

The **Redstone**  **Rocket**

Technical Library
Redstone Arsenal
Huntsville, Alabama

VOL. 1: NO. 1

REDSTONE ARSENAL, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

FEB. 5, 1952

First Dimes Tally Passes \$1,800

Arsenal Typist Hurt In Wreck

Wanda Limbaugh Hurt
And Friend Is Killed
When Car Hits Bridge



Count Doubles 1951 Amount

Drive Chairman Stone
Congratulates Arsenal
On Excellent Showing

60th COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

The Aviation and Missile
Command honors more than
50 workers who recently
returned from deployments in
Iraq and Afghanistan.

OVER THERE

PAGE 12

Huntsville and Madison are
growing with newcomers from
Iraq, the Pentagon says.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PERSONNEL AT REDSTONE ARSENAL, AL

VOL. 60 No. 10

March 9, 2013

www.theredstonerocket.com

Rocket

Redstone

Community News: Tax center has busy first month. Page 4

Anniversary message from Garrison commander

Congratulations, *Redstone Rocket*! Reaching your 60th year of publication is indeed a giant milestone. It represents a legacy that has touched the lives of many Soldiers, civilians, retirees, veterans and military families who have lived and worked at Redstone Arsenal. You have a lot to be proud of.

But what does a 60-year anniversary for the *Redstone Rocket* mean for us today? Perusing older versions of our Arsenal newspaper, it is obvious we have come a long way from 1952. Our installation, our missions, our facilities – they've all changed and grown. Our communities, personal lifestyles and families have changed. Even our "look" has changed. And all those changes have been reported in our *Redstone Rocket*. When we celebrate a milestone like a 60-year anniversary – known as the diamond anniversary – it's really about the staff that works hard every week to put out yet another edition of our *Redstone Rocket*, and about the people who fill its pages and read its articles.

Our today and tomorrow is built solidly on the accomplishments of yesterday and, if the past 60 years are any indication, the *Redstone Rocket* is as strong and solid as any of the missiles or rockets or other technologies that have helped make a name for Redstone Arsenal.

Our *Redstone Rocket* has been a faithful keeper of Arsenal history. It was there when Dr. Wernher von Braun and his team of German and American rocket scientists designed and built the missiles that have defended our country and the rockets that have taken man into space. It was there when

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center grew out of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency and established its own presence here at Redstone. It was there when the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School was in its heyday. It was there when the TOW, Patriot, Javelin and a whole arsenal of missile systems were designed, developed and tested. It was there when the Missile Command was transformed into the Aviation and Missile Command, and Arsenal programs grew into prestigious science and technology organizations. And most recently, it was there when the Army Materiel Command and a whole new list of commands began to call the Arsenal home. Like the popular Redstone missile that is its namesake, our *Redstone Rocket* has expertly communicated our accomplishments and aspirations as one of the nation's leading science and technology installations. Our *Redstone Rocket* has been the newspaper that has told the stories behind the people, programs and activities that make Redstone Arsenal unique.

I hope that each of our *Rocket* readers will take a moment to say "Happy birthday, *Redstone Rocket*!" as they read through this special magazine that our *Rocket* staff has put together. As a *Rocket* reader myself, it means a lot to be able to share in this special anniversary. I can't wait to see how our *Redstone Rocket* reports on the next 60 successful years here at Redstone Arsenal.

Col. John Hamilton
Garrison commander



Col. John Hamilton



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New look of post

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Redstone Rocket 60th Anniversary

Photo by John Godbey

The Redstone Rocket staff includes, from left, seated, advertising representative Anna Hyles and reporter Beth Skarupa; middle row, advertising representative Shelia Smith, editor Skip Vaughn, assistant editor Kari Hawkins, general manager French Salter, copy editor/designer Kelley Lane Sivley; back row, photographer Ellen Hudson and reporter Amy Guckeen Tolson.



RedstoneRocket

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What's your favorite part of the *Rocket*?

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Sherrone Wallace

Program Executive Office for Aviation

"I guess the news, the updates of just the different things that go on at the Arsenal, the different activities that are announced. I am an outgoing person so I like to participate in different activities. I'm a small business owner, what I do is balloon décor. So I have that personality. I like to get out and meet people."

Glenn Guillen

AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center

"I actually like the news reports, the special features that you guys have because you can learn a lot about what's going on – not only about the installation but the programs that are happening here. It does focus on the organizations and programs that are on base, so you get a little bit more than what's in *The Huntsville Times*, more specifics."



Carla Tomanovich

FMWR Sports and Fitness

"I like your random surveys and I like the Getting to Know You – to see people I might know."



Nathaniel Burroughs

Phoenix Service (janitorial)

"I like the sports section. But I also like to see stories about Soldiers' and their families lives – how they help people, how they save people. I try to read it as much as I can. I like to keep up with sports."

Redstone Rocket evolution

June 15, 1942: The first edition of the Redstone Ordnance Plant weekly newspaper, the *Redstone Eagle*, came off the press on this date. Col. Carroll Hudson, commander of Redstone Ordnance Plant, urged the publication of a plant newspaper as part of the program to maintain high morale among the civilian employees. The last edition of the paper was issued Sept. 17, 1946.

June 15, 1943: Huntsville Arsenal began publishing its own newspaper titled *The Patriot*. The paper was published every Friday by and for the Arsenal's military and civilian personnel under the direction of the special service officer. Publication ceased Aug. 25, 1945.

Feb. 5, 1952: The *Redstone Rocket*, a civilian enterprise weekly newspaper, began publication.

July 1953: The *Rocket* sponsored a "Miss Redstone Rocket" beauty contest. Actor William Holden judged the contest, selecting the winner and four runners-up.

Sept. 3, 1953: The winner of the "Miss Redstone Rocket" beauty contest, Bonnie Elkins, was crowned during a Third Army Band contest held at Big Spring Park in Huntsville.

Sept. 28, 1953: The *Redstone Rocket's* "Space Baby" contest ended on this date. Dr. Wernher von Braun presented a "Ticket to the Moon" to the winner, Nancy Joyce Carpenter, daughter of an instructor at the Ordnance Guided Missile School. The nine runners-up received tickets to planets in the universe.

1952-present: The *Rocket* has been printed by a series of publishing companies – including Jay Thornton of Haleyville, Jack W. Hoffhaus of Hartselle, the Enquirer Printing Company of Hartselle, Sara Grant & Associates, the Advertiser Company, The *Huntsville Times* and the current publisher Tennessee Valley Printing Company Inc.

Editor's note: The source for this time line was a Redstone Arsenal chronology compiled by the AMCOM Historical Division.



Redstone Rocket

Redstone Rocket

Redstone Rocket
www.theredstonerocket.com
PUBLISHED BY THE INTEREST OF PERSONNEL AT REDSTONE ARSENAL, AL.

Redstone Rocket's week a never ending story

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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The news never sleeps – and neither does the *Redstone Rocket*.

For the past 60 years, the *Redstone Rocket* has served as a testament to the mission, morale and life of the installation, but as anyone who has worked for the paper in those six decades can tell you, it doesn't just take a single writer and a little bit of ink to make the stories of Redstone Arsenal come alive, it takes an entire staff of writers, editors, photographers, salespeople, and the whole post community to put each edition of the *Rocket* together. From the community members that submit their story ideas to the printing press staff in Florence that actually print the paper you hold in your hands, like a well-oiled machine, every person has their own duties they must fulfill week in and week out so that we can bring you a new issue of the *Rocket* every Wednesday.

By the time the Arsenal's work force returns from the weekend Monday morning, the *Rocket* for that Wednesday has been written, designed and is in the final stages before going to the printer. Staff members gather in the *Rocket* office to proofread the week's upcoming paper, correcting any mistakes and familiarizing themselves with what's happening on post and the Army worldwide. Once the editing is done, writers and editors start right in on the following issue, brainstorming story ideas for the week, divvying out events that need to be covered and dispersing to schedule interviews and start writing.

While the writers and editors move



Photo by Ellen Hudson

The *Rocket* staff members Megan Cotton, Beth Skarupa, staff writer, Kelley Lane Sivley, copy writer and designer, Amy Guckeen Tolson, staff writer, Kari Hawkins, assistant editor and Skip Vaughn, editor, meet to read through the upcoming week's paper to check for errors and discuss story ideas Monday mornings.

on to the next week's edition, designer Kelley Lane Sivley makes the necessary corrections for Wednesday's *Rocket* and prepares to send it to the printing press of the *Florence Times Daily* in Florence, where it is printed by the Tennessee Valley Printing Company on Tuesday afternoons, ready to be delivered to newsstands across the area on Wednesday morning. As the printed edition finds its way to the hands of eager readers, Lane Sivley posts the week's stories to the paper's website, www.theredstonerocket.com, officially completing that week's edition.

Meanwhile, writers and editors are meeting with story subjects, attending events, and putting all they've seen and heard on pen and paper, as sales staff in Decatur take care of the money

See Week on page 8



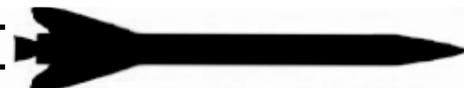
Photo by Ellen Hudson

Rocket designer Kelley Lane Sivley reviews the final changes that need to be made to the paper before it is sent to the printer on Tuesday afternoon.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Staff writer Amy Guckeen Tolson takes notes for a story she wrote on Redstone Arsenal police officers from the front seat of Officer Regina Bucher's squad car.



Week

continued from page 7

inside, selling advertising. As the stories roll in to editor Skip Vaughn, he reads through each one, formatting them to AP style and checking for any errors, before sending the final draft off to Lane Sivley.

For Lane Sivley, the real work begins on Friday, the *Rocket* deadline, when all the stories, photographs, announcements and news releases are in and the paper is finally ready to be laid out. While everyone else is working for the weekend, Lane Sivley works through the weekend, laying out the paper, solving the jigsaw puzzle of where all the news that's fit to print is exactly going to fit. By Sunday evening, the first draft is ready for Monday proofing and delivered to assistant editor Kari Hawkins' home – and the *Rocket* work week starts all over again.



Photo by Ellen Hudson
Press operator Jack Handley runs the Redstone Rocket through the printing press.



Photo by Ellen Hudson
Gailand Bailey, press room manager, checks over the Jan. 11 issue of the Redstone Rocket, just off the presses.

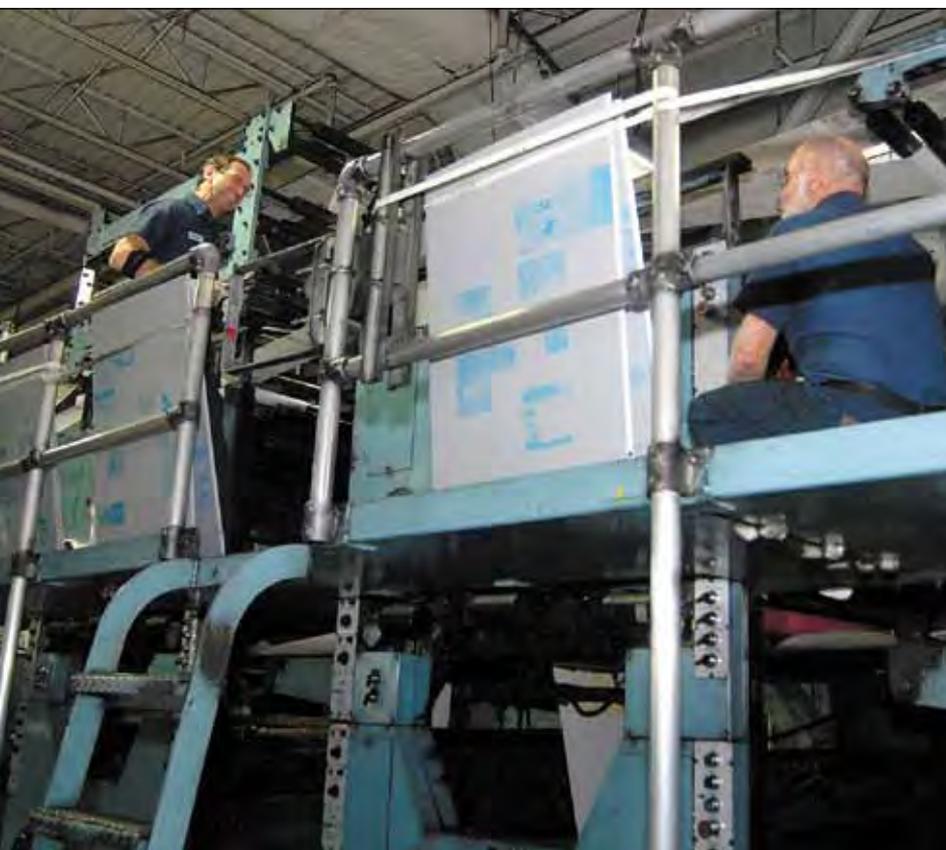


Photo by Ellen Hudson
Randy Dewberry, left, assistant press room manager, and Jack Handley, press operator, insert plates into the printing press.



Photo by Ellen Hudson
Jamar Griffin and Jennie Sharpston, press catching and stacking, organize Redstone Rockets into stacks so they can easily be handled and delivered.

Best birthday wishes from an old *Rocket* friend

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Staff Commentary

Happy 60th birthday, *Redstone Rocket*.

You're looking good these days. Of course I've known you 31 years since I arrived at Redstone in June 1980. And I've been working with you closely ever since.

You might say we've grown a lot together. I was a bearded 25-year-old reporter who spent four years in the news department at The *Huntsville Times* since graduating with a journalism degree in 1976 from Auburn. I left the *Times* after two years on the police beat for my first government job in the then Missile Command's Public Affairs Office. I've been a public affairs specialist ever since.

Ed Peters, who has since retired, was the editor back then. I became his suc-

cessor as the *Rocket* editor after several years on your staff.

It's been a fun relationship with you, ol' *Redstone Rocket* buddy.

We've made our share of mistakes. The misspelled words and names. The misleading headlines. The factual errors. But hey, nobody's perfect.

For the most part, we've had a great time together. And I wouldn't change a thing.

I still enjoy looking through the old files of your early days as a newspaper. The now digital memoirs clearly show how you've evolved. The black-and-white photos have been replaced by color prints from digital cameras. There are more pages and more stories and more pictures and more quotations

from more people. The fashions have changed a lot in six decades. And the costs of living, reflected in the advertisements that appear on your pages, have changed a lot, too.

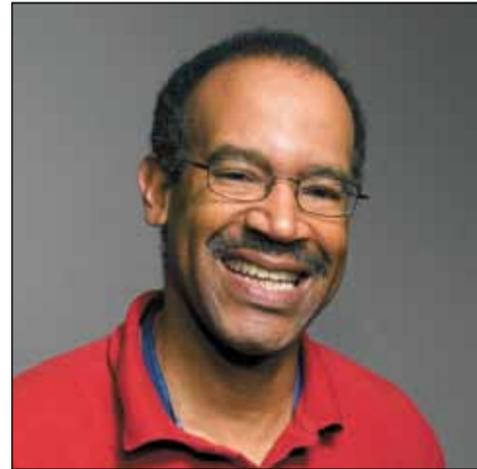
There's definitely more diversity in the work force and in the military ranks, particularly at the top levels.

You were born Feb. 5, 1952 and have published weekly in the past six decades. The then-Redstone senior commander Col. Carroll D. Hudson said the following in your debut edition:

"Experience has shown there is a marked increase in efficiency in an organization and a noticeable rise in personnel morale with the establishment of a plant newspaper," Hudson said.

"Such publications repeatedly weld large and complex working groups into a single team, pulling for the same goals.

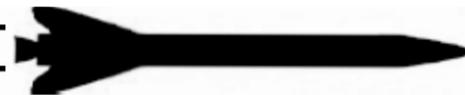
"As such, I welcome the appearance of the *Redstone Rocket* to the Arsenal. This newspaper, appearing weekly, and



Skip Vaughn

written voluntarily by and for Arsenal personnel, can do much for the great defense missions of Redstone Arsenal."

Here's to you on your diamond anniversary, *Redstone Rocket*. May you have many more birthdays!



Feeling God's hand on path as Army journalist

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Assistant editor
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Sometimes, it feels like a God thing – this great job that I have working for the *Redstone Rocket* and Garrison Public Affairs sort of fell into my lap. I'm not saying I wasn't qualified to take on these responsibilities, but I wasn't really looking for them either. When I think back to my first association with the *Redstone Rocket*, I thank God for the blessing of being given the opportunities that come along with rewarding and challenging work.

In 2005, I had been working as a freelance journalist for 12 years, with much of my work associated with *The Huntsville Times*, *Business Alabama* and Chamber of Commerce publications. I liked freelance work because it gave me the flexibility to work my schedule around my two children as they grew from toddlers into elementary and then middle school kids, although I did sacrifice the working professional's perks of insurance, retirement, vacation/sick pay and advancement.

Staff Commentary

I remember in August 2005 I became concerned because the *Times* was cutting back on freelance assignments due to a tightening economy. One evening I got very upset about the prospect of losing my job and I actually prayed about it as I fell asleep in tears. The next morning, I went down to the *Times* to drop something off. The editor's secretary happened to see me and asked: "Kari, how would you like a part-time job?" The question stopped me in my tracks. I couldn't believe it, but it seemed that question was an answer to the previous night's prayer. Of course, I said "Yes" and in a couple of days I was in the *Rocket* office on the Arsenal talking to editor Skip Vaughn about employment as a contract writer/photographer for the civilian enterprise newspaper.

Fast forward, and there I was working for the *Redstone Rocket*. At the time I took the job, I didn't realize what a bless-

ing it would become in my life. My new work really touched a patriotic chord in my soul. I was interviewing and writing about real-life heroes. I was learning about the Army and the other military branches. I was experiencing military ceremonies, and meeting the people that made a difference in the unique relationship between Redstone Arsenal and the community. But most of all, I was working for a boss – Skip – who encouraged and inspired me in so many ways to do my very best work. It was a prayer very much answered by God.

Then, in 2009, another opportunity came my way – a full-time job as a Department of the Army civil servant working with Skip as the management team behind the *Redstone Rocket* and assisting with other public affairs duties as assigned. Somehow God knew what I needed. Although I worried about whether I could live up to the demands of a full-time job, I also knew I was ready to take the leap back into a professional career. My children were nearly grown, and I was beginning to get bored with working only part time. The pay, benefits and opportunities of a full-time job ap-



Kari Hawkins

pealed to me, especially with the prospect of soon having two children in college. I wanted to once again live the fast-paced, challenging life of a journalist/communications professional, a lifestyle I had thrived in during my stints working for newspapers, the Chamber of Commerce and Boeing. Although I was scared and nervous about living up to the expectations

See Kari on page 17

Everyday heroes make reporter a better person

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Staff Commentary

Sometimes an interview just makes you want to go home and cry.

Which is exactly what I did on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Leaving Decatur's American Legion Post 15, tears for a man I never met rolled down my cheeks.

He was only a month and a half older than myself, and by all accounts had a smile that could charm just about anyone. He loved fried okra, the Alabama Crimson Tide and his country. And while I was busy worrying about passing college statistics and whether or not the guy sitting next to me in class liked me, Cpl. Jon-Erik Loney was out on a mission in Hit, Iraq, when he was struck by an IED and killed Nov. 28, 2006.

These are the stories that come to mind when I think of my life as a staff writer for the *Redstone Rocket*. Precious moments spent remembering Jon-Erik's life with his parents five years after his death, a memory that started out as a simple assignment, but will stay with me forever.

It's not just a job – it's an honor to tell the stories of Redstone Arsenal week in

and week out, and while there have been famous faces from time to time, it hasn't been the big shots that have made a lasting impact on me, but rather, the everyday heroes who go about their daily lives trying to make their world and country a better, safer place; no recognition needed, but their tales told in the *Rocket* well deserved. And they have made me a better person because of it.

I won't lie to you and say that moving to Alabama and writing for the Army was on my list of hopes and dreams as a little girl growing up in Minnesota, but it seems God took a look at what I thought my life should be and had a good laugh with my well laid plans. And it appears he was on to something. As confident as I was that I wasn't going to enjoy writing for the *Rocket* when I took the job (lucky for me a steady paycheck and ability to say that I was a journalism graduate actually working in journalism made me overlook that preconceived notion) something completely unexpected happened in just a matter of

days on the job. I didn't just like working for the *Redstone Rocket* – I fell in love with the *Redstone Rocket* – and over the course of the past two years being one of its reporters has turned out to be more than I ever could have dreamed of.

There have been generals that have made my palms sweat so much I could hardly keep a firm grip on a pen, interviews filled with so many acronyms they made my head spin, local officials that have wowed me with their genuine concern and unfailing commitment to ensuring the success of the Arsenal, assignments I've had to pinch myself while covering, in disbelief that of all the people in the world, I'm the one that gets to tell the story, and subjects I've wanted to hug in gratitude for their immense sacrifice and selfless service. There have been tears shed and times when I thought my heart might burst with patriotism, but perhaps the greatest gift of all has been that each interview, each assignment, no matter how big or small, has served as a testament to the life and mission of Redstone Arsenal and the impact it makes not just on the communities that surround it, but the entire world. And it's all been recorded right here, in the *Redstone Rocket*.

My editor Skip Vaughn has been writ-



Amy Guckeen Tolson

ing for the *Rocket* longer than I have been alive, and without fail, nearly every person I interview knows Skip in some way and has some fond memory to share of him, a testament to his dedication and professionalism in his *Rocket* work. I can only hope that the same can be said of me when the *Rocket* celebrates its next big anniversary and I can't wait to see firsthand what the next 60 years has in store for us. Something tells me the best is yet to come.

Rocket reporter returns to her second family

By BETH SKARUPA

Staff writer

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Staff Commentary

Happy 60th anniversary, *Redstone Rocket*!

My son Nicholas recently celebrated his 12th birthday and that marked 12 years since I first became acquainted with the *Redstone Rocket* and its wonderful editor Skip Vaughn. I was a mother of two young daughters, expecting my third child, when I first started working as a *Rocket* staff writer. I soon found that working for the newspaper was like being part of a second family.

Once my son was born, work became an escape where I could talk to adults and pretend I was not having so many sleepless nights thanks to my baby boy. I enjoyed meeting and interviewing new people each day and learning a lot about many new things.

Two of my most memorable interviews were with author Homer Hickam and hero Michael Durant. Hickam

wrote the memoir *Rocket Boys*, which became the movie *October Sky*, as well as many other books. My son Nick just read the book for the first time and now wants to build his own rocket. Durant was the pilot shot down and taken prisoner in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993, whose ordeal inspired the book and movie *Black Hawk Down*. His perspective on life has made him into an inspirational speaker and author in high demand.

Working as a *Rocket* reporter allowed me to do many exciting things like riding in a simulator and attending Oktoberfest. After my fourth child, Joseph, was born I brought both my boys to a special event I covered for the *Rocket* at the Child Development Center so they could meet “Sparky the Fire Dog” and see a fire truck up close.

Unfortunately, after three years my husband’s frequent business trips and juggling the schedules of four young children made my “second family” one family too many. My daughters Alexis and Elena were involved in dance and the boys needed attention. I ended up quitting my job at the *Rocket* to become a stay-at-home mom.

Now that my oldest is a senior in high school and my youngest is in fourth grade, I’m back writing for the *Rocket* again. It’s good to be back. Researching the *Rocket’s* predecessor publications and reading issues from the 1950s for this special 60th anniversary edition has been enlightening, to say the least. I never knew about the Redstone Pinups or the Space Baby until now. It’s nice to get to know the *Rocket* better!

While I was away from the Arsenal I became a reading tutor for dyslexic children at Greengate School in Huntsville. Although teaching children to read was rewarding, writing remained my true calling. So now I’m back on the *Rocket*



Beth Skarupa

staff again, helping to get information out to the many Soldiers, military retirees, Department of Defense civilians, and contractors who are part of Team Redstone.

Thanks, *Redstone Rocket*, for letting me be part of your legacy. It’s good to be back in the family.



More than badge lanyards tie team together

By KELLEY LANE SIVLEY

Rocket copy editor/designer

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Staff Commentary

The overriding theme of my 10 years at Redstone can be summed up in one word – change.

Redstone is in a constant state of flux. It is always adapting and evolving. The *Rocket* is no exception.

If you could go back and show the original *Rocket* staff how it looks today, then show them the website and social media, their heads would probably explode. I'm sure the staff 60 years from now will think the same about us.

Our changes are a reflection of the post around us. Old programs end. New ones begin. Buildings and complexes seem to sprout up every time you turn your back. I have always been in awe of how quickly physical change seems to happen here. I remember

thinking that every time I learned my way around the installation, a bell went off somewhere so they would know to move everything again. A decade later, I am less alarmed by the idea of getting lost. Though honestly, it still happens sometimes.

Redstone is an amazing place, full of fascinating things. Where else can you find high tech videogames, helicopters, bomb squads and fried kangaroo all in one place?

There are alligators, missiles and some of the best German potato salad you will ever put in your mouth.

I have had more fun working here than I ever thought possible. It has also challenged me more than I could have

imagined.

It hasn't been all fun and games though. Two months after I started work here, Sept. 11 broke our hearts. A few years later, the Columbia shuttle tragedy did it again. There have been accidents, funerals and tornadoes. But every time we've cried, we've done it together. Then we found a way to keep moving forward.

Thanks to Redstone, I feel like a part of something bigger than the four walls around me at work. I'm a part of a team. It's a huge conglomeration of people from different places with different talents. We are held together by common threads: supporting our Soldiers and military community, a desire to be all we can be, a snazzy assortment of badge lanyards, and the ability to have entire conversations using only acronyms.

I'm proud to be a part of Team Redstone. I'm also proud of the product



Kelley Lane Sivley

we put out each week. Fifty issues a year for 60 years – that's 3,000 *Rocket* babies we've collectively brought into the world.

Long after we're all gone, the *Rocket* will still be soldiering on.



My experiences as Redstone Rocket photographer

By ELLEN HUDSON
Staff photographer
ellen.hudson@theredstonerocket.com

Staff Commentary

At the *Redstone Rocket*, I have been the part-time photographer for about a year; and I love my job! But there is a little something about it that I do not like.

There are times when I poke my camera and flash into the faces of Soldiers and civilians alike; and I imagine them thinking, "How many pictures is she going to take? Isn't that enough?" Sometimes when I imagine this, it causes me to rush; and the quality of

the picture suffers.

But the bright side of these assignments is that the people on Redstone Arsenal that I photograph are nearly always very gracious about it. The two that I photograph the most are Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, AMCOM. The two of them are so patient and welcoming to me that it makes me feel less like an intrusion and more like doing a thorough job.

I have experienced a great deal of emotion on this job. There have been military ceremonies that have brought my patriotism to the forefront. With the AMC Band playing at many of them, and their singers giving stirring performances of the national anthem and other patriotic songs, I am filled with great pride in my country. It touches me personally that these ceremonies still have a prayer near the beginning. And Redstone Arsenal's attitude of appreciation for our Soldiers has sunk into me.

Another emotion that comes with this job is sadness. I have sat through

several of our reporters' interviews with families of lost or wounded Soldiers. I find it difficult to hold back my tears, so they can hold back theirs and get through the interview. I have photographed gatherings of survivors and wounded Soldiers that bring on mixed emotions; sadness for their loss, and thanksgiving for the people who support and uplift them with these gatherings of fellowship, food and fun.

It is rare to find any assignment more joyful than those photographing Soldiers returning from foreign lands, especially those at war. When a Soldier first sees his or her spouse, children and other loved ones, I love to try and imagine what it must feel like for each of them. I photographed a tearful grandmother hugging her grandson upon his return; and it has been one of my favorite pictures that I have ever taken. Perhaps that is because I am a grandmother. For whatever reason, I felt a surging joy when I took the picture, and again later when I looked at the picture.

When it comes to excitement, not much can beat my ride in a Black Hawk helicopter; and taking aerial photographs while flying low over Redstone Arsenal and the city of Huntsville. It was exciting to take pictures of astronaut Col. Douglas Wheelock, and to view his photographs taken from the Space Station. Likewise, it was a highlight to photograph speaker Mary Wilson, original member of the Supremes, and to hear her sing in person. I will probably never forget my ride along with Officer Regina Bucher in her police car as she was pulling

Photo by Ellen Hudson

A tearful grandmother hugs her grandson upon his return from deployment. This is one of the photographer's favorite pictures.



Ellen Hudson

over speeders. Seeing the capabilities of the new airfield crash truck was a great photo opportunity and visiting with a few of Redstone's firefighters was a pleasure. There have been many dignitaries that I feel it an honor and a privilege to have photographed.

The fun comes in photographing the children of the Child Development Centers, Oktoberfest, festive group activities, the Redstone Saddle Club, bowling, golf, disc golf, the Arts & Crafts Center, swing dancing, and a donkey that lives with cows. It is quite interesting to photograph the work going on at the Prototype Integration Facility, Marshall Space Flight Center and the airfield.

One of the best parts of my job is the people that I work with on the *Redstone Rocket* staff. The more I get to know them, the more I think about what good people they are. I feel very fortunate to have them to work with, to be in a job doing the photography that I love to do, and to feel a part of the forces that defend our nation, advance technology and that send us into outer space.



Kari

continued from page 12

of my new bosses and fitting in after so many years working outside a professional office, I was willing to take the chance.

At first, it was hard getting used to a job that required at least 40 hours a week of the very best I could give. There were

times I had my doubts as to whether I had done the right thing for myself and my family. But when those times came, I would always pray about it and let God do the work. I learned an awful lot during that first year working for the Army. Some of it – involving policies and paperwork – really stretched (and continues to stretch) my patience, my analytical skills and my management abilities. My second and now third year as an Army

civilian have also brought tremendous challenges and changes, including a new publisher, a newspaper redesign, a contract dispute, and lots of new Arsenal tenants, employees programs and activities to write stories about. I've taken on additional responsibilities, including being the contract officer representative for the *Rocket*, assisting with the editorial planning for the *Rocket*, and working on the Aviation and Missile Command and

Garrison websites.

So far, I have had more success than failure as an Army civilian. And I continue to feel blessed. I've often heard people say that God puts us where He wants us, and that God will direct our lives in the way He wants us to go. I do believe He has done that in my life, and I pray that I continue to feel His blessings as I follow my path as an Army journalist, assistant editor and public affairs professional.

Recalling headlines from the past 60 years at Redstone

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

A lot can happen in six decades. That's how long the *Redstone Rocket* has been in publication since Feb. 5, 1952.

Dr. Kaylene Hughes, historian in the AMCOM Historical Division, helped compile some of the top stories from the subsequent decades.

1950s

On June 25, 1950, North Korean troops armed with Soviet-made weapons crossed the 38th parallel, invading South Korea. The next day, President Harry S. Truman authorized the U.S. Navy and Air Force to aid South Korean troops operating south of the 38th parallel. Two days later, the United Nations Security Council adopted a resolution calling for armed intervention in Korea.

The Department of the Army published the order establishing the Army Ballistic Missile Agency effective Feb. 1, 1956. Maj. Gen. John Medaris was named commander designee of the prospective ABMA on Nov. 22, 1955.

After the Soviet launch of Sputnik I on Oct. 4, 1957, the secretary of the Army submitted a proposal for a satellite using the Jupiter C missile, which the Army believed it could launch sooner than Project Vanguard, the satellite program on which the United States had previously relied. On Nov. 8, 1957, the secretary of defense ordered ABMA to prepare a Jupiter C missile to launch a satellite as part of the International Geophysical Year program.

The Jupiter C missile RS-29 successfully placed Explorer I, the first U.S. satellite, into orbit around the earth Jan. 31, 1958. The Navy did not successfully launch a Vanguard satellite until March 17, 1958. The Explorer I re-entered the earth's atmosphere March 31, 1970.

President Eisenhower approved the transfer of ABMA scientists and engineers to NASA on Oct. 21, 1959. Soon thereafter, on Oct. 27, the chief of ordnance advised the Army Ordnance Missile Command that the Army's work for the civilian agency would be handled under the Cooperative Agreement of Dec. 3, 1958. ABMA's Development Operations Division would remain an Army responsibility until phased to NASA after congressional approval.

Pershing missile 105, the first Pershing flight test missile, was delivered on schedule Nov. 30, 1959.

1960s

President Eisenhower officially dedicated NASA's George C. Marshall Space

The Redstone Rocket

President Eisenhower to Dedicate Space Center First Project Press Contract Awarded

Ceremony Is Scheduled In Front of Bldg. 4488

Symposium of Maintenance Technicians Is Scheduled

Two New Division Chiefs Named in ARGMA Industrial

IFSG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED

Mr. Marshall Will Attend Everyone On Annual Visit

LT BAYBURN IS APPOINTED AIDE TO GEN. HURST

SECTION OF PERSHING MISSILE BARRAGE IS TO BE THUNDER MONDAY AFTER TONIGHT

RECORD OF MONTHS OF WORK WILL BE ALLOWED

THE GREAT INDUSTRY OF SERVICE

PERISHABLES LABELLED BY A

RECORD OF MONTHS OF WORK WILL BE ALLOWED

THE GREAT INDUSTRY OF SERVICE

PERISHABLES LABELLED BY A

Flight Center at Redstone Arsenal on Sept. 8, 1960.

The Missile Command was established at Redstone Arsenal May 23, 1962; however the command was not actually activated until that August. Maj. Gen. Francis McMorrow became MICOM's first commander June 5, 1962.

The Redstone missile was the first large American ballistic missile. The Mercury-Redstone launch vehicle was a derivation of the Redstone and was used in May 1961 to launch Alan Shepard on his suborbital flight to become the second person and first American in space. The Redstone was ceremoniously retired from active service at Redstone Arsenal in October 1964.

President John F. Kennedy visited Redstone Arsenal on May 18, 1963.

Billy Graham held a revival at Redstone in 1962 after he was invited by the chaplain. It was the first Graham crusade to be held in Alabama.

1970s

The U.S. 1st Combat Aerial TOW Team arrived in South Vietnam April 24, 1972. The team's mission was to test the new anti-armor missile under combat conditions. TOW stands for Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire command data link, guided missile.

The 1970s energy crisis was a period in which the major industrial countries of the world, particularly the United States, faced substantial shortages, both perceived and real, of petroleum. The two worst crises of this period were the 1973 oil crisis, caused by the Arab Oil Embargo of OAUPEC, and the 1979 energy

crisis, caused by the Iranian Revolution.

With the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, the last American troops evacuated and the Vietnam War ended.

1980s

Production began on many weapon systems that would be used later in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm – such as the Multiple Launch Rocket System and the Patriot.

In response to the Soviet Union's strategic nuclear lead and its introduction of the SS-20, NATO decided Dec. 12, 1979 to deploy 572 new nuclear missiles in Europe: 108 Pershing II missiles and 464 cruise missiles. Of the cruise missiles, 160 were stationed in England, 96 in West Germany, 112 in Italy, 48 in the Netherlands and 48 in Belgium. All 108 Pershing II were stationed in West Germany.

On Jan. 11, 1985, three Soldiers of C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 84th Field Artillery were killed in an explosion at Camp Redleg, Heilbronn. The explosion occurred while removing a missile stage from the storage container during an assembly operation. An investigation revealed that the Kevlar rocket bottle had accumulated a triboelectric charge in the cold dry weather; as the engine was removed from the container the electrical charge began to flow and created a hot spot that ignited the propellant. A moratorium on missile movement was enacted through late 1986 when new grounding and handling procedures were put into place.

The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty was a 1987 agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union. Signed in Washington, D.C. by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on Dec. 8, 1987, it was ratified by the United States Senate on May 27, 1988 and came into force on June 1 of that year. The treaty was formally titled The Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. It eliminated nuclear and conventional ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with intermediate ranges, defined as between 500-5,500 kilometers (300-3,400 miles).

In May 1987, the then Missile Command announced it will establish Program Executive Officer offices as part of a change in the way the Army manages how it gets weapons and equipment. Originally, there were four PEOs at Redstone. Today there are two: the Program Executive Office for Aviation and the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.

1990s

The invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi troops began Aug. 2, 1990 and was met with international condemnation.

A U.N.-authorized coalition force from 34 nations led by the United States launched Operation Desert Storm to liberate Kuwait from Jan. 17, 1991 to Feb. 28, 1991.

The Initial conflict to expel Iraqi troops from Kuwait began with an aerial bombardment Jan. 17 which was followed by a ground assault Feb. 23. This was a decisive victory for the coalition forces, who liberated Kuwait and advanced into Iraqi territory. The coalition ceased their advance, and declared a cease-fire 100 hours after the ground campaign started.

Congress approved the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure, disestablishing the Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis and transferring its mission and organizations to Redstone Arsenal to merge with the Missile Command to form the Aviation and Missile Command. AMCOM was formally established at Redstone Oct. 1, 1997.

2000s

The Sept. 11, 2001, attacks were a series of four coordinated suicide attacks upon the United States in New York City and the Washington, D.C. areas. On that Tuesday morning, 19 terrorists from the Islamist militant group al-Qaeda hijacked four passenger jets. The hijackers intentionally crashed two planes, American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City; both towers collapsed within two hours. Hijackers crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon in Arlington, Va. The fourth jet, United Airlines Flight 93, crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pa., after passengers attempted to take control before it could reach the hijacker's intended target in Washington, D.C. Nearly 3,000 died in the attacks.

Under BRAC 2005, the headquarters for the Army Materiel Command and the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command arrived from Fort Belvoir, Va. The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School left Redstone for Fort Lee, Va. More than 250,000 Soldiers and Marines had graduated from the Ordnance school in its 59 years at Redstone.

Sept. 15, 2011 marked the official end of the BRAC 2005 moves.

Editor's note: Information for this article was compiled from both the AMCOM Historical Division and various Internet sources.

The way it was...



The Water Patrol has a static display May 21, 1955.

AMCOM Historical photo



AMCOM Historical photo

Maj. Gen. John B. Medaris, commander of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency, poses with Dr. Wernher von Braun.



Rocket's history includes pinups and baby contests

By BETH SKARUPA

Staff writer

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The *Redstone Rocket* has come a long way.

When you look at its predecessor publications – the *Redstone Eagle* and the *Patriot* – you see that the Arsenal's weekly newspaper has grown up in more ways than one. Although that means no more pinup girls, baby pictures, or chatty gossip, the weekly newspaper has remained true to its original purpose through the years: providing news for all Arsenal personnel.

The earliest publication dates back to June 1942 with the Redstone Ordnance Plant's newspaper, the *Redstone Eagle*. The War Department had officially activated the Redstone Ordnance Plant in February 1942. It was built east of and adjacent to Huntsville Arsenal. Huntsville Arsenal's first production facility also was activated by March 1942. One year later, the Redstone Ordnance

Plant was re-designated Redstone Arsenal.

One of the *Eagle's* earliest issues (June 22-27, 1942) announced that two plant employees had tied as winners of a competition to name the paper. The winners had to split the prize of \$5 in war stamps. The newspaper was four pages and had a staff of 10 editors, two photographers, one typist and one person in charge of circulation. Twenty-one people from different areas of the plant were listed as reporters.

Headlines in that early issue included "Pictorial Highlights at Cafeteria Opening" and "Hospital to be Ready Soon." A column titled "About People ... People About" included information about employees' vacations, absences and transfers as well as gossip.

"They wrote things like, 'Guess who drove up in such and such car?' or 'A certain someone was out of town last week.' I don't know if that kind of chatty news was a style they were using in the Army newspapers or maybe company newsletters then," Dr. Kaylene Hughes, Redstone Arsenal historian, said. She noted that earlier versions of the newspaper were called *The Sundial*.

An early issue of Huntsville Arsenal's newspaper (Dec. 21, 1943) ran with the banner "Name this Paper." Its winning name was the *Patriot*. The newspaper was four pages and had a staff of four people: an editor, an assistant, a secretary and a photographer. Reporters were not listed as staff, but several Arsenal employees reported from different areas. This publication seems to have more "chatty news" than the *Eagle*.

Headlines from the first issue of the *Patriot* included "New Job Training Plan Coming," "Headquarters Addition," and "Please Pass Out the Arsenal Paper." A "Wedding Bells" column announced marriages and several chatty news columns – "Gas Barrage," "Fire Department Chit Chat," and "The Pill Box" – reported the comings

The Redstone Rocket

VOL. II, NO. 18 HUNTSVILLE ARSENAL, HUNTSVILLE, ALA. JULY 26, 1953

3RD ARMY SHOW TO PLAY HERE

"Curtain Call" Set For Double Showing

Another Third Army show is being held here tomorrow afternoon and next evening. The show features the musical "Curtain Call" in a half hour edition with many of the best of the music "highlight" and popular songs from the show.

The Third Army picture show will be given at the Redstone Arsenal at 8 p.m. on Thursday and at the Red Theatre at the same time the following night.

Box seats from the Third Army to the state of Alabama will have the audience between the show and the picture.

The three picture films being shown at the Redstone Arsenal are "The Three Faces of George," "The Three Faces of George," and "The Three Faces of George." The show is being given at the Redstone Arsenal at 8 p.m. on Thursday and at the Red Theatre at the same time the following night.

Ceremony to Be Held For Third Army Day

"Third Army Day" will be celebrated at the Arsenal at 8 p.m. on Friday with a parade and other appropriate ceremonies.

Military personnel of Huntsville Arsenal, in Civilian clothes, will be invited to the ceremony at the Redstone Arsenal at 8 p.m. on Friday.

The show is being given at the Redstone Arsenal at 8 p.m. on Thursday and at the Red Theatre at the same time the following night.

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'Miss' Redstone Rocket



THE WINNER—Bonnie Elkins was selected by Personnel and William Holden as our "Miss" Redstone Rocket. Bonnie is clerk in Payroll. She will be presented officially to all employees and military personnel in a ceremony to be conducted here. Aushaboff, left, and Elkins stand just under 5' 7" and weigh a total 122 pounds. For pictures of the two finalists in the contest see an early page of the paper.

HOLDEN SELCTS BONNIE ELKINS

Contest Winner is Employee at Payroll

Winner of "Miss Redstone Rocket" is Bonnie Elkins.

And the beautiful woman chosen for "Miss Redstone Rocket" is Bonnie Elkins, of Payroll.

The "Miss" contest was held at the Arsenal on July 24, 1953. The contest was held at the Arsenal on July 24, 1953.

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DISCOVERING THE WINNER



JOHN GREENING, White House, Ala., (left), made the announcement to the Arsenal that Bonnie Elkins was the winner of the "Miss Redstone Rocket" contest. William Holden, right, is the contest winner. Charles Simpson, left, is the contest winner. Simpson is the contest winner.

History

continued from page 22

and goings of the Arsenal military and civilian employees.

Both newspapers frequently ran photos of young women in short shorts or dresses. A photo in that early issue of the *Patriot* had the caption: "The above striking photograph is the nursing corps of the Arsenal hospital. If cheerfulness is an aid to health their patients should not linger long. Attractive, don't you think? Six are from Pennsylvania, one from Virginia and the eighth from Alabama. They all live in the Nurses quarters and they have a very vicious dog."

Pictures of pretty secretaries remained common in both publications for several years. Pinup girls were often photos of movie starlets, but several pinups were Arsenal employees.

"They weren't the most risqué photos, but the photographer liked the women to show their legs," Hughes said. "One of our most famous pinups was named Bobbie Mooney."

A photo of Mooney graces the front page of the *Redstone Rocket* on March 23, 1954. She is standing on a pier in short shorts posing with a fishing pole. The caption refers to Mooney donning the very un-winterlike outfit, "to the delight of photographer Dick Coddington," to prove that spring had arrived despite below freezing weather at the Arsenal the previous week.

She also is the "Redstone Pin-up" in the March 15, 1955 issue, posed in a bathing suit and high heels holding a shamrock in honor of St. Patrick's Day. The caption notes that she is a secretary in the industrial expansion branch of the comptroller's office.

Mooney's wedding announcement appears in the *Redstone Rocket* just six months later. She married Forrest "Fob" James Jr., an all-American football player and senior in civil engineering at Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn) on Aug. 20, 1955. Of course, Fob James went on to become governor of Alabama - he served two terms in 1979-83 and 1995-99 - with Mooney as first lady.

Contests for "Miss *Redstone Rocket*" and "Space Baby" were announced,

The Redstone Rocket

VOL. II, NO. 36 REDSTONE ARSENAL, HUNTSVILLE, ALA. SEPTEMBER 3, 1954

Science, Fiction Authority Is Winner In Baby Contest

Nancy Carpenter Is Judge's Choice

The judge lady who will get a lot of attention this month is Nancy Carpenter. She has been chosen as the winner of the "Baby Contest" by the judges. Nancy Carpenter is a nurse in the Arsenal hospital. She is a very nice girl and she is very popular. She is a very nice girl and she is very popular. She is a very nice girl and she is very popular.

88 Employees Caught In R.I.F., Jones Says

Former Employee Awarded \$550

Joseph H. Osborne, former Engineer, was awarded \$550 for his services in the R.I.F. (Redstone Industrial Fund). He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F.

Former Employee Awarded \$550

Osborne Will Get Additional Money

Osborne will get an additional \$550 for his services in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F.

Notices Sent Out Thursday, Friday To Those Affected

By the end of the week, notices will be sent out to those affected by the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F. He was one of the 88 employees caught in the R.I.F.

NEW WB SCALE REACHED 25

March 29 Is Effective Date

The new scale will be effective on March 29. It will be a 25% increase in the scale. It will be a 25% increase in the scale. It will be a 25% increase in the scale.

DONATIONS SLOW IN RC CAMPAIGN

Only \$1025 Given Toward \$6000 Goal

The campaign for the Redstone Rocket is still in progress. Only \$1025 has been given toward the \$6000 goal. The campaign for the Redstone Rocket is still in progress. Only \$1025 has been given toward the \$6000 goal.

Credit Union Accepts Smith's Resignation

Business Arsenal Voluntary Credit Union has accepted the resignation of Mr. Smith. He has been a member of the union for several years. He has been a member of the union for several years.

58 Hours Are Here - And Here To Stay

The 58-hour week is here and it is here to stay. It will be a 58-hour week. It will be a 58-hour week. It will be a 58-hour week.

Music Room Opens At Service Club

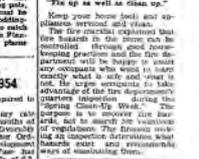
The new music room at the Service Club is now open. It will be a music room. It will be a music room. It will be a music room.

PROOF OF SPRING - As of last Monday, spring is officially upon us.

The weather is getting warmer. The weather is getting warmer. The weather is getting warmer.

CLEAN-UP WEEK SET FOR ARSENAL

Fire Prevention To Be Stressed



The work of Army Air has been directed by Capt. W. W. Shaw, fire prevention instructor.

A Letter to Gen. Vincent

Dear General Vincent:

I am writing you to tell you that I am very proud of you. You are a great leader. You are a great leader. You are a great leader.

Who Bled The Lid Off Award Boxes?

The lid was bled off the award boxes. It was a mistake. It was a mistake. It was a mistake.

List Is Announced For Cancer Crusade

The list of names for the Cancer Crusade is now announced. It will be a list of names. It will be a list of names. It will be a list of names.

RSR ACCIDENT RATE CONTINUES GOOD FOR SECOND MONTH OF 1954

The accident rate at the Arsenal is continuing to be good. It is a good accident rate. It is a good accident rate. It is a good accident rate.

FX Plans Growth In New Troop Area

The FX plans growth in the new troop area. It will be a growth in the new troop area. It will be a growth in the new troop area.

Want to Be an Actor? Here's How You Can

There are many ways to become an actor. It will be a way to become an actor. It will be a way to become an actor.

Colonel From Bham Will Address Class

Colonel Robert C. Siler will address the class. He is a colonel. He is a colonel. He is a colonel.

CREDIT UNION NOW HAS NEW ASSISTANT TREASURER ON JOB

The credit union now has a new assistant treasurer. It will be a new assistant treasurer. It will be a new assistant treasurer.

UTILITY TIPS OFFERING

There are many utility tips offered. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips.

UTILITY TIPS OFFERING

There are many utility tips offered. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips.

UTILITY TIPS OFFERING

There are many utility tips offered. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips.

UTILITY TIPS OFFERING

There are many utility tips offered. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips.

UTILITY TIPS OFFERING

There are many utility tips offered. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips. It will be utility tips.

FortLicks, Cars On Sale Here

FortLicks and cars are on sale here. It will be FortLicks and cars. It will be FortLicks and cars.

as were the activities of the Arsenal's junior hostesses. The hostesses were young women who would plan and attend parties, sew on patches, and organize events for the Soldiers on the Arsenal.

"We had a lot more Soldiers out here and they were there to offer their support and keep up morale. A lot of young women in town were not adverse to that," Hughes said.

Paramount star William Holden selected Bonnie Elkins, a clerk in payroll, as *Miss Redstone Rocket* in July 1953 from the more than three dozen photographs mailed to him in Hollywood. Eleven-month-old Nancy Carpenter won the Space Baby contest that September, complete with a "ticket to the moon" presented by Wernher von Braun.

The Space Baby was featured in the

Redstone Rocket again in August 1970 when she returned to Huntsville as Nancy Cavanagh - an eager participant in the U.S. Space Camp Teacher Program. She was married, the mother of two, and an elementary school teacher in Arizona.

Through the years the *Redstone Rocket* became more professional. Instead of using employees throughout the Arsenal to report on their divisions, journalists were hired to go out and cover events. Photos of beauty queens still appeared in the newspaper, along with articles about Soldiers' families or community events, but more serious news articles were prevalent.

"By the 1970s and '80s they focused more on the business at hand," Hughes said. "Some social and fundraising events were covered. The pho-

tos were not exclusively women posed, like the one from the 1950s of a woman kneeling in the grass, sitting back on her heels holding a large missile model, wearing a bathing suit. Then they were gearing the papers toward very young Soldiers, predominantly draftees."

Now as a Garrison newspaper the missions of other tenants on the Arsenal are included more often. More services have become available to Department of Defense civilians and contractors instead of being limited to Soldiers and retirees.

"The *Redstone Rocket* does give a good sense of how the post changes over the years," Hughes said. "The newspaper always focused on the Redstone community, but what community."

Redstone playing fields stayed busy back in the day

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Unit-level sports, covered throughout the years in the pages of the *Redstone Rocket*, concluded with last year's departure of most of the troops to Fort Lee, Va.

This was the end of a rich tradition. Troops competed in seasonal sports for the annual quest for the Commander's Cup. Unit teams played basketball and volleyball in Pagano Gym, softball on Linton Field and in flag football on the gridiron off Patton Road.

In the golden years, there were star athletes like Prentiss Thomas and William Kelly. And there were dominant teams blessed with young, strong, fast athletes who had played in high school and college.

From January to June 1953, enlisted men interested in an improved sports program volunteered to work weekends and evenings to build a combination baseball and football field. The Soldiers quickly finished the baseball field with backstop and bleachers, and a post baseball team was formed, according to a chronology compiled by the AMCOM Historical Division. The Arsenal also offered competition in other sports such as golf, softball, tennis and swimming.

Redstone's first football team, the "Rockets," was organized in August 1953 along with a six-member cheer-

leading squad. Brig. Gen. Holger N. Toftoy, acting in the commander's absence, officially opened the team's first game Oct. 10, 1953. The opposing team from Fort Benning, Ga., beat the Rockets 19-0.

Here are some observations from sports and fitness director Gaylene Wilson and recreation specialists Joe Reed, Donald Lewis and Mike Potter.

Gaylene Wilson: "Times have changed over the years with the all the realignments, funding cuts and BRAC. In the last few years there has been a struggle to keep the intramural league going due to lack of Soldiers. The FMWR Sports and Fitness staff really miss the days of the hectic schedules and hard labor on the fields; even with only a few teams, we made leagues happen. As our military began to transition due to BRAC, it was sad knowing we were losing our military leagues. Sitting and cheering with the teams brought so much joy and we all miss them. I have been working with NASA to keep some type of intramurals going for our civilians and hope to have more info soon. We are not gone, we will still have the Felix Milar Active Duty Post Championship for Golf this spring. The two-day individual tournament will be held April 28-29. We are all looking forward to that!"

Joe Reed: "When I first got here to Redstone we had, as best as I can remember 16 companies on post - including MEDDAC, Marines, 95th

See Sports on page 26



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Charlie Company forward John Rankin tries to block a shot by Bravo-1 shooting guard Nicholas Darby during their game March 1, 2010 at Pagano Gym.



Historical file photo

Redstone had a baseball team during the golden years of sports on post.



Historical file photo

Members of Redstone's boxing team pose together.



Sports

continued from page 24

TMDE, 291st MP, HHC MICOM, 515th MT; A, B, C, D, E/73rd; A, B, C, D 832nd; and the International Student Company. Most companies would have at least one team in most every sport, with some companies entering as many as four teams. We played at that time flag football, softball, volleyball and basketball; these we referred to as major sports as we had the most participation in them. Bowling, racquetball, trap and skeet, and tennis, we referred to as minor sports due to the lack of teams. These were the sports that made up the Commander's Cup. Most of the 'major' sports were played Monday through Friday at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 and 7:30. And depending on the number of teams, sometimes we had a 8:30 game. Softball was played on three fields, three games per night, five days a week. This was our longest and hottest sport, starting mid-May and ending around the second week of August. Football typically started in August and ended the week before Thanksgiv-

ing and going until exodus – when all the students would take off for Christmas. Immediately after Christmas break we'd start the basketball regular season, which would continue until the end of March – March madness as we called it. This was probably our biggest sport with fans coming from downtown to watch. The bleachers were full practically every night, approximately 200-300 fans! Wow, those were the days! Volleyball would pick up within days after completing basketball and

last until mid-May. We could play five matches a night because of the short time to play a match (45 minutes). The 'minor' sports were scattered amongst the 'major' sports with the exception of bowling, which was always in the winter. Morale Support Activity, as it was called back then, paid for everything the players needed except for the bowling. We only provided trophies for that. Soccer and golf were incorporated a few years later around 1992. Soccer didn't go over too well

but golf is still around. We even had a power lifting team for about three years. Anything the Soldiers wanted we did our best to provide it. Until about 10 years ago, we had post-level sports. We had men and women's post basketball and softball. These were played only on the weekends. With basketball, we had a home-and-home (about 30-34 games per year) schedule with Fort Knox (Ky.), Campbell (Ky.), Gordon (Ga.), Stewart (Ga.), Polk (La.), McClellan (Ala.) and Eglin AFB (Fla.). Along with the military we also played some junior colleges, Martin Methodist, Wallace State and Snead State. We even played UAH once! This season started around the beginning of October and lasted to March. We also participated in a few military tournaments throughout the season."

Donald Lewis: "The last few years have not been quite as exciting because of the lack of competition. Typically there were more teams out there having fun but they were less competitive than they were years ago."

Mike Potter: "It feels strange not having teams playing now. You could not say which team would win the championship or the Commander's Cup."



Historical file photo

A Redstone football team from the heyday sports era has some off field fun.

1981 1982

Page 1 Page 2 Page 3

Redstone Rocket

Army's first astronaut looks forward to lift-off



Stewart says Army must be active participant in

1985 1986 1987

Redstone Rocket

MICOM has its best year ever for competition



Here's advice for having a happy (safe) Halloween

1989 1990

1991

Redstone Rocket

Airfield welcomes director, says goodbye to Caribou



Army managers of year both work in strategic defense

1993

Redstone Rocket

Javelin antitank system in hands of soldiers in the field



Stinger successfully defends against cruise missile target in first test



Old Glory...

1997

1998

Redstone Rocket

Army chief gets snapshot of engineering efforts



Virtual technology creates miniature Huntsville



62nd Signal Battalion Honoring flag Long engine 10 Clean coupe 11

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

Redstone Rocket

Tearing down, building up, moving in



Excess computers deployed to units



Redstone Rocket

Madison homecoming for troops



108th Division Soldiers honor roll

Redstone Rocket

Sept. 11, 2001 impact lingers 10 years later



Special section

Helping hands

Win on lose

Newspaper advertisements reflect changing times

By MEGAN COTTON
For the Rocket

Looking through archived *Redstone Rockets*, it's hard not to notice how much our world has changed from then to now.

Most noticeable are the advertisements showing just how much our cost of living has changed and what a different world we live in.

In the third *Redstone Rocket* ever published on Feb. 19, 1952 you could buy a coil bedspring for only one cent with purchase of a \$49 mattress, and Southern Furniture Store will throw in delivery for only \$3.

Need a gift for your father? On June 3, 1952 Bitting and Wilson was there to help you shop for your "favorite fellow" with ties \$1 to \$1.50 and dress shirts as low as \$4. If that didn't work as a Father's Day gift, take dad to the movies. The same paper had an advertisement for that Saturday's showing of Roy Rogers in the movie "My Pal Trigger" at The New Grand Theater.

You could also catch "Rose of Cimarron" in natural color Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights. Have any questions? Call them at 817. Yes, only a three-digit phone number to remember.

In another *Rocket*, Leeds Jewelers was selling a musical dancing girl electric clock for only \$17.95. It's hard to imagine when nowadays cell phones can double as an alarm clock.

Times have certainly changed since 1952 with the cost of living rising. And our modern day deals don't sound so great in comparison.

Father's Day

JUNE 15th

You're sure to find a gift for your "favorite fellow" in our large selection of nationally advertised, top-quality men's wear.

TIES
\$1.00 to \$1.50



BELTS
\$1.50 to \$3.00

Wilson Brothers
DRESS SHIRTS
\$3.95 to \$4.50

Cool, Summer
SLACKS . . \$6.95 to \$15.95
SOCKS . . pr. . 65c to \$1.00

Wilson Brothers
SPORT SHIRTS
\$2.95 to \$4.95

Bitting & Wilson

West Side Square Huntsville
OUTFITTERS FOR MEN

It's New!



Musical Dancing Girl Electric Clock

Continuous Musical Performance!

Everything's ELECTRIC!

10 In. High 12 1/2 Inches Long

The Most Beautiful, Most Fascinating Clock ever offered at any price!

Here's a clock of amazing accuracy and remarkable beauty. It will bring gaiety and cheer to your home. Turn a switch and the stage lights go on. Twist a knob and out "Dancing Girl" starts her graceful ballet, to the accompaniment of delightful music. The clock continues at all times to serve you dependably, accurately! Case is rich mahogany finish wood with gold-color trim. Clock is self-starting. Own the most unique clock ever offered! Come in and open an account now!

Ballerina figure DANCES to MUSIC on a Lighted Mirrored Stage!

SPECIALLY PRICED TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

only \$17.95 \$1.00 Down

\$2.00 Per Month

LEEDS

Jewelers
.110 N. Washington St.
BUY ON EASY TERMS

Southern 4 Days Only

COIL BEDSPRING FOR ONLY \$3.00



With the purchase of this

Reg. \$59.50

Innerspring

Mattress \$49.50

For Only

\$3.00

DELIVERS BOTH!

Southern Furniture Store

112 West Side of Square Huntsville

* For. We Can Accept Please or Mail Orders for This Value

Garrison rises to challenge of supporting Team Redstone

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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The concept of Army “transformation” has been discussed a lot in recent months as leaders look for ways to incorporate efficiency and effectiveness through military downsizing.

But it’s not a new concept to a military branch that is always evolving and adapting to the needs of the nation.

In fact, transformation was very much behind the move in 2002 to instigate an Armywide change that brought standards and consistency to the management of its installations. Nearly overnight, Redstone Arsenal infrastructure and support services went from being directed and funded by the installation’s senior commander through what was known as RASA – the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity – to becoming the Garrison-Redstone under the direction of the Installation Management Agency.

In 2001, the transformation into Garrison-Redstone was only a passing thought in the Army rumor mill. At the time, the Army’s 184 installations were managed by 15 major commands. Locally, RASA was managed by the Aviation and Missile Command. The RASA commander – then Col. Brent Swart – took directions from then AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen.

“I remember very distinctly Gen. Dodgen telling me the garrison leadership was going to become an issue,” Swart recalled. “At the time, the senior command at each installation owned their garrisons. The Aviation and Missile Command directed us and paid all of our bills, and AMCOM’s acquisition center did all of our base contracting for services. At that time, there was nothing like a common level of support. AMCOM funded us or didn’t fund us.”

In September 2001, Army secretary Thomas White introduced the Transformation of Installation Management concept, pledging the Army would implement better business practices and realign installation management to create a more efficient and effective corporate management structure for Army installations worldwide. On Oct. 1, 2002, the Army formed the Installation Management Agency as a field operating agency of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management to implement an ongoing effort to realign installations.

“There were a lot of ‘have’ and ‘have-not’ installations, and Redstone was recognized as a ‘have’ installation,” Swart said. “There were other installations that didn’t have the kind of money we did. The Installation Management Agency

was trying to consolidate all of the money and dole it out so that there was a standard level of service at each installation.”

By May 2002, Arsenal leadership had officially learned of the Army’s plans to regionalize and standardize installation management. Swart, who now works as a civilian logistician analyst for AMCOM’s Integrated Materiel Management Center, was involved in the initial stages of the transition to Garrison-Redstone.

“I was involved with what was going to go to Garrison-Redstone and what was going to stay with AMCOM. The decisions were made mostly by AMCOM,” he said.

The actual transition occurred after Col. Bob Devlin took command of RASA on July 1, 2002. He held that position until Sept. 30, 2002. On Oct. 1, 2002, Devlin became the last commander of RASA and the first commander of Garrison-Redstone.

Under Devlin’s command, the Arsenal’s 30-year-old installation support element had to be transformed and standardized to fit the new standards of the Installation Management Agency.

“There were a bunch of challenges standing it up,” said Devlin, referring to the formation of Garrison-Redstone. “We did have a negotiated settlement and Gen. Dodgen was very forward thinking. We had a pretty good idea where we wanted to go. We embraced the concept and we were driving ahead with a fairly smooth transition. Gen. Dodgen told us ‘This is going to work. The Arsenal is growing and we’re going to make this successful.’ But even with that, there were questions about what we would look like once we stood up.”

The questions didn’t relate so much to the basic mission – the RASA and Garrison-Redstone mission has always been to provide quality and cost effective base operations support to meet the needs of the Army and the Arsenal’s tenants – as it did to the mechanics of the new garrison organization at the Arsenal level and the Installation Management Agency level.

Devlin described those first months as “exploratory,” saying that the standard organization for a garrison, its personnel and its procedures had yet to be established. He said implementing the Standard Garrison Organization at Redstone

was one of his most significant challenges because it had to be done while taking into consideration how to preserve the superior quality of life of the Team Redstone community, how to maintain a high level of working relationships with surrounding civilian communities and how to continue planning for the Arsenal’s future. In addition, a lot of focus had to be given to forming the new garrison team.

“We more than doubled the size of the organization,” Devlin said. “We went from 467 civil servants to up to 2,000. It was pretty dramatic to bring all those employees together and make them into a team to provide common levels of support.

AMCOM and Garrison-Redstone leadership worked together to define and assign responsibilities. Supporting Dodgen’s direction was chief of staff Col. Ed Stone while Devlin’s support

came from Darrell Brewer, deputy

to the Garrison commander.

Brewer had essential insight

into the process as he

had worked in the

Pentagon helping to

design the Installation

Management

Agency.

In making reorgani-

zation decisions, the

leadership’s commit-

ment was to form

within Garrison-Redstone

a customer organization that

supported all the tenants and

missions on the installation

so that mission-related

employees could focus on the

day-to-day operations of their

mission. In its new

role, Garrison-Redstone

gained AMCOM’s

Corporate Information

Center, the Directorate

of Information Manage-

ment, Equal Employment

Opportunity programs,

installation safety and

security, military personnel

and training, protocol

and public affairs activities

associated with the garrison

mission and environmental

oversight, among other

organizations.

“Throughout the process, we still had to do things like make sure the grass got cut and the garbage got picked up,” Devlin said. “It was a big effort of over a year or so as we tried to define what’s most important, what’s least important, and define what a garrison does. We had to define ‘this is the mission of a garrison, this is the future’ because there were no commonalities of a garrison.”

Once Operation Iraqi Freedom commenced in March 2003, the AMCOM and garrison leadership continued to work on defining the garrison with yet another consideration introduced to the project – the challenge of budget cuts and the need to be more efficient as it be-

came more important for installations to become the “launch platform” for contingency operations.

Through all the changes, Garrison-Redstone became the organization that Arsenal tenants and employees learned to call when there was a problem on the installation.

“There has always been this phenomenally dedicated, super work force that’s been at the heart of this whole thing,” Devlin said. “They are the ones who represent the garrison and do the work to make this a great place for all of the Arsenal’s employees.”

The efforts made to define Garrison-Redstone and its responsibilities became invaluable as the new organization began efforts to influence the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decisions, which subsequently brought new tenants and employees to the Arsenal.

“The garrison was such an important piece in making that happen,” Devlin said. “We were able to make the changes we needed to make, and then we focused on getting ready for a BRAC. We were able to build on our work setting up the garrison to put ourselves in a good position for BRAC.”

On Oct. 24, 2006, the Installation Management Command was activated as a single organization with six regional offices worldwide to reduce bureaucracy, apply a uniform business structure to manage Army installations, sustain the environment and enhance the well-being of the military community. It consolidated the Installation Management Agency, the Community and Family Support Center (now the subordinate command known as the Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation Command) and the Army Environmental Center (now the subordinate command known as the Army Environmental Command) into a direct reporting unit. Garrison-Redstone was part of Installation Management Command’s Southeast Region until a recent reorganization put it in the new Atlantic Region.

“Throughout the years, the Garrison-Redstone has grown in capability to support the many missions of Redstone Arsenal,” said current Garrison-Redstone commander Col. John Hamilton.

“We have risen to the challenge of providing infrastructure and facilities support, community services and emergency services during periods of tremendous change and growth. Garrison employees are committed to excellence across every program we operate. I am proud of all the garrison continues to accomplish as its employees step up to fulfill the promise of a thriving community, focused on the defense of our nation.”



Retired Lt. Gen. Link coined phrase 'Team Redstone'

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Retired Lt. Gen. Jim Link sounded happy on the other end of the phone line.

"I'm skiing in Colorado, so what could be wrong?" he said laughing.

Link served as commander of the then Missile Command from June 1994 to July 1997. He was chief of staff of the Army Materiel Command from 1997-98 and retired as AMC's deputy commander in 2000 with 34 years' service.

He then worked for industry for eight years. Link was senior vice president of SAIC in Huntsville for nine months and then served as president of Teledyne Brown Engineering for seven years until retiring Jan. 31, 2008.

"Things are going very well," he said.

"Obviously I'm enjoying life. And this

is my second week of skiing in Colorado. I'm at Crested Butte, Colo., and I just spent a week at Telluride, Colo."

Asked his age, he said, "Sixty-nine. Actually I'm 50-19," again laughing.

"I'm exercising my vices which are snow skiing, hunting, fishing, golf and a lot of pro bono work in Huntsville," Link said. "And I do some board work for industry."

He serves on the boards of directors for the Arts Council in Huntsville, the Burritt Museum, the Huntsville Hospital Foundation, and on the foundation board for the Association of Retarded Citizens. He was chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County in 2005.

Link was the last MICOM commander before it became the Aviation and Missile Command.

"Those were great years. We had missile readiness above 90 percent. I was also very much involved in moving



Retired Lt. Gen. Jim Link

the aviation community to Redstone (from St. Louis) in BRAC '95," he said.

He was also co-chairman with Joe Ritch of the Tennessee Valley BRAC Committee for the 2005 base realignment and closure which moved headquarters Army Materiel Command

and other activities to Redstone.

Link coined the term "Team Redstone" in 1995 and it has become part of this community's vernacular.

"Obviously in providing the best possible support to the Soldier, it takes a team effort," he said. "And what that catch phrase did, that bumper sticker, was to remind everybody they were part of a team and that was the whole reason."

He and his wife, Judy, will celebrate their 40th anniversary Sept. 2. Their daughter, Carey, 36, is an equal employment specialist in the Garrison's Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

Link called the *Redstone Rocket* a "tremendously important publication."

"And I congratulate all who've been involved in publishing and producing the *Redstone Rocket*," he said of its 60th anniversary.

Career brought officer to Redstone for three tours

Former 2-star general
retired in Huntsville

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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In his prime as an Army officer, Grayson Tate was known for his work in military guided missile systems.

And that work brought him to Redstone Arsenal three times in his career.

During 35 years in the Army, this retired major general discovered Redstone Arsenal for more than its missile systems. It also gave Tate, 83, and his wife of nearly 62 years a comfortable place to retire at Redstone Village.

"Huntsville is a remarkable community. It just is in so many ways," Tate said. "The way the community has stepped up to welcome growth is amazing. This is a community that has the resources and the fact that it's willing to step up to encourage growth is great."

Much of that growth can be attributed to Redstone Arsenal. With 35,000 employees, it is the area's largest employer.

When Tate first was assigned here in 1958-61, the Arsenal was at the heart of a small town beginning to experience growth with the nation's need for

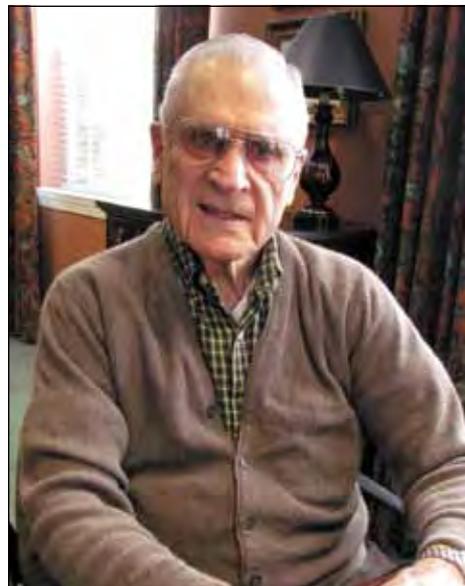


Photo by Kari Hawkins

Retired Maj. Gen. Grayson Tate recalls three assignments at Redstone Arsenal that "sold" him on retiring in Huntsville after a 35-year career in guided missile systems.

military missiles and space-age rockets.

"I was assigned here to the Army Ordnance Missile Command under Gen. (John) Medaris. I was the chief of the technical intelligence division and later took on the research plans division," Tate said.

"There was beginning a rapid build-up for the space program and Huntsville was growing like crazy."

During that assignment, the 1950 West Point graduate and Korean War veteran headed missile technical intelligence and research planning activities. His work at Redstone solidified a career path that included specializing in guided missiles, research and development, nuclear weapons and ballistic missile defense.

In 1974, his career in guided missiles brought him to Redstone Arsenal for a second tour, where he served as the project manager for the Lance missile system.

"I followed Gen. (George) Turnmeyer. He had that job before becoming the first deputy commander of the Missile Command," Tate said.

"And, then Gen. Turnmeyer got his second star and made MICOM commander, and I got my first star and moved on to be the deputy commander for MICOM."

In 1976, the MICOM organization split into readiness under Turnmeyer, and research and development under Tate, where he served for six months until he had orders for a joint field command assignment at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., where he was responsible for implementing an underground nuclear test program in Nevada.

He returned in 1979-82 as the program manager for Redstone's Ballistic Missile Defense Program.

"When I left, Huntsville was a population of 60,000. When I returned three years later in 1979, it was a population of 85,000. The growth was tremendous and still is. Huntsville has changed so much since the first time I was here in 1958," Tate said.

His last assignment was in Washington, D.C., as the deputy director of the Defense Nuclear Agency.

Three times was the charm for Tate and his family. In 1985, he retired, and he and his wife settled in Huntsville. The couple have raised three daughters and one son. They lived in a home in Jones Valley for more than 20 years before moving to Redstone Village five years ago.

Tate is one of several officers and enlisted Soldiers who have retired in the area since the German rocket team came to Redstone Arsenal in 1952. There are about 75,000 retirees living in the Huntsville area.

"Huntsville is a desirable place to live, especially if you've served in the military," said Tate, who is active in several local veterans groups and is known for his singing of the national anthem. "I decided after the second time here that I wanted to come back. I told my wife I wanted to retire here."

Past commander remains committed to Arsenal's future

By **BETH SKARUPA**
Staff writer
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Imagine being on a well-deserved, long put-off vacation in Destin, Fla., the day after retiring from your job. You walk down the beach to a quaint little restaurant for breakfast only to hear that a plane has hit the World Trade Center in New York. Now imagine that the job you retired from was commander of the Aviation and Missile Command.

Retired Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan was commander of AMCOM from 1999 until 2001. He had decided to retire after 33 years of military service. His change of command ceremony was the day before the Sept. 11th attacks.

"Had that occurred before I retired I would have pulled my retirement and stayed. Certainly none of us thought that was going to happen," he said.

Soon after hearing about the first plane, Sullivan turned on the television in his hotel room and saw the second plane hit. Then-Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, who had replaced him as AMCOM commander, called him to ask whether a plan to shut down the Arsenal existed. Fortunately, they had run an emergency exercise the preceding February that had tested just such a plan.

His vacation was cut short a few days later. Geep Fisher, a vice president of Booz Allen who had attended his change of command ceremony, had been killed at the Pentagon. The two had met while working together there before Sullivan became commander of AMCOM. He left Destin to attend Fisher's funeral.

Although he would have stayed on as AMCOM commander during a time of crisis, Sullivan was ready to return to civilian life. If he had remained in the Army, he would have been sent back to Washington, D.C. for a third tour. He, his wife and family were ready to settle down.

"We fell in love with Huntsville when we got here. We came here expecting to spend a couple of years and then move on to another Army assignment. We were so captured by the people here, and the area itself, that when it came time to leave we found it very difficult and ultimately impossible and we stayed. We still feel like that was the right decision," he said.

Originally from Memphis, Sullivan was raised in Oklahoma City. He worked his way through school while pursuing his undergraduate degree and graduated from the University of

Oklahoma. He received his master's degree and MBA from Florida Institute of Technology.

Drafted in 1968, he entered the Army as a private and then went on to Officer Candidate School. He never thought that he would choose to stay in the military. Even when he attended OCS to "better his lot," he still planned to get out of the Army as soon as possible and pursue a civilian career.

"As a college student and as a youngster, my view and thought of what the Army was, was kind of based on what I saw from the outside looking in. And I found when I came into the military that my view was essentially wrong," he said.

He was given a lot of responsibility and found out that he liked it. He enjoyed working with young people. He managed large budgets and commanded a number of companies, so he was in charge of 300-400 people when he was only in his 20s. When it came time to leave the Army, he realized that he liked what he was doing and decided to stay in.

When he became AMCOM commander, he and his wife Kathy had only visited Huntsville once. They were not expecting to make it their permanent home. Their son Ryan was a junior in high school and their daughter Linsay was a senior at the University of Memphis.

Sullivan's background, unlike some other AMCOM commanders, was not in acquisitions. His background was at Fort Bragg, N.C. He liked sport parachuting and military jumps, and so he had become an airborne aviator.

"I know that's an oxymoron. Generally the people that fly the planes don't jump out of them," he said, laughing. "My experience was all in the operational Army. I was the guy that got supported by AMCOM."

The two biggest issues he faced when he arrived were the safety of the aviation fleet and the lack of spare parts. The funding and the construct for funding was something that needed to be worked and worked hard, he said.

"The AMCOM then and the AMCOM today are two very different structures. When I commanded AMCOM there was no RDECOM – the RDEC worked for AMCOM. And the contracting command hadn't been formed and the acquisition center worked for AMCOM and most of the PMs worked for AMCOM. So it was very different from the AMCOM that Jim Rogers commands today.

"We formed a general officer steering group to sit down and take a look



Photo by Beth Skarupa

Retired Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan was commander of the Aviation and Missile Command in 1999-2001.

at Army and aviation and the funding for aviation. We spent a year and a half with more than 50 general officers and all the support that goes with that to sit down and work our way through what we were doing right and what we were doing wrong. Had we not done that, I'm not sure where we'd be today. The Army leadership listened and then we figured out what was right and what was wrong and we fixed what was wrong.

"We are much better prepared today and the credit for that goes to the people who followed me. I got the funding

started but they're the ones who managed the process and used that funding to good end," he said.

After retiring from the military, Sullivan initially worked for the Colsa Corporation. He was there five years and served as the company's president the last three and a half. Then he decided to retire, but soon found out that what he had planned to do after retirement didn't "excite" him as much as he thought it would. So he bought a majority share of Alpha Beta Technologies.

Today he is the owner of two companies – ABT and BFA Systems. Both provide engineering support to the government. BFA principally does independent evaluation for the government and ABT provides what he calls "obsolescence mitigation." ABT designs and redesigns the electronic systems within the weapon systems to better manage the obsolescence issues as well as expand the capabilities of those systems.

"While I love the Army – I'm still a Soldier, I will always be a Soldier – I can serve the Army in this capacity as well as I could have in uniform. The Army was incredibly good to me," he said. "For a poor country boy to be able to go from a private to a general, you know that says something about the institution. It says something about the wonderful people I worked with and the wonderful people I worked for, because I'm not really all that good but I had some awfully good people around me."



AMCOM Historical photo

Check it out
Patrons use the OGMS Library at the Ordnance Guided Missile School.

Former senior commander finds home in valley

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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For the first time in his life, retired Lt. Gen. Jim Pillsbury is putting down roots. And it's all thanks to Redstone Arsenal.

Nearly six months to the day of arriving in the Tennessee Valley to take command of the Aviation and Missile Command in December 2003, Pillsbury and his wife Becky sold their land in Kentucky, knowing that after a lifetime of military moves, they had found a place to call home.

"It's all because of the great folks in the Tennessee Valley," Pillsbury said. "The economic hub of the Tennessee Valley is Redstone Arsenal. There is no other place in America, and Becky and I have been to a lot of them, no other place that embraces the military and provides the leadership and the sense of community like Huntsville, Madison County and the Tennessee Valley. Put those two things together, the economic engine of Redstone Arsenal and the great leadership provided by both businesses and elected officials within the Tennessee Valley, and there's no other place that we'd

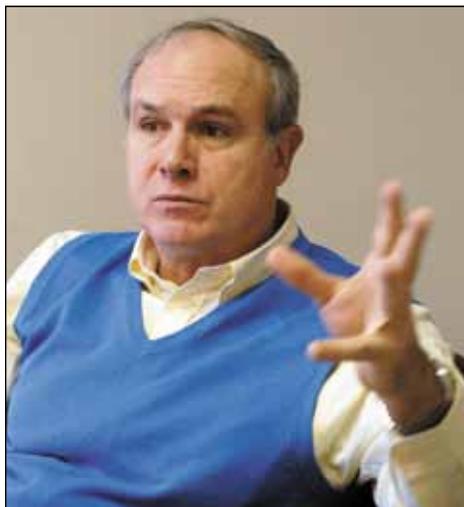


Photo by Ellen Hudson

Retired Lt. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, CEO of Redstone Energy Group, served as commander of the Aviation and Missile Command from December 2003 to July 2007.

rather be."

When Pillsbury found out in 2003 that he would become commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, and subsequently, Redstone Arsenal, the aircraft mechanic was elated, call-

ing it "the pinnacle job for the maintenance officer within Army aviation." Looking back on his time as commander from December 2003 to July 2007, Pillsbury's proudest moments, he said, came when he knew they had not just supported the nation's war fighters, but supported them well.

"To see the work force and the ability of AMCOM to do the things necessary to get our war fighters the necessary tools, the best equipment and parts, to ensure that our aviation and missile fleets were not only maintained to standard, but maintained to the highest standard possible – everything else was kind of secondary to that," Pillsbury said.

Throughout the course of his command, the early days of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations, Pillsbury saw the beginnings of a great change taking place on post, a trend that continued after he left the Arsenal to become the Army Materiel Command's deputy chief of staff for logistics and operations, G-3 in 2007. As a result of BRAC and the relocation of AMC headquarters to Redstone, he returned in January 2011 in his role as AMC deputy commander where he served until his retirement in May 2011.

"It's just gotten better, and the things in the Tennessee Valley just get better," Pillsbury said of the Arsenal and the surrounding community. "They don't stay the same, they don't stagnate, they get better."

As that growth continues, the former commander of the Arsenal anticipates the post's prominence in the nation's defense to increase even more in the years to come.

"The Arsenal has got a chance to become something extremely special and vital to our nation, not only militarily, but in the area of science," Pillsbury said. "I think that space exploration will continue, despite current budget cuts, and certainly the day will come when our missile defense will save our nation. I think the day will come when our space defense will save the nation."

Devoting his time to the advancement of science, Pillsbury now serves as CEO of energy solutions company Redstone Energy Group, working to transform energy security not only in the Tennessee Valley, but across the nation.

"We have a national and a local crisis when it comes to energy security," Pillsbury said. "On a national level, it's our dependence on foreign oil. On a local level, when we had the torna-

does come through here we were in the dark, literally, for upwards of 10 days. What we would like to do is be able to provide distributed energy."

The company's plan is to cover parking lots with steel covers that will have solar panels, drawing energy from the sun, assisting local utilities in generation power and ensuring local energy security, something the Tennessee Valley desperately needed as businesses lost upwards of millions of dollars a day after the April 27 tornadoes caused widespread power outages.

"Redstone Arsenal was closed for many, many days, almost a week. At some point in time that becomes a national security issue," Pillsbury said.

Pillsbury likened the company's mission to when the computer first came out – everyone wondered why they needed such a thing until Lotus 1-2-3, a spreadsheet program, hit the market, becoming a necessity for businesses worldwide. As the personal computer became a staple in not only the corporate world but in homes across the country as well, the number sold went up, and as a result, the cost of owning one went down.

"We're going to try to do the same thing as it relates to energy generation," Pillsbury said.

Now seven months retired and out of uniform, Pillsbury is finally able to enjoy the place he proclaimed home nearly 10 years ago. Since they joined the Redstone Arsenal community in 2003, the Pillsbury's two children have made the move to the area and the couple are preparing to welcome his sister this summer.

"For the first time in my life, I've been able to put down roots," said Pillsbury, whose father was also in the military. "I've thrown boxes away at the house because we don't need them anymore. We have a church home at Locust Grove Baptist Church. We're setting down roots for the first time and it's a neat experience that my wife and I are going through right now."

Even though he has successfully transitioned to civilian life, there are still days when he misses the Army and life on the Arsenal.

"After spending 38 years in the uniform, you do miss it. But at the end of the day, the men and the women who are still there doing the things that I know need to be done continue to excel, and our nation is well served by those men and women in uniform, and our dedicated civilians that are out there," Pillsbury said.



AMCOM Historical photo

Talking turkey

The 9330th TSU celebrates Thanksgiving in the 1950s.

Former commanding general continues serving troops

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Retired Maj. Gen. Jim Myles is finally getting used to being “just Jim.”

For 36 years Myles was a Soldier, the last eight of those a commander, a selfless servant who gave his country all he had, and when there was nothing left, gave some more. Today, a little more than a year after his official retirement from the Army, every day that’s gone by has been a lesson in how to just be himself, no lives on the line, no Soldiers to command, no optempo to keep up with.

“The adjustments of that are really pretty hard,” said Myles, who officially retired Jan. 1, 2011. “You’ve got to realize you’re just Jim.”

No matter what he does, however, the Soldier inside of him lives on.

“The Marines used to say ‘once a Marine always a Marine,’ I’ve always believed once a Soldier, always a Soldier, and I will always be a Soldier,” Myles said. “The thing that I think about on a day-to-day basis is making sure that I always, even in civilian life, uphold the standards that I held so true. It’s the Army values. I will not deviate from that, regardless of what role I’m playing in the corporate world.”

For the last three years of Myles’ military career, from July 19, 2007 to Sept. 10, 2010, he commanded the Aviation and Missile Command, entrusted with the care of the Soldiers and civilians that call the installation home and rely on it every day to safeguard the nation. While Myles had visited Redstone a few times prior to taking command, the depth and breadth of the mission and many organizations left him in awe, and it only grew under his leadership as the decisions of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission came to fruition. As he looks out on the Arsenal today and the work of its vital institutions such as the Army Materiel Command, Space and Missile Defense Command, Security Assistance Command to the Arsenal and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Myles sees the value of his last duty station increase every day.

“No other place in America has a mission like that,” he said. “This is war fighting at the highest level – strategic, operational and tactical levels. There’s no other place that does that. Not like this.”

Much of that is thanks to the work force and support of the surrounding area, Myles said. The amount of com-

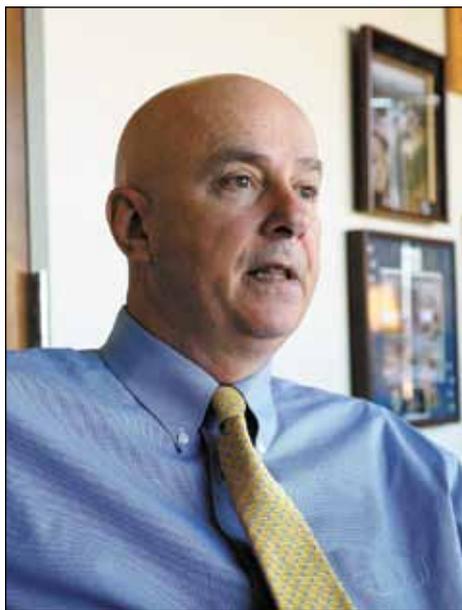


Photo by Ellen Hudson

Retired Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, vice president, aviation, for DynCorp International, served as Redstone’s senior commander from July 19, 2007 to Sept. 10, 2010.

munity interaction that came with the job surprised Myles, but as he became more familiar with the land and people outside the gates, he understood why.

“The Arsenal is really embedded in the fabric of the Tennessee Valley,” Myles said. “I love the people. The people of the Tennessee Valley are perfect. They care about others more than themselves – it’s very similar to Soldiers – and they’re willing to put themselves on the line if they can make a difference. If there’s a hard problem, these people here can solve it. They just can. They’re very good.”

The memories that remain with him from his years as commander revolve around the hard times, laying Soldiers to rest, a task that although difficult, was an honor, as well as the tragic deaths of Darren Spurlock, James Hawke and Jerry Grimes. The constant challenge of making sure Soldiers downrange had the tools they needed to complete the mission also comes to mind when he thinks back to his Redstone Arsenal days.

“When units, people in harm’s way need something and you can’t get it to them soon enough, those times were hard,” Myles said. “We would spend a lot of time focused, bending metal if we could to force something to a kid that needs something in harm’s way.”

It is because of those moments in service to Soldiers across the world that Myles was able to retire, know-

ing he had given his all. For years, with the permission of and assistance of his wife Alice, Myles vowed to give the military his 100 percent support, concentrating all his efforts to do the best job he could, prioritizing his life so that the Soldier was always number one. When it came time to step down and hand Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers the reins in September 2010, Myles was ready.

“I’ve run the race. I’ve done the best I can,” Myles said. “It’s time to put it down, and you have to just mentally, emotionally, for the good of the person behind you, and yourself, put it down. It was hard giving it up, but if you do it right, you should be ready to turn the colors over.”

“I can’t think of a better way of going out of the Army than being in a position where I could be a leader at Redstone that would allow me to make a difference and an impact on the Soldiers, because I really think we made a big difference on Soldiers that were conducting combat ops, and that was our focus 24/7 when there was an issue downrange in Afghanistan or Iraq they’d dial area code 256. I’m very proud of having left the Army from Redstone, because I think that I was in a position where I could make a difference.”

Today, Myles continues to make a

difference, only from the outside of the fence, as vice president, aviation, for DynCorp International, which provides support for eight of the Army’s 12 aviation brigades, doing aircraft reset. After four months of reflection and relaxation upon relinquishing command in September 2010, Myles chose the company for its ability to allow him to continue to make a difference in Soldiers’ lives.

As he’s learned the business side of things, the way he views the Arsenal has evolved.

“The respect I had for the Arsenal just continues to grow for the mission and the importance of it,” Myles said. “What I’m learning to appreciate more is how much this community depends on what goes on at the Arsenal. I used to always say that I thought it was the heart and lungs of the Tennessee Valley, now I see it even more.”

Retiring to North Alabama, Hampton Cove in particular, was a no-brainer for Myles and Alice, who after 21 moves in 36 years knew they had found the place they were meant to call home in the Tennessee Valley, close to their son and two grandchildren, 7 and 5, in Atlanta. While life hasn’t calmed down much since he left the Arsenal, he still makes room for a round of golf at the Links and spending time with his family.



AMCOM Historical photo

On the go

The Exchange Mobile Canteen serves customers in front of the then Redstone headquarters, building 7101.

Commission chairman cherishes Redstone's impact

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

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To understand Mike Gillespie's relationship with Redstone Arsenal one only needs to look at the walls of his Madison County Courthouse office in Huntsville.

Photos of astronaut Alan Shepard, a close personal friend, a hand painted picture by Mikio Kimata, a general in the Japanese army who attended ordnance school at Redstone and developed a close kinship to the Tennessee Valley and Gillespie, and countless other photographs and paintings documenting the Arsenal's lasting legacy in American history thus far decorate the four corner's of Gillespie's seventh floor office. Each picture, each plaque bearing testament to the incredible impact the installation has had on the Madison County Commission chairman's life.

"I can't say it in just a few sentences," Gillespie said. "I just have always had this strong feeling and a great relationship with Redstone, both from the Army side and the NASA side."

As a child, Gillespie visited his father Charles at work at the NASA test stands, in awe of the space race that was being propelled right here in Huntsville, a great pride took root in him not only for his local community, but his country, and all that they have been able to accomplish, through the work and mission of Red-



Photo by Ellen Hudson

In his 32 years as Madison County Commission chairman, Mike Gillespie has worked with every commanding general, Garrison commander and sergeant major at Redstone Arsenal to help further the interests of the installation.

stone Arsenal. Since taking office in 1980, the Huntsville native has been a champion for the place that impacted his growing years so greatly.

"It's the right thing to do," Gillespie said. "Redstone is absolutely, has been and continues to be the economic engine for not only our community but largely for the state. The economic impact has been tremendous."

It's not just about the money though, Gillespie said. One of the greatest gifts

the installation gives to the area is its ability to bring the community together from the Mississippi state line all the way to Tennessee, east to Scottsboro and down to Birmingham, bonding communities together that otherwise might not have anything to do with each other. Through those partnerships, Gillespie said, the area's quality of life has been impacted in every area from education, to fine arts and sports.

"There's not an area in this community that hasn't been touched in some way, in a positive way by Redstone Arsenal," Gillespie said. "We've always believed it's not only worth fighting for and keeping, it's worth expanding and sharing with the rest of the country and the world, and

that's happening now."

Over the past 32 years Gillespie has worked with every commanding general of Redstone Arsenal, every Garrison commander and all the sergeants major to ensure the Arsenal continues to expand and gain prominence in the country's national defense. He's helped welcome military leaders to the area, watched spinoff companies develop from the Arsenal's growing missions and become Fortune 500 companies, created the North Alabama International Trade Association and seen it grown from 30 businesses to more than 300, and on a moment's notice flown to Washington, D.C. to help further the interests of the Arsenal and the Tennessee Valley. And he's done it all with pleasure and dedication.

"It's hard to put into words the impact Redstone has not just on our community, but our state and this nation, and continues to have," Gillespie said. "The future is bright. It's up to us as a community to continue to support Redstone, to maintain that partnership, to help it grow and expand in the right way."

While Gillespie plans to retire this November, that doesn't mean the local community will stop working to further the interests of Redstone Arsenal, what he calls the "first priority" for area leaders. Instead, Gillespie points to the history of installation to help future generations lead the way for post growth.

"The community needs to be continually reminded of the impact locally, statewide, nationally and worldwide that Redstone has and has had," Gillespie said. "Remembering the history makes us better. In a lot of cases we want to repeat the history at Redstone. We've obviously learned a lot from that."

Dave Harris was legendary spokesman

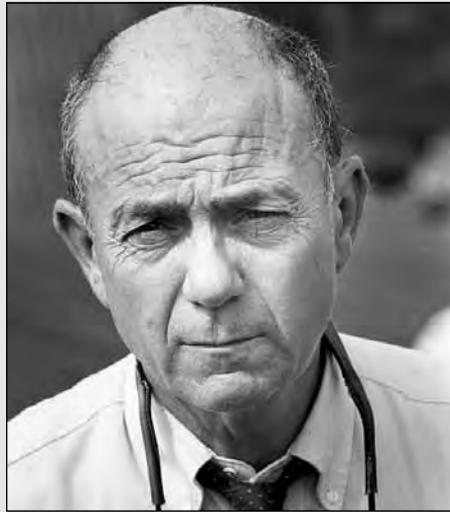
Building 5250 is named the David G. Harris Building for good reason.

The late Dave Harris served as the Army's chief of public affairs for Redstone Arsenal for more than 30 years. He was inducted into the U.S. Army Public Affairs Hall of Fame in 2009.

The U.S. Army Public Affairs Hall of Fame was established in 2000 to recognize Soldier and Army civilian public affairs professionals who made lasting, significant contributions to the profession, history and traditions of Army public affairs.

Harris was the voice and the face of the Army at Redstone through many controversial and highly-visible issues such as chemical contaminant discoveries and cleanups; the Vietnam War and anti-war protests; desegregation and social unrest; layoffs and cutbacks; and weapon-system successes and failures.

He is perhaps most well-known for his efforts with the German scientists



Dave Harris

at Redstone Arsenal, who launched the nation's first satellite into space and transformed Huntsville into "Rocket City USA."



Welcome wagon

Locals in downtown Huntsville, circa 1955.

AMCOM Historical photo

Arsenal engineer witnesses electrifying changes

By BETH SKARUPA

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Although he always said he would retire when he turned 80 years old, now that Arthur Barnette has 48 years of service under his belt he says, "Why not make it 50?"

Barnette first began working at Redstone Arsenal in the early 1960s. He worked for General Electric as a sales engineer, with the Arsenal as part of his territory, when he was offered a job here making about \$1,500 more per year than he was making at the time.

"I walked into this job," he said. "I wanted to get off the road anyway and stop traveling, so I signed up and as the old boy says, 'Here I are' and I've been here ever since," he said.

Despite wanting to be in utilities, the jobs in utilities were taken so he went into engineering. That ended up being a good thing because the work orders he received were all over the base, which allowed him to become thoroughly familiar with the Arsenal. He stayed in engineering, doing a lot of design work, for nine years.

After that, he decided that the only way to get ahead was if he got into supervision. So he applied for a job as an electrical engineering supervisor in utilities. When he got the job he was finally in utilities as one of the chief of utilities' assistants. He worked in utilities from 1973-85.

"I was responsible for everything from where the lines from TVA crossed the fence until it came out that plug," he said, pointing toward an electrical socket in the wall. "All the distribution, all the buildings, I had the maintenance for all the electrical, inside and outside. I had some good people working for me."

During those 12 years, he became chief of utilities. So in 1985 when that work was contracted out, he became the contracting officer representative over the first contractor, Holmes and Narver/Morris Knudson.

"The thing is, I was watching them do my job and they didn't have the same idea of what my job was. So this made it a little difficult," he said. "So they offered an early out in February of '88. I signed up for it and retired."

At the same time, several other people in the department retired. They ended up working with Barnette to write a new proposal and subsequently won the contract. Since he had worked on the proposal, he was asked what position he would like to have in the company.

"I said, I've done so much around here and I've been the supervisor for so long, just put me as the supervisor over



Photo by Beth Skarupa

Arthur Barnette has worked as an electrical engineer at Redstone Arsenal for 48 years.

engineering and let me be in engineering. And that's where I've been since. I'm still here," he said.

When he first came to the Arsenal, the vehicles driven by the utilities workers were the old jeeps with canvas covers that didn't have a key, just a switch turned them on. Then he said they changed to pickup trucks but it took years before they had air conditioning.

"But we have developed through the years and gone through a lot of changes. And we've rolled with the changes and gone in and tried to stay up to date with everything. Your electrical field has been very fluid. There for a while it seemed to be a little static, but all of a sudden it got very fluid and we got into new things – energy conservation, computerized controls – and it's changed over now so that most everything we've got around here is run by computers," he said.

He noted that most air conditioning systems are run by computers now. Solid state equipment has made it possible to have uninterrupted power supplies. Transitioning from one step to another is fluid and makes variable speed possible. All traffic lights are solid state now, too. Everybody has a computer and they are building new things all the time.

Wood poles were all they had when he first started working. Now they use steel and concrete because they learned how to make them. Before that, they had to go out with a chain saw and cut a tree down, trim it up and treat it so the bugs would not get it. Many changes have occurred.

Reproductions are easier now and drawings can be sent quickly because of computers. Barnette remembers when secretaries had to type everything up, then

retype the entire thing when mistakes were found. Now editing on computers is as simple as a few keystrokes.

"We're in the now generation. Everything is now," he said. "But being here at Redstone has been a joy. Most of the people I have worked with have been very good to help. Of course, every now and then you get these people that want to use the 'no' book. I was told by a colonel that there are two sets of books out there, one that says yes and one that says no. If you can't read out of the yes book, you're excused from this conference. I've got a problem and I want a solution. So that stuck with me years ago."

Originally from Birmingham, Barnette was raised in Montgomery. He received his degree in electrical engineering, with a concentration in power, from Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn) in 1953. Then he worked as a sales engineer for General Electric before coming to the Arsenal. His sales area included Kentucky, Indiana, Massachusetts, Georgia and Alabama.

"I don't know when I'm going to retire. Like I say, I still enjoy work," he said. "I've heard people say, 'If I'd known it was going to be this great, I would have done it five years ago.' I say, 'Well, what are you doing?' 'Nothing.' Is that exciting or boring? I still like being a contributor."



AMCOM Historical photo

Changing lanes

The intersection of Goss and Patton Roads, Gate 8, looked a little different in the 1950s.

Faces around the Sparkman Center



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Jeff Hamilton, of AMCOM in building 5301, gets into an elevator.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Sandy Taylor, left, and LaSonya Cooper work for Logistics Support Activity.

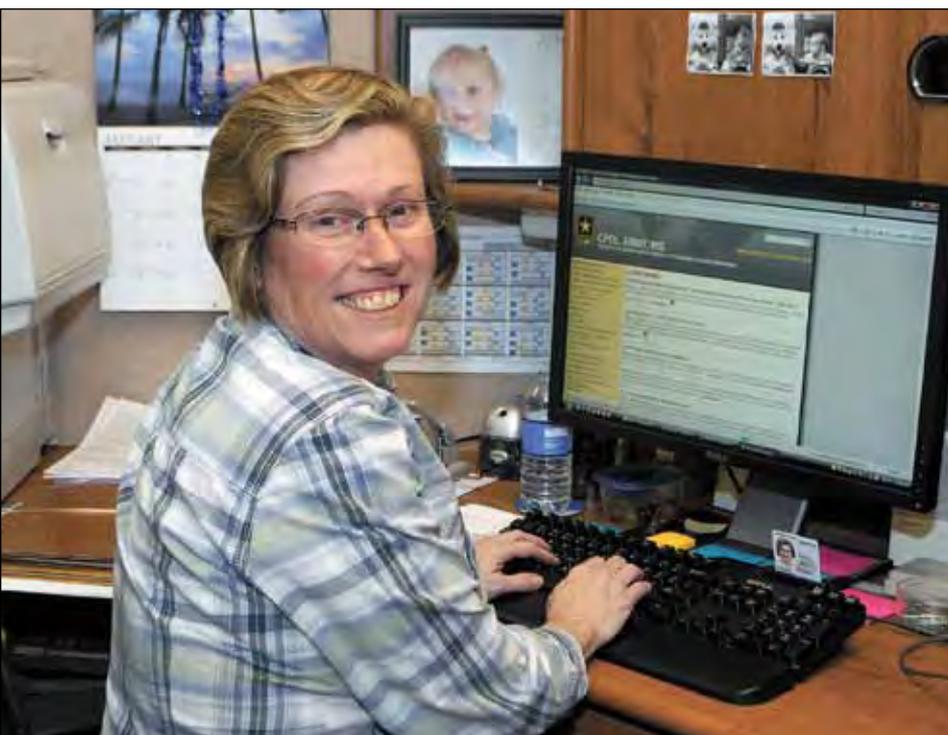


Photo by Ellen Hudson

Lynn Sanders is a mail/file room clerk with the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center in building 5304.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Blake Taylor works for Phoenix Service as a badge checker.

Landscape changes with new missions, organizations



Photo by Ellen Hudson

The Sparkman Center is the headquarters for the Aviation and Missile Command.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Redstone's tenants include the National Center for Explosives Training and Research, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

The Army Materiel Command shares a new headquarters building with the Security Assistance Command.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

The AMC Band, which resides here, has performed in concert throughout the community since its arrival.



Historical file photo

Building 4488 on Martin Road served as the Army Ballistic Missile Agency headquarters in the 1950s. It has since been renovated and now houses the Garrison.



Historical file photo

Building 5250, which once served as the headquarters for the then Missile Command, has evolved to hold the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.