The U.S. Secret Service is seeking qualified individuals with diverse skills and backgrounds who are interested in a challenging career with our federal law enforcement agency.

Find out more at www.secretservice.gov or call us at 866-909-9785
202-406-5370 (Deaf and Hard of Hearing)
From the Commanding General

By Maj. Gen. Mark T. McQueen
Commanding General
108th Training Command (IET)

My first assignment when I was commissioned 35 years ago was to the 1st Armored Division, Ansbach, Germany. During that time, our nation was in the midst of the Cold War; a very contentious time in our Nation’s history to be sure. At that time, the 1st AD was the eastern most forward deployed division in the United States Army. Its mission was to deploy to the Fulda Gap and halt the Soviet and Warsaw Pact nations advance into West Germany. Adding to the complexity, the Army was at a cross-roads in terms of readiness. In the wake of the Vietnam-era, the Army re-focused on building a values based organization with particular emphasis on training and readiness.

I recall a poster hanging in the Company dayroom which was an image of a cemetery. It was a remarkable photograph with hundreds of headstones in perfect dress-right-dress array. The grass was green and well manicured. The full-size trees were lush green and there was a cloudless blue sky. The cemetery scene may have been Arlington National Cemetery, although it did not specifically indicate such. However, it was the caption on the poster that has forever stuck in my memory and indeed shaped my training philosophy for my entire military career. The caption read, “Let no voice cry out, had I only been trained.”

It is these words which I believe speak to the essence and responsibility of our mission within the 108th Training Command and underscores the importance of what we do. We have the daunting responsibility to insure every Soldier, be it officer or enlisted, is fully trained to be the warrior and leader our Army demands and the Nation expects. It is to each of us to insure citizen-volunteers are trained to the Army standard in their warrior tasks and battle drills. It’s to us to insure our cadets are molded and shaped into agile and adaptive leaders able to lead America’s sons and daughters in their assigned missions. It’s to our key enablers within the 108th Training Command to do all that is necessary to produce a combat ready Command able to accomplish all of its assigned and implied tasks and missions. With all of this, it truly takes a Team of Teams to focus on that which is important to insure we never hear those somber words reflected on the poster, “Let no voice cry out, had I only been trained.”

To the Soldiers, Civilians and Families of the 95th Training Division; 98th Training Division; 104th Training Division and Headquarters, 108th Training Command; our business is serious and imperative. The Army is building itself at a monthly rate faster than has been seen since World War II. To meet the readiness challenge and to be world-class trainers, we must emulate the highest of standards in personal conduct, values, competencies and professionalism. We all are expected to be the standard bearers for what right looks like, indeed experts in our field craft. Those we have the privilege, and indeed the responsibility, to train are counting on it and need to look no further than Team 108 to personify the best of our Army. Reflect on those words, “Let no voice cry out, had I only been trained.” As you do so, I’m confident you will do all that is necessary to insure the 108th Training Command is First in Training… Army Strong!

We have the daunting responsibility to insure every Soldier, be it officer or enlisted, is fully trained to be the warrior and leader our Army demands and the Nation expects.
The Griffon is published four times a year and is an authorized publication for members of the Army. Contents of The Griffon are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the 108th Training Command (IET). The appearance of advertising in this publication, including supplements and inserts, does not in any way constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army or Knight Communications, Inc. of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication must be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to the race, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The Griffon is an unofficial publication authorized by AR360-1. Editorial content is prepared, edited, and provided by the 108th Training Command (IET). Material for publication may be submitted to: PAO, 1330 Westover Street, Charlotte, NC 28205-5124.

Above: 108th Training Command Best Warriors Photos by Maj. Michelle Lunato

108th Training Command (IET)
Commanding General Maj. Gen. Mark T. McQueen
Deputy Commanding General Brig. Gen Mark E. Black
Command Chief Warrant Officer Chief Warrant Officer 5 Edward Salazar
Chief of Staff Vacant
Command Executive Officer Mr. Charles E. Fairbanks

108th Training Command Public Affairs (IET)
Public Affairs Officer Capt. Lawrence Carmack
Email: lawrence.k.carmack.mil@mail.mil
Deputy Public Affairs Office (vacant)
Public Affairs NCOIC Sgt. 1st Class Lisa M Litchfield
Email: lisa.m.litchfield2.mil@mail.mil
Public Affairs Specialist Spc. Tynisha Daniel
Email: tynisha.l.daniell@mail.mil

95th Training Division (IET)
Commander Brig. Gen. Andrew Bassford
Public Affairs Officer Capt. Adrienne Bryant
Email: adrienne.bryant.mil@mail.mil
Public Affairs NCOIC (vacant)

98th Training Division (IET)
Commanding General Brig. Gen. Miles Davis
Public Affairs Officer Maj. Michelle A. Lunato
Email: michelle.a.lunato.mil@mail.mil or michelle.a.lunato.civ@mail.mil
Public Affairs NCOIC (vacant)

104th Training Division (LT)
Commanding General Brig. Gen. Darrell J. Guthrie
Public Affairs Officer Mrs. Kelly Countryman (Interim)
Email: kelly.m.countryman.civ@mail.mil
Public Affairs NCOIC (vacant)
From the Command Sergeant Major

By Command Sgt. Maj.
Robert Riti
108th Training Command (IET)

This past February marked my 39th anniversary of being in the US Army. Never in a million years did I think I would be in this long but again, thirty-nine years later I’m still wearing the uniform and enjoying every day of being an American Soldier. Like any career or any profession, there are good times and sometimes not so good times. But I can assure you the good times outnumber the not so good times. The men and women that I had the honor and privilege of serving with have filled my military career with great memories. Men and women of great character that exemplify every one of the Army Values and are ready to answer the Nation’s call on a moment’s notice. I am so honored to be part of this organization and cannot thank the Army enough for what it’s done for me and want to make sure that you know it can do the same for you. I constantly use the old slogan the Army had Be All You Can Be because as a Soldier in the US Army you can be anything you want. You just have to want it! Many times when I speak to Soldiers whether it’s at a Town Hall meeting with my Battle Buddy MG McQueen or talking to a Soldier at an airport, I always try to encourage them to take advantage of everything the Army has to offer. The Army has invested a lot of time in you and filled you with a great deal of knowledge that you need to share with others. Sharing that experience and expertise you’ve gained over the years (no matter how many years it may be) is information that is valuable to other Soldiers, especially your subordinates and will guide them on the right path in life to make the right decisions and may be that information that saves their life on the battle field. I had a lot of mentors in my career that did just that. They provided me everything they know and with all the experiences they dealt with in life. They wanted to make sure I knew what right looked like and showed me the road to success. They informed me of their mistakes so I could avoid making those same mistakes. Just think of how much better off we would be if we knew the future. Well a good mentor can practically do that and that’s why I need good Soldiers to not just stay in the Army but to also take your subordinates under your wing and properly mentor them. Counsel them constantly and let them know when they’re doing a good job and if it needs to be for failing an APFT or doing something wrong, counsel them and tell them what they did wrong and make sure you assist them on changing that negative performance. In the 108th Training Command we’re constantly trying to recruit Drill SGT candidates.

One reason for that is because of everything I’ve been saying in this article. We need outstanding NCOs to take these new recruits and turn them into outstanding Soldiers ready to lead tomorrow’s Army and be able to take our place when it’s time for us to go. Sharing that experience and expertise you have with them so one day they’ll be able to say “I’m squared away because (your name) taught me what right looks like and cared enough about me to put me on the road to success”. As I’m writing this article I’m actually sitting in an airport waiting for my flight that will be taking me to an Army transition point to speak to a group of Soldiers getting ready to leave the Army. To me it’s worth one last attempt to encourage them to stay in and continue to share their knowledge with others. To let them know how valuable they are. I know the majority of them have made a hasty decision that they’ll regret within the next year or so. I want that opportunity to persuade them to stay and to Be All They Can Be. I want each of you to do the same for me and encourage each other to stay in and take maximum advantage of everything the Army has to offer. I’ve never met a veteran that hasn’t said, “I wish I would have stayed in.” Regretting only staying in for one enlistment and getting out. I also know that the Army not only makes you successful as a Soldier but it also instills the values in us that employers today are looking for. Today’s employer gives priority to hiring men and women of the Armed Forces because they know we have so much to offer. They know we’ll be a loyal worker giving 110 percent every day. They know we understand the importance of being on time, working as a team and respecting others. Maintaining our physical readiness that assists us in performing our jobs better. And most important, they know we will never quit and that we know how to succeed. Wow, sounds like the Army Values and the Army have distinguished us again.

First in Training
IN THIS ISSUE

8 Going All the Way

12 Joint Training Enhances Unit Readiness

14 Toys to training: WWII Veteran Reminisces

17 Chaplains Corner

19 Adapted: My Story

22 Legendary Ruck Marches

24 I Am a Drill Sergeant

27 Drill Sergeants of 4-323 Prepare for Echo Mission at Fort Jackson

28 Career, Family and a Legion of Merit, All Compliments of the Army

30 Veterans Gather in New York for Alumni Luncheon

32 Army Reserve unit cases colors after 99 years of service

33 Task Force Marshall Drill Sergeant Earns Expert Infantry Badge

34 Time Away From Reserve Center Builds Team, Expands Development

36 2-485th Welcomes A New Command Sergeant Major

38 Army Reserve Soldiers Support the Annual Sandhurst Competition

40 The legacy of PFC Harry J. Fridley

42 From Point to Point: Preparation for CST 2017

43 2017 Mexican American Engineers and Scientists Leadership Academy Conference

44 TIMBERWOLVES OUT: 1-391st Cases Colors

45 World War II Army Veteran Made Honorary Member

46 Task Force Wolf Taps Army Reserve to Train Future Leaders

48 'Young Guns' Battle Assembly

49 How SHARP Impacts Readiness

50 FY18 Mission Planning

50 Instructing to Standard

50 Unit Public Affairs Program
EXPERIENCE IS NOT ALWAYS CREATED EQUAL.

You’re a multi-tasker.
You’re efficient and effective.
You have an old-fashioned work ethic that sets you apart from others.
Join a team who not only embraces a veteran’s experience but thrives because of it.
Make the most of your training and your career, go the distance with Celadon.

MILITARY FRIENDLY

MF ’17
GOLD
TOP 10 EMPLOYER

Celadon

Join our team and reap the rewards of your hard work.
©2017 Celadon Group, Inc. | careers.celadontrucking.com
Going All the Way

By Sgt. 1st Class Lisa Litchfield
108th Training Command Public Affairs

Joe Namath once said, “if you’re not gonna go all the way, why go at all?” and from March 20-24, 2017, 25 Soldiers, Noncommissioned Officers and Drill Sergeants of the 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training) gathered at Camp Bullis, Texas, to go all the way in the 2017 Best Warrior Competition.

The mechanics of the competition were the work of Sgt. 1st Class Brian Blanchard, 1-355th, 95th Training Division (IET) who involved all levels of the command, from company to division in his planning process.

“Putting together a Best Warrior Competition, for this level of command, is a true test of an NCO’s abilities,” he explained. “There’s no manual or set of instructions for how the competition is supposed to be setup or how each event is supposed to be created. I’ve had to draw upon all of the experience of my fellow NCO’s, as well as my own, to create this one-of-a-kind event. A well put together competition can leave life-long memories for the competitors and the cadre involved.”

For those looking to go “all the way,” the road was not an easy one. Blanchard and his team designed a competition build on level one tasks, but in an environment designed to test the limits of the competitor’s skills under pressure in realistic, scenario-based events.

Among the challenges facing the competitors were the Army Physical Fitness Test, day and night land navigation, combatives, a road march with equipment laded packs, weapons qualification, simulated chemical attacks, first aid tasks and movement under fire, teaching physical training modules, the obstacle challenge course, and to finish off the competition the dreaded Sergeants Major oral board.

With a course designed as the ultimate test of a Soldier’s skills and abilities, it was up to the competitors to find their “why” and dig deep to draw upon it for motivation.

For Staff Sgt. Brian Johnson, Delta Company, 1-321 Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 98th Training Division (IET), the motivation came from excellent leadership and guidance.

“I feel that regardless of the level
of competition that I achieve I will become a better asset to my unit and command through the training that I will receive," Johnson said.

For others, the competition gave them a chance to push themselves and do something they don’t usually do.

I saw this as an opportunity to train and prepare myself for Drill Sergeant school," said Spc. Robert Davis, Alpha Company, 1-415 Regiment, 95th Training Division (IET). "I work at a bank so land navigation isn’t something I get to do often," he explained.

As Reserve Soldiers, any time you have a chance to compete in an event like this it should be viewed as an opportunity according to Sgt. Michael Hughes, Alpha Company, 2-377 Regiment, 95th Training Division (IET).

"There is such a learning benefit," he said. "Especially as a Reserve Soldier. Any time you get to practice skills - I mean it is competition, but it’s still practice - I feel like it’s improvement. You’re not going to get worse at something by doing it."

Blanchard sees the competition not just as practice but as a test.

"A Best Warrior Competition is the ultimate test of a Soldier’s skills and abilities," said Blanchard. "They must be tactically and technically proficient to compete and win. Competitors are tested on a large variety of Army tasks, which requires extensive training and preparation. The event also gives the competitors a great amount of experience and training that they can bring back to their home units to incorporate."

For Staff Sgt. Eric Radder, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade, 98th Division (IET), it was that plan to bring something back to his unit that helped motivate him throughout the competition.

"I chose to compete in the best warrior competition to challenge myself both mentally and physically," Radder said. "It’s an opportunity to serve as a mentor to the junior Soldiers in my unit."

Although everyone involved in the competition learned about themselves and their skills, everyone competed hard and supported their fellow Soldiers and everyone should be extremely proud of the work put in, it was the following three overall winners from the who will go all the way and represent the 108th Training Command (IET) in the United States Army Reserve Best Warrior and the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command Drill Sergeant of the Year competitions.

Spc. Robert Davis, 1-415th Regiment, 95th Training Division (IET) - 108th Training Division (IET) Soldier of the Year.

Sgt. Michael Hughes, 2-377th Regiment, 95th Training Division (IET) - 108th Training Division (IET) Soldier of the Year.

Sgt. Christopher Moses, 3-378th Regiment, 95th Training Division - 108th Training Command (IET) Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Sgt. Christopher Moses, 3-378th Regiment, 95th Training Division - 108th Training Command (IET) Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Sgt. Michael Hughes, 2-377th Regiment, 95th Training Division (IET) - 108th Training Division (IET) Soldier of the Year.

Sgt. Christopher Moses, 3-378th Regiment, 95th Training Division - 108th Training Command (IET) Drill Sergeant of the Year.
GOING ALL THE WAY

Soldiers came from across the command to “go all the way” and compete in the 108th Training Command (IET) Best Warrior Competition (BWC) March 20-24 in San Antonio, Texas. The BWC consisted of multiple events that tested the physical, mental and emotional strength of Soldiers. The NCO and Soldier who win the titles of 108th Training Command (IET) Soldier of the Year and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year will proceed to the United States Army Reserve competition, where 20 of the Army’s finest Warriors, representing 10 commands from across the Army, will compete in the 2017 Best Warrior Competition at Fort Bragg, N.C., while the 108th Training Command (IET) Drill Sergeant of the Year will go on to compete at the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command competition later this summer.
Joint Training Enhances Unit Readiness

By Sgt. Thomas Belton
362nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The drill sergeants train Navy individual augmentees in basic combat skills and serve as an essential part of Task Force Marshall’s mission. Their objectives are to train Ready and Available Joint Service Warriors to augment deploying unit’s missions.

“We are here under Task Force Marshall from the 108th Training Command, and part of their mission is to train Reserve component engineering duty officers who deploy with the Army combat engineers,” said Ensign David Segala, an engineering duty officer from SURGMAIN North London. “This training today is for the junior officers to get some additional pointers from the drill instructor unit. The NCOs here are excellent, and very knowledgeable about weapon systems we don’t use that often in the Navy Reserve. I want to bring more officers from my unit to training like this.”

The joint training environment provides the drill sergeants with a unique opportunity and gives the Navy officers valuable hands-on skills training with unfamiliar weapon platforms. Joint training is always beneficial for both services working together, and both teams value time working with crew-served weapons.

“The Navy officers sought us out looking for weapons training, because they don’t get this sort of training that often in the ‘Navy,’” said

Ensign David Segala, an Engineer Duty Officer from New London, Connecticut opens fire on a zero range at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. Navy junior officers participated in a joint training environment with Army drill sergeants to train up for future deployments June 3, 2017.
A drill sergeant from the 1st Battalion, 304th Infantry Regiment engages a target during weapons familiarization training at Fort Devens, MA. Soldiers exercised their expertise and trained Navy junior officers during a joint training exercise June 3, 2017.

Army Maj. Stacey Carroll, Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion, 304th Infantry Regiment. "We’ve worked with the Navy Survive, Evade, Resist, Escape (S.E.R.E) School to provide water survival skills training for our drill sergeants, so we do a lot of beneficial interagency exercises."  

The drill sergeants emphasized core task training and serve as a force multiplier for units they attach to by being subject matter experts on Army Warrior Tasks and Drills. They take their unique skillset on the road, and train Servicemembers from allied partner nations to enhance global readiness for the War on Terror.

“Recently I was in Saudi Arabia, teaching people how to fire their version of the M240B, the RPK,” said Army Staff Sgt. Lee Gaudette, a senior drill instructor. “Regardless of job in the military, every Soldier should be able to get behind any weapon in the arsenal and execute. You never know when you’re going to be that soldier that needs to operate that weapon to potentially save your life or your fellow Soldiers.”

Drill sergeants play an essential role in maintaining unit readiness and developing the force behind the fight. These elite trainers exemplify the Warrior Ethos, and serve as the living embodiment of the Army as a profession.

Ensign David Segala, an Engineer Duty Officer from New London, CT adjusts his front sights during joint training at Fort Devens, MA. Navy junior officers received skills training from Army drill sergeants during a joint training exercise to better prepare for future deployments June 3, 2017.
Charlotte, N.C. — Few of the 16 million Americans that joined allies across the globe remain to tell the tale of World War II. John Samuel Dellinger, a 96-year-old veteran and native of Charlotte, North Carolina, was among those who served and sacrificed for their country and loved ones. Now, Nearly 72 years after completing his service to the nation, in a tiny suburb of Charlotte, Dellinger sat down to reminisce on the War, the things he’s seen, and the life he’s led.

Born on July 31, 1920, Dellinger learned at an early age how to carve his own toys, whittling them into a likeness of things he was fond of, including airplanes.

That interest grew to include the way they flew, and the type of machinery it took to build them; there was no question in Dellinger’s mind as to what career path he would inevitably follow.

It was several years after graduating high school and a stint at an automobile dealership, when he finally came around to pursuing his passion for planes. He registered for the Army Air Forces on August 21, 1942.

“I said to myself, I’m going to go ahead and join because I want...
to work on air craft,” he said, smiling.

Six weeks later, Dellinger was shipped to basic combat training in St. Petersburg, Florida.

“My first duty station was at Marianna, Florida (Graham Airbase).” As Dellinger told it, things didn’t get off to a great start, thanks to a particular officer in charge.

“I’ll never forget his name. Provost Marshall Capt. Clemmons,” he said, recounting the day like it was yesterday. “He put us in formation, then told us “all of you Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia men dismiss yourself and make another formation…you’ll be on guard duty.”

“Oh man, I just about fell to the ground when he said that,” laughed Dellinger.

Though funny to him now, guard duty was far from the technical school for mechanical aircraft he had set his sights on. Refusing to let his dreams perish, Dellinger worked harder, volunteering for everything that came his way; so much so that his leadership took notice, gave his packet a second glance and granted him his wish.

Whisked away to Amarillo Air Force Base, he received training at the mechanical school for aircraft. He learned the rules of aerodynamics, the mechanical care of aircraft, and how to assemble the machinery needed to make an airplane take flight. “They (the instructors) knew we were headed overseas …and needed to know everything,” he said.

Once deployed, the troops would be completely on their own. In the months that followed, Dellinger would travel across the country, perfecting his trade at aircraft manufacturing plants like Boeing in Seattle, Washington: all for the benefit of the military and the Nation.

Dellinger completed his training and in January 1945, he deployed to Guam to join the fight in the Pacific Region with the Third Marine Division and the Army. Their mission was to provide offensive counter-air strikes to the enemy through ground attacks. Fighting both in the air and on the ground, Dellinger remained combat ready. Between managing the aircraft during typhoons in the middle of the night to fighting the enemy through tropical forests, Dellinger never quit.

“In the wee hours of the morning and sometimes in the middle of the night, the storms would come. I would get out of my tent and walk a mile away from the jungle to secure the planes,” said Dellinger. U.S. aircraft were outside of the forests were the Soldiers camped. “In the jungle you didn’t know if you’d get hit by a bayonet or a bullet leaving your tent,” he said.

As part of coping with his experiences on the island, Dellinger kept a log of all of the flights during his time in service.

John Samuel Dellinger, a 96-year-old veteran and native of Charlotte North Carolina reminiscences on events during WWII, things he’s seen and the life he has lead, at his home Wednesday, Nov 2. Dellinger poses with his dress uniform. U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Tynisha Daniel, 108th Training Command

A photo taken in in the early 1940’s of Veteran John Samuel Dellinger and his late wife Marion. U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Tynisha Daniel, 108th Training Command

ST. BONAVENTURE BONNIES
VETERANS SERVICES
@ ST. BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY

Gold Medal Service

Ranked for service in the top 5% of small private colleges, St. Bonaventure University’s Military-Aligned Student Assistance Grant assures that 50% of tuition charges for all veterans or their dependents are paid through grants and scholarships that do not have to be repaid. And qualified Post 9/11 GI Bill veterans can attend SBU for almost nothing, thanks to our status as a Yellow Ribbon school.

To learn more, visit us @ veterans.sbu.edu

Toys to Training continued on Page 17
John Samuel Dellinger, a 96-year-old veteran and native of Charlotte North Carolina, reminisced on events during WWII, things he’s seen and the life he has lead, at his home Wednesday, Nov 2. Dellinger points at the B29 aircraft that he primarily used during the War. U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Tynisha Daniel, 108th Training Command

Toys to Training
Cont’d from page 15

Guam as a physical and mental reminder. In all, he served as a mechanic for more than 25 successful air combat missions.

“Boy was I ready to come home,” said Dellinger. “Word travelled slower in the 40s, they (the Japanese) were still fighting when we were leaving and it (the war) was over.”

Returning stateside, Dellinger and the other service members were flown to California. “When we came back from overseas we got to California, cleaned up, received a good meal, jumped on a troop train, and for five days and five nights travelled across the country to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for discharge,” said Dellinger.

At Fort Bragg, Dellinger and the others lined up and received discharge physicals, one by one. “The line was so long. There was so many of us that they had to give us or shots outside under the pine trees,” he said.

Due the lack of room on base, once the Soldiers’ physicals were completed, they were allowed to go home for three days. “They took us downtown and I was put on a bus to go home. I came back three days later and was discharged,” said Dellinger.

After being discharged, Dellinger went back to North Carolina to unite with his lovely wife and daughter. “They asked me to stay in, but I wanted to get back home to Marion. I couldn’t have been happier to see her and my 1 1/2 year old daughter. You’d better believe she sure did take care of me,” he said.

After a few years of working odd jobs, he started working for the North Carolina Department of Transportation in 1955. “I finally got to put all that knowledge I learned in the military to work,” said Dellinger.

But the war for Dellinger has lingered on. He says he still wakes sometimes in the middle of the night, thinking about his time on the island. He never told Marion.

“I never wanted worry her, so we never talked about it,” said Dellinger. Instead he learned to wake himself up, realize where he was and tell himself it was just a dream, he said he would then “thank God it’s over and move forward.”

Marion died in 2004, after more than 60 years of marriage. “She was the love of my life,” said Dellinger.

At 96 years old the veteran can still be seen out and about, driving and working in his yard, and to this day, he still can fit into his old dress uniform. He keeps busy with hobbies such as creating solar panels, traveling to visit friends and family members, and even chopping the occasional firewood. “It keeps me young,” he chuckled.

“I wouldn’t have been able to live my life the way I have without the military. I’m thankful,” said Dellinger.
Chaplain Maj. Lance W. Dixon

The U.S. Army Reserve is uniquely composed of service members who often live hours from their home units and sometimes even further from the leaders charged with their well being. Additionally, the men and women of the Army Reserve work full time jobs, have significant responsibilities as mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, and yet sacrificially serve their country as citizen soldiers. These men and women come from various backgrounds and bring with them a multitude of personal and emotional struggles. Tragically, many of our beloved service members live without healthy relationships and are surrounded by people who offer them no outlet for coping with personal struggles. Therefore, with thousands of service members dispersed throughout a nationwide footprint, the 108th Training Command offers a challenging environment for pastoral care and relationship building for chaplains. Nonetheless, let me explain how chaplains can support the leadership and the service members of the 108th. During each month’s Battle Assembly, chaplains are charged with many different responsibilities, to include leading worship/devotional services, pastoral counseling, and general visitation. Chaplains serve in dual capacities of staff officers and care givers, and no matter the rank a chaplain achieves, these two primary responsibilities remain. In fact, the most important duty of Army Reserve chaplains is pastoral care and it’s a responsibility that is upon the chaplain at all times. Each month the chaplains of the 108th receive multiple phone calls from service members and often times from the spouses of service members. Chaplains are on call and welcome the confidential conversations they have with those they care for. Generally, the more relationships a chaplain builds and the greater trust they earn, the more opportunities he or she will have to impact service members, becoming serious force multipliers and assets to their commanders. Ultimately, chaplains serve as the shepherds of their units.

The Value of a Chaplain

- Army chaplaincy traces its roots back to George Washington.
- Chaplains are spiritual leaders who seek to influence their units with compassion, mercy, and grace.
- Chaplains serve as force multipliers as they are primarily focused on soldier care.

BY DEFINITION, DEMOCRACY WON’T RUN ITSELF.

Turn your vision for a better tomorrow into a rewarding career.

U.S. News & World Report ranks us among the best public affairs schools in the nation. You can earn an online degree from a prestigious university where courses are taught by the same top-notch faculty as in-person courses.

These degrees can be earned entirely online:
- B.A. in Public Service
- B.A. in Criminal Justice
- M.A. in Public Administration
- M.A. in Criminal Justice

Start working on your vision for a better tomorrow by visiting spa.ucdenver.edu or emailing spa@ucdenver.edu

Chaplains Corner
From the 95th Training Division (IET) Commander

By Brig. Gen. Andrew Bassford
Commanding, 95th Training Division (IET)

As you read this, a battalion headquarters and seven companies from the 95th Training Division are on the ground at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri doing the critical work of turning civilian recruits into Soldiers! The Iron Men of Metz are currently executing the largest reserve training mission since The Surge, over a decade ago!

You may remember that back in January, the President signed an order increasing the size of the Army. To increase the size of the Army, you need more Soldiers. Those new Soldiers must first be trained. That means someone needs to train them. And therein lies a problem: the active component simply did not have enough trainers to train more Soldiers. Therefore, they turned to us.

The leadership of the active Army asked if we — while still doing all of our other assigned missions — could mobilize over a hundred Drill Sergeants for at least a year in support of increasing the Army's end strength. They were happy to find out that we could. No problem! They were even happier to find out that our great Soldiers had already volunteered to fill 95 percent of our battle roster before the official mission tasker even came out.

And so, after some hard work on the part of our mobilization cell to get our Soldiers to where they needed to be, the Army stood up a new battalion at Fort Leonard Wood — the 2nd Battalion, 48th Infantry. This battalion has an active designation and lineage, but is lead by reservists. Its companies are mostly reservists. Despite being drawn from the Army Reserve, the 2-48 will be a training battalion like every other training battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, indistinguishable from its sister, active component, training battalions.

In some cases, our Soldiers are actually making a PCS move to Fort Leonard Wood, and are bringing their families with them. In other cases, families will stay at home while their Soldier goes forward to perform this mission. Regardless, as an organization we are fully committed to taking care of our families. We have highly motivated and engaged family readiness groups who will be making sure that all is well at home while our Soldiers take care of the mission. Our Family Readiness Coordinator, Ms. Nokeitha Winterbower, is always available to answer family readiness concerns. She can be reached at 580-442-1777.

We are tremendously proud of the fact that our Soldiers and leaders are as professional and as competent as Soldiers and leaders from the active component. What we are doing right now at Fort Leonard Wood will once again demonstrate this to everyone who is watching!
Adapted: My Story

By Staff Sgt. Rachel L. Salemink
1-330, 95th DIV (IET)

They say that talking about yourself is easy. For me, I also find it to be awkward. Easy, sure, who knows me better than me? But, it is a strange feeling to talk about yourself and most of you do not know me or have only worked with me for a short period of time. For those who have worked with me, I hope that you have seen my drive, my passion, and most critically, the importance of the Soldiers in our Battalion. If you haven't seen it yet, I hope you see it here.

I've always been motivated, but my drive and passion were ignited in a new way in March 2015. I was mobilized to the Conus Replacement Center (CRC), Fort Bliss, Texas and worked in the BN S-1 Section, as a Human Resources Sergeant. Texas was a whole different environment, and to become acclimated to the El Paso weather, elevation, and environment, our Section began running up to 10 miles a week and participated in Military Essential Fitness. M.E.F is like CrossFit, but with an Army name.

When we took our APFT in April, I was surprised by the results. I wasn’t surprised that I had passed, I was surprised that I had done so well. I think it was the running at the Parade Field (a 3.1 mile trip) and McKelligan Canyon (a 5 mile trip), and the running I continued to do on my own time.

In May I started to have left and right hip pain. Thinking maybe it was my shoes, I got new ones. After breaking them in, I was still having hip issues. I went to the doctor - a trip resulting in a temporary profile, anti-inflammatory medicine, ointment, and instructions to rest my leg. I did as the doctors instructed and didn’t run. When my section did PT, I walked or lifted what I could. After breaking them in, I was still having hip issues. I went to the doctor - a trip resulting in a temporary profile, anti-inflammatory medicine, ointment, and instructions to rest my leg.

I did as the doctors instructed and didn’t run. When my section did PT, I walked or lifted what I could. After breaking them in, I was still having hip issues. I went to the doctor - a trip resulting in a temporary profile, anti-inflammatory medicine, ointment, and instructions to rest my leg.

In May I started to have left and right hip pain. Thinking maybe it was my shoes, I got new ones. After breaking them in, I was still having hip issues. I went to the doctor - a trip resulting in a temporary profile, anti-inflammatory medicine, ointment, and instructions to rest my leg.

I did as the doctors instructed and didn’t run. When my section did PT, I walked or lifted what I could. After breaking them in, I was still having hip issues. I went to the doctor - a trip resulting in a temporary profile, anti-inflammatory medicine, ointment, and instructions to rest my leg.

The next round of doctor visits resulted in an MRI done in October. When the results came back, there was a Labra tear in my right hip and although I still had pain, I went through Physical Therapy, and felt better for a couple of months before I started to limp around again.

The next round of doctor visits resulted in an MRI done in October. When the results came back, there was a Labra tear in my right hip and although I still had pain, I went through Physical Therapy, and felt better for a couple of months before I started to limp around again.

As a Military Friendly and Yellow Ribbon school, The University of Alabama serves active military, reservists, veterans, and military spouses in every branch of the military. Through online and distance learning programs, you can earn your degree from any location while fulfilling life’s other responsibilities.

The适应: 我的故事

由士官长 Rachel L. Salemink
1-330, 95th DIV (IET)

他们说谈论自己是容易的。对我来说，我也会发现它很尴尬。容易，当然，谁比我自己更了解我？但，谈论自己的感觉很奇怪，因为大多数人并不认识我，或者只是和我共事了一段时间。对于那些和我共事过的人来说，我希望你能看到我的动力，我的激情，最重要的是，士兵们在我们的团。如果你没有看到它，我希望你看一眼。

我一直都很有动力，但我的动力和激情在2015年3月被激发了新的方式。我被动员到Conus Replacement Center (CRC)，Fort Bliss，德克萨斯州，工作在BN S-1部，作为人力资源军士。德克萨斯州是一个完全不同的环境，为了适应埃尔帕索的天气，海拔和环境，我们的部开始每周跑10英里，并参与军事必需的健身。M.E.F是类似于CrossFit，但有军方名称。

当我们参加APFT在四月时，我被结果的惊讶。我没有对我的通过感到惊讶，我感到惊讶于我做得如此之好。我想这可能是因为我在Parade Field（3.1英里）和McKelligan Canyon（5英里）跑步，以及我在自己的时间中继续跑步。

在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。

在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。

然后，我不得不在PT中走过去或者做一些我可以做的。在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。在五月，我开始感到左腿和右腿疼痛。我以为可能是我的鞋子，所以我买了一双新的。在磨合了它们之后，我仍然感到髋部有不适。我去看了医生——这导致了暂时的配置，抗炎药物，膏药，以及指令休息我的腿。我按照医生的指示来做，并没有跑步。当我的小组做PT时，我走过去或者做一些我可以做的。
Adapted

Cont’d from page 15

I limped for a couple of weeks, and I got better day by day.

When you are enrolled in WTB, they have you participate in Adaptive Sports and Reconditioning. Adaptive Sports are a wide variety of sports and other relaxation techniques that a Soldier in Transition (ST) can participate in, provided they have ok from the doctors of course. I was ok’d for air rifle, pistol and archery. I was encouraged by a fellow ST to try rifle, pistol and archery. I was ok’d for air rifle the week prior to arriving at camp. She sported a purple wheelchair and bright pink hair and had been in a mountain bike accident. She is why I went and put my all in every event we were taught. I thought to myself, “if she can get out and do every sport (except seated volleyball) and give it her all, I need to do the same thing.”

I have met some pretty inspiring people in my military career, but this woman, this Warrior, she gave me the strength and encouragement to try everything out. Because of her, I can’t wait to compete and hopefully see some of the ladies or gentleman from my group at the Games this year and cheer them on.

As it turns out, the Coaches who were there to teach and guide us saw my potential in most of the sporting events. I have found a love for not only Air Rifles, Pistols and Archery, but also a love for Field (Shot Put and Discus). Coaching, Volunteering, Wheelchair Racing, Wheelchair Basketball, and Field (Seated Shot Put and Discus), but opted to sit out of Seated Volleyball.

The Army trials went quite well, and found a whole new family of people to connect with, including the Coaches, and other WTB Staffers but after the Regional Trials were completed, my time at the WTB came to close and I out-paced and beat both of them on my way.

Without the WTB, finding the adaptive equipment was not an easy task until I discovered the Turnstone Center for Children and Adults with Disabilities. Turnstone opens their doors to Veterans with a program called Healthy Minds and Body. With Healthy Minds and Body, you get six months where you can work out at their facility for free, and there are Personal Trainers and Physical Therapists on hand to help in any way you need. The work out equipment they have is adaptive to an able bodied person or a person in a wheelchair, indoor swimming pools, and indoor track, basketball courts and an amazing facility. Once a month, we meet and we do something active, or we have guest speakers come in and talk to us about benefits, how to eat healthier, and an adaptive sport.

Turnstone is a U.S. Paralympic Site, and the U.S. Paralympic Goalball Team not only lives right on campus, but trains and works out there at Turnstone so I have been able to work on my strength and conditioning with EJ, one of the team coaches.

An organization called Crossroads Wounded Warrior Archery Foundation provided me with a Matthew’s Menace II compound bow that is on loan for two years, and after that will become mine, I bought an Upright Cycling Bike to train on and take with me to the Games, and I am also trying to find grants and other avenues to help me on my way.

I was invited to Attend the Army Trials at Fort Bliss, TX 27 March-7 April 2017 and this time signed up for every event including Seated Volleyball. Although I did not make it to the Archery Finals, I did not let any of that discourage me from what I wanted to do and accomplish. The first competition was
Cycling, I had my bike from when I was an ST at Ft. Bliss and I put my heart and soul into that 20K, finishing in 50:54.25 and shaving off 9 minutes from the Regional Trials time in Ft. Hood, Texas and winning the Silver Medal. I cried, I was overwhelmed by my performance and the sheer fact of getting a medal and standing next to two other spectacular ladies who won Gold and Bronze.

I went to the other events to watch and cheer my teammates on, and although I didn’t make it to the Wheelchair Basketball finals either, I understood why when watching the other more experienced players. They were incredible to watch and if you ever get the chance to watch, I highly recommend it.

In Seated Volleyball we relearned the basic skills and played three nights, competing against each team. It was so much fun, and I finally got my serve right on the third night. I don’t remember the last time I just smiled and laughed so much, it is a fun and intense sport to play. The next completion was Track and Field. I achieved several personal bests in Field, not enough to medal, but enough for me to be proud of my performance and to continue to work on my strength and abilities.

For the Track portion, I had the perfect chair, I think the little blue Racer was made specifically for me! We raced in the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, and 1500m. I won the Silver Medal in the 100, 200, 400, and 800 meter races, and the Bronze in the 1500 meter race. I love being in that little blue racer, and even though I am confined in a small space, I feel as if I am in my element and can only go up and improve my skills and adapt to the racer and the track or road I happen to be on.

The final competition was Swimming, I know how to swim, and although I am no Michael Phelps in the pool, I feel graceful, smooth, and calm. I participated in the 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, the 50m Backstroke, and the 50m Breast Stroke. I won the Bronze in the 50m Back Stroke and Breast Strokes, and I took home the Silver Medal in the 100m Freestyle. I won a total of 6 Silver Medals and 3 Bronze Medals. I was just beside myself with pride and a sense of belonging.

I received a call on Tuesday, 11 April 2017 notifying me that I had been selected to be one of 40 people to represent Team Army at the 2017 Department of Defense Warrior Games hosted by the U.S. Navy in Chicago, IL, 30 June-9 July 2017. I have accepted the honor to not only represent Team Army, but, the US Army Reserve, the 1st BN, 330th REGT, the 95th DIV and 108th Training Command.

I will be competing in swimming, cycling, and track for Wheelchair Racing. It is an honor, a privilege and a once in a lifetime opportunity for me to follow my dream. I am also looking forward to connecting with other Service Members, and even if they are not Team Army, sharing a bond that will last a lifetime.

This opportunity isn’t something I take lightly. I get to show the world that even if you are injured, you can adapt, overcome, and move forward. I also want to show people that not all wounds are visible, that not everyone was injured or wounded in combat, that there are silent wounds. I want to show the world that people do not have disabilities, they have abilities of their own. The words “I can’t” are no longer in my vocabulary, I can and I will do anything and everything I set my mind to.

I find the adaptive community to be inspiring and motivating. They, like me, want to be seen and viewed as people, not to be judged by what they look like on the outside. We are strong athletes, we are a community and we represent you as well as ourselves as we compete and grow.

I hope this article inspires you wherever you are and whatever your goals are. I could have given up and quit, but I did not. I AM ADAPTIVE, I AM TEAM ARMY!

For more information check out:
http://wct.army.mil/ (U.S. Army Warrior Care and Transition, Head of WTB’s)
http://www.dodwarriorgames.com/ (DoD Warrior Games)
"Runner to the front," split the morning air as Bravo Company 1st of the 334th took a ruck march on the historic Hank Aaron trail.

The Hank Aaron trail is a paved path in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and stretches over 20 miles. Bravo Company did four of those 20 with rucks weighing up to 35 pounds. The trail is named for former baseball slugger Henry ‘Hank’ Aaron. Starting at Lake Michigan and following the Menomonee river valley, the trail offers views of downtown Milwaukee and Miller Park. Skaters, bicycles, and runners can all use the path free of charge.

The march started promptly at 0800 near the Old Soldiers home and went two miles to the mid-point in Mitchell Park. After a short water break, the company reversed its course and headed back. Passing the Valley Passage Bridge and Miller Park, home of the Brewers baseball team.

“We want to get Soldiers out of the Drill Hall on weekends. Sitting around with little to do is not good for morale. We want
to get out and do Soldier stuff,” commented Capt. Barry Strain, Bravo Company Commander. “It’s also a good way to get out in the community and get some PT in,” continues Strain.

Staff Sgt. Smolen, a Best Warrior competitor, was the ruck march leader and pacesetter. “I really like ruck marching. It’s good exercise and builds Soldier skills.” Smolen also competes in local mudder runs and ruck marches.

The trail passes the civil war era Soldiers Home and cemetery, “I hope we can coordinate with the cemetery and volunteer the Company” said Sgt. 1st Class Randall Reinink, acting first sergeant. “I would like to tie current Soldiers with our history.” Pvt. Sean Williams was the guidon bearer for the march. “It was a good bonding experience. I haven’t been in the unit long and it felt good having all the experienced noncommissioned officers out there and letting me be front and center with the guidon.”

The march was the brainchild of Sgt. 1st Class Lisa Saffold. “We did this in my last unit and it always goes over well,” says Saffold. “We have the time and the equipment. I would like to try a longer march in the fall on some local horse trails.”
I Am a Drill Sergeant

By Master Sgt. Maria Kroeker

For those Soldiers who wear the hat and badge, the Drill Sergeant Creed is something to live by while training civilians into Soldiers and it stretches well into their military career. On an April morning at Fort Sill, in the darkness, you can hear the Drill Sergeant Creed being recited by a group of motivated noncommissioned officers who in the near future hope to become Drill Sergeants and wear that coveted hat and badge.

These Soldiers are part of Operation Hat Press, which is now conducting its third iteration. Each summer for the last three years, Drill Sergeant Candidates from across 1st Brigade, 95th Division have converged on Fort Sill for a two week consolidated Drill Sergeant Prep Program. The mission of Operation Hat Press is simple: coach, mentor, train, and prepare Drill Sergeant Candidates who are set to attend the Drill Sergeant Academy within the next 12 months.

During these two weeks, candidates will learn Physical Readiness Training (PRT) inside and out. They will learn how to ‘pitch’ the talk through, by the numbers and step-by-step methods of instruction. They practice their Drill and Ceremony, and they learn how to conduct a formation and inspection correctly. In addition to skills they will need to be successful at the Drill Sergeant Academy, the candidates also have embedment time with various Basic Training Units on Fort Sill. The embedment time allows the candidates to see Drill Sergeants in action.

“I think the embedment time is a valuable part of what we want to accomplish during Hat Press. The candidates have an opportunity to see different Drill Sergeants in various phases of BCT and in different situations. They can see a little piece of what they will be expected to do once they put on their hat and go on ‘the trail’. They can also see the good, the bad, and the ugly, and start to form an opinion on what kind of Drill Sergeant they want to be,” says Master Sgt. Maria Kroeker, who has been involved in Operation Hat Press since the beginning and currently serves as the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge.

Through the two weeks, seasoned Drill Sergeants serve as mentors to the candidates, evaluating, correcting, teaching, and coaching them along the way. Sgt. 1st Class Chapman has served as the Senior Drill Sergeant of Hat Press for the last two years. “I tell these Soldiers that they have to be better than the Soldier next to them. They have to be better than the average Soldier. As a Soldier in the Army Reserve, Hat Press gives Soldiers an opportunity to get ahead. They will know what the expectations are at the Academy. They will be better prepared headed into it,” says Chapman.

Operation Hat Press got off the ground while Command Sgt. Major Robert B. Potts was the interim CSM for 1st BDE. He wanted to standardize the Brigade’s policy, program, and procedures on how to train and get qualified NCOs ready to attend and graduate the Drill Sergeant Academy. “Hat Press sets a solid foundation of how to lead a formation through physical
readiness training, and drill and ceremonies. Hat Press also builds confidence, knowledge, and operational understanding to be a successful Drill Sergeant in any basic combat training or one station unit training environment," said Potts.

With the push to make Drill Sergeants, Hat Press has also served as a great recruiting and retention tool. "It allows an opportunity for our current Drill Sergeants to assist and mentor the program," Potts explains. "It also opens the door for recruiting new NCOs due to our programs management plan. Our Hat Press Management Plan encompasses a 'lead from the front' model. The Drill Sergeants selected have a thorough understanding of role modeling and mentoring which in return gives our candidates a conducive learning environment. This type of learning and broadening experience attracts quality NCO's in our formations," he continues.

The last three years Operation Hat Press has trained over 60 Soldiers, with many of them graduating with honors from the Drill Sergeant Academy. The feedback from those Soldiers has confirmed the importance of Hat Press. SFC Navarette graduated from the Drill Sergeant Academy with honors after attending Hat Press in 2016. "It helped expose me to PRT and what they were looking for at the school house. D&C was my weakness and it helped me get more comfortable," she said.

In 2017, First Brigade added an additional increment of Hat Press, meaning that there is potential for training up to 64 Drill Sergeant Candidates. Drill Sergeants continue to be in high demand, especially with missions increasing in the Army. First Brigade has taken a proactive approach to meet these high demands of increasing the Army by implementing Hat Press to better prepare and motivate NCO's to successfully meet or exceed the standard. Behind every Soldier, there is a Drill Sergeant.
Iroquois Warriors are you ready? Are you truly ready as a Soldier to fight tonight? Command Teams are your units ready? Are they truly ready as a unit to fight tonight? As you read this article, our Division is decisively engaged at Army Training Centers in Fort Benning, Fort Jackson, Fort Leonard Wood, and Fort Sill. They are expanding the Training Base by conducting Basic Combat Training, Infantry One Station Unit Training, Cavalry One Station Unit Training, Chaplin BOLC, and Navy Individual Augmentee Combat Training. Our Iroquois are also supporting the Conus Replacement Center in Texas. As demanding as this might seem, I anticipate the Army, in the very near future, calling upon us to do more. And the only way we can respond to that call, is by being ready.

**Combat Readiness:**

Drill Sergeant Production. This is the Division’s number one priority and the key to our long-term readiness. I need each and every Soldier, NCO, and Officer in this Division recruiting new viable Drill Sergeant Candidates for our formations.

Leaders. I need Command Teams assessing their Drill Candidates and getting them scheduled for the Drill Sergeant Academy. If you are a Command Team with Drill Sergeant Candidates without a Drill Sergeant Academy date, assess them and get a date! 

Candidates. If you are a Drill Sergeant Candidate without a Drill Sergeant Academy date, get with your first line leader, get assessed, and get a date!

Training. Our ability to execute our missions, recruit viable Drill Sergeant Candidates, and retain Drill Sergeants (Combat Readiness), relies on our ability to effectively plan, execute, and assess challenging METL-based training OUTSIDE of our reserve centers. Commanders, get your units out of the Center to conduct challenging training. Units that conduct great training, attract and retain great Soldiers!

**Soldier Readiness:**

Soldiers. My expectation is that every Soldier in this Division from E1 to O7 is responsible for their own individual Soldier Readiness and that they are taking care of their medical, dental readiness outside of Battle Assemblies. Leaders, make sure your Soldiers understand that they can get paid for taking care of their medical and dental readiness outside of Battle Assemblies. Only together can we ensure that we are ready to respond to our Nation’s call.
Drill Sergeants of 4-323 Prepare for Echo Mission at Fort Jackson

By Capt. Andrew J. Woltman
D Co. Commander 4th Battalion 323rd INF

FORT JACKSON, S.C. — Five drill sergeants from Delta Company, 4th Battalion, 323rd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), arrived at Fort Jackson, S.C. to conduct a week long, predeployment site survey with Active Duty Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment. The purpose of the survey was to familiarize the Army Reserve drill sergeants with the requirements to execute their upcoming Echo Mission, which includes Reserve drill sergeants assisting in the basic training of recruits during the summer surge. This PDSS incorporated various topics such as an installation orientation, proper uniform wear, and a meet and greet between the Army Reserve drill sergeants of the 4-323rd and the Active Duty drill sergeants of the 2-13th.

On day one, the Reserve drill sergeants received hearty welcomes from the 2-13th Commander and Command Sergeant Major, Lt. Col. Christopher Altavilla and Command Sgt. Maj. Norman L. Fisher. Following last year’s success, the Altavilla shared his excitement to again be hosting this summer’s Army Reserve mission.

Day two began with morning physical fitness training for the new Soldiers and the Reserve drill sergeants from the 4-323rd actively integrated into the training curriculum. The second half of the day was dedicated to a gas chamber training event. Limited training posed a challenge the drill sergeants from the 2-13th. Their Reserve counterparts were eager to lend a hand. From the onset of the training, Army Reserve Drill Sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Tammy Mayo of Milton, Florida, immediately stepped-up and assisted in the gas chamber, enabling the 2-13th to qualify the entire company and avoid a training delay. Based on Mayo’s professionalism, the 2-13th was requested to assist with the next day’s “Victory Tower” event. While the 2-13th was answering the call by assisting Soldiers maneuvering the practice wall, 4-323rd Drill Sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Russell Lewis of Milton, Florida, stated, “events like this allow us Reserve drill sergeants to hone our skills and align with our Active Duty counterparts in preparation for “Red Phase.”

For the remainder of the training, drill sergeants from the 4-323rd fully integrated with their Active Duty counterparts to lead events such as the confidence course and a team development course. In addition, the Reserve drill sergeants completed the Range Safety Officer Course for Fort Jackson to ensure they were current with all post-specific concerns.

Partnering with our Reserve counterparts allowed us to qualify our entire company through several obstacles and events while emphasizing areas of the “Red Phase” of “Basic Training,” said 1st Sgt. Adam McMurray, first sergeant, Charlie Company, 2-13th. Bottom line, the PDSS was a beneficial collaboration for both units. The Active Duty units maintained their schedule while the Army Reserve drill sergeants sharpened the required gas chamber skills. They also familiarized themselves with the rappel tower procedures and the layout of Fort Jackson. The entire PDSS was valuable and will serve as a proponent for a successful Echo Company, 4-323rd mission this upcoming summer cycle.

Drill Sergeant Tammy Major assists a Soldier at the top of Victory Tower during Red Phase of the Basic Training Cycle at Fort Jackson, South Carolina March 22, 2017.
Career, Family and a Legion of Merit, All Compliments of the Army

By Maj. Michelle Lunato
98th Training Division (IET)

She joined the Army because she didn’t have anything to do and could not afford to go to college. Now, looking back on 43 years, that decision gave her a career, but also amazing friends and mentors, a loving family and even, a Legion of Merit.

Army Reserve Sgt. Maj. Jane Decker, the last division personnel sergeant major for the 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), joined the active Army in 1974 and was part of the Women’s Army Corps at Fort Jackson, S.C. Decker originally asked to be put into a finance accounting job for the Army. However, through an error, or fate, she was given a supply accounting occupation. This incorrect assignment led the Spencerport, New York resident to another company and location. The error irritated Decker at first. But then, it all became worth it. “If I had not been put in that company, I would not have met my husband.”

For generations, there has been a popular phrase among Soldiers that sums up the toll Army life can play on personal time: If the Army wanted you to have a wife, they would have issued you one. Of course, both working in supply, Decker and her husband, Michael, immediately related to that phrase. “Since we were both in supply, we considered ourselves issued.”

The Army didn’t stop providing there though, according to Decker. “We conceived our first child while on active duty. So, she was issued too,” she said with a laugh. After starting a family, Decker decided to hang up her uniform and got out of active duty. However, the stay-at-home mom who had already had a taste of military life missed the work. So when money got tight less than two years later, joining the Army Reserve seemed like a great option.

Serving in the Army Reserve gave Decker and her family some additional income, but it also gave Decker time out of the house, adult companionship and a common topic of interest with her husband again. Like most people, Decker said the years serving as a Citizen-Soldier just all blended together. “One thing lead to another and the next thing you know, time flies and I was at 30 years [of service].”

Serving all those years was not always easy though, especially as a female. In those days, there were just as many cultural restrictions on women as there were job restrictions, said the retired sergeant major. “The problem was, that Decker had not heard of those restrictions. Nor did she believe them. So when someone would tell her she couldn’t do something, it didn’t sit well with her: “Sometimes, I’d ask, ‘well, why does that make a difference? And most of the time, they couldn’t give me an answer.”

Therefore, with no real answer on why she could not do a task or job, Decker would just rise to the challenge with a can-do attitude. And as a bonus, sometimes, she even surpassed the person who claimed she was incapable in the first place, said Decker.

Outside of a few physical barriers, most restrictions are mostly self-imposed, said Decker. So over the years, she would encourage her Soldiers to try their best, regardless of what others believed they could do. “Don’t let anyone tell you that you can’t do it because you are female. Don’t let anyone tell you that you can’t do it because you are too short. These are thing I heard.”

Instilling confidence in others was not just limited to her Soldiers though. Decker said her role as an Army Reserve Soldier influenced her two children as well. “I think they caught on to my confidence. Whether I felt confident in doing something or not, they saw it. And now, they have confidence and don’t let anyone push them around.”

Of course, passing confidence onto others was always easier than giving it to herself. Like most people, Decker was her own harshest critic. Even after 40 years of service, Decker wasn’t sure she deserved the Legion of Merit she received on April 20, 2017 in Rochester, New York. “As far as I know, I didn’t do anything above and beyond… I was just doing my job.”

But that wasn’t exactly true. For while she was doing her job, she was always making sure that those under her responsibility were “working to their best abilities” as well. She just naturally pushed people to excel while not even...
realizing she was doing it. “I’ve been told I was a born leader, and I never saw it.”

For years, she also didn’t realize that she was a born organizer too. With balancing her roles as a Soldier, mother, and wife, the Army Reserve Soldier had to learn how to manage her time. “I didn’t realize what I was doing at the time, but it was time management.” So year after year, task after task, “I just made it happen.”

And making things consistently happen in her 40 years of increasing responsibility, is just one of the many reasons why the 98th Training Division leaders chose to award Decker the Legion of Merit, said Sgt. Maj. Todd Priest, division sergeant major.

The Legion of Merit, which given out for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements, is just one small way we can appreciate all her service said, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Norbert Rappl, a former 98th Training Division commanding general who has known Decker for nearly 40 years. “You know, this medal is just a piece of metal and ribbon. It’s probably not worth a nickel altogether, but what it represents in this case, is 40 years of sustained, dedicated, selfless service, and I think that is just fabulous.”

Decker was touched and said receiving the Legion of Merit in front of all the veterans and mentors at the 98th Division Alumni Luncheon added even more meaning to the honor. “I find getting it here better suited, because many of these people I worked with through the years mentored me. They saw me in my early years… These people here are the ones who helped get me to where I am today.”
Veterans Gather in New York for Alumni Luncheon

By Maj. Michelle Lunato
98th Training Division (IET)

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Over 100 veterans gathered together for a 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training) Alumni Luncheon on April 20, 2017.

The 98th Division Alumni, which is a volunteer-run organization, meets on the third Thursday of the month to share information, see old acquaintances and make new friends, said lead organizer, Tim Streb.

On some months, there are also award ceremonies. In April, three awards were given out to recent Army Reserve retirees: Chief Warrant Officer 2 Staci E. Sukhenko, Sgt. 1st Class William C. Smith and Sgt. Maj. Jane Decker.

Both Sukhenko and Smith were honored with the ‘Order of the Tomahawk,’ which can only be awarded by the current commanding general. The award is the 98th Training Division’s highest accolade that acknowledges extraordinary, meritorious service by an individual to the Iroquois Division. The ‘Order of the Tomahawk’ is a manner of thanks to Soldiers for their contributions, making them part of the history and soul of the division, said the certificates signed by Brig. Gen. Miles A. Davis, commanding general, 98th Training Division.

The third award, a Legion of Merit, was presented to Decker for over 40 years of dedicated and selfless service. Decker, a Spencerport, New York resident, was the last division personnel sergeant major before the restructuring reduced the position to the rank of master sergeant.

The luncheon attendees cover a variety of ages, ranks, job skills and even military services, said Streb. However, all attendees seem to get one main thing out of coming, according to Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Eugene R. Porter, the first-ever division command sergeant major. ‘I enjoy the camaraderie. It’s very important.’

Fellow veteran and former Tuskegee Airman, Chief Warrant Officer 4 (Ret.) Charles Price, agrees that camaraderie is critical for veterans and that it opens the door to new friendships. ‘The camaraderie is nice… but it’s the friendships that you get.’

Of course, when Porter, 91, and Price, 94, started their military careers, everything was much different, said both the veterans. ‘Uncle Sam had a Japanese Army…Puerto Rican…Native American…there were all these different units and Uncle Sam was paying for each one of them,’ said Price who was assigned to the 98th Training Division after his time as a Tuskegee Airman.

Essentially, the only thing that has stayed the same in the military since Price and Porter served, has been change. That has been consistent.

‘Being in the Reserve today is a lot different than when I joined,’ said Porter who served for 42 years, which included time in WWII.

The changes have made military service and even America better, according to Price. ‘I’d never be able to sit here with my buddy who I have known for years now…our friendship is different now,’ said Price as he tapped the hand of his longtime friend Porter.

The two then laughed and shared a story about when Porter’s grandson received his Reserve Officer Training Corps commissioning to 2nd lieutenant. ‘Remember I said, ‘Don’t forget that you have to salute him now,’’ chuckled Price. ‘You did…and I did,’ said Porter with a smile.

Throughout the luncheon, it was moments like this the veterans clearly enjoyed: sharing their lives and stories with other veterans, and knowing the other veterans would understand them. It was also the reason they urged other veterans, regardless of service, to come and join their monthly gatherings. ‘You meet a lot of people you may not have known before, but you will get to know them real well,’ said Porter.
Chief Warrant Officer 4 (Ret.) Charlie Price, who served as a Tuskegee Airman and with the 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), sits with Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Eugene Porter, who was the first division command sergeant major for the 98th Training Division (IET), during a 98th Alumni Luncheon on April 20, 2017 in Rochester, New York. Price, 94, and Porter, 91, said they enjoy coming to the luncheons for the camaraderie.

U.S. Army Reserve photo by Maj. Michelle Lunato (Released)

Don Montgomery, division logistics chief for the 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), and Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Dennis E. Lutz, listen to Charles Fairbanks, command executive officer for the 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training), during a 98th Alumni Luncheon on April 20, 2017 in Rochester, New York. The 98th Training Division is headquartered in Fort Benning, Georgia but was originally formed in New York. The organization, which meets monthly, keeps veterans informed on current division events and veterans issues. It also provides an opportunity for veterans of any service to gather together for comradery and support.

U.S. Army Reserve photo by Maj. Michelle Lunato (Released)

A 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training) veteran listens to the division update after the 98th Alumni Luncheon on April 20, 2017 in Rochester, New York. The organization, which meets monthly, keeps veterans informed on current division events and veterans issues. It also provides an opportunity for veterans of any service to gather together for comradery and support.

U.S. Army Reserve photo by Maj. Michelle Lunato (Released)

Two veterans share some laughs during the 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training) Alumni Luncheon on April 20, 2017 in Rochester, New York. The monthly luncheons welcome all veterans from all services. It also keeps 98th alumni informed of the division’s current mission and status as well as other relevant veteran issues.

U.S. Army Reserve photo by Maj. Michelle Lunato (Released)
Army Reserve Unit Cases Colors
After 99 years of Service

By Sgt. Christina Dion
319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

EDISON, New Jersey — After 99 years of service, 3rd Battalion, 385th Regiment, 4th Brigade, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training) deactivated June 3, 2017 at the Maj. Gen. William Weigel U.S. Army Reserve Center as part of the 98th Training Division (IET) restructure.

The reorganization was designed to reposition units across the country to maintain readiness, as well as to provide the Army with the ability to expand its training base and transform civilians into agile and adaptive Soldiers, said Brig. Gen. Miles Davis, commander, 98th Training Division (IET).

“Today we commemorate the storied history of the 3rd Battalion, 385th Regiment,” said Davis. “A Battalion whose service to this great Nation has spanned almost a century.”

In Army history, it is not uncommon for units to activate and deactivate multiple times depending on the Army mission, force structure and organizational needs.

The battalion has a long history, which includes members such as PVT Audie Murphy.

“In fact, today’s color casing marks only the third time that this illustrious unit has been inactivated since it was stood up in 1918,” Davis said. “In World War II, the 3rd Battalion was the first battalion in the 385th Infantry Regiment to span the Sauer and go into action on the soil of Germany. It was part of the first regiment in its division to cross the Rhine. Its Soldiers have been deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. It has trained thousands of Soldiers at Army Training Centers in Fort Leonard Wood and Fort Jackson. From the Siegfried Line to the Moseley Valley, from Iraq to Afghanistan, to Army Training Centers across this great Nation, this battalion has risen to every challenge given by our Nation.”

While the ceremony of casing the colors is part of Army tradition, leaders of 3rd Battalion, 385th Regiment took the opportunity to praise and award Soldiers for their hard work and dedication.

“I commend the Soldiers and families, past and present, of the 3rd Battalion for their hard work and commitment to excellence,” Davis said. “And as we depart today’s ceremony, I challenge you to carry forth the legacy of those who have served before you. For I know should the need arise, we will see the colors of the 3rd Battalion, 385th Regiment unfurled again.”
Earns Expert Infantry Badge

By Chaplain (Capt.) Caleb Wright
Task Force Marshall Chaplain

Maj. Michelle Lunato
98th Training Division Public Affairs

Dawn had not yet broken. A group of exhausted noncommissioned officers gathered near Hilton Field on Fort Jackson, South Carolina. They shared some light chatter, but the eyes of the NCOs spoke much louder. There were only two real emotions visible: relief and despondence. Zero seven was the deadline to complete the 12-mile road march across the undulating hills of Fort Jackson.

However, across the finish tape was yet one more Warrior Task to complete. Upon shedding the 45-pound rucksack, which was now heavier from the morning rain, the spent Soldiers needed to evaluate a casualty and evacuate them by sled across an open field. The last task symbolic for the final expression of what it means to be a Soldier — to never leave a fallen comrade.

The scene that unfolds above depicts the final testing events for the Expert Infantry Badge (EIB), a badge that Army Reserve Drill Sergeant, Staff Sgt. Clint Myers of Task Force Marshall (1-518th Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 98th Training Division [Initial Entry Training]), earned through grit and determination.

When Myers, a Kingsport, Tennessee native, started his quest for the coveted EIB, he was part of a large group. 123 Soldiers to be exact. Out of those 123, only two represented the Army Reserve. As Myers crossed the finish line of the road march, he had just completed his last task, only 16 other competitors were at his side, all of which were Active Duty.

The limited numbers of Soldiers who earned the EIB that day is understandable considering all the requirements of the 5-day competition: qualify as an expert on the rifle, complete the Army Physical Fitness Test with at least 80 percent in all categories, finish a 12-mile road march in three hours or less, and complete 30 Warrior Task lanes/stations without more than two errors, or NO-GOs.

According to Army-wide statistics, less than 10 percent of all Infantry Soldiers have achieved the honor of wearing the badge that encompasses all that makes up an Infantry Soldier in United States Army. With statistics like that, Myers said he didn’t go into the competition with a lot of confidence. “At the start, I was skeptical of it. I didn’t feel prepared for it.”

However, mentor and fellow drill sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Eric Gordon, urged him to go. “He told me, ‘Even if you don’t make it, it’s valuable training that is irreplaceable,’” said Myers.

So Myers went into the competition seeking the training value as much as the iconic badge. He used every moment of the two-week EIB train-up he could to learn and improve. By the second week of training, Myers said he saw a few people taking it easy. However, Myers wasn’t that confident. “I kept hammering at each station, kept hammering at it, kept hammering at it.” He would go to a station thinking he addressed a previous error, only to make another one. “It enticed me to keep training. So, I’d go to the next station, and then the next station…” Over and over, he kept training.

All his practice didn’t have a chance to make him less nervous when the competition started though. Because, right out of the gate, Myers got his first NO-GO at station one: grenades. “You can be the best Soldier in the world or the crappiest Soldier in the world, and you can pass or fail it. It all depends on whether or not you get that good roll or bounce… and my first time up, I NO-Goed it.”

So right away, he was playing with one strike and fighting the inevitable negative, self-defeating thoughts. “Oh great, I’m going to fail. Guess I won’t have to go through all this after all.”

Yet, he kept going. Unfortunately though, at station two or three, which was resection, Myers only raised his anxiety level. “I was still all torn up about the grenade station, and then, I NO-Goed again…so in my first two or three stations, I had two NO-GOs, and the hard ones had not even come up yet!”

Myers refocused. He had 27 more stations to complete with no errors. “This is why it’s so difficult. If you do the littlest thing or forget the tiniest detail, you get a NO-GO.”

Being a drill sergeant, attention to detail had been instilled into Myers from time on the trail. So he took his two NO-GOs and moved on, determined not to quit.

Myers said serving as an Army Reserve drill sergeant may have even given him an edge. “As a Reservist, we are always pumped every time we come out [to training].” And the never-quit attitude that drill sergeants are known for, certainly added the necessary grit to successfully navigate and pass the remaining 27 stations. “I don’t think I would have had the motivation, after getting two NO-GOs, to actually push through if I wasn’t a drill sergeant.”

Looking back, Myers said he is thankful for the opportunity to compete, but he cannot lie, it wasn’t easy. “It was the most stressful thing I have ever been through.”

That doesn’t mean the Army Reserve Soldier wouldn’t recommend the challenge of an EIB competition to other Soldiers though. “Please just go. Don’t worry about being nervous. Of course you will be nervous. But, the two-week train-up that you get is just irreplaceable.”

Myers said the experience of competing is worth all the pain and anxiety. “It dramatically changes you as a drill sergeant, and Soldier, because you are looking for all that attention to detail that is in the regulations. You have to do it a certain way. It will break you of those bad habits that sometimes show up.”

The chance to learn and break bad habits certainly changed Myers. For now, he will not be defined as just a Soldier or drill sergeant. Now, he is part of a brotherhood who are not defined as Active Duty or Reserve, but as Expert Infantry Soldiers.
Time Away From Reserve Center Builds Team, Expands Development

By Capt. Tuan Tran
1-321st Regiment (BCT/OSUT) and
Maj. Michelle Lunato
98th Training Division

Army Reserve battle assembly training weekends are always filled with a range of events. From mandatory online training to weapons safety on the range, Reserve Soldiers are always training and on the go as they squeeze in a multitude of tasks in a short period.

Typically, these packed weekends revolve around Army Reserve Centers. However, for the Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 321st Regiment (Basic Combat/One Station Unit Training), 2nd Brigade, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), one month stood out from the norm and took the Soldiers away from the Reserve Center at Fort Jackson, S.C.

Over 30 Soldiers dusted off their land navigations skills to find a new location for their February 2017 training weekend, and that was the Blowing Rock Conference Center in Blowing Rock, N.C. Being away from the military environment opened the doors for a different kind of training as well. So instead of military drills and tactical training, the Soldiers of 1-321st worked on building the mental toolboxes of its leaders by conducting classes on personal and professional development.

“This nontraditional battle assembly is what many Soldiers look forward to,” said Capt. Anthony Ramos, who is from Raleigh, N.C. and the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment commander.

“Long gone are the days of the stereotypical training weekends where Soldiers just sit around an armory or drill hall.”

These kind of weekends are not just thrown together though. They require a great deal of planning and are part of the yearly training plans that include everything from field training exercises to Best Warrior Competitions to annual training tasks.

No battle assembly training weekend is complete without military traditions. The weekend began with the Soldiers assembled at the home of Col. (Ret) Ben Covington for a mixer. The event gave the Soldiers an opportunity to get to know each other a little more and gather together to celebrate the promotion of three of their officers.

The different environment opened the Soldiers up to unique opportunities and another perspective. One highlight stood...
out in the weekend, and that was a lecture by Thomas St. James, the author of the “The Elegance of Ruthlessness, How to Defeat ISSI and Regain U.S. Dominance in Military Evolution.”

St. James spoke to the 1-321st Soldiers about his book and his beliefs. “…I always believed that the first rule of warfare was that there were no rules. The point was to win; a pretty simple premise.”

Of course simple premises are not always easy, especially when people are new to the military. Taking the time to invest in Soldiers of the unit is one of the many factors for success James discussed in his book and with the Citizen-Soldiers who sat before him. Having great tools and training are critical for success he explained, but “your tools don’t matter if you don’t use them.”

“Leadership skills may come natural to people, but they still need to be developed and mentored,” said Lt. Col. Richard Halliburton, a Kingsport, Tennessee native and the commander of the 1-321st. “That is why my sergeant major and I have stressed the importance of delegation and leading from the front this weekend.”

The Army Family Team Building Vision Statement is “to develop strong, knowledgeable and engaged individuals and communities.” After a grueling day of briefings, members of the 1-321st left the convention center headed off to Appalachian Ski Mountain for some lift skiing and team building. Soldiers were provided with discounted lift tickets and skiing instructions. For many Soldiers, this was their first time skiing, so they took advantage of the instructions. Some others however, preferred to just sip cocoa inside the ski lodge.

The combination of events were just the right balance for team building and development said Capt. William Perdue, an Augusta, Georgia native and plans and operations officer. “This weekend was a tremendous opportunity for our battalion. Not only did we build comradeship, but we also learned from a legend of the battlefield. This is what I love about being the battle [plans and operations officer] – organizing events like this!”

Before You Tell it to The Inspector General

- Be sure you have a problem, not just a peeve. (Are the cooks turning out lousy chow or was it just one bad meal)
- Give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem. (Many problems must be addressed to the chain of command for resolution anyway)
- If IG assistance is needed, contact your local IG first. (IG’s at higher commands will normally refer the case to the local IG for action)
- Be honest and don’t provide misleading information. (IG’s will discover the truth quickly in most cases and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information)
- Keep in mind that IG’s are not policy makers. (If a policy is flawed you can submit proposed change on a DA form 2029)
- Keep in mind that IG’s can only recommend, not order a resolution. (Only Commanders can order; the role of the IG is to advise the Commander)
- Remember IG’s can only resolve a case on the basis of fact. (Your claim that a supervisor has violated the rules doesn’t make it fact. A claim must be supported with evidence)
- Don’t expect instant action on your request... Be patient. (Investigations take time, and IG’s tend to have heavy workloads)
- Be prepared to take “No” for the answer. (In any case “Yes” or “No”, the IG will explain why)

108th Training Command (IET) Inspector General-704-342
LTC Ravenell, Serena Johnson-.5141 (Deputy IG)
Mr. Holmes, Dereck- 5149 (Detail IG)
SFC (P) Alamo, Gladys- 5217 (Assistant IG)

To complain without fear of reprisal is the right of any Soldier, Civilian, or Family Member seeking IG help. After all, problem solving is one of the IG’s primary missions.
2-485th Welcomes A New Command Sergeant Major

By Maj. Michelle Lunato, 98th Training Division (IET) Public Affairs

CAMP BLANDING JOINT TRAINING CENTER, Fla. — U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers of 2-485th Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 98th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), welcomed their new command sergeant major during a Change of Responsibility Ceremony on April 9, 2017.

As part of the ceremony tradition, the outgoing acting command sergeant major, Master Sgt. Scott Miranda passed the saber to the battalion commander, Lt. Col. James "Jim" Nelson, as a symbol of a mission complete. Nelson in turn, then passed the saber to his incoming command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Torey Mosley, showing the responsibility for battalion Soldiers is now his.

Nelson, an Orlando, Florida resident, told his troops and his brigade commander, Col. Stephen Iacovelli, that Miranda had not only stepped up to the plate, but hit a home run during his short time as the acting command sergeant major for the battalion. “Your leadership and commitment to the battalion is evident and is why we are one of the most ready battalions in the division. In a short time, you developed a consolidated Drill Sergeant Candidate Program that we will be implementing this month and will be the foundation for Command Sergeant Major Mosley’s candidate program of the future.”

Miranda who is from New Bedford, Massachusetts, was thankful for the opportunity to serve as acting command sergeant major, and said he was largely successful because of all the dedicated Soldiers in the battalion. “Working with the best Soldiers in the best battalion of the division has been inspiring, and I look forward to working in the operations section and setting an even higher standard for all other battalions to emulate.”

As Miranda moves back to the battalion’s plans and operations shop, he said his first task will be to implement a consolidated battalion Drill Sergeant Candidate Program. “I will be looking for the same support that you have given me as your acting command sergeant major to ensure the program is a success.”

So as Miranda steps aside to work in operations, Mosley’s candidate program of the future.

Mosley accepted his new role with humble thanks and said he was excited to synergize with other leaders of the team. “I’m so blessed to be selected as the command sergeant major of this wonderful battalion. I’m looking forward to working with each of you over the next two years.”

He continued to say that as the command sergeant major, he can only be successful when he builds up the team, helping each Soldier excel.

“Combine the strengths of people through positive teamwork, so as to achieve goals that no one could have done alone. Utilize the strengths of those on the team to enhance your leadership skills. Sharpen your sword!”
By 104th Command Sgt. Maj. Peter T. Trotter
104th Training Division (LT)

The 104th Training Division is excited and pleased to once again, recruit, develop and train Drill Sergeants for the US Army Reserve!

Every Soldier in the United States Army was trained by a Drill Sergeant. We will always remember how we started our military career with Drill Sergeants in our faces yelling commands. At the time, we didn’t realize they were preparing us for purpose and leadership. As days and years go by, we are still proud to talk about the impact Drill Sergeants had in our lives.

Sergeants may seem, they truly have the Soldiers best interest at heart. They help each of us find the ‘Soldier’ within, they lead and we follow.

There are no words to describe all the sacrifices Drill Sergeants make. They work long hours and spend a great deal of time away from their families to train Soldiers to become future leaders. They develop Officers that will lead our Soldiers into battle.

We must assist ARCD and RCCC to find motivated and honorable Soldiers to become Drill Sergeants and fill our ranks. This will be a challenge for us because this is a new generation. We must be prepared to win and see this battle through. I can only think about the history of the 104th and how MG Terry Allen won the battle by attacking at night with bayonet and grenades. He defeated the Germans by creative thinking and boldness. We must do the same to recruit new Drill Sergeants for the 104th. We must recruit with passion, understanding and most of all respect.

Currently the 104th training Division units cover the map of the United States from coast to coast and its missions vary and continue to evolve with the changing needs of the Army. Our most recent change has been the reinstitution of the Drill Sergeant Program. As the 104th Division prepares to bring Drill Sergeants back into their training program, MSG Kristen Chapa, who is leading the program, interacts with potential candidates from the 104th Training Support Battalion and other units about joining the Drill Sergeant

We were not trained to be ordinary, but extraordinary Soldiers. We were setup to succeed because we are destined for greatness.

Drill Sergeants Creed, “I will lead by example.” They bring out the best and worst in us, so we may live up to our full potential. As hard core as Drill

Candidate Mentorship Program (DSCMP). Currently the program is run by Drill Sergeant Dennis Leischner who is responsible for preparing candidates to attend the United States Army Drill Sergeant School in Fort Jackson, SC. SSG Natalia Laughlin is the first female candidate under the new program and is currently preparing for Drill Sergeant School. The 104th Drill Sergeant Candidate Mentorship Program launched with its first session on 20 April with 15 interested Service Members in attendance. SGM James Blackhart, the Division G3 Sergeant Major, has been working diligently researching, guiding, strategizing and developing the foundation of our Drill Sergeant Candidate Mentorship Program. CSM Kraus (Cadet Command CSM) and myself, in preparation for the upcoming 2017 CST mission, brought Drill Sergeants together to stress the importance of their role for this great mission. Without Drill Sergeants, this mission could not be accomplished. The 104th Division (LT) looks forward to working with Cadet Command this year. We will successfully recruit highly qualified, motivated, elite Drill Sergeants for the 104th.

BG Guthrie and I, likewise, are using innovative thinking to tackle the current training challenges that the division encounters as we rise to meet the ever-increasing demands and challenges of our Army’s training requirements with the purpose of training the best of the Army’s leaders. The Drill Sergeant Candidate Mentorship Program has the potential to produce the best of the best drill sergeants while reducing unnecessary waste of efforts and resources by adequate screening and preparation of each candidate for the rigorous task of preparing the best leaders our modern army has ever known.

The 104th Division will always take pride in what we do, THIS WE’LL DEFEND and most of all, we will train. HOOOOAH!
Army Reserve Soldiers Support the Annual Sandhurst Competition

By Spc. Jeremiah Woods
358th Public Affairs Detachment

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Cadets from across the globe crossed the finish line of the annual Sandhurst Competition in front of Washington Hall at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, April 8, 2017 amidst a cheering crowd of family, friends, and supporting military members.

During Sandhurst, 62 teams representing 12 international military academies, four U.S. service academies and eight Reserve Officers Training Corps programs competed in 11 events throughout a 23-mile course over the course of two days.

What has been, for some of these cadets, a year long process of training and preparation culminated in the two day competition April 7 to 8, where teams competed in multiple events that tested their abilities in basic soldiers skills and leadership ability. International teams from as far away as Thailand and Australia also competed on the event.

“Sandhurst is an annual international military skills competition held here at West Point,” said U.S. Army Cadet Colin Cooley, a cadet at West Point from Orlando, FL and a volunteer at the medical evaluation event during the competition. “There are multiple lanes that different cadets from around the world go through. At West Point, there are 38 teams, one for each company, and two corps wide teams, ROTC teams from across the country and international teams all competing.”

Playing key roles in the event were U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from the 3rd training battalion, 304th regiment, out of Saco, ME. The Reserve Soldiers have been supporting the Sandhurst competition for the last eight years according to U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan Parks from the 3/304th who was at the competition as a liaison between the Department of Military Instruction and the 25 soldiers supporting the event from his unit.

Initially, the Reserve component was only supporting the external train-up prior to the actual competition, said Parks. This involved bringing the outside teams up to speed with the teams from West Point. The Reserve Soldiers did not play an active role in the competition itself. In 2016, the DMI requested that the Reservist participate in a more active capacity by staying the days of Sandhurst and taking on a role as safety support for each event, according to Parks.

“This year, we actually took another step in solidifying our place here at West Point,” said Parks. “They asked us to be evaluators for the squad leaders.” In this role, while the cadets were grading the performance of the event, the Reserve Soldiers were observing the squad leaders and evaluating their ability to give proper direction and follow troop leading procedures within their squads, said Parks.

The significance of Reserve Soldiers supporting the Sandhurst competition was observed by U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. Linda Dubois from the 3/304th who was an evaluator at the medical evaluation event during the Sandhurst competition.
“What we interject here, is the ability to have non-commissioned officers who aren’t west pointers,” said Dubois. The non-commissioned officers are able to train the cadets to a proper military standard, without interrupting their normal training environment, said Dubois.

The Army Reserve soldiers supporting the event bring with them the knowledge and experience from an enlisted perspective that most cadets may not have regular exposure to, said Parks. “The cadets in this competition are truly motivated,” said Parks. “They’re like sponges. They listen to every word we say, they’re engaging us in conversation, they want to know what it’s like after they graduate.”

Additionally, the opportunity to return each year gives the Reserve Soldiers a better understanding of how to train the cadets, not only in preparation for the competition, but also in preparation for a future in the military, said Parks.

“US coming out here to Sandhurst allows our trainers to complete our mission by giving us the opportunity to deal with these cadets in a training environment,” said Parks. They train the cadets on skill level one tasks from the Soldier's handbook. Oftentimes, they train foreign soldiers who have had little to no contact with U.S. military equipment or knowledge on how U.S. military facilities are run. The goal is to have all the cadets able to perform those tasks just like a West Point cadet, said Parks.

Parks believes that overall, the Reserve Soldiers that support the event recognize the positive impact they have on the teams that compete. They all seem to maintain bold confidence in the future of the military, said Parks.

“It’s nice to come back and see them in their sophomore and junior years and see how much they’ve changed in such a short period of time,” said Dubois. “It’s a great opportunity for us to watch that growth in them.”

“Seeing the cadets perform in this competition definitely puts a lot of hope in our future,” said Parks. “We see a lot of highly motivated cadets that are just wanting to learn and perform the best they can for their particular country or school.”

The USMA Black team from West Point took first place at the end of the Sandhurst competition, beating a winning streak largely dominated by British and Canadian teams. However, all the cadets that participated and all of the Army Reserve Soldiers that supported, left with a rewarding and positive experience.
The legacy of PFC Harry J. Fridley

By Col. Mitchell Fridley

On January 27th, 1944, Private First Class Harry Justice Fridley died of wounds he received on the Anzio beachhead during the Allied invasion of Italy. On June 11th, 1960, the PFC Harry J Fridley United States Army Reserve Center in Covington, Virginia was dedicated in his memory. On the 10th of March, 2017, the Fridley Reserve Center was decommissioned as an active Reserve Center and was turned over to the 99th Regional Support Command for disposition. The story of PFC Fridley and the center named after him is a testimony to the Citizen-Soldier that spans three generations of my family and more than half a century in the life of a small town in western Virginia.

Young Harry Fridley was inducted into the Army at Camp Lee, Virginia two months after his 20th birthday. The son of a blacksmith and farmer from Covington, he was the third youngest of eleven brothers and sisters and worked at the local paper mill. My grandfather was his oldest brother. After basic and advanced Infantry training, Private Fridley was promoted to Private First Class and shipped overseas into the grueling North Africa Theater.

Just 10 months after signing up, he was wounded in North Africa and awarded his first of two Purple Heart medals. After recuperating in the hospital for about a month, he rejoined his unit - Company D, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Division, "Rock of the Marne" — just days before the Allies invaded southern Italy at Anzio on January 22nd, 1944. On Anzio beachhead, the Germans quickly brought in reinforcements and the battle bogged down for months. After near constant artillery bombardment and furious German assaults, PFC Fridley was mortally wounded on January 27th, several days after the battle had begun … one year to the day after his enlistment. He was initially interred at the cemetery in the small town of Nettuno, Italy, but was eventually laid to rest at the family plot outside Covington several years later. The Army posthumously awarded him the Bronze Star for heroic achievement and his second Purple Heart. It would take the Allies until May of 1944 to break out of the beachhead and eventually take Rome in June 1944.

Construction on the original 4,200 square foot Covington Army Reserve Center began in December 1958, and was completed less than a year later at a cost of just over $100,000. During construction, the higher command in the Salem Reserve Center sent a letter to the XXI United States Army Corps (Reserve) at Fort Indian Town Gap, Pennsylvania requesting that the new Reserve Center be named for PFC Harry J. Fridley. Second U.S. Army approved the request after much ‘proof of service’ paperwork, and a committee from the town planned a dedication ceremony for summer of the following year. Complete with the local high school band playing the National Anthem, Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr. dedicated the center to much fanfare on the 11th of June, 1960. Harry’s mother, Mrs. Stella Fridley and the commander of the XXI Corps, Major General Ralph C. Cooper were present, as were the mayor and many from the community. At the time, the center was the home for Soldiers from the 7615th USAR Transportation Unit, the Mobilization Designation 60 (Quartermaster School), and the 673rd Transportation Company.

The legacy of citizen-soldiers in PFC Harry Fridley’s family is alive and well. In 1961, my father, Harrison Fridley, Jr., nephew of Harry Fridley, graduated from Virginia Military Institute and served two years in the active Army and five years in the Army Reserve after returning home to Covington to take over his father's pharmacy business. My cousin Harry Hunter Fridley, named after his uncle Harry Fridley, joined the Army in the mid-1970s and served three years at the Covington Reserve Center before retiring with...
20 years of service. I graduated from VMI and entered active duty in 1989, and after leaving active duty in 1995, joined the Reserves in the 80th Division, serving as the Company Commander of Bravo Company 2/319th and therefore, the commander of the Covington Reserve Center named after my great uncle.

Throughout the Vietnam War era and the 1980s, our Army Reserve ebbed, flowed, and transformed, and the small reserve center in western Virginia did as well. In 1993, the center underwent a million dollar renovation that doubled its size and capacity and modernized the facility. At the time, two companies from the 80th Training Division occupied the facility, totaling over 80 troops. Major Hunter Fridley spoke at the rededication ceremony attended by well over 100 people, and once again by the Covington High School band. In a speech to the gathering, Major General Stephen H. Sewell Jr., commander of the 80th Training Division, said, "Today we rededicate this reserve center in the name of one of your own residents. It is a special building. Special, because the people who train here represent the tradition of the citizen soldier as old as the nation itself. They train for war, but strive to achieve such a position of military strength that war can be avoided."

I returned to Salem, Virginia as the battalion commander of 2/319th in December 2009. This time I was under 3rd Brigade, 104th Division, 108th Training Command, as the USAR reorganized and changed patches several times. Once again, I found myself in charge of the reserve center named after great uncle Harry Fridley. For three years, my battalion of incredibly professional Soldiers in Salem and Covington distinguished themselves by training ROTC Cadets at Summer Camp at Fort Lewis, Washington.

After some time on staff at brigade headquarters, a year at the War College, and two years as the G7 at the 80th Training Command, I once again found myself coming full circle for the third time; the Army saw fit to select me to command 3rd Brigade, 104th Division, which is the higher headquarters for the PFC Harry J. Fridley USAR Center. However, this time would be bittersweet. As part of the Reformation and Reorganization process currently occurring in the 108th Training Command, the Covington center was selected for closure; the numbers were down (both on the rolls and demographically as a recruiting base) and small rural standalone facilities are expensive to keep operational.

On the 10th of March this year, my father and I traveled over the mountain from my home in Lexington to a small deactivation ceremony in Covington. The Soldiers and I saluted, as my father and girlfriend put their hands over their hearts. The NCOs lowered the flag for the last time. All of the offices and cages were cleared out, paperwork signed, and the 99th RSC took the keys.

I believe my Great Uncle Harry would feel that his sacrifice was well worth it, and that he was well memorialized by his family legacy and more than a half a century of Citizen-Soldiers serving from his home town … training countless new recruits and future officers, deploying in defense of their country, living lives according to the Army Values, and doing all of it from a small reserve center in Covington. He made a difference in our world by his valorous selfless service. I am proud to have had the opportunity to lead the men and women of the Army Reserve, and to honor the sacrifice and legacy of my forefather PFC Harry J. Fridley.

Sources for this article include family correspondence, original photos and documents, and several articles from the "Virginian Review," the local paper from Covington, Virginia.
From Point to Point:
Preparation for CST 2017

Story by Capt. Sydney Case

FORT PICKETT, Va. — A new challenge awaits the 2nd Battalion, 319th Regiment, of the 1st Brigade (PD), 104th Training Division (LT) as they approach Cadet Summer Training - they are tasked with instructing Land Navigation, a mission they have not been responsible for in over four years, but a challenge they are prepared to face.

The 2/319th Soldiers are gearing up by testing their land navigation knowledge and ensuring they are prepared to teach the new batch of cadets this summer by retraining themselves ahead of the mission. Part of that training included the battalion conducting a field training exercise at Fort Pickett, Virginia, to focus on land navigation and map reading skills.

The priority of the FTX was to practice and assess the land navigation committee’s Program of Instruction that the battalion will utilize to instruct the cadets during CST 2017 at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Kicking off the FTX was land navigation classroom instruction based off the Program of Instruction provided by the cadet command land navigation committee.

Every Soldier within the battalion was provided with the same block of land navigation instruction and the battalion’s non-commissioned officers were each given a chance to present the curriculum. Following the instruction, company leadership identified the NCOs who presented themselves as the most knowledgeable, coherent and confident in their ability to teach the material. Those NCOs were chosen to be the main instructors to present the land navigation POI for CST 2017, no small feat with an unfamiliar subject and new POI.

Once the classroom portion was complete, it was time to move on to the practical application of skills and the Soldiers took to the training lanes for day land navigation refresher training.

The training site contained twenty land navigation lanes, with each lane having five points and Soldiers were tasked with finding a minimum of three points to pass successfully. Broken down into teams of two to three the Soldiers encountered water crossings, bodies of water, hills, spurs and draws and miles of unfamiliar territory throughout the course. By the end of the day, many groups found themselves with wet feet and an ample respect for the land navigation course.

After successfully finding their three points and enjoying their Meals Ready to Eat, the Soldiers regrouped and received both the day and night land navigation POI. The Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major were in attendance to validate the blocks of instruction. After the commander’s validation and completion of the briefings, the Soldiers began making preparations to conduct night land navigation.

At 2030, night land navigation commenced. The same course was utilized, but only fifteen of the twenty lanes were used. The Soldiers were given three points and tasked with finding a minimum of one point to pass. They remained in the same teams of two to three and chemical lights were placed on the points to aid in identification.

By conducting the day and night practical land navigation courses, Soldiers of the 2/319th feel better prepared for their CST mission. The FTX was a reminder that land navigation is a perishable skill and being sent into the woods with a compass, map, grid points, and asked to navigate successfully is not an easy task. At the end of the FTX, they had a better comprehension of the task ahead as they instill the importance and fundamentals of land navigation to the cadets attending CST 2017.
2017 Mexican American Engineers and Scientists Leadership Academy Conference

By Capt. Justin Figueredo

Learning happens outside the classroom as often as it happens inside the classroom, and this year was no exception as Army Reserve Capt. Justin Figueredo with the 4-14 SROTC BN took part in the 2017 Mexican American Engineers and Scientists (MAES) Leadership Academy (MLA) in Dallas, Texas.

Approximately 120 college students traveled to DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Dallas to attend the Conference which, according to their website, serves as “the premiere training ground for the up and coming leaders of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) [where] students … experience executive-level leadership training throughout the four [days] via a Team Competition, a StrengthFinders assessment, a Reverse Career Fair, and an Executive Panel.”

The event aims to personally and professionally develop MAES members into top-notch leaders through hands-on training, networking, and teamwork centric assignments.

Partners throughout the DFW community helped make the event possible by becoming supporters of certain events. Both the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps supported the event by mentoring student teams throughout the team competition as well as providing presenters for the student workshops and the Executive Panel.

Figueredo represented both the Texas Christian University and the University of North Texas’ ROTC programs during the Executive Panel. He was joined by a Marine Maj., and two civilian leaders, selected from across the country to answer questions proposed by the student leaders during the second night’s dinner.

Questions ranged from “what was the hardest lesson you had to learn during your transition from college to work life” to “how have mentors impacted your professional growth,” and “what is a key takeaway you learned from the example your mentor set.”

Michael Cantu, a former MAES student and now volunteer, commented that this event was the climax leadership event during his college years. Cantu felt the event was so instrumental to his leadership and growth journey that he is compelled to pay it forward to the organization as a volunteer.

Figueredo, as a second-generation Colombian-Filipino American, was honored to represent the U.S. Army and his civilian employer, the City of Grapevine, as one of the executive panelists. The MLA Conference was such a great experience for him that he wished he knew of the event while he was in college. The values, opportunities, and examples of leadership and mentorship bestowed upon the students during the four-day event were bar to none and event coordinators and speakers look forward to these STEM students leading corporate America, nonprofits, and our U.S. military in the future.

STEM student participates in The Reverse Career Fair. Photo Capt. Justin Figueredo

Students participated in the Reverse Career Fair where they discussed personal goals and career opportunities with recruiters and HR professionals. Photo Capt. Justin Figueredo

A closer look at the Executive Panel. Photo by Capt. Harold Burke

The U.S. Army and Marine Corps provided mentors and recruiters in support of the Leadership Academy Conference. Photo Capt. Justin Figueredo
“The very soul of a military unit is symbolized in the colors under which it fights for. It records the glories of the past, stands guardian over its present and ensures inspiration for its future,” said Lt. Col. Johan Gomez, the 391st Battalion Cmdr.

After 16 years of dedication and service to the 98th Training Division, the 1st Battalion 391st Regiment Training Support deactivated on May 19 at the Hall of Flags. Distinguished visitors gathered to formally inactivate the battalion and commemorate the history of the 1-319st spanning over 99 years in military history.

Beginning the ceremony with the National Anthem and a sentimental prayer by Chaplain Peter Kim, the tone was set for the casing of colors. During the ceremony heartfelt speeches were given by Col. Mitchell Fridley, Commander of the 3rd Bde 104th Training Division, and Lt. Col. Gomez.

“I have accomplished our mission,” said Col. Fridley. “All of you sitting here and others out on the range must continue to Soldier on doing the great work you've always done supporting the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point.” Col. Fridley led command over a 1000 Soldiers in the reformation and deactivation of 7 Battalions within 104th Training Division over the course of two years. The 1-391st was the only battalion in the brigade with a dual mission; the Soldiers trained both USMA West Point Cadets and ROTC cadets.

“You have left a life-long impression upon thousands of future Soldiers, said LTC Gomez. “(You have) laid the foundation for future officers on how Non-commissioned officers should act like, be like and aspire to be.”

The 391st colors have been cased before over the course of the nation’s history but our battle streamers proudly attest to the dedication, service and sacrifice of the Soldiers who have served before us,” he said.

Organized in July 1918, the U.S. Army Reserve 391st Regiment was constituted in the National Army as the 391st Infantry and assigned to the 98th Division to be reconstituted in 1921 in the Organized Reserves. Originally headquartered in Rochester, N.Y., the regiment was ordered into active service and reorganized at Camp Breckenridge, Ky. In Feb 1946 the regiment was inactivated in Japan and reactivated into the Organized Reserves in Dec 1946. Since 1946, the regiment has undergone reorganization and its headquarters has been stationed in Schenectady, N.Y. In 1971 the regiment was reorganized again to consist of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions as elements of the 98th Training Division, serving as part of the 104th Infantry Division, which is now the training division for the U.S Army Reserve.

“The positive and cheerful news about this deactivation is that the Soldiers and the mission of 1-391st continue without pause or notice to our customers at West Point that we support,” said Col. Fridley.

“Fundamentally building the future leaders of our Army.”

Although the command structure of the battalion will cease. The service, reception and general instructor capabilities of the Soldiers of the 1-391st will continue to develop future warrior leaders at Cadet Summer Training and USMA. The mission of the 391st continues to be critical and will now be handed off to the 2nd Brigade and Soldiers of the 391st will be reassigned throughout the 104th.
World War II Army Veteran Made Honorary Member

By 2nd Lt. Sierra Tadiarca

LYNCHBURG, Virginia—For outstanding service to the United States Army from 1943 to 1946, Corporal Technician Fifth Grade Leslie K. Coleman was made an honorary member of 2nd Battalion, 317th Regiment “Second to None”, here February 25, 2017.

Lt. Col. Barnes, Command Sgt. Maj. Bagwell, and the Soldiers of Delta Company assembled at Guggenheimer Health and Rehabilitation Center earlier today to publicly acknowledge Coleman’s military service and sacrifice with the 3rd Army, Company A, 1306 Engineers Corps under General George S. Patton.

Ninety-seven year old Coleman lives as an inspiration and hero for us all. He received the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 4 Bronze Stars, the Asiatic Pacific Theatre Campaign Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon, Army Good Conduct Medal, and the WWII Victory Medal. Today we recognized his honest and faithful service to this country.

On 6 June 1944, the largest one-day military invasion in history took place in Normandy, France. More than 130,000 Soldiers of a multinational forces invaded Sword, Juno, Gold, Omaha, Pointe du Hoc and Utah Beach. Corporal Technician Fifth Grade Leslie K. Coleman and the 1306 Engineer Corps provided support to the infantry units at Utah Beach and throughout Europe, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia.

Bridges were built under fire, and the engineers sustained land dominance for the infantryman from the 82nd and 101st Airborne Division to advance forward. For 281 days, they defended the front lines in an effort to free France from Nazi Germany. Additional duties included clearing the area of obstacles and mines. According to Coleman, building bridges under enemy fire was not nearly as daunting as seeing a Soldier’s leg get blown off. The summer of 1944 was one of the bloodiest parts of the Normandy Campaign.

“We were involved in major battles at St. Lo, France; Battle of the Bulge (Bastogne), Belgium; Metz, Germany; and the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany,” Coleman said. Company A, 1306 Engineers built 85 bridges including the longest military bridge in world history, crossing Rhine River (2,520 ft.).

During the end of the war, the 3rd Army liberated the Buchenwald concentration camp. Coleman still remembers the foul smell of bodies piled in the area. During the Battle of the Bulge, Coleman and his units slept in hay stacks to maintain their concealed position. They went four days without food, using the snow as a hydration source. Severe weather conditions obstructed supply routes and planes would not fly. His team of engineers continued to disrupt the German Forces, placing dynamite along the mountain paths. The explosions of 55-gallon gas tanks and the images of 100 ft. flames still exists deep in his memory. After the Germans surrendered, the 1306 Engineers Corps traveled across the Atlantic thinking they were coming home.

September 1945, Coleman arrived in Manila, Philippines under the Command of General Douglas McArthur and spent two months building the Clark Air Force base. From the Philippine Islands, they were deployed to Tokyo, Japan to collect and secure all ammunition and explosives. They continuously searched and captured Japanese Soldiers hiding in the mountains and provided support to adjacent units. Finally, they returned home. January 1946 Company A, 1306 Engineers arrived at Fort Bragg, North Carolina where Coleman received an honorable discharge and returned to his wife. Today he is recognized for his faithful service to this country. We honor our brother-in-arms and his family for his outstanding courage, bravery and sacrifice to preserve the freedom we proudly defend.

“Thank you. It is an honor to receive this award,” Coleman said. “I’m glad y’all could come.”
Task Force Wolf Taps Army Reserve to Train Future Leaders

By Staff Sgt. Scott Griffin
U.S. Army Reserve Command

Fort Knox, Kentucky — Qualified and experienced U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers are in high demand as America’s highly sophisticated, lethal, full-spectrum High Demand Army Reserve Soldiers are in Qualified and experienced U.S. Army Reserve Command. By Staff Sgt. Scott Griffin, U.S. Army Reserve Command—Public Affairs Office (RELEASED)

The Army Reserve units supporting the demands of the active duty Army. Task Force Wolf at Fort Knox, Kentucky, is the headquarters for the Army Reserve units supporting Cadet Summer Training (CST). Comprised of Reserve Soldiers from the 104th Training Division based at Joint Base Fort Lewis McChord in Washington State, the task force works in coordination with U.S. Army Cadet Command to train and develop future Army, National Guard and Reserve leaders.

“The Soldiers of Task Force Wolf provide training for the Recruit Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) cadets for both their basic camp and their advance camp,” said Col. Malcolm Walker, commander of Task Force Wolf.

ROTC is a group of college-based officer training programs for developing commissioned officers of the United States Armed Forces. While in college, cadets participate in regular military training that is integrated into their normal school year. Their summer break is utilized for an immersive, month-long training event. Nearly 9,000 cadets participate in the training every year.

“The object of the course is to turn out second lieutenants,” Walker said. Those newly commissioned junior officers then choose whether to join the active duty or serve in the National Guard or Army Reserve.

“Fort Knox is a buzz of constant activity during Cadet Summer Training as swarms of potential officers are constantly marching, running and rucking from one task to the next under the constant scrutiny of the ubiquitous ‘brown rounds’ — the distinctive headgear worn exclusively by drill sergeants. These Reserve noncommissioned officers are responsible for providing constant order and discipline for the cadets while cultivating their leadership skills.”

Sgt. 1st Class Felipe Trejo, with 2nd Brigade, 104th Training Division, is the senior drill sergeant for Task Force Wolf’s 2nd Regiment. “I’m here to train and lead these cadets,” Trejo said. “To make them Soldiers, officers and leaders.”

The increasing demand for Army Reserve drill sergeants opens up numerous opportunities for Soldiers who have pondered the possibility of wearing the ‘brown round’ themselves, an undertaking that Trejo says should not be taken lightly.

“You’ve got to be ready for it, physically and mentally. It’s up to you,” Trejo said. “The training to become a drill sergeant can be rigorous. You’ve got a lot of doctrine, a lot of instruction — step by step, by step, by step.”

Every Reserve drill sergeant with Task Force Wolf has completed the same intense, unforgiving training and met the same unwavering standard required of all graduates of the Army’s Drill Sergeant Academy. “Once you get on the ground at Fort Jackson, South Carolina …” Trejo says. “Yes. Yes, they will get you and they will train you correctly.”

Trejo is currently a full-time student himself, studying landscape architecture at the University of Kentucky and working part-time, but his duties with Task Force Wolf provide a unique reward.

“It’s seeing that civilian become a Soldier,” Trejo said. “That’s our job — to assist each individual in their efforts to become a highly-motivated, well-disciplined, physically and mentally-fit Soldier. You instill pride in all you train, so for me, that’s the best.”

All Soldiers train to the same standards, and the Soldiers of TF Wolf make no exceptions. Cadet Summer Training covers all the necessary basics of Soldiering, from pre-dawn physical training, to land navigation in the sweltering Kentucky heat, to countless hours of drill and ceremony practice, to the unique experience of being exposed to compound 2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile — better known as CS Gas.

Army Reserve NCOs provide training for cadets at the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) Committee, sharing their expertise as they repeatedly emphasized the importance of the mission oriented protective posture that can shield Soldiers from
various chemical hazards. Already exhausted from PT and hours of scrambling around obstacle courses, the cadets were split up by squads for blocks of instruction on decontaminating and responding to CBRNE threats.

A training NCO yells, “Gas! Gas! Gas!” and cadets rush to correctly don their protective masks within the allotted nine seconds. The threat of chemical weapons is untested theory until cadets are locked into the “gas chamber” — a small, single-room building that stinks like nothing else on Earth. Cadets are marched into the room wearing their protective masks as training NCOs waft plumes of CS gas through the air, to saturate the barren, claustrophobic space.

Training NCOs order the cadets to every place to increase their breathing and heart rates. “Within the chamber, they’re going to break the seal and then re-seal their protective mask,” said Staff Sgt. John Bustard. Then it’s time for the cadets to get a proper whiff of CS and experience how harsh even non-lethal chemical warfare can be.

“They’re going to remove their protective masks,” Brassard smiled, “and then they’re going to race on the ground to put on their protective mask, “ said Staff Sgt. John Bustard. Then it’s time for the cadets to get a proper whiff of CS and experience how harsh even non-lethal chemical warfare can be.

“They’re going to remove their protective masks,” Brassard smiled, “and then they’re going to race on the ground to put on their protective mask, “ said Staff Sgt. John Bustard. Then it’s time for the cadets to get a proper whiff of CS and experience how harsh even non-lethal chemical warfare can be.

As for her experience in the gas chamber …

I was dying – I was definitely dying. I took off my protective mask a little bit early, and I was at the end of the line,” Puerto said. Used as a riot control agent, CS Gas creates sensations of burning and irritation that cause profuse coughing, difficulty breathing and mucous nasal discharge that partially incapacitates the subject. “If you haven’t tried it, I’d definitely recommend it.”

Behind the scenes of all the sweat and tears expelled on the training ranges are scores of Army Reserve Soldiers who keep the event running like a well-oiled machine. Cadets require training — a lot of training — but that also means cooks are needed to feed them, medics are needed to fix them, and supplies are needed to equip them. From the assault rifles in their hands to the uniforms on their backs, those supplies need to be kept clean and in good working order. Again, the Army Reserve has stepped up to handle that mission. The 254th Quartermaster Company out of York, Pennsylvania, handles the laundry duties for the thousands of cadets attending CST at Fort Knox every year.

Thousands of bags of clothing are processed through their area of operation, and turnaround expectations are intense. The Reserve Soldiers operate mobile Laundry Advanced Systems (LADS) to clean and dry all of the cadets’ PT and duty uniforms, including those still reeking of CS gas.

“We’re operating at just over half strength,” said Sgt. Adam Wiestling, NCOIC of the detachment. Out of the six LADS on-site, the unit has been able to get four up and running. “The teams that have been here in years past [told me] that they haven’t seen four operational LADS in a very, very long time.”

Preventative maintenance, care and service — every piece of equipment in the Army requires it, but the arcane technical wizardry needed to keep the four massive washing machines running at peak output is one of the uncanny abilities of the quartermaster unit’s newest Reserve Soldier, Pvt. Funzo Belk III.

“Private Belk is a fresh-out-basic Soldier who has come here with a world of knowledge that he got out of his schooling,” Wiestling said. “He’s an excellent Soldier – he listens, he understands everything. The level of knowledge and commitment from that Soldier is just outstanding.”

Wiestling said staying focused on the overall welfare of the cadets keeps the 254th motivated.

“The moment I came out of basic and AIT, I realized the boost in morale we gave to the Soldiers we supported,” Wiestling said. “The excitement [Soldiers] got from a field shower every few days or the laundry return, after being stuck in the field and in the rough of it, getting that morale feedback … We have far exceeded the standards of what anyone has set before. It’s outstanding what these Soldiers have done and what they’ve accomplished.”

Task Force Wolf draws on the accomplishments, experiences and expertise of Reserve Soldiers to craft future leaders who will contribute to the Army as whole — many of whom will choose to join a U.S. Army Reserve that is more capable, ready and lethal than ever before.

“It’s our job to make them better leaders — we’re making them better leaders before they go to their officer basic course. Then they’re going to come back into the Army Reserve force; they’re going to spread out across the country and go into our [operational and functional] training units in support of the Army Reserve,” Walker said. “From beginning to end, we’re making them better leaders for the future.”

THE GRIFON • Summer 2017 • 47

U.S. Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Jennifer Samargo, a drill sergeant with the 104th Training Division, provides instruction to a Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) cadet during Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, June 7, 2017. Every drill sergeant serving at CST is an Army Reserve Soldier. U.S. Army photo by Army Staff Sgt. Scott Griffin, U.S. Army Reserve Command-Public Affairs Office (RELEASED)

Sgt. 1st Class James Smith, a U.S. Army Reserve drill sergeant assigned to Task Force Wolf, provides instruction to a Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) cadet during Cadet Summer Training (CST) at Fort Knox, Kentucky, June 7, 2017. As a civilian, Sgt. 1st Class Smith delivers mail for the U.S. Postal Service. Qualified and experienced Soldiers are in high demand for numerous training and support positions as the Army Reserve takes on a greater role in America’s highly sophisticated, full-spectrum fighting force. U.S. Army photo by Army Staff Sgt. Scott Griffin, U.S. Army Reserve Command-Public Affairs Office (RELEASED)

Staff Sgt. Sterling Johnson and Sgt. 1st Class Felipe Trejo, U.S. Army Reserve drill sergeants with the 104th Training Division assigned to Task Force Wolf, take a thoughtful moment to ponder and provide commentary on the shaving skills of a Reserve Officers’ Training Corps cadet attending Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, June 7, 2017. “That’s our job,” Trejo says. “To assist each individual in their efforts to become a highly-motivated, well-disciplined, physically and mentally-fit Soldier.” U.S. Army photo by Army Staff Sgt. Scott Griffin, U.S. Army Reserve Command-Public Affairs Office (RELEASED)
‘Young Guns’ Battle Assembly

By Capt. Jacqueline Kline
3-414th Regiment LDAC

After a reformation of forces in March, 3-414th Regiment (LDAC) has hit the ground running in preparation for their summer training mission at Cadet Summer Training.

Alpha company has focused not only on administrative readiness but has been gearing up for their Cadet Summer Training (CST) mission in Fort Knox, Kentucky. The company has completed new transgender policy training, conducted the Army Physical Fitness Test and refreshed their first aid and combat casualty care as well as their individual movement techniques.

For the Bravo company Soldiers of Vancouver, Washington, focus had been on Chemical, Biological, Radiation, and Nuclear (CBRN) training in preparation for the unit’s Cadet Summer Training mission as well as individual Soldier skills. The unit completed Basic Rifle Marksmanship (BRM) worked with the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) system, received training on new transgender policies, and validated their standard medical and administrative readiness.

Both companies have worked hard to ensure that their Soldiers are physically fit, well trained and prepared to lead from the front. Confident in their abilities and ready to “fight tonight” the Soldiers of 3-414th are headed into CST 2017 to inspire, mentor, train and lead the Cadets who are the future of our Army and our Army Reserve.

"YOUNG GUN" Soldiers of Bravo Company of the 3-414th Battalion practice basic rifle marksmanship skills using the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) at the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Vancouver, Washington. Photo credit: Captain Jasmine Hudlin

"YOUNG GUN" Senior Training Noncommissioned Officer and Headquarters Team Sergeant; Sergeant First Class Eric Peterson of Bravo Company of the 3-414th Battalion executes a brief on the upcoming Cadet Summer Training Mission of Bravo Company at the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Vancouver, Washington. This summer’s training mission is the Chemical, Biological, Radiation, and Nuclear (CBRN) Mission at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Photo credit: Captain Leo Sudnik

"YOUNG GUNS" Soldiers of Bravo Company of the 3-414th Battalion perform the sit-up portion of the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) at the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Vancouver, Washington. Photo credit: Specialist Daniel Grinstead

"YOUNG GUNS" Soldiers of Bravo Company of the 3-414th Battalion perform basic rifle marksmanship skills using the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) at the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Vancouver, Washington. The EST training is in preparation of actual "YOUNG GUNS" live fire range training in May of 2017. Photo credit: Captain Jasmine Hudlin
How SHARP Impacts Readiness

Thanks to the SHARP Academy, the field now has an excellent slide to show the overall impact of Sexual Harassment (SH) and Sexual Assault (SA) allegations and/or cases have on our formations. The top box explains how SA/SH degrades a unit’s readiness. As you will notice, the silhouette Soldiers and Civilians depict the results an incident of SH/SA has within a unit. The grayed Soldiers and Civilians may still be in the Team/SQD/PLT/CO/Command; however, their individual readiness and the readiness of the Command is compromised due to a number of reasons, such as: medical appointments, investigations, counseling, and the emotional effects of lack of trust, Esprit de Corps, respect, etc. These events degrade the unit’s ability to complete its operational mission.

The colored box shows the decline of a unit’s readiness from “Green” to “Red.” The incidents inside the “Green” colored box are what right looks like and inside the “Yellow, Orange and Red” boxes are examples of the continuum of harm if these examples are not properly and timely addressed.

The bottom box depicts leader engagements and intervention opportunities are present throughout the continuum. If Soldiers engage and intervene the cycle is broken and a unit can start moving towards the green box and be mission ready.

All Soldiers and Civilians are encouraged to intervene, “See Something Say Something!” I believe Robert D. Shadley, a retired U.S. Army Major General, said it best in his book titled “The Game.” He said, “In my experience, problems with “things” in the military are only minor. The “people” aspects of the organization are where the major problems come from. If you take care of your people — reward the good and correct the bad — the mission will get done, and the Leaders and their organizations will succeed.”

Paula James, 108th SHARP Program Manager/SARC

“See Something Say Something!”

FY18 Mission Planning

Who
108th TC G-3, DIV/ BDE G/S3, Senior leaders, Army Training Center Representatives (Mr. Tijerina (Ft. Sill, OK), SFC Tully (Ft Leonard Wood, MO), Mr. Schaertl (Ft. Jackson, SC), Mr. Sweeney (Ft. Benning, GA), and LTC Johnson (Cadet Command).

What
The 108th Training Command (TC) (IET) G357 conducts FY18 Mission Planning Workshop in order to continue successful mission planning, coordination, and execution for FY18 missions.

When
1-5 May 2017.05.10

Where
Palma Hall, Fort Knox, KY

Why
To conduct FY18 mission planning meeting with representatives from the supported Army Training Centers, USARC, Cadet Command as well as G-3 personnel from the 108th TC (IET), 95th Training Division (TD) (IET), 98th TD (IET), 104th TD (LT) and 108th TC Brigade S-3 representatives. Topics focused on FY18 mission planning coordination between supporting and supported units culminating in Division and BDE brief-backs to the CG, 108th Training Command (IET).

Hamilton Promoted !!

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Brian Hamilton and his well-deserved promotion! All of us at the 108th Training Command (IET) laud you for your accomplishment, thank you for all your hard work while you were a Griffon and look forward to seeing continued great things from you at HRC.
Instructing to Standard

Photos and story by Sgt. 1st Class Charlene Ryan

On 9 April 2017, Charlie Company 2/413th Regiment, 2nd BDE, 95th Division, Fort Shafter Flats Hawaii, displayed their professionalism and knowledge while conducting an Army Physical Fitness Test for the only infantry battalion in the United States Army Reserve, the 100th Infantry Battalion. Three Charlie Company drill sergeants and two drill sergeant candidates administered an APFT by regulation to 40 Soldiers. The Infantry unit’s leadership contacted the Drill Sergeant unit to emphasis Army standards and to utilize the expertise of a fellow reserve unit. Sgt Hensley 740th Company, 100th Infantry Battalion noted the following about the Charlie Company drill sergeants, “We appreciate the drill sergeant unit’s time and applaud them for holding each individual to the correct standards.” The drill sergeants took the time to explain each event and even had a question and answer session prior to scoring. At the conclusion of a successful APFT, the drill sergeants instructed individuals how to take height and weight measurements correctly. The soldiers of 740th Company, 100th Infantry Battalion were grateful for the instruction and regimented to-standard APFT. The 100th Infantry Battalion leadership has requested the use of Charlie Company for future APFTs as well as instructional Physical Readiness Training (PRT) events.

Unit Public Affairs Program

As the 108th Training Command (IET) continues to grow, it will be difficult for the Public Affairs Staff to visit each brigade, battalion and company to cover news events. Public Affairs is the responsibility of commanders and Soldiers alike. The PAO is kicking off the Unit Public Affairs Program (UPAR), which will allow any Soldier to be the additional eyes and ears for your unit and the PAO. By volunteering you will assume the duties of UPAR as an additional duty.

Do you enjoy taking pictures? Do you enjoy writing? As a Unit Public Affairs Representative (UPAR) you will take pictures of newsworthy events and submit them along with stories to your Division Public Affairs Officer for review and possible submission in The Griffon, as well as your division web site. A 2-day UPAR Training is now offered through ATTRS: Public Affairs-UPAR-CRS-USACAPOC(A).

Are You?

• Familiar with your organization
• Independent & dependable
• Able to communicate well
Are you able to?
• Publicize unit participation in community projects or activities.
• Serve as the public affairs point of contact for your unit.

Maintain contact with the 108th Training Command (IET) Public Affairs Office
Soldiers should contact their division Public Affairs Officer for additional info:
• 95th Training Division (IET) Public Affairs Officer – Cpt. Adrienne Bryant
• 98th Training Division (IET) Public Affairs Officer – Maj. Michelle Lunato michelle.a.lunato.mil@mail.mil
• 104th Training Division (IET) Public Affairs Officer – Maj. Ms. Kelly Countrymen (interim) or contact SFC Lisa Litchfield at lisa.m.litchfield2.mil@mail.mil 108th Training Command (IET) Public Affairs NCOIC, or Cpt. Lawrence K. Carmack at lawrence.k.carmack.mil@mail.mil, 108th Training Command (IET) Public Affairs Officer or phone 704-227-2829 for more information.

Check out the 108th Training Command (IET) USAR website and become a fan of our Facebook page!
Homeschool Options
52 Homeschooling on a Shoestring

MTR
54 What’s Your Next Mission?

54 4 Summer Safety Tips for Parents
55 Stay Connected: A Civilian’s Challenge to Veteran and Active Duty Military
56 Top Tips To Succeed At A Career Fair

Travel USA
57 Three Rivers, Lake Kaweah, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Hero Appreciation Months

58 Florida
Best Beach in the South,' Panama City Beach, Florida

59 Florida
Volcano Bay™ Brings All New Thrills To Universal Orlando Resort™

60 Kentucky
Small Town Hospitality in Glasgow and Barren County

61 Summer Fun on a Dime for Military Families

62 Summer is Beautiful at the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon

63 North Carolina
Experience Hendersonville’s Charm and History

64 Georgia
Lovin’ the Lake Life Family, Food, Flumes and Fun at Georgia’s Lanier Islands

66 Tennessee
Chattanooga: Hiking, Trolley Tours Street Parties and More

68 West Virginia
West Virginia’s Premier Tourist Railroad

69 Annual Golf Tournament Sept. 25
Homeschooling on a Shoestring

By Tracy Klicka MacKillop
Director of Development, Home School Foundation

Purchasing homeschooling curriculum for your children can be similar to buying a car for your family. Where I live you can spend about $50,000 for a 2014 luxury Lexus SUV, $30,000 for a new Grand Jeep Cherokee, or if you’re like my family with several children, you can buy a well used but reliable seven-passenger van for about $10,000. If you have limited finances, however, coming up with even $4,000 for a much older, higher miles vehicle may be more expensive than you can muster.

Fortunately, when it comes to homeschooling with severely limited resources, there’s good news. The Home School Foundation, www.homeschoolfoundation.org, (HSF) a nonprofit serving the homeschooling community in the U.S. for nearly 20 years, helps qualified families with the cost of homeschooling curriculum and supplies. They invest in widows, single parents, and families homeschooling children with special needs, and military families, to name a few.

Even if you don’t qualify for assistance from HSF but have limited resources to invest in your homeschooling curriculum, there is still good news. In homeschooling vernacular, expensive is a relative term. While the average cost is about $500 a year per child, this goes down a bit in families with more children, since resources can be shared, membership costs are not multiplied, etc.

No matter your income, it’s prudent to count the cost and be prepared. Investing in your core curriculum materials first, then adding other items as your budget allows is a sound strategy for any homeschooler.

While it is possible to homeschool with just a library card, most of us will add a bit. Even still, one year, I homeschooled all seven of my children for less than $400 total, by using the library, and a few non-consumable resources and free downloadable worksheets.

Here are a few ideas to homeschool on a shoestring budget:

Save on Textbooks
• Borrow or rent books — check with your local support group.
• Purchase used books.
• Look for public school giveaways. (You may want to use with extreme caution because of worldview content, but items easily found are atlases, encyclopedias, typing practice books, maps, and more.)

“We are overjoyed with the news of our grant! I have complete faith that God directed this blessing through your organization. With all four children schooling now, this year has already been the most expensive to date. Your gift will not be wasted! A thousand thanks from our family!”
— Tommy and Gena C., Military Fund recipients

A Clear Path to College
Online Homeschooling That Opens Up New Possibilities

Christian Educators Academy

A flexible, online, high-quality high school & middle school. Learn anywhere, anytime, at your own pace with Christian Educators Academy.

Year-Round Enrollment
Fully Accredited
Mastery Based

Honors and AP Options
Low Student-Teacher Ratio
All-inclusive Pricing

10% DISCOUNT FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

Christian Educators Academy

Scheduling is easy, and it is helpful to have stability where you can grab it. Sonlight provided a wonderful focal point for our family. It helped to cement us together during each PCS, deployment, and redeployment.

Sometimes I would send some of the awesome Sonlight books to Rod while he was deployed, and he would read to the kids via Skype. He and the kids enjoyed it and it helped Rod feel connected and a part of their “everyday” schooling. It also helped with his reintegration after deployments, since there was a sense of continuity and familiarity.

My three kids have read the same books and share some great memories. These are especially needed for families who are apart a lot, and may not find it easy to be back together after a separation.


Homeschooling with SONLIGHT® kept our family together

SONLIGHT

Learn more about this outstanding Christian homeschool curriculum & request a free catalog at sonlight.com/griffon
HOMESCHOOL OPTIONS

Special Military Resources

• Watch for library sales; I have found some of our favorite living books* at these.
• Provide educational “wish lists” to family members for gift-giving times.
• Use “What Your Child Needs to Know When” or “The Checklist” (or Teaching Children by Diane Lopez) as a guide to what to teach, then use library books or living books.
• Utilize free Internet curriculum resources (such as “Easy Peasy All-in-One Homeschool” or “Ambleside Online.”)
• Utilize an all-in-one program such as “What Your 3rd Grader Needs to Know.”
• Laminate your books and answer keys with clear Contact™ paper for durability.

Use Multi-Level Curriculum
Use grade-specific materials for each child for skills subjects such as math and language arts, then use multi-level materials for content-area subjects such as science, social studies, character/Bible, art, health, etc, working with all of your children together, to economize on time and money! Here are a few suggestions:
• Konos curriculum
• Diana Waring’s history guides
• Bible Study Guide for All Ages
• Greenleaf Press
• Five in a Row
• Janice Van Cleave’s science books
• Beautiful Feet guides
• Valerie Bendt’s Unit Studies Made Easy
• Heart of Wisdom
• Tapestry of Grace
• Science in the Creation Week
• Considering God’s Creation

Re-Use Your Material for a Younger Student Later
Invest in reusable, non-consumable texts rather than workbooks. This works especially well for:
• Math textbooks
• Language arts texts
• Most unit study guides
• Games
• Living books (including both fictional and non-fiction literature)

Don’t Make It Complicated
Finally, while it’s tempting to think you need all the bells and whistles in order to teach your children at home, what you really need are just the basics.

Math, language arts, well-rounded reading/hands-on discovery in other subject areas equals a common sense basic curriculum for little money. Combining the academic basics with your enthusiasm, investment of time, and a few creative and fun learning opportunities for your children add up to an excellent education, even on a shoestring!

“Living (or “whole”) books refers to books of excellent literary value that both inform and inspire a child’s mind. Traditional textbooks, which while more comprehensive in scope, are often written only to inform, and are generally less interesting to read and not as memorable. Living books, on the other hand, are usually written by someone who has both a passion for and experience in their subject, such as Corrie Ten Boom’s “The Hiding Place,” “The Swiss Family Robinson” by John David Wyss, or “Kim” by Rudyard Kipling.

For more information about homeschooling on a shoestring budget, check out HSLDA’s website, www.hslda.org, and search “homeschooling on a budget”.
To get or give help to the Home School Foundation, visit: www.homeschoolfoundation.org.

Features & Benefits
• AdvancED Accredited
• Flexible & Convenient Schedule
• Teacher-Led Individualized Instruction
• College Preparatory Curriculum
• 14-Day Money Back Guarantee
• Affordable Monthly Payment Plan
• Enroll Anytime Throughout the Year
• Military Discount of 10% off tuition

Please visit EnlightiumAcademy.com/Griffon for more information.

The Flexibility You Need, The Support You Deserve
Whether you love textbooks, online classes, or a combination of both, Bridgeway Academy finds the right fit to flex with your family’s schedule and accreditation needs.

Start your new year strong with $100 off any full year package at bridgewayacademy.com/military
Use promo code FUTURE

Proudly serving our military families for over 25 years.

Call Now!
Speak to a Homeschool Specialist today.
800.863.1474
What’s Your Next Mission?

If you’re transitioning from military service and have an interest in the freight transportation industry, you should consider a career at Estes Express Lines — especially if you have driver or mechanic experience. Estes is the largest privately-owned less-than-truckload (LTL) carrier in North America. We’ve been around for over 85 years, and a big part of that is because we hire and retain the best people.

At Estes, respect and gratitude towards veterans is an integral part of who we are. We don’t just talk the talk. We walk the walk. We’re proud to be one of the BestJobsUSA’s Top 100 veteran-friendly employers and to be a recipient of the Flag of Freedom award for our dedication to hiring veterans. Also, many Estes leaders and employees have served in the military, including Robey W. Estes, Sr., who received three Purple Hearts in World War II and went on to lead our company for more than 30 years.

We also show our support by participating in programs that celebrate military service like Wreaths Across America, Operation Gratitude and our own Estes Honor Wall, where employees can recognize the military service of friends, colleagues and family, past and present.

Estes is the shipper of choice for customers seeking unmatched quality, know-how and reliability. We need talented, dedicated and motivated people like you to help us continue to exceed our customers’ expectations.

Know that if you join our team, we’ve got your back. Our employees enjoy a competitive pay and benefits package, company stability and career growth opportunities within a supportive team-oriented environment. Being a family-oriented company, we understand the importance of having quality time to spend with your family. Our local drivers are home nightly, and our over-the-road drivers are home weekly.

Sound good? To learn more and to view career opportunities at Estes, visit us at www.Work4Estes.com.

EOE/Vets/Disabled

4 Summer Safety Tips for Parents

By Angela Caban

The summer season is in full swing. Friends and family are gathering around to enjoy beautiful weather, delicious food, outings, and late night bonfires while enjoying the crisp summer air. As parents we have our hands full juggling life during the summer, whether we are planning beach trips, or staycations, there are always things that parents need to keep in mind when young children are involved.

No matter how you spend this summer, remember that while it is great to have fun, we should always be cautious and keep our kids safe.

Keep Kids Hydrated

How many times have you asked your child if they have drank water throughout the day? Good, because all that running around and outdoor play is sure to get them dehydrated quickly. Kids do get so preoccupied with having fun that they don’t realize they are thirsty. Check in with them frequently and make sure they are drinking plenty of fluids.

Regularly Apply Sunscreen

If you have a child less than six months of age, they should not wear sunscreen – just make sure they are wearing protective clothing and a hat. For older kids, don’t forget to spray them or apply sunscreen with a high SPF (Sun Protection Factor) throughout the day if they are going to be outside. Many times we forget or don’t think it is necessary, but it is a good precaution, sunburn isn’t fun – especially for the little ones!

Stay Away From Crowded Areas

If you will be traveling to crowded areas this summer, be prepared to have smaller kids strapped in safely in strollers or check peak times for when parks, beaches or attractions get crowded. With smaller kids, it can be harder to keep track of them in large crowds, and instead of sending yourself into panic mode, consider just avoiding it and visiting during less crowded times.

Explain the Dangers to Your Kids

Especially if they are older, they will understand why they must use precaution in order to stay safe. Be open and honest and explain the hazards of crowded areas, and even safety within grilling and bonfire zones. The National Safety Council also has some summer safety reminders that are good to keep in mind.

Angela Caban is an Army National Guard spouse, freelance writer, published author and branding expert. In 2010, she founded the Homefront United Network, a military spouse and family support blog created to assist spouses who do not live near an installation, but also focusing on bridging the gap between Reserve and Active Duty spouses.
A Civilian’s Challenge to Veteran and Active Duty Military

By Sharon Danitschek

The experience of serving our country brings up honor, patriotism, pride and duty. It also brings up Traumatic Brain Injury, Disability, Post Traumatic Stress, and Survivor Guilt. Over the course of round table discussions, Veterans have alluded to one or more of these characteristics in some form or another. They shared the challenges of their service or transitioning back to civilian life. Some discussed PTSD triggers that would set them back.

“When the sound of a ringing phone is still tough for me,” said veteran Dr. Art Schmitt, in a recent interview. Among other duties, Dr. Schmitt flew rescue helicopters in Vietnam. A phone call set each mission in motion. He details many of his missions in his book, “A War with No Name.” It is one Soldier’s story about dealing with and surviving PTSD.

Veteran Cleo DeLoner attempted suicide multiple times before finding the right treatment and support. She served in Somalia during Operation Restore Hope. Cleo’s first suicide attempt was a gunshot to the face. She too struggles with PTSD. She now travels the country speaking out about veteran suicide and PTSD awareness.

When interviewed, Brooke Cutler, Cleo DeLoner and Dr. Schmitt all agreed, “staying connected has a positive impact.” In DeLoner’s case, she felt isolated physically and emotionally. The “suck it up” military attitude limited her ability to reach out to family and friends in her community. When she separated from the military she lost touch with her battle buddies. “Staying connected could have made a difference as they all lived through what I did,” DeLoner said.

Social media has allowed veterans to stay in touch in greater numbers than ever before, as it is a way to share what is going on real time. Private Facebook groups provide an outlet for communication and support groups struggling with situations like PTSD, VA benefits issues or employment. A veteran’s post about a recent PTSD trigger generated over 100 comments from other veterans that had experienced a similar situation. Social Media can be tricky because it does not completely satisfy one’s need for human connection. Only face-to-face interaction can do that.

Military Reunions

When veterans get together for a few days every year something...
impeccable personal dress is a task. Finally, their organization, not as a soldier, wants to be able to see you in but a professional employer tempting to wear your uniform, dress shoes, and dress slacks. It is business attire – a jacket, tie, professional and conservative preparation and personalization makes a substantial difference.

Be Prepared to Interview
Be ready and able to have a 30-60-minute interview with a company. If you make a great first impression, the company may want to interview right on the spot. Use the STARS format to answer interview questions.

a. Situation: Describe the context within which you performed the task or faced a challenge at work.
b. Task: Describe your responsibility in that situation.
c. Action: Describe how you completed the task or endured a challenge. Focus on what you did, rather than what your team, boss, or coworker did.
d. Result: Finally, explain the outcomes or results generated by the action taken.
e. Skills: Skills you used to be successful – includes both hard (technical) and soft skills (leadership, teaching, etc.).

g. Create 6-10 sentence answers to frequent questions on leadership, improvements, cost savings, and how you learned a new skill.

Attend the Classes
Career fairs are often filled with classes on resume reviews by HR professionals, panels of employers, and other resources to help in a job or faced a challenge at work.

A Career Fair Is Only One Way to Find a Job
Don’t expect a career fair to be your entire answer to secure employment. Continue to network, have personal interviews, and contact companies for other opportunities. Remember, your goal is not one, but multiple job offers to be successful.

Chad Storlie is the author of two books: (1) Combat Leader to Corporate Leader and (2) BattleField to Business Success. He is a retired US Army Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel with 20+ years of Active and Reserve service in infantry, Special Forces, and joint headquarters units. He served in Iraq, Bosnia, Korea, and throughout the United States.

How does one find out about the reunions that are out there? How does each group promote theirs? How does one plan an event? The Military Reunion Network (MRN) is a great place to start. Established in 1991, the goal of MRN is to support veterans planning military reunions through education, connections and resources. Military reunion groups can post their events on the MRN website and in every issue of MRN magazine at no cost. Are you curious about places to have a military reunion? Destinations on the MRN website are military reunion friendly. There are cities that are not equipped to support reunions for a wide variety of reasons. Why not start with a destination that understands the needs of these unique events?

The Military Reunion Network can help you get started if you are curious about planning your own reunion. “Basic Training” classes are held across the country that walk you through the organization and implementation process from beginning to end. It begins with defining what your reunion is all about. It is critical to understand your group before the planning process begins. MRN teaches veterans how to reduce costs, find grants, understand contracts, as well as work with destinations, hotels, attractions and transportation companies. The Military Reunion Network also provides resources for event insurance, attorneys that will review contracts, reunion logo items and even links to find battle buddies and shipmates. Veteran suicide rates are too high. Connections help alleviate this chronic problem. The Military Reunion Network eliminates the obstacles that stand in your way. Staying connected is an integral part of keeping the veteran community healthy and stable. The MRN mission is simple - ‘get connected, stay connected.’

Sharon Danitschek is the CEO of the Military Reunion Network. She has over 25 years sales and marketing experience in the hospitality industry. Visit militaryreunionnetwork.com or email shardr@militaryreunionnetwork.com for more information.

How does one find out about the reunions that are out there? How does each group promote theirs? How does one plan an event? The Military Reunion Network (MRN) is a great place to start. Established in 1991, the goal of MRN is to support veterans planning military reunions through education, connections and resources. Military reunion groups can post their events on the MRN website and in every issue of MRN magazine at no cost. Are you curious about places to have a military reunion? Destinations on the MRN website are military reunion friendly. There are cities that are not equipped to support reunions for a wide variety of reasons. Why not start with a destination that understands the needs of these unique events? The Military Reunion Network can help you get started if you are curious about planning your own reunion. “Basic Training” classes are held across the country that walk you through the organization and implementation process from beginning to end. It begins with defining what your reunion is all about. It is critical to understand your group before the planning process begins. MRN teaches veterans how to reduce costs, find grants, understand contracts, as well as work with destinations, hotels, attractions and transportation companies. The Military Reunion Network also provides resources for event insurance, attorneys that will review contracts, reunion logo items and even links to find battle buddies and shipmates. Veteran suicide rates are too high. Connections help alleviate this chronic problem. The Military Reunion Network eliminates the obstacles that stand in your way. Staying connected is an integral part of keeping the veteran community healthy and stable. The MRN mission is simple: ‘get connected, stay connected.’

Sharon Danitschek is the CEO of the Military Reunion Network. She has over 25 years sales and marketing experience in the hospitality industry. Visit militaryreunionnetwork.com or email shardr@militaryreunionnetwork.com for more information.

How does one find out about the reunions that are out there? How does each group promote theirs? How does one plan an event? The Military Reunion Network (MRN) is a great place to start. Established in 1991, the goal of MRN is to support veterans planning military reunions through education, connections and resources. Military reunion groups can post their events on the MRN website and in every issue of MRN magazine at no cost. Are you curious about places to have a military reunion? Destinations on the MRN website are military reunion friendly. There are cities that are not equipped to support reunions for a wide variety of reasons. Why not start with a destination that understands the needs of these unique events? The Military Reunion Network can help you get started if you are curious about planning your own reunion. "Basic Training" classes are held across the country that walk you through the organization and implementation process from beginning to end. It begins with defining what your reunion is all about. It is critical to understand your group before the planning process begins. MRN teaches veterans how to reduce costs, find grants, understand contracts, as well as work with destinations, hotels, attractions and transportation companies. The Military Reunion Network also provides resources for event insurance, attorneys that will review contracts, reunion logo items and even links to find battle buddies and shipmates. Veteran suicide rates are too high. Connections help alleviate this chronic problem. The Military Reunion Network eliminates the obstacles that stand in your way. Staying connected is an integral part of keeping the veteran community healthy and stable. The MRN mission is simple: ‘get connected, stay connected.’

Sharon Danitschek is the CEO of the Military Reunion Network. She has over 25 years sales and marketing experience in the hospitality industry. Visit militaryreunionnetwork.com or email shardr@militaryreunionnetwork.com for more information.

How does one find out about the reunions that are out there? How does each group promote theirs? How does one plan an event? The Military Reunion Network (MRN) is a great place to start. Established in 1991, the goal of MRN is to support veterans planning military reunions through education, connections and resources. Military reunion groups can post their events on the MRN website and in every issue of MRN magazine at no cost. Are you curious about places to have a military reunion? Destinations on the MRN website are military reunion friendly. There are cities that are not equipped to support reunions for a wide variety of reasons. Why not start with a destination that understands the needs of these unique events? The Military Reunion Network can help you get started if you are curious about planning your own reunion. "Basic Training" classes are held across the country that walk you through the organization and implementation process from beginning to end. It begins with defining what your reunion is all about. It is critical to understand your group before the planning process begins. MRN teaches veterans how to reduce costs, find grants, understand contracts, as well as work with destinations, hotels, attractions and transportation companies. The Military Reunion Network also provides resources for event insurance, attorneys that will review contracts, reunion logo items and even links to find battle buddies and shipmates. Veteran suicide rates are too high. Connections help alleviate this chronic problem. The Military Reunion Network eliminates the obstacles that stand in your way. Staying connected is an integral part of keeping the veteran community healthy and stable. The MRN mission is simple: ‘get connected, stay connected.’

Sharon Danitschek is the CEO of the Military Reunion Network. She has over 25 years sales and marketing experience in the hospitality industry. Visit militaryreunionnetwork.com or email shardr@militaryreunionnetwork.com for more information.
By Leah Launey

My love affair with Three Rivers, Lake Kaweah, and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks began in the 80s, when my family was introduced to the area by a friend who discovered it ‘just passing through.’ Soon afterwards we began spending family vacations here, then it became every weekend we could manage! It was impractical to keep renting, so we found a beautiful plot of land with river access, and built our vacation home/future bed and breakfast. Eventually, we were here so often, we took the next step and moved to Three Rivers, finally starting the B&B in 2007. I have always enjoyed cooking fancy breakfasts, and my family enjoys meeting people — especially those who appreciate Three Rivers and the Parks — so here was an opportunity for us to do both! No one in town had taken the name yet, so “Three Rivers Bed and Breakfast” was born.

In 2007, we created the chamber’s annual ‘Hero Appreciation Months’ program. This program honors those who have served in the military or as a first responder, with special events, and discounts offered by local businesses, every January through March. We just celebrated our 10th annual, and look forward to celebrating many more!


1st Saturday Art Festival
August 5, September 2, October 7th
Three Rivers

ARTISTS OF THREE RIVERS, CA have joined together to create a day of food, fun, and fabulous art. It is held on the 1st Saturday of every month, from 11:00 to 5:00, and specials are promoted throughout the town - by artists, restaurants, gift shops, galleries and more.

WHEN STARTING, pick up a map at Anne Lang’s Emporium. Look for the purple and gold flag; each place participating has one.
Located in Northwest Florida, Panama City Beach offers both abundant natural beauty and enough affordable family activities to delight sea enthusiasts and landlubbers alike. With more than 27 miles of white sandy beaches sprawling along the emerald green waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and a comfortable climate ideally suited for year-round fun, Panama City Beach has been recently named one of the “Best Beaches in the South” by Southern Living. Offering an authentic, fun and high-quality beach experience, it is an easy drive from major cities of the Southeast. Traveling by air, Panama City Beach is just a 15 minute ride away from Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport.

The natural wonders of this region of Florida mean that Panama City Beach offers some of the best options for marine activities in the Southeast. With everything from airboat adventures to boat tours on the Gulf of Mexico, there are many ways to enjoy the natural splendors of Panama City Beach without breaking the bank.

If you’re looking to jump in feet first, scuba diving can provide one of the best tours of the natural landscape. With a choice of artificial reefs, scuba divers can enjoy a great variety of dive sites in the calm clear waters of the Gulf. In fact, the area is known as the “Wreck Diving Capital of the South,” and adventurous divers will be able to visit several historic wreck sites.

In addition, the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico teem with a diverse variety of fish and marine life, making it an ideal spot for fishermen, snorkelers and boaters. Visitors looking for guided tours of the surrounding waterways will be well served to visit Capt. Anderson’s Marina, located centrally on the Grand Lagoon. The renowned tour service offers chartered boats for deep sea fishing, dolphin spotting and eco-tours of nearby Shell Island.

Those in search of a change of pace will appreciate Panama City Beach’s kayak fisheries. With three different scenic locations available, anglers are able to fish at their own pace while encountering very few fishermen—from either a kayak or even paddle board. This unique opportunity is ideal for those looking for a more affordable option to cast a line and also to visitors who appreciate the serene simplicity of casting a line in peace. Local companies like Half Hitch are able to provide information on the right gear and the best times to fish.

Visitors who would rather observe wildlife will enjoy the extensive network of trails and protected beaches at St. Andrews State Park. One of the top outdoor recreation spots in Florida, this 1,260 acre area contains some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities around along with two fishing piers, a boat ramp, concessions and many key spots for nature lovers. Button Bush Marsh is known to be an ideal spot for bird watching, and it serves as favorite feeding place for herons and ibis.

A visit to Panama City Beach is not only about the wealth of outdoor activities available to visitors. Known as the “Seafood Capital of the South,” the area includes an array of award winning dining options and activities. Dining experiences include everything from family-friendly beach side eateries to multi-course meals and dinner cruises. Family entertainment can also be found at the various museums and attractions of the region which include Gulf World Marine Park, an IMAX movie theatre, waterparks, zoos, and pirate cruises. In addition, the 1.1 million square-foot regional lifestyle center known as Pier Park offers dozens of one-of-a-kind boutiques along with a selection of well-known department stores.

With daytime temperature highs in the 60s and 70s in the fall and winter, Panama City Beach can be best experienced when the temperature starts to moderate from the summer heat. Fall is home to a jam packed calendar of events. Three of the best events of the season are Pepsi Gulf Coast Jam headlined by Luke Bryan on Labor Day Weekend, Pirates of the High Seas festival from October 6-8, which features parades, sword-swinging showdowns and fireworks, and also Emerald Coast Cruisin’ from November 8-11, a fair for classic car enthusiasts.

For more information visit www.visitpanamacitybeach.com.
Universal Orlando Resort™ has taken vacations to a whole new level with the addition of its brand new theme park, making this summer the perfect time to visit.

Come live the carefree island lifestyle at Universal's Volcano Bay™, an all-new water theme park where thrills and relaxation flow in perfect harmony. Here you’ll find over 30 unique experiences including 18 different attractions. You can plunge into the heart of the towering volcano on the Krakatau™ Aqua Coaster, drift along the Kopiko Wai Winding River™, let the kids play at Runammuka Reef™, or just kick back in your own private rental cabana. Best of all, the TapuTapu™ wearable every guest receives for the day enables you to relax and play between rides instead of standing in long lines.

Volcano Bay™ is the newest of Universal Orlando’s three amazing theme parks, along with the film and TV based fun of Universal Studios™ and the excitement of legendary heroes and timeless tales at Universal’s Islands of Adventure™. All three parks are conveniently located within easy reach of the Universal CityWalk™ dining and entertainment complex, as well as the resort’s spectacularly themed on-site hotels which offer a range of accommodations and amenities.

As if summer wasn’t thrilling enough, in the fall you can experience Halloween Horror Nights™, the nation’s premier annual Halloween event. You’ll step into some of the most heart-pounding moments in horror history as the streets of Universal Studios™ come alive with countless mutants, monsters and maniacs. Explore terrifying haunted houses, make your way through multiple scare zones, enjoy outrageous live shows and experience many of the park’s most exciting rides and attractions. This separate ticketed event runs on select nights from September 15 through November 4th.

One-of-a-kind entertainment and world-class accommodations make a Universal Orlando Resort destination unlike anything you’ve experienced before. As a member of the military, you can get a Universal Orlando 4-Day Ticket** for the price of an Anytime Season 1-Day Park-to-Park Ticket from your participating ITT/ETTS Office.

![Artist Conceptual Rendering](Image)

**Universal Orlando Resort™ 4-Day Ticket**

Get more info and buy tickets online at [www.keylargo princess.com](http://www.keylargo princess.com) or call (888) 307-1147

**Discounts:**

- Book tickets in advance and save 50% by using promo code MILITARY
- Schedule: Trips usually run at 10am, 1pm and 4pm
- Tickets:
  - **ADULTS:** $35.00 PLUS TAX + $20.00 PLUS TAX UNDER 2 FREE
  - Book tickets (888) 307-1147 or (305) 517-3533

---

**Coral Castle Museum & Sculpture Garden**

Visit the world’s most mysterious castle

**Top 10 Hot Spot In South Florida**

Top Ranked by TripAdvisor • Yelp

Coral Castle Museum

2965 S. Dixie Hwy Miami, FL 33033
305-240-6345
www.coralcastle.com

Sunday - Thursday: 9am - 5pm
Friday - Saturday: 9am - 8pm

---

**Get 4 Days for the Price of 1**

For Military Members, Family & Friends

Ask about 3-Night Vacation Packages at Universal’s Cabana Bay Beach Resort™

Valid for Active, Retired Military and DOD Civilians Only. Additional Restrictions Apply.

---

**OUR THIRD PARK RISES.**

Universal Orlando Resort

---

**TRAVEL USA**

Special Military Resources

**THE GRIFFON • Summer 2017 • 59**
Glasgow and Barren County in South Central Kentucky is a great place to experience relaxation, fun, arts and culture, history, above-ground and underground adventures, water recreation, events and more.

While visiting, you will experience the small town hospitality. A visitor commented that her family “took home a feeling that you can’t get anywhere else.” We want you to take that feeling home with you, too — and come back for more.

Barren County was founded in 1798 and shortly after in 1799, Glasgow was named as the county seat. History tells us that a gentleman by the name of John Matthews was born in Glasgow, Scotland. He was an early trustee of the town and is given credit for naming the town after his birthplace.

Following the end of the Revolutionary War, Scottish soldiers were given land grants in parts of Kentucky; therefore many of our early settlers were Scottish. Scots and the Presbyterian Church go hand-in-hand and in 1802, the First Presbyterian Church, the oldest church in Glasgow, was founded and had the largest body of members in town.

**Attractions**

**Mammoth Cave National Park** preserves the cave system and a part of the Green River valley and hilly country of south central Kentucky. This is the world’s longest known cave system, with more than 400 miles explored. Early guide Stephen Bishop called the cave a “grand, gloomy and peculiar place,” but its vast chambers and complex labyrinths have earned its name - Mammoth.

**Brigadoon State Nature Preserve** is 181 acres of mature woods and old fields bordering the backwaters of Barren River Reservoir in Barren County. Named by the former owners for the mythical Scottish village that appears from the mists once every hundred years, the unique character of the preserve does bring to mind the sense of being somewhere special.

The majority of the forest is intact which helps keep species diversity high. Life sustaining springs feed the creeks even in the driest summers. The rich woodlands contain an impressive array of spring wildflowers including several species that are considered rare or uncommon. The preserve also provides habitat for many resident and migratory birds. The preserve contains approximately one mile of hiking trail open to the public. The trail is of moderate difficulty and runs through ridge tops, mature forest and scenic ravines. The preserve is open to the public for hiking, birding, nature photography and research from sunrise to sunset. Only foot traffic is allowed. Please be respectful of Brigadoon State Nature Preserve and follow the rules.

The preserve was originally part of a 1,000 acre land grant given to Joseph Renfro, one of Virginia’s Revolutionary War veterans. Renfro and his descendants settled along what was then known as Skegg’s Creek and derived their livelihood from the heavily forested land. In addition to farming, the family made coffins and furniture as a means of income.

**South Central Kentucky Cultural Center** is located one block from downtown Glasgow. It is dedicated to telling the story of the people, places and events that make up the geographic area of Kentucky known as the “Barrens” — Metcalfe, Allen, Hart and Monroe Counties, as well as Barren County. If history is of interest to you, this is the place to visit!

Located in the former 1920's Kentucky Pants factory, the 30,000 square foot center currently has quality exhibits spanning three floors. The first floor features a display that represents south central Kentucky from 12,000 BC to frontier days. Items include stone and bone tools, knives, and Native American exhibits from other historic periods.

Visitors can also learn about living in the 1800s. These exhibits include a sewing machine from 1854, quilts, wooden washboard, lye soap, and yoke along with a log cabin, smokehouse, farming tools and equipment.

The second floor features an extensive military collection with items from the Civil War through Desert Storm. In addition, there is a model of Glasgow’s town square that includes businesses from the 19th century such as a post office, bank, doctor’s office, telephone switchboard, dry goods shop, undertaker’s business and other displays.

Displays at the Center undergo change and are managed by volunteers who work under the direction of Gayle Berry, the director of the Center.

Admission is free.
Summer Fun on a Dime for Military Families

School is out and summer is here, so it’s time to plan that summer fun to-do list for you and the family. Whether you are staying local or want to take a road trip, there are ways that you can visit some of the most fun attractions without stretching that wallet. All you need is your military identification card.

Across the country, attractions are offering various discounts (and sometimes at no cost) to military service members, spouses and their families. So, be sure to check locally if anyone offers a military discount (don’t assume, always ask) before packing the car and heading out of town. Most importantly, plan ahead of time. With a little bit of planning, you can be sure to hit up some of the most popular attractions at a fraction of the price. To get you started, here are some of the top summer attractions that offer military discounts.

Waves of Honor Free for military members and up to three dependents, but these offers are not available at the park. To take advantage of this offer, you must register online at https://wavesofhonor.com. Locations include; Busch Gardens® (Tampa, FL; Williamsburg, VA), Sesame Place® (Langhorne, PA), Sea World® (Orlando, FL; San Antonio, TX; San Diego, CA).

Disney Promotional tickets offered for 4- or five-day passes.

Shades of Green This is the hotel just for military families on property at Walt Disney World® in Orlando, Florida. Shades of Green offers discounted accommodations specific for military members and their families.

LegoLand® Florida and California locations offer free tickets to the military at the gate with no restrictions or blackout dates. They also offer deeply discounted tickets to non-active duty/family members and veterans. You can visit your local military base Tickets and Travel (ITT) office for details.

Hershey Park® (PA) Save $20 off regular admission. You can download your coupon here.

Howe Caverns (NY) Daily military discounts are available upon request

Balboa Park (CA) A San Diego must, be sure to take advantage of the generous military discount

Callaway Gardens (GA) They offer many discount packages for military families, this is a perfect opportunity to head out on a road trip.

Blue Star Museums Through a partnership between Blue Star Families and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), over 2,000 museums around the country participate in this program that allows free admission for military families. It runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and you can find the list of participants online.

National Parks A free annual pass is offered to current military to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites.

Vet Tix If you have not yet created an account with this website, what are you waiting for? Vet Tix gives free tickets to military and their families to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, and activities around the country.

Armed Forces Vacation Club offers affordable vacation rentals in numerous destinations worldwide and membership is free. Don’t forget to also check out your installation MWR or ITT office for a list of attractions near you.

Angela Caban is an Army National Guard spouse, freelance writer, published author and branding expert. In 2010, she founded the Homefront United Network, a military spouse and family support blog created to assist spouses who do not live near an installation, but also focusing on bridging the gap between National Guard, Reserve and Active Duty spouses. She has an extensive background in Human Resources and Communications, with her Bachelor’s in Business Administration and a Master’s in Human Resources.
Summer is Beautiful at the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon

Pennsylvania’s Grand Canyon, a 47-mile long gorge is a great place to beat the summer heat. Hiking, biking, kayaking, canoeing, or relaxing are just a few of the activities you can experience.

Take a guided horse-drawn covered wagon ride through the gorge where you can watch wildlife and hear about the history of the gorge. Padded seats and rubber tires make your ride a comfortable one.

A scenic, climate-controlled train excursion is always a nice way to relax in comfort. Add a meal, and the dinner train is a great option.

Our lakes offer great ways to cool down with water sports like swimming, fishing, or boating. Or visit an ice mine, a natural wonder that forms ice during the summer months.

At night, the stars come out to play. The darkest skies east of the Mississippi allow you to view the Milky Way and the night sky unlike any other place in the Eastern United States. So, bring a blanket, and hang out with the stars.

Add in small town charm, shopping, dining, locally produced products, and you have a truly memorable getaway for couples, families and friends.

Need help planning your trip? Call the Tioga County Visitors Bureau at 1-888-TIOGA28 or check our website at www.VisitTiogaPA.com.
Experience Hendersonville’s charm and history

Enjoy the hospitality of Hendersonville, traditionally known for its gentle climate, beautiful scenery, rich culture and history, ample recreational facilities, and friendly people. Hendersonville is located in Western North Carolina, 22 miles south of Asheville, North Carolina, in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains on a plateau with an altitude of 2200 feet above level.

Hendersonville is ideally located for exploring town and country with various attractions, festivals, cultural and recreational activities, historical sites, golf courses, family activities, a historic downtown with unique shops, excellent restaurants, and quality antique stores.

Henderson County offers many diverse attractions, all within an easy walk or quick drive from downtown, including the Henderson County Farmers Curb Market, Jump Off Rock scenic overlook, Historic Johnson Farm, Holmes Educational State Forest, the waterfalls in DuPont State Recreational Forest, the Western North Carolina Air Museum and the Historic Hendersonville Train Depot.

The nearby village of Flat Rock began when families from South Carolina’s Low Country came to Flat Rock to escape the sweltering heat and the epidemic of yellow fever and malaria. South Carolina’s Low Country gentry affectionately called Flat Rock “The Little Charleston of the Mountains.” The entire district of Flat Rock is included in the National Register of Historic Places. Flat Rock is built around a tremendous outcrop of granite, which is said to have been the site of Cherokee gatherings. Their trails met at the “great flat rock,” which can be found on the grounds of the Flat Rock Playhouse. Historic Flat Rock is home to several attractions such as: The Flat Rock Playhouse, State Theatre of North Carolina; the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site; and St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church.

Summer evening concerts showcase traditional mountain music, square dancing, folk, blues and country Monday nights and oldies rock and dancing Friday nights. The three concerts are held under the stars at the Visitor Center, located on Main Street in Downtown Hendersonville. Music On Main Street showcases musical talents from rock to beach music. Monday Night Live features a diverse line-up of folk, country and blues. The sounds of fiddles and banjos playing at the Street Dance have been a part of Henderson County’s heritage for 99 years. The concerts are held early-June through mid-August.

The Visitor Center carries a Trail Series to make sightseeing in Hendersonville a breeze. The brochures include: Heritage Trail, a tour of Henderson County’s most popular historic sites; the Art Gallery Trail, travels through Hendersonville and Flat Rock to 15 galleries and studios; the Cheers! Trail directs you to Henderson County wineries, cideries and breweries. They provide tours and tasting rooms, to sample mountain grown selections. Henderson County is home to Sierra Nevada Brewing Company’s east coast brewing operation.

The Quilt Block Trail is a self-guided tour of our area focusing on the quilt blocks displayed on buildings and barns, each a piece reflecting Hendersonville’s heritage through art. Henderson County grows the most apples in North Carolina and has the seventh largest growing in America. A Crest of the Blue Ridge Orchard Trail is available to assist visitors from early August to mid-November in finding the many orchards offering a variety of experiences like pick-your-own apples. The Trail Guides may be downloaded online at visithendersonvillenc.org.

Hendersonville is small town America at its classic best. Experience this charming historic mountain city.

For a free Vacation Planner or more information call 800-828-4244 or online at visithendersonvillenc.org.

Let the Adventure Begin
Smoky Mountains
North Carolina
maggievalleyhospitalityplus.com

Dining/Lodging Discounts
www.visittncsmokies.com

Come see what’s new at Fort Fisher!

Available to Active Duty Military, Reservists, National Guard, Coast Guard, Retired Military, DoD Civilians and 100% Disabled Veteran with DoD Id card

Reservations: 910-458-8549 | ftfishermlirec.com
Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Area 118 Riverfront Rd. Kure Beach, NC

Where do you want to be?
Don’t take the same old journey. Be somewhere genuine. Be somewhere amazing. Be changed.

Hendersonville
NORTH CAROLINA
800-828-4244 • visithendersonvillenc.org
Call for tour availability/sets and Customer Guides.
Lovin’ the Lake Life
Family, Food, Flumes and Fun at Georgia’s Lanier Islands

Nestled at the foothills of the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains less than 45 miles from downtown Atlanta on the southern-most shoreline of Lake Lanier lies the truly distinctive Lanier Islands. As the resort’s crown jewel, Lake Lanier is one of the United States’ most popular man-made lakes, averaging more than 7.5 million visitors each year and encompassing 38,000 surface acres and 690 miles of shoreline in Northeast Georgia. Popular excursions like the beach and boardwalk themed LanierWorld, Lake Lanier Canopy Tours, horseback riding at the Stables and boat rentals from Harbor Landing make the Islands a terrific choice for families vacationing or “staycating” in the South. Best of all, the lakeside resort is fiercely patriotic and it shows far beyond the confines of the Islands’ renowned Memorial Day and Fourth of July weekend celebrations — as evidenced by the way the resort welcomes military personnel and veterans. Lanier Islands extends free admission to LanierWorld to both active and retired military personnel throughout the summer season, as well as discounts on accommodations and a specially designated overnight package to be enjoyed by military families.

“We first launched this endeavor in mid 2015 by extending free admission to our beach, boardwalk and waterpark at LanierWorld to members of the U.S. Armed Forces, law enforcement and fire services,” said Mike Williams, CEO for Lanier Islands. “We couldn’t think of a better way to say thank you to a group of people who give so much and make so many sacrifices for us all — whether right here in the Metro Atlanta community or half a world away. Based on the response the last two summers and so far this season, our message has been extremely well received. We are truly thrilled to extend further savings to include our accommodations, so military families can enjoy a true taste of the lake life with a well-deserved vacation or staycation on our shores.”

At the Heart and Soul of the Islands: LanierWorld
Boasting a one-half mile stretch of white sand beach, an awesome collection of eateries and watering holes, a miniature golf course, movies and more on the five story high HD Spectacular Screen, and over a dozen waterslides and attractions, LanierWorld truly is the heart and soul of the Islands. Adventurous families can opt to test their mettle on daring slides like the FunDunker Drop or Blackout, send their spirits soaring on the Thunderbolt triple zipline, rock and roll on the Wildwaves Wave Pool, or race loved ones to the finish line on the Wibit aquatic obstacle course. For those who prefer relaxation over summertime stimulation,

Play, Then Stay at Lanier Islands
Enjoy 22 acres of amazing lakeside fun and adventure at LanierWorld. Plus great food, golf, boating, horseback riding, zip lines and more. In fact, there’s so much to do you’ll need more than a day — so stay at our Legacy Lodge and make it an overnight adventure. Lanier Islands is your great Georgia getaway. And active military receive free LanierWorld admission (with your valid ID). Come play... and stay!

Lanier Islands
Tickets and details at lanierislands.com.
the beach beckons, as do the Lakeside Links miniature golf course, a lounge chair perfectly positioned for movie time in front of the Spectacular Screen and a bar stool at the Tiki Hut and Dockside Bar for a nice cold adult beverage. When it’s time to dine, LanierWorld does NOT disappoint thanks to beachfront bistros like Sunset Cove Café, Gianni’s Italian Bistro & Pizzeria, and the newest addition to this savory scene, The Break – just to name a few. Admission to LanierWorld is $41.99 for Adults and Children over 42", $30.99 for Children under 42" and Seniors (62+), and FREE for Children 2 & under. Admission is also FREE to active and retired military personnel*, as well as first responders.

A Well-Derived Rest: Accommodations at Lanier Islands
Quickly growing in size, scope, and reputation as one of the Southeast’s leading lakeside retreats, the Islands is proud to have been designated a member of the highly esteemed Southern Living Hotel Collection. Legacy Lodge serves as the Island’s flagship hotel, showcasing recently remodeled guestrooms with balconies overlooking the forest or lake, two terrific restaurants, a gym and saltwater heated leisure pool. Nearby, the luxury lakeside Legacy Villas provide more room for families to spread out with 6 individual-access rooms and 4500 sprawling square feet. The popular LakeHouses offer that “home-away-from-home” feel with stone fireplace, two bedrooms, kitchen***, and back deck with grill and hot tub.

Offering its own signature brand of Southern Hospitality, this lakeside resort is dedicated to the comfort and enjoyment of its guests. That is particularly true for members of the military. Lanier Islands extends 15% off its best available room rate to active and retired military personnel, as well as first responders. The Military Family Fun Package offers a special flat rate of $199 to active or retired military personnel and includes a deluxe room at Legacy Lodge, 4 passes to LanierWorld and breakfast for 4 at Sidney’s Restaurant inside the Lodge.

Rounding Out Your Visit: Activities at Lanier Islands
The fun doesn’t begin and end with LanierWorld and an overnight stay at Georgia’s Lanier Islands. The resort holds a great deal of fun for the whole family beyond the beach and boardwalk – without ever leaving the Islands. Guests can opt to go on a trail ride from The Stables, tiptoe through the treetops on one of several zipline canopy tours throughout the 1500-acre resort, play a round at the 18-hole lakeside Legacy Golf Course, find inner peace at Tranquility – The Spa, explore the resort via Island Cart or bicycle, enjoy a Kids Night Out with Legacy Kids Club (Parents, you’ll just have to enjoy dinner on your own!), rent a boat from Harbor Landing and go fishing or tubing on the lake, and so much more!

For more information about Lanier Islands – located at 7000 Lanier Islands Parkway in Buford, Georgia, visit www.lanierislands.com or call 770-945-8787.
Chattanooga is the gateway to Tennessee and is nestled along the banks of the beautiful Tennessee River and surrounded by the spectacular scenic beauty of the mountains and the Cumberland Plateau. You will enjoy a newly revitalized green riverfront city, first class attractions, great Southern hospitality, rich Native American and Civil War history, outdoor adventures and locally owned restaurants and cafes, a thriving arts and music scene with plenty of annual festivals and events that offer year-round fun. We are located right off Interstates I-24, I-59 and I-75. You can park your car and check out the free Electric Shuttle or enjoy a great sightseeing tour with Gray Line’s Hop on Hop off Trolley Tour. Your ticket is good for two days and children ride free with a paying adult. Purchase online at https://graylinetn.com/tour/chattanooga-hop-on-off-trolley-tour-2/ or at their ticket office at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Lobby.

The Great Outdoors

If the great outdoors is more your style — then don’t miss our great outdoor adventures like kayaking, paddle-boarding or canoeing right in downtown. You are only a 15 minute drive to hiking trails, mountain biking or rock climbing indoors and out at places like the High Point Climbing Center where a short lesson can have you scaling the Pit or going three stories up. Check them out at www.highpointclimbing.com.

If the great outdoors is more your style — then don’t miss our great outdoor adventures like kayaking, paddle-boarding or canoeing right in downtown. You are only a 15 minute drive to hiking trails, mountain biking or rock climbing indoors and out at places like the High Point Climbing Center where a short lesson can have you scaling the Pit or going three stories up. Check them out at www.highpointclimbing.com.

Historic Destinations

Speaking of Historic Lookout Mountain, located only 15 minutes from downtown Chattanooga you’ll find a whole new list of things to do from riding the steepest Incline Railway in the world to going underground to see a 145 foot waterfall at Ruby Falls to walking through award-winning gardens at Rock City Gardens. www.lookoutmountain.com

Attention Soldiers! Chattanooga Tennessee is a great place to eat, play and stay. Come see what we have to offer – including our great Civil War history, the world’s largest freshwater aquarium, along with the Chattanooga Choo Choo Complex and historic Lookout Mountain. Plan your trip today! Questions?

www.thegriffon108.com
Music in Chattanooga

If you love music then check out our 9-Day Riverbend Music Festival for less than $60 for all nine nights each year in June. With over 100 acts on five stages you will love this award-winning festival. You will find this year’s scheduled acts at www.RiverbendFestival.com.

Want something more intimate? Main Street and the new entertainment district at Station Street will be perfect for you. Check out Track 29 mentioned in Rolling Stone Magazine as the best new venue in the South (www.track29.co) or enjoy great BBQ, burgers and craft beer along with musicians galore.

Be one of the first in the nation to check out the NEW Songbirds Guitar Museum at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Complex. This is one of the largest and most rare collections in the world. Then walk across the street and take a tour and tasting at Chattanooga Whiskey Company’s distillery.

Chattanooga has a variety of musicians that call it home from the 1920’s great Bessie Smith, the Empress of Blues, to Clyde Stubblefield, lead drummer for James Brown to today’s top R&B legend, Usher. Check out our CHA Tunes on Spotify.

Attractions

And here are a few other great things not to miss our Riverfront District includes the Tennessee Aquarium, the world’s largest fresh-water aquarium; or while away an evening at a Chattanooga Lookouts Baseball game on Hawk Hill downtown. Enjoy a prime-rib dinner and music on the Southern Belle Riverboat or take a ride on the high-speed 55 mph catamaran known as the River Gorge Explorer or splash down in the morning in a Chattanooga Duck, a WWII amphibious military vehicle for a fun river ride to remember.

We guarantee to provide you and your family with a vacation that you will talk about for years to come. Whatever thrills you, we think you will find it in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Check out our CHATNOOGA — See You There!

For more information check out our website at www.ChattanoogaFun.com or email Shelda Spencer Rees at ssrees@chattanoogacvb.com.

If you are interested in bringing your military reunion to Chattanooga – we’ve got you covered! Email Reunion Specialist – Ms. Chris Petro at ChrisP@chattanoogacvb.com.
At the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad, we aim to provide each visitor with an experience they cannot get just anywhere. Situated in the mountain highlands of rural West Virginia, our MountainRail Adventures take passengers on a fun and scenic expedition to some of the most obscure and historic parts of the Mountain State. These trips are great for students who care about the outdoors, have an appreciation for history, and enjoy experiencing new things.

With six historic trains departing from three locations, tour operators can pick the experience that is best for them. Whether it’s riding the Durbin Rocket behind a more than 100-year-old steam locomotive, or climbing the mountainous grade of the Cass Scenic Railroad in Cass, we customize each of our group packages to the needs of the visitor.

What is the objective of each trip, you might ask? We want to provide riders the opportunity to experience remnants of the former logging towns in an area where you are surrounded by nothing but pine trees and wildlife. In Durbin, the rocket will take you alongside the Greenbrier River where you may witness a Bald Eagle sighting or other wildlife.

For an entirely different experience, check out the New Tygart Flyer in Elkins, where you can enjoy a 4-hour round-trip train ride from Elkins to the High Falls waterfall and return while riding an enclosed passenger train. This trip includes lunch at no additional cost.

We recommend riding our trains early in the spring season as a way to celebrate the end of the academic school year. Join us in April and early May for a MountainRail adventure at either Cass, Elkins, or Durbin. Our company’s group sales staff will work directly with tour operators to figure out a train that fits both the schedule of the institution and the railroad.

Once you arrive at our properties, friendly staff will escort you to the train and from there, on-train narration will give visitors the chance to better connect with the area in learning about its history, animals that are native to the region, and other fun facts about the areas in which the trains operate.

In addition to your train ride, our staff will coordinate other venues for you, as well, including hotels, lodging, and other entertainment.

“Our goal is that once passengers get here, all they have to do is unwind, relax, and take a few hours to appreciate what’s around them,” says Chase Gunnoe, external affairs manager at Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad. “We don’t want our visitors to be preoccupied with figuring out what to do when the train ride ends, but instead, we want them to relax, and let us do the bulk of the planning. We will connect them with the best in local food and entertainment to make for a truly memorable experience,” Gunnoe adds.

Learn more online at www.mountainrail.com or call 304-636-9477 Ext. 109 to book your visit today!
The 108th Griffon Association recently completed one of its designated missions, which is to offer at least once a year an informal social gathering of past and present members of the 108th Training Command. This was accomplished at the Weston Lake Recreation Area of Ft. Jackson, South Carolina on 29 April 2017.

Numerous association members and guests including former Training Command commanders, MG (Ret.) Charles (Skip) McCartney and MG (Ret.) George Goldsmith attended. Several former Command CSMs were also in attendance. This type of gathering is informal and on a friendly no rank basis. It’s Tom, George, Bill, Henry, etc., not Major, Captain, SGT MAJ, General, etc. The association was developed around this concept, which is why we more mature old soldiers can relax and enjoy each other’s company. This concept also applies to any active unit members, which is one of the reasons the association continues to be a credible organization.

Scholarships
By the time this Griffon issue is published and distributed, we will have selected the scholarship recipients for the 2017–2018 academic year. We have received 16 applications from throughout the command and its vast territory of responsibility. From the initial examination, it is quite apparent the quality of applications is very high making it harder to narrow the numbers and make a selection. Depending on available funds, it is hopeful, like last year, something can be awarded to all applicants. Be on the lookout for the 201–2019 scholarship application, which will be printed in a future issue of the Griffon. Applications are also available on the association website, www.108thGriffonAssoc.com.

Become A Member
As with any all-volunteer organization, a strong membership is needed to present and future existence and success. The 108th Griffon Association is no exception. Your membership is needed if the future of the association is to continue. Yearly tax-deductible memberships are only $10.00 and a lifetime membership is only $108.00. With this you receive the Griffon newspaper, but more importantly you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting an organization designated solely to helping soldiers, active, reserve and retired.

The Griffon Association does more than present scholarships and have picnics. Additional funds are used to support soldiers, who because of training or other injuries, while on an active status, have short-term financial issues, where we provide monetary support and grants to ease their financial burden until the crisis is over. Numerous organizations such as the USO and several veteran support groups are presented with generous grants each year, as funds are available.

When non-appropriated funds are needed for a worthy cause, such as care packages for deployed soldiers, the Griffon Association is a steady and reliable source. This has been utilized numerous times over the course of the association’s existence.

All the above is why your membership is so important. Regardless of the subordinate unit to which you are a member, the Griffon Association is yours for support when needed. Please consider joining. You may be assured your contribution will not be wasted and will be put to very good use where needed. Please find the membership application with this article as space allows, or on line at www.108thGriffonAssoc.com.

Annual Golf Tournament
A large portion of the funds generated to support the Griffon Association projects and contributions are raised by our annual golf tournament. This year it is again being held at the Pine Island Country Club on 25 September 2017. We strongly encourage as many of you as possible to actually participate as volunteers in this endeavor, which has become a fun and most enjoyable day. If you wish to volunteer, please contact Skip McCartney at skip@shelby.net. However, if you are not in the immediate Charlotte, North Carolina area, you can still render your support by sponsoring one of the holes or other venues. Specific information for this event is again found on the 108th Griffon Association website, www.108thGriffonAssoc.com.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advertiser Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Art University</td>
<td>BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama in Huntsville, The University of</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin TX Fire Dept</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avis</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedford VA Tourism</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biloxi Beach Resort Rentals</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgewater Academy</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan College</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo Bill’s Cody/ Yellowstone Country</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By the Sea Resorts</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calfrac Well Services</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California National University</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Pacific College</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capt. Anderson’s Marina</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic University of America, The</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Hill TX</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celadon Trucking</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattanooga TN</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattanooga Zoo</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chenega Corporation</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Educators Academy</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati Police Dept</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Carolina University</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Southern University</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coral Castle</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVS Health</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durbin &amp; Greenbrier Valley Railroad</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Tennessee State University</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Iowa Community Colleges</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern University</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enlightment Christian Academy</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estes</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers Insurance</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FirstEnergy</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foremost Transport/Quality Drive-Away</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Fisher Recreational Area</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Myers and Sanibel FL</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Washington University</td>
<td>29,38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasgow-Barren</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey’s Harbor Washington</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlan County</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haywood County NC</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart of NC</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson County NC</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertz</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HonorForce</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizon Transport</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFPA Personal Fitness</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson College of Health Sciences</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas State University</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent County MD</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Largo Marine Tours</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Cumberland /Burnside, Kentucky</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lanier World Military</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leidos</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Rock Police Department</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lookout Mountain</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion Military Institute</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Reunion Network, The</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi College</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NBC Universal</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC A&amp;T State University</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico Military Institute</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA Museum</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean City, MD</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean Corporation, The</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfeiffer University</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland College</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roush</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequoia Foothills</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sevierville, TN</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith Transport</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SONLIGHT</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Bonaventure University</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Francis College</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Leo University</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga County PA</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri State Expedited Service</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy University</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tupelo MS</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Xpress</td>
<td>IBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Secret Service</td>
<td>IFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Alabama, The</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Colorado Denver</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Tennessee Conferences &amp; Non-Credit Programs</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah State University</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley College</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wytheville Va</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADVERTISER INDEX**

**THE 108TH GRIFFON ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU TO THE Seventh Annual Soldiers and Families GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Sept. 25, 2017 — Pine Island Country Club, Charlotte, NC**

The 108th Griffon Association is sponsoring the event and wants to invite you to participate or become a sponsor for this worthwhile endeavor.

**Procedures are to be used to:**
- Provide educational scholarships for Army Reserve Soldiers and members of their families.
- To promote family readiness and provide assistance to deployed Army Reserve Soldiers’ families.
- Provide assistance to Soldiers injured in action through existing charitable.

The 108th Griffon Association is a North Carolina non-profit 501(c)(19) corporation made up of past and present members of the 108th Training Command, a two-star Army Reserve Command with headquarters in Charlotte, NC and subordinate units spread across the US, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

For more information on the tournament, or to be a sponsor, contact The Griffon and ask for Sherry Brooks at 866-761-1247.
NO ONE VALUES YOUR EXPERIENCE MORE THAN U.S. XPRESS.

VETERANS EARN UP TO $82,000/yr AS A TRUCK DRIVER WITH OUR NEW POST-9/11 GI BILL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM!

We’re one of the few trucking companies selected by the Veterans Administration to be part of the GI Bill Apprenticeship Program—available for both drivers and diesel technicians.

- Earn great pay, plus your V.A. benefits
- Up to $7,000 in tuition reimbursement for Truck Drivers
- Daily or weekly home time available
- Excellent benefits, including 401k

CALL 866-648-5374 OR VISIT USXJOBS.COM/MILITARY

*Certain restrictions apply

USX: MILITARY PROGRAMS GIVING VETERANS MORE, BECAUSE YOU DESERVE MORE.
“Take all the things that made you a soldier, all the skills to be mission-oriented. You can apply that as you pursue your degree in the arts.”

Daryn LaBier, freelance photographer, specializing in magazines and companies for hunters, extreme campers, and the military.

YOUR DREAM. YOUR CAREER. YOUR JOURNEY.
If You Have the Passion, We’ll Help You Make it Happen.

At Academy of Art University, we pride ourselves in doing an exceptional job preparing you to excel in your career. The facilities, faculty, and hands-on learning approach let you build on your service experience to earn an accredited degree in one of 30+ areas of study. You’ll graduate with strong foundations in art and design, the tools you need to succeed in your career, and an entrepreneurial spirit that will stick with you for life.

Study Online or Onsite in San Francisco – 2017 Fall Semester Registration Now Open

Academy of Art University | Founded in San Francisco 1929 | 888.680.8691 | academyart.edu/Griffon | Yellow Ribbon Participant

Visit academyart.edu to learn more about total costs, median student loan debt, potential occupations and other information. Accredited member WSCUC, NASAD, CIDA (BFA-IAD, MFA-IAD), NAAB (B.ARCH, M.ARCH), CTC (California Teacher Credential). Please note, professions listed are for demonstration only.