

THE ROCKET

Spring 2006

Chairman's Message

This is a very special Rocket issue. It truly reflects the impact ROCKS make wherever they are. The 5th ROCKS National Conference was an amazing success. Prominent DoD and Army leaders provided important and timely information to conference attendees. Lively exchanges about key issues abounded — clearly reflecting a passion to address critical challenges in a meaningful way. Opportunities for senior leaders to informally communicate with young officers and cadets during receptions and breaks were intangible and important benefits of forums such as this. Special thanks go out to LTG(R) Honor and COL Bingham and their team for putting on a well attended first class event.

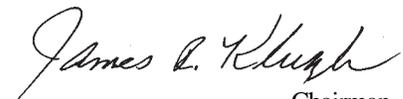
The Washington DC Chapter's 25 March 2006 Gala and Awards Banquet was also a resounding success. There were over 300 attendees, the largest ever, ranging from ROTC cadets to 4 star generals. All enjoyed a festive evening which included recognizing many for their service and commitment to the ROCKS and its ideals. Additionally, a number of very talented and deserving cadets were awarded ROCKS scholarships. Congratulations to BG(R) Richardson and her team for hosting another stellar event that continues to raise much-needed funds to support our youth. There is much to be proud of as many senior ROCKS advance in our Army. History was made once more, with General William "Kip" Ward pinning on his 4th star in a ceremony held in Germany. General Ward is the only African American 4 star general on active duty today. MG Lloyd Austin was nominated for his 3rd star and selected to command the storied and coveted XVIII Airborne Corps, the first African American who will command that organization. MG Mike Rochelle's recent selection to LTG is also announced inside. A more detailed article about MG Rochelle will be in a future issue.

We have scores of dedicated ROCKS serving with distinction in Iraq, Afghanistan, and a host of other locations – *In Harm's Way*. We are so proud of what they are doing. With the ongoing goal of keeping our "finger on the pulse" of what's going on downrange," we are shining a spotlight on a few of them and their efforts in this issue. We offer special thanks and appreciation to COL Marks for his unwavering efforts with the ROCKS Interest Group in Baghdad. Please enjoy their impressive account about Gen Casey's surprise visit to our Baghdad ROCKS.

I hope that you will also enjoy the updates from our Chapters. The Harry S. Truman, Morning Calm, Gator and Hampton Roads Chapters all report interesting, and often fun-filled events, that promote mentoring, professional development, giving back to the community, and making a positive difference in the lives of young people.

There is much to be proud of, but ***there is so much more to be done***. I hope that you will feel the sense of pride that I feel rippling from the pages of this edition as you realize the difference that being steadfastly committed to ***Concern, Dedication, and Professionalism*** can make!

MG (Ret) James R. Klugh



Chairman
National Board of the Directors, ROCKS, Inc.



The ROCKS, Inc.

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5th National Leadership and Training Conference

The Rocks, Incorporated conducted its 5th National Leadership and Training Conference from 23-25 March 2006 at the Fort Belvoir, Virginia, Officer's Club. The ROCKS National Board of Directors hosted this year's conference which highlighted the theme "Leading and Mentoring Challenges in a Transforming Army at War."

The conference featured a superb array of Senior Army officers that provided active duty, company and field grade officers, as well as retirees, the unique opportunity to hear up-to-date presentations on present challenges and the future of our force. Keynote addresses were provided by GEN Johnnie Wilson, former CG Army Materiel Command and current President of Dimensions International; LTG(P) William "Kip" Ward, Deputy CG USA Europe; LTG Russell Honore, CG 1st US Army and CDR Joint Task Force Katrina; and LTG Franklin L. Hagenbeck, DCOS, G1. Numerous briefings and discussions occurred about topics ranging from the decline of ROTC commissions from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), provided by MG Montague Winfield, CG Cadet Command, to the recruiting challenges facing the Army by MG Tom Bostick, CG Recruiting Command. The level of participation in the two panels conducted was also noteworthy. The Officership panel, led by BG Belinda Pinckney and Leadership Challenges During Combat panel, led by MG Lloyd Austin were both extremely enlightening, instructive, and crowd favorites.

The conference concluded with a highly motivating mentoring briefing by BG (R) Clara Adams-Ender and outstanding ROCKS Chapter and Interest Group outbriefings. The thoughtful agenda challenged conference attendees to think about tough subjects like how diversity adds value and impacts the force; post combat stress; the critical role that professional and personal development plays in one's life; and life after the military. And if all that were not enough -- as each day's presentations concluded, the over 90 attendees were provided a wonderful opportunity to network and interact with many of our senior leaders during the nightly receptions, which were open to non-conference attendees. Several first time attendees commented that "this was the best professional development I have received in my military career to

date". One of the goals of the conference is to train our future leaders so that they can make positive contributions to our Army. The Leadership and Training Conference Committee led by LTG (R) Edward Honor and COL Ray Bingham did a phenomenal job of crafting and executing a program that truly enriched those who attended. Special thanks to our sponsors and to all that attended this year's event. We look forward to seeing you again in 2008!

ROCKS Member Viewpoint: ROCKS 2006 National Leadership and Training Conference

*LTC Conrado B. Morgan
President, All American Chapter*

The ROCKS, Inc. National Board of Directors hosted this year's conference starting on 23 March at Ft. Belvoir, VA O'Club. The theme was "*Leading and Mentoring Challenges in a Transforming Army at War*". We had key Army leaders to address the challenges we face in a rapidly transforming army.

The keynote address was delivered by GEN Johnnie Wilson, former CG Army Materiel Command, and currently President of Dimensions International. He was followed by COL (R) Mike Hayden from the Military Officers Association of America who gave us an update on legislative initiatives that impact all components of the armed forces. They are working on increasing the force, 2.2 % pay raise, housing pay that is the same for all to include single soldiers, a 40 year pay table that will give you 100% of your base pay and combat zone pay while in the hospital. The Army GI, LTG Hagenbeck, discussed the manpower challenges in a transforming Army. He briefed that officers can apply for a branch transfer into the combat arms now even if they were branch detailed. BG Belinda Pinckney, one of our ROCK rising stars, addressed protocol and officership, a superb topic to assist you in being a cut above the rest. She told us to read DA PAM 600-60, 600-25 and 840-10. She stated that good manner and common sense will take you a long way. Mr. Love from EEO, DOD addressed "Diversity" in the armed forces now and a projection for the future. There are some valid complaints and the SEC DEF stood up a separate office to attack this issue. The meet and greet session allowed the conferees to meet their fellow ROCKS from other chapters and talk one on one with potential mentors.

On 24 March we started the day with a keynote address from LTG (P) William "Kip" Ward, a long time ROCKS member and Deputy Commanding General United States Army Europe. He will be promoted to GEN on 3 MAY 06 in Germany and will be in the states on 26 MAY 06 for a ceremony. GEN Ward gave us the EUCOM changes and command brief. He stated we need to think Joint and NATO mind set. He talked about "The Pentathlete." This is a new term from Chief of Staff of the Army. You must live the Warrior Ethos (Be a warfighter-go to combat, if you have not been), be a statesman, be a multi-skilled leader and understand business management. You must understand how to build a team and be a strategic and creative thinker. All these terms should be incorporated in your OER now. TRADOC is working the doctrine for this new term now. GEN Ward was followed by COL Marshall J. Goby, Office of the Surgeon General who discussed the commanders' role in assisting soldiers with Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder (PTSD). PTSD is a mental issue and commanders must have all soldiers returning from combat tested for PTSD. Also visit www.battlemind.org for more information. Stress Training is a must and it builds morale in the unit because the soldiers think that you care about them. The Commander HRC discussed promotion trends as a result of GWOT. He stated that all should read the promotion board guidance. Board results for 05 were CPT -98.8%, MAJ - 98%, LTC - 88.7% and COL - 59.7%. He also stated that Diversity for the Army is key. He said that diversity will allow all to seize the opportunity to grow. Have no regrets about your decisions in the Army. Evaluation: Duty Description counts, narrative are important-be concise and quantify regardless who writes the OER. Be consistent in the box check and narrative (if you don't-you lose your vote). We must also do a better job in getting our rater support form and senior rater support form.

The Retired Military Officers Association (RMOA) panel discussed how the military assisted them in becoming, small to mid-sized business owners. This should be an organization to join if you have a business and you are retired. The panel members were millionaires.

MG Bostick, CG Recruiting Command discussed recruiting challenges. We are still an all volunteer force and Recruiting Command made mission on the last day of last month. He is open to our suggestions on how best to deal with those who influence young people to join the army. You can also get 1K if you

have someone to sign up with the Army. A new slogan will be coming out soon. They have hired a new company to help recruit. The CG of Cadet Command briefed on HBCU ROTC and as a TRADOC representative provided a brief sketch on organizational and doctrinal changes for the transforming Army.

LTG Russell Honore', CG 1st US Army and CDR Joint Task Force Katrina, offered insights as a trainer and his disaster relief experiences. He stated that the victims must be understood and listen to during a disaster. He stated that you must go to combat and get your right shoulder patch. Chief of Staff US Central Command chaired a panel on leading and mentoring lessons learned OIF and OEF. He served in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He stated that you must know your trade in peace as well as in war, take risk and understand the risk.

As you can see the conference was jam packed with the best talent the Army had to offer. I am looking forward to the next conference in 2008.



LTG Russell Honore' with cadets from Fort Meade High School ROTC Program

Photo Gallery on the next page.....

“Leading and Mentoring Challenges in a Transforming Army at War”



MG Lloyd Austin's Leading & Mentoring Panel



Pictured from left to right: BG (R) Velma Richardson, BG (R) Clara Adams-Ender and other conference participants



LTG (P) William "Kip" Ward and COL Raymond Bingham



LTG Honore' receives a 2006 Rock of the Year award



MG Montague Winfield addresses the audience



MG Tom Bostick discusses recruiting challenges

ROCKS 2006 Spring Gala and Awards Banquet

The Washington DC Chapter of The ROCKS held its 2006 Gala and Awards Banquet on 25 March 2006, at the Fort Belvoir Officer's Club. It was an overwhelming success and an evening to remember.

From the committee that worked so diligently and arduously for weeks to put it on, to the honorees that came from across the United States and Europe, to the attendees who numbered well over 300, they all enjoyed the festive atmosphere, food, and camaraderie shared at the event.



BG (R) Velma Richardson, President, Washington DC Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. and a 2006 ROCK of the Year Recipient

BG (R) Velma Richardson, President of The ROCKS Washington Chapter, welcomed all the guest and introduced the guest speaker. The Gala guest speaker, a notable ROCK in his own right, was LTG (P) William "Kip" Ward, DCG/CoS, USA Europe and Seventh Army, Germany with temporary duty as US Security Coordinator, Israel-Palestinian Authority, and Tel Aviv. After his promotion to General, he will become the DC, US European Command, Germany. He provided comments on his pending promotion and those individuals that shape and influence your character such as officers and NCO's, your parents, and your family. As he reflected on how these individuals influenced his character, he captivated the audience. In appreciation for LTG (P) Ward's appearance and his inspiring talk, The ROCKS, Washington DC Chapter presented him with a framed picture of three postcard size Stivers' Buffalo Soldier Prints.

LTG (P) Ward is no stranger to The ROCKS organization both in CONUS and Abroad. He has been



LTG (P) Ward, the Gala Guest Speaker, addresses the attendees.

a staunch supporter of The ROCKS wherever he is stationed. He commented during his talk that as a previous ROCK of the Year recipient, he has placed his award prominently on his desk in his office and awaited with delight for the conversations that the award would generate. He stated that the award never failed to generate the opportunity for him to enthusiastically talk about The ROCKS. LTG (P) Ward is currently one of three African American LTG's serving in the Army. Out of 26 African American General Officers currently on active duty, LTG Ward will soon become the only four star African American General – a testament to his concern, dedication, and professionalism. Besides the ROTC Cadets, who received scholarship awards, LTG (P) Ward was the center of attraction throughout the event.

The Gala for 2006 drew a vast number of attendees. There were company grade, field grade, and general officers, active duty and retirees, government civilians, ROTC Cadets, as well as representatives from industry within the National Capital Region.

Two of the chapter's finest; LTC Howard Wilkes and MAJ Gloria Davis presided as Master and Mistress of Ceremonies. Their syncopated orchestration of the evening's events was artful and a delight to watch. A video provided by the Army Public Affairs Office was shown to the attendees to remind them of the most basic core of the military – the family. It highlighted the various celebratory events that we share with our family and friends such as promotions, award ceremonies, military weddings and the returning home of a soldier from the war on terrorism. It also showed the quiet and private times which happens upon the

departure of a loved one heading to war and the efforts of those left behind to maintain the household and help the children endure the days of family separation. The video was a reminder that we are a nation at war. This simple reminder of the family plight was also reinforced with a tribute to our nation's POW/MIAs. As the Master and Mistress of Ceremonies provided a very solemn rendition in reverence and recognition of our fallen and missing Comrades in Arms, SFC Marvin Kelly, The Old Guard, in his ceremonial dress uniform, captivated the audience as he attended to the table set aside in honor of the POW/MIAs. It was a true touch of class and an exemplary performance.

The ROCK's National Chairman, MG (R) James Klugh, awarded several Chairmen awards to ROCK members from the Washington DC Chapter, the Fort Jackson Chapter and the Hampton Roads Chapter. He also awarded monetary scholarships to this year's ROTC award recipients. The following ROTC Cadets were awarded either \$1500 or \$1000: Cadet Jessie Ozbat, Virginia State University; Cadet Bianca Philson, Alabama A&M University; and Cadet Timothy Davis, North Carolina A&T University. BG (R) Richardson, on behalf of the Washington DC Chapter, awarded a monetary scholarship of \$1000 to Cadet Brian Laskey, George Mason University. This year's Robert B. Burke awardee is LTC (R) Elgin Allmond for his outstanding support to the James Webster Smith Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc at Fort Jackson, SC. For service provided in the spirit of The ROCKS' ideals, values and principles, LTG Russell Honore', BG Robert Crear, BG(R) Velma Richardson and COL Dorene Hurt were selected as the 2006 ROCKS of the Year recipients. For those individuals who are non-ROCK members but who have made extraordinary contributions to The ROCKS' initiatives, Honorary ROCK of the Year awards was bestowed on GEN Benjamin Griffin, GEN (R) Dennis Reimer and the Honorable Helen McCoy.

Cadets from Morgan State University ROTC Program supported the Gala by serving as the Honor Guard for the event. Other ROTC students attended the Gala from several ROTC Programs in the National Capital Region. With parting words from BG(R) Velma Richardson and a touching benediction from one of the ROCKS own, COL (R) Ken Younger, the formal part of the program ended but it was just the beginning of the socializing and picture taking that ensued afterwards. It was truly a great event a befitting way to recognize the several awardees.



Attending Cadets, Scholarship Award Recipient Cadets, Mistress of Ceremony, SFC Marvin Kelly take a picture with MG Austin and LTG(P) Ward

2006 Scholarship Recipients

Nachole Braxton / Saint Augustine's College
 Timothy Davis / North Carolina A&T University
 Brian Laskey / George Mason University
 Jeremy Lewis / Fort Valley State University
 Jesse Ozbat / Virginia State University
 Bianca Philson / Alabama A&M University
 Octavia Whittaker / Prairie View A&M University



MG (R) Klugh presents BG (R) Richardson with a ROCK of the Year award.

2006 Spring Gala Photo Gallery



*MG Klugh presents a ROCK of the Year award to
BG Robert Crear*



*COL(R) Tommy Orsborne is presented The ROCKS,
Washington DC Chapter Lifetime Leadership Award by the
Chapter's President, BG(R) Velma Richardson*



*MG (R) Klugh awards COL Dorene Hurt as a
ROCK of the Year recipient*



*GEN (R) Johnnie Wilson accompanies MG (R) Klugh as he
presents The ROCKS Honorary ROCK of the Year award to
GEN Benjamin Griffin.*



*MG (R) Klugh presents The ROCKS Honorary ROCK of the
Year award to the Honorable Helen T. McCoy*



*LTC (R) Elgin Allmond, The ROCKS, James Webster Smith
Chapter, Fort Jackson, is presented with the Bobby Burke
Award*



*MG (R) Klugh awards GEN (R) Reimer as a Honorary ROCK
of the Year recipient*

ROCKS MOVING UP!



Gen "Kip" Ward Pins On 4th Star - Becomes Deputy US EUCOM Commander

Army Lt. Gen. William E. Ward, former Deputy Commander of U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army, assumed the responsibilities of Deputy Commander of U.S. European Command during a ceremony at Patch Barracks on May 3, 2006. Ward was promoted to the rank of General during the ceremony presided by Marine Gen. James L. Jones, EUCOM commander. As Deputy, Ward will oversee the day-to-day operations of EUCOM, a geographic combatant command responsible for U.S. military contingency planning and security cooperation activities in 91 countries in Europe, Africa and the Mideast. EUCOM is also directing a significant transformation of Europe-based units and infrastructure to better respond to 21st century security challenges within its area of responsibility. In an interview at U.S. Army Europe headquarters, Ward said, "We will continue to move ahead with the transformation of the U.S. European Command's theater in ways that we can continue our missions and care for all service members."

During his departure ceremony from USAREUR, he was awarded a Legion of Merit and a Department of Defense Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of his service in Israel.

More than 400 people were in attendance of the Transfer of Responsibility between GEN Wald and GEN Ward including his wife Joyce, Daughter and son-in-law Kahni and Kenyatta Uzzell.

MG Rochelle Selected for Promotion, New Assignment

MG Michael D. Rochelle, Director of the Installation Management Agency, Arlington, VA, has been selected for appointment to the grade of LTG and assignment as the deputy chief of staff, G-1, Army, Washington, DC. He was confirmed by the Senate on April 27.

As Director of the IMA, MG Rochelle is responsible for the management of 119 Army installations worldwide, more than 75,000 military and civilian personnel, and an \$8 billion annual budget. He is also the principal advisor on installation management to the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, and spokesman for all Army base operations issues.

A native of Norfolk, VA, and a graduate of Norfolk State University, MG Rochelle was commissioned as a Regular Army Officer in 1972. He first served a combat arms detail as a lieutenant of field artillery with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), located at Ft. Campbell, KY. Following assignments included forward observer and fire direction officer with the 321st Field Artillery, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Ft. Campbell.

Commanding both at the grade of CPT and MAJ, MG Rochelle commanded first the 226th Adjutant General Company (Postal) in Munich, Germany, and later the US MEPS, Portland, ME. In November 1988, Rochelle assumed command of the Brunswick Recruiting Battalion, Brunswick, Maine. Following a return to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as the Division G-1 and Adjutant General, he assumed command of the U.S. Army Garrison and installation at Fort Monroe, Va. He also served as the Sr. Military Asst. to the Dep. Sec. of Defense, the Hon. John J. Hamre, and later as the Special Asst. to the Dep. Chief of Staff for Personnel.

Rochelle is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the U.S. Army War College, and holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg State University, PA. His decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, and the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Look for an interview with General Rochelle in the next Rocket!

MG Austin Selected for Promotion, New Assignment

MG Lloyd J. Austin III has been nominated by the Secretary of Defense for appointment to the rank of LTG and assignment as CG, XVIII Airborne Corps & Ft Bragg, Ft Bragg, NC. He is currently serving as Chief of Staff, US CENTCOM, MacDill AFB, FL.



MG Lloyd Austin, then 10th Mtn Div Cdr, bids farewell to his unit before returning to Fort Drum. Look for an article about MG Austin in the next Rocket!

Spotlight on A Deployed ROCK: LTC B.T. Wheeler, II

Fellow ROCKS member Lieutenant Colonel Booker T. Wheeler, II was recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal at Camp Victory, Baghdad, Iraq from Major General Kathleen M. Gainey, Multi-National Forces-Iraq Deputy Chief of Staff Resources and Sustainment. For the past year, B. T. served in Baghdad as the Operations Officer for the Defense Logistics Agency Contingency Support Team –Iraq, Multi-National Force-Iraq (MNF-I). LTC Wheeler's outstanding leadership was evident in his flawless direction of a 52-member joint team deployed at eight locations throughout Iraq.



He guided Customer Service Representatives (CSRs) in streamlining procedures to maintain the flow of repair parts into the US Central Command Area of Operations. His responsibilities included the oversight of responsive logistics support to 160,000 widely dispersed coalition forces and more than 60,000 contractors in Iraq. LTC Wheeler pioneered process improvements to assure successful DLA wholesale supply support including contract administration and disposal services. He coordinated timely resolution for critical repair parts to prevent adverse affects to weapon systems, resulting in high combat effectiveness and sustained Operational Readiness Rates for tracked, wheeled, and combat service support weapon systems and engineer equipment.

LTC Wheeler's planning savvy contributed to rebuilding the Iraqi fuel infrastructure. He supervised the daily flow of 1.3 million gallons of JP8, 263,000 gallons of Diesel Fuel and 45,000 gallons of MOGAS from Kuwait, Jordan and Turkey. B. T. frequently "broke the mold" overcoming and triumphing over peacetime limitations to solve urgent wartime logistics needs. He enhanced the flow of subsistence resulting in timely delivery of over 108 million meals, worth in excess of \$1 billion. B. T. facilitated the expediting of over \$272 million in materiel to rapidly outfit the Iraqi Security Forces leaving a legacy of enhanced security for the citizens of Iraq. He championed the combat unit's concerns for critical items such as Up Armor High Mobility Multi-Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWW) air conditioning parts, human remains pouches, tents, and Materiel Handling Equipment (MHE) offering solutions to resolve their concerns and prevent future occurrences.

Working between 14-16 hours daily, under stress, and frequent rocket attacks in Baghdad, he always maintained his composure. A widely respected and admired professional, he always took time to mentor junior officers. He enjoyed providing guidance, support, and encouragement to help them become more efficient and productive in achieving their professional goals. On a personal note, LTC Wheeler stated, "As ROCKS in Baghdad we've been truly blessed to have the opportunity to receive the guidance and mentorship of senior officers directing forces engaged in direct combat and nation building. Similarly, the senior members of the ROCKS in Baghdad have displayed genuine concern for the professional development of junior officers in Iraq and their guidance has strengthened us all."

GEN Casey Addresses ROCKS Interest Group in Baghdad

All week long the organizers of the ROCKS Interest group meeting had been cryptic about who the guest presenter for the upcoming meeting was going to be. Finally, the day of the long-awaited hush-hush ROCKS interest group meeting arrived. A little past 1900 local Baghdad time, the room was called to attention, and General George W. Casey, Jr., the CG of Multi-National Force-Iraq strode into the room to speak to the members of the Iraq ROCKS interest group on April 15, 2006.

GEN Casey shared his perspective on the MNF-I's most significant accomplishments, described the current situation in Iraq and shared his vision of success and his plans to get there. GEN Casey began with the Bottom Line Up Front: fighting the insurgency. He believes that one of the greatest challenges in Iraq is countering the insurgency that threatens the stability of Iraq's new government. He noted that many failures from the past occurred because leaders failed to re-evaluate strategic assumptions. He assured the crowd that no such failures were occurring in Iraq because he and his staff re-evaluate their assumptions every 6 months.

As the Iraqi's become more proficient, Coalition forces will gradually stand-down. GEN Casey is all too aware

that we run the risk of wearing out our welcome in Iraq if we stay too long. Through the use of anecdotes, self-deprecating humor, and the plainly-spoken truth, the MNF-I CG mesmerized the ROCKS audience with play by play accounts of some of the highs and lows of the Campaign thus far. He described how the first tentative moments gave way to an avalanche of freedom and personal expression as Iraqis exercised their right to vote. He touted the successes of the newly-established provisional reconstruction teams, recalling how the creation of a neighborhood pumping station literally and figuratively cleaned up a previously-contaminated area.

The MNF-I CG spoke most optimistically about the transition period we've entered into in Iraq. He described the strategic underpinnings of using transition teams to mentor and train Iraqis to win their freedom from terror and leave behind the legacy of three decades under Saddam Hussein. He acknowledged the challenges posed by sectarian violence and insurgent networks. However, he reminded the audience that the Campaign Plan got us the success we're enjoying today. The same Campaign Plan will return us home to our loved ones. He conceded that the process won't evolve overnight. Fortunately, for the "dream team", there are growing signs of progress and the trend moves forward.



Fort Leonard Wood Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc.

The Ft Leonard Wood “Harry S.Truman” Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. Recently conducted their first ever Leadership Outreach Visit to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Several chapter members made the trip to attend the “Golden Lions” Cadet Battalion Military Ball and conducted a mentorship session with the cadets.

The military ball was conducted at the picturesque Harbor Oaks Country Club in Pine Bluff, and was attended by many of the cadets and their family members from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and satellite campuses. COL Leslie Smith, of the Ft Leonard Wood Chapter was the guest speaker and provided the cadets with some inspiring remarks centered on the importance of leadership and their roles as Army officers. The highlight of the evening was the Cadet Award Ceremony, where many of the cadets were recognized for their outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements. Chapter members also met with a number of the cadets during a leadership and mentorship session. The members answered many of the cadets questions as they spoke of some of the roles, responsibilities and expectations of being a junior officer, while sharing their experiences while serving in the various branches of the Army that were represented.

Many of the cadets, cadre and family members thanked the ROCKS members for taking the time for sharing their unique and inspiring experiences and said that the leadership outreach visit definitely made a positive



Members of the FLW Chapter of the ROCKS pose with UAPB cadre at their Annual Military Ball

and lasting impact on the cadets and the Golden Lions ROTC program. The visit helped serve as a stepping stone to future leadership outreach opportunities and continuing mentorship.

HRC Professional Development Luncheon

The Hampton Roads Chapter sponsored their second professional development luncheon on 14 December, at the Ft. Eustis Club, Ft. Eustis, Virginia. The guest speaker for the luncheon was BG Dennis E. Rogers, Deputy Commanding General, US Army Accessions Command, located at Ft. Monroe, Virginia.

Attending the luncheon were members of the HR Chapter, and their guest - civilian and military, throughout the Hampton Roads community. Attendance to this function, which was catered by the Ft. Eustis Club, exceeded 80. This included cadets from Norfolk State, and Old Dominion Universities, junior officers from Ft. Eustis, and Ft. Monroe; MG Montague Winfield, Commanding General, US Army Cadet Command, Ft. Monroe, as well as the Senior Advisor, and President of the Langley Air Force Base Chapter of the Air Force Cadet Officer Mentoring Action Program (AFCOMAP), to name a few.

BG Rogers gave a very motivating speech, which complimented the theme of the luncheon “Leadership and Mentorship – Bedrock of our Organization”.

To close out the luncheon in the holiday spirit, the Chapter conducted a drawing and give out 10 inexpensive, yet fun gifts. This was a very successful event, and will plan to do another professional development luncheon later this year, according to LTC(R) Wendell Turner, Chapter President.

Your input COUNTS!
Have a good idea for a Rocket article?
Simply email your suggestion to
therocks@aol.com

A Deployed ROCK – "In His Own Words" – LTC James A. Lewis

I am an active-duty Army Judge Advocate, and deployed to Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq in June of 2005. Here, I serve as the Multi-National Force – Iraq Chief of Administrative and Civil Law. In this capacity, I'm responsible for the provision of legal advice and support to the MNF-I Commander, Chief of Staff, other staff members and major subordinate commander of MNF-I; a total force of 160,000 from 28 nations engaged in combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The areas my office covers includes interpretation of U.S. and international laws, regulations, directives, fiscal and contractual policies, resource applications, and personnel issues and law. Assisting me in the provision of legal services to a four-star, joint and combined command are six attorneys I lead, supervise and mentor.

The past year has indeed been challenging. The unique and complex legal issues, coupled with the sheer volume of work, keeps our noses to the grindstone from 13-16 hours a day, 7 days a week. My fellow ROCKS officers have been an invaluable resource to me during this deployment, and I seriously doubt that any of our respective successes could have been realized without the unselfish support from each other that I witness every day.

We collectively represent a wealth of knowledge, experience, and encouragement, and the enormity of



our combined talents is immediately apparent whenever we assemble. The ROCKS in Baghdad provide invaluable professional development opportunities that greatly benefit and strengthen us all. In addition, we especially look forward to the social interaction opportunities, as we're separated from our loved ones back home.

On a personal note, I've benefited tremendously from this resource. As a soldier/attorney with over 15 years of active-duty experience, I'm deeply humbled by the qualities represented by the ROCKS in Baghdad. The genuine concern, dedication, and professionalism displayed daily is as awe-inspiring as it is humbling. Not only have I been blessed to receive the sage guidance of several senior officers here, but I've been doubly blessed to serve as a mentor to many. We are not reluctant to open our doors to any who seek our support, guidance, or assistance. The ROCKS in Baghdad are indeed solid!

A General's Visit

By Karen Johnson

LTG Russell Honore' took time out of his assiduous schedule to speak to the officers and families of the Ft. Polk (Gator) Chapter of ROCKS, Inc., at Ft. Polk. It was encouraging and a privilege to listen to him recount on his vast 35 years of experience in the Army. What an inspiration it is to have a General officer in the Army who recognizes the positive influence he has directly and indirectly on the new and progressing officers of the Army. Although his presence is very commanding which could be disconcerting to a young officer, he has a welcoming attitude, which makes his audience comfortable at once, and eager to hear the words of wisdom he is so willing to share.

LTG Honore' began his presentation with an acknowledgement of the great job that our Army's soldiers are doing in OIF & OEF. He spoke of the First Army's mission and expounded on the goals and needs



The Gator ROCKS President MAJ T.J. Johnson presents a memento to LTG Russell Honore' in appreciation for his time and words of wisdom on behalf of the chapter.

of the First Army. LTG Honore' accompanied his oral account with a visual slide demonstration to better acclimate the audience to the current status of the training and deployment decisions being made by the Army.

LTG Honore' proceeded on to talk to the new and junior officers on the merits of respect as an officer in the Army. He touched on this trait and relayed the fact that an officer must have pride with their job; strive to be the best at that job leaving nothing for chance. LTG Honore' highlighted the need for mentors of young officers, and stressed the fact that mentors are found within immediate reach of the assigned unit (company, battalion, and brigade level). LTG Honore' pointed to the fact that success is definitely possible in the Army, he gave no quick recipe to success but emphasized that hard work at each rank is very important, excel there and success will accompany you. As he prepared to close he added the fact that family is also important in the Army. He noted that families are important to the soldier and Army thus should not be separated unnecessarily as children need both parents.

HRC ROCKS Help Bring in Christmas Cheer

By LTC (R) Wendell Turner



For the fifth consecutive year, the Hampton Roads Chapter of ROCKS made a visit to the Hampton Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital to share songs and laughter with resident patients. The outreach to the VA Hospital is annually coordinated by Mr. Hubert Becton, Chapter Advisor, and a Pharmacist at the VA Hospital. Hubert is also a founding member of the HRC ROCKS Interest Group and was instrumental in obtaining Chapter status in 2002.

This year's project was led by Mr. Toney Mooney, HRC Chapter VP of Administration. Toney enthusiastically coordinated this year's volunteers, costumes and music. The volunteers gave of their time and talent to lead sing-alongs and caroling in a variety of old Christmas standards as they traveled through the halls of the hospital.

The HR Chapter had 10 members who participated in the caroling event. Additionally, there were three family members who supported the event. Names of participants are: LTC DeVoe, CPT Graham, MAJ Grant, CPT Brown, CPT Aaron and Son, LTC (R) Turner, LCDR (R) Johnson, CPT Ellis-Ramsey, CW3 Plummer and Daughters, LTC(R) Mooney.

HRC Host 4th Annual Masquerade Party

By LTC Shurman L. Vines, Chairman
Ways and Mean Committee

The HRC of the ROCKS, Inc. successfully hosted it 4th annual '70s and '80s Masquerade Party on Friday, February 17 at the Ft. Eustis Club, Ft. Eustis, VA. In attendance, were two of our local General Officers, MG Montague Winfield, CG US Army Cadet Command; and BG Dennis Rogers, Deputy Command/Chief of Staff, US Army Accessions Command. A great time was had by all and the Disk Jockeys of D2Z Entertainment kept the party going until long past the scheduled end time for all activities. Supported by a great number of members who bought and sold tickets for the event and several key volunteers who help with the coordination, the chapter profited over \$1500 from this successfully event. The group photo was taken by Mr. Mark White.



Morning Calm Chapter Activities

The ROCKS, Inc., Morning Calm Chapter started the year by executing numerous activities to establish our presence on the Korean Peninsula with stellar fundraiser and officer professional development (OPD) events to start off 2006.

We began the month of February with another event in our series of OPDs, this one titled Army & 8th US Army Transformation. This briefing was given by our guest speaker COL Richard Parker, the 8th US Army (G3) Future Plans officer. COL Parker's presentation addressed the effects of Transformation on all branches of the US Army and how these changes are derived annually from the Presidents initiatives. Also, officers in attendance learned about the immediate and future plans for bases and units currently stationed here.

The Morning Calm Chapter also executed our first fundraiser in the month of February. We coordinated a free Movie Marathon as part of ethnic observance of African-American History entitled "...A celebration of African-American influences at the movies for the whole family." Service members and family members who attended enjoyed a variety of dramas and comedies for adults and in another area feature length cartoons for children. We raised money through refreshments sold throughout the evening.

The 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, with the support of the Chapter, hosted a program titled 'Days of Remembrance' in April. During the ceremony, Soldiers and civilians performed for all by portraying various people who witnessed or died due to the atrocities of attributed to the Holocaust. Additionally, the program consisted of poetry reading and performances of Jewish hymns by the 8th U.S. Army Band.

Of course, all of our events included membership drives but in the coming months our chapter plans to execute even greater fundraisers and OPDS events to continue to generate interest and support from officers assigned to the Korean Peninsula to seek us out for membership. United States officers world-wide can rest assured that the Morning Calm Chapter of the ROCKS, Inc. will do its part to ensure that junior officers assigned to Korea understand that '*Professional success meets professional satisfaction.*'

Election, National Board of Directors, ROCKS, Inc.

During the 2006 Leadership and Training conference, elections for the Board were conducted. The new Board will be sworn in at the 15 July Board meeting. BG (R) Clara Adams-Ender is the Chairman elect. A veteran ROCKS member she has served as President of the DC Chapter and VP, Mentorship on the National Board for the past six years. MG (R) Jim Klugh, the outgoing chairman, has served in that capacity since the inception of the National Board. He was elected to serve as VP, Corporate Outreach. BG (R) Velma Richardson is the Vice Chairman elect. She is also the DC Chapter President. Replacing BG Adams-Ender as VP, Mentorship is MG (R) Robert Harding, a long time member of the ROCKS.

BG (R) Earl Simms succeeds, MG (R) Isaac Smith as VP, ROTC Programs. MG Smith's work with ROTC Programs and Scholarships pre-dates the establishment of the National Board of Directors.

COL (R) Lucretia McClenney, will be the VP, Finance.

COL Dorene Hurt, VP, Communications and Publications is leaving the Board after 18 months. We thank her for her service. A new VP, Communications will be appointed by the Chairman at a later date.

Chapter Representatives were also elected and they are: LTC Richard Dix, European Officers, LTC (R) Wendell Turner, Hampton Roads, LTC (R) Elgin Allmond, James Webster Smith, Ft. Jackson, and LTC Leslie Gerald, Morning Calm, Korea.

The following officers were re-elected for their current positions: COL Ray Bingham, VP Membership; LTG (R) Ed Honor, VP, Programs and Strategic Planning, COL (R) Frank Francois, VP Historian.

At election time we did not have a nominee for General Counsel, so the Chairman will appoint a General Counsel at a later date. The term of office for all officers is three years.



HISTORY OF THE ROCKS, INC.

During the mid 1960s, a group of Army officers assigned to the Command and General Staff College (CGSC) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, began to meet informally in order to get to know each other better. Many of these officers had known each other in college or during other assignments. They, of course, had one additional thing in common at the time – how to “survive” at Fort Leavenworth. The group jokingly dubbed itself the “BLUE GEESE,” a term well known at CGSC as the vehicle used to convey a special assignment to a student officer. When the school year ended, the group discovered that many were being assigned to the pentagon and other places in the greater Washington area.

Upon reaching Washington, several informal meetings followed. However, the emphasis was modified to deal with survival in the National Capitol Region and to address other issues of interest to the members. During the years which followed, many officers were reassigned in and out of the Washington area so the group continued to grow. The need for a more structured organization was also seen, so a formal meeting was held on October 9, 1974, to get the group formalized. Those present decided to call themselves the “No Name Club.”

One of the later meetings was held on December 1, 1974, with the expressed purpose of naming the group. General Roscoe (Rock) C. Cartwright and his wife, Gloria, had been in Columbus, Ohio visiting their daughter and Rock was expected at the meeting. It was then that the group received the shocking news that the plane on which the Cartwrights were returning had crashed enroute to Dulles airport with no survivors. During the period of mourning, the Cartwright family requested that instead of flowers, a scholarship fund be established in the name of their parents. This resulted in the establishment of the Roscoe C. Cartwright Scholarship Fund to provide financial assistance to students who excel academically.

During the month of December 1974, at a special meeting following the funeral, the organization gathered and voted unanimously to administer the Roscoe C. Cartwright Scholarship Fund and to name itself the “ROCKS,” the name that we affectionately knew as one of our Geese and Charter member, Brigadier General Roscoe C. Cartwright.

**The ROCKS, Inc.
National Membership Application**

Name: _____ Spouse: _____
 Service: USA USN USMC USAF USCG Other Branch/Specialty: _____
 Rank: _____ Status: Active Duty Reserve Retired Former est PCS: _____
 Source of Commission: ROTC Service Academy OCS _____ Direct _____ Other _____
 College/University Attended: _____ Degree: _____ Year: _____
 Home Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Birth Date (Mo/Day): _____
 Duty Station or Employer: _____
 Business Mailing Address: _____
 Telephone: Work: _____ Home: _____
 Fax: _____
 Preferred Mailings, please use my: Home Address / Work Address / Email: _____

Which Chapter is the Nearest: Atlanta Interest Group, GA / CA National Guard / Carlisle Barracks, PA / Germany / Hawaii / Hampton Roads, VA / Korea / San Antonio, TX Washington DC / Ft Bragg, NC / Ft. Bliss, TX / Ft. Carson, CO / Ft. Campbell, KY / Ft. Gordon, GA / Ft. Hood, TX / Ft. Huachuca, AZ / Ft. Jackson, SC / Ft. Leavenworth, KS / Ft. Lee Interest Group, VA Ft. Leonard Wood, MO / Ft. Lewis, WA / Ft. Polk, LA / Ft. Riley, KS / Ft. Stewart, GA

Other, please specify: _____

National Membership Fees:			Method of Payment: Check Visa MasterCard
04 & Above	03 & Below	Life Member	Credit Card Number:
1 Year: \$50.00	1 Year: \$30.00	\$450 Regular	Expiration Date:
2 Years: \$96.00	2 Years: \$58.00	\$650 Gold	Name as it appears on card:
3 Years: \$142.00	3 Years: \$86.00	\$850 Platinum	

***Payment plans are available. If you are interested, please email us.**

Sponsors Name: _____

Make all checks payable to “ROCKS, Inc.” and mail it to P.O. Box 471212, Forestville, MD 20753

Note: Local membership fees are not included.