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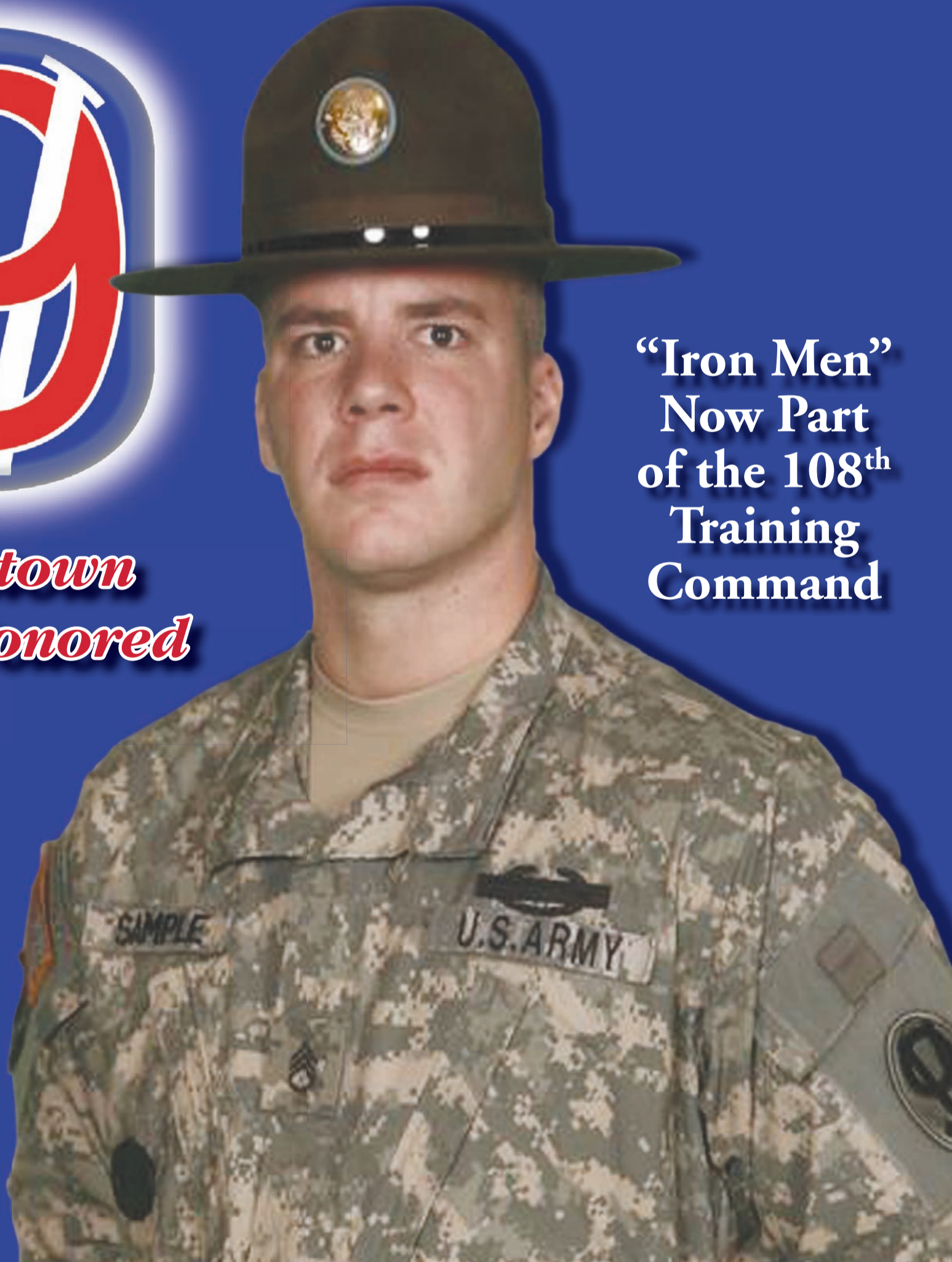
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**VOL 32.4 Fall 2008**

# Welcome 95th Division



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# General's Column

## All Under One Roof



By **Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory III**  
Commanding General  
108th Training Command (IET)

As I write this column, the 108th Training Command (IET) has officially moved from Unity of Effort to Unity of Command and achieved our initial transformation end state with both the 95th and 98th Divisions as the national USAR IET force providers. Note that the operative concept is "initial" end state....

This Command, from top to bottom, will continue to evolve to meet the many challenges facing our Nation and Army for the 21st Century. Form follows function, that is, our missions will determine our force structure and stationing actions in the future. To that end, we are pushing the envelope to develop the most relevant and challenging missions for our Drill Sergeants, instructors and cadre.

You can't have a sense of where we are going without an appreciation for where we have been. The *Griffon* will be profiling the proud histories and accomplishments of the 95th and 98th Divisions as well as their current posture and our Brigades are adopting mottos to highlight the historical legacy of their constituent battalions and provide continuity with their Division affiliations of the past. Each Brigade will have space in the *Griffon* and I encourage soldiers to submit articles about their unit and individual accomplishments so we can share the great things that are being accomplished.

By the time this issue of the *Griffon* is published, we will have completed the last of our mobilization and AT training base expansion missions. What a phenomenal record of accomplishment. You have demonstrated the proof of principle that the Army Reserve IET force can be counted upon to accomplish any training missions as an equal partner with the active component - whether training base expansion "Echo" missions in AT or mobilization status; pre-mobilization training for MTOE deploy-

ing units at the USAR's three Regional Training Centers (RTC's); deployed trainers in Iraq and Afghanistan; support to ROTC Warrior Forge and LDC; Committee and Reception support to the Army Training Centers or providing Platoon Mentors for the Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) II.

Collectively, we have already established a USARC, TRADOC, and indeed, an Army-wide reputation for innovation and initiative. As the Army Reserve looks to implement the AR-FORGEN model, the 108th Training Command (IET) has been identified by USARC as the first "quick win" as an example of how to operationalize the reserve component. The TRADOC Commander has likewise recognized the tremendous capabilities as a force multiplier and cost savings that we bring to the table and is advocating with Department of the Army our full utilization to meet surge, grow the army and ongoing incorporation into the TRADOC training base.

I have outlined in the Command Training Guidance three imperatives: 1) Accomplish the Mission; 2) Take Care of Soldiers and their Families and; 3) Live the Army Values, in or out of uniform, while following the Golden Rule. As noted above, our Soldiers are accomplishing every mission with superlative results.

A couple of *Griffon* issues ago I outlined how essential increasing Drill Sergeant strength is to enable us to execute missions. I am happy to report that during the past 18 months, command-wide, we have increased qualified Drill Sergeant strength from less than 1,400 to slightly more than 2,000 - almost halfway to our 100-percent qualified goal of 2,760 Drill Sergeants plus 120 Drill Sergeant Leaders. This increase is the result of a multi-faceted team approach to increasing INPUT of quality Drill Sergeant Candidates into our companies, THROUGHPUT by actively managing, mentoring and holding DSC's accountable by the Company and Battalion chains of command, and OUTPUT by the Drill Sergeant School in increasing the frequency and options of DSS classes, together with teaching our own Warrior Leader Course.

I would like to take some time to address the second imperative, Taking Care of Soldiers and their Families. We recruit Soldiers, but retain Families. The Army and the 108th Training Command (IET) are working diligently to provide meaningful and timely assistance to our Soldiers and Families through a multitude of programs designed to address not only mobilization and deployment, but the ongoing provision of benefits and care 24/7 - 365 days a year. If you are reading this, and do not know about the 108th Family Readiness program known as Fort Family, then please contact your

chain of command or log onto [www.fortfamily.org](http://www.fortfamily.org).


For soldiers mobilizing, deploying or redeploying, the Army Reserve is implementing a mandatory YELLOW RIBBON program designed to provide useful information and strategies to deal with separation and reintegration.

Safety is also of paramount concern - Soldiers and our Families are our most precious resource - and although we have made progress in reducing accidents and fatalities throughout the Army Reserve, one preventable loss is one too many. Please ensure you and your family members buckle up; avoid distractions while driving such as cell phones, PDAs, blackberries, iPods and the like; and

be particularly careful during the winter driving season when 71 percent of accidents occur. If you ride a motorcycle, which is our highest risk category for accidents and accounts for 31 percent of all USAR fatalities, ensure you are wearing an approved helmet and protective gear and slow the heck down - speed kills.

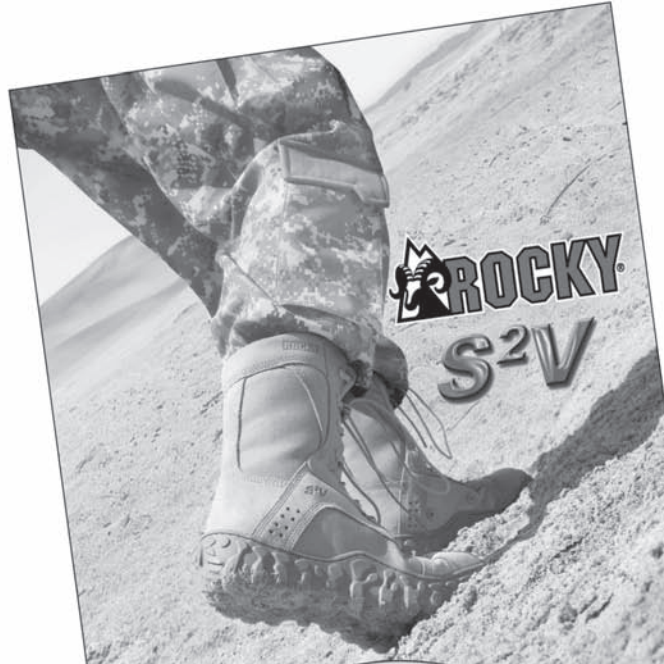
Finally, I would like to express my personal appreciation for the four years of outstanding leadership provided by CSM Larry Welch, Commandant of the 108th Drill Sergeant School, as he moves on to an assignment as the Deputy Commandant of the AC Drill Sergeant School at Fort Jackson. HOOAH!


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Members of the 108th Color Guard participate in a joint color guard during Opening Ceremonies for Speed Week uptown Charlotte.  
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**Please e-mail stories/photos or story ideas to: Vicki L. White at [vicki.l.white@usar.army.mil](mailto:vicki.l.white@usar.army.mil). Phone 866-215-3647 ext. 4037.**  
**DEADLINES: Spring January 25 • Summer April 18**

# Give Thanks For Soldiers, Family and Country



By *Command Sgt. Maj.  
William J. Payne*  
Command Sergeant Major  
108th Training Command (IET)

I hope that all of you and your families have a safe and joyous holiday season.

We have a number of things to be thankful for this time of year. We need to be thankful that we live in the greatest country in the world. Let us be thankful that we have the opportunity to serve in the greatest Army in the world that is part of the finest military in the world.

We need to be thankful and proud that we just participated in one of the most significant elections in our nation's history. And that it was conducted according to the Constitution of the United States of America, the same document we in uniform have sworn to defend. The nation's citizens freely elected a new president and commander in chief, without a revolution or coup. And even though there are major differences between the outgoing and incoming administration, one thing that we can all be secure in the fact that the transition will occur and in a peaceful manner.

Regardless of whom you voted for, now is the time for our country to unite behind the new administration as it tackles all of the challenges it will be facing in the future. Let us hope and pray for President Barack Obama and his family and to give him the strength and wisdom to make the tough decisions that he will be facing during his presidency. And remember that we all took an oath to obey the orders of the President of the United States and of the officers appointed over us. To President Bush, let's wish for him and his family God Speed and a long, safe retirement after serving our country for the last eight years in some of the most tumultuous times in our recent history.

While we have a lot to be thankful for, let us not forget our broth-

ers and sisters in uniform that are still far from home and in harm's way around the world defending our nation, our freedom and our way of life

Let us not forget that many of our fellow citizen Soldiers may be facing financial hardships during these trying times in our economy. As someone who has lost a job through merger and whose current civilian job is facing an uncertain future due to having his company being bought out by another, I am deeply empathetic with what these Soldiers may be going through. If you know someone that may be facing problems like this, be sure to stay in touch with them and escalate any issues up your Chain of Command or NCO Support Channel so that we may assist that Soldier in any way possible.

There has been a lot of turmoil recently in our yearly planning due to the restricted financial situation that is currently affecting the military. I know that a lot of our Soldiers have been directly affected by this and we apologize for any hardship or inconvenience that these current financial shortfalls may have caused. We all need to be fiscally responsible and creative in figuring out how to best serve and support our wide spread Soldiers as we move deeper in the Training Year 09.

And finally, let's all give thanks to the outgoing drill sergeant school commandant, CSM Larry Welch, who has done an outstanding job transitioning all of the six DIVIT drill sergeant schools into one combined school for the Army Reserves. This completes over 14 years of direct involvement in the drill sergeant school for CSM Welch, who held every position in the drill sergeant school from drill sergeant leader all the way through commandant. CSM Welch has positioned the drill sergeant school for much success in the future.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce to you the new commandant of the 108<sup>th</sup> Training Command (Initial Entry Training) Drill Sergeant School, Command Sergeant Major Travis Williams. CSM Williams was selected from a group of highly qualified candidates. CSM Williams comes to us from the 95<sup>th</sup> Division by way of the 80<sup>th</sup> Training Command (TASS). You will see by his bio that he has a great deal of experience in the drill sergeant environment to include time at the 95<sup>th</sup> Division Drill Sergeant School. We should all know that the drill sergeant school is the hub around which this training command revolves. We could not accomplish our many missions without it. So let's give CSM Williams our full support as he takes the Army Reserve Drill Sergeant School through its next phase of evolution.

See you on the trail.

## TRAVIS W. WILLIAMS

Command Sergeant Major, Commandant,  
108TH Training Command (Initial Entry Training)  
Drill Sergeant School

Command Sergeant Major Travis W. Williams began his military career when he enlisted as a Fire Support Specialist at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma on February 17, 1987. Upon completion of basic training and advanced individual training at the Field Artillery Training Center, he completed the Army Airborne School at Ft. Benning, Georgia. His first assignments, included radio telephone operator, and fire support specialist at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. During assignment there he completed the Primary Leadership Development Course, Naval Gunfire School, Jungle Operation Training Course, and was deployed as a Forward Observer in support of Operation Just Cause in Panama.

CSM Williams joined the United States Army Reserves on February 16, 1990 and was assigned to the 2BN/402nd BDE in Amarillo, Texas. He graduated the Drill Sergeant Course in January of 1991 as the Distinguished Graduate and served in the BN as a Drill Sergeant and Senior Drill Sergeant. He Completed the Small Group Instructors Training Course, Basic Non Commissioned Officers, (Honor Graduate), and Advanced Non Commissioned Officers Course, (Commandants List,) while assigned there. He then volunteered assignment as a Drill Sergeant Leader at the 95th Division Leadership Development Academy where he spent two years as a Drill Sergeant Leader, before moving to Wichita Falls, Texas and serving as the NCOIC of the Drill Sergeant School phase II of the Battalion. He moved back to the 95th Division Drill Sergeant School and was selected as the NCOIC of the Phase III course for two cycles while completing his Associates in Applied Science degree. CSM Williams was promoted into the position of Chief Instructor of the 95th Division Drill Sergeant School and served in that capacity for two years. He transferred to the 1st Brigade in Lawton, Oklahoma filling the position of Senior Operations Sergeant and promoted to Sergeant Major in September of 2003.

CSM Williams was selected to the Residents course of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy where he graduated in May of 2005 with a completion of a Bachelors Degree in Liberal Arts. He was appointed to the rank of Command Sergeant Major and selected as the CSM of the 5th BN (CA/PO) in April of 2005 where he served for two years before selection as the 3rd BDE (CS) 95th DIV (IT) Command Sergeant Major in June of 2007.

His military schools include: Fire Support Specialist, US Army Airborne School, Naval Gunfire School, Jungle Operation Training Course, Primary Leadership Development Course, Drill Sergeant School, Combat Life Savers Course, Small Group Instructor's Course, Basic Non Commissioned Officers Course, Advanced Non Commissioned Officers Course, Equal Opportunity Representatives Course, Battle Staff, United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, (Resident's Course), Commander's Safety Course, Composite Risk Managers Course, and the Pre Command Course.

His military awards include: Meritorious Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal (4th Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement medal (3rd Oak Leaf Cluster) Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (Silver Oak Leaf Cluster),

National Defense Service Medal (With Bronze Star), Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (Silver Hour Glass Device), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Non Commissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon (With Numeral 4), Parachutists Badge, Drill Sergeant Identification Badge, Drivers Badge (With Wheel Device), Expert Weapon Qualification Badge (With M-16 Device).

Command Sergeant Major Williams currently resides in Amarillo, Texas with his wife Annilisa Rae, and two children, Morgan Elizabeth and Gavin Cole. He works in his civilian occupation as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant at Baptist St Anthony's Hospital.

# The Flag is Moving Forward!

**By Larry M. Cruz**  
*Command Executive Officer  
 Deputy, Management & Support  
 108th Training Command (IET)*

What a great start to a new year as the 108th Training Command (IET) merges with the 95th Training Division (IET).

It's the beginning of a new era as we now officially embark on being the sole provider of IET throughout the U.S. Army Reserve. As we celebrate our one year anniversary with the 98th Training Division (IET), we welcome the "Men of Metz" with open arms and an eagerness to have them be a part of this great team.

Throughout this transformational process, one thing has remained constant and certain: The Full Time Staff (FTS) leadership of this Command has never faltered in providing the day-to-day administrative, training and logistical support needed to maintain our tempo in support of ongoing missions and the

Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). Now that the 95th has rounded out the Command, I feel confident there is no mission we cannot collectively achieve. It is through being comrades and teamwork that we will prevail in any and all missions.

This merger is historic. It lays the foundation for the road ahead. As FTS, we owe it to subordinates, peers and superiors to provide the necessary full-time support to ensure we always accomplish the mission while simultaneously taking care of Soldiers and their Families.



Larry M. Cruz

As we wrap up NSPS first year evaluations, I hope you all held your subordinates to standards and recognized all the valued employees we have while sparingly recognizing some deserving folks as exceeding standards or quite possibly, being

role models. This new system will only work if we as first line leaders have the moral courage

to look folks in the eyes and call it like it is.

As many of you take time off to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Command FTS staff and I wish you and your Families the very best that life has to offer. Please enjoy the "downtime" and come back reinvigorated as we continue to strive for the high ground.

I challenge you all as leaders to ensure that we communicate in a clear and articulate manner with our subordinates. Make sure your intent is received and understood. Sometimes words can mean different things to different people when not clearly understood.

Such was the case when a joint forces senior leader directed Air Force, Navy and Marine teams to secure a building. The senior Air Force officer immediately directed his subordinates to secure a contract and purchase the building. The senior Naval officer ordered all doors secured and locked. The senior Marine officer issued weapons and directed that a 360-degree perimeter be established with overlapping fires!

The point is that making sure everyone up and down the chain understands the big picture and what priorities are. Look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming events and meetings. Get out there and make something happen! HOOAH!

## TRANSFORMATION Changes Yield Focused IET Mission



**By Chief Warrant Officer  
 Gary Williams**  
*Command Chief Warrant Officer  
 108th Training Command (IET)*

Transformation is a multi-phase process with a clearly defined objective: streamline the Army Reserve and the 95th Division into a more relevant and ready force. The following pages provide a bird's eye view of the 95th Division as we move through the transformation process. It is presented in "what we were," "what we are," and "what we will be" format. Also included are brief histories of the many regiments whose proud legacies have or will be integrated with the new 95th Training Division (IET). What follows here is a narrative summary of the ongoing

transformation process within the 95th Division.

1st Brigade previously had command and control (C2) of four Initial Entry Training (IET) battalions but saw a substantial increase in responsibility with the transfer of three battalions from 2nd Brigade on Oct. 1, 2007, followed later by the transfer of 2-379th Training Support Battalion (TSB) which is a combination of 1-379th and 2-379th battalions. Finally, 2-355th will discontinue on Sept. 15, 2009. 1st Brigade will then consist of six IET battalions and one TSB, its final endstate.

2nd Brigade transferred its force of three IET battalions to 1st Brigade and 1-378th to the 98th Division effective Oct. 1, 2007, as it began its transformation to the 800th Logistics Support Brigade (LOG SPT BDE). At that time, it received C2 of six logistical support battalions including 3-379th. On Oct. 1, 2007, 80th Training Command assumed C2 of the 800th LOG SPT BDE.

3rd Brigade, which previously had six Total Army School System (TASS) battalions, retained C2 of 1-95th and administrative control (ADCON) of five other TASS battalions on Oct. 1, 2007. These five ADCON TASS battalions were placed under operational control (OPCON) of other TASS functional brigades within the 100th and the 102nd Divisions. 3rd Bri-

gade received OPCON of four TASS engineer (EN) battalions. In October 2008, 3rd Brigade will come under C2 of the 102nd Division (TASS Maneuver Support) and change its name to 1st Brigade, 102nd Division. Its end state is C2 of five TASS EN battalions.

4th Brigade assumed ADCON of four TASS battalions and one Regional Training Site-Maintenance on Oct. 1, 2007. These battalions consist of the three previously on hand and the 14-95th (Ordnance Detachment) that commenced carrier status on Oct. 1, 2007. 94th Division (Force Sustainment) has OPCON of all units under 4th Brigade ADCON. On Oct. 1, 2008, 4th Brigade will transfer full control of all battalions to functional brigades within the 94th Division. On Sept. 15, 2009, 4th Brigade will discontinue.

5th Brigade retained C2 of two TASS battalions while gaining OPCON of four TASS medical battalions effective Oct. 1, 2007. 100th Division received OPCON of 5th Brigade on Oct. 1, 2007 as well. 5th Brigade will change its name to the 4th Brigade, 100th Division and come under their C2 on Oct. 1, 2008. The final step in transformation for 5th Brigade will occur on Sept. 15, 2009 when the 13th Battalion discontinues.

6th Brigade (Professional Development) was transferred to the 84th

U.S. Army Reserve Readiness Training Command (USARRTC) on Oct. 1, 2006.

7th Brigade's transformation involved combining the 1-379th Reception Battalion and the 2-379th Committee Battalion into the 2-379th TSB and giving C2 of 3-379th to the 800th LOG SPT BDE on Oct. 1, 2007. The brigade headquarters and the 1-379th will both discontinue in September 2009. 1st Brigade, 95th Division will have final C2 of 2-379th TSB.

8th Brigade (Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps) transferred to the 84th USARRTC on Oct. 1, 2006. It will become the 84th TC (Leader Development) with two subordinate headquarters, the 104th and 70th.

On Oct. 1, 2007, the 95th Division gained control of three IET brigades from Vancouver, Wash. (104th DIV), Salem, Va. (80th DIV), and Buffalo, N.Y. (98th DIV). These three IET brigades became the 95th Division's new 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Brigades respectively.

In October 2008, the 95th Division and 98th Division will exchange their 3rd and 4th brigades and subordinate battalions. The 95th Division will gain 3rd Brigade with headquarters in Lexington, Ky. and 4th Brigade with headquarters in Beaver Dam, Wis.

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*September 11, 2001. 9/11. It's the day everything changed...*

Violently and without provocation, terrorists attacked. This cowardly act resulted in the loss 2,996 innocent American lives, but it also sparked a renewed sense of patriotic pride, especially for those serving in the military.

As the events of that tragic day unfolded before our eyes, the very fabric of our lives began to change. The terror was felt around the world. Things once taken for granted now had new meaning. We vowed we would never be caught unaware or off guard again—no more will we idly stand by and allow terrorism to strike. We will take the fight to the enemy—and win.

The Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) brought transformation to the U.S. Army Reserve. Fighting while transforming unleashed a new kind of Reserve force structure predicated on the need for more Reserve forces to support the active-duty Army. The result is an unparalleled commitment and dedication by our citizen warriors to fight terrorism whatever the cost. Americans also demanded better military training and equipment with streamlined teams to support our national military strategy.

From that dreadful day, senior Reserve leadership worked to put the wheels in motion to develop a rapid response Reserve force structure. 9/11 forever and dramatically changed our lives, but has not changed the resolve of the members of the 95th Division (IT).

In 2001, 95th Soldiers deployed to support Operation Noble Eagle (World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks) and Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan). Soldiers also deployed in 2003 to support Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq).

The 95th produced heroes on the battlefield. On Nov. 13, 2004, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah F. Sample, 2nd Bn, 377th Regt, was awarded the Silver Star. Sample earned the third highest award for heroism in combat for gallantry in action and heroism above the call of duty during eight high-intensity conflict missions in March and April 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"I believe that regardless of the future of our current engagements, the GWOT will continue to affect our Army for many years to come," said Maj. Gen. James, E. Archer, who recently retired as the 95th Division (IET) commanding general. "Terror, natural resource and economic competition, climate change, migration of peoples, failed states, non-state objectives and so forth will assure very difficult decisions for our national leaders. 'Boots on the ground' will always be an essential and our Army will have a major role to play. The "Citizen Soldier" increasingly has the background and perspective necessary to participate on the world stage while upholding the core values of our institution."





## An Officer and a Graduate

Lt. Erica Dobbs B.A. in Religious Studies, 2005

Lieutenant Erica Dobbs has been saluted for her many roles in life. But thanks to Regent University, she's added a new title—college graduate. Regent's online program helped this busy 22-year career officer and mother of two focus on learning instead of logistics. Best of all, she didn't have to pay a cent for tuition. With Regent's military discount and FREE textbook credit to military personnel, Erica received her degree with little out-of-pocket costs. For more information about Regent's military-friendly online programs, call Regent today.

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— Erica Dobbs





# Salutes the Military

By Victoria L. White

Six Sprint Cup drivers and two Nationwide Series drivers drove cars that were specially painted to show support for the different military branches in the Carquest Auto Parts 300 and the Coca Cola 600 races at Lowe's Motor Speedway in Charlotte over Memorial Day weekend.

NASCAR hosted a USO Salute the Troops Memorial Day tribute to the armed forces at the speedway's infield prior to the big race. NASCAR drivers Mark Martin (who drives the Army #8 car); Jon Wood (who drives the Air Force #21 car) and Brad Keselowski (who drives the Navy #88 car) all made appearances and spoke at the event, posing for pictures afterward with the many military members in attendance. Soldiers, Airmen and Marines lined the stage as drivers and NASCAR officials took the opportunity to say "thank you" and pledge support for the men and women serving America.

NASCAR kicked off the Salute the Troops tribute in grand style with the 108th Training Command's color guard followed by unveiling the specially-designed cars running in both races to show their support for America's armed forces. The USO Salute the Troops program helps raise funds for American military families in need.

Soldiers from the 108th got the opportunity to meet Mark Martin and pose for photos. A few who attempted to get into the crew pits area were stopped by security guards, but driver Robbie Gordon happened along and escorted them inside where they were delighted to meet several NASCAR drivers.

The NASCAR team owners, sponsors, drivers and employees donated the space on

their cars to collectively thank the armed forces. Other drivers whose cars depicted troop support were Jeff Gordon (#24); Dale Earnhardt Jr (#88 National Guard car); Jimmie Johnson (#48); Clint Bowyer (#07) and Cale Gale (#77 VFW car).

"I love the fact that we are

able to, through our Salute the Troops race weekend, show how much we care, show how much our troops mean to us and show our support," Jeff Gordon said. "I would like to do more because I think that is what Memorial Day is all about – paying tribute to the men and women that fight so



NASCAR driver Mark Martin sits in an Army helicopter waving at Soldiers as he awaits to speak to the military crowd at the NASCAR Salute the Troops event at Lowe's Motor Speedway.



Service members enjoy a tour of the Hendrick Motorsports Race Team facility in Concord, N.C. Photo by Tech Sgt. Brian Christiansen



Soldiers from the 3/518th Bn in Hickory, N.C. run on the track at Lowe's Motor Speedway. The unit accepted the Marines' challenge to run in their annual Speedway Run during Speed Week. Photo by Rich Barkemeyer

hard for us. They put their lives on the line for us to have the freedom to be able to do this every weekend and to be able to live in a country that has so many benefits.”

“The USO is proud to be the beneficiary of the Salute the Troops campaign,” said Edward A. Powell, USO president and CEO. “It is with great pleasure that the USO joins you in conveying our gratitude for their service and sacrifice.”

Master Sgt. Rebecca Davis, HHC 108th Tng Cmd (IET), said she’s a “huge NASCAR fan” and was very excited about this special tribute. “It was really cool to meet the NASCAR drivers who support the troops,” she said. “It was a thrill to meet Mark Martin and get a picture with him. It made me very proud to be an American Soldier.”

Soldiers of the 108th Command also participated in the annual Speed Week activities leading up to the Coca Cola 600 NASCAR race at Lowe’s Motor Speedway in Charlotte. City streets are blocked off for four days where a variety of vendors sell their wares, race cars are on display and crowds enjoy free concerts from big-name performers into the night. Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory, III, commanding general, shared the stage with Charlotte Mayor Patrick McCrory, Lowe’s Motor Speedway officials and corporate sponsors of the event during opening ceremonies. Mallory presented awards to a representative from each military service in the Charlotte area.

The Hendrick Motorsports Race Team also sponsored a special tour for Charlotte service members. Soldiers participating were both surprised and delighted when Chad Knaus appeared and chatted with the group. Knaus is crew chief for Jimmie Johnson, Jr.

Speed Week is held in conjunction with Armed Forces Week every year.



Soldiers enjoy a cruise aboard Championship Yacht on Lake Norman, just north of Charlotte. Cliff Champion, owner of the chartered cruise service, took 80 Soldiers on each of eight tours during Speed Week at no cost. The Charlotte USO sponsored the event. After the cruise, Soldiers were treated to NASCAR go-kart rides.

Photo by Victoria L. White



Charlotte Mayor Patrick McCrory and Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory, III, commanding general, discuss the city’s support of the military community during Opening Ceremony for Speed Week.

Photo by Victoria L. White

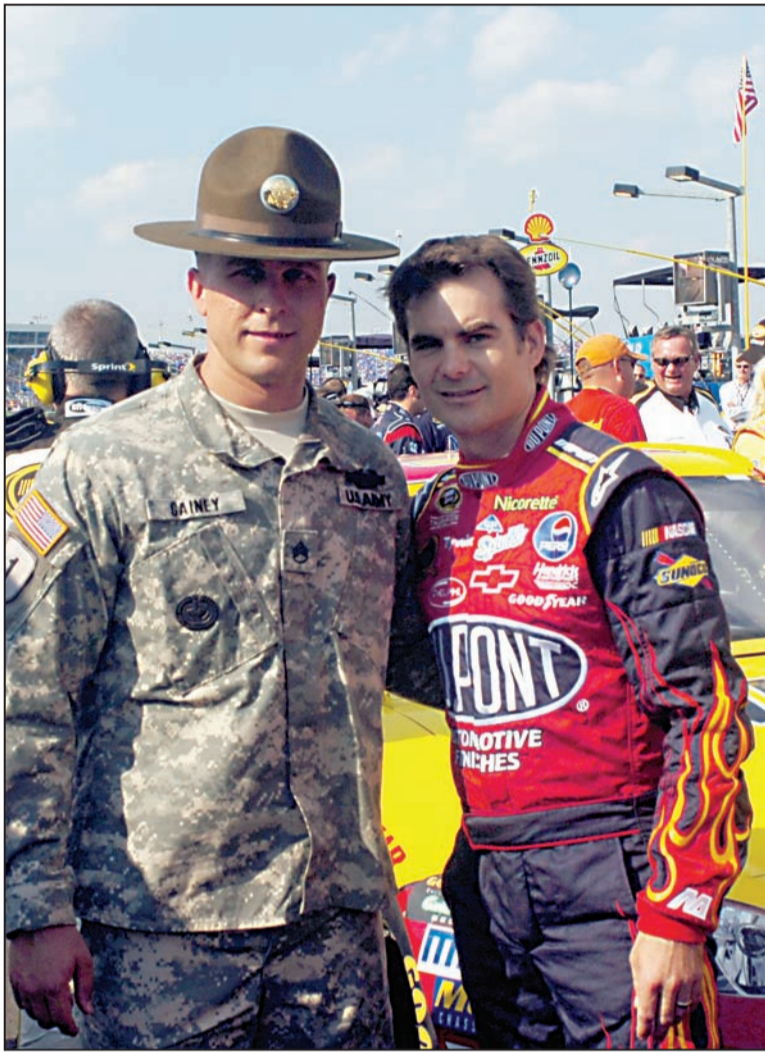
# Hometown Hero Gets NASCAR Salute

By Richard Barkemeyer

Sgt. 1st Class. Michael Gainey is very humble about the fact that he's a real American hero, but he's been honored for the hero that he is by everyone from NASCAR to the National Hot Rod Association to the J. Gordon Liddy radio show since May.

A police officer in the small town of Mint Hill, N.C. just outside Charlotte, Gainey is a drill sergeant with Co. B, 3/518th in Hickory, N.C.

It began Memorial Day weekend. Gainey found himself in a very different world than the one in which he is accustomed. Seated on the low concrete wall lining pit road at Lowes Motor Speedway, Gainey marveled at the cards NASCAR had just dealt him. Behind him, pit crews worked feverishly, preparing for the Coca-Cola 600 race. In front of him stood a man holding a very large television camera. Seated beside him was Fox Sports' legendary broadcaster Dick Bergren... Dick Bergren, ready to interview Staff Sgt. Michael Gainey.



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Gainey meets his favorite NASCAR driver, Jeff Gordon, at the Coca Cola 600. Gainey was really excited when Gordon took him for a few laps around the track.  
Photo by Rich Barkemeyer

Dick Bergren wanted to know about his heroic actions in Iraq, which is why NASCAR was honoring Gainey as its Hometown Hero for the Coca Cola 600 race on national television.

Gainey was in another world October 2007, stationed in Salman-Pak, Iraq as a member of the 211 National Police Transition Team. His primary responsibility was to help train the Iraqi National Police so they could assume the law and order duties of the country. Most of his days were spent manning checkpoints with the Iraqis or working with interpreters. Gainey enjoyed working with the Iraqis. "They wanted to do the right thing. They wanted to look like we were, like how we were dressed. They didn't always do the right thing, but they wanted to."

Manning checkpoints took a new turn on October 22, however. Gainey's unit was patrolling with the Iraqi police in Salman-Pak, nearing the end of their patrol close to the Tigris River. At the end of a long field stood a single building. As the patrol approached, gunfire erupted. Gainey, manning the M-240B machinegun in the gunner's turret, immediately returned fire on the building. He was injured in the neck and hand, but refused medical attention and continued firing. He said his thoughts were more on the Soldiers who were patrolling on foot.

When company Executive Officer Maj. Edward Worthington ordered his troops to keep moving to reach the dismounted Soldiers, Gainey continually exposed himself to incoming fire, calling out enemy positions and helping to keep the convoy moving. Gainey fired more than 150 rounds from his M-240B machinegun, more than the other two vehicles combined. "I had a couple of seconds where I thanked the Lord for everything," he said. "Other than that, you just fall back on your training. It happens so quick that you don't have much time to think about anything. You go back to your training and that's what comes first."

Gainey's heroic actions allowed the Soldiers to react in such a way that the dismounts were recovered. When the action was over, all the "good guys" were still alive. "Any other Soldier would have done the same thing," Gainey said. "There were Soldiers on my team who had

done the same thing. At the end of the day, you're thankful for good commanders."

Gainey received the Bronze Star for his actions that day and is also a Purple Heart recipient. He never thought he'd be recounting that war story to Dick Bergren on national television, nor watch the Coca-Cola 600 NASCAR race as a special guest of Mark Martin and the #8 U.S. Army race team. NASCAR also presented him with a Hometown Hero trophy that nearly rivals the race cup.

NASCAR rolled out the red carpet for Gainey and his wife. Race day began with a visit to the Army Racing hospitality tent for a posh lunch of steak and lobster. Gainey briefly spoke to the crowd of special guests, which included high-ranking officers and North Carolina representative Mike McIntyre.

After lunch, Gainey went to the garage area that isn't seen by many race fans. After a thorough tour of the garage and a chance to see the many crewmembers prepare their racecars, Gainey was taken to a stage on the front stretch of the track. Here he was presented with his Hometown Hero award by Maj. Gen. Thomas M. Sadler (ret.). Gainey received a warm welcome and thanked the hometown fans for the reception, and waved his award to the cheering crowd.

When the award presentation was finished, driver introductions began. Each driver was an-



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Gainey, Co. B, 3/518th, holds up his Hometown Hero trophy presented by NASCAR at the Coca Cola 600 at Lowes Motor Speedway.  
Photo by Rich Barkemeyer



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Sgt. 1st Class Michael Gainey and Commanding General Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory are interviewed by Charlotte Fox morning news personality Jon Wilson at the 108th headquarters. Mallory presented the command coin to Wilson on live television while drill sergeants from the 3/518th attempted to teach the morning show host how to execute a proper salute and do push-ups during the broadcast.  
Photo by Victoria L. White

nounced and they all walked across a stage to pickup trucks that would carry them around the track. Not one to miss an opportunity, Gainey seized upon the chance to jump in with his favorite driver, Jeff Gordon, and rode around the track with him, both men waving to the fans. When the truck stopped on pit road, Gordon posed for a few quick pictures with Gainey before he prepared to get into his car.

When the race began, Gainey was taken to

the Army Racing pit box, the area of pit road that the team calls their own. This is where the crew chief makes the calls that can bring home a victory, and where the crew changes tires and makes adjustments to the car. Gainey sat on a VIP riser, complete with video screens and headphones that allowed him to hear what driver Mark Martin was saying to crew chief Tony Gibson.

It was an exciting race, and while the Army car didn't end up in victory lane (nei-

ther did Jeff Gordon), Gainey said he was overwhelmed by the experience. It was something that the graduate of Stanley High School and Mint Hill police officer never expected.

After his appearance on national Fox Sports at the Coca Cola 600, Gainey made appearances on the local Fox affiliate station along with several radio stations. When the new Z-Max drag strip opened in Charlotte, the National Hot Rod Association again called on Gainey to be its Home-town Hero. He's been featured in newspapers and radio shows nationwide, mostly recently appearing on the J. Gordon Liddy show. Gainey was also selected as a Hero of the Week by the Secretary of Defense, but stay tuned. Soon you'll see him on television in a national television advertisement for the U.S. Army Reserve.

Despite all the notoriety, Gainey remains humble and grateful, saying that his tour in Iraq has affected him most of all. "Since my deployment, I look at life differently," he explained. "Never take extra days to do important things. Do them today."

### Are you a hero?

Do you know one? The 108th Training Command (IET) is always looking for hero stories and ways to honor Soldiers whose performance is "above and beyond." There are many programs and opportunities available. Public Affairs seeks heroes on and off the battlefield who can tell their story well. If you or someone you know is a hero, we want to hear from you. Please email Ms. Vicki White, Public Affairs Officer, at [vicki.l.white@usar.army.mil](mailto:vicki.l.white@usar.army.mil).



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# Raleigh Salutes NC Troops in a Big Way

By Victoria L. White

The city of Raleigh kicked off the largest military parade in North Carolina's history as F-15E Strike Eagle jets from Seymour AFB "buzzed" the state capitol to signal the start of NC Salute Our Troops festivities. The parade was broadcast live on local television channels.

"North Carolina is the most military friendly state in the country," proclaimed Thad Woodard, president of the NC Bankers Association. Organized by the Support Our NC Troops nonprofit organization, the troop salute was sponsored by the NC Bankers Association with free barbeque and hotdogs provided by the NC Pork Council. More than 50,000 people lined the streets to salute Soldiers, Airmen and Marines.

Military bands, drill teams, honor guards and marching bands from NC universities, colleges and high schools marched in the parade. Military armored personnel carriers, mobile missile launch systems, medical transport equipment and other tactical assets were also big hits in the parade and in the static display area where five NASCAR Sprint Cup cars were displayed along with fun booths and competitions for all ages. Riders on parade floats were mostly military family members. The 82nd Airborne Chorus also performed.

"We felt that it was not only appropriate but long overdue to show our thanks to the men, women and families of the U.S. military for all they do for our country," said Woodard. "They embody our nation's highest values. This day of appreciation seemed a fitting way to honor their public service and personal sacrifice."

"It's an opportunity for the people of North Carolina to get in here and say, 'Hey, guys, we appreciate what you do to ensure the freedoms that we enjoy every day,'" explained Van Krebs, event director and president of Support Our NC Troops. Krebs said he organized the parade to salute the troops

stationed across the globe and the Families who wait for their safe return.

Some of North Carolina's more than 120,000 troops are now on their third or even fourth tours of duty, according to Krebs. "This celebration is a chance for the rest of the state to show its appreciation," said Krebs.

"It's good to see the support of civilians, even though we wish for more, because it's hard for us, to be military," said Hildie Dietrich, the wife of a soldier. The crowds cheered and applauded as military units and vehicles passed by. "Thank you for your service" was the theme of the day.

Drill Sergeants from the 1/323rd BCT Bn in Durham marched in the parade along with manning a "Drill Sergeant Challenge" booth. The kids did a "round robin" series of three tasks: Five push-ups, five sit-ups and a "grenade throw." The Drill Sergeants awarded each child a "Junior Recruit" certificate and plastic whistle with the 108th Tng Cmd crest. "I don't know who had the most fun, the kids or the Drill Sergeants," said Capt. Christian Drew, who organized the challenge. "I think it was the Drill Sergeants!"

"Soldiers and their Families appreciate this kind of support," said Commanding General Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory, III. "In some areas of our country, people are at the mall. Here in Raleigh, people came out and made this a great event."

"Thank you for what you do," said John Thompson of Raleigh, who brought his sons for the event. "The military makes a huge sacrifice for our country."



Drills Sergeants from the 1/323rd BCT Bn in Durham, N.C. proudly march in the Raleigh Salute the Troops parade. Photo by Rich Berkemeyer



Sgt. 1st Class Danny Pruitt mans the push-up station for a Drill Sergeants Challenge booth at the Raleigh Salute the Troops parade. Drill Sergeants from 1/323rd BCT Bn in Durham, N.C., ran the booth for kids during the festivities. Children did push-ups, sit-ups and a "grenade throw" to earn a "Junior Warrior" certificate from the 108th Training Command (IET). Photo by Victoria L. White

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# Before They Were IRON MEN... The Origins of the 95th Division

Many people know much about the 95th Division's World War II record beginning with the mobilization in July 1942, the march thru France, the Battle of Metz and other actions. However, not much is known about the early history of the 95th Infantry Division and where the division headquarters were located.

The 95th Division (National Army) was created as part of the Organized Reserves in September 1918 at Camp Sherman, Ohio. The artillery regiment and ammunition train were assembled at Camp Taylor, Ky. at the same time. Brig. Gen. Mathew C. Smith commanded the division and in the first week of December, the division received orders for demobilization. The Division's composition to include the following major units: the 189th Infantry Brigade, the 190th Infantry Brigade, the 170th Field Artillery Brigade, the 358th Machine Gun Battalion, the 320th Engineer Battalion, the 620th Field Signal Battalion and the 95th Division Trains. The organization and training of all units except the 320th Engineer Battalion and the 95th Division Trains was fully under way at the time of

the Armistice.

On Sept. 15, 1921, the Army assigned Lt. Gen. G. A. F. Trumbo as chief of staff of the 95th Infantry Division with orders to organize the reserve division in Oklahoma City. GEN John J. Pershing, chief of staff of the Army, detailed him to organize the 95th Division.

The division had units in cities and towns throughout Oklahoma and Kansas. The "OK" patch was symbolic of the two states in which the division was located.

The Division's World War II pre-combat history extended more than two years of training and travel throughout the breadth of the United States and later the United Kingdom and France. Its performance on three sets of maneuvers laid the groundwork for a latent combat efficiency.

The Division's World War II his-

tory can be said to have begun when Maj. Gen. Harry L. Twaddle was named commanding general in March, 1942. Later Brig. Gen. Robert L. Spragins was named assistant division commander.



Lt. Col. G.A.F. Trumbo, who organized the 95th Infantry Division in 1921.

An enlisted cadre was drawn from the 7th Infantry Division and trained for organizational duties in June and early July, 1942. A cadre of junior officers was supplied by the various officer candidate schools and the 2nd, 31st 38th and 43rd Infantry Divisions. The Division was ready to become a part of the Army and its activation

was climaxed by formal ceremonies at newly-constructed Camp Swift, Tex. An early group of inductees from crowded Midwestern reception centers began drilling immediately after arrival on July 10 and were able to stage a review on activation day.

As a blazing Texas sun shone down on the assembled Division nucleus and many civilian guests, including Texas' Governor Coke Stevenson, General Twaddle proclaimed his command in an active part of the Army of the United States. The Division's component units were activated the same day. Regular Army, National Guard, Reserve and mostly Selective Service troops all contributed to the Division.

Soldiers were introduced to a fate that met millions of the nation's new Soldiers. There were road marches. They scrambled over obstacle courses and hit the dirt. They learned about first aid and military courtesy along with the dual-business end of a rifle—bullets and bayonet; they scanned maps and took azimuths; they hiked, patrolled and drilled. They matched shelter-halves to pitch their tents, then striking the canvas to roll their packs again. There were calisthenics, squad problems and company problems—all this and more made up the fast-flying transitional period from rookies to trained Soldiers and teams.

In July 1942, the Division was passed from control of VII Corps see THE 95th page 18



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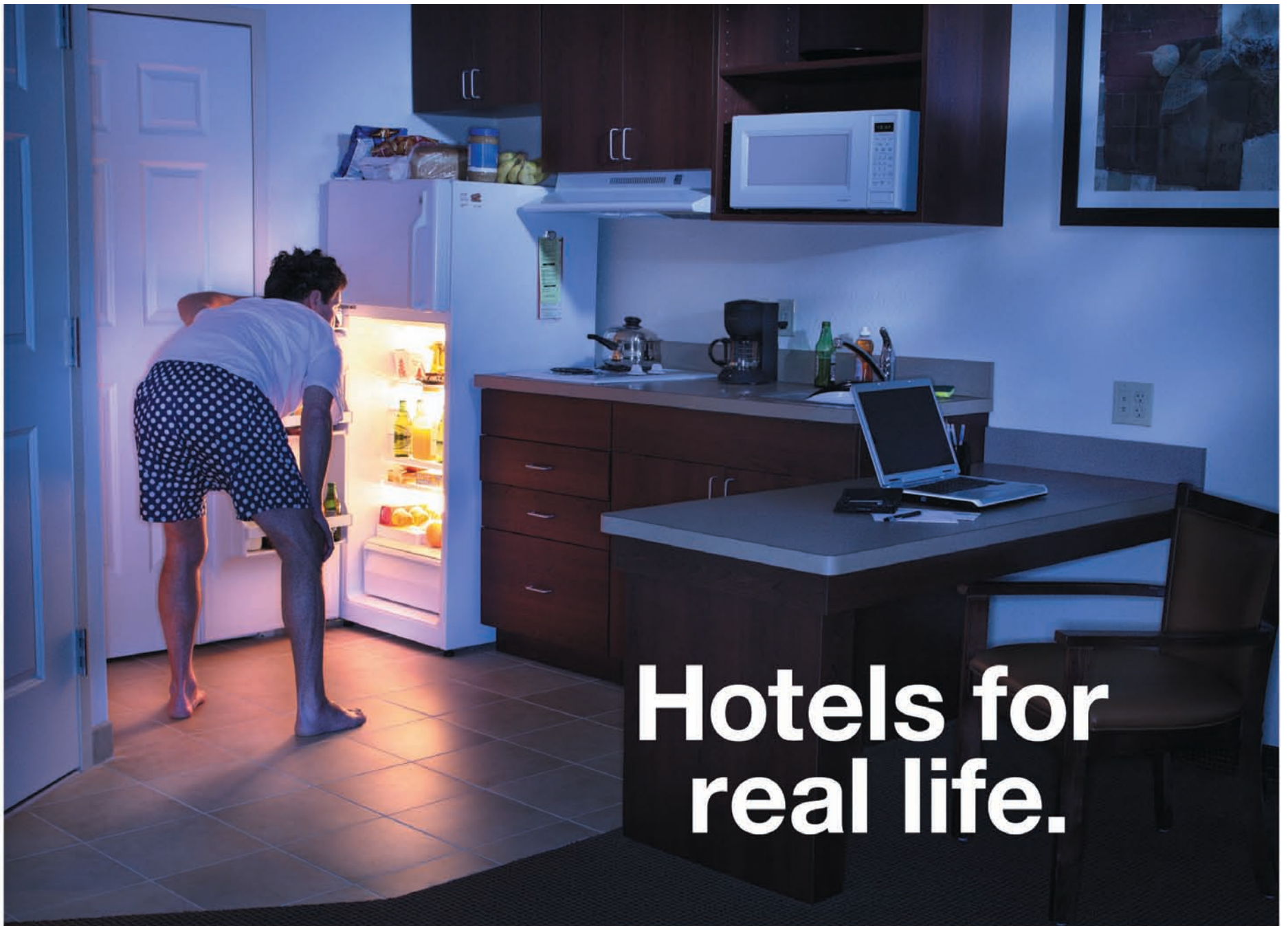
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## The 95th Division

continued from page 16

to direct control of the Third U.S. Army, then commanded by Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger. When the maneuvering 2nd Infantry Division selected a cadre for the 102nd Infantry Division, a month of further training was necessary before the cadre could join its new division. It was thus transferred to the 95th Division to receive this training.

At Camp Swift, the distinctive 9-V insignia was adopted, replacing the 1934 denoting the Division's initially Oklahoma and Kansas constituency. Designed by Lt. Col. Leland B. Kuhre, first World War II commander of the 320th Engineer Battalion, it was approved by the War Department. In color and design, the insignia was especially appropriate. The red-white-and blue colors symbolize the national character of the Division which represented virtually every state; the Arabic "9" artillery red, intertwined with a white Roman five means for "V-for-Victory;" and the elliptical background is infantry blue. The "victory" theme of the insignia was recognized and largely inspired the Division's nickname, "Victory Division."

The division moved 70 miles to historic Fort Sam Houston where training continued. Training included village fighting in mock villages constructed by the engineer battalion. "Branntown" was a North African type village named for the Division's then chief of staff. "Kuhreville", a German type village, was named for the first commander of the engineer battalion and the designer of the Di-

vision shoulder patch. Troops were introduced to the bangalore torpedo and flame-thrower as training shifted to the assault of fortification facsimiles which served as the only targets until the Division fought at Metz less than two years later.

The Division was directed to move into Camp Polk, east of the town of Leesville, La. At Camp Polk, the Division newspaper, *The Journal*, was instituted during maneuvers. A *Journal* contest resulted in the nickname of the Division, "Victory Division". But the Division post-maneuver training was cut short when orders were received to move the California Desert Training Center.

The Division began its California directed movement in October 1943, preceded by an advance detachment which took over Camp Coxcomb in the California desert. Coxcomb was a tent city, spread out in rectangular unit areas along a stretch of desert grass-studded sand, sloping slightly to the east from the piles of corrugated rock that had been named the Coxcomb Range. The scope of the desert area was such as to afford the Division its best training ground up to that time. For the first time, the Division could use live ammunition for most of its training problems. Bangalore torpedoes boomed through the night as troops learned to blast gaps in field obstructions, while many other phases of field work were covered in the "swing shift" training periods. Close battle conditions were simulated with considerable realism during artillery rolling barrage demon-

stration, when infantry troops were progressively deployed 150 yards behind the artillery barrage and light aerial bombardment. It was here that Sgt. M. George Vanicek wrote the Division song, "The 95th Marches On."

The Division was directed to move to the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pa. in 1944. Outstanding in the Division's training program here were exercises conducted in the West Virginia Maneuver Area. Besides combat teams, special troops units went through the mountain climbing exercises while selected personnel attended the pack and assault schools. "Rappels", "traverses" and "chimneys", among other terms, were added to the GI vernacular. The West Virginia training was generally regarded by veteran officers and enlisted men as the most rigorous single phase training undertaken by the 95th Division. In March the 95th Division Artillery received a commendation for attaining the highest division artillery score in Army Ground Force battalion firing tests since the inauguration of those tests the year before.

The coming summer found the 95th Division treading unmistakably toward an overseas movement. Speculation ended in June when an advance party left Indiantown Gap and sailed for the European Theater of Operations. By June 29, the division was on its way to battle.

### World War II

Loud speakers warned troops as soon as they detrained that they were "now in a secret area". Bos-

ton became the latest metropolitan mecca for the Division, but it wasn't long before the restriction lid was clamped down and the big ships tied up. The U.S.S. *Mariposa* sailed August 6 with the 378th Infantry, 358th, 359th, 360th and Field Artillery Battalions, and the 320th Medical Battalion aboard. As the ships wound out through the anti-submarine-netted harbor, the last visual contact with the United States faded out with the dimming lights of the city and Massachusetts' North Shore.

They docked at Liverpool, England on August 14 and 17, respectively. These dates became highly significant in the Division's history, marking the first arrival of the Division on any foreign soil in any war. The Division's destination was Winchester, the oldest city and capital during King Alfred's reign. It's also legendarily synonymous with King Arthur's Camelot.

The last leg of the Division's trek to ground-operational sectors of the European Theater was begun Sept. 8. The Division, with all its vehicles, boarded Liberty ships and converted British commercial vessels, bound for France. While portable radios carried the news that the Ninth Army was then in field in France, troops steadily dieted on C-Rations and waited for their "show to get on the road." Late that afternoon the last of the convoy arrived off the Normandy coast, sailed past Cherbourg and anchored with the predecessors near Omaha Beach to await debarkation the next morning.

The Division was part of Lt. Gen. Patton's Third Army, a part of the 20th "Ghost" Corps. They entered the line Oct. 19 in the Moselle River bridgehead sector, east of Moselle and south of Metz, patrolling the Seille River near Cherminot and repulsing enemy attempts to cross the river.

The 2nd Bn., 378th Regt.'s first try at offensive action lasted three days. The "Maroun Marauders" uncorked Fort Yutz and the formidable Fort d'Illange and Thionville east of the Moselle along with three more towns with stiff German opposition. No sooner had they finished the Thionville bridgehead operation, the unit became part of "Task Force Bacon" together with the 1st Bn., 377th Infantry Regt., the 95th Reconnaissance Troop and Co. D, 378th Tank Bn.

Task Force Bacon blazed into the outskirts of Metz the same night, later spanning the Seille River, which streams the city. A pitched battle in the heart of town followed. Task Force Bacon had its share of heroes. One in particular was Sgt. Walter Low, Co. G, 378th Regt., from Smokey Junction, Tenn. He was the first 95th Soldier to receive the Distinguished Service Cross for his dar-

continued on next page

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Photo Courtesy of U.S. Army

continued from previous page

ing and life-saving combination of guts and bluff. Two unmapped pillboxes near Fort St. Julien popped up surprisingly in the path of Company G's advance. While his platoon pressed forward, Low and two others pulled out of the formation to investigate the pillboxes. When equally surprising machine-gun fire blocked the platoon's front over an open field, the pillboxes completed a squeeze play by pumping lead to the rear of the platoon. The pillboxes had to be liquidated or the platoon was in for a chop-up. A steady stream of fire forced his mates to the dirt, but Low "pell-melled" squarely onto the objective, hand operating the sticky bolt of his M-1. Sixteen Germans occupying the strong point were either scared or bluffed. Nonchalantly, Low flushed them out, frisked them for arms. Advancing on the adjoining bunker, he bagged another 16 enemy troops. Adding the 32 Germans to a passing column, Low rejoined his outfit, which now was free to advance.

On the 8th day of November 1944, the division began its march into military history when Maj. Gen. Walton H. Walker, 20th Corps Commander, ordered the "Victory Division" to cross the Moselle River and push toward the fortress city of Metz. Artillery and mortar fire raked the advance route, but the 2nd and 3rd Battalions continued their drive to the south. By nightfall, the 3rd held up in La Maxe while the 2nd slugged it out in the outskirts of Woippy, only three miles from Metz. Tough to crack, Woippy was cleared before dark and the 2nd surged forward along the road to Metz. Meanwhile, the 3rd was having its headaches near Fort Gambette. A re-

quest for that "extra 10 percent" was passed along the line November 17. No urging was needed. With Metz in sight, the Division felt sharp.



### Metz

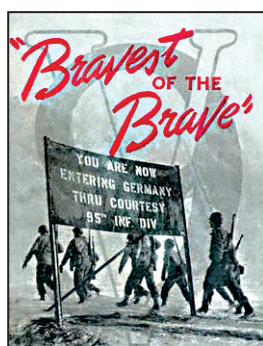
Metz, the queen city of Moselle, had withstood all attacks by military forces since 451 A.D., and the Germans intended to maintain that record. The original fortifications, completed before 1870, consisted of an inner ring of 15 forts and an outer perimeter of 28 steel and concrete bastions built by the Germans in 1912. In 1941, the Germans improved and modernized these installations. The forts were reinforced with 210 MM guns and 105 MM guns placed in revolving steel turrets which would withstand fire from high velocity direct-fire weapons. Rarely was there more than one entrance to each fort and only a direct hit on a turret by a 500-pound bomb could cause any damage.

The 95th did not falter in the face of this fire power and slugged its way through the west bank of the Moselle, crossed the river in assault boats and captured barges under heavy machine-gun and artillery fire from Fort Driant and Fort San Quentin of the Metz chain. Advancing to Bertrange, the Division began working toward the heart of Metz.

Capture of Metz was a rich achievement. The city had successfully weathered every assault since 1944. But the 95th had a plan and grim-faced "Joes" made it work. Punching along "88 Boulevard," the Division smacked up against the bristling forts, ringing the city.

The 378th got off to a flying start with one of the most daringly conceived and brilliantly executed trick plays of the entire offensive, dreamed up by Col. Samuel L. Metcalfe, commander. Fronting the 378th's entire zone was a series of fortifications including Fort Amanvillers, the three Canrobert Forts and Fort de Feve. East of this line spread the extensive Lorraine fortifications. Taking such an area by an anticipated head-on drive would have been suicide. Metcalfe's plan was to sweep around the northern tip of the fortifications and approach from the rear, leaving behind a small task force to deceive the enemy into thinking the entire regiment still fronted the forts.

The job of providing the phoney front was assigned to Task Force St. Jacques, composed of three rifle platoons, one antitank platoon, a squad from both an Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon, cooks, clerks and other Regimental Headquarters and Service Company personnel. This jumbled force was assigned to cover an eight-and-a-half-mile



front with the aid of loudspeakers and other deceptive means. The hidden ball play worked like a charm as the regiment jumped off that morning. Within three hours, they captured the town of Feves and two hours later swept on to take Somer-court. The surge continued as Saulny, Bigneulles, Plesnois and Norroy le Venur tumbled before the avalanche.

As the Metz campaign drew to a close with the city rapidly being drained of stragglers and snipers, the 379th continued cleaning up

the area east of Fort Driant, Jeanne d'Arc, St. Quentin and Plappeville. After capturing the forts in front of its advance, the Division linked up with the 5th Division on the outskirts of Vallierres, a few miles east of Metz. Tanks and Infantry of the two Divisions charged into the streets of Metz the next morning to remove the "diehard" resistors.

By Nov. 21, the fall of Metz was something to write home about. The 95th Reconnaissance Troop had made contact with elements of the 5th Division which had driven up from the south to complete the squeeze play on the fortress city. Only two small pockets of resistance remained and these were being mopped up by the 377th. Garrisons in the four big forts across the river were completely cut off. The task of maintaining a death watch on these diehards was transferred to units of the 5th Division. The frosting on the Metz cake was the capture of Lt. Gen. Heinrich Kittel, commander of the 462nd Volksgrenadier Division and the Metz Fortress. He was captured by Co. K, 377th, which had fought its way up to the southern part of the lie Chamberiere. About 300 Germans made a last ditch stand on the river islands of Chamberieres and Sauley, but they surrendered after a fierce hand-to-hand battle with the men of the 95th.

On the afternoon of Nov. 22, 1944, Maj. Gen. Walton H. Walker reported to Patton that Metz was completely secured. It was during the battle for Metz that war correspondents nicknamed the men of the 95th "The Bravest of the Brave." The German defenders gave them another name that the Division carries proudly: "The Iron Men of Metz."

see IRON MEN page 20

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# Iron Men of Metz

continued from page 19

On Nov. 25, the "Iron Men" and the rest of the 20th Corps moved swiftly eastward, driving the Nazis across the Saar River and out of France. Three days later they were in Germany, seizing a Saar River bridge and engaging in bitter house-to-house fighting for Saarlautern. Suburbs of the city fell. Although the enemy resisted fiercely, the bridgehead was firmly established by Dec. 19.

News of Von Rundstedt's attack into Belgium and Luxembourg halted the 95th's advance. The battle of the Bulge had begun, so part of the division moved into an assembly area for possible deployment to the Bulge

area while the rest held Saarlautern against strong German attacks.

In January 1945, the division began moving, heading to Maastricht, Holland. By Valentine's Day, elements were in line to relieve battered units of the British 21st Army Group, but nine days later, the Division was re-

lieved for another important assignment.

On Mar. 1, the 95th was assembled near Julich, Germany and forced the enemy into a pocket near the Hitler Bridge at Uerdingen. Five days later the pocket was cleared and the Division's elements advanced to the Rhine. The

march into German heartland had



The Chicago Tribune proclaims victories at Metz on the front page Nov. 14, 1944.

begun in earnest.

It was now a matter of dates and places for the men of the "Victory Division." On Mar. 12, they established defenses near Neuss. Assembling east of the Rhine at Beckhum on Apr. 3, they launched an attack across the Lippe River, capturing Hamm and Kaman by the 6th. After clearing another enemy pocket between the Ruhr and Mohne Rivers, the Division took Dortmund on Apr. 13 and maintained positions on the north bank of the Ruhr. Its final action prior to V-E day included a drive north of Leipzig.

In July 1945, the Division returned home amidst welcoming celebrations at Boston's harbor. They began retraining for the Pacific Theater, but Japan's surrender relieved need for the heroic "Iron Men."

The 95th Infantry Division had fought in Europe nearly 12 months with 145 days of combat, including more than 100 days of continuous combat. The 95th captured more than 439 centers of population, including Germany's ninth largest city, Dortmund. It left behind a history of heroism, bravery and accolades: The "Iron Men of Metz." "The Bravest of the Brave." But the division also left lost 6,591 of its own in battle.

Maj. Gen. Twaddle, who commanded the division during its entire action in World War II, saw the Division inactive on Oct. 15, 1945 at Camp Shelby, Miss. The 95th Infantry Division remained inactive in the Organized Reserves in Oklahoma City, Ok.

## After the War

In 1952, the Organized Reserve was redesignated as the United States Army Reserve. On Apr. 1, 1958, the 95th Infantry Division became the 95th Division (Training) and a major reorganization of mission assignments was underway. Personnel trained for infantry combat, artillery, military police and combat support roles were now trained to train others. The Division had a new place in the sun as one of the 13 training divisions in the U.S. Army Reserve arsenal.

With the reorganization of the division, all regiments were redesignated. The 95th Regiment became the 95th Regiment (Common Specialist Training) with headquarters at Shreveport, La. The 377th became the 377th Regiment (Basic Combat Training) as did the 378th and 379th. The 95th had a new role, a new mission and new Annual Training sites.

In 1967, the nickname given to the division by the Germans during the battle of Metz became the officially recognized nickname, the "Iron Men of Metz." The Institute of Heraldry approved the adoption of the nickname and a new crest. The crest symbolized and commemorated the crossing of the Moselle River and the breakthrough at Metz by the

blue wavy band and the black fortress. The blue wavy band further alluded to the Distinctive Unit Citation the division received for action in World War II. The arrow alludes to the letter "V" for victory and the nickname given the organization.

In January 1968, the division was reorganized along the lines of the active Army training units. All regimental headquarters were redesignated as brigades. The division consisted of the First Brigade (Basic Combat Training or BCT), Second Brigade (BCT), Third Brigade (Advanced Individual Training or AIT) and Fourth Brigade (Combat Specialist Training or CST). Further additions included a Committee Group of instructor personnel teaching common specialties in Basic Combat Training. The division was now a fourth U.S. Army General Officer Command (GOCOM) and assumed command of some non-divisional reserve units.

The 95th Division (Training) was now well on its way into becoming the "top" training division in the U.S. Army Reserve, conducting Basic, Advanced and Common Specialty training for 12,698 trainees. The division conducted Annual Training at Fort Polk, La., a partnership that would last for nearly seven years without a break.

On Aug. 1, 1975, the 95th Division Maneuver Training Command (MTC) was organized by Fifth U.S. Army General Order. The 315-strength unit was organized in Oklahoma City and added greatly to the GOCOM strength and mission capabilities. The Active Army introduced the "One-Station Unit Training" concept, OSUT, which put the Army's old training centers into obsolescence. This new concept meant the division would no longer go to Annual Training as one unit, but would split among many training centers throughout the U.S. On Jan. 1, 1979 the division was reorganized into an OSUT Infantry Structure.

The mission of the 95th Division (Training) established a U.S. Army Training Center, conducting OSUT Infantry and Basic Training. The Division receives and trains 20,000 young Soldiers every year in such subjects as military conduct and courtesy, basic rifle marksmanship, chemical biological and radiological training, first aid, offensive and defensive tactics, patrolling, weapons, land navigation, communications, and drill and ceremonies.

The "Iron Men" officially joined the ranks of the 108th Training Command (IET) on Oct. 1, crossing another milestone for the division and for the 108th. The addition of the 95th Division gives the 108th a national presence, training Soldiers from sea to shining sea across this great land.

*(This article was compiled from an article by Michael Dean in the Ironman magazine and military history sources.)*

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# WHAT WE WERE...

## 1st Brigade (IET)

Headquartered in Lawton, OK

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as HQ Co., 95th Division, Oklahoma City, OK. Redesignated Feb. 13, 1942 as HQ and MP Co., 95th Division. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. Redesignated Aug. 1, 1942 as HQ Co, 95th Infantry Division. Inactivated Oct. 15, 1945 at Camp Shelby, MS. Activated Oct. 22, 1947 in Oklahoma City in the Organized Reserves (later U.S. Army Reserve) and disbanded Apr. 1, 1959.

Reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the U.S. Army Reserve as HQ, 1st Bde, 95th Division (Training). Activated Dec. 30, 1967 at Tulsa, OK. Inactivated Jan. 13, 1995. Activated Oct. 16, 1996 at Lawton, OK.

## 354<sup>th</sup>

"Whatever It Takes"

Units: 1-354th (IET), Tulsa, OK  
2-354th (IET), Grand Prairie, TX

Constituted on Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 354th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Kansas City, KS. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Carson, CO.



After World War II, reactivated in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Denver, CO. Reorganized and redesignated Oct. 1, 1959 as the 354th Regt., an element of the 89th Division. Reorganized Oct. 17, 1996 to the 1st and 2nd Battalions, elements of the 95th Division (IT).

**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War I:* St. Mihiel; Meuse-Argonne; Lorraine 1918  
*World War II:* Rhineland; Central Europe

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 355<sup>th</sup>

*Fidem Praest Abimus*  
"Superior Courage"

Unit: 1-355th (IET), Round Rock, TX

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 355th Infantry. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Carson, CO. After World War II, reactivated Jan. 31, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters at Omaha, NE. Reorganized and redesignated Oct. 1, 1959 as the 355th Regt., an element of the 89th Division with headquarters in Lincoln, NE. Reorganized Oct. 17, 1996 to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Battalions, elements of the 95th Division (IT).



**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War I:* St. Mihiel; Meuse-Argonne; Lorraine, 1918  
*World War II:* Rhineland; Central Europe

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 377<sup>th</sup>

*Ni Ga Da E Sa Sdi (Cherokee Indian phrase)*  
"Onward"

Unit: 2-377th (IET), Lincoln, NE

Constituted Sept. 4, 1918 in the National Army as the 377th Infantry. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. After World War II, the 377th was reactivated Dec. 16, 1946 in the Organized Reserves.



Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 1, 1959 as the 377th Regt., an element of the 95th Division with headquarters at Tulsa, OK.

**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

## 378<sup>th</sup>

*Hikia Kallo (Choctaw Indian phrase)*  
"Stand Firm"

Units: 2-378th (IET), Monroe, LA  
3-378th (IET), Norman, OK

Constituted Sept. 4, 1918 in the National Army as the 378th Infantry. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. After World War II, the 378th was reactivated March 14, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Oklahoma City



**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

**Decorations:** 2nd Bn Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Moselle River; French Croix de Guerre with Palm; World War II for Metz

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 379<sup>th</sup>

*Ad Finem*  
"To the End"

Unit: 2-379th (TS), Little Rock, AK

Constituted Sept. 4, 1918 in the National Army as the 379th Infantry. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. Activated Feb. 12, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters at Hot Springs, AK. Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 1, 1959 as the 379th Regt., an element of the 95th Division (Training) with headquarters at Little Rock, AK.



**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 2nd Brigade (IET)

Headquartered in Vancouver, WA

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as HQ Co., 104th Division. Organized January 1922 at Salt Lake City, UT. Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 6, 1942 as HQ and MP Co (less MP platoon), 104th Division. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Adair, OR. As HQ Co., 104th Infantry Division. Inactivated Dec. 18, 1945 at Camp San Luis Obispo, CA. Activated Nov. 14, 1947 in Portland, OR. Inactivated June 10, 1959 in Portland. Disbanded June 11, 1959. Reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 1st Bde, 104th Division (Training). Activated Jan. 10, 1968 at Vancouver Barracks, WA.

## 354<sup>th</sup>

"Whatever It Takes"

Unit: 30354th (TS), Vancouver, WA

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 354th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Kansas City, KS. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Carson, CO. After World War II, the 354th was reactivated in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Denver, CO. Reorganized and redesignated Oct. 1, 1959 as the 354th Regt., an element of the 89th Division. Reorganized Oct. 17, 1996 to the 1st and 2nd Battalions, element of the 95th Division (IT).

**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War I:* St. Mihiel; Meuse-Argonne; Lorraine 1918  
*World War II:* Rhineland; Central Europe

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 413<sup>th</sup>

*Fortior Ex Asperis*  
"Stronger After Adversity"

Units: 2-413th (IET), Riverside, CA

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 413th Infantry. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Adair, OR. After World War II, the 413th was reactivated Mar. 25, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Oakland, CA. Reorganized and redesignated June 10, 1959 as the 413th Regt., an element of the 104th Division with headquarters in Portland, OR. In 1961, headquarters moved to Vancouver Barracks, WA.



**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War II:* Northern Europe; Rhineland; Central Europe

**Decorations:** 2nd and 3rd Battalions: Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Duren

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 414<sup>th</sup>

*Si Vis Pacem Para Bellum*  
"If You Wish Peace, Prepare for War"

Units: 1-414th (IET), Eugene, OR  
2-414th (IET), Salt Lake City, UT

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 414th Infantry. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Adair, OR. After World War II, the 414th was reactivated Mar. 25, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Los Angeles, CA. Headquarters moved to Everett, WA in June 1948. Reorganized and redesignated June 10, 1959 as the 414th Regt., an element of the 104th Division with headquarters in Salem, Ore.



**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Central Europe

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 415<sup>th</sup>

"Old Faithful"

Units: 1-415th (IET), Phoenix, AZ  
2-415th (IET), Lathrop, CA  
3-415th (IET), Spokane, WA

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 415th Infantry. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Adair, OR. After World War II, the 415th was reactivated June 12, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Tacoma, WA. Reorganized and redesignated June 10, 1959 as the 415th Regt., an element of the 104th Division with headquarters in Seattle, WA.



**Campaign Participation Credit:**  
*1st Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Roer River Bridgehead  
*2nd and 3rd Bns:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Lucherberg

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## 3rd Brigade (IET)

Headquartered in Salem, VA

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 305th Ammunition Train and assigned to the 80th Division. Organized Sept. 1917 at Camp Lee, VA. Demobilized June 9, 1919 at Camp Dix, NJ. Reconstituted Oct. 28, 1936 in the Organized Reserves and consolidated with the 305th Ammunition Train. Redesignated Feb. 12, 1942 as the 905th Field Artillery Bn, 80th Division. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Forrest, TN. Inactivated Jan. 6, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ. Redesignated July 15, 1946 as the 905th Glider Field Artillery Bn.

Activated May 21, 1947 with headquarters in Bristol, VA. Reorganized and redesignated Oct. 18, 1950 as the 905th Field Artillery. Disbanded Mar. 23, 1959. Reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 2nd Bde, 80th Division (Training). Activated Jan. 30, 1968 in Salem, VA.

## 317<sup>th</sup>

*Armis et Animis*  
"By Arms and Courage"

Units: 1-317th (IET), Suffolk, VA.  
2-317th (IET), Lynchburg, VA.

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 317th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Forrest, TN. After numerous post-war reorganizations, the 317th was activated Nov. 14, 1946 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Washington, DC. Reorganized and redesignated Mar. 5, 1959 as the 317th Regt., an element of the 80th Division.

### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War I:* Somme Offensive; Meuse-Argonne; Picardy 1918

*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe



## 318<sup>th</sup>

*"Old Virginia Never Tires"*

Units: 3-318th (IET), Ft. Meade, MD

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 318th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves. Ordered into active military service July 16, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Forrest, TN. After post-war reorganizations, the 318th Infantry was reactivated in Richmond, VA. Reorganized and redesignated Mar. 6, 1959 as the 318th Regt., an element of the 80th Division.

### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War I:* Somme Offensive; Meuse-Argonne; Picardy 1918

*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

### Decorations:

*1st and 2nd Bns:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Bastogne



## 319<sup>th</sup>

*Volens et Potens*  
"Willing and Able"

Units: 2-319th (TS), Salem, VA

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 319th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves. Ordered into active military service July 16, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Forrest, TN. After World War II, the 319th was reactivated November 1946 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Baltimore, MD. Reorganized and redesignated as the 319th Regt., Mar. 23, 1959, an element of the 80th Division, with headquarters in Roanoke, VA.



### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War I:* Somme Offensive; Meuse-Argonne; Lorraine; Picardy 1918

*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

### Decorations:

*1st Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Moselle River



## 417<sup>th</sup>

*"Spirit of 76"*

Units: 3rd Bde: 1-417th (IET), Pennsauken, NJ  
4th Bde: 2-417th (IET), Waterbury, CT

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 417th Infantry. Ordered into active military service June 15, 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Meade, MD. Reconstituted Oct. 7, 1946 and assigned to the 76th Infantry Division. Reactivated Dec. 6, 1946 with headquarters in Hartford, CT. Reorganized and redesignated May 1, 1959 as the 417th Regt., an element of the 76th Division, with headquarters in Auburn, ME. Reorganized during the fall of 1996 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, elements of the 98th Division.



### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

### Decorations:

Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Echternach

## 320<sup>th</sup>

*"Forward"*

Units: 1-320th (IET), Abingdon, VA  
2-320th (IET), Beaver, WV

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 320th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves. Withdrawn and consolidated with the Active Army. Activated Jan. 26, 1943 into the 35th Infantry Division in San Louis Obispo, CA. After World War II, relieved from that assignment. Allotted to the regular Army May 3, 1954 and withdrawn in 1959, allotted to the Army Reserve concurrently designated as the 320th Regt. Activated Mar. 6, 1959 as an element of the 80th Division, headquartered in Richmond, VA.



### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War I:* Somme Offensive; St. Mihiel; Meuse-Argonne; Lorraine; Picardy 1918

*World War II:* Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

### Decorations:

*1st Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Mortain; French *Croix de Guerre* with Silver Star; World War II for Mortain



## 4th Brigade (IET)

*Headquartered in Buffalo, NY*

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 323rd Ammunition Train and assigned to the 98th Division. Organized in February 1922 with headquarters in Schenectady, NY. Converted and redesignated Feb. 20, 1942 as the 923rd Field Artillery Bn and remained assigned to the 98th Division (later redesignated as the 98th Infantry Division). Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Breckinridge, KY. Inactivated Feb. 16, 1946 in Japan. Activated Mar. 12, 1947 with headquarters in Rochester, NY. Disbanded May 1, 1959 and reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 2nd Bde, 98th Division (Training). Activated Jan. 31, 1968 in Buffalo, NY.

### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War II:* Asiatic-Pacific Theater Streamer without inscription

## 304<sup>th</sup>

*"Forward"*

Unit: 10304th (IET), Londonderry, NH

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the national Army as the 304th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves and assigned to the 76th Division. Ordered into active military service June 15, 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Meade, Md. After World War II, the 304th was reactivated Dec. 17, 1946 with headquarters in Portland, ME. Reorganized and redesignated May 1, 1959 as the 304th Regt., an element of the 76th Division with headquarters in Portsmouth, NH. Reorganized in October 1996 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, elements of the 98th Division.

### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War I:* Streamer without inscription

*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe



## 385<sup>th</sup>

*"Follow Me"*

Unit: 3-385th (IET), Edison, NJ

Constituted Sept. 5, 1918 in the National Army as the 385th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves and assigned to the 76th Division. Ordered into active military service June 15, 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Meade, MD. After World War II, the 385th was reactivated Dec. 17, 1946 with headquarters in Providence, RI. Reorganized and redesignated in 1959 as the 385th Regt., an element of the 76th division. Headquarters moved to Warwick, RI April 1, 1960. Reorganized in the fall of 1996 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, elements of the 98th Division.

### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe



## 389<sup>th</sup>

*"We Will Try"*

Units: 1-389th (IET), Schenectady, NY

2-389th (IET), Ithaca, NY

Constituted July 23, 1918 in the National Army as the 389th Infantry. Reconstituted June 25, 1921 in the Organized Reserves and assigned to the 98th Division. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Breckinridge, KY. Reactivated after World War II Dec. 19, 1946 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Albany, NY. Reorganized and redesignated in 1959 as the 389th Regt., an element of the 98th Division with headquarters in Schenectady, N.Y.



### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War II:* Asiatic-Pacific Theater Streamer without inscription



## 390<sup>nd</sup>

*Ka-Yen-Sa-Hab (Iroquois Indian Phrase)*  
"Flag Up" or "Keep the flag flying"

Unit: 1-390th (IET), Buffalo, NY

Constituted July 23, 1918 in the National Army as the 390th Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves and assigned to the 98th Division. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Breckinridge, KY. Reactivated after World War II Dec. 19 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Buffalo, NY. Reorganized and redesignated as the 390th Regt. May 1, 1959, an element of the 98th Division, with headquarters in Amherst, NY.



### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War II:* Asiatic-Pacific Theater Streamer without inscription



## 391<sup>st</sup>

*"We Will Always Win"*

Units: 1-391st (TS), Schenectady, NY

Constituted July 23, 1918 in the National Army as the 391st Infantry. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves and assigned to the 98th Division. Ordered into active military service Sept. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Breckinridge, KY. After World War II, the 391st was reactivated in December 1946 into the Organized Reserves with headquarters in Rochester, NY. Reorganized and redesignated May 1, 1959 as the 391st Regt., an element of the 98th Division.



### Campaign Participation Credit:

*World War II:* Asiatic-Pacific Theater Streamer without inscription



## 3rd Brigade (CS)

*Headquartered in Tulsa, OK*

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 320th Engineers and assigned to the 95th Division. Organized in December 1921 with headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK. Redesignated (less 2nd Bn) Feb. 13, 1942 as the 320th Engineer Bn. Ordered into active service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. Redesignated Aug. 1, 1942 as the 320th Engineer Combat Bn. Inactivated Oct. 8, 1945 at Camp Shelby, MS. Activated Feb. 19, 1947 with headquarters in Ponca City, OK. Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 6, 1953 as the 320th Engineer Bn. Disbanded (less Companies A and B) Apr. 1, 1959. Headquarters reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 3rd Bde, 95th Division (Training). Activated Dec. 30, 1967 in Oklahoma City and inactivated Jan. 13, 1995. Activated Nov. 16, 1996 in Broken Arrow, OK.

## 95<sup>th</sup>

*Nie-Econ-Nim*  
"I am ready"

### Units:

#### *3rd Bde:*

1-95th (EN), Fort Leonard Wood, MO  
2-95th (MP), Baton Rouge, LA  
3-95th (SC), Albuquerque, NM  
4-95th (CHEM), North Little Rock, AR.  
5-95th (CA/PO), Lubbock, TX  
6-95th (MI), San Antonio, TX

**4th Bde:**  
7-95th (PERS SVC), Grand Prairie, TX  
8-95th (TC), Shreveport, LA  
9-95th (QM), Des Moines, IA  
**5th Bde:**  
10-95th (HS), Houston, TX  
13-95th (NHS), San Antonio, TX

Constituted Sept. 4, 1918 in the National Army as HQ, 170th Field Artillery Brigade and assigned to the 95th Division. Organized Sept. 16, 1918 at Camp Knox, KY. Demobilized Dec. 22, 1918. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as HQ and HQ Battery, 170th Field Artillery Brigade and assigned to the 95th Division. Organized in November 1921 at Oklahoma City, OK. Reorganized and redesignated Feb. 13, 1942 as HQ and HQ Battery, 95th Division Artillery. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. Inactivated Oct. 15, 1945 at Camp Shelby, Miss.



Activated May 13, 1947 at Oklahoma City, OK. Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 1, 1959 as HHC, 95th Regt., an element of the 95th Division (Training), in Shreveport, LA. Regiment reorganized Dec. 30, 1967 to the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 95th Division (Training). Reorganized Sept. 1, 1971 to include 3rd Battalion, later changed to Institutional Training in October 1994. Reorganized Oct. 16, 1996 to consist of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Battalion of the 95th Division (IT), adding the 13th Battalion in 2002.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**4th Brigade (CSS)**

*Headquartered in Grand Prairie, TX*

Constituted Sept. 1, 1918 in the National Army as the 320th Supply Train assigned to the 95th Division. Organized September 1918 at Camp Sherman, OH. Demobilized Dec. 20, 1918 in the Organized Reserves as the 95th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps. Organized December 1921 with headquarters at Lawton, OK. Redesignated Mar. 23, 1925 as the 95th Division Quartermaster Train. Redesignated July 1, 1936 as the 420th Quartermaster Regt., assigned to the 95th Division. Later redesignated 420th Quartermaster Bn. Ordered into active military service July 14, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. Reorganized and redesignated Oct. 31, 1942 as the 795th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, an element of the 95th Infantry Division. Inactivated Oct. 15, 1945 at Camp Shelby, MS. Redesignated Mar. 18, 1947 as the 795th Ordnance Maintenance Company. Activated April 3, 1947 in Oklahoma City, OK. Reorganized and redesignated Nov. 15, 1952, ad HHD, 795th Ordnance Bn. Disbanded Apr. 1, 1959. Headquarters reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 4th Bde., 95th Division (Training). Activated Dec. 30, 1967 in Shreveport, LA. Location changed several times before the unit settled in Dallas, TX on Nov. 16, 1996.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**5th Brigade (HS)**

*Headquartered in Sam Houston, TX*

Constituted Nov. 16, 1996 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 5th Bde, 95th Division (Training), activated at Ft. Sam Houston, TX. Headquartered at Gen. Richard G. Stilwell U.S. Army Reserve Center in San Antonio, TX with the mission to provide institutional training to military personnel in medical Military Occupational Specialties (MOS).

\*\*\*\*\*  
**7th Brigade (TS)**

*Headquartered in North Little Rock, AK*

Constituted Sept. 4, 1918 in the National Army as the 320th Supply Train, assigned to the 95th Division. Organized at Camp Sherman, OH and demobilized Dec. 20, 1918. Reconstituted Sept. 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 95th Division Train, Quartermaster Corps. Organized in December 1921 with headquarters in Lawton, OK. Redesignated Mar. 23, 1925 as the 95th Division Quartermaster Train. Redesignated July 1, 1936 as the 420th Quartermaster Regt., assigned to the 95th Division. Redesignated Feb. 13, 1942 as the 420th Quartermaster Battalion.

Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX. Less the Ordnance, Maintenance Platoon, reorganized and redesignated Oct. 31, 1942 as the 95th Quartermaster Company, an

element of the 95th Infantry Division. Inactivated Oct. 15, 1945 at Camp Shelby, MS. Activated Apr. 28, 1947 in Oklahoma City, OK.

Disbanded Apr. 1, 1959 in Oklahoma city, OK. Reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as the 95th Committee Group assigned to the 95th Division (Training). Activated Dec. 31, 1967 in Little Rock, AK. Reorganized and redesignated Sept. 1, 1971 as HQ, 95th Committee Group. Reorganized and redesignated Oct. 15, 1978 as HQ, 95th Training Cmd, an element of the 95th Division (Training). Inactivated Oct. 16, 1984. Redesignated Nov. 16, 1996 as HQ, 7th Bde., 95th Division (Training).

\*\*\*\*\*  
**379th**

*Ad Finem  
"To the End"*

Units: 1-379th (TS), Oklahoma City, OK  
3-379th (LOG SPT), Barling, AK

Constituted Sept. 4, 1918 in the National Army as the 379th Infantry. Ordered into active military service July 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Swift, TX.



Activated Feb. 12, 1947 in the Organized Reserves with headquarters at Hot Springs, AK. Reorganized and redesignated on April 1, 1959 as the 379th Regiment, an element of the 95th Division (Training), with headquarters at Little Rock, AK.

Campaign Participation Credit:  
*World War II:* Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-  
Alsace; Central Europe

\*\*\*\*\*  
**3rd Brigade (IET)**

*Headquartered in Lexington, KY*

Constituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as HQ Co., 100th Division. Reorganized Aug. 1922 in Charleston, WV. Location changed in February 1924 to Huntington, WV. Redesignated Feb. 23, 1942 as HQ and Military Police Co. (less Military Police Platoon), 100th Division. Ordered into active military service Nov. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Jackson, S.C. as HQ Co., 100th Infantry Division. Inactivated Jan. 10, 1946 at Camp Patrick Henry, VA. Later redesignated HQ Co., 100th Airborne Division and activated Nov. 25, 1946 in Louisville, KY. Reorganized and redesignated May 12, 1952 as HQ Co., 100th Infantry Division. Disbanded Apr. 17, 1959 in Louisville, KY. Reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserves as HQ, 1st Bde., 100th Division (Training) and activated Jan. 26, 1968 in Lexington, KY.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**397th**

*"Death Before Dishonor"*

Units: 2-397th (IET), Lexington, KY  
3-397th (IET), Corbin, KY

Constituted July 23, 1918 in the National Army as the 397th Infantry assigned to the 100th Division. Demobilized Nov. 30, 1918. Reconstituted June 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 397th Infantry assigned to the 100th Division. Ordered into active military service Nov. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Jackson, SC. Redesignated Oct. 15, 1946 as the 397th Parachute Infantry, an element of the 100th Airborne division.



Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 17, 1959 as the 397th Regt., an element of the 100th Division (Training), headquartered in Lexington, KY. Ordered into active military service Sept. 25, 1961. Released form active military service in August 1962 and reverted to Reserve status. Reorganized Oct. 16, 1996 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns., elements of the 100th Division (Institutional Training).

Campaign Participation Credit:  
*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-  
Alsace; Central Europe

Decorations:  
*1st and 2nd Bns:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army),  
Heilbronn

\*\*\*\*\*  
**398th**

*"On the Alert"*

Units: 1-398th (IET), Owensboro, KY  
2-398th (CAV OSUT), Madisonville, KY  
3-398th (IET), Paducah, KY

Constituted July 23, 1918 in the National Army as the 398th Infantry assigned to 100th Division. Demobilized Nov. 30, 1918. Reconstituted June 23, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 398th Infantry assigned to the 100th Division with headquarters in Charleston, WV. Ordered into active military service in 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Jackson, SC. Inactivated Jan. 8, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ. Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 17, 1959 as the 398th Regt., an element of the 100th Division (Training), headquartered in Owensboro, KY.



Ordered into active military service Sept. 25, 1961 and released August 1962. Reorganized Jan. 26, 1968 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 100th Division (Training). Reorganized Oct. 16, 2004 to include the 4th Bn, 100th Division (IT).

Campaign Participation Credit:  
*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-  
Alsace; Central Europe  
Rhineland; Ardennes-  
Alsace; Central Europe

Decorations:  
*3rd Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Bitcher  
and Heilbronn

\*\*\*\*\*  
**399th**

*"I Am Ready"*

Units: 2-399th (TS), Ft. Knox, KY

Constituted July 23, 1918 in the National Army as the 399th Infantry assigned to the 100th Division. Demobilized Nov. 30, 1918. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves, headquartered in Lexington, KY. Ordered into active military service Nov. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Ft. Jackson, SC. Inactivated Jan. 29, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ. Redesignated Oct. 15, 1946 as the 399th Glider Infantry, an element of the 100th Airborne division. Reorganized and redesignated Apr. 17, 1959 as the 399th Regt., headquartered in Louisville, KY.



Ordered into active military service Sept. 25, 1961 and released in August 1962. Reorganized Jan. 26, 1968 to the 2nd and 3rd Bns, element of the 100th Division (Training). Reorganized Nov. 16, 1996 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, 100th Division (IT).

Campaign Participation Credit:  
*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-  
Alsace; Central Europe

Decorations:  
*1st Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Raon  
L'etape

*3rd Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Fohlenberg

\*\*\*\*\*  
**4th Brigade (IET)**

*Headquartered in Beaver Dam, WI*

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 309th Ammunition Train and assigned to the 8th Division. Organized in September 1917 at Camp Zachary Taylor, KY. Demobilized Feb. 17, 1919 at Camp Sherman, OH. Reconstituted Oct. 28, 1936 in the Organized Reserves. Redesignated Feb. 23, 1942 as the 909th Field Artillery Battalion and remained assigned to the 84th Division. Ordered into active military service Oct. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Howze, TX. Inactivated Jan. 23, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ. Redesignated Dec. 19, 1946 as the 909th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion. Activated Sept. 15, 1947 with headquarters in Sheboygan, WI.

Reorganized and redesignated Mar. 29, 1951 as the 909th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated Mar. 1, 1952 as the 909th Field Artillery Battalion. Disbanded May 18, 1959. Reconstituted Nov. 24, 1967 in the Army Reserve as HQ, 2nd Bde., 84th Division (Training). Activated Jan. 31, 1968 in Beaver Dam, WI.

**329th**  
*Nous gardons  
"We Guard"*

Unit: 1-329th (IN OSUT), Bloomington, IN

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 329th Infantry assigned to the 83rd Division. Organized Aug. 30, 1917 at Camp Sherman, OH. Demobilized Feb. 15, 1919. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 329th Infantry assigned to

the 83rd Division with headquarters in Dayton, OH. Ordered into active military service Aug. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Atterbury, IN. Inactivated Apr. 6, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ.



Reorganized and redesignated May 1, 1959 as the 329th Regt., an element of the 70th Division (Training) with headquarters in Detroit, MI. Later moved to Fraser, MI. Reorganized Oct. 1, 1994 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, elements of the 70th Division (IT). Reorganized from Oct. 16 through Nov. 16, 1996 to the 1st and 2nd Battalions, elements of the 84th Division (IT). Reorganized October 2004 to the 1st and 2nd Battalions, elements of the 100th Division (IT).

**Campaign Participation Credit:**

*World War I:* Streamer without inscription  
*World War II:* Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

**Decorations**

*2nd Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Gurzenich



**330<sup>th</sup>**

*Verus ad finem*  
*"True to the End"*

**Units:** 1-330th (IN OSUT), Fort Wayne, IN  
2-330th (IN OSUT), Livonia, MI  
3-330th (IN OSUT), Waterford, MI

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 330th Infantry and assigned to the 83rd Division. Organized Aug. 30, 1917 at Camp Sherman, OH. Demobilized Feb. 13 - Apr. 10, 1919 at Camp Sherman. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 330th Infantry and assigned to the 83rd Division with headquarters in Alliance, OH.



Ordered into active military service Aug. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Atterburg, IN. Inactivated Mar. 27, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ. Reorganized and redesignated May 1, 1959 as the 330th Regt., an element of the 70th Division (Training) with headquarters in

Detroit, MI. Later moved to Fraser, MI. Reorganized Oct. 1, 1994 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 70th Division (IT).

Reorganized Oct. 16 - Nov. 16, 1996 to the 1st and 2nd Bns, elements of the 84th Division (IT). Reorganized Oct. 17, 2005 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 100th Division (IT).

**Campaign Participation Credit:**

*World War I:* Streamer with inscription  
*World War II:* Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

**Decorations:**

*1st Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Bihain  
*2nd Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for St. Joseph  
*3rd Bn:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Strass



**334<sup>th</sup>**

*Fortes Fortuna Juvat*  
*"Fortune Favors the Brave"*

**Units:**

*3rd Bde:* 2-334th (IET), Granite City, IL  
*4th Bde:* 1-334th (TS), Milwaukee, WI  
3-334th (IET), Milwaukee, WI

Constituted Aug. 5, 1917 in the National Army as the 334th Infantry assigned to the 84th Division. Organized at Camp Zachary Taylor, Ky., Aug. 25, 1917 and ordered into combat for World War I. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 into the Organized Reserves as the 334th Infantry assigned to the 84th Division.



Ordered into active military service Oct. 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Howze, TX. Inactivated Jan. 21, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, NJ. Reorganized and redesignated May 18, 1959 as the 334th Regt., an element of the 84th Division (Training) with headquarters in Sheboygan, WI. Reorganized Apr. 16, 1995 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 84th Division (IT). Reorganized Oct. 1, 2004 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 100th Division (IT).

**Campaign Participation Credit:**

*World War I:* Streamer without inscription

*World War II:* Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe

**Decorations**

*1st and 3rd Bns:* Presidential Unit Citation (Army) for Roer-Rhine Rivers



**339<sup>th</sup>**

*"The Bayonet Decides"*

**Unit:** 3-339th (IET), Neenah, WI

Constituted Aug. 15, 1917 in the National Army as the 339th Infantry assigned to the 85th Division. Organized Aug. 31, 1917 at Camp Custer, MI. Demobilized July 1919. Reconstituted June 24, 1921 in the Organized Reserves as the 339th Infantry assigned to the 85th Division. Organized in November 1921 with HQ in Detroit, MI. Ordered into active military service May 15, 1942 and reorganized at Camp Shelby, MS. Disbanded Aug. 25, 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, VA. Reconstituted Nov. 6, 1946 in the Organized Reserves as the 339th Infantry assigned to the 85th Infantry Division. Activated Jan. 31, 1947 with HQ in Milwaukee, WI. Relieved Mar. 1, 1952 from assignment to the 85th Infantry Division and assigned to the 84th Infantry Division.



Reorganized and redesignated May 18, 1959 as the 339th Regt., an element of the 84th Division (Training). Reorganized Apr. 16, 1995 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns., elements of the 84th Division (Training). Reorganized Sept. 16, 1995 to the 1st and 2nd Bns, elements of the 84th Division (IT). Reorganized Nov. 16, 1996 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 84th Division (IT). Reorganized Oct. 1, 2004 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns, elements of the 100th Division (IT). Reorganized Apr. 16, 2006 to the 1st and 3rd Bns, elements of the 100th Division (IT).

**Campaign Participation Credit:**

*World War I:* Russia 1918; Russian 1919  
*World War II:* Rome-Arno; North Apennines; Po Valley

**Decorations:**

French *Croix de Guerre* with Palm; World War II for Central Italy

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# Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Col.) R. J. Gore Jr.  
Command Chaplain

## Groundhog Day

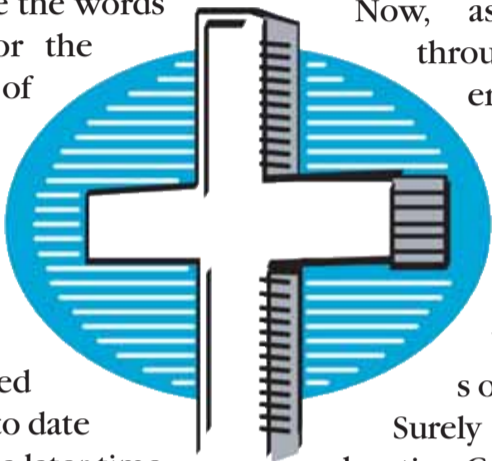
Ecclesiastes 1:1,2,14 "The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem: 'Meaningless! Meaningless!' says the Teacher. 'Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless...I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; All of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.'"

These may be the words of Solomon for the description of the author fits what we know of Solomon. Yet there are some linguistic markers that have led some scholars to date this book from a later time. But whether later or earlier, this book reflects the depths of the author's wisdom—and the author's despair.

Hear his words: "What does man gain from all his labor at which he toils under the sun? Generations come and generations go, but the earth remains

of which one can say, 'Look! This is something new?'"

Like Bill Murray's character in the movie, *Groundhog Day*, the author of Ecclesiastes complains that life consists of one boring repetitive event after another. Every morning the alarm went off at six, every day he stepped into the same pot-hole soaking his shoes, every day the snow storm shut down the roads. New day, Same Old Stuff.



Now, as we plow through the drudgery of daily life, some of us have a sneaking suspicion that Bill Murray must be around somewhere.

Surely Hollywood is shooting *Groundhog Day*, the sequel, and we are all just bit actors. But we are not filming *Groundhog Day*. We are living life with all the frustrations that can come with its boring repetition.

The Teacher, however, does give insight that I find helpful. As part of his answer to the meaninglessness of life, He says, "that a man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God." In other words, by doing our jobs, as

**'Meaningless! Meaningless!' says the Teacher. 'Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless...I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; All of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.'**

forever. The sun rises and the sun sets, and hurries back to where it rises. The wind blows to the south and turns to the north; round and round it goes, ever returning on its course. All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full...What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything

unto God and as best we can, and enjoying life's small blessings as they come, we can find satisfaction—the best antidote for the complacency and boredom that comes with *Groundhog Day*. And as a Christian, I have the promise that whatever I do, in service to the Lord, is not in vain (1 Cor. 15:58). And that is no small comfort indeed!

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A superior management control program is always associated with active, capable Administrators. The single most critical factor in a successful management control program is command support and in this, if leadership doesn't stress the importance of management controls implementation will suffer. Where implementation is consistently poor, the only reasonable conclusion is that the process does not have command support.

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# Necessity for Internal Control Structure



As federal managers, we strive to achieve the missions and goals of the 108th Training Command (IET) and provide accountability for operations. Therefore, we must continually assess and evaluate our internal control structure to assure that it is well designed and managed appropriately.

It is not that we settle for the “status quo” of internal controls, but that we update them to meet our ever changing conditions to provide “reasonable assurance” that the objectives of the Command are being achieved. Commanders and managers must examine their internal controls to determine how well your unit or section is performing, how it can be improved and the degree to which it helps identify and address major risks for fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement.

The U.S. Army uses a formal code of conduct and other policies communicating appropriate ethical and moral behavioral standards and addressing acceptable operational practices and conflicts of interest. The most important of this is the Seven Army Values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect for Others, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage.

These Seven Army Values directly address issues such as improper payments, appropriate use of resources, conflicts of interest, political activities of employees, acceptance of gifts or donations or foreign decorations and use of due professional care. These values are periodically acknowledged by all employees and Soldiers. We should all know what manner of behavior is ac-

ceptable and unacceptable—and the penalties unacceptable behavior can bring. John Adams once said, “In all things, one must consider the end”.



*It is not that we settle for the “status quo” of internal controls, but that we update them to meet our ever changing conditions to provide “reasonable assurance” that the objectives of the Command are being achieved.*

# 'Serving Those Who Serve'

*"Thank you for your service."*

These words echoed through the Charlotte City Council Chambers as Mayor Patrick McCrory, Secretary of Defense Pete Geren and a host of Charlotte community and military leaders signed the Army Community Covenant during a ceremony held Aug. 13. The ceremony's theme was "Serving Those Who Serve."

The Army Community Covenant is designed to develop and foster effective state and community partnerships with the Army in improving the quality of life for soldiers and their families. It's a formal commitment of support by communities to soldiers and their families.

Charlotte's covenant recognizes the commitment our soldiers and their families make and commits to supporting their strength, resilience and readiness. The covenant also commits to honoring those who serve and those who have died to defend freedom and the Constitution of the United States. Charlotte's signing ceremony differed from other signing ceremonies thus far as it had a very strong community focus, organized and hosted by city and county officials, community leaders, the NC National Guard

and the 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training), headquartered in Charlotte. "The Queen City" and Mecklenburg County also has the second largest military population in the state of North Carolina, second only to Fort Bragg. The majority of military members in the Charlotte and surrounding area are Reservists and National Guardsmen.

"We are honored to have Secretary Geren join us as we recognize the sacrifice of the soldiers and families who serve in the Army. The Charlotte Community Covenant is but one small way we extend our appreciation and say thank you as a community and as a region," stated Mayor Pat McCrory.

Geren emphasized military Families during his speech, noting the fact that more than half the Soldiers serving today are married and remarking how much he enjoyed hearing children in the audience "providing background



Secretary of the Army Pete Geren joins Charlotte Mayor Patrick McCrory, community leaders, Soldiers, Families and their children in signing the Army Community Covenant at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center.

sound" during his speech. "We're a nation of more than 300 million people," he said, "and those Families standing behind the Soldiers defending freedom for every one of us and

most of the people in the Western world, help make them stronger.

"Few times in the world's history has so many owed so much to so few," he continued. "This community covenant is a way to reaffirm our commitment to those few. It is a debt that grows every single day. The citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County has stood up and stood with our Soldiers and let's leave with a pledge to do all that we can."

Geren ended his speech with an emotional "thank you for your service" that got a standing ovation.

"It is very much your Army," Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory, III, commanding general of the 108th Tng Cmd (IET), told the audience. "The face of the Army is the Guard and Reserves in our community. The ability of our Army to defend the nation is linked to the support of the Amer-

ican people. As we're engaged in a protracted struggle against those who would harm our country and our families, the Army has reached out to thank our nation's communities for their support. The City of Charlotte and surrounding area was chosen as a representative community to demonstrate the superior level of community support. This covenant is the ratification of an already-existing commitment by the leaders gathered here today."

Mallory noted the large number and variety of employers, civic and community organizations, sporting franchises (especially NASCAR), faith-based organizations, patriotic organizations and municipal governments who support Soldiers and Families in Charlotte.

"Our warrior citizens are warriors for this nation in uniform," said Lt. Gen. Jack T. Stultz, chief of the Army Reserve. "Community is so important because we're asking those warrior citizens to mobilize and deploy and defend our nation on a repeated basis so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we can win this war on terror. We have to call on our warrior citizens to look evil in the eye—and we have to know the community backbone will take care of our Families to do that. Our installation here is "Fort Charlotte" and it's a community that takes care of its Soldiers and their Families."

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Carolina pride themselves on their patriotic support of our men and women in uniform," proclaimed Rob Tanner, a radio personality from WSOC FM 103.7, who narrated the event. "We are privileged to hold this important event in the City of Charlotte—a growing and vibrant area, a financial center and a leader in higher education, professional sports and overall quality of life. The business community of this area, as well as sister communities across North Carolina, provides tremendous support to our military members and their families. This is especially important to our Guard and Reserve members who must leave not only their loved ones but their jobs when the call to duty comes."

It was "standing room only" for the ceremony, with many attendees watching the ceremony on large television monitors in the Government Center lobby.

Staff Sgt. Dale Beatty, a National Guardsman who lost both his legs below the knee in Iraq, brought the entire audience to their feet as he spoke of the commitment his community demonstrated during his rehabilitation. Beatty said that during his year in Walter Reed hospital, he received more than a thousand letters, mostly from strangers.

"I remember saying to my wife, 'How can people who don't even know us care so much about us,'" he said. Beatty told the audience that he and his family have been able to recover so well due to community support. The Iredell County Builders' Association in a county adjoining Charlotte built a house for Beatty and his family last year with all materials and labor donated by its members.

McCrory reminded attendees that "We must remain a community that values and respects our armed forces."

"This is the real American from the heart and I believe the Secretary of the Army was very moved by the ceremony, especially by the large community participation," Mallory concluded.

"The Reserves and National Guard are carrying a heavy burden on the war on terror and wherever they're called to step in," Geren concluded. "We're asking more and more — and they're carrying that burden extremely well. We cannot go to war or support domestic disasters without them. The Reserves and National Guard will continue to grow."

Geren became the 20th Secretary of the Army on July 16, 2007. He was a Congressman representing the 12th District of Texas from 1989 to 1997.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Story and Photos by Victoria L. White, Public Affairs Officer for the 108th Training Command (1ET) in Charlotte, N.C.)

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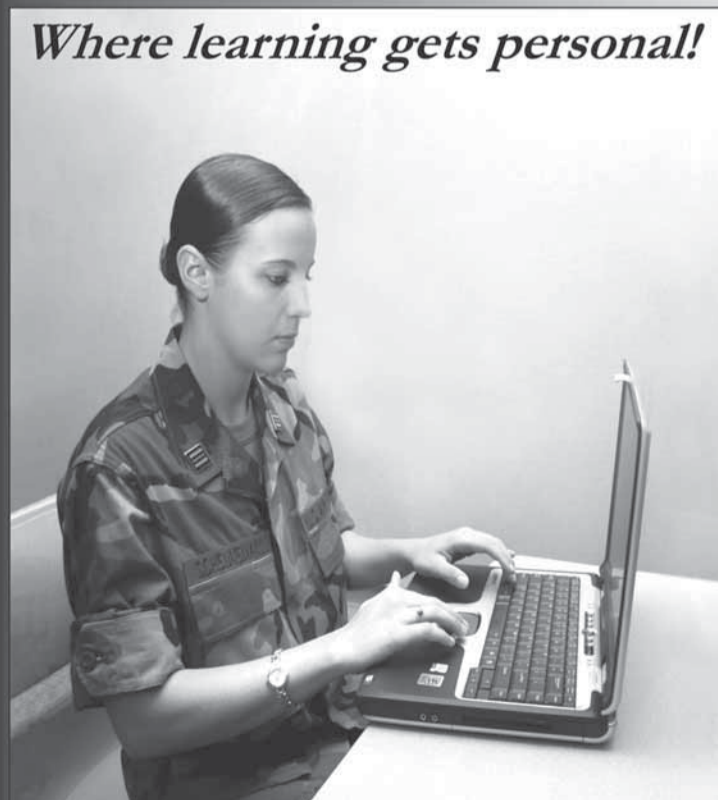
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# Brig. Gen. Roger B. Duff Commands the 95th

Under the new configuration, the 95th Training Division (IET) is now commanded by a one-star general, Brig. Gen. Roger B. Duff, recently promoted. Duff has been a Special Forces officer for 28 years.

Duff is a native of Washington, commissioned into the U.S. Army in 1976. He is a graduate of the University of Washington, Columbia University and Liberty University. He holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Liberty University and earned a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

He is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses at Ft. Benning, Ga. and subsequently completed the Special Forces Officer Course at Ft. Bragg, N.C. Duff is also a graduate of the Department of Defense (DoD) Comptroller Course.

Prior to his selection as the Commanding General of the 95th, Duff

served in the regular Army. He held numerous Special Forces command and staff positions from the tactical through strategic levels. Unit assignments include the 9th Infantry Division, 1st Special Forces Group, Special Operations Command Central, U.S. Central Command and the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Duff served as Chief of Staff for the U.S. Special Operations Command Joint Task Force SPEAR; director of Counter Terrorism for U.S. Central

Command; and as Deputy Commander and director of Operations, Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa. He participated in numerous combat operations in support of both Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. He also served in Operation Just Cause and Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Duff holds

numerous awards and decorations. Duff is currently assigned to the Center for Special Operations (CSO), U.S. Special Operations Command as the director of the CSO Executive Staff. He held this position as a military officer and now as a DoD

civilian. He and his wife, Linda, have two daughters, Jacqueline (Grants Pass, Ore.) and Cassandra (Tulsa, Okla.), and one son, Jeremy (Captain, U.S. Army, Savannah, Ga.). They also have six grandchildren.



Brig. Gen. Roger B. Duff

## Visiting a Battlefield



Commanding General James B. Mallory, III and commanders from the 98th and 95th Division pose in front of the Alamo during the recent Commanders Conference in San Antonio, Tex. The commanders took a few minutes to visit the historic site after a full day of presentations and discussions.

Photo by Thomas Crane

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Find below the FY 09 schedule for the United States Army Reserve Drill Sergeant School (DSS) and Warrior Leader Course (WLC) being taught by the 108th Training Command (IET) at Fort Jackson, SC and Fort Knox, KY. The official Army schools website is [www.atrrs.army.mil](http://www.atrrs.army.mil). Use school code R615 to find the most current Drill Sergeant School course listings.

Option 3 - is conducted in 2 phases, each 29 days in length.  
Option 5 - is conducted straight through for 56 days.  
WLC is conducted at Fort Jackson, SC and aligned with a follow-on Drill Sergeant class.

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I will insist that each Soldier meets and maintains the Army's standards of military bearing and courtesy, consistent with the highest traditions of the United States Army.

I will lead by example, never requiring a Soldier to attempt any task, I would not do myself.

But first, last and always, I am an American Soldier, sworn to defend

the constitution of the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic.

I am a Drill Sergeant. This we'll defend.



108th TRAINING COMMAND (IET) USAR DSS 2009 CLASS SCHEDULE AND DSC PACKET DUE DATES										
SCH	COURSE NUMBER	PH	CLS	REPORT DATE	START DATE	END DATE	CLASS LOCATION	ST	ZIP	DSC PACKET DUE DATES
R615	800-WLC (MOD)		001	090219	090214	090228	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	
R615	800-WLC (MOD)		002	090417	090418	090502	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	
R615	800-WLC (MOD)		003	090710	090711	090725	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	
R615	800-WLC (MOD)		004	081903	081904	081918	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 1)	3	002	090114	090116	090207	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 3)	1	001	081019	081020	081116	FT KNOX	KY	40121	18 AUG 08
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 3)	1	002	090111	090112	090207	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	16 NOV 08
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 3)	1	003	090201	090202	090228	FT KNOX	KY	40121	1 DEC 08
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 3)	2	001	090104	090106	090131	FT KNOX	KY	40121	
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 3)	2	002	090531	090601	090627	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 3)	2	003	090706	090706	090801	FT KNOX	KY	40121	
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 5)		001	090308	090309	090502	FT KNOX	KY	40121	5 JAN 09
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 5)		002	090301	090302	090426	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	5 JAN 09
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 5)		003	090531	090601	090801	FT KNOX	KY	40121	30 MAR 09
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 5)		004	090503	090504	090627	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	2 MAR 09
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 5)		006	090802	090803	090925	FT KNOX	KY	40121	18 MAY 09
R615	816-SQIX (OPTION 5)		006	090726	090727	090919	FT JACKSON	SC	29207	18 MAY 09

NOTE: WLC CLASSES ARE FOLLOW-ON TO DS CLASSES

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Donations made to the wish registry are not tax deductible. 100% of donations to the wish registry will be used to purchase Sears gift cards for Heroes at Home Wish Registry participants. Participation in the registry does not guarantee that you will receive a gift. In the event registries hit their maximum amount, the USO will receive any additional funds from the Heroes at Home Wish Registry. Other Terms and Conditions apply; please see [www.sears.com/wish](http://www.sears.com/wish) for full program details.

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## Secretary of Defense Addresses Wounded Warrior Issues

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates assured participants in the first Wounded Warriors Family Summit he will "continue to press forward with a sense of urgency" to provide top-level care and support for wounded warriors in a way that lays groundwork for the next administration's leaders to build on.

"I take the issue of wounded warriors personally," Gates told the audience gather in Washington, D.C. Oct. 20 for the summit. "Other than winning the wars we are in, my highest priority is providing the best possible care for those who are wounded in combat. As long as there are wounded warriors in our care, we must—and we will—continue to



Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates

fulfill our obligation to them."

Gates praised the "grit and resilience" of wounded warriors and acknowledged the families of the severely wounded and fallen who "have sacrificed and suffered for our country in the most challenging ways."

He cited broad strides in treating wounded warriors, including warrior transition units to help navigate the system as they get treatment and return to their units or transition to veteran status. During the last 19 months, the Army has dedicated more than 3,200 permanent cadre and staff to this effort to help nearly 8,500 soldiers.

"We're making progress in improving the disability evaluation system, but we still have a long way to go to make it as easy as it should be," he said.

He also cited progress in providing care for traumatic brain injury (TBI), combat stress and other mental-health issues, along with eliminating the stigma attached with seeking this type of care. He pointed to improved evaluation and screening plus the new Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center that centralizes responsibility for consolidating information as it promotes TBI research.

"We've invested \$900 million in this effort, which includes \$300 million in research," he said. "And while we've learned a lot about how to better care for those with TBI over the past few years, we are poised to learn a great deal more."

Gates also noted elimination of "Question 21" on the federal security clearance form that asks whether an individual has sought mental-health care, considered an obstacle by some who feared a "yes" would jeopardize their careers. "Although we have made significant progress in the last year and a half, there is no doubt that we still have a lot of work to do," he said.

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# Inbriefs

## Counseling Available for Soldiers in Charlotte

Military Family Life Consultants are now available for Soldiers and their Families at the 145th Airman & Family Readiness Center located at 4930 Minuteman Way in Charlotte.

This program offers counseling to help deal with the impact of stress, deployments, separation, reintegration and family reunions following deployments. Parenting, deployment stress, decision making, communication and relationship skills are also available counseling programs.

If you or your loved one has recently returned from a deployment, is currently deployed or preparing to deploy, the Military Family Life Consultant is here to help. Call 704-398-4949 for an appointment or telephone consultation.

## Tax Benefits for Soldiers

There are numerous tax benefits associated with your military service. Some of the pay you receive each month is excluded from the calculation of your gross income and therefore not subject to federal income tax.

If you serve in a Combat Zone (CZ) or a Qualified Hazardous Duty Area (QHDA), (or in direct support),

the hostile fire pay you receive is tax-free. Depending upon your rank, all or a portion of your wages and bonuses earned while serving in a CZ or QHDA is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and when determining your eligibility to make IRA (Individual Retirement Account) contributions. You are considered to be serving in a CZ/QHDA if you are either assigned on official temporary duty to a CZ/QHDA or you qualify for hostile fire/imminent danger pay while in a CZ/QHDA. If you spend a single qualifying day in the CZ/QHDA, your pay for the entire month is excluded from taxable income. You do not actually need to show the exclu-

sion on your tax return because income that qualifies for the exclusion should not be included in the wages report on your Form W-2.



Soldiers receive many different types of pay and allowances. Some are included in the calculation of gross income for federal income tax purposes while others are excluded from this calculation. The amount of savings from federal income taxes could be substantial. Types of

pay included in your gross income include:

- **Basic pay:** Active duty, attendance at a designated service school, back wages, Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) drills, reserve training, training duty.
- **Special pay:** Aviation career in-

centives, foreign duty, foreign language proficiency, hardship duty, medical and dental officers, optometry, pharmacy, veterinarian.

- **Bonuses:** Career status, enlistment, officer, overseas extension, re-enlistment.
- **Other payments:** Accrued leave, high deployment per diem.
- **Incentive pay:** Flight pay.

Types of pay that are not calculated in your gross income include:

- **Living allowances:** Basic Allowance for Housing, Basic Allowance for Subsistence, Overseas Housing Allowance, Housing and cost-of-living allowances abroad whether paid by the U.S. government or by a foreign government.
- **Moving allowances:** Dislocation, military base realignment and closure benefit, moving household and personal items, storage, temporary lodging and temporary lodging expenses.
- **Travel allowances:** Per diem, leave between consecutive overseas tours.
- **Combat pay:** Compensation for service while in a CZ or QHDA. Enlisted Soldiers and warrant officers may exclude all active

see INBRIEFS page 35

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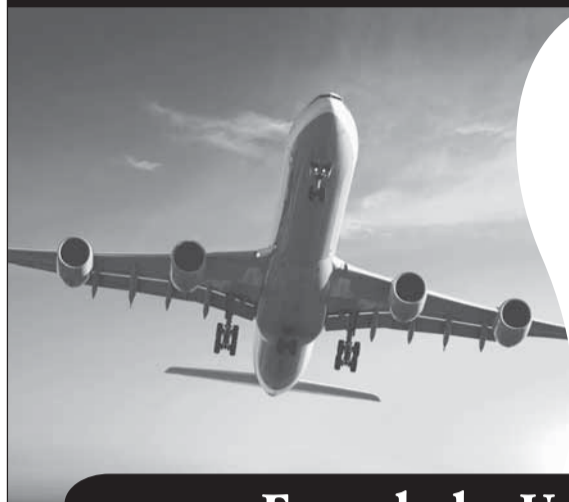
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## Inbriefs

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duty pay, imminent danger/hostile fire pay and re-enlistment bonuses earned during the months spent in a CZ/QHDA. Commissioned officers may exclude up to the highest rate of basic pay for the most senior enlisted member of the Armed Forces plus the amount of hostile fire or imminent danger pay for each month.

- **Death allowances:** Burial services, death gratuity payments to eligible survivors, travel of dependents to burial site.
- **Other payments:** Disability, including payments received for injuries incurred as a direct result of a terrorist or military action, group term life insurance, professional education, ROTC educational and subsistence allowances, uniform allowances, uniforms furnished to enlisted personnel.
- **In-kind military benefits:** Dependent care assistance program, legal assistance, medical and dental care, commissary and exchange discounts, space available travel on government aircraft.

If you are a member of a reserve component and travel more than 100 miles away from home in connection with your performance of service, you can deduct your non-

reimbursable travel expenses as an adjustment to income, rather than as a miscellaneous itemized deduction. The deduction is limited to the amount the federal government pays its employees for travel expenses.

Most states follow the federal government's lead in granting some form of tax relief for Service Members serving in a CZ/QHDA. However, the manner in which the various states reach that determination, the amount of exclusion, and the amount of time extended to handle tax matters and file tax returns, varies from state to state. It is best to check with your individual state well in advance of any deadlines to see if you are entitled to additional benefits resulting from your military service.

Soldiers serving in a CZ/QHDA are entitled to a filing extension of 180 days plus the number of days the Service Member was in the CZ/HQDA during the normal tax-filing period (Jan. 1 through Apr. 15). The extension begins on the day after the Soldier leaves the CZ/QHDA. Soldiers who use this extension will not be charged interest on the amounts owed to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and will receive interest

from the IRS if they are entitled to a refund. Soldiers who qualify for this extension must clearly write in red ink "Combat Zone Taxpayer" across the top of their tax return and include their deployment date(s). In general, the deadlines for performing certain tax actions are extended for the period of a Soldier's service in a combat zone plus 180 days after his last day in the combat zone.

Regardless of whether you handle your own tax matters or hire some-



one to do it for you make sure you understand your entitlements and obligations. If you have questions you can go to the Internal Revenue Service's web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Under the "Individual" icon, select "Military" to find rules, notices and publications. You will find most of the rules pertaining to military service in IRS Publication 3, Armed

Forces Tax Guide. Remember that you are responsible for what is on your tax return, no matter who prepares it.

### Tips to Prevent Identity Theft

With the advent of the internet and technology being what it is today, the threat of identity theft grows larger and larger. From credit card transactions online being skimmed to the Department of Veterans Affairs losing control of social security information on laptops, identity theft is a serious concern. How can you defend against it and what can you do should you become a victim?

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal identifying information like your name, social security number or credit card number without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that as many as nine million Americans fall victim to identity theft every year. The theft can go completely unnoticed until you review your credit report, a credit card statement or worse, when you are contacted by a debt collector.

Thieves can steal your information using many methods. The low-tech way is called "dumpster diving." Billing statements, bank statements or anything they can get their hands on with personal information is as

see IDENTITY THEFT page 36

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## Identity Theft

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good as gold to an identity thief — and readily available in your trash each week.

With the popularity of ordering goods on the internet, several more high-tech methods are available to the identity thief. “Skimming” and “phishing” are ways to get information from what you do on the internet. Skimming is a process by which a special storage device records your credit card number while processing your card online. Phishing uses spam email or instant messages: The identity thief uses these messages to talk you into giving personal information or may even impersonate financial institutions or companies.

Thieves take a stolen identity and

perpetrate credit card fraud, bank fraud, utilities fraud, even filing false tax returns in your name. More often than not, the victim doesn't know about the theft until damage is done. Debt collectors and bank loan rejection are sometimes the only indicators the victim gets.

If your identity is stolen, filing a police report is the first step to getting your life back to normal. Referred to as an Identity Theft Report, these can be used to permanently block fraudulent information from appearing on your credit report and prevent companies from continuing to collect on debts incurred. An ID Theft report is also needed to place an extended fraud alert on your credit report.

Do not delay notifying a creditor when you suspect identity theft. You will likely need to follow up any

phone notifications in writing. The longer it takes for you to report the situation, the longer it will take for creditors to correct it. Most companies will work with you to settle any cases of theft. Most credit card companies and banks also offer some kind of identity theft protection.

Safeguarding your personal information is the easiest and most effective way to protect yourself. Check your credit report often and review your bank and credit card statements each month. Some insurance companies now offer coverage to protect your good name. Protect bank and credit card statements—and anything else that contains your personal information. Shredding old bank statements is a way to ensure that your account numbers cannot be recovered from the trash.

Use reloadable credit cards while shopping online. Soldiers are offered free antiviral and spyware on AKO. Take advantage of this service.

The best way to protect yourself and your future is information. The more aware of the threat that you are, the better you can protect yourself. Visit the Federal Trade Commission a [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) for more information.

*Written by Dominick Gallo, RTC-East Paralegal*

### TRICARE Benefits

Eligible families of activated National Guard and Reserve members will continue to save up to \$300 in annual deductibles now that a TRICARE “demonstration” program is a permanent benefit. The regulation also contains provisions that make it easier for Reserve and Guard members to continue to see their family physicians by potentially increasing the amount that can be paid to out-of-network health care providers.

Eligible family members of Guard and Reserve personnel activated for more than 30 days under federal orders in support of a contingency operation are eligible for TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra, which have annual deductibles. While they

may be eligible to enroll into TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote for Active Duty Family Members that have no deductibles, you may choose to stay with TRICARE Standard or Extra.

“The benefit is not changing,” said the Deputy Director of TRICARE Management Activity, Maj. Gen. Elder Granger. “We simply want to make sure our Guard and Reserve families know this is a permanent benefit now that final federal regulation has been published.”

Guard or Reserve families often meet annual deductibles under their commercial plans before they were activated. Waiving the TRICARE Standard and Extra deductibles means eligible families will not have to pay additional deductibles under TRICARE. The annual deductible for Standard and Extra is \$300 for families.

“National Guard and Reserve members and their families make huge sacrifices to protect our freedom. We don't want to see them sacrifice even more by paying deductibles twice in one year,” Granger said.

Activated Reserve and Guard members should visit their local military ID card issuing facility to update their information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

### Memorabilia

The 108th Training Command is planning to build a memorial to our fallen Soldiers. We are collecting memorabilia from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraq Freedom for display in the foyer of the headquarters building. We are looking for items such as pictures that can be framed and placed on walls or other smaller items that could be placed in a glass case. Small flags would also be appropriate.

If you have items to loan for display, please contact CW5 Gary Williams at 704-342-5129 or e-mail [gary.williams3@usar.army.mil](mailto:gary.williams3@usar.army.mil).

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### U.S. Army Reserve - History

The United States that gained its independence in the American Revolution chose to rely on a very small Regular Army augmented in time of crisis by militia or civilian volunteers. The practice continued throughout the 19th century. During the Civil War, when the Regular Army divided between north and south, both sides resorted to state militias, to the raising of volunteer units, and finally to conscription. Once the war ended, however, soldiers were mustered out as quickly as possible and the status quo restored.

The training and preparedness of either militia or volunteers was always suspect at best and non-existent at worst. As the United States entered the 20th century, with the Spanish-American War a recent memory, the nation's leaders became more aware of America's potential and of the risks the new century might bring. Competing military alliances stretched across Europe, and each major military power had elaborate mobilization plans. While still hoping for political, if not economic, isolation, the United States began to look to a greater level of military preparedness and strength within federal control.

The U.S. Army Reserve traces its beginnings to April 23, 1908, when Congress passed Senate Bill 1424. This act authorized the Army to establish a reserve corps of medical officers. The Secretary of War could order these officers to active duty during time of emergency. This was the nation's first federal reserve. Four years later, a provision of the Army Appropriations Act of 1912 created the Regular Army Reserve, a federal reserve outside the Medical Reserve Corps authorized in 1908.

The first call-up of the Army Reserve came in 1916 as a result of tensions between the United States and Mexico caused by the Mexican bandit, Francisco "Pancho" Villa, and the subsequent punitive expedition after Villa led by Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing. For a time, it looked like there might be a war between Mexico and the United States and for the first, but not the only time, the Army looked to its citizen-soldiers for added strength and expertise. This first mobilization was an important development for the Army Reserve -- and a great shakedown for the Army's reserve components prior to America's entry into World War I -- as was another piece of legislation that was passed in 1916.

The National Defense Act of 1916 established, by statute, the Officers Reserve Corps, the Enlisted Reserve Corps and the Reserve Officers Training Corps. One year later in 1917, the initial Reserve organization, the Medical Reserve Corps merged into the Officers Reserve Corps. On April 6, 1917, America entered World War I. By the end of June 1917, there were 21,543 officer reservists and 35,000

enlisted reservists. Less than a decade earlier, there had been no reservists. The Reserve's importance to Army medicine, its original specialty, was particularly striking: Reserve medical officers outnumbered Regular Army doctors more than four to one. Of the Army nurses on active duty on April 6, 1917, almost half (170 out of 403) were Reservists.

As the Army expanded for World War I, so did the Army Reserve. In all, about 80,000 enlisted Reservists and almost 90,000 officer Reservists served in the First World War. They served in every division of the American Expeditionary Force, whether those divisions were Regular Army, National Guard or National Army. The Reserve doughboys of 1917 and 1918 -- among whose ranks were America's Ace of Aces Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and Col. Teddy Roosevelt, Jr. of the 1st Infantry Division -- set the standard of dedicated service that Army Reservists have followed ever since.

Since World War I, Army Reservists -- or Organized Reservists as they were called until 1952 -- have taken part in every major American conflict of the 20th Century. They have been in the forefront of other types of crises as well. The years between the world wars were austere, with few opportunities for training. An opportunity for service, however, was created during the Great Depression. One of Roosevelt's New Deal programs, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), placed young men in barracks and military-style organizations to work in national forests and other outdoor projects. Between 1933 and 1939, more than 30,000 officers from the Organized Reserve Corps served as commanders or staff officers at the 2,700 CCC camps.

As World War II neared, the Army Reserve was mobilized again to provide the junior officers needed to build the huge Army necessary to defeat Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. On February 6, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt orders all Organized Reservists not already on active duty into active service for the duration of the war. Actually, there were more than 11,000 Organized Reservists who did not get called up for various reasons. About 1/3 of these were men considered too old to serve on active duty. Others had achieved high rank in the Reserves but vacancies in the Active Army were unavailable at their grade. A few were not called up because they were Congressmen, Senators, and Judges. Many of these men, who had spent years in dedicated Army Reserve service, were bitterly disappointed in not being able to get on active duty during World War II.

Almost one of every four Army officers -- more than 200,000 of the 900,000 Army officers during the war -- was an Army Reservist. Two wartime studies give an indication of how important the

Reserve contribution was to the Army. A 1944 War Department study in one Regular Army infantry division found that 62.5 percent of the battalion commanders, 84.5 percent of the company commanders and 30.3 percent of the platoon leaders were reservists. Another survey noted that between Sept. 1, 1943, and May 31, 1944, 52.4 percent of the Army officers killed in action and 27.7 percent of those missing in action came from the Organized Reserve.

Recognizing the importance of the Organized Reserve to the war effort, Congress authorized retirement and drill pay for the first time in 1948.

Five years after victory in World War II, the Army Reserve was needed again. In 1950, Army Reserve men and women were called up to rebuild the dangerously weak U.S. Army during the Korean War. The Korean Conflict saw more than 240,000 soldiers of the Organized Reserve called to active duty to serve in Korea, at home and elsewhere in the world during the Korean War. That large number reflected the Army's need for organized, trained personnel in a short period of time. More than 400 Reserve units served in Korea.

While the Korean Conflict was still under way, Congress began making significant changes in the structure and role of the Reserve. These changes transformed the Organized Reserve Corps into the U. S. Army Reserve (USAR). This new organization was divided into a Ready Reserve, Standby Reserve and Retired Reserve. Reserve units were authorized 24 inactive duty training days a year and up to 17 days of active duty (called annual training). The president was given authority to order up to one million Reservists, of all services, to active duty. These Congressional actions were directly related to experiences gained during the activation and subsequent service of Reserve units in the Korean War.

During the late 1950s, the Army Reserve became increasingly combat support and combat service support oriented. An Army reorganization of the period called for the Army Reserve and Army National Guard to provide supplemental forces to the active Army (the Army Reserve's role included individuals as well as units).

More than 69,000 Army Reservists were called to active duty in response to the Berlin Crisis of 1961. The call-up lasted from September 1961 to August 1962 and was hampered by a number of problems, including old equipment, lack of equipment, shortage of unit soldiers, and difficulty locating individual soldiers. A subsequent reorganization of the Army's Reserve Component occurred in 1967 and 1968. That reorganization resulted in an Army Reserve composed primarily of combat support and combat service support units, with combat arms units concentrated in the Army

National Guard. The position of Chief, Army Reserve was established by federal statute, to be filled by a USAR general officer appointed by the president for a four-year term, with advice and consent of the Senate.

Today's Reserve refined and continued a process that began at the end of the Vietnam war in Southwest Asia. Former Chief of Staff of the Army, General (Retired) Gordon R. Sullivan, built on a process that General (Retired) Creighton W. Abrams began when General Abrams was Chief of Staff of the Army in 1974. The end of the Vietnam war brought a change in foreign and domestic policies. General Abrams shifted the military position from one of manpower to national security. President Richard M. Nixon saw the need to sustain operations on two and a half fronts. President Nixon accomplished this goal by downsizing the Army to 16 divisions. This concept closely parallels the words echoed through the halls of ALMC today: "2 fronts and 10 divisions."

As General Abrams began to search out where to cut the Army, he realized a correlation in career fields between the civilian world and the military occupational specialties in combat service support (CSS) operations. Some RC officers and soldiers actually were practicing similar wartime tasks on a daily basis. He also realized that President Lyndon B. Johnson was able to sustain operations in Vietnam before President Nixon's term of office because the Army activated and constituted several CSS units for the war mission. This military action prevented an extensive call-up of the US Army Reserve and Army National Guard. When President Nixon made the decision to downsize the active Army, General Abrams deactivated several CSS units and realigned others.

General Abrams' thought process followed two avenues. The first was that the US Army Reserve and Army National Guard would receive initial training from the active Army in specialties that had civilian applications. The second was that downsizing would force the Commander in Chief to call up CSS units when required to sustain an operation. This ended the President's ability to commit a substantial number of forces without Congressional approval.

The end of the draft coincided with announcement of the Total Force Policy in 1973. That policy called for the United States to maintain an active duty force capable of maintaining peace and deterring aggression. Those forces would be reinforced, when necessary, by a well-trained, well-equipped Reserve Component. The effect of an all-volunteer active Army and the Total Force Policy was a shift of some responsibilities and resources to the Army Reserve. Both unit

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## History

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and individual Army Reserve manpower declined from 1973 to 1978. Readiness improved during the 1980s when more emphasis was placed on training, recruiting and retention.

In 1983, volunteers from Army Reserve civil affairs units deployed to Grenada in support of Operation Urgent Fury to help rebuild that island nation's infrastructure. Six years later, Army Reserve provisional military police and civil affairs units, composed of volunteers, helped restore order and services in Panama during Operation Just Cause. Each deployment was significant in that the active Army simply could not provide enough qualified personnel for those specific tasks, given its other responsibilities. The use of USAR volunteers was necessary because no presidential call-up authority was in place.

More than 84,000 Army Reserve citizen-soldiers provided combat support and combat service support to the Army, at home and in the combat zone, during Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. Among the hardest hit Army units of the conflict was the USAR's 14th Quartermaster Detachment, victim of a SCUD missile attack on Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Thirteen men and women from this unit were killed in the attack.

The invasion of Kuwait by Iraq in 1990 led to the largest call-up of Reserve Component personnel since the Korean War. More than 84,000 Army Reservists provided combat support and combat service support to the Total Force in Southwest Asia and site support elsewhere. Of that number, over 40,000 served in Southwest Asia. Included in the call-up were 20,000 members of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) who filled vacancies in units or performed other specialized duties.

A key step in the continued development of the Army Reserve took place in 1991 with establishment of the U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) in Atlanta. The USARC has responsibility for command and control of Troop Program Units nationwide and the 65th Army Reserve Command in Puerto Rico. The Chief, Army Reserve commands the USARC, and also serves as Deputy Commanding General for Reserve Affairs, U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM).

Since 1991, the USAR has been engaged almost constantly around the world, in combat, humanitarian and peacekeeping operations. Reserve citizen soldiers went to northern Iraq following the Gulf War, provided hope in Somalia from 1992 to 1994 and went into Haiti in 1995 to restore democracy. More than 13,000 have been mobilized for the Bosnia operations JOINT ENDEAVOR, JOINT GUARD and JOINT FORGE.

In 1992, volunteer USAR soldiers provided postal, logistical and other assistance in support of American relief operations in Somalia (Operation Provide Hope).

When the United States intervened to help restore democracy in Haiti in 1995, an Army Reserve transportation detachment was one of the first units ordered to active duty. Another early-deploying Army Reserve contingent was an air-

borne-qualified civil affairs unit that was prepared to jump into Haiti in event of an assault. USAR soldiers were among the first forces into Haiti and the last to leave in 1996. Overall, about 350 Army Reservists from 17 units served in Haiti.

A mixed battalion of Army Reserve, active Army, and Army National Guard soldiers deployed to the Sinai in 1995 as part of the American contribution to the Multinational Force Observer (MFO) Sinai Peacekeeping Operations in Egypt. The 41 Army Reserve volunteers included engineers, military police, ground surveillance radar specialists and others, primarily from the Individual Ready Reserve.

In December 1995, the president authorized the call-up of Reserve Component forces as part of America's support to the NATO peacekeeping forces in the Bosnia-Herzegovina area. Within a short period of time the Army Reserve provided civil affairs, postal, medical, engineer, transportation, psychological operations and firefighting units, the first arriving in Bosnia in mid-January 1996. The initial manpower ceiling from the Reserve Component was 3,888, with soldiers activated for up to 270 days. In May 1996, the ceiling increased to 7,000 to allow overlap of deploying and re-deploying units and individual soldiers. The majority of Army Reservists ordered to active duty served as backfill for active Army soldiers in Germany, but substantial numbers pulled duty in Bosnia and Hungary.

By the end of FY97, the US Army Reserve consisted primarily of combat support (CS) and CSS and a few Aviation units. The US Army Reserve remained under the control of Forces Command, Fort McPherson, GA.

The Army Reserve's responsibility for major installation management expanded, when in October 1997 the USAR took on Fort Dix, N.J., one of the Army's 15 designated power-projection platforms (another is Fort McCoy, Wis., also USAR managed). The shift in National Military Strategy from full to partial mobilization, which prompted a re-organization of USAR training divisions into divisions (institutional training) and divisions (exercise), enhanced peacetime and operational readiness. In logistics, Army Reserve initiatives increased equipment-on-hand, expanded the use of commercial practices and dealer networks, and improve capabilities through technological advancements. On the personnel end, improved computerization and implementation of the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act provided a better managed, more professional force.

In 1999, Army Reservists supported the NATO operations against Yugoslavia in a number of ways. One of these was by conducting the refugee operation at Fort Dix, N.J., assisting more than 4,000 men, women and children displaced from their homes in Kosovo. That same year, more than 7,200 USAR soldiers went to Central America to assist the people there to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Mitch. Also in 1999, USAR soldiers took part in peacekeeping operations in East Timor and in Kosovo, following the end of hostilities there. As the 20th Century ended and the 21st began, Army Reservists continued to serve in the Balkans.

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# Cell Phones for Soldiers



This photo was taken in Tilial, Iraq, with the 7th Sustainment Brigade when the unit received their prepaid phone cards.

Four years ago, two Norwell, Massachusetts teenagers, then 14-year-old Brittany Bergquist and her 13-year-old brother Robbie, began Cell Phones for Soldiers. The organization uses funds from recycled cell phones to buy prepaid phone cards for active duty military members — to help connect them with their families.

In support of these young visionaries — and the many military families they support — AT&T has donated 60,000 prepaid phone cards, which is a retail value of \$500,000, to the nonprofit organization, so they

can send more cards to military members. Additionally, AT&T is now offering all 2,000 company-owned wireless store locations across the country as drop-off sites to help recycle used cell phones for the program.

“When we first sent an e-mail to AT&T more than a year and a half ago, we never dreamed the company’s response would lead to so much more support for military families,” said CPFS co-founder Brittany Bergquist. “AT&T has helped us reach more people with our mission — through more recycling lo-

cations, more phone cards for the troops, more public awareness for our cause, and now, new corporate partners who have noticed us and come on board to help.”

When a cell phone or device is donated to Cell Phones for Soldiers, it is either reconditioned and reused — or disposed of in an environmentally friendly way. The recycler follows AT&T’s strict guidelines on the removal of all personal information from the wireless devices. Best of all, the proceeds provide free phone cards for U.S. military families.

Other ways to help

Just in time for the holidays, there other ways to help especially if someone doesn’t have an old wireless phone to give to Cell Phones

for Soldiers. Consumers can give \$1, \$5 or \$10 toward prepaid phone cards for military members through the AT&T Care to Connect program. AT&T will match the total dollars collected by the program through Dec. 21, 2008. Phone cards generated through AT&T Care to Connect will be distributed to troops in Iraq, Afghanistan and other overseas regions between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day. The new holiday program builds on AT&T’s commitment to help keep military families connected. In the past two years alone, AT&T has donated prepaid phone cards with a retail value of more than \$4 million to help support U.S. military members and their families.

## Weather the Market with Dollar Cost Averaging

If you want to invest regularly, regardless of market conditions, consider using an investment strategy called dollar cost averaging. While the name may seem daunting, it is a simple concept.

Dollar cost averaging means you invest the same dollar amount at regular intervals over time. Simply put, you invest the same amount of money at the same time each week or month. By consistently following this strategy, you may be able to reduce the impact of market fluctuations on your investment portfolio. 1

### How It Works

For example, let’s say that you decide to invest \$100 each month toward your child’s college education in a 529 College Savings Plan. As the following illustration shows, you automatically buy more shares when prices are low and fewer shares when prices are high:

#### Dollar Cost Averaging

When you add to your portfolio on a regular basis, the average cost of the shares you buy is lower.

Average you paid: \$6.67 per share

Average Share Price: \$7.50 per share

This hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the performance of any particular investment. Actual results will vary.

Your regular monthly investment of \$100 bought more shares when the price was low and fewer shares when the price was high. The result? The average cost of the shares you purchased is less than the average market price per share over the period.

#### Automatic Dollar Cost Averaging

If you think dollar cost averaging is the right strategy for you, start investing now. The longer you have to ride out the ups and downs of the market, the more opportunity you have to potentially grow your investment portfolio and reach your long-term goals.

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Feb	\$100	\$5	20
Mar	\$100	\$10	10
Apr	\$100	\$5	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>60</b>

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# AMVETS and SERV Prepare Veterans for New G.I. Bill Release



Prior to 9/11, veterans on college campuses across the country never garnered much attention from school administration. Veterans usually comprised a small demographic within the student body whose educational needs could be met by a single advisor versed in the Montgomery G.I. Bill. However, with millions of veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 revolutionizing G.I. Bill benefits, institutions of higher learning across the country must prepare for a sudden influx of veterans next fall.

The Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, which launches in August 2009, will provide eligible student-veterans with full tuition and fees to the state school of their choice, a living stipend based on their home of record, and an allowance for books. Lawmakers hope the new G.I. Bill will provide veterans with the incentive to earn an education, molding the next generation of leaders, just like the original G.I. Bill of Rights following WWII.

Cleveland State University professor John Schupp, the visionary behind his university's comprehensive veterans' reintegration program, Supportive Education for Returning Veterans, (SERV), believes colleges are likely to enter a "bidding war" for veterans, as money for the new G.I. Bill starts to flow. SERV is entering the national spotlight, as Schupp seeks to motivate schools and their surrounding communities to welcome veterans with open arms.

"Some schools look at it as the right thing to do, but larger ones have proven harder to change," said Schupp. "I think the universities are

going to get on board. Otherwise, veterans are going to pack up and leave."

Schupp has been crunching the numbers for months, hoping to show communities the potential economic benefits of catering to student-veterans. According to a recent report by the Department of Veterans Affairs, nearly 70 percent of all veterans take advantage of the current G.I. Bill. Using this rough estimate, Schupp has demonstrated how nearly \$28.3 billion will be guaranteed to colleges and universities that cater to veterans. By demonstrating this economic benefit to community leaders near college cam-

puses in Ohio and across the country, Schupp has convinced many to sign letters of support for their student-veterans. These letters encourage local colleges to adopt programs similar to SERV.

In addition to economic incentives for the community, AMVETS and Schupp are working to provide additional economic incentives for colleges and universities. This summer Schupp and AMVETS helped to

pass a provision in the new higher education bill that offers federal grants to schools that establish veterans' "centers of excellence." AMVETS is also helping at the student level by providing educational scholarships through partnerships with University of Phoenix, DeVry Uni-

versity and Kaplan University. Along with the guaranteed income generated from eligible veterans, schools will be eligible for additional compensation to ensure that they meet veterans' specific needs.

see GI BILL page 47

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# Respect, Integrity

## Customer Focus and Having Fun!

*By Mike Moritz  
Rainbow International of Athens  
(Ohio)*

For Mike Moritz, thoughts of a naval career while growing up in the mountains of southeast Ohio may have seemed far-fetched. But in this coal and steel mill community, job opportunities and career advancement options were a limited commodity. When duty called, joining the United States Naval Reserve offered chances at both.

“When I lost my first job, I knew my career options here in Athens were fairly limited,” said Moritz. “I wanted to keep my same lifestyle, and actually did work for an area Rainbow franchise for six months. I distinctly remembered that there was never another cleaning company that took care of my home the way I did when I worked for Rainbow. That memory stayed with me throughout my naval career.”

Moritz spent 10 years in the naval reserve working in a construction battalion and was honorably discharged as an E-4.

“When I got out of the navy, my thoughts turned immediately to Rainbow International,” he added. “Those leaving the military have an excellent shot at high-end job op-

portunities, with the training and discipline we receive. I decided right away to put both to use as a Rainbow franchise owner.”

“It’s also easier for military personnel to save money, if they plan accordingly,” Moritz continued. “With sign-on bonuses and the coverage of living and medical expenses, military folks can leave the service with a nice nest egg to use in civilian life. Mine was used for my Rainbow franchise.”

Moritz also sees striking similarities in the pride of ownership a businessman enjoys and the pride of duty and service a military member. “Many of the steps to success in franchising are the same things it takes to move up and expand both on rank and responsibility in the military,” he said. “I wore my navy uniform with pride because I knew I was serving my country. I wear my Rainbow International with similar pride because I know I am not only serving my community, but am also a human billboard for my business.”

Moritz also found working for Rainbow International refreshing because of its Code of Values. “Not many businesses operate with a set-in-stone way to act and expect suc-

see DWYER GROUP page 78

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**GI Bill**

continued from page 45

Schupp sees each of these centers as a “one stop shop” for veterans to reintegrate into college life, a function SERV has performed at Cleveland State for the last two years.

SERV currently provides classes that are tailored specifically to student-veterans. SERV has also established a permanent presence in the CSU student center, providing veterans with a place to learn about their VA benefits and spend free time interacting with their peers.

As the program goes national, SERV hopes to work hand-in-hand with Student Veterans of America (SVA), an organization represent-

ing veterans on campuses nationwide. By working together, the two groups will provide three critical pillars — peer support, faculty support, and administrative support — for incoming veterans on campus.



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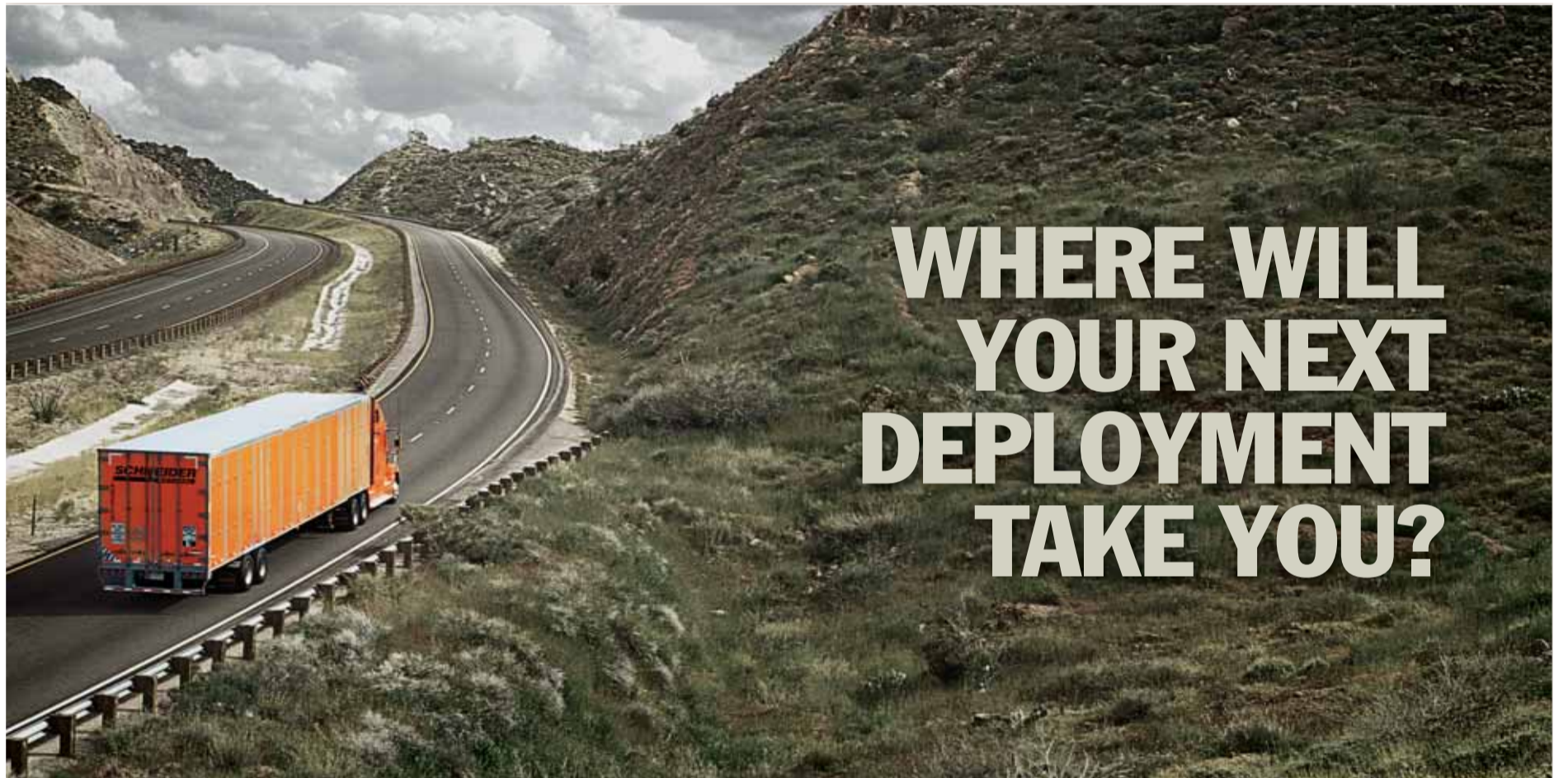
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# Paintball

Tippmann Sports, a paintball company with a long-standing reputation for offering products of unmatched quality and durability, has received strong response to its U.S. Army line of paintball markers and accessories. Each product available under the US Army Paintball name is designed to help players take their game to the highest level of realistic play possible at a great value.

The first product from US Army Paintball is Alpha Black - an eye-catching paintball marker that incorporates a high-performance 11" barrel, an integrated carry handle, an all-metal body and a removable magazine that can hold a variety of helpful tools. The Alpha Black can also be easily modified to take on an M16 style stock and shroud - allowing paintballers to take the field with a new marker resembling one

of the most popular rifles in U.S. Military history.

"There's no question that paintball players today are

seeking high-quality equipment at an affordable price - and that's exactly what our US Army Paintball line delivers," said Ron Goldblatt, director of Marketing for Tippmann Sports. "Plus, consumer response to the U.S. Army brand has been incredibly strong. Paintball players just seem to connect with the physical prowess, mental toughness and self-respect that's associated with the U.S. Army name."

A connection between the US Army and Tippmann Sports has actually existed for some time now.

At home and abroad, the Army has utilized Tipp-

mann paintball markers for years in its training to emphasize the importance of fire-control measures and cover and concealment procedures. No other training device can so easily replicate a sense of com-

## Alpha Black from US Army Paintball

bat realism in a totally safe environment. The Alpha Black marker is available in two primary versions - Alpha Black Basic (MSRP of \$119) and Alpha Black Tactical (MSRP of \$149). The tactical version comes standard with an M16 style 6-position collapsible stock and an M16 style

shroud with built-in site. Both versions are available in a Power Pack, which adds a 200-round hopper, anti-fog goggles and 9 oz. CO2 tank. Each marker can also be purchased with an eGrip that offers three electronic firing modes - semi auto, 3-shot burst, and full safety auto,



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which can produce up to 15 shots-per-second.

For additional details about the Alpha Black or U.S. Army Paintball, please visit the U.S. Army Paintball Web site, located at [www.usarmypaintball.com](http://www.usarmypaintball.com). While on the site, those interested can learn more about key product features as well as view all available Alpha Black product configurations and link to outside educational paintball resources. More detailed information about paintball is also available from the PSTA, the official trade association for paintball. The Web site for that organization is [www.paintball.org](http://www.paintball.org).

**Tippmann Sports - A Paintball Leader**

For more than 20 years, Tippmann Sports has been



dedicated to quality manufacturing and the pursuit of cutting-edge technology and design. The company serves the paintball industry from its headquarters and manufacturing facility in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Tippmann Sports' complete line of paintball markers and related accessories can be found at paintball stores and fields as well as mass retail and sporting goods outlets throughout the world.



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Today, Paintball brings many game styles to satisfy every craving. . .

# SpeedBall

Perhaps you see yourself as an Extreme Sports SpeedBall Tourney star, running, diving, sliding, and hanging the flag in the final seconds before the buzzer sounds... the girls cheer, and it's all captured YouTube or ESPN...

You like to play, but you LIVE to WIN. Your very nature makes you crave the victor's podium, and your destiny lies in victory. Speedball gives you the stage to express your true nature - the explosive speed, the frenzied pace, the snap-judgment decisions, the do-or-die results of action vs reaction. Speedball instantly distills the competitors into winners and losers in the blink of an eye. Speedball rewards Teams that function as a single being, while offering a forum for personal heroics and stardom. SpeedBall captures the essence of arena competition, and cata-

pults the Game of Paintball to the forefront of Extreme Sports.

Tournament Paintball began in the woods in the early 1980's, with teams of FIFTEEN PLAYERS EACH wearing full camouflage, shooting one-shot pump action markers powered by little CO2 cartridges. Shop goggles, belly-crawling and face paint were the norm, and a player would seldom shoot more than a few 10-round tubes of paint per game.

In the late 80's, some entrepreneurial California Field Operators saw the potential for Paintball spectators, so they created flat, open fields the size of hockey rinks, covered with bunkers made from huge industrial wire spools, shipping pallets, and 50 gallon drums, all laid out so each side mirrored the other for fairness. Sidelines were net-

ted to allow for spectators, and the games on these micro-sized pressure-cooker fields became action packed, fast and exciting, and SPEEDBALL was born.

Fast forward to today, and dozens of leagues around the world act as feeder leagues for the 5 and 7-Player Professional "Big Shows"; The NPPL (National Professional Paintball League), the PSP (Paintball Sports Promotions, and Europe's Millennium Series. Keeping with the hockey rink style field and trading in wire spools for man-made "bunkers", similar to small free-standing bouncy castles. Creative names have been given to each barricade such as Coke Can, Dorito, Aztec and Car Wash.

Equipment for Speedball is drastically different in today's sport than its noble beginnings. Guns or mark-

ers as they are called now are complicated pieces of advanced engineering. Speedball markers come in an array of candy colours as well as differing price points. Teams opt for bright colored uniforms with sponsor logos, similar to motocross jerseys.

The objective of speedball is similar to other paintball games, with the goal to eliminate the other team or capture a flag and return it to your base. Tournament speedball usually has a points system, but that varies from league to league. In the NPPL, they have an opposing flag format, where points are awarded for staying in the game the whole round, eliminating players from the other team, getting the flag, and hanging the flag. The PSP is a "center flag" format. A single flag is at the center of the field, commonly called "the 50-line". A team is awarded a point every time the flag is captured and hung on the opposing team's start box.

Today's tournament play is primarily inspired by X-Ball™, which was invented to make Paintball more like other major sports in order to enhance the spectator experience. Rather than teams facing each other for one game at a time in a round robin format, Teams now play continually for score after score, just like Basketball, Hockey and Football, enabling stadium and TV audiences to remain in their seats for a full hour or more.

Aspiring tourney `ballers can choose to attend many Pro Clinics throughout the year, conducted in person by the famous top Pro players, where students learn the many Pro secrets that have propelled the top Teams to Paintball Stardom; the art of "Reading the Field" and learning all of the geometry, hot spots, blind shots and more; the art of Snap Shooting, the superfast, decisive point-and-shoot technique that can blow a game wide open when brief shot opportunities are met with skill; On-Field Communication, the critical skill of keeping the team informed of body count, time, and game progress; the all important Strategic Thinking elements that separate the men from the boys in the Pro ranks, and much more.

Speedball is characterized by its fast movement, both with players and game length, and higher volume of paintball fire. Although a typical speedball round lasts only several minutes, many of the players are firing an almost constant stream or rope of paintball.

Dissimilar to Woodsball — Stealth is not as important as teamwork, timing, accurate shooting and fast-paced strategies. Whatever your age, skill level, or ability to travel, there are tournaments at which you can learn, excel, and have a ball. The internet is an incredible resource for finding Paintball Tournaments in your area.

For more information about Speedball and Paintball Tournament Games:

- [www.DXSpaintball.com](http://www.DXSpaintball.com)
- [www.Paintball.org](http://www.Paintball.org)
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# Medical Transcription Industry Wants Military Spouses

It's no secret that the military lifestyle is often tough on the careers of military spouses. A 2004 survey by the Rand Group found that Army spouses, for example, were three times as likely as civilian spouses to be unemployed — with spouses in the other service branches faring little better. In an effort to aid military spouses, the medical transcription industry has been promoting the benefits of a medical transcription career to military spouses — hoping to address the career woes that so many military spouses now experience.

The Association of Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI) — the professional association that represents medical transcriptionists — is promoting the career as a way for military spouses to work from home as subcontractors or home-based employees. This means spouses could work for a medical transcription company in Jacksonville, Fla., for example, while they're stationed in Fort Lewis, Wash., or in the California desert at Fort Irwin — a great fit because many military spouses can't make long-term commitments to local employers.

AHDI, along with the Medical Transcription Industry Association (MTIA), is collaborating with the Department of Defense to introduce this career to military spouses. And the key is that a home-based medi-

cal transcription job won't necessarily be interrupted by moving out of state to a new military base. The transcription industry, for its part, hopes to benefit too: according to the Department of Labor, there is expected to be a shortage of medical transcriptionists from now until the year 2014.

Medical transcriptionists interpret oral dictation from doctors and other health care professionals into clear, accurate information for a patient's medical record. Doctors speak into a tape recorder and then these recordings are sent, often by

Internet, to a medical transcriptionist for transcription.

Army Reserve spouses should know that there are many distance education training options for people who do not live near a school. Enrolling in an online medical transcription program gives Army Reserve spouses the opportunity to maintain their daily responsibilities while studying for a new career. Allied Schools, for example, offers a 100% online Medical Transcription Program that will prepare military spouses to work from home, at a hospital or in a doctor's office; Al-

lied also awards scholarships to the spouses of Army Reserve Soldiers who enroll using Tuition Assistance (TA).

Before enrolling in an online medical transcription program, however, military spouses should make sure the school is nationally accredited, offers live student support and has a proven history of success.

For more information about online career training for military spouses and service members contact Allied Schools at (888) 501-5221 or visit [www.education-4military.com/army](http://www.education-4military.com/army).

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# Online at Australasian College

Portland, OR — Following the new GI Bill that President Bush signed into effect late June, Portland-based Australasian College of Health Sciences was approved as an Institution of Higher Learning by the Department of Veterans Affairs effective July 11, 2008. Ap-

proval of the College's online career training and Associate's degree program has since followed.

For servicemembers, this approval provides a long-awaited opportunity to maximize education benefits by completing career training and degree programs in the fastest growing area of health care. Australasian College's undergraduate VA students now receive their full monthly entitlement benefits for their studies, based on the number of credits they are taking per semester.

In addition, VA approval is pending for the College's new Master's of Science in Complementary Alternative Medicine degree program—the first and only accredited and state-approved, fully online Master's in Complementary Alternative Medicine available in the United States.

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"Increasing access to holistic health online degrees with increased VA benefits has been ACHS's goal through this lengthy process," says ACHS President Dorene Petersen. "This approval helps support the men and women in our armed forces who have the vision and inspiration to embark on a health and wellness degree that provides exciting career and personal life enrichment in a growing segment of the industry."

ACHS Dean of Admissions Tracey Miller adds: "This is an incredible opportunity for our students and for the field of Complementary Alternative Medicine. Our programs are the only fully online, VA-approved career training and Associate's degree programs available in the United States. We have several

students who have been waiting for the opportunity to use their hard-earned VA benefits to study a field they are truly passionate about."

ACHS is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council, a U.S. Department of Education and Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)-approved accrediting agency. Graduates go on to careers as holistic health practitioners, educators, writers, or speakers; wellness coaches; lifestyle coaches or consultants; herbal educators; registered aromatherapists; aromatherapy product formulators; or one of many other exciting and satisfying fields.

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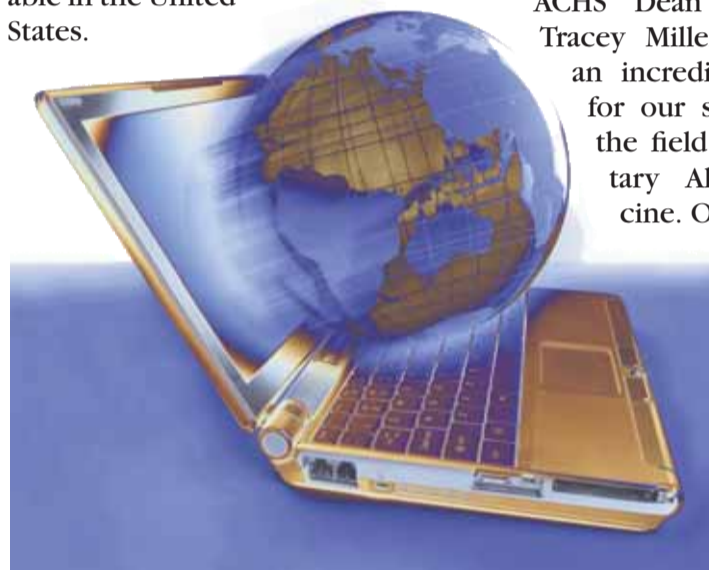
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Receive enhanced access to Australasian College courses through flexible programs and procedures, including admissions, counseling, credit transfer, course articulations, recognition of nontraditional learning experiences, scheduling, and the ACHS online course format.

# Online Success Stories at UMT

## Joyce Davis Bethesda, Maryland

Currently, I am stationed at the NNMCMC Bethesda Hospital in Maryland, as a 2nd Class Petty Officer, Information Technician, in charge of Web Design. I grew up in Lancaster, a small town in Pennsylvania. After enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1999, I attended Boot Camp and trained in a Radioman school. While stationed aboard the USNS Kanawha, my first duty station, I began college. Shortly thereafter I was transferred to NCTAMS LANT and changed schools to obtain a degree.

I was selected for promotion to E4 and was transferred to the USS George Washington, where I continued my studies. Attempting to obtain my degree was more difficult than I had expected and I began to feel discouraged. While stationed in Bahrain I continued my college courses for that year. At my present duty station in Bethesda, I found a flyer for the University of Management and Technology and enrolled immediately. My Admissions Counselor, Connie Mills, walked me through every step in this process. She provided me WITH an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) to finish my Associate's degree in March 2008 and Bachelor's degree in June 2008 in Computer Science. I was very excited because this has opened up many doors for me and my career.

Recently, I applied for a career with the U.S. Public Health Service. This position required a Bachelor's degree. I have been accepted and will be commissioned on the 31st of October 2008 as a LTJG (O2E).

Being a mother of two beautiful children, with a very supportive husband, I have already enrolled in classes at UMT to complete my masters in IT Project Management. My two thumbs go up for Connie Mills in doing a job well done!

"I honestly feel UMT is a great University for people, who have very busy schedules — like the active duty personnel in the armed forces — and I am very blessed to have found University of Management and Technology."

## Tim Krawczel Colonial Beach, Virginia

Tim Krawczel was already a Certified Urban Planner and a retired US Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel when he applied for admission to the University of Management and Technology's MPA program. After returning home from service in Iraq, as the Deputy Senior Advisor to the newly formed Ministry of Environment, Tim began a new phase of his civilian career as a local government manager, and felt a need to deepen his understanding of public administration.

Tim already had a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Randolph Macon College, and a Masters Degree in Urban Planning, from the University of Illinois.



Joyce Davis

With over 20 years experience as a director of planning, and development for communities in Virginia, he has a desire to study political philosophies, leadership, principals and practices of modern management, which motivated him to consider a new

program of graduate study.

While working full time in a new

job with rigorous demands on his schedule and committed to spending time with his family, and after two back-to-back year-long deployments in the global war on terrorism, Tim thought the pursuit of a second master's degree was a dream he would not be able to realize. However, UMT provided a course of study and learning opportunity that fit his needs. By taking advantage of UMT's military scholarship, and obtaining professional development support from his employers, Tim was able to obtain his masters degree with no out-of-pocket tu-

ition expense, while working from his home and office in his time off.

His studies have enhanced a better understanding of his new profession and stimulated him to bring fresh ideas, positive organizational change and created energy provided to the communities, in which he serves as a chief administrative officer.

"I use the knowledge and skills I have gained in my MPA to contribute to the citizens, communities, and employees that I serve. UMT provided me an opportunity to improve my job skills that I would not have otherwise had."



Tim Krawczel

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# Back to the Classroom

## How to Overcome Your Fears About Returning to College

By **Johanna Altland**

Director of Communications  
Grantham University

For many, going back to school later in life can be intimidating, but it doesn't have to be. Let's take a look at a few common misconceptions that adult learners have about returning to school:

"I'm going to be the only adult student in the classroom."

Not true. Over the last few years, more and more adults are returning to school to fulfill life-long goals, to change career paths, brush up on their skills, or advance their careers. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the number of students age 35 and older in degree-granting institutions has soared from 823,000 in 1970 to an estimated 2.9 million in 2001.

"Going back to school will be tough with my work and family life."

There's no doubt that it won't be easy, but it's definitely doable. There are many options available

for working adults today such as online learning, evening and weekend courses and adult education programs.

"Do I really need a college degree?"

That depends on you and your personal goals, but many studies show that earning a college degree is well worth the effort. On average, someone with a bachelor's degree makes \$18,000 more annually than someone with just a high school diploma (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics), and the growth doesn't stop there. Also, your chance of being unemployed is much lower if you have a college degree.

"I can't attend college full-time."

Don't worry, you don't have to. Most adult students attend college part-time due to their work and family schedules. One of the most difficult periods of transition will occur during the very first class. Not only do you have to adjust your schedule, but you now have assignments and projects to complete. When returning to college

for the first time after a few years, it might be a good idea to just take one class at a time until you become comfortable with your new schedule.

"There are so many colleges to choose from; I don't know where to start."

When choosing a school, you want to keep your long-term goals in mind. Below are some questions you should ask yourself when deciding what school is the right fit for you:

- What field of study/degree programs interest you?
- How much will each class cost? Are books and software included?
- Can college classes I've already taken, military service and even previous work experience count towards my degree?
- Am I required to attend class a certain amount of time each semester?
- Are library resources, mentoring services and tutoring avail-

able at no extra cost?

- Does the school offer scholarships, financial aid, or accept tuition assistance?

Are you still not sure about returning to college? Ask yourself this, "Is there ever going to be a right time?" Today, more than ever, it is easier to earn your degree while working full-time and meeting the needs of your family. What are you waiting for?

Johanna Altland, the Director of Communications for Grantham University, has written extensively about distance education for several publications. Established in 1951, Grantham University's mission is to provide accessible, affordable and academically challenging online courses and degree programs that prepare its graduates for careers in business, engineering technology, computer science, criminal justice, information technology and other professional fields.

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# Taking the Online Route to Higher Education

By Linda Karten

Ever wonder how that busy colleague of yours managed to go back to school for a graduate degree while juggling a career and a family? The answer may be that she's taking courses online, right from her living room, rather than spending hours in a classroom each week. Learning at home? Sounds intriguing. But how does it really work?

Today over 3.5 million students are enrolled in distance education programs. And more colleges and universities around the country are offering online classes as an academic option. You can find classes and degree programs in everything from education leadership to nursing, from counseling to communications.

Online programs typically mirror the types of classes you'll find on a college campus and some even combine online and traditional classes. Students can sample a single class, boost their career with a specialized certificate, or work toward completing a master's degree or Ph.D.

## Meeting the Demand

Increasing by nearly 10 percent annually, online enrollment far exceeds the 1.5 percent growth rate in higher education overall.

Colleges and universities in the SouthEast and around the country are responding to this trend with a variety of distance education programs that meet students' scheduling needs and academic interests. Online learners can finish a degree, start from scratch, or simply enrich their lives by taking a class in something new. In the education field, there are distance learning programs for career changers who want to teach and for teachers who need a master's or post-graduate degree to

advance their career into education administration.

Whatever a student is looking for, chances are there is an online program to fit their needs, budget, and schedule. Online school directories, such as Gradschools.com, or Petersons.com, offer a great starting point for finding the right online program.

## Flexible, Yet Tough

By jumping on the Internet, students can easily find their way to a virtual classroom from anywhere in the world. The myth of this set up, however, is that distance learning is

less rigorous academically. A commitment of 18 to 25 hours a week is typical. The advantage, he notes, is that students can structure the time they spend on classroom around their own schedule.

## A Community of Learners

Another myth of distance learning is that students don't interact with each other. Far from being an isolating experience, online learning creates a virtual community of engaged learners. Most distance learning programs help foster a sense of community by organizing students into cohorts

## Closer than you think

Each semester online programs improve and expand, thanks to new developments in technology and the demand for a wider variety of program choices. With more distance learning opportunities available than ever before, this may be the right time to start working toward that certificate or degree you've always wanted. So sit back and flip open that lap top. It's time for school.

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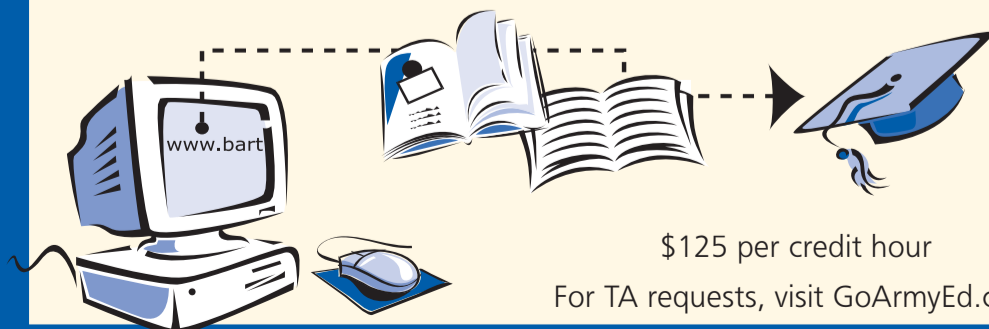
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# Working With Online Education While Deployed

By Alan Jochem

I had been thinking about getting a Masters degree for a few years. When I was notified about getting deployed in August of 2005 I thought this may be a great time to get started. Most of the bases in Iraq now have pretty reliable internet capability. Many missions that the soldiers have do allow them time in

the evening to study, go to the gym or other activities. I was deployed as the Battalion Executive Officer during this deployment and figured that I would have easy access to the internet. The plan was going well until I was chosen to be part of a special unit that would live with, and train, the Iraqi Army.

I had already talked to Mark Mon-

tefiori about getting into the Indiana Wesleyan program. I do remember the first conversation I had with him and the little surprise that I was in Iraq and ready to get started with an MBA. The issue now was that I lived on an Iraqi base and they do not have many of the things that we take for granted — the main one being power. Of course power is needed for the internet, and more important to me and my soldiers, is the run the AC that many of us are used to. The MBA was put on hold due to the extreme conditions that I was living under. There were also many times I would go on missions that I would be gone for up to 10 days at a time. In that case it made it impossible for me to be a very good work partner for others in class.

When I returned home to Indiana and Camp Atterbury, Mark helped me get enrolled quickly. I thought my internet issues were over until I was trying to log into the IWU site and Camp Atterbury had the site blocked. I could log onto NASCAR.com but not onto the site of a Christian College. Mark again came to the rescue and got me into the second class while I made other arrangements for internet access.

I have enjoyed the classes and most of the instructors have been great with the times that I was gone for five to 10 days on Military Travel. I have been allowed time to catch up when I got back to Camp Atterbury.

The classes have helped me greatly in looking at things in a different perspective. The reading from the Maxwell Leadership Bible are a great reminder in day to day life in how to lead and even be led. I currently work as a Driver for United Parcel Service, but I have my management packet ready and have passed the first two interviews. The classes again have prepared me to go from the a blue collar driver, to a position in management and be able to keep my ideas and listen to new ones so I can help out the corporation that I work for.

The classes have also helped in my Military career since I do more managerial jobs as a Major than I did as a Captain and a Company Commander. The experiences from great parents, the battlefield, IWU instructors and other students perspectives have better prepared me for the Military or Civilian challenges I face.

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# Residential Homes Provide a Safe Haven

**By Jason B. Watson**  
Executive Director  
Patrick Henry Boys and  
Girls Plantation, Inc.

Several years ago I attended at conference at which I heard a number of stories about government employees or college professors telling training seminar attendees or social work classes never to consider group care options. I heard an account of one such person who said, without hesitation or regret, that residential or group care providers are just holding tanks for kids, mostly out for the money. It was difficult to listen to such descriptions of the work that we do at Patrick Henry, and that so many other admirable agencies do across the country. Unfortunately, the push to eliminate group homes as an option is now stronger than ever. Indeed I recently attended another conference at which a nationally known and very influential leader said that it is necessary to stop using group care for older youth if we want to provide the best possible care for our children. If you will permit me I would like to highlight for you, just briefly, why residential child care is not the enemy, why it really is the best and least restrictive placement for chil-

dren in many cases.

I am aware of circumstances where a child in the foster care system has had dozens of different placements — as many as 40 or 50 — within a half-dozen years or so. There is no way — absolutely no way — that that could be in the best interest of anyone, let alone a child. Forty or 50 different placements means a minimum of 40 or 50 different people to have to get used to, 40 or 50 different sets of rules to have to follow, 40 or 50 different neighborhoods, 40 or 50 different schools, and 40 or 50 different bedrooms. Could anyone who bounced around to 40 or 50 different places ever truly feel loved, cared for or special? It is hard to imagine how.

Residential placement like Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plantation, means, in many instances, one placement. In some instances there are other placements before, or other placements after, but I think it is fair to say that, in most cases, the vast majority of children who enter residential group care settings are there for their one and only out-of-home placement.

Now, does that mean that they only have one set of houseparents? No, not necessarily. Houseparents

do, unfortunately, come and go, and a child who is in a group care setting for a number of years could conceivably have several sets of houseparents during that time. However, there is still far greater stability in residential placement, because even if the houseparents change, the rules stay the same, the home stays the same, the bedroom stays the same, the school stays the same, and other staff members stay the same.

In a perfect world, no child would need out-of-home placement. We all know all too well however that we don't live in a perfect world, and there will always be children who do need a safe and caring place to live away from home...or maybe even a safe and caring new home. Residential or group home agencies provide that for the young people who are in their care...and the children who live there will often attest to it themselves.

A couple of years ago I asked the staff and residents at Patrick Henry to complete a survey. The survey had five or six questions, and the questions were open-ended, so the responses could be almost anything. Interestingly, almost half of the residents responded that one thing that Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plan-

tation does very well is provide a safe place where people care about them, and most of the other half answered that one thing we do very well is provide structure and discipline. You wouldn't expect that, would you — that kids would be thankful for structure and discipline? But it's true...and anyone who has studied the development of children or even worked with children for any length of time will tell you that children need, want, and appreciate stability, boundaries, and discipline. Kids want to know where the lines are, they want to know what happens if the line gets crossed, and they want to know that the line is not going to move.

There are many other reasons I could give you why group care is extremely effective for many children, not the least of which is the advantage of being with other children in similar situations. There is an element of magic in the ability of children to help each other through times of difficulty.

*Jason B. Watson is the Executive Director of Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plantation, Inc., a Christian, non-profit ministry providing residential group homes for at-risk youth and Christian counseling for children, adults and families. Visit their website at [www.patrickhenry.org](http://www.patrickhenry.org).*

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# Help Parents Have Bully-Free Children

By **Allan L. Beane, Ph.D.**  
www.bullyfree.com

When my son, Curtis, was in seventh grade, he was bullied. Therefore, I know what it is like to have a child who is persistently mistreated by his peers. I, like most parents, didn't know what to tell him and I didn't know what to do myself.

Later, when he was 15, he was in an auto accident. The doctors had to amputate two fingers and one-third of his right hand. They had to repair and rebuild the remaining fingers. The back of his hand was missing, so they took flesh and skin from his leg and sowed it onto his hand.

Several months later he returned to

high school. There was a tremendous outpouring of love and support from some students. However, an unbelievable number of students were cruel to him. This mistreatment took its toll, even into the adult years. At the age of 23, Curtis suffered Post Traumatic Stress, perhaps partly from the wreck but certainly from the persistent mistreatment. He suffered depression and anxiety problems. One day, he called me and said, "Dad, I found some new friends, but they do things I don't agree with." Curtis sought healing from the wrong peers. His new friends used drugs. One night he took an illegal drug (METH) and it killed him. He didn't kill himself. He had his car keys in his hands and was trying to go for help. But he was already somewhat dead on the inside because of how his peers treated him. Therefore, bullying contributed to his dying a broken man.

I failed my son because I did not talk to the school about his problem. The school failed my son because they did not talk to me and stop it. Many times parents and professionals do not what to do. Therefore, I have dedicated the rest of my life to helping prevent and stop bullying. My son is the reason I wrote *The Bully Free Classroom (For Teachers and Counselors)*, *Protect Your Child from Bullying* (Published by Jossey-Bass), *How to Be Bully Free (For Children)* and other books. He is the reason I speak to thousands of students, parents, and school personnel every month and help schools implement our program, The Bully Free Program (www.bullyfree.com).

I share my son's story with you, because I want to deepen your understanding of the destructiveness of bullying and help you empower parents to prevent and stop bullying. The following suggestions are only a sampling of tips you can give parents of victims of bullying. An explanation of these tips and additional strategies are presented in my book, *Protect Your Child from Bullying* (Published by Jossey-Bass).

For additional information visit (www.bullyfree.com).

## What to Tell Parents:

### A Sampling of Tips

- Keep in mind, for a behavior to be labeled bullying, it has to be persistent (repeated over time), be intentionally designed to hurt or frighten your child or to have power and control over your child.

- Let your child know that no one deserves to be bullied.

- Be sensitive to the fact that your child may feel embarrassed and ashamed.

- Find out what has happened, who was involved, when it happened and keep a log of this information.

- Express confidence that there is a solution.

- Ask your child to write down in a journal/notebook her thoughts and feelings about what has happened.

- Keep in mind that calling the bully's parents doesn't always work, but many good parents have children who bully others and will not tolerate this behavior.

- Don't tell your child to ignore the bully. Most of the time, ignoring doesn't work.

- Check to see if the school system has a written anti-bullying policy that the bully may be violating.

- Take pictures of all injuries and hold a ruler next to the injuries to show their sizes and keep a record of all medical treatment, all medical expenses and all related travel expenses, including counseling.

- Report all physical assaults to the school and to police.

- Make an appointment with your child's teacher and make a factual report, using your log (record of bullying), but try to avoid going during school hours.

- Involve your child in activities inside and outside school.

- Monitor your child's whereabouts and their friendships.

- Be aware of the websites your child is visiting and the video games she plays. It's typical for victims to use inappropriate media to release their hurt, anger, and even desire for revenge.

- Involve your child in discovering solutions to her bullying situation.

- Watch for signs of depression and overwhelming anxiety in your child and do not hesitate to seek professional counseling for your child.

- Ask an older student with good morals to mentor your child.

- Help your child develop at least one best friend.

- Don't give up.

- Share with your child the strategies in the book, *Protect Your Child from Bullying* by Allan Beane and *How You Can Be Bully Free* by Allan Beane (www.bullyfree.com).

Allan L. Beane, Ph.D. is founder and CEO of Bully Free Systems, LLC. Schools and districts throughout the United States have adopted his program (*The Bully Free Program*), his books and resources. He speaks to students, parents and school personnel. For more information, visit www.bullyfree.com. You can email him at abeane@bullyfree.com or call (270) 227-0431.

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# Curriculum Decision Don't End When School Begins

By Daniel Lauve  
Saxon Homeschool

Winter is typically a time for settling into the school year after making your big decisions during the previous months, but homeschooling is anything but typical. If you find your winters filled with new questions arising about curriculum choices and homeschooling in general, you are not alone. Fortunately, there are many ways to use the growing homeschool community to find the answers you are looking for.

As the homeschooling movement has grown up, so have the methods homeschoolers use to keep in touch with one another. Message boards are an excellent way to ask questions, compare curriculum, and to support one another. Among the most popular message boards for military homeschoolers are the VegSource Military HomeSchoolers board (<http://www.vegsource.com/homeschool/military>) and the Homeschool World forum for military and overseas homeschoolers (<http://www.home-school.com/forums/viewforum.php?f=11>). Additionally, there are several Yahoo groups for military homeschoolers, organized on topics ranging from location to teaching philosophy.

In addition to message boards, the blog community is a great way to keep up with other homeschoolers and get new ideas once you have settled into the school year. HomeschoolBlogger.com is a diverse collection of thousands of families who share their thoughts on homeschooling and life in general, and it is a great place to get inspiration or even start your own blog. Another great online destination is the Carnival of Homeschooling. The Carnival of Homeschooling is a collection of insightful articles that are selected weekly and arranged around various themes. It is hosted by a different website every week, but you can find an archive at <http://whyhomeschool.blogspot.com/2006/01/carnival-of-homeschooling-archive.html>.

For math students especially, it can be very important to have a resource for answering homework questions throughout the year. For this purpose, Saxon Homeschool offers an e-mail address for students to get their math questions answered free of charge. Just send your questions to [mathhelp@saxonhomeschool.com](mailto:mathhelp@saxonhomeschool.com), and an experienced math professional will answer your questions. The Saxon Teacher CD supplements, which provide video

lesson instruction and solutions to every problem, are a valuable addition to the textbook.

Winter can be an excellent time to get a head start on next year's curriculum choices. Most publishers release their catalogs at the beginning of the calendar year, so parents can view changes in the programs that are being offered. The Saxon Homeschool 2009 catalog, which can be ordered for free at [www.saxonhomeschool.com](http://www.saxonhomeschool.com), contains numerous new products that homeschoolers have been asking for.

Introduced in 2008, Saxon Teacher is a popular supplement to the Saxon Homeschool curriculum, which has helped an entire generation of homeschoolers to succeed in their math studies. With the Sax-

on Teacher CDs, students learn each lesson from an experienced math professional, and they can view video solutions to every problem in the book. In addition to Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Advanced Math, which are currently available, Saxon will be releasing a middle grades version of Saxon Teacher in 2009.

Also for 2009, Saxon introduces the Hake Grammar and Writing program for grades five through eight. Developed by Stephen Hake, author of Saxon's middle grades math program, this program is based on Saxon's teaching philosophy of incremental development and continual review. This comprehensive language arts program covers English grammar, writing, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary development.

Saxon Homeschool will be releasing a standalone geometry program in 2009. The Saxon upper-level math textbooks still contain all of the geometry needed for high school transcripts, but the new Saxon Geometry is an excellent option for those students who want a full year of geometry or whose states have strict requirements regarding geometry curriculum.

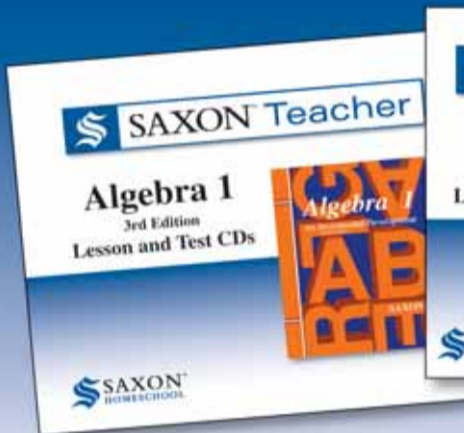
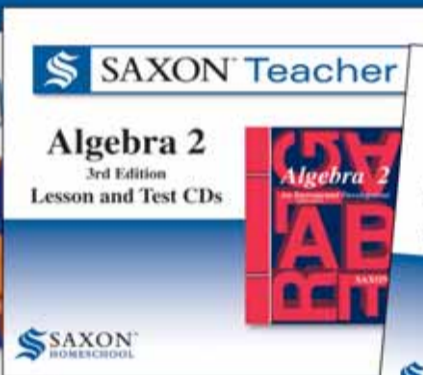
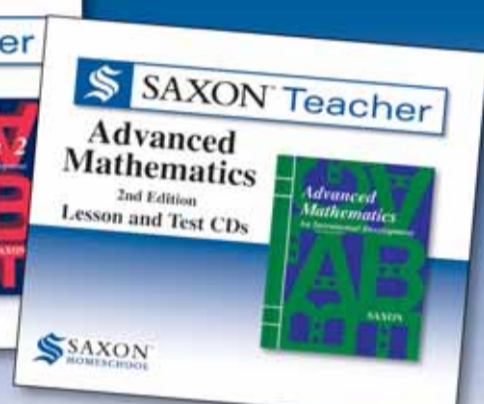
While spring and summer will arrive before we know it, remember that there are numerous opportunities to talk with other homeschoolers and research new curriculum even during the winter months.

For more information about Saxon Homeschool products, please visit [SaxonHomeschool.com](http://SaxonHomeschool.com) or [SaxonTeacher.com](http://SaxonTeacher.com).

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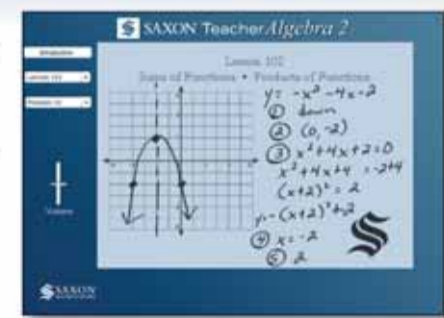
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# So, You're Teaching Writing...Now what?

By **Matt Daneker**  
Vantage Learning

So, you have decided to integrate writing into your home-school curriculum. Great! Now what? I don't have to tell you that there will be a lot of tasks you'll have to attend to. Let's try to put these tasks into three buckets—teaching, practicing, and evaluating—and see how MY Access!® Home Edition can help.

## Teaching

How you teach your child to write will depend on how far he or she has already come. But there is a common approach that all children can benefit from. We encourage children to think of writing as a process that begins with brainstorming about a topic and ends when the edited work is ready for publishing. MY Access!® guides them through the process of writing to ensure that they become confident evaluators of their own work. With instructional activities available in various formats at all stages of

the process, children remain motivated to continue writing.

Some children will embrace writing, while others will struggle at first. But they all will become more comfortable writing in their own time. Thus, it is important that writing instruction be flexible so children can move through the process at their own pace. When they feel comfortable, they should be able to move quickly to the next step. But when they are unsure, they should be able to slow down and get additional support until they feel ready to move on. MY Access!® is a self-paced program that provides multiple layers of instructional support to children when and where they need it.

## Practicing

We know that "practice makes perfect," but getting started is tough for many writers. Sometimes this initial block is caused by having too few ideas about a writing topic, but it can also be the result of having too many



ideas. In either case, children become anxious when they are unsure how to start writing.

A child may initially find the task so wide open that he or she can't find a place to start. Have the child identify the purpose (what it will be about) and audience (who will read it) of the writing task. Consider this task: Write an essay about your favorite pet to your pen pal. The child can now decide what content to

include (facts about a pet) and what tone to use (friendly and informal).

Next, have the child list each and every idea he or she thinks relates to the topic on a small slip of paper and put the ideas into a logical order. For example, put the slips of paper in order from most important to least important or from most interesting to least interesting. Alternately, have the child create small piles

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of three to four related ideas. Finally, have him or her choose the top three to four ideas in a list or a pile and use each idea as the topic of a body paragraph.

MY Access!® is pre-loaded with more than one hundred writing topics for children of all ages. Parents will also find that MY Access!® is easily integrated into any curriculum. The ability to easily enter your own writing topics on any subject, from history, science, or religion for example, will make MY Access!® an integral part of your complete curriculum and provide children with unlimited opportunities to practice their writing skills.

**Evaluating**

If there is one refrain we often hear, it is that evaluating writing is a hard thing to do! What objective standards should parents refer to? How do we help children benefit from feedback without taking it personally?

Within MY Access!®, essay scoring and individualized feedback are immediately available to both children and parents through an award-winning artificial intelligence scoring engine. Detailed, prescriptive revision plans are

provided to focus children's revision activities on the key traits of writing: focus, content development, organization, language use, and grammar. Through a separate login, parents have the ability to review their work and the feedback provided. This process provides the common yardstick parents need to evaluate writing and the objective feedback young writers need to make progress.

A wise person once said, "Writing is physical evidence of thinking." As your child becomes more comfortable as a writer, you'll undoubtedly find him or her becoming more comfortable as a learner too. Additional resources within MY Access!®, as well as a monthly newsletter and community Web site, offer practical tips, strategies, and ideas to help you in your teaching efforts.

MY Access!® is a completely Web-based writing tool, accessible anywhere you have a computer and Internet connection — at home, at school, or at the library.

*To view demo videos and get more information about MY Access!® Home Edition, please visit [www.vantagelearning.com/home](http://www.vantagelearning.com/home).*



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- Allows you to track student progress.
- Provides feedback that builds your students' confidence in his or her writing abilities.



“It seemed there was another treasure with every click of the mouse. Each time I'd return to the site, I'd discover another aspect of the program. Your time, as well as your homeschool dollar, will be well spent by utilizing this writing program.”

- Product review by Stephanie D. Scarborough, The Old Schoolhouse Magazine, LLC, June 2007

To learn more about MY Access!® Home Edition and view a demo, visit [www.vantagelearning.com/home](http://www.vantagelearning.com/home)

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# Holiday Fun at Pirate's Dinner Adventure

*'Back by popular demand, the swash-buckling holiday version of "The World's Most Interactive Dinner Show" sets sail on November 28th*

**ORLANDO, Fla. (Sept. 5, 2008)** — Returning for an encore engagement after sold out performances during the last two years, Pirate's Christmas Dinner Adventure sets sail again on the merriest holiday adventure on the high seas. The infamous band of buccaneers at Pirate's Dinner Adventure will celebrate the Holiday season beginning November 28th, with a Yuletide version of their popular nighttime theatrical experience, renowned as the "World's Most Interactive Dinner Show." From November 28 through January 6, Pirate's Christmas Dinner Adventure features an exciting holiday story line, spectacular sets, Christmas music, and a shipload of yuletide surprises throughout the show. Even St. Nick makes an appearance and is on hand for photos, fresh from his journey from the North Pole.

This Christmas, Magee, the magical elf is offering a very special Christmas Present — each child will receive a \$30 Pirate's Dinner Adventure Gift card good for purchases in the gift shop, beverage purchases, or future ticket purchases. (Restrictions do apply)

More than ever before, the entire Pirate's Dinner Adventure Theatre will be decked out in true pirate fashion with a frosty twist for this swash-buckling holiday celebration. This family-friendly holiday experience kicks off in the pre-show area where a living Nativity scene features cute and cuddly barnyard animals. In the Village Square the festivities continue with brightly colored garlands, snowmen, holiday trimmings and music, plus a selection of delicious complimentary appetizers for guests.

After entering, the Christmas saga begins during the pre-show as the evil Magistrate attempts to halt the

Christmas festivities; the princess is captured and Magee the Elf is called on to save the day. Jack Frost has come to town as a spectacular wintry scene greets guests entering the theatre in the round. Anchored in a 300,000-gallon indoor lagoon, and appearing frozen in time, sits an authentic replica of an 18th century Spanish galleon with a 40-foot mast. Icebergs surround the ship, icicles hang from her bow to stern, and snow blankets huge sections of the deck. The audience is swept up in a, cold winter's eve as dramatic lighting bathes the entire scene in a chilling white light, as snow gently falls from the sky.

Led by one of six pirates, guests are transported back in time to the 1800's as pirates dazzle, thrill, and entertain with spectacularly choreographed swordplay, aerial artistry, and dynamic duels. Magee the Elf is transformed into a pirate for a thrilling, heroic effort to save both Christmas and the Princess.

From "pass the fruit cake" to "holiday gift toss," Pirate team leaders enlist guests to join the fun in thrilling head-to-head competitions pitting one audience group against another. Over 150 guests each night will find themselves in the middle of the show as they don costumes and join the pirate action. A crowd-pleasing tradition each year during this holiday show, youngsters will again have the opportunity to don uniforms and join in the March of the Toy Soldiers and help Magee save Christmas. The show ends with a spectacular, pyrotechnics-filled, audience-involving celebration guaranteed to raise the roof so high you might even find yourself in the midst of a Florida snowstorm.

The merriment continues in the post-show area, where guests can mingle with the swashbuckling stars of this holiday celebration. And after the later performance of the evening,

see PIRATE'S ADVENTURE page 64

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Wet 'n Wild in Orlando holds the distinction of being "the world's first complete waterpark," as noted in Aquatic International's History of Aquatics. But the accolades don't stop there as Wet 'n Wild has been named one of America's "Most

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When it comes to thrills, no one does it better than Wet 'n Wild. Over it's 30 plus year existence, Wet 'n Wild has continued to evolve and consistently given thrill-seekers of

all ages exactly what they are looking for.

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Hypnotizing water thrills await as you and your friends encounter a splashing dose of group therapy on Wet 'n Wild's unique BRAIN WASH™. Lose your grip on reality, as you climb the walls on the six-story extreme tube ride with a 53-foot vertical drop into the 65-foot domed funnel. Swirl back and forth through mind altering thrills as you thread the needle-nose funnel to a refreshing escape. Brain Wash, it's your prescription to Wet 'n Wild fun!

These thrilling water adventures join Wet 'n Wild's already established collection of world-class rides and slides, including The Surge, Bubba Tub, Disco H2O™ and The Blast! Guests can also drift under rope bridges and past breathtaking waterfalls on the Lazy Rive™ and roll to four-foot high waves in the Surf Lagoon. Kids love the elaborate Kids' Park featuring miniature versions of Wet 'n Wild's favorite rides, plus a gigantic bucket that periodically fills with water and splashes into the pool below.

Open year round, with seasonally heated pools, now is a great time to experience the thrills, quality service and more multi-passenger tube rides than any other waterpark in Orlando, and you will see why Wet 'n Wild was voted "America's Must See Waterpark."

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Not valid with any other offer or discount. Not valid for use during special events, holidays or on blackout dates. Not valid on New Year's Eve. Restrictions apply. Reservations strongly recommended.

## Pirate's Adventure

continued from page 62

guests can party like a pirate at the Buccaneer Bash Dance party, included with each paid admission. The high-energy DJ disco party features a state-of-the-art sound and special effects system and dancing to a wide variety of music.

Pirate's Christmas Dinner Adventure serves up festive fare, beginning with complimentary appetizers during the pre-show, and continuing with a hearty four-course feast. Guests feast on favorites including Treasure's chicken, tender sliced pork loin with mushroom gravy, a delicious Seafood Medley, accompanied by roasted potatoes or Caribbean rice. Finish your delicious meal with warm apple cobbler alamode or Mr. Magee's favorite holiday dessert surprise. Complimentary beer and soft drinks are included during dinner. Vegetarian and "Captain Kid's"

meals are available upon request.

## About Pirate's Dinner Adventure

Pirate's Dinner Adventure is owned and operated by Odien, Inc. and is the creation of artistic directors and brothers, Ramon and Antonio Riba of Spain. The main theater is comprised of tiered seating for 800 guests and the venue is available for private group events and functions. Renowned for 12 years in the dinner theater industry for exemplary service, facilities and first-class entertainment, the Orlando venue is located one block from world famous International Drive. This venue is the prototype for brand expansion. A second Pirate's Dinner Adventure opened in December 2005 in Buena Park, California.

For further information, including show times, group rates or to book your reservations visit Pirate's Dinner Adventure online at [www.piratesdinneradventure.com](http://www.piratesdinneradventure.com) or call toll free 1-800-866-2469.

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# D-Day Exhibit Opens at Museum of Aviation



More than 300 veterans and guests attended the grand opening October 17 of one of the most comprehensive exhibits ever built at Georgia's Museum of Aviation located in Warner Robins, just 90 minutes south of Atlanta.

"Down to Earth" is a walk-through

and land assault on Europe to ultimately defeat Germany and its Nazi occupation of the continent.

The 6,000 square foot exhibit includes a cut-a-way fuselage of a C-47 troop carrier showing the paratroopers and crew ready to make their drop and a full C-47 aircraft dramatically levated 22 feet over the entire exhibit. It also includes many D-Day artifacts, weapons, and uniforms and a movie made especially for children entitled *Papa Said: We Should Never Forget* about the paratroopers' experiences and the gratitude the French people have for American troops restoring freedom to their country.

The Museum of Aviation is the second largest museum of its kind in the country and houses more than 100 aircraft and missiles as

sight-and-sound interactive exhibit explaining how American and Allied military forces planned and executed a monumental air, sea

a tribute to civilian and military pioneers who "kept them flying" for freedom around the world for over 60 years. Aircraft range from the 1907 Epps flyer replica to the record-holding SR-71 Blackbird.

The museum is open daily from 9:00-5:00 and is free to the public. Take I-75 Exit #144 directly to the museum and take a virtual tour by visiting [www.museumofaviation.org](http://www.museumofaviation.org).

## Upcoming Events

### JANUARY

17: Annual Marathon, Half Marathon & 5K Run/Walk, Museum of Aviation  
478-926-6870

### FEBRUARY

8: CJ Sambach Organ Concert  
478-922-5100

### APRIL

18-19: Mossy Creek Barnyard Festival, Top 20 Event in Southeast  
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19: The Bulldog Brass Concert  
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# Beware the Heartbreaker

## Zoo Atlanta's New Giant Panda Cub Debuts in January

Clinical cuteness is a dangerous thing, and Zoo Atlanta should know. Having survived the meteoric rise to superstardom of the internation-

al sensation that was Mei Lan, the institution's first giant panda cub, in 2006, the Zoo is well prepared for every trick any heart-wrench-

ingly adorable creature might have up his fluffy little sleeve. Atlantans may think they've been-there-and-done-that with Mei Lan, but they haven't met the 2008 model — her baby brother.

Born on August 30, the Zoo's newest bear was the only giant panda cub born in the U.S. in 2008.

What's more, his face, chubby form and wiggly antics beg the question: now that they're on their second offspring, are parents Lun Lun and Yang Yang creating a super-breed of unstoppably cute? True, the cub looks as squeezable as any plush toy in the Zoo's Pandamonium Gift Shop. (He could probably be placed among his inanimate counterparts and go practically unnoticed, unless he squawked.) But this little guy is no marble-eyed stuffed animal: he represents a critically endangered species, and he spent his first days of life exhibiting an indomitable iron will.

Giant pandas are born blind, hairless and barely larger than cell phones, and their tiny size and fragility make them unusually vulnerable during early infancy. Compromised by a health scare that necessitated his being placed in an incubator when he was barely 2 days old, the cub quickly proved to Zoo staff, veterinarians and Chinese colleagues that beneath the helpless, pink exterior lived a robust determination. Within days, the teeny fighter was back in the cradling paws of his mother, well on his way to a series



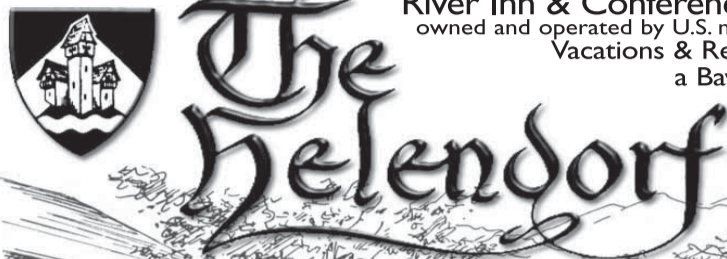
of successful developmental milestones.

Now three months old, the cub, who has mastered the art of scooting to great effect, is learning to walk. To him, walking merely means a better form of locomotion, a means of better investigating his mother, his mother's food and his miniature world. Little does he know that in just a matter of weeks, he'll be toddling after Lun Lun into a world that's vastly larger — their Zoo habitat.

What does that new universe mean to him? He'll have the chance to roll, play and bumble through a series of endearingly goofy adventures. What does it mean to us? We get to watch. No one can say who will have the better time — the cub or his human admirers — but Lun Lun will stay busy, and Zoo visitors will stay entranced.

Clinical cuteness can stop our hearts, but the Surgeon General's not worried. If this is cardiac arrest, it's a good problem to have.

Zoo Atlanta's new giant panda cub makes his public debut in January! Stay tuned for exciting announcements, and get tickets today on [zooatlanta.org](http://zooatlanta.org).



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# Fort Fisher Addresses Extinction Crisis

Fall can be the best time to visit North Carolina's seashore. The crowds have gone and the weather remains mild enough to enjoy a walk on the beach or an afternoon fishing the surf. The North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher offers a variety of opportunities for indoor and outdoor activities during the fall season.

The aquarium has added new sights during the last year. This year, 2008, was designated "Year of the Frog" by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) to mark a major conservation effort to address the amphibian extinction crisis. The Year of the Frog is also meant to engage the public in amphibian conservation. The N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher responded by opening a unique dart frog exhibit in February. These tiny, brightly colored amphibians are housed in a lush terrarium.

Recently, the N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher created a new exhibit showcasing reef fishes from the remote waters of the Papahānaumokuākea National Monument in Hawaii. Designated in 2006, is one of the world's largest marine protected areas. Stretching 1,200 miles north of Hawaii Papahānaumokuākea contains 140,000 square miles of pristine islands and reefs. Over half the fish species found among the atolls exist nowhere else.

History and nature lovers can explore the life of the famous Fort Fisher Hermit through the aquarium's Fort Fisher Hermit's School of Common Sense. Participants in this program screen the award winning documentary "The Fort Fisher Hermit: The Life and Death of Robert E. Harrill" before walking across the marsh to the bunker where Harrill lived for decades. The program teaches not only learn about the man's life and philosophy, but how he survived off the land feeding on local plants and animals. Visitors get a chance to try their hand at catching and releasing food from the marsh.

Visitors who want to explore the salt marsh in depth can enroll in a salt marsh exploration. Open to all visitors, although those younger than 14 must be accompanied by an adult; this program features a guided hike into the salt marshes of the Fort Fisher Recreational Area. In the fall, the island is home to dozens of migratory birds and other wildlife that can be seen along the trails and shoreline.

The Aquarium's surf fishing classes last three hours and include an hour of classroom instruction and two hours of fishing on the undeveloped four-mile stretch of coast at the Fort Fisher State Recreation Area. Participants use rods and reels provided by the aquarium. As the course is a catch-and-release program, there is no need to bring a cooler.

Experienced fishermen who cast their lines into the Carolina surf know that the months of autumn

offer the best catches of the year. As waters cool in the fall, massive schools of fish migrate to warmer climes. Other non-migratory fish follow the schools, feeding on the swarms. Since many of these fish travel close to shore, a fisherman with a surf rod and reel can take advantage of this prime fishing season from the beach or on one of the state's public fishing piers.

The N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher is available for rental during and after-hours depending upon scheduled programs and activities at the Aquarium. Our facilities can accommodate up to 1,000 guests, depending on your group's requirements and functions. An auditorium, conference room, classrooms, and an outdoor garden deck are available, as well as other facilities for rental.

The North Carolina Aquariums participate in the Military Voucher Program. Active duty and retired military personnel can purchase tickets at a discounted rate from many Tickets and Tours Offices at military bases nationwide. Tickets must be purchased in advance to receive a discount. Contact the facilities closest to you for ticket prices or additional information.

You can help support the commitment to high standards of exhibits, exciting educational experiences and valuable conservation programs, by joining the North Carolina Aquariums. Members receive free admission for 2 adults and children and grandchildren under 18 to the Aquariums, the North Carolina



Dart Frog

the mouth of the Cape Fear River, on U.S. 421. The site is less than a mile from the Fort Fisher ferry terminal. Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day). Admission: \$8 adults; \$7 seniors; \$6 ages 6-17. Free admission for: children under 6; registered groups of N.C. school children, and NC Aquarium Society members.

The state's three public aquariums are located at Fort Fisher, Pine Knoll Shores, and Roanoke Island. Administered by the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the aquariums are designed to inspire appreciation and conservation of North Carolina's aquatic environments.

Zoo in Asheboro, and over 150 other zoos and aquariums around the country, as well as many other benefits.

N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher is located just south of Kure Beach, near

For more information visit [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com).



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# Winter Fun in the High Country of North Carolina

By **Michelle Ligon**

Communications Manager

Boone Convention & Visitors Bureau

Wondering what to do when the temperatures fall below the norm for the usual outdoor activities? Shake off the cold by taking up some winter sports. And, when choosing a destination for a winter getaway, make it the High Country of N. C. for exhilarating, snowy fun.



## On The Slopes: Learn To Ski or Snowboard

Burton Snowboards has selected Appalachian Ski Mountain as the first

ski resort south of Snowshoe, WV to be named as an official Burton Learn to Ride (LTR) Center. At Burton Learn to Ride Centers, students will find Burton LTR products developed specifically for learning, a 4 to 1 student-to-teacher ratio, appropriate learning terrain, and shops that set riders up right the first time.

The fact is, all ski resorts in the High Country offer well-trained instructors, individually-fitted rental equipment, and proven learning methods to make any beginner's first experience on the slopes fun and rewarding.

And, each resort offers lessons for skiers and snowboarders of varying skill levels. Get expert assessment of skills, and pick up sound advice for enhancing those skills to more advanced levels.

French-Swiss Ski College instructors, with headquarters at Appalachian Ski Mountain, are available to guide groups at all the ski resorts in the area. French-Swiss also operates its own equipment rental office, where a group can get fitted for equipment to be used at all resorts. So, if your group wants to sign on with its instructors and equipment one time, but also wants to try out all the slopes, French-Swiss Ski College is your headquarters for highly-skilled group instructors and

guides.

Call for more information, 828-295-9311.

## Terrain Parks Receive Overhauls

Ski Beech already holds a fascination for accomplished snowboarders. To meet growing needs, the former tube run was recently changed to a new snowboarding terrain park. In addition, the resort is catering to the increasing numbers of beginners by creating a "park" with beginner-type features and gentle "rollers" built by the staff.

Appalachian Ski Mountain's Terrain Park will now be able to showcase more features than ever before. The top half of the Appaljack intermediate slope has been significantly widened this past summer. This additional space in the Appaljack Terrain Park will allow riders to have three lines of features, giving park users more options and better distribution of slope traffic.

## Snow Tubing

Hawksnest Resort near Boone, N.C. has announced it will devote its entire operation to snow-tubing, which has become very popular with visitors to the High Country over recent years. Not only is it fun for all ages, it requires no lessons and no special equipment fitting or rentals. Try out this new winter activity with the whole family.

At Ski Beech, tubing returns for the 2008-2009 season. Construction has recently been completed on an additional new tube run in the College Park tubing area.

Ski Sugar continues to complement skiing and snowboarding facilities with their popular tube run.

## Ice Skating

Ice skating is available at all three ski resorts: Appalachian, Beech and Sugar. If you prefer to watch the action on the slopes, there's no better vantage point than on skates at the ice rink.

Appalachian Ski Mountain's ice



skating rink overlooks its slopes. Ski Beech's ice skating rink is located in the center of its resort village, making for a picturesque experience. These and Ski Sugar's ice skating rink are open early November through late March.

## Snowshoeing

Ski Sugar promotes exploration of their winter trails through guided snowshoe hikes during selected times, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Based on instructor availability, additional tours can be arranged for groups of four to 15. Some of the best features about winter in the High Country are the long-range, panoramic views. Snowshoeing is a great way to take advantage of the season.

## Other activities in the area

Some Boone area attractions are open year-round, weather-permitting. Grandfather Mountain, Mystery Hill and Appalachian Heritage Museum, as well as The Blowing Rock are some that welcome visitors any time of the year. In addition to the

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unique attractions in the area, visitors will find plenty to do.

Foscoe Fishing Company offers expertly-guided fishing trips, weather-permitting, all year round. Winter is one of the best times to do some fishing in the area.

Rock Dimensions operates a climbing tower in downtown Boone (by appointment during the winter months). These experienced outfitters will also arrange climbing trips along the Blue Ridge Parkway and other destinations, as well as day trips to Virginia or Tennessee state boundaries for some of the best caving in the region.

Cross-country skiing is a favorite activity during heavy snows. Try Moses Cone Estate's twenty-six miles of carriage trails, which wind around picturesque frozen lakes, up wide, woodland trails and through scenic meadows.

**High Country Event Calendar for Winter 2008-2009**

The High Country Choose and Cut Festival features a November and December calendar full of holiday events, special restaurant menus and lists of tree farms where the perfect Christmas tree can be discovered.

Visit [www.chooseandcutfestival.com](http://www.chooseandcutfestival.com) for more information.

Appalachian Ski Mountain will hold their 47th Annual "Anniversary Weekend" on December 6 and 7, when they roll back lift ticket prices back 1962 levels. SugarFest kick starts the winter season with a weekend of pure winter fun on December 13th and 14th, 2008. Watch 2009 ski and snowboard equipment demos. Participate in the 15th Annual Adult Pre-season Ski Clinic on December 12 - 14, where Olympic Gold and Silver medalist Diann Roffe and two-time Olympian Krista Schmidinger

will both be special guest coaches. Many other fun activities are on slate for the weekend. Santa plans to be skiing at all the ski areas during December. Check with each resort for specific dates to visit with Santa. Bring your wishlist along.

New Year's Eve celebrations are spectacular at both Sugar and Appalachian, complete with moonlight ice skating, fireworks, a special dinner or late night breakfast. Snowshoe for FREE at Sugar on National Winter Trails Day. On January 10th 2009 Sugar Mountain Resort will once again host a National Winter Trails Day, a nationwide event offering children and adults the opportunity to try snowshoeing for FREE.

Ski Beech will hold the annual Bathing Beauty Contest, where both male and female contestants compete, as well as the Cardboard Box Derby on January 24 and 25. Winterfest will be held in Blowing Rock, January 22-25. A blues concert, Polar Plunge in Chetola Lake, Chili Cook-off, Wine-Tasting and Pancake Breakfast are a few of the events.

The Valentine's Day Firework Celebration is a popular annual event at Appalachian Ski Mountain. Experience romance in a winter wonderland.

Hop (or ski) in for Sugar Mountain Resort's Easter Egg Hunt. An Easter Egg contest scheduled for March 22, 2009 gives new meaning to the term "Bunny Slope" and rounds out Sugar's long list of fun activities offered throughout the winter season.

Meltdown Games at Appalachian Ski Mountain offer a wild new take on what fun can be. Cardboard box derbies, Terrain Park Events, the Big Air Jump Contest and signature Pond Skim/Costume contest are just part of the fun.

Whether the destination is the ski resort or another activity, adventure is the High Country norm for the winter season. Ski, snow-

board and tubing resorts are conveniently located near Boone, N. C. For more information, please contact the

Boone Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-852-9506 or online at [visit www.VisitBooneNC.com](http://visitwww.VisitBooneNC.com).



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## West Virginia Boasts Five Ski Resort Destinations


In December, 1971, skiers throughout the state and region got their first opportunity to enjoy West Virginia's first commercial ski area with the opening of Canaan Valley Resort. This modern resort-style ski area built upon a rich heritage of ski recreation in the Canaan Valley area, established at various local ski spots throughout the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. From a modest opening with a few thousand skiers for that first ski season in 1971, a booming destination tourism business emerged for the mountain state.

From one resort to five resort destinations today, the modern West Virginia ski industry was built upon the solid foundation established by Canaan Valley Resort. The state's ski destinations produce more than 800,000 skier visits each year from mid-November to early-April.

When the weather outside turns cold in the Allegheny Mountains, West Virginia's winter fun is just starting to heat up at Canaan Valley, Snowshoe Mountain, Oglebay Park, Timberline and Winterplace resorts. Due to the state's lofty elevation and terrain, West Virginia's winter sports activities are unparalleled in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast and generally offer the longest season in the region.

### Downhill Skiing

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#### Area Attractions

Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown, Jamestown, Virginia Beach Boardwalk, Norfolk Waterfront, Nauticus, Virginia Aquarium, Busch Gardens Europe, Water Country U.S.A., Virginia Air and Space Museum, Charter Fishing, with many great restaurants and shops.

View the website for activity links, reservation information, availability and rates.

*Free Beach Souvenir for Griffon guests*

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**Snowboarding**

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**Snow Tubing**

Headfirst, feet first or spinning in circles, snow tubing is truly an activity the whole family can enjoy. You don't even have to worry about trudging back up the hill, either. Winterplace, Snowshoe Mountain and Canaan Valley all have lifts just for tubers.

**Cross-Country Skiing and Snowshoeing**

Heavy snows turn pastures and woodlands into endless trails for Nordic enthusiasts at Canaan Valley, Timberline and Snowshoe Mountain resorts. Snowshoeing and cross-country trails, lessons and equipment sales and rental are also available at Elk River Touring Center near Snowshoe and White Grass Ski Touring Center and Blackwater Outdoor Adventures in Canaan Valley.

those tougher trails, trained ski and snowboard instructors can help get you down the slopes. If you can't get enough skiing during the day, all five major resorts — Canaan Valley, Snowshoe Mountain, Oglebay Park, Timberline and Winterplace — offer night skiing too. Even if Mother Nature hasn't provided natural snow, each resort is able to make its own snow to ensure the most reliable winter season in the region.



For a really unique experience, rent a pair of snowshoes — also available at all three — and go trekking through the wilderness without worrying about sinking into the fluffy blanket of snow.

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**Special Military Discount at Winterplace Ski Resort**

We are pleased to announce a special discount available to military personnel by Winterplace Ski Resort, near Beckley, West Virginia. Military personnel wishing to take advantage of this special discount must present their ID card when purchasing lift tickets or renting ski equipment.



**THANK YOU TO OUR MILITARY!**

**WEEKDAYS (Monday Through Friday, Non Holiday)**

	All Day – Open to 10pm	Twilight – 3pm to 10pm
<b>Lift Ticket</b>	<b>\$31.95</b>	<b>\$29.95</b>
<b>Rental Equipment*</b>	<b>\$28.95</b>	<b>\$25.95</b>

**WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS**

	All Day – Open to 10pm	Night – 5pm to 10pm
<b>Lift Ticket</b>	<b>\$50.95</b>	<b>\$33.95</b>
<b>Rental Equipment*</b>	<b>\$28.95</b>	<b>\$24.95</b>

Holiday Dates are: December 22 - January 2, January 17 - 19, and February 14 - 16, 2009  
Hours of Operation: Weekdays: 9am to 10pm, Weekends: 8am to 10pm  
\* Rental Equipment includes skis, boots and poles. Deposit Required.

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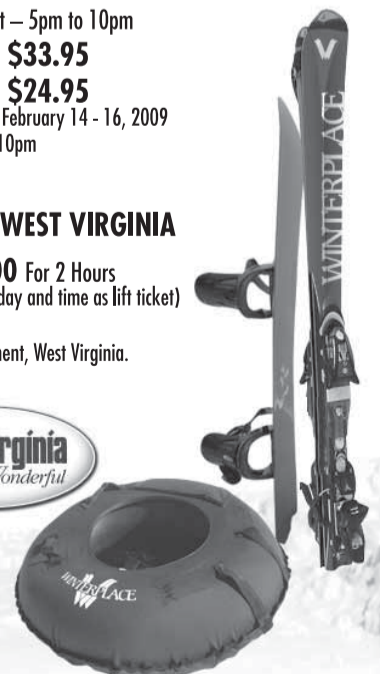
Winterplace is located just 2 minutes off I-77, Exit 28, at Flat Top/Ghent, West Virginia.



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# Discover Berkeley County, the 'New South'

If you're looking for the "Southern Jewel" everyone is talking about, you've finally found it! Berkeley County, South Carolina, located just minutes from Downtown Charleston and one and one-half hours from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, is cradled in what is quickly becoming known as the "emerging new south."

Known for its natural beauty, scenic landscape, rich culture and exciting history, Berkeley County is luring more and more visitors each year. However, if you choose to visit, we must warn you.... most of those who "visit for pleasure" actually end up falling in love with Berke-

ley County forever! Countless visitors have been so enticed by what Berkeley County offers that many have made the transition from "visitor" to "permanent resident," and are now calling this beautiful area their home!

Groups and families especially enjoy the year-round gorgeous weather in Berkeley County. Visitors are able to enjoy the attractions, events, water sports and local culture of this emerging area all 12 months of the year.

### Old Santee Canal Park

Enjoy enriched educational experiences at the Old Santee Canal Park,

195-acres located on the site of the first true canal in America. The park, which sits on the historic Stony Landing Plantation, was an important site for trade and transportation since colonial times. It served as an early trading post for Native Americans, and, the first semi-submersible torpedo boat, CSS Little David, was built on these grounds. You will also find a beautiful 19th century plantation house, four miles of boardwalk which takes visitors through deep woods and near the Old Santee Canal, and the Canal bed at Biggins Swamp. Our impressive 11,000 square foot Interpretive Center tells the story of the engineering feat required to dig a canal from the South Carolina's midlands to the Cooper River back in the 1800's. The Interpretive Center also houses cultural and natural history exhibits, an interactive computer, live snake aquarium, two theaters and more.

Educational programs highlight a wide range of historical events which took place on or around Stony Landing Plantation, such as children's life, archaeology and canal history. Environmental programs emphasize the vast diversity of plant and animal life found throughout the park, including insects, reptiles, trees and wetlands.

### The Berkeley Museum

The 5600 exhibit Berkeley Museum, located in Old Santee Canal Park, traces the area's history back 12,000 years. From the Native American residents of the Ice Age, to the famed "Swamp Fox" Francis Marion's battles during the American Revolution, to the planters who settled the area, the Berkeley Museum provides an entertaining and lively perspective of Berkeley County's rich and exciting history.

Also don't miss the Annual Antique Tractor and Engine Show in September. This popular event features antique

tractor and engine exhibits, tractor-pulling competitions, lawn-mower pulling, farm-tools and equipment auction, and an encampment of Civil War re-enactors. Specialists in the areas of blacksmithing, basket weaving, chair caning, furniture making and a grist mill operation are featured in the Crafts of the Lowcountry exhibit at the Berkeley Museum. Entertainment also plays an important part for the two-day event, with performances featuring bluegrass, gospel and beach music.

### Coastal Carolina Flea Market

Experience one of the largest flea markets on the Eastern Coast with over 1000 booths spreading across 47 acres. Open every weekend with free admission, don't miss one of the greatest opportunities to discover treasures and buy fresh local produce. Stop by the flea markets own Weekends Restaurant, which features southern cooking.

### Accommodations

Berkeley County has over 21 clean and affordable hotels to choose from. Many of our hotels have received awards and offer variety of services to ensure your stay Berkeley County is most comfortable and enjoyable.

Our year-round visitors and groups come to Berkeley County to enjoy attractions, events, tours, activities on the water, horseback riding, racing on the mountain bike trails, camping, hiking and benefit from the vast historical, environmental and scientific educational experiences. Don't miss Berkeley County, Discover Berkeley County - The Heart of the American South!

For more information about Berkeley County, call the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce at 843-761-8238, or visit [www.berkeleysc.org](http://www.berkeleysc.org). Mentioning this article entitles you to special group discounts.

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**By Jennifer C. Prince**  
Media/communications specialist  
North Myrtle Beach  
Chamber of Commerce CVB

Over the years North Myrtle Beach has welcomed thousands of our service men and woman for some much needed R & R with family and friends. There is so much to do in North Myrtle Beach, from year-round festivals and entertaining dinner shows, there is never a shortage of activities.

Plan your next trip to the beach this winter and enjoy an array of holiday activities sure to please everyone. The annual holiday shows are always a must-see during your trip. Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede Dinner Show magically transforms into a wonderful holiday fantasy. Twinkling lights, evergreens, poinsettias, old-fashioned holiday costumes and holiday music fill the stage, along with their 32 magnificent horses and top-notch cast of riders. Their live nativity scene is a dramatic spectacle. The Carolina Opry Christmas Special is the South's most loved holiday show; mixing together loved classics with great new favorites, all bound together by fun, fresh comedy and incredible dancers.

For more information on both these shows, plus many more visit [www.NorthMyrtleBeachChamber.com](http://www.NorthMyrtleBeachChamber.com).

If a New Years Eve getaway is more your style, rest assure there's no shortage of accommodations

In North Myrtle Beach we believe that it's our pace of life that separates us from the crowd. Even with so much to do nearby, our relaxed, peaceful environment lets you truly unwind.

For more information on accommodations, dining, and events get your free 2009 Visitors Guide by visiting [www.nm-bcoc.travel](http://www.nm-bcoc.travel) or call toll free 866-842-0455.



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\*Doesn't apply on existing reservations. Offer good through 5/17/09



# Come Winter, Play in Wyoming's Big Horn Mountains



Sheridan, WY, voted the original #1 Western Town in America! Name your winter sport in Sheridan where the majestic Big Horn Mountains set the scene and offer a winter wonderland of trails and vast open meadows.

Here winter sports enthusiasts

find an abundance of opportunities for invigorating outdoor recreation including boondocker snowmobiling, alpine and cross-country skiing, and snowboarding in an ideal mountain setting. It's a beautiful place to enjoy snow sports and activities, as well as to revel in the magnificent

scenery.

Sheridan, nestled in the foothills of the majestic Big Horn Mountains, is home base, while the Big Horns provide the winter wonderland! Sled heads ride the range by snowmobile on 218 miles of Top 15 rated trails in the Big Horn Mountain Trail System. Springtime provides excellent snow conditions with fresh powder, deep snow, warm days, and riding into April. The nearest trailhead is located just 15 miles south of Sheridan, with 100% "real" dry powdery

snow. Cross-country trails are abundant in wide-open meadows and on telemark hillsides.

Deep snows, spectacular scenery and the vastness of the West are why people ride the Big Horns. Riding opportunities are both challenging and endless in these rugged and inviting mountains, offering some of the most enticing snowmobiling in the world. During the winter it's easy to find fresh untracked powder and steep rolling hills to explore, with a diverse trail system that pro-

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vides easy access.

Within nearly one million acres of national forest, the Big Horns also provide almost 50 miles of un-groomed trails, countless miles of cross-country exploring, and exciting off-trail opportunities. Limited commercial development keeps the crowds down both on and off the trails, while first-class lodging is available just a short drive away in Sheridan. In the historic downtown, dining runs the gamut from down-home to gourmet, and specialty shopping ranges from antiques and cowboy memorabilia to intriguing boutiques and galleries.

For cross country enthusiasts, the area offers fantastic skiing with untouched powder. Groomed and un-groomed trails criss-cross the Big Horns. Here skiers may hit the trails and escape into the inviting quiet of the forest. Downhill skiing, available in the southern Big Horns, allows skiing like it used to be - no lift lines, and exciting terrain for skiers and snowboarders alike.

In addition, Sheridan and the Big Horn Mountains offer a bevy of outdoor recreation opportunities including ice-skating and snowshoeing. Children and adults both enjoy skating at Whitney Community Ice Rink. The area also offers other winter outdoor activities including ice fishing and wildlife viewing. Wildlife is as abundant as the snow, with large animals such as moose, elk, and deer viewed throughout the winter months.

While in Sheridan, enjoy the evening entertainment, at fun restaurants, specialty shops, a movie, or a live performance at the WYO Theater. Embrace the West with a Downtown Walking Tour or at the legendary Mint Bar. Lodging options offering value and comfort at affordable prices are available to groups of any size. If in need, just ask, while experiencing the friendly hospitality here in Sheri-



dan, Wyoming — The West at its Best!

Conveniently adjacent to Interstate 90 in north central Wyoming, Sheridan is 203 miles east of Yellowstone National Park, 240 miles west of Mt. Rushmore National Monument, and 125 miles southeast of Billings, Montana. To explore winter sports, adventures, snow reports, trail maps and lodging, visit [www.heridanwyoming.org/winter](http://www.heridanwyoming.org/winter) or call Sheridan Travel and Tourism at 307-673-7120 or toll-free 888-596-6787.

**Northern Big Horn Mountain**

The Northern Big Horn Mountain Trail System's 218 miles are continuously rated in the annual 'Top 15' by SnowWest magazine.

"You can throw snowmobilers into that rough and tumble mix—because we like a rollicking good time on a snowmobile and Wyoming definitely delivers. You just about can't go wrong riding a snowmobile anywhere in the Cowboy State. The snow is light and dry and that leads to power riding that many snowmobilers crave. Add to that some of the best hillclimbing the West has to offer—along with some of the best trails—for those who don't like that part of the rough and tumble riding...you can be sure you won't be disappointed when it comes to snowmobiling in Wyoming" as stated in SnowWest Western Guide 2006.

The Big Horns provide a winter wonderland! Ride the range by snowmobile on more than 218 miles of top-ten rated trails in the Big Horn Mountain Trail System. Springtime provides excellent snow conditions with fresh powder, deep snow, and warm days, and riding into April. Cross-country trails are abundant in wide-open meadows and on telemark hillsides.

Deep snows, spectacular scenery and the vastness of the West are why people ride the Big Horns. Riding opportunities are both challenging and endless in these rugged and inviting mountains, offering some of the most enticing snowmobiling in the world. During the winter it's easy to find fresh untracked pow-

der and steep rolling hills to explore, with a diverse trail system that provides easy access.

**Vaudeville Theater**

The WYO Theater provides entertainment with a vast spectrum of performers across the globe. Located in Sheridan's historic downtown district, the theater offers live performances and a variety of shows. . . something to make you laugh, sing, warm your heart or take your breath away. Throughout the years the theater underwent changes in

name, de'cor or use, and has always remained an integral part of the community of Sheridan. When the dream became reality in 1989, the newly renovated art deco WYO Theater opened its doors to once again serve the residents of the community as the oldest operating Vaudeville Theater in Wyoming.

Special live performance events abound at the WYO Theater in Sheridan during the 2008 - 09 season, including many returning artists; local talent and children's educational and family series.



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# Enjoy an Ozark Mountain Christmas

**BRANSON, MO** — Christmas time in the Ozarks is filled with spectacular entertainment, breathtaking scenery and timeless traditions. It's a place that radiates with warmth, friendliness and the spirit of the holiday season. Branson, Missouri is a gift for all ages...it's packaged with dazzling shows, millions of electrifying Christmas lights, thrilling attractions, infinite shopping and delectable cuisine. November 1 through December 31 is the perfect time to unwrap the phenomenon of Branson and experience an Ozark Mountain Christmas.

No where else in the nation can families experience such a festive atmosphere with so many activities to enjoy. Already known for its tremendous variety of live shows, theme parks, shopping, lake activities and family recreation, Branson

and its Ozark Mountain Christmas offers visitors the chance to experience the same activities with a festive holiday theme. Ozark Mountain Christmas, now in its fourteenth year of celebration, has become one of the most popular times for Branson's seven million guests to visit the area.

The reasons for visiting the Branson/Lakes Area for the holiday season are as numerous as the 287 twinkling stars strewn throughout town. Silver Dollar City and Shepherd of the Hills celebrate the holidays with spectacular lighting displays, memorable musical tributes and a heartwarming atmosphere depicting the Ozarks in Christmases past. The air is effervescent with scents of cinnamon, apples, evergreen and sugar as delectable foods conjure up sweet childhood holiday memories. Craftsman lovingly labor over wood, copper, clay and glass items perfect for gift giving or keeping as a personal treasure.

Many of Branson's favorite entertainers including Andy Williams, Jim Stafford, the Lawrence Welk show featuring the Lennon Sisters, the Lennon Brothers, the Osmond Brothers, the Baldknobbers Jamboree, the Presleys' Country Jubilee, the Gatlin Brothers, Dixie Stampede, Shoji Tabuchi, Country Tonite and more offer seasonal shows and expanded schedules at their theaters. As a special holiday treat, the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes delights Branson audiences.

The Branson Area Festival of Lights offers thousands of lighted displays around town and along the two-mile drive through. In its 12th year, the Branson Area Festival of Lights (BAFOL) joins several Ozarks communities in creating a two-month lighting festival that can be seen in four counties and many of the surrounding communities. The festival of lights features larger-than-life "impact" displays and creative lighting on rooftops, steeples, bridges, water towers and buildings in Branson, Springfield, Kimberling City, Ozark, Nixa, Rockaway Beach, Forsyth, Hollister and Indian Point.

Memorable entertainment, holiday shopping, American Harvest cuisine and Mother Nature's special dollop of late autumn scenic beauty makes the holidays in the Ozarks an unforgettable time of year.

Branson, Missouri, the 16th most visited leisure travel destination in the country, boasts more than 55,000 theater seats, three pristine lakes, dozens of attractions, 22,000 lodging rooms, 30,000 restaurant seats and more than 200 outlet retailers. A unique combination of neon and nature, Branson offers year round entertainment for the whole family.

For more information contact the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-214-3661 or log onto [www.explore-branson.com](http://www.explore-branson.com).

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# Travel to Illinois Valley and LaSalle County

The Illinois Valley Area and LaSalle County Illinois consists of a group of smaller communities nestled primarily along the Illinois River. The east coast to west coast Interstate 80 intersects with Interstate 39 in LaSalle. I-39 is the connecting link of interstate access from Winnipeg Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

With Chicago only about 90 miles, a day trip into the city for both cultural and sporting events is most convenient.

The area provides numerous recreational opportunities, including but not limited to recreational boating, water skiing, fishing, hunting, hiking, white water rafting, canoeing, golfing, snowmobiling, cross country skiing and just plain relaxing. Each year the Master's Walleye Tournament is hosted in Spring Valley and there are several fishing tournaments enjoyed by both youngsters and adults.

Throughout the spring, summer and fall there are numerous fairs and fests hosted in the surrounding cities and villages. These include, but are certainly not limited to, a Jazz Fest in LaSalle, Maud Powel Festival in Peru, Burgoo in North Utica and numerous Fourth of July celebrations. North Utica also hosts a

Veterans Day Parade which attracts many.

In addition to Starved Rock State Park, one of the largest in Illinois, one resort has an indoor water park for its guests and also a small indoor amusement park for all to enjoy.

The area is rich in ethnic history. Many European immigrants arrived to work the coal mines in the early 1800s. Before railroads and locks and dams on the river, the Illinois and Michigan (I & M) Canal was hand dug, from LaSalle/Peru to Chicago, primarily by Irish immigrants, to allow commerce to and from Chicago, which was a very small community and was isolated at the time.

Most recently a replica of the original canal boats, pulled by mules, which carried passengers from the area to and from Chicago, was launched. It has become quite a popular attraction for visitors to the area. St. Patrick's is known as the oldest Catholic church between Chicago and St. Louis and is of beautiful architecture.

The Illinois Valley/LaSalle County Area welcomes visitors with open arms.

For more information, or to contact, visit [www.ivaced.org](http://www.ivaced.org).

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Carolinas Medical Center	45	KBR	40	Purdue University	79	Vantage Learning	61
Cataloochee Ski Area	69	Kearney Visitors Bureau	75	Randolph County Tourism	68	Vermont Technical College	25
Cheyenne Area CVB	74	Keystone National High School	61	Ranger Joe's	3	Walsh College	32
Choice Hotels	17	Label It or Lose It	24	Regent University	9	Warner Robins CVB	65
Collectibles Insurance Agency	44	Liberty Logos	14	San Marcos Treatment Center	56	Wet 'n' Wild	64
Colonial Williamsburg	70	Limestone College	34	Sheridan Travel and Tourism	74	Winterplace Resort	71
Daytona Beach Resort	62	Luther Appliance and Furniture Sales	27	Ski Beech	69	Zoo Atlanta	66
		Mansion, The	76	Sky Hotels & Resorts	64		
				Spearfish CVB	76		

## Dwyer Group

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cess," he said. "The Rainbow Code of Values filters down at every level of my business, from owner to customer service representatives to service professionals on the truck. We recite them, we believe in them and, most importantly, we live them."

The Rainbow International Code of Values centers around an acronym, a term familiar to all military personnel: RICH (Respect, Integrity, Customer Focus and Having Fun in the Process).

"That's one of the great aspects of my job," Moritz. "Every day brings new faces and challenges. I can help families suffering from water damage get back into their home sooner by using the latest drying technology. In addition, I can clean the carpets after a toddler's birthday party punchbowl disaster. So many different kinds of wonderful people make up our area that each day is different."

"The Rainbow International concept of courteous and professional service is what fuels us," added Moritz. "I believe the key to business success lies in more than just doing a job for the customer. I think building relationships with my customers, in addition to providing top-notch service, is the secret to success. I also believe this philosophy flows over into and enhances my personal life as I treat others as I would like to be treated."

Moritz has been a Rainbow International franchise owner since August 2006 and points to the support and encouragement of the corporate staff in Waco, Texas as another key point in his success story.

"Let's face it, not everyone can know everything about operating every facet of a business," he said. "Some people may be expert carpet cleaners and water extractors, but really lacking in the skills required to manage people. Others may be great supervisors and bookkeepers, but don't know much about the technical and equipment end of the job. That's where my home office staff is so valuable to my franchise."

Every Rainbow International franchise is fully supported by a professional and dedicated home office staff. Among the many educational supports offered are marketing and public relations skills, human resources and management skills, financial management guidance and top employee recruiting and retention. Rainbow International also offers a series of continuing education (CE) classes across

the country every year, as well as an annual meeting, called Reunion, held each summer.

"With home office support like that, you never feel alone out there as a franchise owner," Moritz added. "I know I can call my FC (franchise consultant) anytime for advice and guidance on a variety of topics. That's tremendous peace of mind."

I also know I'm tapping into the shared knowledge of people who are looking out for my best interests and know our industry well."

"Veterans make great franchise owners," Moritz concluded. "The skills and dedication we learned serving our country are the same qualities needed to serve people and prosper as a business owner in today's competitive economy."

"In many ways, the Rainbow International system mirrors what is instilled in military veterans," he said. "As a business owner, you must be disciplined to get up early, stay at work later and put in more hours than other workers might. To earn our financial freedom and personal success, we've got to be willing to

do more and work harder than other might. Military life prepares us for that."

Moritz is the franchise owner of Rainbow International of Athens and offers comprehensive fire, water and smoke damage restoration solutions and cleaning services to residential, commercial & insurance customers in Athens, Washington counties in Ohio and Wood County, West Virginia.

A unique opportunity for honorably discharged veterans looking to start their own business is found in VetFran, a financial discount program created by the late founder of The Dwyer Group, Don Dwyer, Sr. The program is managed and endorsed by the International Franchise Association (IFA), with more than 260 franchisor participants. To date, the program has helped over a thousand veterans start their own franchise business.

### PAVE the Way

In conjunction with VetFran, the Program for Assisting Veteran Entrepreneurship (PAVE) offers assistance for veterans looking to open a service-based franchise with The Dwyer Group companies. The PAVE franchise opportunities include Rainbow International®, Mr. Rooter®, Aire Serv®, Mr. Electric®, Mr. Appliance®, and Glass Doctor®. For more information, contact Chris Loudermilk, Director of Military Development for The Dwyer Group, at 254-537-0614 or 800-396-6151.



Mike Moritz, franchise owner of Rainbow International of Athens.

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