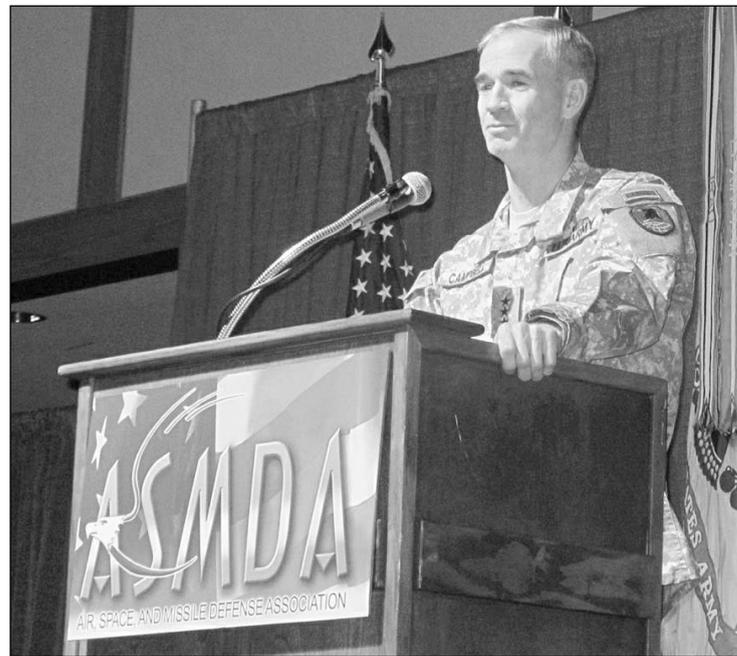


Photo by Kari Hawkins

TAKING THE STAGE— Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell made his first public appearance as the commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command during the annual luncheon meeting of the Air, Space and Missile Defense Association at the Von Braun Center on Thursday.

freedom worldwide, Campbell said technology is only valuable if the U.S. has “trained and equipped Soldiers in the field, men and women who are willing to take the risk and put it in action and move forward.”

Campbell mentioned a young Soldier in Iraq who sustained a heavy attack only three months out of training. He was shot five times, but his helmet stopped the bullet to his head and his body armor stopped the bullets to his

chest. The Soldier survived with only a wound in the leg.

“He said ‘When the shooting started, all the training you gave me kicked in,’” Campbell said.

The lieutenant general said the Global War on Terrorism is a fight that all Americans are fighting, whether they know it or not.

“This is not the Army at war. The U.S. is at war,” he said. “The Army can't do this alone. The Army needs every bit of America with us.”

Campbell also touched on concerns in Korea, saying the Ballistic Missile Defense System combined with the readiness of Soldiers in Alaska and Colorado Springs gave U.S. leaders options on how to respond to North Korea's nuclear missile firing in July 2006.

“I could hear it in the voices of leaders who were somewhat more relaxed because they knew we had defensive capability,” Campbell said. “Being able to take their time and think about the options made the system worth its weight in gold. They were able to think about how they were going to respond defensively, offensively and diplomatically to this situation.”

But, to be even more effective, system sensors have to be

See **General** on page 7

Awards given for contributions to defense system

Professional association honors employees, 2006 achievements

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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The Air, Space and Missile Defense Association presented seven awards at its annual membership luncheon Thursday in recognition of exceptional achievements that contributed significantly to the development, test and deployment of air, space and missile defense systems.

The 2006 Space and Missile Defense

Technical Achievement Award in the Government Category went to:

Kaye Blankenship, SMDC Technical Center Space Division, for the programmatic and technical management of the Overwatch Advance Concept Technology Demonstration, which resulted in the first prototypes of this weapon detection system being delivered in 2004 and 2006;

Rick Wright, Missile Defense Agency Combined Test Force, for assistance in attaining the full operational capability of the Combined Test Force by integrating analysis and reporting capabilities; and

Lt. Col. John Ellis, Integrated Air and Missile Defense Project Office, PEO Mis-

siles and Space, for developing a strategy for transforming the integrated air and missile defense concept into reality and helping the program manager obtain Army-level approval for establishment of the program, resulting in improved war fighting capability, interoperability with Army, joint and international systems, and streamlined life cycle management.

The 2006 Space and Missile Defense Technical Achievement Award in the Industry Category went to:

Michael Heu, Teledyne Brown Engineering, for developing a thorough approach

See **Awards** on page 7

Future leaders invited to quarterly meeting

The AMCOM Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders is a G-1 sponsored developmental organization. The purpose of TACL is to supplement the intern's formal training plan and provide professional developmental opportunities and business management exposure through quarterly training meetings, staff rides (programmed tours), and training events (workshops, modules, etc.).

Its approximately 250 members include interns, AMC Fellows, and Student Career Experience Program employees serving within the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone community.

Meetings are held quarterly and various speakers (government and non-government) are invited to share their work experiences, career tips, and relevant program news and initiatives.

TACL will hold its quarterly meeting Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon at Bob Jones Auditorium with guest speakers Dr. Gary Huckaby Jr. and Dr. Tom Pieplow.

Huckaby is a nationally recognized author who has addressed various audiences from small businesses to Fortune 500 companies. His workshops and motivational speeches include a variety of topics such as leadership, supervisory skills,

team building, conflict resolution, communication skills, humor in the workplace, and many others.

Pieplow, assistant program executive officer for aviation at AMCOM, is a motivational informational speaker who has addressed various audiences ranging from Soldiers in the field to students in the classroom. His wide range of topics include career development, leadership, communication in the workplace, economics and many others.

The meeting is open to the Redstone community. Please register in TIP for this event. Visit the TIP web site at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil> and register for Catalog Number: ATQM. Contractors do not have to register. For more information, call Hillary Clay at 313-1349.

Editor's note: This article was provided by Patrick Smith, AMC Fellow and chairman of the TACL Planning Committee.

■ Defense association presents annual awards

Awards

continued from page 6

to large-scale design of test experiments for the GMD program, which has been employed on numerous GMD ground test events.

The 2006 Space and Missile Defense Service Excellence Award in the Government Category went to:

Leon Riley, SMCD Technical Center Office of New Initiatives, for managing the Tracking and Pointing technology program for Space Based Directed Energy Weapons, managing the electromagnetic capability and nuclear effects qualifications programs and supporting research of smaller, lighter and more fuel efficient military hardware that operate with reduced logistics requirements; and

Andrea Weathington, SMDC Technical Center Operations Division, for helping to focus goals, objectives and action plans for the technical center to address space and missile defense technology needs of the war fighter and for helping to develop the technical center's Lab of the Year assessment package.

The 2006 Space and Missile Defense Service Excellence Award in the Contractor Category went to:

Belinda Venable, SPARTA, for serving as association secretary for two years and being instrumental in the success of the organization, its annual conference and luncheon, and its Wall of Fame activities, and for providing support to the director of the SMDC Technical Center for more than four years.

In addition, the association reviewed its 2006 accomplishments during the luncheon. They were:

- Co-sponsored the annual Space and Missile Defense Conference at the Von Braun Center;
- Provided funding to the Veterans

Day Parade, Still Serving Veterans, MOWW Youth Conference, Operation Christmas Bear, SMDC's participation in Army Ten-Miler and Blue Star Banner programs;

- Presented a new set of Army Dress Blue Uniforms to SMDC Soldier and NCO of the Year;

- Co-sponsored the sixth annual Adventures in Engineering Day for more than 190 high school juniors;

- Awarded three \$4,000 academic scholarships from the ASMDA "Loretta Spencer" College and University Scholarship Program; and

- Provided 15 scholarships to Space Camp.

Corporate members of ASMDA are: 3D Research Corp.; Aegis Technologies Group; Aerojet; Alion Science and Technology; Analytical Services Inc.; Applied Data Trends Inc.; BAE Systems; Boeing; Booz Allen Hamilton; Cohesion Force Inc.; COLSA Corp.; Computer Sciences Corp.; Cypress International Inc.; Davidson Technologies; DESE Research Inc.; Dynetics, CAS & Davidson LLC; Dynetics Inc.; Gray Research Inc.; Jackson State University-School of Engineering; Kwajalein Range Services LLC; Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co.; Madison Research Corp. — a WFI Government Services Co.; MagnaCom Inc.; Miltec; Northrop Grumman; Orbital Sciences Corp.; Phase IV Systems Inc.; PROJECTXYC Inc.; Quantum Research International Inc.; Radiance Technologies; RhinoCorps Ltd Co.; Robbins Gioia LLC; SAIC; Sentar Inc.; SiMMtec Inc.; SPARTA Inc.; SRS Technologies; Stanley Associates.; SYColeman Corp.; System Studies and Simulation Inc.; TecMasters Inc.; Teledyne Brown Engineering; Teledyne Solutions Inc.; Toyon Research; Westar Aerospace and Defense Group Inc.; and WILL Technology Inc.

■ Campbell asks audience to pray for Soldiers

General

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integrated to do "what the combatant commander wants them to do when the threat is on your doorstep ... Global sensor management will pick up in the command to tie technology together," he said.

Any military system developed by the Army needs to have several attributes to be valuable in a long war, Campbell said. They need to have responsiveness, precision, endurance, scalability and flexibility.

"We have to be able to operate faster. We've learned in Iraq that our opportunities are fleeting," Campbell said. "It takes a lot of men and women focused 24 hours a day, seven days a week to kill high value targets."

The support Soldiers get from military systems has to be assured at all times, oth-

erwise the utility of the system goes to zero, he said.

Space systems developed by SMDC have the "potential to provide timely information and we don't always realize that," Campbell said. "We need to make sure the information flows to the right person at the right time."

A well-developed space system is invaluable in how it supports the mission of ground troops, he said.

"We want to imbed space support around the Army and give (Soldiers) the support they need," he said.

He asked his audience to continue to pray for the country's Soldiers.

"Sometimes they get caught in the middle of all the politics," Campbell said. "They are really doing God's work out there. The stories are amazing on how they grit their teeth and keep going every day."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Wear red day

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski signs a proclamation for National Wear Red Day, Feb. 2. As part of February's American Heart Month, Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine encourages the wearing of red postwide Feb. 2 and plans a Health and Wellness Fair that day from 9-1 at the Bob Jones Auditorium lobby, building 5304. From left are Army public health nurse Tamiriz Centeno, preventive medicine chief Capt. Carly Skarphol, assistant sports and fitness director Phylissa Shannon and sports and fitness director Gaylene Wilson.

Aunt watches favorite quarterback grow up

**JaMarcus Russell
entering NFL draft**

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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When LSU quarterback JaMarcus Russell announced his decision to turn pro, there was an interested family member at Redstone.

His aunt Terry Russell Green is a logistics management specialist for the CH-47 helicopter T-55 engine team. Russell is her sister's son.

"I'm proud of him, proud of his decision and just happy that he's had a successful career in college football," Green said. "I'm extremely proud of him."

Russell, a junior who led the Louisiana State Tigers to a 41-14 victory over Notre Dame in the Sugar Bowl, decided to forego his senior year for the National Football League draft. Against Notre Dame, the Mobile native completed 21-of-34 passes for 332 yards and two touchdowns with one interception. He also had five carries for 16 yards and a touchdown.

For the year he completed 232-of-342 passes (67.8 percent) for 3,129 yards and 28 touchdowns with eight interceptions for LSU, which finished at 11-2.

Russell, 21, is one of two children of Zina Russell Anderson of Mobile. His father, Bobby

Lloyd, was a former basketball standout at Alabama A&M University.

"There's seven of us (siblings)," Green said of her two sisters and four brothers. "And (JaMarcus) is the last of the grandchildren to attend the same high school. And we all went to Williamson High School (in Mobile)."

Russell led Williamson to the Class 5A state final as a freshman; and his team lost the championship to Etowah High, which was led by star running back Cadillac Williams (now of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers). Russell graduated in 2003 as a five-star quarterback listed among the top 10 quarterback recruits nationally.

"His decision to go to LSU gave them the top-rated recruiting class for the year 2003," Green said.

At 6-foot-6 and 252 pounds, he played some of 2004 for the Tigers and was the starting quarterback in 2005 and 2006. "We just enjoyed going to see the football games," said Green, who attended a handful of LSU games this season, including the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 3 at the Superdome in New Orleans. "And man, it's just an unbelievable experience going to the (Southeastern Conference) football games."

Jan. 26 will be JaMarcus Russell day at his former elementary school, Craighead Elementary, and former high school,



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HOLD THAT TIGER—Terry Russell Green, a logistics management specialist, shows a picture of her nephew JaMarcus Russell, who led the LSU Tigers to an 11-2 season.

Williamson, both in Mobile. "He's really made the whole city proud," Green said.

When he was 12 and 13, Rus-

sell attended Redstone's School Age Services summer program. Green, 44, is a 1989 Alabama State University graduate who

began working here in 1992.

"He's an all-around good kid," Green said. "He's been raised well."

Franks

continued from page 1

The 690th mobilized in October 2005 for pre-mobilization training at Fort Dix, N.J. The unit consisted of 152 Guard Soldiers from across the state, representing 22 different units.

"We learned basic weapons firing, convoy training and basic Soldiering tasks," Franks recalled. "Even though I'm an infantry Soldier and that's my job, I'd been recruiting for a couple of years. So, it was a good refresher for me."

While in Iraq, Franks was assigned to provide security detail for Iraqi President Talabani.

"We provided security when he would go to and from his office, and when he went to appointments," Franks said. "If he needed to go somewhere, we took him. I saw all of Baghdad."

Traveling with Talabani meant wearing full body armor and carrying several weapons. Although Franks can't reveal many details of his assignment, he did say Talabani was provided with the best security detail available.

"We did our job and we got him safely wherever he needed to go," he said.

In return, Talabani was a good boss to work for.

"He brought us Thanksgiving dinner and at Christmas he would feed us a Christmas dinner at a table full of Iraqi food. He made individual pictures with each of us," Franks said. "He was super cool. The things he did for us made us enjoy working for him. Just the little things he did, we really appreciated."

The 690th was stationed at Forward Operating Base Freedom, which is located at a palace once lived in by one of Saddam Hussein's sons.

"There was a swimming pool. But, when we first got there, it was pretty run down and there was no water in it," Franks said. "Somehow we got water so we could swim in the pool."

The unit also had access to MWR big screen televisions, DVD players, lots of DVDs, pool tables and computers. There were basketball tournaments as well as spades and pool tournaments.

With so many Guard Soldiers being deployed alongside regular Army Soldiers, Franks said the Guard is benefiting from the same training and experiences as the regular Army. Yet, Guard Soldiers are also able to take advantage of a unique kind of support found within their units.

"The Guard and regular Army are both fighting alongside Iraqi components," Franks

said. "I feel like we did our job every bit as well as Soldiers in the regular Army."

"But, I think it is easier for a deployed Guard unit to gel together, and trust each other and work together because the Soldiers all come from the same state, they have a lot of things in common, they know the same cities and towns, and they know the same football teams. We also had great family support that made going to Iraq easier because we were always getting care packages and letters from our families and churches."

Franks admits it was probably easier for him to deploy because he is single. But, he did leave behind relatives who worried about him, particularly his mom and stepfather, Marla and Donnie Smith, and his sisters, 20-year-old Alana Smith and 21-year-old Hannah Smith. Hannah Smith is a sergeant with the Guard's 279th Signal Battalion in Huntsville.

"I think any parent would have some concern for their son's or daughter's safety," Franks said. "Being in the military and serving in dangerous places can be totally foreign to a Soldier's family."

As a recruiter, he addresses those family concerns when talking to young people about a career in the Guard.

But, with any career, Franks said, the military has its ups and downs. Though there are dangers, there are also many rewards.

"I looked at my deployment as a big adventure," Franks said. "It was an opportunity to travel, to see Baghdad and Kuwait. I even got to eat Iraqi food with the president of Iraq."

As he continues his work as a Guard recruiter, Franks has the confidence that comes with completing a deployment in a war-torn area of the world. He also has the appreciation of a Soldier who has lived and worked in a country full of despair and strife, knowing he would return home to many freedoms.

"It definitely gave me a lot of gratitude for living in the U.S. where we have the freedom to go where we want to and live the way we want to," Franks said. "Going somewhere like Baghdad makes you appreciate the quality of life you have at home. It helps you appreciate the smaller things, like getting in your car and going to the store or to McDonald's."

Franks wants to continue to express his gratitude for his country's freedoms by once again serving as a Soldier in foreign countries.

"My Iraq experience was very positive and I would love to go back. I hope I get the opportunity to go back," he said. "I would go to Iraq or Afghanistan or wherever and whenever they need me."

Underwater reenlistment proves exciting



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TAKING OATH— Sgt. Jennifer Lopez, a lab technician at Fox Army Health Center, takes the reenlistment oath while submerged in the Astronaut Underwater Trainer at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

Health center Soldier goes depths to re-up

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

Sgt. Jennifer Lopez of Fox Army Health Center wanted to do something different for her second reenlistment.

With the help of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, she met her goal.

Lopez, a certified scuba diver, reenlisted Thursday in the Astronaut Underwater Trainer. Family members, Soldiers and local reporters looked on as she raised her right hand and took the oath of reenlistment in the underwater facility at the space museum.

"It was exciting," the Jasper native said afterward. "I'm so thrilled. I just can't stop smiling."

The laboratory technician, who serves as the NCO-in-charge of the department of pathology at Fox, reenlisted for three years. She will leave before June to join her husband, Staff Sgt. Christian Lopez, at Fort Campbell, Ky.

She's been in the Army seven and a half years. Lopez, 25, recalled there was

nothing spectacular about her four-year reenlistment ceremony in December 2004 at Fort Polk, La.

But this one was unique. She put diving gear over her uniform and dropped to the bottom of the underwater tank with assistance from the facility workers. Capt. Stephanie Rigby-Tomasko, the medical company commander, administered the oath while standing outside the tank.

Lopez's father, Master Sgt. Glen Robinson of Fort Gordon, Ga., descended into the water to watch the ceremony. The senior career counselor for the Southeast Regional Medical Command, Robinson will retire June 20 with 21 years service. "It's time for her to take over," he said.

Other family members attending the ceremony included Lopez's 4-year-old son, Evan Mooe, and her mother's parents and one of her mother's sisters. She has been stationed at Redstone 22 months. Her hobbies include scuba diving and playing the cello.

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins, the detachment sergeant for Fox Army Health Center, gave her the suggestion of reenlisting in the astronaut underwater simulator.

"She got excited (about the idea)," Perkins said. "We contacted the Space &

Rocket Center and they were kind enough to put it together for us."



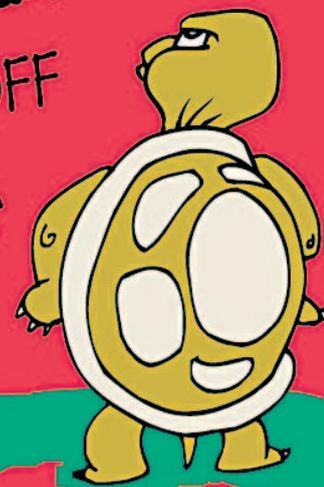
Photo by Skip Vaughn

READY TO DIVE— Before reenlisting underwater, Sgt. Jennifer Lopez pauses in front of flags during her ceremony at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

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Combined Test Force announces full operation

Missile defense has eventful year

By **LUANNE FANTASIA**
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

It was time for ballistic missile defense systems to start playing well with others.

Enter Missile Defense Agency's Combined Test Force — to plan, integrate, execute and analyze ballistic missile defense systems. A year ago, MDA declared initial operational capability for this integrated test execution organization.

Tim McKaig, retired colonel and director of the Combined Test Force, announced in a ceremony Nov. 13 that the CTF now has full operational capability.

"This has been an eventful year. And, it's significant to have this ceremony today, because (recently) we completed a distributed ground test with 17 sites. It was a massive effort, but today we're fully operational," McKaig said.

It's a complex mission, but the need became apparent for a single organization to be responsible for testing ballistic missile defense systems, or BMDS, and its components, as several systems such as the Patriot, Aegis, THAAD, and GMD, began to mature and require testing as part of the integrated BMDS.

The timing is ironic. Incoming chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. Carl Levin (Mich.) told Aerospace Daily & Defense Report the same day as the ceremony that he will press for



Photo by LuAnne Fantasia

WELCOME RECEPTION— Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, center, was a guest at the Nov. 13 ceremony and reception for MDA's Combined Test Force. "Bringing people from all over the country is important to Huntsville, and I thank you for having your team here," she said. From left are Michael Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for RD&A, SMDC/ARSTRAT; Tim McKaig, director of the Combined Test Force, MDA; Spencer; and Maj. Gen. Chris Anzalone, deputy for Test Integration and Fielding, MDA.

integrated testing of the nation's missile defense system.

"It's in everyone's interest that it work — regardless of what one's position is or

has been on missile defense," Levin said.

In a live videoconference from his office in the National Capital Region, MDA director Air Force Lt. Gen. Trey

Obering told those attending the ceremony, "I'm proud of this rollout of the CTF, and I view this as a partnership between the Missile Defense Agency and the city of Huntsville.

"Events this year with North Korea and in Lebanon, combined with successful test results over the last year, shows why the CTF is important to the overall program," Obering said.

He was referring to North Korea's failed attempted launch of a long range missile last summer; their successful launch of six other shorter range missiles over a two-day period; and their apparent underground detonation of a nuclear device; as well as more than 4,000 rockets pummeling cities and towns in Israel last summer — rockets provided by rogue nations and launched by terrorists.

Although the CTF was created by leveraging existing legacy organizations, funding and manpower, it took countless people to make it happen, and three were recognized during the ceremony for their herculean efforts to pull everything together fast: Beth Fitzgerald, Mary Barrick, and Air Force Lt. Col. Kenneth Reiman.

Maj. Gen. Chris Anzalone, MDA's deputy for test, integration and fielding, said, "This effort is the beginning of a center of gravity. You just saw me award a joint service commendation medal to Air Force Lt. Col. Reiman. That's a beginning because what does combined test force mean? It means joint.

"Wait until you see what's coming," Anzalone added. "It's only goodness."

Longbow Hellfire delivers through joint venture

Missiles complete multi-year program

The Longbow Hellfire missile Multi-Year Production Program was successfully completed this year by the Longbow LLC, comprised of Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin joint venture.

The Longbow LLC delivered 10,397 Longbow Hellfire missiles to the Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office under the Longbow Hellfire multi-year production program, marking the completion of a development and production effort with a total value of more than \$2.5 billion.

The Longbow Hellfire was developed through a joint venture between Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin. Under the joint venture, Northrop Grumman produced the guidance electronics and then integrated the millimeter wave sensor produced by Lockheed Martin's facility in Ocala, Fla., integrating them into a full-up guidance section. The guidance section was then delivered to Lockheed Martin's Troy, Ala., facility for integration of the rocket motor and warhead and final assembly to complete the all-round weapon.

The Longbow Hellfire provides true fire-and-forget precision to Apache helicopter air crews. It is an integral part of the Apache AH-64D Longbow system which includes a mast-mounted MMW fire control radar that increases platform survivability. The Longbow missile can destroy tanks, air defense units, and other vehicles in clear or adverse weather and in the presence of battlefield obscurants. Pilots fly with confidence, delivering missiles with precision, even under the most adverse conditions.

The Longbow Hellfire program evolved from the Helicopter Adverse Weather Target Acquisition and Designation System activity initiated in 1978. At that time, industry-wide interaction through briefings and white papers led to the initiation of the Helicopter Adverse Weather Fire Control and

Acquisition Radar program managed by the Army Applied Technology Laboratory at Fort Eustis, Va. Martin Marietta and Westinghouse Electric Corporation were awarded parallel competitive demonstration contracts for a radio frequency fire control radar which led to the development of a MMW radar seeker for the Hellfire missile for the Apache. In 1982, Westinghouse and Martin Marietta were awarded a three-year parallel competition contract to demonstrate that the critical technologies required were available for further system development.

In 1985 Westinghouse and Martin Marietta formed a joint venture called the Longbow JV which was awarded a development contract to develop the preliminary design of the tactical Longbow Hellfire. This was followed by a Proof of Principle demonstration contract then an Initial Design Phase contract. By December 1990 the Longbow JV, now comprised of Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman, was awarded an Engineering and Manufacturing Development contract which included options for low rate production. During the Phase I Initial Operational Test and Evaluation at China Lake, Calif., the Longbow missiles scored 17 out of 19 successful hits against various moving and stationary T-72 tanks and ZSU-23/4 air defense units during day and night conditions. Similar results were seen during developmental flight tests at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Yuma Proving Grounds, Ariz., and China Lake, Calif. In all, 41 flight tests were successfully completed. This trend continued through the entire production phase of the program where overall Mission Success rate of the Longbow Hellfire was 98.3 percent representing the total number of successful missile flight tests conducted over the life of the program.

The Longbow Hellfire missile was first used operationally on the first day of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Longbow Apaches used a



Courtesy photo

LETHAL WEAPON— The Longbow missile can destroy tanks, air defense units, and other vehicles in clear or adverse weather and in the presence of battlefield obscurants.

See **Longbow** on page 15



Photo by Carolyn Peoples

Cargo delivery

The Army's first production CH-47F Chinook helicopter made its appearance here last week as part of Operational Testing and Evaluation, which will be completed by late spring. Lt. Col. Tom Todd, CH-47F product manager, gave local reporters a guided tour of the Army's latest cargo helicopter Jan. 16 at Redstone Airfield. This program is managed locally by the Cargo Project Office of the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

■ Contractors complete delivery for Longbow Hellfire

Longbow

continued from page 14

mixed load out of Hellfire II and Longbow Hellfire missiles. A number of Longbow Hellfire missiles were expended in the first few weeks of OIF. Despite the lack of opportunities to engage a target with the Longbow Hellfire, the missiles that were fired successfully completed the mission.

This mission success was best reflected by one pilot who explained his first Longbow Hellfire firing. The pilot had crossed the Forward Line of Own Troops heading deep when his display showed a merged target (radio frequency indicator merged target with the fire control radar target); the target was an air defense system threat 560 meters downrange. The missile immediately responded with a valid Lock-On-Before-Launch indication. The pilot pulled the trigger. The missile successfully impacted the target and the aircraft flew through the debris from the target explosion. The pilot's comment was, "This was great compared to having to find that target with a laser missile." After this engagement, the pilot reported no issues using the Longbow missile.

Recently, operational units were given the opportunity to conduct flight test on some Longbow Hellfire missiles. These pilots got the opportunity to fire the missile against some moving targets and they were impressed with the missile performance.

The Longbow Hellfire program started production with a huge challenge to reduce the life cycle cost of the missile. The Longbow JV committed to achieve a 25 percent reduction in cost and the Cost Reduction Program plan was prepared to reduce the unit price by 28 percent. A Mantech program in conjunction with the CRP was used to reduce manufacturing cost of the Millimeter Wave transceiver and the micro-electro-mechanical systems based inertial measurement unit. The efforts of both initiatives resulted in cost savings that exceeded the program's goals.

The Longbow Hellfire program received two major awards for government-contractor teaming efforts. In 1998 the Longbow Missile Cost Reduction Team received the overall DoD Life Cycle Cost Reduction Award. Among this team's initiatives were the following: acceleration of procurement build that reduced production from 10 to 8 years; a \$235.7 million reduction in overall program procurement costs; and incorporation of cost reduction design and process initiatives that projects an actual cost savings of \$445.6 million which is 80 percent above the team's goal and commitment. Also in 1998, the Longbow Hellfire program also received the Order of the Daedalians, Franklin C. Wolfe Memorial Trophy for the most outstanding weapon system operating in the aerospace environment. The recipients are selected by the individual services from nominations submitted by the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. (*Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office release*)

Family puts entertainment options in print

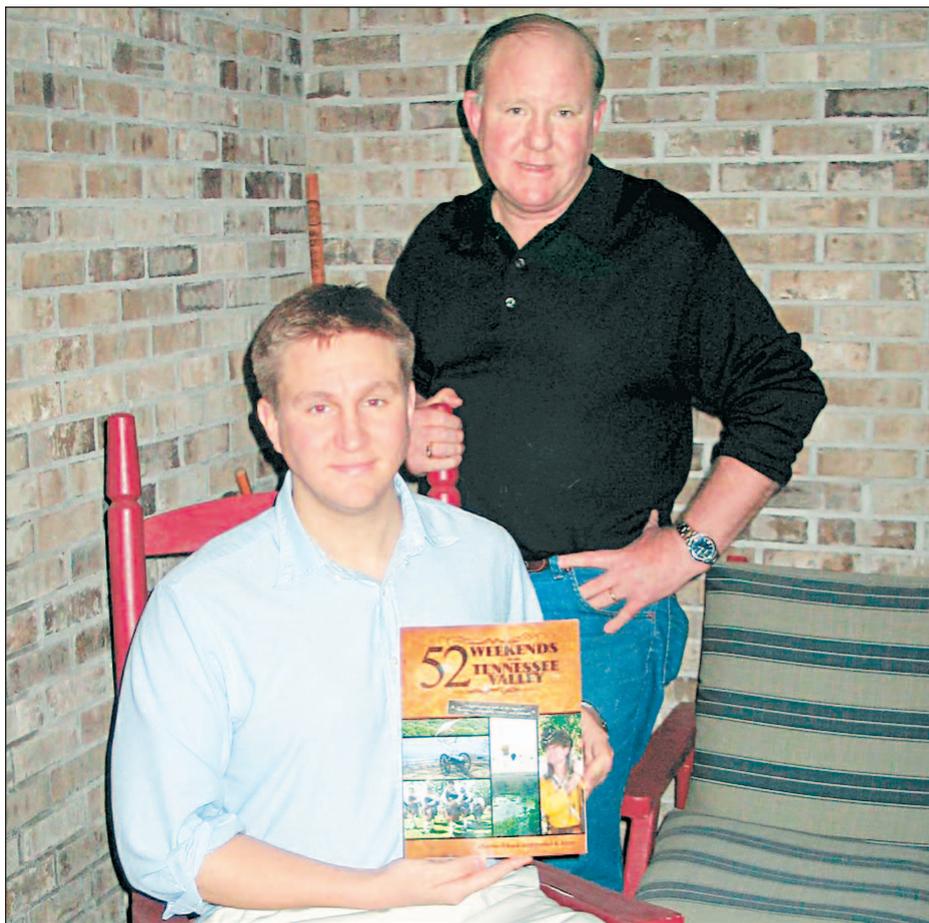


Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

AUTHORS— Charles and Daniel Frew, seated, enjoy another great Southern location — a front porch rocker.

Book details attractions in Tennessee Valley

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**

Staff writer

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Many people spend their weekends trying to find something fun to do, but two local men turned that pursuit into an adventure. Father and son team Charles and Daniel Frew have written a book about the sights and activities of the extended area.

Titled “52 Weekends in the Tennessee Valley,” the coffee table style tome is 210 glossy color pages of the places to visit and things to do in an area spreading from Nashville south to Cullman and Savannah east to Chattanooga. The original idea was to just use the Huntsville area, but the pair kept thinking of great things just outside the city’s boundaries.

“We started thinking that we needed to include the hot air balloons in Decatur,” Daniel said. “Once we included Decatur then we started coming up with all these other great places, too.”

While the area covered is slightly larger than what people may think of as the “Tennessee Valley,” father Charles, a retired civil servant most recently of the Corps of Engineers, thought it just made sense to expand the boundaries.

“Our original plan was to exclude Nashville, which was really stupid,” Charles said. “Even though it’s a little farther north than what most people consider the Tennessee Valley to be, it has a diverse array of cultural and entertainment events.”

The idea for the project began quite simply, with a map and a magic marker.

“We just stapled two maps together and marked it off,” Charles said.

Each of the places and activities listed in the book were personally visited and tried by the Frew family, including skydiving, hang gliding and a trip to the infamous Bonnaroo music festival in Manchester, Tenn.

“I went to that,” Daniel said laughing. “It’s not his (Charles’) cup of tea. We did mention that it is an adult festival.”

Personally investigating and photographing each item took a little longer than the title’s 52 weeks. It in fact took about 130 weeks, or two and a half years, to make the book a reality, including editing and press time.

“We had some binding issues that took about three weeks to resolve,” Charles explained.

“The editing alone took six months,” Daniel added.

The book includes a brief history of the area, with mentions of the Native American and Civil War history. Besides the individual write-ups about each place or event, the Frews packed the book with original artwork and photographs, largely because Daniel is a professional photographer and graphic artist. There is one photo, however, that was not taken by a Frew.

“The picture on page 106 is a shot of my son skydiving,” Charles said. “I’m not jumping out of an airplane!”

“It was shot from the helmet camera of one of the instructors,” Daniel added.

The book became a true family project, with Charles’ wife, Cathy, and daughter, Janice, lending a hand with the proof-reading and editing. To make sure every Frew had a hand or paw in it, there is even a tongue-in-cheek acknowledgement of the family dog, Yoda, on the next to last page. She is listed, with photo, as the technical adviser. In keeping with the lighthearted tone, many of the photos are humorous depictions of various signs and displays that gave the authors a chuckle as they encountered them in their travels.

The Frews may have made this a family pastime for the last several years, but they wanted the finished product to be as professional as possible. The last several pages consist of an appendix listing each item reviewed within the book with web sites, phone numbers and addresses for each. Since the book hit the shelves in November, they have been getting a lot of questions about how they made the decision to include or exclude places from the finished product.

“We don’t have a solid answer for that,” Charles said. “We just went somewhere and if we thought it was good, we put it in.”

“We just tried to paint the valley with a pretty wide brush and include something for everybody,” Daniel said. “There was no money exchanged for any of this. I think it’s important for people to know that. There are a lot of travel publications that are well disguised advertisements.”

Somewhere along the line, the decision was made to keep the final edition soft cover to keep the price down, instead of a more expensive hardback edition. Charles said they wanted to keep the price affordable for everyone.

“It retails for only \$29.95,” Daniel said.

The book finally made it to press during the first part of October. It occurred to Charles in the wee hours of the morning of the 24-hour print that he’d like to have a photo of their book actually on the press.

“I got one of those disposable cameras that you can pick up anywhere for a couple bucks,” Charles said laughing. “A guy at the printing company congratulated me on using one of those to make the whole book. He thought we had done it with a disposable camera!”

The majority of the photos were actually shot digitally, though a few were on film.

The book is now available at most bookstores, including Barnes and Noble, Walden Books and local bookstore Shavers Books — where it has been enjoying marked success. It’s the number one seller on the store’s Top Ten list.

“It made number one in eight weeks,” Charles said. “They were very impressed.”

For more information on “52 Weekends in the Tennessee Valley,” visit the book’s web site at www.tennesseevalley-book.com.

“There’s a lot going on for different types of people,” Daniel said. “We just thought that there should be one comprehensive visual guide to all of the entertainment options.”

Got a taste for alligator, bear or boar?

Wild game cookout returns by demand

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

MWR Outdoor Recreation is bringing back one of Redstone Arsenal's most popular events – the Wild Game Cook-Out.

The Officers and Civilians Club will be cooking up a slew of wild game in preparation for the event, set for Friday, Feb. 2 at the club.

And, guests are guaranteed that wild game never tasted so good.

The menu will include local fare from Redstone Arsenal, including venison, duck, rabbit, quail and wild turkey. More exotic game – such as alligator, bear, boar and buffalo – will also be served.

Tickets to the event are \$14 and can be purchased through Morale Welfare and Recreation. The cookout begins at 6 p.m.

"This is a great event," said Bill Moreland, the activity manager at Outdoor Recreation.

"We took a break from having this annual event about six years ago because we grew out of the facilities at the Rustic Lodge. But, a lot of people have asked for it back. So, we are bringing it back in a better and larger venue that is excellent for us, and we are doing it in partnership with the chef and the staff at the Redstone Officers and Civilians Club."

The club's staff is making plans to serve such dishes as Fried Turkey with Running Gear Gravy, Pan-Fried Venison Steaks, Blackened Venison, Squirrel Bog, Harold's Wild Hog Loins and Broasted Swamp Rabbit.

"As a hunter, I'm really looking forward to this because wild game is some of the best eating there is," said Mark Germonprez, MWR business operations manager. "Wild game is better tasting and better for you. It really makes an incredible meal if it's fixed properly."

Redstone Arsenal hunters will provide the local game for the Wild Game Cook-Out. The event is an opportunity for hunters to share the Arsenal's bounty, said MWR marketing manager Adrian Baker.

"Hunters want to pass on their passion by sharing the yield of game they've taken from the woods," he said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

WILD GAME UNLIMITED— Mark Germonprez, MWR business operations manager, is a year-round hunter who enjoys the many ways to prepare wild game for meals. While he enjoys sharing wild game with family and friends at the dinner table, Germonprez also gets added enjoyment from the wild game trophies he has gained from his hunting expeditions. He killed a 350-pound black bear during a bow-and-arrow hunt north of Winnipeg, Canada; and a 23-pound wild turkey in a hunt at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Other trophies include the wood ducks, hooded merganser and ring-neck duck. Bears, wild turkeys and ducks will be among the wild games served at the Wild Game Cook-Out on Friday, Feb. 2.

While local game will be donated, the club will be purchasing the exotic game not found or hunted in this area. Whether donated or purchased, the game will be prepared in a variety of dishes by the club's professional staff.

The club will be able to accommodate about 500 people at the event, with wild game served at a variety of buffet tables. The club facilities should bring an end to long waiting lines and other problems associated with planning past cookouts at the Rustic Lodge.

The club's ballroom will be

decorated with hunting gear, including camouflage tablecloths; and waitresses and staff members will be dressed in camouflage and overalls.

"It will be a laid back atmosphere," ROCC manager Bob Howell said. "It will be casual dress. It should be a lot of fun for everyone."

In addition to the wild game prepared by the ROCC chef and his staff, cooks can also participate in the Wild Game Chili Cook-Off competition to be held during the evening. To participate, cooks must bring a minimum of one gallon of homemade

chili that includes some type of wild game.

"Our judges will judge for texture and taste," Howell said. "After the judging, the chilies will be available for everyone to sample. Contestants should bring copies of their recipes to share."

First, second and third place winners along with a people's choice winner will be announced during the evening.

In addition, there will be a brief presentation by Redstone Arsenal hunters. During the event, door prizes geared toward hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation will be given away.

Gander Mountain, which is a sponsor of the Wild Game Cook-Out, will have product and vendor displays set up at the cookout.

"It's good to partner with the club for this event because the facility and the service are outstanding," Moreland said. "This is one of the first times we've gotten to partner with the club, and we look forward to making this an annual event with our partnership and sponsorship."

The Wild Game Cook-Out is open to anyone who can access Redstone Arsenal. For tickets, call 830-2582 or 876-4868.

Lane-side service hits the spot

Bowlers enjoy ordering snacks while they play

By **ADRIAN BAKER**
MWR Sales & Marketing

Great service and a smile have been the biggest part of Redstone Lanes' mission for more than 25 years. The staff and management of Redstone Arsenal's \$7 million bowling center have added a new twist to their reputation — lane service for bowlers.

Redstone Lanes' Jennifer Mendoza, a staff bartender and server, has been operating this service since mid-October when the Fall Leagues began.

"Customers just push the button at the table," she said, explaining how the service works. "I come over and greet them, then they order right there at their lane. I check on them periodically while I hold the Strike Zone Restaurant buzzer for them. Then, I simply carry their order to them when their buzzer signals that the food's ready."

By simply presenting a credit card, bowlers are able to run a tab during the evening and pay at the end of the night, which has become popular for a certain group of regular patrons — league bowlers. "They're really excited about the convenience of it. The league bowlers don't like to leave mid-game,



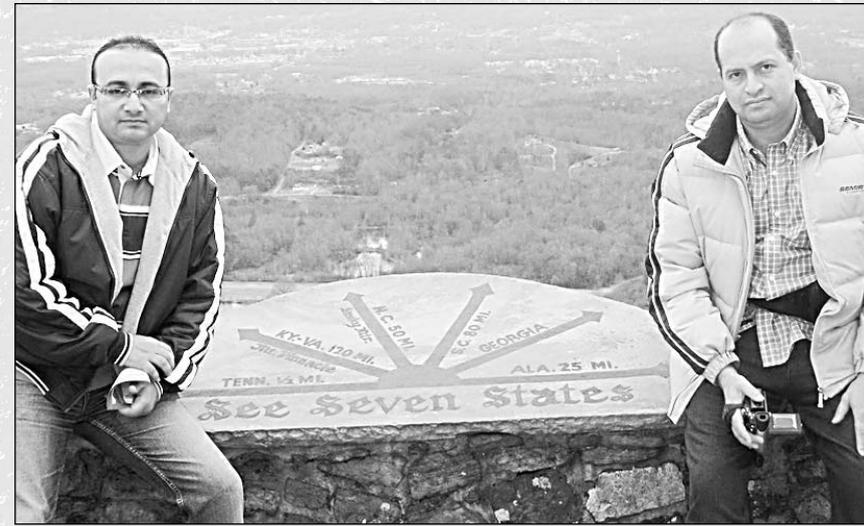
Courtesy photo

WITH A SMILE— Redstone Lanes' Jennifer Mendoza, a staff bartender and server, says league bowlers especially like being served during their games.

so this service has become especially popular with those who would not even think about leaving their lanes otherwise," Mendoza said.

"Many customers have said they don't know what they did without me. They're really happy to have the lane service here as a new part of their Redstone Lanes Bowling Center," she said. "I know it's something worthwhile when I experience customers stopping me in the mall to ask if I'll be working at Redstone Lanes later that night."

For details on this and other MWR programs/events on Redstone Arsenal, go to www.redstonemwr.com.



Courtesy photo

Stateside visit

The International Military Student Office took two Egyptian soldiers on a field studies tour to Chattanooga on Jan. 15. Maj. Mohamed Shehata and Maj. Mahmoud Hekal take in the view at the "Seven States Flag Court" at Rock City Gardens in Georgia. This flag court serves as a lasting tribute to the each of the states you can see from Lookout Mountain. The students also visited Ruby Falls in Chattanooga.

Bravo outlasts 326th Chemical in preseason game

Bulldogs benefit from deeper bench

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

Bravo Company picked up the pace in the second half of its preseason basketball game against 326th Chemical on Thursday night at Pagano Gym.

And the 326th couldn't keep up.

The result was a 33-27 win for Bravo over 326th, the defending post champion. The double-elimination tournament continues this week with the final scheduled 6 p.m. Jan. 29.

Trailing 10-9 at halftime, Bravo rallied behind Lawrence Scott, who entered the game in the second half. Scott finished with six points, which proved to be the difference in the final score.

"When he came in, he took the tempo up another level," Bravo coach/guard Rod Brown said. The Bulldogs also took advantage of having 12 players compared to seven for the 326th.

"We kind of ran them until they were tired," Brown said. "And Scott was responsible for raising the tempo."

The Bulldogs led 29-27 with 1:39 left when Scott sank consecutive layups in the

final minute to end the scoring. Brown finished with 10 points for Bravo while Ronell Roberson added nine.

Jeremy Hamilton scored 16 points, including four 3-pointers, for the 326th. The Dragons will try to defend their post championship without their three top scorers from last year – Miguel Smith, Michael Gola and Derrick Davis.

"It's just the preseason," 326th coach/forward Eddie Bryan said. "It's going to be a fun season."

Charlie Company 35, Headquarters & Alpha 28: Charlie raced to a 19-9 half-time lead but trailed 28-27 with 4:34 left in the game. The Wolfpack finished with an 8-0 run for the win Thursday night.

James Riley scored 14 points and LaQuaine Bess had 10 for the winners.

"I think we did good for the first game," Charlie coach Chelsie Stokes said. "We never had practice, so this was like our first practice – to see what we look like for the year."

"We just ran out of gas," Headquarters & Alpha coach Steve Rickard said. "We had a mix-up on the roster, so I couldn't field all my players. I only had six people dressed."

In other preseason tournament games, Bravo won by forfeit over HHC 59th and the NCO Academy beat the Marines 40-37 on Jan. 17.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

UP AND IN— Bravo's Rod Brown scores two of his 10 points in a preseason win over 326th Chemical on Thursday night.



Sports & Recreation

Hockey night

The Huntsville Havoc will face off against the Knoxville Ice Bears at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Von Braun Center on "Military Appreciation Night." Free tickets are available to military, retired military and their dependents. All others can get tickets for \$8.50 at the box office at the VBC. For military tickets come to building 3206 or call Sgt. 1st Class Steven Walker 876-7969. For group information, call the Huntsville Havoc 518-6160.

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 Saturday and Sunday 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.

Globetrotters

The Harlem Globetrotters will perform March 14 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center. Tickets are on sale at the VBC box office. Discount tickets are available for military and civilian personnel and their families. The discount ticket price is \$13.50 (\$26.50 and \$17.50 full price).



Conferences & Meetings

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel have Bible studies each Thursday at Bicenten-

nial 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.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold a dinner meeting to install new officers Jan. 31 at the Officers and Civilian Club. Retired Vice Adm. Norbert Ryan Jr., president of Military Officers Association of America, will be the featured speaker. Social hour starts at 6 p.m. with a pay-at-the-door \$11 buffet and free wine at 7. Dress is business attire. Notification to attend is requested by Saturday. The informal monthly breakfast is Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information or attendance notification, call retired Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

Test equipment summit

The 2007 Depot Test Equipment Technical Interchange Meeting is Feb. 20-22 at the Holiday Inn downtown. This meeting is sponsored by the Engineering Support Division, a division of the AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate. The objective is to provide enhanced communications among Automatic Test Equipment users, developers and sustainers. Invited speakers include management officials from AMCOM and the depots. Register by going to www.esddepotsummit.com. If you have any questions regarding registration, contact Amy Clark, Depot Test Equipment Summit 2007 coordinator, at amy.clark@amrdec.army.mil.

Kansas club

The Kansas Club — for those with a Kansas connection or those who like to associate with mid-westerners — will meet at the West End Grill on Saturday at 6:30 p.m. for dinner, socializing and to hear Chuck Frew talk about "Writing a Book with the Family." Frew, author of "52 Weekends in the Tennessee Valley,"

will discuss putting the book together with family members and several weekend travel highlights. Reservations are necessary. Call 828-4627.

Parents committee

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Committee will meet Jan. 30 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room of the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 (phone 876-7952). All parents are encouraged to attend the PAC meetings. Parent Participation Points are awarded for attendance — 5 points equals a 10 percent discount on childcare fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Child and Youth Services facilities and to provide your ideas, opinions or concerns," a prepared release said.

Space research

AIAA invites you to a luncheon meeting with NASA's Dr. Tom Sever on Feb. 1 at 11 a.m. at the NASA Educator Training Facility, U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Sever will address his research as an archaeologist and remote-sensing expert. Cost is \$10 for lunch. RSVP by noon Thursday to Mike Tinker at mike.tinker@nasa.gov.

Fleet reserve

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

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer User's Group will meet Feb. 10 at 10:45 a.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Ron Schmitz, co-leader of the Windows/Internet Special Interest Group and leader of the Hardware SIG, will discuss and demonstrate the software and techniques for scanning your slides and converting them to digital formats. HPCUG president Kevin Wangbickler will discuss Internet Explorer, Version 7 at 9:15 a.m. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 830-2232.

Civil War round table

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Club, 725 Franklin St. Navy veteran Kent Wright will discuss "The Red River Campaign," a combined Army-Navy



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Veterans honor

Bill Meiers and Randy Withrow, second and third from left respectively, are thanked by David Carney, left, and Joe Fitzgerald, right, for their service to veterans, Soldiers, military families and the community. The two retired veterans were recognized for their service during the annual awards program of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition. Meiers received the coalition's first ever Lifetime Achievement Award and Withrow was named Veteran of the Year. Carney is the coalition's president for 2007 and Fitzgerald is the coalition's 2006 president and a member of its 2007 executive committee.

operation in Northwest Louisiana in early 1864. Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 for \$6.95. For information call 858-6191.

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@crow.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://dauaa.south.home.mchsi.com> 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, call Ralph Powell (256) 259-6500 or 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 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 Warrent Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

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.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist



Courtesy photo

Essay winner

Destiny Battles, 14, a freshman at Athens High, was chosen the overall winner of the NAACP essay contest, "An Open Letter to Dr. King." She read her winning entry Jan. 15 after the Martin Luther King march in Athens. Her brother, Reginald, placed second in the age 6-12 division. They are the children of Reginald and Shellia Battles, a contract specialist in the Targets Management Office.

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 through Feb. 1. It will be open Saturday, Feb. 3 from 10-2. 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.

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 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 get-

ting an application from the high school senior counselor or college placement service, call Julie Lumpkins of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center 313-4834.

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," 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.

Prayer breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast is Feb. 8 from 6:30-8 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Chief Warrant Officer Harry Hobbs. Cost is a \$3

suggested donation. There will be a special appearance by 2006 Miss Alabama Melinda Toole. The Olde Towne Brass will perform. Tickets are available at Bicentennial Chapel. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Simmons 842-2176.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers 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.asmc.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.

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.

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.

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.

See Announcements on page 25



Photo by Wendy Turney

Employee of quarter

Security specialist Loretta Warner has been selected the fourth Employee of the Quarter for 2006 in the G-2 Intelligence and Security.

PCFO solicitation

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 fundraising 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 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.

Acquisition courses

Defense Acquisition University-South has vacancies for the following DAWIA certification courses: Multinational Program Management, Feb. 5-9; and International Security and Technology Transfer/Control, Feb. 12-16. For registration information, call Bonnie Stewart 313-4039. General course content questions can be addressed to Dieter Prigmore 722-1023.

International night

The Officers and Civilians Club will hold International Night on Friday 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.

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.



Photo by Stephanie McCrary

Honor from city

Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer attended the first Program Executive Office, Missile and Space Town Hall meeting of 2007 to proclaim Jan. 16 as Program Executive Office, Missile and Space day. The PEO was being honored for the contributions that the Army's missile program has made to the City of Huntsville over the years.

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

Drill sergeant of year

The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, 59th Ordnance Brigade, will host the 2007 Drill Sergeant of the Year competition from Jan. 29 through Feb. 2. The winner will be selected to represent Redstone Arsenal and OMEMS at the Training and Doctrine Command 2007 Drill Sergeant of the Year competition. The TRADOC competition will take place at Fort Monroe, Va., from June 17-22. There will be a DSOY luncheon to announce the OMEMS winner at the Officers and Civilians Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 2. Everyone is invited. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Warnie Stokes 842-9794.

Jazz concert

The Nashville jazz quintet Karen Johns & Company will perform Friday from 7 p.m. until midnight at the Jazz Factory, 109 Northside Square. Admission is free. For more information about Karen Johns & Company, call (615) 227-3100 or (615) 337-4984.

Losing weight

Redstone 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. For more information, call Ferne Wlodarski 876-5640 or e-mail m.ferne.wlodarski@us.army.mil.

Art auction

The Officer and Civilians Women's Club will hold its annual Art Exhibition/Crafts and Services Auction "Fiesta" on Feb. 24 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The preview, hors d'oeuvres and Crafts and Services Silent Auction begins at 5:30 p.m., the art auction at 7 and dessert at 9.

The Perry Berns Gallery of Dallas, Texas, will conduct this year's event. Tickets are \$10 per person. Proceeds benefit the OCWC Welfare Fund in support of community activities for military and civilian families. For information call Teri Holly 772-4245 and Lynn Carden 533-6368.

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.

Employment briefing

A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct a Federal Employment Briefing on Feb. 1 from 9-11 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. This session will help participants to understand the federal application process. Topics will include recruitment sources, Resumix procedures, candidate evaluation, and the referral process. Call ACS at 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

Buffalo Soldier exhibit

The Huntsville Museum of Art is offering free admission Feb. 3 from 1-5 p.m. for a Buffalo Soldiers historical event. The focus will be on exhibits featuring the Buffalo Soldiers and their contributions to America's history. There will be a movie about the Buffalo Soldiers, exhibits and other activities. The event is being sponsored by the Ad Hoc Buffalo Soldier Committee to raise awareness and funding for the Buffalo Soldier Memorial to be built on the front grounds of the Academy for Academics and Arts. The committee is seeking donations for the memorial's construction as well as family stories and memorabilia from the time of the Buffalo Soldiers encampment in Huntsville on the site of the Academy from 1898-99. For more information, call Sheree Humphries at the Academy 428-7600.

Insurance benefit

Traumatic Service Group Life Insurance is a new insurance benefit enacted by Congress to help traumatically wounded Soldiers and their families with a one-time tax free payment of up to \$100,000. The money a Soldier receives through TSGLI could go for helping Soldier's family to be with them during recovery,

Rocket Announcements

assisting with unforeseen expenses, or giving the Soldier and his or her family a head start on life after recovery. If you are interested in applying for this program, information and claim forms can be found at www.tsqli.army.mil or by call 1-800-237-1336 and press option 2 for TSGLI.

Latin party

A Latin dance party is 9 p.m. Saturday at Casa Montego, 2117 Jonathan Drive. There will be dance lessons beforehand. For information call 858-9187 or 714-0155 or e-mail Dymonhunter@aol.com.

Wear red day

As part of February's American Heart Month, Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine will join thousands of Americans nationwide in celebrating National Wear Red Day on Friday, Feb. 2 by encouraging the wearing of red post-wide and sponsoring a Health and Wellness Fair. The event will be Feb. 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bob Jones Auditori-

um lobby, building 5304. Fox will be conducting Blood Pressure and Bone Density Screenings. Huntsville Hospital and other organizations and vendors will also be present.

Military collectibles

A military collectibles show will be held March 17-18 at the Jaycees Building, 2180 Airport Road. Buy, sell, trade or display. For more information, call 651-7302 or visit www.almilitarycollectors.org.

Father of year

The Volunteer Center of Madison County is accepting nominations for outstanding fathers and father figures in Madison County. The pool of nominations includes stories about fathers who inspire their families, their communities, and sometimes complete strangers by their kindness and character. Last year's Father of the Year, SMDC employee Phil Patterson, was nominated by one of his daughters who stated that in addition to

being a loving father and husband, he's a humble leader, encouraging his daughters to let their actions speak louder than words. All dads or other father figures who live in Madison County are eligible for nomination. Nominations, due by Feb. 2, can be made by calling 539-7797 or visiting www.volunteerhsv.org.

Contract closeout

The Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space and the Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office will conduct a Longbow Hellfire Recognition ceremony for the closeout of the multi-year contract Jan. 31 at 2 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Newcomers

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on Feb. 6 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338, Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths and a tour of Redstone

Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned for Redstone. Civilian employees, contractors and spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breeden relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

Acquisition courses

Defense Acquisition University-South has vacancies for the following DAWIA certification courses: Multinational Program Management, Feb. 5-9; and International Security and Technology Transfer/Control, Feb. 12-16. For registration information, call Bonnie Stewart 313-4039. General course content questions can be addressed to Dieter Prigmore 722-1023.

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 18 Jan 07																				
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																				
SCBK07716789	Command Exec Assistant	24-Jan-07	LOGSA	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X											
SCBK07740087	Tech Info Spec	25-Jan-07	AMC	GS-1412	11	11	53,362 - 69,373		X											
SCBK07744013	Logistics Mgmt Spec	25-Jan-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X											
SCBK07759909	Logistics Mgmt Spec	26-Jan-07	AMC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X											
SCBK07767309	Logistics Mgmt Spec	26-Jan-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X											
SCBK07767310	Logistics Mgmt Spec	26-Jan-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	83039 - 107,954			X	X	X			X	X			X	
SCBK07743051	Equip Spec	29-Jan-07	TMDE	GS-1670	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X											
SCBK07760897	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	29-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DK-0303	3	3	36,057 - 51,914	X	X		X	X	X		X		X			
SCBK07760897D	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	29-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DK-0303	3	3	36,057 - 51,914													X
SCBK07766823	Budget Analyst	29-Jan-07	SMDC	GS-0560	12	12	63,958 - 83,148		X											
SCBK06735888	Electronics Engr	30-Jan-07	USADTC	GS-0855	13	13	74,621 - 97,003		X											
SCBK07730541	Electronics Engr	30-Jan-07	USADTC	GS-0855	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X											
SCBK07753246	Packaging Spec	31-Jan-07	LOGSA	GS-2032	11	11	53,362 - 69,373		X											
SCBK06756415	Secretary (OA)	31-Jan-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0318	6	6	32,446 - 42,180		X											
SCBK07750034	Tech Data Spec	1-Feb-07	AMC	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148		X											
SCBK07757345	Aerospace Engr	1-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		
SCBK07757345D	Aerospace Engr	1-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876													X
SCBK07741882	Oper Research Analyst	1-Feb-07	AMC	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X											
SCBK07740270	Supv Electronics Engr	12-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	89,875 - 137,434		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		
SCBK07740270D	Supv Electronics Engr	12-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	89,875 - 137,434													X
SCBK07763747	General Engr	15-Feb-07	USADTC	GS-0801	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X						X					X
SCBK07763747D	General Engr	15-Feb-07	USADTC	GS-0801	13	13	76,056 - 98,876													X
SCBK06714202	Optometrist	15-Feb-07	MEDDAC	GS-0662	12	12	62,751 - 81,572		X	X	X		X		X	X		X		X
SCBK07750583	Supv General Engr	16-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X
SCBK07750583D	Supv General Engr	16-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434													X
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SOPM.GOV																				
SCBK07760897D	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	29-Jan-07	AMRDEC	DK-0303	3	3	36,057 - 51,914													X
SCBK07757345D	Aerospace Engr	1-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876													X
SCBK07740270D	Supv Electronics Engr	12-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	89,875 - 137,434													X
SCBK07763747D	General Engr	15-Feb-07	USADTC	GS-0801	13	13	76,056 - 98,876													X
SCBK07750583D	Supv General Engr	16-Feb-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434													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 documenting 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 documenting 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 documenting 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 documenting 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.