

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

Recycling pickup for Wednesday, March 3, is glass, plastic and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

RAB meeting set for Thursday

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting Feb. 25, 7-9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topics will be the J-Field and Carroll Island Study Areas. Meetings are open to the public. For details, call the Information Line, 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

Learn to help those in need

A Disability Awareness Committee meeting will be held Feb. 25, 2 p.m., in building 5442, room 5. Michelle Bicocchi of the "Best Buddy Program" will discuss the needs of mentally delayed adults and teens. For information, call Shirley Macon, 410-436-2577.

Briefings planned for APG Garrison

Three work-force briefings for all post employees of APG Garrison and Soldier and Biological Chemical Command are scheduled on March 5. Two will be held at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, from 9-10 a.m. and 10:15-11:15 a.m. The third will be held at the Post Theater in the Aberdeen Area from 1-2 p.m. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of SBCCOM and APG, will be introduced. Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, will present a garrison and Commercial Activities Study update. For more information call the CA Core Team at 410-278-4800.

Lady Bombers win; next game Sunday

The Lady Bombers post-level basketball team played two games last weekend and added two wins to their record, taking the team to 6-3. The Bombers met the team from Walter Reed Army Medical Center on Saturday. Sara Chatman led the Bombers to a 62-40 win by scoring 14 points, with Tara Mattison and Donna Dorsey adding 13 and 12 points, respectively. On Sunday, the Lady Bombers played the team from Andrews Air Force Base. Robbie Powell led the scoring for the Bombers with 27 points and Mattison added 16. The Bombers play again this weekend at home against Fort Belvoir, on Sunday, 1 p.m., at the APG Athletic Center.

ACAP workshop slated for March

The next ACAP Workshop for transitioning military personnel will be held March 2-4, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., in building 2754. To register call Don DelGavio, 410-278-9669.

Saturday is time for Polar Bear Run

Plan to run in the annual Polar Bear 10K Road Race on Feb. 27. Registration is \$15. The race starts at 9 a.m. at the APG Athletic Center. Long-sleeved T-shirts will be given to registered 10K runners; medals will be awarded

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Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews salutes during Friday's ceremony, during which he passed command of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command to Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, and retired from the Army.

Andrews passes command of TECOM to Ertwine, says 'farewell' to Army

By Pat McClung
TECOM Public Affairs Office

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews passed command responsibility for the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command to Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine on Feb. 19.

More than 400 military and community officials, family members, friends and co-workers lined Fanshaw Field during the ceremony that marked the end of a 33-year military career for Andrews, and the beginning of a challenging command position for Ertwine.

The ceremony featured troops from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's 143rd Ordnance Battalion Color Guard, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Salute Battery, the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), and TECOM subordinate units: APG Garrison; Aberdeen Test Center; Army Aviation Technical Test Center, Fort Rucker, Ala.; Dugway Proving Ground, Utah; Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz.; and White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

Behind the troops, a display of vehicles represented the wide range of military equipment tested by TECOM. The display included the M1A1 Abrams Tank, the M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle, the M109A6 Paladin Self-Propelled Howitzer, the M1070

Trailer carrying an M8A2 HERCULES Recovery Vehicle, the M1075 Palletized Loading System Truck, the M60A3 Main Battle Tank, the M984 Wrecker, and the M1078 Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV).

Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, TECOM's higher headquarters, hosted the ceremony.

"Today, Ed and Allie Andrews will not only relinquish command, but will also box up the Army greens to don civilian clothes after almost 33 years of selfless service to our nation," Wilson said. "We also have the pleasure of welcoming the new command team, Dean and Linda Ertwine, to the TECOM family."

Wilson thanked the Andrews command team for spending more than half their lives in service to the nation, its soldiers and their families. He praised them for their courage, commitment and compassion. While Andrews was serving as commander, "Allie was providing endless time, support and guidance to the Red Cross, community service, family support groups, and any organization or person who asked for assistance," Wilson said.

After reviewing the troops, Andrews

expressed honor and pride in his 33-year investment in the Army.

"The troops on the field before you represent most of the Test and Evaluation Command's ranges, proving grounds and test centers," he said. "They are led by the finest collection of commanders I know."

Andrews, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, holds master's degrees in mechanical and industrial engineering. He came to TECOM 19 months ago from Warren, Mich., where he commanded the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command for three years.

"Coming to Aberdeen Proving Ground was like coming home," he said. "Here, I attended the Ordnance career course after Vietnam, later served as a test director at what is now Aberdeen Test Center, and many years later served as the assistant commandant of the Ordnance Center and School working for General Wilson."

Andrews said that during his career he was part of TECOM, a customer of TECOM and beneficiary of TECOM's contributions to Army materiel during two wars. These different perspectives strengthened his appreciation of TECOM's value to the nation, he added.

See TECOM, page 4A

Register for free training

Communication, technology, careers, finances among topics on March 17

By Karen Jolley DREWEN
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold its ninth annual Federal Women's Program Training Conference on March 17, 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m., at the Edgewood Area Conference Center.

Diane Siler, equal employment opportunity advisor for the APG FWP Committee, said the goal this year was not only to help people advance their careers, but also to make them more comfortable in their current positions.

"We are very excited about the workshop topics this year," Siler said. "The conference offers something for people at all levels. See TRAINING, page 3A"

APG's top military personnel honored

Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Harford County Chamber of Commerce sponsored a luncheon Feb. 3 to honor the proving ground's top military personnel. The chamber's Military Affairs Committee co-sponsored the luncheon, held at Four Points Sheraton in Aberdeen, to honor Spc. Chanda L. Sutton, APG Soldier of the Year; SSgt. Steven M. Serinsky, APG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year; SSgt. Willie E. Jones, APG Drill Sergeant of the Year; SSgt. Johnny L. Griffin, APG Instructor of the Year; Sgt. Craig R. Pickel, APG Marine Corps NCO of the Year; Pfc. Joseph P. Leonardo, APG Marine of the Year; TSgt. Dennis H. Slade, APG Air Force NCO of the Year; and TSgt. Farron L. Van Helten, APG Air Force Drill Instructor of the Year. For story and more information about the winners, see the special B section of this week's paper.

FIRST TO COMMAND: Washington was APG's first African-American company commander

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

Nearly six years before the Armed Forces were integrated, the first black company commanding officer arrived at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Maj. William G. Washington, commander of Co. D, 2nd Regiment, came to APG as a captain in November 1942. Not until July 1948 did President Harry S. Truman's executive order integrate the Armed Forces. An article printed in a local newspaper at that time noted that Washington had "the distinction of being Aberdeen's first Negro commanding officer."

During Washington's time in service, spanning the years from World War I to World War II, being a black soldier was not easy; being a black officer was even tougher. Kenneth Hilton, manager of the Black Employment Program at APG, explained that being an African-American was not just difficult at APG and in the military, but around the country.

"I imagine it was extremely difficult," he said. "Captain Washington came to APG in 1942, the same year I was born, and by the time I arrived here in 1966 a lot of things were still not equal."

Hilton explained that for a black soldier taking the position of a company commander, especially during a time when there was "a lot to deal with," keeping a clean record was crucial.

"For him to take the position of a company commander was like putting his life under a microscope," Hilton said.

Hilton said today, when moving up the "corporate ladder," African-Americans are "in the forefront, but still a lot of the times find themselves alone."

Washington, who enlisted in the Army in March 1914, spent more than 28 years as an enlisted soldier before becoming a commissioned officer. His daughter, Mary Harris, who lives in California, said her father's determination and perfectionism always were evident.

"He knew he had to try three times harder as a black man," she said. "He was very dedicated to his country, even after retirement." Harris said her father always knew he wanted a career in the military, and said his dedication to his career was his way of getting away from a segregated environment.

Washington's son, Allan, who also lives in California, said his father knew a military career "probably was the best opportunity for

advancement in society" at the time.

As far as being a role model for his children, Harris and Allan agreed their father paved their way, even leading his son to pursue a 20-year Air Force career.

Throughout his career, Washington advanced to master sergeant in the Ordnance Department, then was promoted to captain in May 1942.

Two years later he retired after a 30-year Army career, receiving high praise in a letter from Col. James W. Mosteller Jr., commanding officer of Daniel Field, Ga.

"During this entire period your record was without a blemish, and such a

See FIRST, page 4A



William G. Washington arrived at APG in 1942, the first black commanding officer here.

Scouts to collect items for ACS Food Closet

By Sheila Little
APG News

Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will be in Aberdeen Area neighborhoods Saturday morning distributing information and collection bags for their annual food drive.

Called "Scouting for Food," the event is the kickoff for the collection of non-perishable items the following Saturday, March 6, to replenish the Army Community Service food closet. Edgewood Area Scouts conduct a similar food drive each fall in the Edgewood Area.

"Every year the scouts support the community by

collecting food for the ACS food closet," said Lila Kolker, Boy Scout committee member and former Cub Scout leader.

She said the Boy Scouts collect food annually district-wide, meaning that those who live off post may have similar drives taking place in their neighborhoods over the next two Saturdays.

Lauren Murray, the Harford County representative on the Baltimore Council of the Boy Scouts of America, said all 91 county Scout units can participate in the drive, which has taken place annually for "at least the last 20 years." She said that it is much appreciated by the local food closets.

"After the Thanksgiving and Christmas rush is when the lockers are low on food," she said.

She added that local grocery chains donate the bags for collection.

Those who do not live in an active collection area may contribute by dropping off non-perishable food items at the ACS office, building 2754, from 7:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Elzena Biggs, who is in charge of the food closet and is the relocation assistant manager at ACS, praised this community service project.

"We really appreciate the Scouts doing this each year," she said. "Last year, their contribution lasted

us for six months."

She added that the Scout collection is the single largest contribution of canned goods received each year.

All donations are appreciated, she added, "but we are really low on canned meat and fish, pasta and spaghetti sauce."

Kolker said Scouts should be in uniform and in the neighborhood from 9 a.m. to noon each Saturday of the drive, and asks that all participants leave their contributions outside their door.

"No one will knock on doors to pick up the contributions," she said.

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to the top racers in age groups. A 5K Fun Run will be held Saturday, and is free; registration is not required. There will be no awards and T-shirts will be available for purchase. For more information, call Donna Coyne, race coordinator, 410-278-7934.

Reservations at CAPA Field

Personal reservations for CAPA Field will be taken beginning March 1, 9 a.m., in building 2752, room 113. The fee for renting the field is \$100 per day. You can make reservations by phone, but those waiting in person will have priority. For information call Angela Keithley, 410-278-4603/4771.

Sign language starts March 10

A class in sign language will begin March 10. It will be held Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in classroom 207, building 3147. The instructors will be Kim Skrutski for the beginning students, and Pat Reeves for intermediate/advanced students. This course will accommodate those who do not know sign language and those who have studied sign language before and need a refresher. Students will be placed in the appropriate class based on ability. This class will continue for 13 weeks and each person must attend 10 sessions to receive class credit. Those enrolling who want to receive credit for the class must complete DD Form 1556 and have their supervisor sign the form. If you have questions concerning the completion of the form, you can complete it during the first session. For questions, e-mail Randy K. Weber, rweber@ocs1.apg.army.mil; Reeves, patricia.reeves@SBCCOM.APGEA.ARMY.MIL, 410-436-2917; or Skrutski, kskrutski@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

Garden Shop opens March 6

The Aberdeen Proving Ground PX Garden Shop will hold its annual grand opening on March 6, 9 a.m. Roses, bedding plants and everything for lawn and garden will be available. A representative of M.V. Springs will be on hand to present a fishing demonstration. Door prizes will be awarded and vendor representatives will be available for questions and answers.

Family Child Care training set

Family Child Care training will be conducted the week of March 15-19. Interviews will be held on March 8, 9 and 11. Applicants interested in providing home-based child care, especially in the Edgewood Area, are encouraged to apply. For applications, call 410-278-8720. Bring a professionally trained provider in a warm home environment offers many benefits: free training in a marketable occupation; credit transfers to Army installations world-wide; free use of toy lending library; free referrals by Central Registry; free monthly newsletter; free workshops (nutrition, child psychology, CPR, tax assistance); participation in the National CDA credential program; participation in the USDA food program; and self employment. For more information, call Gail Smith, 410-278-7477/8720 or Kathy Reese, 410-436-2692/3355.

Scout Troop seeks former members

Former members of APG Scout Troop 429 are invited to the troop's 50th anniversary celebration on April 30. Those interested in attending should supply an address to Dean Kolker, 410-273-0985. The troop will welcome photos and memorabilia from earlier years.

Military Pay Office adopts schedule

Beginning this week, the Defense Military Pay Office joins the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison work force in following the compressed work schedule. The office's first scheduled Friday off will be Feb. 26. The office will be open Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-

5:30 p.m. (closed from noon-12:30 p.m. for lunch); first Friday of the pay period, 7 a.m.-noon (closed after noon for training); and second Friday of the pay period, closed.

Health plan benefit information offered

A claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) will visit APG on March 9, through an arrangement by the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. The representative will be available from 9-11:30 a.m. in building 305, room B-14 (lower level) and in building E-4420 from 12:30-1:30 p.m., to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary. For more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Ordnance Ball set at Redstone

Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., will host the 1999 Ordnance Ball at the arsenal's Redstone Club on March 19, 6 p.m. For tickets and information, call (256) 876-6697, DSN 746-6697.

Sign up for youth sports

Edgewood Area Youth Services will begin conducting registration for baseball, softball and T-ball through March 13. Cost is \$30 per person; family discounts are available. For more information, call Norma A. Warwick, Youth Sports director, 410-436-2172/2862.

Play bingo on post

The post recreation centers hold bingo four times a week. The Aberdeen Area Recreation Center has bingo Wednesdays, 7 p.m., and Sundays, 2:30 p.m. For details, call 410-278-2621. The Edgewood Area's Stark Recreation Center holds bingo Thursdays, 7 p.m., and Saturdays, 6:30 p.m. For details, call 410-436-2713.

Summer program for youth planned

The Child Development Center and Youth Services are accepting pre-registration for the full-day summer program, which will operate for eight weeks from June 28 through Aug. 20. Children enrolled in grades 1-9 are eligible for the program.

Pre-registration forms are available at both Youth Centers and Child Development Centers. The AA CDC is located in building 2485; the EA CDC is located in building E-1901. The AA Youth Center is located in building 2522; the EA Youth Center is located in building E-1902. The CDC and Youth Center priority for care policy is in effect for the summer program. Patrons on this list who turn down a position (when it is offered) will be removed from this list. Activities planned include swimming, sports, skating, movies and field trips. For questions, call Rita Wilkins, director, School-Age Services, 410-278-2572

EAOWC to donate funds

The Edgewood Area Officers Wives Club will donate funds to services and charities this spring. If your group or organization is interested in receiving a donation, provide a request in writing by Feb. 28, to Deborah Pellissier, EAOWC Services and Charities, 4842 Austin Rd., Gunpowder, MD 21010. Be as specific as possible in stating the purpose for which the funds will be used, and include the name, title, address and phone number of a contact person.

EAOWC offers scholarships

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club will offer a \$1,000 youth scholarship on behalf of the USPA and IRA Educational Foundation. The EAOWC also will offer \$500 scholarships, two to high school seniors and one to a currently enrolled full-time college student. To be eligible, one must be the child of an active-duty,

retired or deceased service member, who will be attending college during the 1999-2000 school year. Applications may be obtained at all Harford County high schools, the EA Thrift Shop, the EA Library, or by calling Evelyn Atchison, 410-297-8558. The EAOWC will donate \$500 for a spouse scholarship for a spouse of active duty, retired, or deceased military members. Applications must be received by April 2. Winners will be notified by early May.

MCSC to offer scholarships

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club (MCSC) will award three higher education scholarships this spring. A \$1,000 college education scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior who is the child of an active duty, retired, or deceased service member or DoD civilian. A scholarship from the USPA&IRA educational foundation will give \$1,000 to a service member's child who is entering or continuing education in an undergraduate college program. The recipient will be determined by the MCSC. The club also will award \$500 to a military spouse entering or continuing a college education. Applications are available in the Aberdeen Area library, Post Office and Thrift Shop, and through the local high school guidance office. For more information, contact Ellen May, MCSC scholarship chairperson, 410-297-8387. Application deadline is April 1.

Red Cross has classes scheduled

A Community First Aid and Safety Class will be held March 19, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$25. Upon completion you will be certified in first aid for three years and community CPR for one year. For information, call Carolyn Lerwill at 410-278-2087.

Send in soup labels to CDC, schools

The Aberdeen Area Child Development Center, Aberdeen Middle School and Edgewood Elementary School collect Campbell's Soup labels to redeem for equipment to be used by children enrolled at the center. Eligible products include: Campbell's bean products; chunky, condensed, Home Cookin' and Healthy Request soups; Campbell's tomato juices; Franco-American gravies, SpaghettiO's; Pace Picante; Pepperidge Farm products; V8 juices; Swanson products; and Prego spaghetti sauces.

The schools are collecting Klein's Supermarket receipts and Campbell's labels. Klein's is running a "Computers Plus for Schools" program through May 25. Pink register receipts are issued to all customers. The small portion with the total cost of groceries is needed, so the schools can redeem receipts for free computers, audio-visual equipment, software, books and sports equipment.

Drop off label donations at the AA CDC, building 2485, at the box in the lobby. Call Kim Fillinger at 410-278-9950 or 410-939-5950 for details. For schools, send labels and receipts by June 1 to Aberdeen Middle School, ATTN: PTA, 111 Mount Royal Ave., Aberdeen, MD 21001 (call Rose Ann Spieles, 410-272-6308, for details); or Edgewood Elementary School, ATTN: PTA, 2100 Cedar Dr., Edgewood, MD 21040 (call Kathy Shrontz for details, 410-612-0444).

Recruiting team seeks volunteers

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command's Recruit The Recruiter Team is looking for top NCOs from sergeant through sergeant first class who are looking for one of the Army's most challenging and rewarding jobs. If you qualify, volunteer and receive an assignment, you will receive extra pay, incentive awards, assignment preference, career enhancement and job satisfaction. For a phone interview regarding qualifications, call (800) 223-3735, then dial extension 60215, 60105, 60234, 60210 or 60231. You can also use DSN 536- (and last four of any extension). Check the website at www.goarmy.com/recruiter.

APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. The newspaper is published weekly by the TECOM Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSTE-PA, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5055, (410) 278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

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LIBRARY UPDATE

The APG Garrison Library has new books for your reading pleasure. Come by either the Aberdeen Area Library or the Edgewood Area Branch Library and check out some books.

Amsterdam, by Ian McEwan;

Billy Straight, by Jonathan Kellerman;



Deadline Y2K, by Mark Joseph;

Defense for the Devil, by Kate Wilhelm;

Dream a Little Dream, by Piers Anthony;

Duane's Depressed, by Larry McMurtry;

Found Money, by James Grippando;

Inner Harbor, by Nora Roberts;

Kill Zone, by Jim Silver;

Ransom, by Julie Garwood;

Rogue Warrior – Option Delta, by Richard Marcinko;

Send No Flowers, by Sandra Brown;

Step into Chaos, by William Shatner;

Wings of Honor, by Tom Willard

The Aberdeen Area Library is located at building 3320 on Aberdeen Boulevard, and is open Monday-Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. It is closed Thursday and Friday.

The Edgewood Area Library is located at building E-4405 on Austin Road, and is open Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. It is closed Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

Federal Women's Program plans annual conference in EA March 17

TRAINING, from front page

- those who want to venture into new careers, those who want to function better in their present jobs and those who are planning on retiring soon."

She added that attendance at the conference, which is planned and coordinated by the members of the APG FWP Committee and chair Sheryl L. Coleman, is free.

"We have some dynamic speakers lined up, including one who recently appeared on the Oprah Winfrey show to discuss her million-dollar business," Siler said.

The annual conference is open to active duty military and civilian personnel. Training must be approved by your supervisor prior to registration. Register via the internet at: <http://www.apg.army.mil/garrison/fwp/fwpconf.html> or via e-mail at fwp@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil. Registration is required by March 10, but Siler

said sessions may fill up by then, so register as soon as possible.

Provide all information necessary to complete your registration: first and last name, organization, phone number, email address, course selections and session times and special requirements, such as a signer for hearing impaired personnel, or wheelchair access.

Although attendees pre-register, they must pick up their registration packets between 7:15 and 8 a.m. the morning of the conference. Coffee will be available. The conference kickoff begins at 8 a.m. in the EA auditorium with the commander's welcoming remarks.

Although the Gunpowder Club in the Edgewood Area will be open for brown bag lunches, it will not serve lunch. During the lunch break, light refreshments will be available and door prizes will be drawn.

Chamber offers scholarships, including one named for general

The Harford County Chamber of Commerce is offering 10 scholarships to qualified Harford County high school seniors, one of which is named in memory of a retired general who lived in this area for many years.

The Maj. Gen. John G. Appel Leadership Scholarship acknowledges the growth, guidance, and influence that Appel, who died in 1995, had during his tenure with the chamber from 1975-1994.

The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills.

Appel started his military career at the former Edgewood Arsenal in 1941, where he met his wife, the former Jane Delgar. At the conclusion of a 34-year military career, they retired in the area in 1975, and he joined the Harford County Chamber of Commerce. Within six months he became president and saw membership in jump from 30 to 70. It now is the largest chamber in the state with 1,200 members.

Appel was the driving force behind the establishment of a Military Affairs Committee for the chamber after observing the close bond generated by such a committee in Anniston, Ala., in 1978. He chaired the committee for 10 years. In 1994, he and his wife moved to northern Virginia. The scholarship was established after his death in 1995.

Applications are available at area high school guidance offices, at the chamber office or by calling Upper Chesapeake Healthlink at (800) 515-0044. Applications must be received by March 26. For details, call 410-838-2020.

Other scholarships

Four \$1,000 scholarships are: the Vocational/Technical Scholarship, to a student pursuing post secondary education in a vocational or technical field; Teacher Education Scholarship, to a student interested in teaching; Returning Adult Scholarship, to someone who has been out of school for at least three years and plans to pursue post-secondary education; and the William H. Amoss Political Science/Paralegal Scholarship, to a high school senior who plans to attend Harford Community College for political science or the paralegal field, including a paid internship and co-sponsored by the Harford Leadership Academy.

The remaining five scholarships will award two years of full tuition to seniors who maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average while attending HCC. They are: Business Scholarship and paid internship, sponsored in part by the Harford Financial Group and will be awarded to a student pursuing business at HCC; Medical/Health Scholarship, sponsored in part by Upper Chesapeake Health System for a student in a health-related field; three High Performance Manufacturing Scholarships to students pursuing degrees in high performance manufacturing, sponsored in part by Clorox Products

Conference topics

• **POWER TALK – COMMUNICATIONS IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** Effective communications are important in a world of growing technology. The target audience is anyone who knows the importance of effective communication in the professional world. Learn to recognize the unspoken message through body language; how to convey your message assertively; the significance of eye contact, especially from an ethnic perspective; and recognizing when you are understood or misunderstood.

• **DOING BUSINESS...ELECTRONICALLY:** Since the early 1990s, the federal government has moved dramatically to implement paperless business practices. Technologies such as bar coding, purchase cards, smartcards, Electronic Funds Transfer, Electronic Data Interchange, and the Internet have increased efficiency, improved accuracy, and streamlined processes throughout the government. This session will outline this electronic transformation and highlight its impact on federal procurement, pay, travel, health and education programs. No technical expertise is required. (Mini-session)

• **CUSTOMIZING THE WORK STATION:** Do you know the "ideal" working position for sitting at a typewriter or computer? The necessity for office ergonomics is becoming more common in the workplace. Learn from two local ergonomists what ergonomics is and how office furniture and equipment can be adapted to better meet the physical needs of the worker. (Mini-session)

• **USDA CAREER ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** The Leadership Development Academy of the USDA Graduate School has several leadership programs that individuals can tailor to benefit their career and personal development. Learn more about each of these programs: Aspiring Leader (GS-5 to GS-7); New Leader (GS-7 to GS-11); Women's Executive Leadership (GS-11 to GS-13); Executive Potential (GS-13 to GS-15) and the Congressional Fellows Workshop (GS-13 to SES) and SES Programs. (Morning mini-session only)

• **WHEN PERSONALITIES COLLIDE – A CLASH IN THE WORKPLACE:** You can pick your friends, but you are stuck with co-workers. Learn techniques to deal with people who seem to be always "standing on your last nerve."

Dealing with personality conflicts is perhaps one of the most difficult things we are called upon to do. This well-known trainer, consultant, and author will help you understand why some people tend to irritate you more than others, what you can do about it, and how you can still work together.

• **YOUR EYES – STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE AT WORK:** Do you work at a computer several hours each day? Computer screen glare, fluorescent lights, and even sharp pens and pencils can be dangerous to your eyes. This workshop will teach attendees how to avoid eye health problems and eye injuries on the job. (Mini-session)

• **KEEPING YOUR GUARD UP:** Do you arrive at work or leave from work in the dark? Do you drop off or pick up your children from day care in the dark? This self-defense course is taught by a trained anti-terrorist specialist. The instructor will reveal to you when and where most unexpected physical attacks occur. Learn to be less vulnerable to physical attacks. Attendees will take part in a mini-practical exercise.

• **MAXIMIZING YOUR FINANCIAL SUCCESS:** Learn tips on how to manage your retirement benefits, plan for a mid-career change, and other common sense tips for saving for the future.



Photos by LAMONT HARBISON

Above, Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, hands the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command flag to Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine as outgoing commander. Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, left, and TECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker II, right, look on. At right, Allie Andrews accepts flowers from SSgt. Christopher Buscarini, AMC and TECOM NCO of the Year.



Ertwine takes command of TECOM as Andrews retires

TECOM, from front page

Andrews, who retires to California, thanked his family, personal staff, command group, friends, elected officials and soldiers, civilians, tenants, contractors and community leaders at APG and TECOM's other installations and test centers, for their support and dedication. He also welcomed Ertwine.

"We are fortunate to have General Ertwine assume command today," he said. "He has excellent credentials, and his acquisition and in-depth testing experience make him the right general for this assignment."

Ertwine, a native of Ringtown, Pa., graduated in 1972 from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He comes to APG from AMC's Communications-Electronics Command in Fort Monmouth, N.J., where he served as deputy for systems

acquisition and director of CECOM's Systems Management Center for almost two years.

He holds a master's degree in physical chemistry and a doctorate in chemistry from Lehigh University. Previously, he commanded TECOM's Cold Regions Test Center at Fort Greeley, Alaska, and the Fire Support and Armaments Center at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J. He served at the Pentagon as executive officer to the assistant secretary of the Army for research, development and acquisition. He was director of materiel testing at Dugway Proving Ground and served with the 9th Infantry Division (Motorized), Fort Lewis, Wash.

"I worked for Generals (George) Akin, (Ronald) Hite and (Richard) Tragemann, and have been a test customer for Generals (John) Longhouser and Andrews," Ertwine said of

TECOM commanders over the past decade. "I'm both proud and humbled to return to TECOM and join that distinguished lineage."

Ertwine assumes command during the restructuring of the Army's testing operations. Under that restructuring, which will occur on Oct. 1, 1999, TECOM will be redesignated as the Developmental Test Command, reporting to the new Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) in Alexandria, Va.

He said he knows there will be challenges in transitioning to the new command, but that the TECOM staff will take those challenges in stride.

"Even with a new name, I will be totally committed to maintaining the TECOM standard of excellence," Ertwine said.

Ertwine comes to APG with his wife, Linda, and sons, Brad and David.



Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson presents Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews with the certificate for the Distinguished Service Medal. At right is Andrews' wife, Allie.

"Coming to Aberdeen Proving Ground was like coming home. Here, I attended the Ordnance career course after Vietnam, later served as a test director at what is now Aberdeen Test Center, and many years later served as the assistant commandant of the Ordnance Center and School working for General Wilson."

- Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, as he passed command of TECOM to Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, after completing a 33-year Army career.

Family recalls APG's first black company commander as 'strict but fair'

FIRST, from front page

period of enlisted service without one instance of company punishment is unusual and exceptional," Mosteller said in the letter.

Sfc. Shelton Torbert, equal opportunity advisor at APG, said spending 30 years in the military and advancing as Washington did was rare.

"He survived a lot of cuts," he explained. "Fewer than 10 percent of African Americans were still around after the war. That was a big accomplishment."

Torbert said it was rare that African-American soldiers remained in the military due to the "3 R's Syndrome" - "Reject, Recruit, Reject."

Harris said behind his military sternness and determination, her father was a "gentle man."

"He was strict, but was always fair," she said. "He was a very gentle and understanding person."

After completing his basic and technical training, Washington was assigned to Fort Douglas, Ariz. In 1916 he then served in the Philippine Islands until 1922, when he returned to the United States to become post ordnance sergeant of harbor defense at the Columbia River, later serving in the same position for The Presidio in San Francisco.

Washington returned to the Philippine Islands in 1931, and returned to San Francisco in 1933. He was later transferred to Savannah, Ill., as a sergeant major.

In May 1942, Washington was discharged from the Army as an enlisted man, and accepted his commission as captain. Before arriving to APG, he served his first commanding officer position at Fort Sill, Okla.

Washington became a military training instructor at APG shortly after 7,000 acres were added to the installation to accommodate testing facilities during World

War II. According to a APG's web site, Washington was one of 27,185 military personnel who helped to meet the increase of the war's large workload. He left APG, and military service, in August 1944.

"Upon your relief from active

duty I desire to commend you for your long and efficient service, and the excellent record that you have earned," said Mosteller in his letter. "On behalf of the Army may I extend to you its appreciation for the excellent service that you have rendered and wish to

you happiness and success."

After his departure from the Army, Washington, originally from Pendleton, S.C., returned to California to his family, where he took up farming until his death in 1952. Harris said her father spent his time "beautifully landscaping"

a home and farm for his family.

According to Retracing the Middle Passage, a web site produced by The National Rites of Passage Institute in Cleveland, Ohio, it was not until the end of the 1950-1953 Korean Conflict that President Truman's orders

took action and Americans of all races fought side-by-side. A year after the war came to an end the Civil Rights Movement began.

For more on African Americans in the military, see www.ritesofpassage.org; on APG, see www.army.apg.army.mil.

Free tax assistance available at post center

Soldiers must abide by laws of their own states; advisors can help sort out the details

The APG Taxpayer Assistance Center is open Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., in building 310, wing 4A. If you are active-duty military and need help in preparing or filing your taxes, contact your unit tax advisor (UTA) for tax assistance (see list or tune in to WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3, for a list of UTAs and telephone numbers).

All retirees and their family members and family members of active-duty personnel not assigned to APG may call the Taxpayer Assistance Center at 410-278-3397 to schedule an appointment.

The center has all federal and most state income tax forms available for all APG employees (military and civilian), retirees and family members.

Most soldiers are required to file income tax returns on the income they receive each tax year. Soldiers with specific questions concerning filing requirements should request assistance from their UTA or call the Legal Assistance Office, Office of the Chief Counsel and Staff Judge Advocate.

The Legal Assistance Office implements and monitors the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), using the services of UTAs, special duty soldiers and volunteers.

Training is provided to the UTAs to ensure they have the knowledge and materials necessary to prepare federal and Maryland income tax returns for the soldier. The goal of this program is to assist every soldier and his or her family members to file



an income tax return without having to pay someone to prepare the returns.

Training of UTAs is conducted annually by the Legal Assistance Office utilizing the services of Internal Revenue Service and Maryland Comptroller's Office representatives. This training ensures that the UTAs are aware of current filing requirements and procedures. If the UTA cannot answer your questions, you will be referred to the Legal Assistance Office.

Every soldier who is required to file a federal income tax return should ensure the submission is completed in a timely manner and submitted by the filing deadline. Taxable income from all sources must be included in the return. If you need assistance in completing your income tax return, see your UTA.

Soldiers are not necessarily excused or exempt from state or local income taxes merely because they are on active duty. Each soldier must abide by the laws of his or her state of legal residence to determine whether or not a state income tax return must be submitted. If you have questions about your state's income

tax requirement your UTA cannot answer, you will be referred to the Legal Assistance Office.

Any domiciliary of Maryland on the last day of the tax year, or any other person who maintained a home within Maryland for more than six months of the tax year, is a legal resident of Maryland, except for active duty military members who claim legal residence in another state. Anyone, who moves out of Maryland, with the intention of establishing residence in another state, is only taxed on that portion of the year he lived in Maryland and earned income from state sources. Similarly, a person who moved into Maryland is only taxed for that portion of the year he earned income from state sources and lived in the state.

Legal or statutory residents of Maryland are taxed on all income regardless of source or where earned. Nonresidents deriving income from Maryland sources are also required to file a Maryland return if they are required to file a Federal return. Reciprocal credit is granted to Maryland residents who are subject to taxation in other states.

A civilian spouse is treated as a

Unit tax advisors offer free tax help for post organizations, retirees

The following unit tax advisors can provide free tax help to active duty military personnel and their dependents:

143d Ord Bn, A Co
SSG BENJAMIN L. CONNOR
410-436-4443

143d Ord Bn, B Co
SFC WILLIAM COLLINS
410-436-4212
2LT MICHAEL POTTRATZ
410-436-4212

143d Ord Bn, HHC
SFC JOHNNIE GATLIN
410-278-4848
SSGT ANTHONY D. MASON
410-436-5339

16th Ord Bn, A Co
1LT JASON LODGE
410-278-8732

16th Ord Bn, B Co
1LT MARTIN MCLAUGHLIN
410-278-5445

16th Ord Bn, C Co
1LT KARL BRUECKNER
410-278-5455

16th Ord Bn, E Co
SPC CHARLOTTE OTORUBIO
410-278-3979

16th Ord Bn, HHC
SFC HARRY B. ANDERSON
410-278-4422
1LT MARTIN A. GRIFFITH
410-278-8594
SSG PATRICK MCGRATTAN
410-306-1526
SFC LAWRENCE D. SMITH
410-278-2553

16th Ord Bn, MSD
SSG CHARLES GILLIAM
410-278-9886

16th Ord Bn, TSED
SFC CARL LAKSHMANAN
410-278-3444

203d MI Bn
CPT MARK J. STAUD
410-278-7800

389th Army Band
SGT KEITH D. CALMES
410-278-8769
SGT JANINE STILLWELL
410-278-8769

520th TAML
SSG ALFONSO CLEMMINGS
410-436-7268

61st Ord Bde, HHC
SSG LEROY BENNETT
410-306-5770
SSG LEONARD FARLOW
410-278-2957
SGT BANGURA KHA-BENNEH
410-278-5041
SSG DARRUN E. MURPHY
410-306-3010

61st Ord Bde, HQ
CW3 RICHARD L. KRAUSE
410-278-3170

AMSAA
SFC LUIS M. EMMANUELLI
410-278-8735

ARL, WMRD
LTC VERNON TAYLOR
410-306-0663

CHPPM
1LT TANYA KITTELL
410-436-5476

DENTAC
SPC CAROL HARDIE
410-278-1795

KUSAHC
SGT ANDREW J. IGNATZ
410-278-1870
SSG RANDY G. RIGGS
410-278-1958

MRICD
CPT JAMES DAVIDSON
410-436-2463

NCOA, ANCOG
SFC WILLIAM BUTTRAM
410-306-4108

NCOA, BNCOG
SFC OFELIA WEBB
410-278-3920

TEU
1LT CHRISTIAN HILL
410-436-1882

USAF
SSG JERRY L. CARPENDER
410-278-9882

APG Garrison, DLES (MP)
SFC WAYNE D. GREENLEAF
410-306-0562

APG Garrison, HST
SSG FIDEL DIAZ
410-278-2104
SSG RICHARD GUTIERREZ
410-278-7358

APG Garrison, HST/ATC
SGT JESSE M. SCHMIDT
410-278-5605

USMC
GY SGT K.R. BROWNING
410-278-9261
SSGT RICKY A. COOLONG
410-278-2831
SGT MICKEY E. GIBSON
410-278-8559
SSG TODD I. MASON
410-278-0606

Volunteer, Edgewood
DENISE DOESBURG
410-436-6092/3044

Volunteer, Tax Center
MICHAEL R. O'HERN
410-278-3397

Volunteer, Tax Center
Chief Warrant Officer 3 (Ret.)
HOWARD SWINK
410-278-3397

nonresident or statutory resident depending on the length of time they lived in Maryland during the year. A military member who separates from the service and establishes legal residency in the state

may be required to file both a part-year nonresident and part-year resident return.

Taxpayers in Maryland are also required to pay a local tax in addition to state tax. The additional

percentage of local tax is based on the county in which you live.

For more information, call your UTA on the list above, or call the Taxpayer Assistance Center, 410-278-3397.

SPORTS

Army boxers slug way to eight gold medals

By Michael Kastre
Special to CFSC Public Affairs

KELLY AFB, TEXAS - Top fighters from the four military services gathered for a three-night slugfest - the Armed Forces Boxing Championships, Feb. 10-12. The All-Army Boxing team walked away as the undisputed team champions with 20 points and eight gold medals out of a possible 12.

The Army's big gold machine rolled into the tournament with its cadre of nationally ranked fighters - members of the Army's World Class Athlete Program based at Fort Carson, Colo. But the preliminaries started on an ominous note with two upsets when heavyweight contender Sgt. Stanley McClain, ranked second in the nation, and Spc. Marshall Christmas, another nationally ranked Army fighter, both lost.

Army Coach Sgt. Byron Moore said, "We knew it was going to be very competitive and in this type of rivalry anybody can win."

Spc. John Medina, 112 pounds, led off against determined Marine Corps Sgt. Matthew L. Winters. Winters, known by his nickname, "Mighty Mite." Medina, the California native ranked number two in the nation, counter-punched to a solid 17-11 victory. This was Medina's second outing in more than three months following surgery to remove a cyst from his wrist.

Medina, whose grandfather started him boxing at age 7, said, "My grandfather taught me how to go out there and bang, but it was Coach Moore who showed me how to box and score points. He took me from being just a puncher to being a boxer."

Pfc. Jason Franco easily out-classed Airman Albert Villarruel, 37-11, in the 119-pound division.

"I never go out there thinking my opponent is not good," said Franco, a Texas native who currently enjoys a seventh place national ranking. "All I can do is give my best and believe that will I be victorious. You have to keep your head in it right, keep yourself positive and meet whatever challenge you face."

Franco knows firsthand about overcoming obstacles.

"I was trying for the '96 Olympics when my dad, who was my first coach, died. I stopped boxing for two-and-a-half years," he said.

Franco didn't lace his gloves on until joining the Army almost a year ago, but he is proving that he has the mental and physical

toughness to be a champion.

Spc. Hong Gu lost a 17-16 decision to Marine Corps Cpl. Orlando Cordova in the 125-pound title bout. But teammate Sgt. Corey Bernard, 139 pounds, came out with a sterling performance to outdistance Marine Corps Cpl. Felson D. Perez by a margin of 21-5.

Bernard, who was born in Chicago but calls Mississippi home, simply had more range and skill. Although he learned to box when he was 13, he never actually competed until he joined the Army, where he soldiered for seven years before stepping into the ring. The late bloomer said, "I'm right handed, but I fight left-handed to throw opponents off." And, he admitted, "I'm still coming into my own."

Spc. James Webb won the 147-pound division and bloodied Marine Lance Cpl. Jawawn L. Hairston in the process. The referee stopped the fight 2:23 into the second round. Sgt. Yamar Resto lost his 156-pound title to Marine Corps Sgt. Henry A. Markin in a hard-hitting 30-27 contest.

Sgt. Julius Fogle, 165 pounds, overpowered Air Force SSgt. Michael A. Frazier with an impressive combination of jabs and punches. The referee stopped the fight in third round.

Sgt. Olanda Anderson, fresh off the plane from Russia where he lost a tough rematch against Alexander Lesiak, squared off against Air Force Capt. Joseph Pastorello posted a 15-7 win in the 178-pound division. The contest pitted Anderson, ranked number two in the nation, against a number three-ranked competitor.

Pastorello kept wading in, but Anderson threw enough long-range bombs to score.

"Winning this championship is very special to me because it's an opportunity to prove that I am number one," said Anderson, a native of Sumter, S.C., and five-time Armed Forces champion.

Super heavyweight Spc. Preston Hartzog, scored a 16-6 win over number 10-ranked Marine Corps Lance Cpl. James L. Smedley in the last bout.

Over the din of the pumped-up crowd, Coach Moore said, "Our goal was to win 10 gold, but we are satisfied. We know we have to go back and work a little harder. We have to have fast starts and strong finishes."

Army boxers go up against the nation's best at the 1999 Everlast U.S. Boxing Championships set for March 8-13 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Intramural teams continue basketball competition

Intramural basketball results reported by the APG Sports Office as of Feb. 18 are:

National Division

Results

Feb. 16

C Co. 16th, 75 E Co. 16th, 20
USMC, 45 USAF, 37
A Co. 16th, 47 B Co. 16th, 23

Feb. 18

USMC, 56 B Co. 16th, 38
C Co. 16th, 38 A Co. 16th, 33
E Co. 16th, 30 USAF, 29

Standings

A Co. 16th 12-1
USMC 8-4
B Co. 16th 8-5
C Co. 16th 6-7
E Co. 16th 3-9
USAF 1-12

Games scheduled

March 4

6 p.m., USMC vs. E Co. 16th (make-up)

American Division

Results

Feb. 17

HHC 61st, 33 KUSAHC, 31
NCOA, 43 HHC 16st, 40
HST, 31 HHC 143rd, 18

Standings

HHC 61st 9-2
NCOA 8-3
KUSAHC 6-5
HHC 16th 6-5
HST 3-8
HHC 143rd 1-10

Games scheduled

March 1

6 p.m., HHC 16th vs. HHC 61st
7 p.m., HST vs. KUSAHC
8 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. NCOA

March 3

6 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. HHC 61st
7 p.m., NCOA vs. HST
8 p.m., KUSAHC vs. HHC 16th

Hoyle Division

Results

Feb. 17

B Co. 143rd, 57 MRICD, 48
HHC 143rd, 41 SCBCOM, 28
A Co. 143rd, 38 520th, 25

Standings

HHC 143rd 10-1
B Co. 143rd 9-2
A Co. 143rd 6-4
MRICD 4-6
SCBCOM 2-8
520th 0-10

Games scheduled

March 1

6:30 p.m., A Co. 143rd vs. MRICD
7:30 p.m., 520th vs. HHC 143rd
8:30 p.m., B Co. 143rd vs. CBD-COM

March 3

6:30 p.m., CBDCOM vs. MRICD
7:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. A Co. 143rd
8:30 p.m., B Co. 143rd vs. 520th

SPORTS SHORTS

Lady Bombers win; next game is Sunday

The Lady Bombers post-level basketball team played two games last weekend and added two wins to their record, taking the team to 6-3. The Bombers met the team from Walter Reed Army Medical Center on Saturday. Sara Chatman led the Bombers to a 62-40 win by scoring 14 points, with Tara Mattison and Donna Dorsey adding 13 and 12 points, respectively. On Sunday, the Lady Bombers played the team from Andrews Air Force Base. Robbie Powell led the scoring for the Bombers with 27 points and Mattison added 16. The Bombers play again this weekend at home against Fort Belvoir, on Sunday, 1 p.m., at the APG Athletic Center.

Intramural and civilian racquetball slated

The Intramural and Civilian Racquetball Tournaments are being held this week at the APG Athletic Center. Championships for these tournaments will be held March 3, 6 p.m. Winners in each of tournament will play each other for the title of Post Racquetball Champion March 10, 6 p.m., APG Athletic Center.

Coaching positions open

The APG Sports Program is accepting applications for post-level coaches in softball, volleyball and soccer. APG's post-level teams participate in the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference and play in round-robin tournament format on weekends only. Once coaches are selected for each sport, player recruitment will take place. Applications for coaching are available in all gymnasiums and the APG Sports Office. For more information, contact Marni Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

Apply for All Army Triathlon Team

Any active duty soldier interested in participating on the All Army Triathlon Team needs to submit an application to the Sports and Fitness Office in building 3320 by March 12. Candidates are advised to read AR 215-1, section 20c-4, which reviews the standards for All Army participation. Applications can be picked up at the Sports Office or from any APG gym. For more information, call Marni Allison, 410-278-4497.

Interested in indoor soccer?

Anyone age 30 and older who is interested in playing indoor soccer on a league can call SSgt. Ken Whipple, 410-278-4525/6025, at HHC, 16th Ordnance Battalion. The league is open to anyone interested, military or civilian.

COMING UP...

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25 RAB MEETING

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting from 7-9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topics will be the J-Field and Carroll Island Study Areas. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

SAME BANQUET

The Chesapeake Post Society of American Military Engineers will hold its annual banquet and installation of officers at Top of the Bay. Social hour with cash bar will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m., and the banquet and presentation from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Cost is \$22 per person. Contact Mike Kelly at (800) 462-0910. As part of this month's program, Col. Robert J. Spidel, commander of APG Garrison, will present the current state of affairs at APG. Recently the garrison became part of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and the colonel will discuss how APG will adjust and what the move means for the community. He also will present an update on the Commercial Activities review.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26 JOB FAIR

The USO of Metropolitan Washington and the Joint Employment Transition Services (JETS), will co-host a Job Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Spates Hall, NCO Club, Fort Myer, Va. More than 60 companies with full- or part-time positions have been invited. The fair is free and open to all members of the armed services, their family members, retired military and DoD and Coast Guard civilian personnel. For details, call Dale Jovero or Dawn Ruth, 703-696-2552/3279.

COUNTRY FAN LINE

Learn country dancing at Aberdeen American Legion

Post 128, located on Parke Street. Intermediate West Coast Swing begins at 7:30 p.m., Fan Line Dance at 8 p.m., and beginner West Coast Swing at 8:30 p.m. Open dancing will be held from 9 p.m.-midnight. Admission is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members; everyone is welcome.

BENEFIT DANCE

New Life Productions Inc. is sponsoring a benefit dance at the VFW Post 6054 (Perryman-Aberdeen), featuring 92Q's DJ Boobie from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Admission is \$7. For more information, call Selena Watson, 410-817-5727.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28 FORTH FOR THE BIRDS

The Eastern Bluebird Show, hosted by Wildlife R&R, Inc. will be held at 2 p.m. at the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center/Otter Point Creek, 700 Otter Point Rd., located off Route 40 in Abingdon. Researcher Debbie Delevan will present a program entitled "How To Attract Bluebirds to Your Backyard." The event is free to the public, but registration is required. To register, call 410-612-1688.

MONDAY MARCH 1 CAPA RESERVATIONS

Personal reservations for CAPA Field will be taken beginning at 9 a.m., in building 2752, room 113. The fee for renting the field is \$100 per day. You can make reservations by phone, but those waiting in person will have priority. For more information call Angela Keithley, 410-278-4603/4771.

THURSDAY MARCH 4 RETIREMENT LUNCHEON

A retirement luncheon honoring Betty C. Morris, medical lab technician at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, will be held from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Top of the Bay. For information, call Cathy Byrd, 410-278-1853 or Tina Long-Williams, 410-436-4550.

ITEA MEETING

John V. Bolino, vice president

of the International Test and Evaluation Association, will speak to the Francis Scott Key Chapter of ITEA at the Old Baltimore Room, Top of the Bay. His subject will be "What ITEA Can Do For You." Those attending can go through the lunch line from 11:30 a.m.-noon, eat from noon-12:30 p.m. and listed to the talk from 12:30-1 p.m. Bolino is vice president for International Business Development for Electronic Warfare Associates Inc., a leading defense test and evaluation firm that supplies test and evaluation technical services and equipment to customers throughout the Department of Defense. Before joining EWA, he acquired more than 30 years of experience in key positions in DoD's acquisition process, including 10 years as a senior executive. If you plan to attend the meeting, call David Phillips, 410-278-8643 (or e-mail dphillip@atc.army.mil) by March 2.

FRIDAY MARCH 5 WORK-FORCE BRIEFINGS

Three work-force briefings for all APG Garrison employees are scheduled. Two will be held at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, from 9-10 a.m. and 10:15-11:15 a.m. The third will be held at the Post Theater in the Aberdeen Area from 1-2 p.m. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of the Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and APG, will be introduced. Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, will present a garrison and Commercial Activities Study update. For more information call the CA Core Team at 410-278-4800.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10 JOINT LUNCHEON

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club cordially invites members of the EA-OWC and the Military and Civilian Spouses Club to the annual joint luncheon. The special guest speaker will be Mary Jo Reimer, wife of the Army chief of staff. The luncheon will be held at the Holiday Inn Susquehanna Room, 1007

Beards Hill Road, Aberdeen. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. Entree choices are honey-baked chicken breast for \$11, or stuffed flounder for \$12.25. Both entrees will be served with tossed salad, roasted potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls, chocolate peanut butter mousse cake, and a choice of coffee or tea. For reservations, call Rosemary Kramp, 410-569-7167, by noon, March 3.

SATURDAY MARCH 13 HOE DOWN

The EA Officers' Wives Club invites the public to a hoe down at the Gunpowder Club, located on Edgewood Area. Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and dancing from 7:30-10 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person, and includes a chicken dinner with dessert and beverage. A professional caller will give instruction with the country western dancing, including a mix of line dancing and square dancing. Tickets should be purchased by March 10, and are available through Diane Payne, 410-676-1524, or Mary Lesniak, 410-272-4363.

MONDAY MARCH 8 FCC INTERVIEWS

Interviews for Family Child Care training are being held through March 11, for training to be held March 15-19. Applicants interested in providing home-based child care, especially in the Edgewood Area, are encouraged to apply. Call 410-278-8720.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10 HAVRE DE GRACE

Robert Magee, executive director of the Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace, will present "The Burning of Havre de Grace: What's the Real Story?" at the Havre de Grace Middle School Media Center, 7 p.m. The free lecture, which is open to the public, is the third in a series of five historical seminars co-sponsored by the museum and the school. For information, call 410-939-5780.

MOVIES

PATCH ADAMS

Friday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 27, 9 p.m.

Starring: Robin Williams, Monica Potter

Based on a true story, a misfit medical student's unconventional approach to healing causes headaches for the medical establishment but works wonders for his patients. He has an unwavering belief that laughter is contagious, and uses unconventional methods and wacky surprises to ease patients' anxiety and enhance their healing. (Rated PG-13)

A BUG'S LIFE

Saturday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m.

Animated

The ants on Ant Island perform double duty at harvest time, gathering food for themselves and a gang of greedy grasshoppers. One creative ant, Flik, decides to take a stand against the grasshoppers and enlists the help of flea circus performers. (Rated G)

LEAVE DONATION

These employees are eligible to receive donations through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:

Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);
Lena Blethen;
John Boyle (surgery);
Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
Alberta Brown (mother ill);
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
Linda Brown (diabetic);
Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
Cara Coe (maternity);
Dawn Crouse (surgery);
Tamara Dawson (maternity);
Dennis Green;
Herman Hensley;
Gordon Herron (Wife has cancer)
Joseph Hill (heart problems);
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
Eldon Jerome James (lung cancer and brain tumor);
Marcia Johnson (Down's Syndrome child requires surgery);
Mary Johnson (surgery);
Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
Beverly King (caring for husband);
Barbara LaGrange (Hodgkins Disease);
Patricia LaGrange;
Sherrie Laury (heart problems);
Dolores "Dee" McGrogan (back problems);
Susan Naccarato (carpal tunnel syndrome);
Lesley Parker (daughter has seizures);
Cathleen (Higgins) Perry;
Jack Pollitt (caring for wife);
Churon Ringgold;
Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
John Sheppard (colon cancer);
Rita Sluder (mother has cancer);
Walter Taylor (auto accident);
Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);
Deborah Tredway (car accident);
Joseph Walker (Wife has cancer)
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
Kenneth Weathers (medical);
Frank Winters (surgery).

For information about donating annual leave; call Cheryl Gatling; 410-278-8978; or send a fax to 410-278-8839.

MWR UPDATE

MWR in March

The following events are coming up next month:

- 2 Spring Skeet League starts (call Larry Alejo, 410-278-4836, or Sfc. Zangle, 410-278-3703)
- 3 Divisional Racquetball Championships: Intramural and Civilian Divisions
- 6 Basic Framing Class AA Framing Shop
- 6 Wood Shop Orientation, EA Arts and Crafts
- 10 Post Racquetball Championships, 7 p.m., APG Athletic Center
- 13 Ceramic Pouring Class, EA Arts & Crafts
- 13-15 Intramural Basketball Post-Season Tournament (Championship game and awards ceremony on March 15, 6 p.m.)
- 16-22 Intramural Basketball All Star Tournament with dunk and 3-point shot competition (Tournament Championships and awards ceremony on March 22, 6 p.m.)
- 23-29 Intramural Volleyball Pre-Season Tournament (Tournament Championship and awards, March 29, starting at 6 p.m.)
- 25 Framing Class, EA Arts & Crafts
- 27 Opening Day Scramble and awards, Ruggles Golf Course
- 28 Golf tournament, low net, gross-birdies, Ruggles Golf Course
- 30 Intramural Volleyball regular season begins
- 31 Intramural Bowling Post-Season Championship and award ceremony
- 31 Entry deadline for Paint Ball Festival.

Paint Ball coming to APG

Outdoor Recreation will sponsor a Paint Ball Festival on April 24 at the Maryland Boulevard Picnic Area. There will be a five-person tournament for experienced paint ballers with cash prizes and a three-on-three competition for newcomers. There will also be target shooting available. If you have not yet tried this sport, here is your chance. All gear and safety equipment will be available on site for your use. For more information contact Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-4124/5789. Spaces are limited, so make your reservation today.

Apply for boat club

The Spesutie Island Boat Club is accepting applications for the 1999 season. Membership is open to those authorized to participate in APG Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. You must provide proof of insurance for your boat and registration. Cost of keeping a boat is \$9.50 a foot for mooring, \$6.50 per foot for lot storage, and \$6 per foot ramp access. For applications, stop by building 36 or call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4402.

Rent ski equipment

The Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center has head-shaped skis and conventional skis for rental. Shaped skis are the latest revolution in the ski industry. Outdoor Recreation also offers conventional skis in sizes 100 to 200 cm. Skis, boots and poles are available separately or as a package at reasonable rates. Get a complete package of skis, boots and poles for \$14 per day. The center allows you to pick up skis on Friday after 3 p.m. and return them by noon on Sunday for a one-day charge, and gives 25 percent off all ski equipment rented for four or more days. Snowboards, size 125, 143, 151, and 159, are available for \$15 per day (boots not included). Bibs (pants) and car ski racks are available for \$5 a day. The center ski tuning shop can wax your skis, sharpen the edges and p-tex them. Call 410-278-4124/5789 for hours and details.

Outdoor Recreation space

Outdoor Recreation AA and EA RV Storage lots have spaces available and are open to all MWR patrons. Access to lots is available 24 hours per day. The monthly fee is \$12 for items up to 20 feet long, plus an extra 60 cents per foot for vehicles over 20 feet. Vehicles must be registered and insured. Call 410-278-4124, or stop by building 2407 for information.

Exercise regularly

Are you one of those people who will go on a diet and lose weight, only to gain it back after you stop the diet? Research has proven the only effective way to lose weight and keep it off is through a regular exercise program. Let the friendly, qualified staff at the Aberdeen Health and Fitness Center help you to achieve your goals. Get started in one of the center's many aerobic classes, or start off slowly with a toning class, designed to help you increase your muscle tone and strength while building endurance. If you prefer to work out one-on-one, the staff will design a cardiovascular and weight program just for you. Call

today and set up an appointment for your own personal workout. The center is located in building 320, and is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. For further information, call 410-278-9725/9759.

Make reservations now

Outdoor Recreation is accepting reservations from APG organizations for the 1999 picnic season. Maryland Boulevard and Skipper's Point may be reserved now for organizational day picnics and parties. Shore Pool and Woodpecker Point Picnic Areas are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 410-278-4124. CAPA Field is reserved through the Civilian Welfare Fund; call 410-278-4603.

Columbus Day special to Las Vegas

Make your reservation for a trip to Las Vegas Oct. 8-12. The trip includes non-stop air travel via America West Flights, lodging at MGM Grand Towers and transfers from Las Vegas Airport to the hotel with meet and greet service. Cost is \$571 per person, with a \$50 deposit due March 5. Call Angelika or Tracy at 410-273-1184. Carlson Wagonlit Travel Leisure is located in building 3320, and is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and is closed on legal holidays.

Choose your cruise

Take a weekend "Cruise to Nowhere," June 25-27. Rates start at: \$219 per person, double occupancy, plus port charges, for an inside cabin; \$329 per person, double occupancy, plus port charges, for an outside cabin. Port charges are \$89.50 per person.

Sail away to Bermuda Sept. 11-18. Rates start at: \$769 per person, double occupancy, plus port charges, for an inside cabin; \$953 per person, double occupancy, plus port charges, for an outside cabin. Port charges are \$143 per person.

Call Angelika or Tracy at 410-273-1184. Carlson Wagonlit Travel Leisure is located in building 3320, and is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and is closed on legal holidays.

Still time for ski deals

Keystone is waiting - a world-class ski resort that's surrounded by the Rocky Mountains and the Arapaho National Forest. Spring lodging rates start at \$37.62 for standard, \$44.62 for quad deluxe. Call Carlson Wagonlit Travel Leisure Office 410-273-1184. Low airfares are available from most cities.

WAPG-TV

The following programs are scheduled for WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3, from Feb. 25-March 3:

THURSDAY, FEB. 25

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Two Minute Report - Around the Services

MONDAY, MARCH 1

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Two Minute Report - Around the Services

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Army Newswatch (30 minutes)

For more information or to submit items for the station, call Lynn Witkowski, 410-278-1151.

Send in events

Do you have an item for the Community Notes page, or an idea for a story?

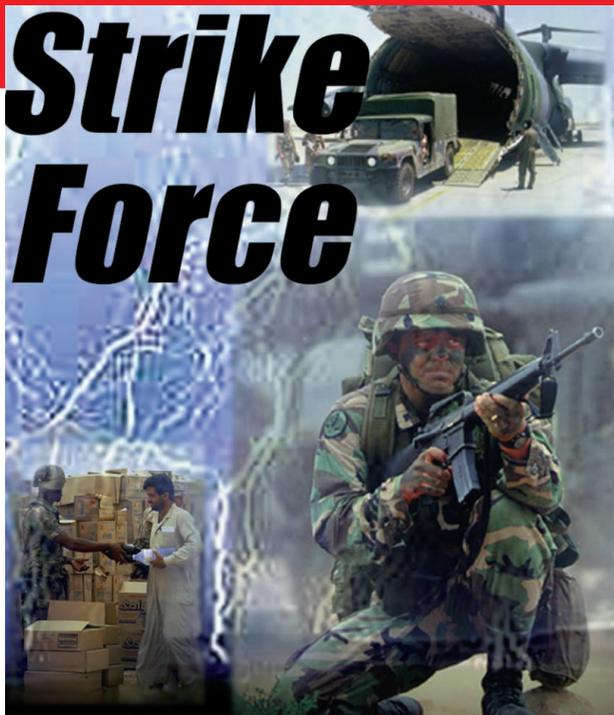
Fax it to 410-278-2570 or e-mail it to kdrewen@apgnews.com.

Deadline is noon Monday for the following Thursday's paper.

AROUND THE ARMY

Army plans for future with

Strike Force



Army Public Affairs News Release

WASHINGTON, (Army News Service, Feb. 17, 1999) — Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, Army Chief of Staff, announced the Army's commitment to modernization and readiness with the ongoing development of the Strike Force.

Strike Force, with about 5,000 soldiers, will have the ability to deploy, almost immediately, a lethal modular force, tailored to operational requirements, and able to sustain itself and survive until mission completion or follow-on forces arrive.

Strike Force is an Army concept designed to fill a void in capabilities available to the commanders in chief of the Unified Combatant Commands and the National Command Authority. It is part of an ongoing Army experimental process to prepare combat and combat-support organizations for future multi-functional operations as part of a rapidly deployable, flexible and adaptive early entry force.

This experimental process began several years ago as a result of the changing international security environment and

subsequent downsizing of the Army.

The evolving structure of Strike Force is intended to complement current light and heavy force capabilities. It will serve as a bridge between the physical

agility of the Army and the mental agility inherent in the Army After Next.

The first Strike Force will be created within the year at Fort Polk, La. It is expected to be operational by 2003.

March a big month for NCO promotions

By Gerry J. Gilmore
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Feb. 12, 1999) - Two thousand five hundred soldiers seeking sergeant's chevrons and hundreds of NCOs looking to add a stripe can get out their sewing kits when the monthly promotion lists come out March 1.

A total of 5,420 soldiers have been selected for promotion to sergeant through sergeant major rank in March, compared to 6,560 overall NCO promotions on February's lists, said Sgt. Maj. William T. Hursh, enlisted promotion proponent, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel. March promotions to sergeant (2,500), master sergeant (400) and sergeant major (120) rank surpass those in February, with 1,100 soldiers obtaining sergeant first class chevrons and 1,300 troops getting staff sergeant's stripes.

Hursh added that by the end of the year, about a fourth of the NCO population, including corporals and specialists, will have received a promotion.

The active Army now has about 400,000 enlisted troops and 78,000 commissioned officers, according to DCSPER documents. About 171,000 enlisted soldiers hold NCO rank. Since January, the Army will have promoted 15,700 enlisted troops — almost a division's worth — to sergeant or higher NCO rank during the last three months.

Hursh said in a post-drawdown Army, personnel planners must now replace those soldiers who depart or retire, including NCOs, on a "one-for-one" basis. Consequently, he said, when senior NCOs (sergeants major, master sergeants, and sergeants first class) retire, more promotion opportunity is created for other NCO ranks.

President pardons first black West Point grad

By S.H. Kelly
Army News Service

President Bill Clinton signed a document in the Roosevelt Room of the White House Feb. 19 posthumously pardoning 1st Lt. Henry Ossian Flipper, the first black West Point graduate, convicted in 1882 of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

"This is a day of affirmation. It teaches us that although the wheels of justice turn slowly at times, still they turn," Clinton told an audience that included 17 members of Flipper's family, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff retired Gen. Colin Powell, Army Secretary Louis Caldera, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Dennis J. Reimer and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Togo D. West Jr.

Clinton said justice, "the special quality of American freedom, isn't always extended to all Americans."

The ceremony "is about a moment in 1882," in which an error was made, he explained, adding that a moment is being taken in 1999 to correct the error and resolve to do even better in the future.

"The man we honor today was an extraordinary American who did all his country asked him to do," the president said, before listing some of Flipper's accomplishments.

"Born a slave in Georgia ... he was the first African-American graduate of West Point; he was the first African-American commissioned as an officer in the regular United States Army.

"He showed great promise and joined the 10th Cavalry. While stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., he [perfected] a drainage system to eliminate the stagnant water [in the area]. It is still known as Flipper's Ditch" and is now a national landmark. He distinguished himself in combat on the frontier."

Clinton spoke of Flipper's courts-martial and subsequent acquittal on embezzlement charges,



Surrounded by Flipper family members, President Bill Clinton signs document pardoning 1st Lt. Henry O. Flipper for an 1882 conviction for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

but conviction of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

With the pardon, the president said, "this good man has now completely recovered his good name."

Following Clinton to the podium, Flipper's great-grandnephew Dr. William C. King thanked all who worked to make the pardon a reality and told the gathering, "It has been a long journey, and I don't think you can find a bit of anger in anyone in the family.

"We learned, as it was painfully revealed to Lieutenant Flipper, that anger would not gain you anything — that you need to persevere.

The White House signing ceremony ended a day of events honoring Flipper's relatives.

Since Flipper never married and has no direct descendants, his four brothers' offspring received the honors.

Family members began the day by laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns and touring Arlington National Cemetery. That was followed by a tour of the Pentagon and lunch at the Pentagon's Executive Dining Facility.

In the afternoon, the group toured the U.S. Capitol then went on to the White House.

Post joins Chamber of Commerce in honoring proving ground's top soldiers, airmen, Marines

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

They each have their own stories, accomplishments and goals, but on Feb. 3 they had one thing in common – all were recognized for being Aberdeen Proving Ground's finest, at the third annual APG Service Member Recognition Luncheon.

The luncheon, which had the theme "Honoring Our Outstanding," brought more than 100 guests to the Four Points Sheraton in Aberdeen, the largest turnout for the event, said APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Dean Kolker.

Sponsored by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee, the luncheon honored Spc. Chanda L. Sutton, APG Soldier of the Year; SSgt. Steven M. Serinsky, APG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year; SSgt. Willie E. Jones, APG Drill Sergeant of the Year; SSgt. Johnny L. Griffin, APG Instructor of the Year; Sgt. Kraig R. Pickel, APG Marine Corps NCO of the Year; Pfc. Joseph P. Leonardo, APG Marine of the Year; TSgt. Dennis H. Slade, APG Air Force NCO of the Year; and TSgt. Farron L. Van Helten, APG Air Force Drill Instructor of the Year.

"It is always a pleasure to be in the company of such outstanding service men and women," said Randy Lindell, chairman of the Military Affairs Committee.

The master of ceremonies, Air Force 1st Sgt. Joe Gmaz, introduced the winners and runners-up. Runners-up for APG NCO of the Year are Sgt. Jesse M. Schmidt of Aberdeen Test Center and Sgt. Richard Ortiz II of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Runners-up for APG Soldier of the Year are Spc. Casey Donahue of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, Spc. Adam M. Bennett of APG Garrison and Spc. Paul B. Platz of KUSAHC.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, who presented each winner and runner-up with an APG Certificate of Appreciation, remarked upon the event's importance.

"I can't think of anything more important and more worthwhile than honoring these fine military personnel," Spidel said.

Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School commander, presented the plaques to the winners and presented Army Commendation Medals to each Army winner; the Air Force and Marine Corps winners were recommended for medals from their services.

"On land, on sea and in the



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, pins the Army Commendation Medal on SSgt. Steven M. Serinsky, APG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, during the third annual Service Member Recognition Luncheon, held Feb. 3 at Four Points Sheraton. At right is Spc. Chanda L. Sutton, APG Soldier of the Year.

air," he said, quoting from "The Ordnance Song." "We have representatives of all three here today. I am proud of them for who they are and the organization they represent."

U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker II, representing Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews, then-commander of TECOM and APG, presented framed coins from himself and the general, and gave each a copy of the book "Battle of Antietam" from himself and Kolker. The winners were invited to a spring staff ride to the battlefield.

The winners received honors from organizations and businesses. Sutton received a set of dress blues from the U.S. Army Materiel Command; Serinsky received a set from the NCO Association; Jones received a set from the Association of the U.S. Army; and Griffin received a set from the Chamber of Commerce and Four Points Sheraton.

Each winner received a watch from Jim Keller of GEICO; checks from Carol Mahanti of the AA Thrift Shop; checks from the Military and Civilian Spouses Club; checks and certificates from Charles Alston and Don Lewis of

APG Federal Credit Union; savings bonds from Ethel N. Worthy of NationsBank; checks from AUSA, presented by Jim Metzbowler; and rings from John Rush of American Eagle.

Four Points Sheraton presented winners with certificates for dinner and a night's stay, and Rick Yohe of USPA&IRA sponsored the luncheon meals for the winners and their spouses.

The winners also will receive trophies from American Awards, courtesy of retired 1st Sgt. Dennis Wood.

Coins for the winners came from Walker; Kolker; Ordnance Corps Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Jay Hooper; 143rd Ordnance Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Ron Stallings; 16th Ordnance Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Godofredo Posadas; Technical Escort Unit Sgt. Maj. Louis Brown; and CHPPM Sgt. Maj. Jack Warren.

Gmaz noted Kolker's hard work in arranging the event, and the outstanding support of the Military Affairs Committee, of which Kolker is a member.

"This is a difficult job, and this program would not have happened without him," Gmaz said.

The winners are:

Spc. Chanda Lynn Sutton
APG Soldier of the Year

Spc. Chanda Lynn Sutton of the U.S. Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine is APG's 1998 Soldier of the Year.

Sutton, who is completing the Primary Leadership Course at Fort Campbell, Ky., spoke of her excitement when CHPPM Sgt. Maj. Jack Warren informed her of her selection.

"I felt very blessed and grateful," she said. "I didn't think I was going to win."

Warren, who described Sutton as a "very energetic, conscientious and determined soldier," said Sutton had no idea she was selected. Warren had Sgt. Tina Ellington, Sutton's platoon sergeant, tell her he wanted to see her in his office.

"We led her believe she was in trouble," Warren said.

Warren asked her what year is on the Army flag, a question Sutton missed during her board evaluation. He then told her Kolker wanted to speak to her.

"She was practically in tears," he said. "When I began to play

Sergeant Major Kolker's message for her it still took her two to three seconds to hit her. She must have jumped two feet in the air."

Sutton, a native of Dayton, Ohio, called her husband, Michael, and her mother, France E. McGinnis, with the news.

"They were both very happy for me," she said.

Sutton entered the Army in 1994, and was assigned to APG in April 1995. A graduate of Dayton Christian High School in Ohio, she is working on an associate's degree at Harford Community College.

Her military achievements include animal care specialist training, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; field sanitation training at APG; standard Army training schedule training at APG; and the Food Inspector Course at APG.

Sutton's awards include the Army Commendation Medal, four Army Achievement Medals, the Good Conduct Medal and the Sharpshooter Badge.

Sutton also coaches basketball for the Edgewood Youth Center and is a member of Refuge Church of God in Christ, where she is an usher and treasurer of the Young Women Christian Council.

"She goes that extra mile," Warren said. "She is just a pleasure to work with."

On April 12, Sutton will compete for Army Medical Command Soldier of the Year at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

SSgt. Steven M. Serinsky
APG NCO of the Year

SSgt. Steven M. Serinsky of the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) is APG's 1998 NCO of the Year.

Serinsky, a clarinet player since the fifth grade, said "education and self-improvement are what makes a good soldier."

After six months of self-improvement, and preparation for the board, Serinsky's advice for future competitors is to "keep studying hard."

Serinsky won Headquarters Support Troops NCO of the Quarter last August, and spent every free moment since then preparing to win NCO of the Year.

After receiving the board's evaluation topics, Serinsky began studying with Internet research, study manuals and cue cards on topics such as leadership, the Constitution, military courtesy and chain of command.

"I carried my cue cards with me and studied whenever I had the chance, like when I waited in line to get my hair cut," he said.

Serinsky said he buckled down two months before the board's evaluation, but the last month was the toughest.

"The whole last month all I did was eat, drink water, sleep and study," he said.

Although this was not his first time in front of a board, he practiced the evaluation with his senior NCOs posing as the board.

"They run the same type of board questioning from top to bottom, and give advice on how to improve yourself before the evaluation," he said.

Serinsky knows what it is like to work hard on an education. After three years of college, he completed the Primary Leadership Development Course at the 2nd Infantry Division NCO Academy in Korea; BNCOC at Fort Eustis, Va., and Norfolk, Va.; SINGGARS Instructor Course; 8th Army Rappelling Course at Cheju-do Island in Korea; the Leadership, Education and Development Course at APG; NBC course; Unit Armor course; Equal Opportunity Representative course; and Retention NCO course.

He completed basic training at Fort Jackson in 1982, and graduated from the U.S. Army Element School of Music at Little Creek

See BEST, page 6B



Spc. Chanda Lynn Sutton, APG Soldier of the Year



SSgt. Steven M. Serinsky, APG NCO of the Year



SSgt. Willie E. Jones, APG Drill Sergeant of the Year

United States Army
Values

Loyalty
Duty
Respect
Selfless-Service
Honor
Integrity
Personal Courage

What are the
VALUES
that make
a soldier
stand
out?

Army
Values

L O Y A L T Y

Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit and other soldiers

Army
Values

H O N O R

Live up to all the Army values

Army
Values

I N T E G R I T Y

Do what's right, legally and morally

Army
Values

Personal
C O U R A G E

Face fear, danger, or adversity

Army
Values

D U T Y

Fulfill your obligations

Army
Values

R E S P E C T

Treat people as they should be treated

Army
Values

Selfless
S E R V I C E

Put the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own

Marines, soldiers, airmen represent APG's best

BEST, from page 1B

Naval Amphibious Base in Norfolk, Va.

Serinsky, who earned his black sash in Kung Fu, is no stranger to achievement. He was the 1998 HST NCO of the Year. He also received excellence ratings for all EO and retention inspections while assigned to the 282nd Army Band at Fort Jackson, S.C.

His awards include the Army Commendation Medal (sixth award); Army Achievement Medal (10th award); Army Good Conduct Medal (fifth Award); National Defense Service Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 2); Army Service Ribbon; and four awards of the Overseas Service Ribbon.

Serinsky, originally from Bronx, N.Y., said his long term goals include "to improve as a person, soldier and leader." He plans to complete his bachelor's degree, and to be selected for promotion to sergeant first class.

SSgt. Willie E. Jones

APG Drill Sergeant of the Year

SSgt. Willie E. Jones of A Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, is APG's 1998 Drill Sergeant of the Year.

If you ask Jones what the most rewarding part of his job is he will tell you it is his soldiers.

"It's about loving what you do," he explained. "I love having an impact on tomorrow's Army."

Throughout Jones' career as a drill sergeant, he said the best advice he can give for future Drill Sergeant of the Year competitors is to "use your time wisely when preparing for the board."

Jones said the key elements for his success was studying hard and physical fitness.

"The biggest thing to remember is to make sure you take time out for your soldiers," he said.

Jones, originally from Selma, Ala., entered the Army in September 1985, and completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He finished Advanced Individual Training for military occupational specialty 63S10 at Fort Jackson, S.C.

Before completing Drill Sergeant School, Jones completed both the Primary Leadership Development Course and Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course.

Jones' success in the Army has also brought him awards including the Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with seven oak leaf clusters and the Armed Forces Service Ribbon.

His leadership positions include squad leader, shop foreman, recovery NCO, training NCO, operations NCO and maintenance supervisor.

Pfc. Joseph P. Leonardo

APG Marine of the Year

Pfc. Joseph P. Leonardo is APG's 1998 Marine of the Year, the first time this honor has been presented at APG.

Leonardo, born in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and raised on his family's dairy farm in Colorado, entered the Marine Corps in June 1998. After completing basic

training in San Diego, he arrived at APG in October and soon made a difference in the community.

On Jan 9, Leonardo said he "happened to be at the right place at the right time." That place was APG Federal Credit Union, where Leonardo intervened in what seemed to be a domestic dispute. Leonardo said as he approached the bank he noticed a man screaming and beating a woman.

"As I approached him he saw me coming, and got into his car," he said. "He started to drive toward me and came within about six inches of me before he circled around us and eventually drove off."

Leonardo said credit union employees called the APG Law Enforcement Division. The man was gone when authorities arrived, but Leonardo had the man's license plate number.

After hearing about the incident, Marine Corps 1st. Sgt. Jose Osorio said he felt Leonardo should be recognized and selected him for APG Marine of the Year. Osorio said Leonardo's action of putting the woman's safety first, and his own safety aside, made him deserving of the award.

"Being a private first class, we hasn't even had him in the Marine Corps for more than a year," Osorio said. "Seeing this behavior at his age and rank is very rare. Most people would not have interfered. He saw something wrong and did something to correct it."

Osorio said Leonardo displayed honor, which is instilled in Marines throughout their career with the detachment.

"Discipline, training and pride are what make a good Marine," Leonardo said, adding that three key elements a Marine should remember are "honor, courage and commitment."

Throughout his adolescence Leonardo learned about being committed to hard work and his future. In high school, he was a member of the Future Farmers Association and the Agriculture Mechanics Judging Team.

Leonardo, who is training as a welder, is scheduled to graduate March 5, and will be stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif., with 1st Force Service Support Group.

Sgt. Kraig R. Pickel

APG Marine NCO of the Year

Sgt. Kraig R. Pickel is APG's 1998 Marine Corps NCO of the Year, the first chosen for the honor.

Pickel, from Lancaster, Pa., said being a successful sergeant begins with taking care of Marines, by "keeping them informed."

"In order to succeed you need to be sincere and care about what you do," Pickel said.

Beginning his career with the Marine Corps in August 1991, Pickel was sent to Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris Island, S.C. He later was assigned to Schools Company, Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany, Ga., where he completed the Electro-Optical Ordnance Repair Course after completion of Marine Combat Training.

In 1992, after graduating first



TSgt. Dennis H. Slade, APG AF NCO of the Year

in his class in Albany, Pickel was transferred to the Marine Corps Detachment at APG, where he completed his final portion of the Electro-Optics Course. Pickel graduated first in his class and in February 1993 received orders for Third Force Service Support Group in Okinawa. He later was transferred to Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group 31 in Camp Kinser and aboard the USS Germantown.

In February 1994, Pickel was transferred to First Force Service Support Group, Combat Service Support Group 1, 29 Palms, Calif., where he participated in Combat Service Support Detachment 17 Combined Arms Exercise of 1995 and 1996. In June 1995, Pickel was promoted to sergeant and attended the sergeants course at 29 Palms.

In November 1996, Pickel reenlisted and received orders for the APG Marine Corps Detachment. Since then, he has instructed several portions of the Electro-Optical Ordnance Course and served as a platoon sergeant. Pickel also achieved the level of senior instructor.

He is the detachment color sergeant and has provided the color guard for parades, retirement ceremonies and funerals. He also was NCO of the quarter.

Pickel said his Marines make his career worthwhile.

"There is nothing more rewarding than taking a Marine through the Military Occupational Specialty Course and see him go through, start to finish, in nine months," he said.

Off-duty, he works on an associate's degree at Harford Community College, and has requested orders to Drill Instructor School at Parris Island.

SSgt. Johnny L. Griffin

APG Instructor of the Year

SSgt. Johnny L. Griffin of HHC, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, is the APG Instructor of the Year.

Griffin, a native of Tacoma, Wash., enlisted in the Army in September 1988 and completed

basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., then was assigned to APG for the first time for Advanced Individual Training. He graduated from the Primary Leadership Development Course at Fort Polk, La., in 1992, and the Basic NCO Course at APG in 1994.

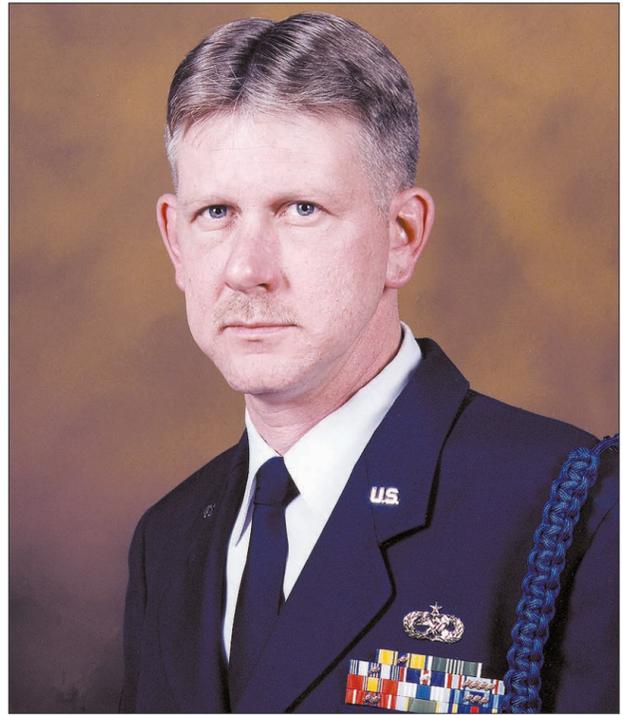
He said he considers his assignment as an instructor/writer as a "very challenging and rewarding experience." Most important, he said, is ensuring students know the importance of their role as maintenance soldiers, and how that role affects their mission as Ordnance soldiers.

Griffin brought lessons to life for his students, including using his own video camera in the "Fundamentals of Brake Systems" class to enable all students to see training aid close up and in vivid detail.

His assignments include two overseas tours in Germany and stateside tours at Fort Polk, La., and APG. He deployed to the Southwest Asia Theater of Operation with the 3rd Infantry Division, and deployed to Bosnia in October 1996 with the U.S. intervention/peacekeeping force.

His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Liberation of Kuwait Medal (Saudi Arabia), the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), the NATO Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon (second award), the NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral two, the Armed Forces Service Ribbon, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the National Defense Service Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal (third award), and the Drivers, Mechanic and Expert Rifleman Badges.

He lives in Aberdeen with his wife, Lisa, daughter, Jezell, and son, Jevontez. His short-term goal is to be a drill sergeant and a member of the Audie Murphy Club. He hopes to attain the rank of command sergeant major.



TSgt. Farron L. Van Helten, APG AF Drill Instructor of the Year

TSgt. Dennis H. Slade
APG AF NCO of the Year
TSgt. Dennis H. Slade is APG's 1998 Air Force NCO of the Year.

He entered the Air Force in 1985, and arrived at APG in January 1996. He said hard work is the key to success, and recommends it to future competitors.

"Selection is based on prior experience, and the whole person concept," Slade said.

Being a successful NCO, Slade said, comes from "being dedicated with integrity."

Dedication is something Slade has become familiar with during more than 14 years in the Air Force. After enlisting as an airman, he completed two years of Machine Trades Vocational School, associate's degrees in metals technology and instructor technology, and a bachelor's degree in industrial technology.

His accomplishments during 1998 include NCO of the Year for the 361 Training Squadron, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, under which the APG Detachment falls, and NCO of the Year for the detachment. He was Instructor of the Quarter for January-March 1998, and NCO of the Quarter for June-September 1998; was selected for the Air Force Bootstrap program to complete his bachelor's degree; received an Aerospace Education Foundation & Air Force Association, Eagle Grant Award; and was promoted to technical sergeant.

He coaches the detachment intramural flag football team and contributed to the detachment winning the first APG Fitness Center Good Sportsmanship Award. Slade also organized and instructed at the annual APG Safety Day.

He enjoys restoring old cars, golfing and playing racquetball. He plans to apply for Officer Training School to be commissioned as an Air Force officer, and pursue a master's degree.

Slade lives on post with his wife, Edna, and their son, Marion.

TSgt. Farron L. Van Helten
APG AF Drill Instructor of the Year

TSgt. Farron L. Van Helten is APG's 1998 Air Force Drill Instructor of the Year.

Van Helten, originally from Oskaloosa, Iowa, enlisted in the Air Force in May 1982. He credited his success as a drill instructor to "my supervisors both past and present."

"They are who had the biggest impact on me," he said. "They allowed me to do whatever I needed to complete my mission. The bottom line is that I would not be here without their support."

His career began in the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing of Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom. Other assignments included 57th EMS, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and Chanute Air Force Base, Ill.

In February 1989, he volunteered for special duty as a military training leader. In July 1992, he was transferred to APG's Detachment 1, 361 Training Squadron.

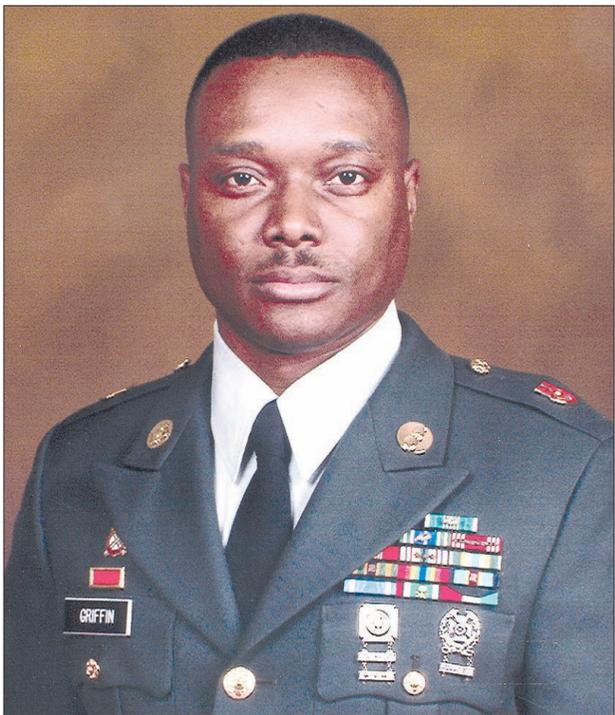
He said his job's biggest reward is "helping to take care of tomorrow's Air Force."

"My advice to future drill instructors is to take advantage of the opportunity," he said. "It is one of the most rewarding jobs. All of the outside awards are nice but personal satisfaction has been my biggest award. It makes me feel good as a person, NCO and airman."

His awards include the Air Force Commendation Medal (two awards), the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Air Force Achievement Medal (two awards).

In his spare time Van Helten volunteers with the Cub Scouts, and has helped to sponsor Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities for students and staff members. He also is an avid supporter of the American Red Cross Blood Donation program.

He has three sons, Jason, 12, and twins Andrew and Benjamin, 11.



SSgt. Johnny L. Griffin, APG Instructor of the Year



Pfc. Joseph P. Leonardo, APG Marine of the Year



Sgt. Kraig R. Pickel, APG Marine NCO of the Year