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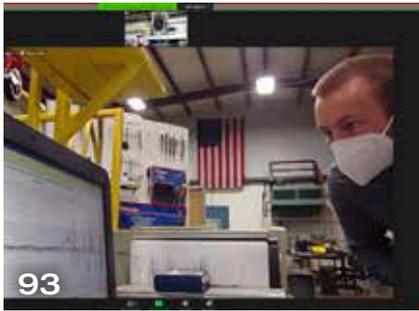
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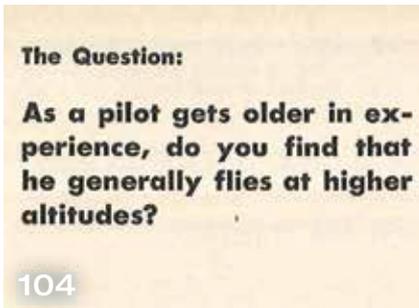
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ARMY AVIATION is the official journal of the Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA). The views expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors, not the Department of Defense or its elements. The content does not necessarily reflect the official U.S. Army position nor the position of the AAAA or the staff of Army Aviation Publications, Inc., (AAP). Title Reg® in U.S. Patent office. Registration Number 1,533,053. SUBSCRIPTION DATA: ARMY AVIATION (ISSN 0004-248X) is published monthly, except May and September by AAP, 593 Main Street, Monroe, CT 06468-2806. Tel: (203) 268-2450, FAX: (203) 268-5870, E-Mail: aaaa@quad-a.org. Army Aviation Magazine E-Mail: magazine@quad-a.org. Website: <http://www.quad-a.org>. Subscription rates for non-AAAA members: \$30, one year; \$58, two years; add \$10 per year for foreign addresses other than military APOs. Single copy price: \$4.00. ADVERTISING: Display and classified advertising rates are listed in SRDS Business Publications, Classification 90. POSTMASTER: Periodicals postage paid at Monroe, CT and other offices. Send address changes to AAP, 593 Main Street, Monroe, CT 06468-2806.

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On The Cover

PAID ADVERTISEMENT:

The Bell V-280 Valor is the fastest, most sustainable and efficient weapon system for the Army's long-range assault program.

Caption provided by the advertiser.

Briefings

Brown Nominated for USD(A&S)



DOD PHOTO

President Joe Biden has nominated Michael A. Brown for under secretary of defense for acquisition and sustainment (A&S). Brown, a former CEO of Symantec, joined the DoD in September 2018 as head of the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU), a small office dedicated to increasing ties between DOD and commercial technology firms.

Richardson Nominated for Fourth Star and SOUTHCOM



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced on Mar. 6 that the president has nominated Army LTG Laura J. Richardson for appointment to the grade of general, and assignment as commander, U.S. Southern Command, Doral, Florida. Richardson is currently serving as commanding general, U.S. Army North, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. If confirmed by the Senate, she will be only the second Army Aviator to serve as a Combatant Commander – GEN Doug Brown commanded U.S. Special Operations Command; and the second female four-star in Army history – GEN Ann Dunwoody being the first in 2008. A Senior Army Aviator, she is a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilot who flew in combat during the Iraq War in 2003.

Rugen Promoted



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MS. MICHELLE L. GORDON

The Director of the Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team, BG Walter T. Rugen, was promoted to the rank of major general by the commander of U.S. Army Futures Command, GEN John M. Murray, during a virtual ceremony on March 10, 2021.

Crosby Takes the Controls at AAAA



AAAF PHOTO BY BELL HARRIS

MG (Ret.) Tim Crosby (left) receives the gavel from outgoing Army Aviation Association of America president MG (Ret.) Jeff Schloesser during a virtual general membership meeting on Apr. 13, 2021. A former Army Program Executive Officer for Aviation and Master Army Aviator, Crosby retired in 2014 and has served on the National Executive Board for more than ten years. He is the 35th AAAA president.

Long Ponytails Authorized for All Uniforms



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY CHAWAN RAOULIEFE

U.S. Army SGT Janean Sanders lets a group of Afghan girls play with her ponytail during a mission led by 25th Infantry Division soldiers in downtown Kandahar City, Afghanistan, in 2011. Sergeant Major of the Army Michael Grinston tweeted on Mar. 25th that long ponytails will be allowed with all uniforms for women in the Army. Currently, they are only allowed during physical training and with the Army Combat Uniform. "Working out the details, but 1-2 ponytails in all uniforms, down to the shoulder blade," he wrote. The rule change will also allow braided ponytails, Grinston said in a reply to a comment to his post.

CORRECTION:

On page 56 of the January 2021 issue, the Gold Order of St. Michael for COL (Ret.) Randy Rotte should have been listed under the Delaware Valley Chapter – we apologize for the error.



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Passing the Gavel

This is likely the best *ARMY AVIATION* Magazine since I took over as AAAA President back in April of 2019.

We all hoped this would also be our AAAA 2021 Mission Summit magazine this year, but as you know by now, we had to cancel the Summit due to COVID-based travel restrictions. With vaccines becoming more and more available and the infection rate declining in many states, I am hopeful this will be the last cancellation of an AAAA event due to COVID.

For our April-May issue, our senior most Army Aviator, Chief of Staff GEN Jim McConville, updates us on the state of our Army, including Army Aviation. There is no doubt the Chief is leading the charge to take care of our Soldiers and families through his "People First" endeavors, just as it is clear he is transforming the Army with modernization of our fleets and doctrine, while maintaining readiness.

Branch Chief MG Dave Francis sets the stage for the remainder of the magazine by focusing on "preparing the branch for Large Scale Combat Operations" (LSCO). Many of the Army Aviation senior leaders follow, with updates from the Director of Army Aviation BG Mac McCurry, CFT Director MG Wally Rugen, AMCOM Commanding General MG Todd Royer, and PEO-Aviation BG Rob Barrie. Both the CSM of our Aviation Branch, CSM Jimmy Wilson, and Chief Warrant Officer of the Branch, CW5 Jon Koziol, provide timely updates, and Mr. Koziol introduces his replacement, CW5 Myke Lewis. We wish CW5 Koziol our very best as he moves on, and thank him for his leadership, and add our welcome to CW5 Lewis!

We at AAAA and all of Army Aviation give our congratulations to LTG Laura Richardson, nominated for a fourth star as Combatant Commander of Southern Command.

She is only the second Army Aviator, male or female, to be nominated to be a Combatant Commander. General Richardson, you have our sincere thanks for your life-long continued selfless service to our nation. You are an inspiration to so many! And we wish Senior Army Aviator COL Lori L. Robinson all the best in her new assignment as the deputy commander for support of the 10th Mountain Division (Light) at Fort Drum, NY.

Over the next few months BG Mac McCurry will depart as Director of Army Aviation for a new position as Deputy G-8, Force Development, to be replaced as Director by incoming BG Clair Gill. We thank both officers for their past roles and wish them the best in their new ones! And we wish Senior Army Aviator COL Lori L. Robinson all the best in her new assignment as the deputy commander for support of the 10th Mountain Division (Light) at Fort Drum, NY.

Speaking of transitions, I must recognize the years of service COL Lou Bonham has given as President of the AAAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc (SFI). This year was the third consecutive year of the largest programs in our history – some 313 Army Aviation family members received a total of \$537,000 in scholarship grants! Colonel Bonham will be succeeded this month by BG Mike Flowers as President of SFI. As one president to another, I sincerely thank Lou for his years of service, while welcoming another great Aviator and friend of AAAA, BG Mike Flowers.

On April 13 I will hold my last National Executive Board meeting followed by a general membership meeting to elect our incoming President and new National Executive Group. It has been a true privilege to

be AAAA President the past two very unusual years, as well as the total eight years I have spent as a member of the National Executive Group.

I must thank AAAA Executive Director Bill Harris as well as his entire professional team, who are amazing. I have enjoyed the guidance and friendship of Bill and Janis Arena for years and know they will guide our next president well. Special thoughts for them both as Bill's mother, Bobra Suiter Harris, just passed away at the age of 97 in March. A former Broadway and television actress, she was a powerful advocate for many of us in Army Aviation and will be sorely missed.

I also thank our Branch Chief MG Dave Francis for his leadership during these trying times and send him my personal best wishes as he continues command.

I thank our National Executive Group, MG Tim Crosby, MG Walt Davis, MG Wally Golden, MG Les Eisner, COL Hal Kushner, CW4 Becki Chambers, and LTC Jan Drabczuk, all of whom have been terrific in their posts these past two years.

I also welcome our newest NEG member and national Secretary BG Tim Edens to the group.

Finally, I must thank two past presidents who have worked overtime on critical special projects for us: BG Steve Mundt and BG Howard Yellen. Gentlemen, you have my sincere thanks for all you have done.

I am sure you all know our incoming President MG Tim Crosby quite well. A former Program Executive Officer Aviation and Master Aviator, Tim is just the person to lead AAAA into the future. Best wishes MG Crosby!

As I become a "former" President, I continue to pledge my efforts to support Army Aviation, our Branch, and the great AAAA in the future – FAREWELL!

*MG Jeff Schloesser, U.S. Army Retired
34th President, AAAA
jeff.schloesser@quad-a.org*



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▶ Army Aviation Branch Chief's Corner



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MAJOR ROBERT FELTINGHAM

Preparing the Branch to Execute LSCO Across All Domains

By MG David J. Francis

I would like to start this issue with a huge “thank you” to MG (Ret.) Jeff Schloesser for his steadfast leadership of AAAA over the course of a world-wide pandemic! He and the AAAA team left no stone unturned mitigating the threat of COVID 19 at AAAA events.

While the Summit did not come to fruition this year, they demonstrated the gold standard of innovation and leadership that will undoubtedly result in future successful events for all stakeholders. I would also like to welcome MG (Ret.) Tim Crosby to the

helm of AAAA. He brings a wealth of Army Aviation and industry experience that will serve us all well into the future! Thank you, gentlemen, for your continued selfless service to AAAA and the Aviation Branch!

CSM Wilson, CW5 Koziol, and I are

An AH-64 Apache from Co. A, 1-3 Attack Battalion make a low pass over German joint terminal attack controller instructors and members of the Franco-German Brigade at the end of a successful training iteration on Sep. 9, 2020 at Baumholder Training Area, Germany. During this exercise 12th Combat Aviation Brigade supported the German artillery school training of its Joint Terminal Attack Controllers by providing aerial live fire controlled by German observers.

incredibly proud of Army Aviation and what all of you accomplished over this difficult year. The Army’s People First Strategy across all Components could not be more relevant as the Leaders and Soldiers of Army Aviation, despite the pandemic, remains 85% committed



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U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY NBER/PAW.C. JANTSON

Army SSG Vanessa Goggia, right, and SPC Samedy Muth, both crew chiefs with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment, reconfigure their weapons system and prepare to fire after exiting the aircraft to complete a ground firing table with the 240B machine gun Feb. 23, 2021, at Baumholder Training Area, Baumholder, Germany, as part of Cougar Flurry, the battalion's training exercise.

through rotational forces, theater and ready requirements at home and abroad, combat training center (CTC) rotations, fielding, and modernization. You tackled a record fire season, the most active hurricane/tropical storm season on record, and a pandemic that challenged every aspect of our military and society. Aviation leadership across all COMPOs continues to execute a very demanding mission set with over 14K Soldiers deployed across more than 12 countries providing support to ground forces, partners, and agencies daily. Throughout this time, you maintained the sacred trust we enjoy with our ground force commanders, the very reason we exist!

Despite the pandemic, the Aviation Enterprise is working hard to prepare the Branch to execute Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO) across all Domains. The challenges we face require the teamwork of U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE), Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM), Program Executive Office Aviation (PEO-Avn), Future Vertical Lift Cross-Functional Team (FVL CFT), Army G-3 Aviation (DAMO-AV), Army Special Operations Aviation Command (ARSOAC), and the Technology Applications Program Office

(TAPO) as we work issues across the Branch and the Total Aviation Force.

Doctrine

Our capstone doctrinal manual, FM 3.04, Aviation Operations, was published in 2019 and incorporates many aspects of multi-domain operations (MDO). We remain in stride with the Army as FM 3.0 is currently under revision turning the concept of MDO 2028 into doctrine. In addition to our FMs, we published and revised SOPs for standardization and maintenance along with training support packages for terrain flight and radar threats. Our doctrinal foundation is essential to moving forward as a maneuver force.

Organization

We continue to optimize our effectiveness through organizational refinements and updated organizational design. We are synchronizing our organizational changes with the Regionally Aligned Readiness and Modernization Model (ReARMM) to ensure we transform with the Army into a multi-domain capable force ready for competition, crisis, or conflict. Our organizational designs will maximize enduring and future capability to rapidly

converge effects at the time and place of our choosing to present multiple dilemmas to our adversaries. This design will also provide the right capability to our Division commanders and set the conditions for introducing Future Vertical Lift (FVL) capabilities.

Training

The transition from counter insurgency (COIN) to LSCO requires training at echelon from commanders and staffs down to each aircrew. Effective training for our aviators must be commander-driven, rigorous, realistic, and under the conditions that units expect to operate in during combat. We are changing our flight profiles from the COIN altitudes to low-level terrain flight that will keep us decisive and survivable in the lower tier of the air domain. The dissemination of the Terrain Flight Training Support Package is already providing value to commanders and subordinates as a framework to deliberately plan and execute safe and effective tactical missions at terrain flight altitudes. This summer, five combat aviation brigades (CABs) will implement "pilot" courses for the Unit Trainer/Evaluator program. Developing and employing Unit Trainer/Evaluators focuses current instructors on tactics, distributes the training workload, and allows commanders to create more trainers and get their IPs out of the traffic pattern. By 1 May this year, all Aviation units will be complete with the implementation of the Emergency Response Method to change the method and understanding of how our aviators can more effectively and safely handle emergencies, especially as we lower our flight profile to train for a LSCO environment.

Materiel

Incredible transformational capability is under development with the hard work of the FVL CFT, PEO Aviation, the Aviation Enterprise, and industry. The team is developing transformational capabilities that fundamentally change how we will fight and increase our reach, survivability, lethality, and sustainability for future operations... and in record time! The Joint Multi-Role Technical Demonstrators inform these efforts and demonstrate the required capabilities for FVL. These risk reduction efforts will result in the most informed requirements we have ever developed in Aviation and the very best end-state for our Aviators in the force that will employ them.

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Aircraft (FARA) and Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA), teamed with Air Launched Effects will operate from positions of relative sanctuary, conducting in-depth reconnaissance to penetrate then dis-integrate Integrated Air Defense Systems and open windows for Joint Combined Arms Maneuver to exploit. Long Range Precision Munitions will engage three times the current range to destroy IADS-high payoff targets. FLRAA will supplement the enduring UH-60 fleet with greater speed and range, providing commanders with options to conduct air assaults or air movements at distance, insert key reconnaissance and surveillance assets, secure key terrain and facilities, fix or block enemy fires, and provide sustainment. The Improved Turbine Engine will power the FARA, UH-60 and AH-64, increasing horsepower, lift capability, endurance, and reliability. The Modular Open Sources Approach (MOSA) design provides affordable and rapidly tailorable mission equipment packages via open systems architectures, allowing efficient survivability and detection systems. Our Future Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (FTUAS) will enable Soldiers to launch these systems with

little or no runway requirement and control or transfer the system easily with a tablet. As we add FVL aircraft and capabilities to the force, we will develop an organization capable of manning, training, and equipping newly fielded units and their systems. This organization must be comprehensive and capable of providing scenarios to meet the demands of an MDO environment. Many of us remember this as a “21st CAV” like structure to field our enduring aircraft.

Leader Development

Leader development is critical as we are currently training the lieutenants, warrant officers, and privates that will be the S3/XOs, standardization pilots and platoon sergeants of our FVL formations. Army Aviation leader development is a deliberate, continuous, and progressive process designed to prepare leaders to fight in a LSCO environment. We are shifting our professional military education (PME) from broadening to deepening to sharpen the tactical skills of our leaders. We are optimizing our education and training to hone the warrant officer’s edge and prepare them for LSCO by removing unnecessary staff officer requirements and emphasizing

MOS-specific training as part of their career path. Revamping the Instructor Pilot Course to a Weapons Tactics Instructor Course is just one initiative to transform our aviators and leaders. The revisions to our Aviation Captain’s Career Course (AVCCC) curriculum incorporate LSCO centric scenarios, providing future leaders opportunities to engage and understand aviation as a maneuver force.

Our quarterly Aviation Warfighting Forum is a collaborative venue for corps and division commanders and aviation leaders to discuss trends in warfighting, innovation at both home station and the CTCs, and the testing of emerging technologies that include munitions, sensors, and survivability equipment. Additionally, through personnel initiatives and incentives, we are increasing our aviators’ retention levels and retaining our force’s tactical knowledge base.

People

Last year we saw the first increase in Aviation Career Incentive pay in 20 years. Adjusting this incentive and targeting our bonuses helps retain our experience, provide depth and trainers across the operational force, and reduce

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personnel tempo. We are increasing the throughput at Fort Rucker to fill cockpits in the operating force and working with Human Resources Command to enhance assignment policies to more clearly manage our critical readiness generators – instructor pilots and maintenance test pilots.

Facilities

Our combat developers are undertaking a full review of our current facilities to ensure we meet enduring and future requirements for FVL platforms. Our future platforms will be very network-centric for maintenance, mission planning, mission preparation, and communication with other joint systems. Our maintenance facilities will require cutting-edge troubleshooting hardware, portals, and connections.

Modernizing and transforming our training will require changes to the Army’s polices and with members across the Joint Force. We anticipate that the FVL platforms’ technological advancements will require unique training areas, nuances to frequency management, and airspace considerations for significant unmanned systems’ employment.

Conclusion

This is an exciting time to be a part of Army Aviation! We are undergoing the most extensive modernization and training adjustment we have experienced in 40 years. Our Branch remains strong, resilient, and ready to support any mission for the Army. Our enterprise is equally strong through the constant collaboration to inform and solidify our requirements and streamline our messaging across the Army and DOD. We must continue our cross-talk to sustain readiness and pursue our modernization needs in order to fight and win against revisionist powers and peer competitors.

I would also like to thank our incredible families. They provide the love and support that enables us to do the vital work we are undertaking. Thanks to all of you and for your service and sacrifice as well.

Finally, please keep all of our Aviators deployed around the world in your thoughts and prayers.

Above the Best!

MG David J. Francis is the Army Aviation branch chief and commander of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, AL.

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▶ This Is Your Army! Chief of Staff of the Army



Our Army Today Is About People First

By GEN James C. McConville

The past year, our Nation and our Army faced some of the biggest challenges in recent history. Nearly a year after the COVID pandemic shut down America, we still battle that invisible enemy.

Now armed with vaccines and continued safety measures the end is coming into sight. The Nation experienced civil unrest, and we stopped to listen and learn and then to commit ourselves to eradicating extremism and racism in our organization. We've taken on the harmful behaviors of sexual assault and sexual harassment, and we are updating our policies to eradicate them from the Army.

With great challenges also come great opportunities. We made People First the Army's number one priority. This drives resources to our People – our Soldiers of the Active Army, National Guard, and Reserves, our Families, our Civilians, and our Soldiers for Life, Retirees and Veterans. People are our greatest strength and most important weapon system, and when we commit to taking care of our People and ensuring all are treated with dignity and respect, we will have a stronger and more committed Army. Our People are the

Army Chief of Staff, GEN James C. McConville, addresses a rifle squad from 2-506th Infantry, 3rd Brigade Combat Team Rakkasans, 101st Airborne Division, at Bell's Arlington, TX facility on October 28, 2020. The soldiers provided invaluable feedback on the V-280 Valor cabin configuration that will inform Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft requirements from the user perspective.

pathway to improved Readiness and continued momentum in Modernization.

America has long preserved the peace through strength, the strength that comes from a whole of government approach that includes a strong military with strong allies and partners. A key component of the Army's strength comes from Army Aviation. Today, Army Aviation supports missions around the globe and at home as clear and unambiguous demonstration of our strength and of our ability to work with our Allies, Partners, and other agencies. Army aviation, and especially our aviators, continues to be one of our greatest strengths and premier capability for the Army, Joint Force, and Nation.

People First

People as our number one priority means we are investing time and resources to ensure we have the right leadership,



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MR. LUKE J. ALLEN

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policies and programs in place to take care of people. The major efforts include initiatives from the People First Task Force, implementing the 21st Century Talent Management System, and continued improvement of our quality of life programs like housing, health care, child care, spousal employment, Permanent Change of Station moves, and resiliency programs.

People First requires leader engagement. In today's Army, we need leaders at every level of the Army to build cohesive teams that are highly trained, disciplined and fit. Through the Sergeant Major of the Army's "This is My Squad" campaign, everyone is a member of a team, and everyone has a leader that is taking care of them. This effort focuses leaders on connecting with their Soldiers through shared values and trust, incorporating the Soldiers' buddies and family members. With these cohesive teams, we reduce or even eliminate the behaviors that hurt our Soldiers or break trust with the American people like sexual harassment, sexual assault, suicides, racism, and extremism.

Ready Today

Our Army remains ready today to fight and win anywhere in the world. We recognize the toll of nearly 20 years of conflict and the sustained high operational tempo has had on the force, for both the quality of life of our Soldiers and equipment. This is another reason why taking care of People is our first priority, as well as aggressive modernization to ensure we transform across the force to maintain readiness into the future.

In the next year the Army will move to the Regionally Aligned Readiness and Modernization Model (ReARMM) to balance requirements for readiness and modernization. This model seeks to add predictability to units' operational tempo. With predictability, we gain the space to support the efforts that enable us to be ready today while we build readiness

for the future. The modernization efforts, which ReARMM provides predictability for, will transform the Army into the multi-domain capable force ready for competition, crisis, and when necessary, conflict.

Modernizing for the Future

We are undergoing the greatest Army transformation in over 40 years. The Army continues momentum of the Six Modernization Priorities, but transformation is not just about new equipment. We are transforming our concepts and doctrine with the Multi-Domain Operations. We are employing new organizations like the Security Forces Assistance Brigades and Multi-Domain Task Forces. We are exercising and training with new technologies like Virtual Reality and the Synthetic Training Environment. All these efforts are closely connected to our People and the 21st Century Talent Management System.

One of the core capabilities of the Six Modernization Priorities is Future Vertical Lift. With transformational speed and range, the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft (FARA) and Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA) systems will provide commanders with additional options for lethality and lift. For example, the Cross Functional Team specifically set the characteristics for the FARA ecosystem to penetrate anti-access area denial environments (A2AD) to provide the Combined Joint Force improved freedom of maneuver.

We are starting to see cutting edge technologies demonstrated during our Project Convergence experiments. We successfully progressed the FARA ecosystem and improved its role in the kill chain (find, fix, and finish). We also successfully demonstrated reach and lethality with six simultaneous Air Launch Effects (ALE) enabled by A3I (architecture, automation, autonomy, and interfaces technology). These accomplish-



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ments define our first steps to transforming Army Aviation with many more advancements to come.

Winning Matters

The Army's transformation provides a strong and capable Army with the capabilities and posture to compete and win. In our Army today, it's about People First and Winning Matters. When we send the United States Army somewhere, we don't go to participate, we don't go to try hard; we go to win. There is no second place or honorable mention in combat. We win by developing cohesive teams that are highly trained, disciplined and fit. We win by doing the right things the right way. We win through our people. That's why we put People First, and that's why People are our number one priority.

I want to thank Army Aviation and our industry partners for your continued excellence and commitment to our People, Readiness, and Modernization efforts. With aggressive and continued momentum, our Army and Army Aviation will continue to provide the Joint Force, our Allies and Partners, and our Nation with unmatched military strength.

Please keep our Soldiers that are in harm's way, both abroad and at home, in your thoughts and prayers. As we continue to defeat COVID as a Nation, I ask everyone to continue to emphasize health and safety of our personnel in all we do. I am honored to serve with you all.



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GEN James C. McConville is the 40th Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

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▶ Chief Warrant Officer of the Branch Update

You Have The Controls

By CW5 Jonathan Koziol



PERSONAL PHOTO BY CW5 JON KOZIOL

Teammates, I am reaching the end of my time in this position representing the Branch as your Command Chief Warrant Officer. This will be my last article in this great magazine.

Company C, 2-285th Assault Helicopter Battalion, North Dakota Army National Guard providing mission support in the National Capital Region.

I could not be prouder of all our Aviation Branch Soldiers, but you know my passion is to support my fellow Aviation Warrant Officers across our force, which includes our National Guard and Reserve Soldiers. We all must continue to work together to evolve, train and prepare for the future.

We have numerous initiatives moving forward to better our formations. I am happy to have been a part of working towards some significant changes we are making in our Branch. This is a team effort. The professionalism of our warrant officers across the Branch is amazing. It takes a lot of players to support our Soldiers in the combat aviation brigades. There are numerous senior warrant officers across the Branch in key positions in our directorates here at Fort Rucker, the Army capability manager offices, Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional

Team (FVL-CFT), Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM), and Headquarters Department of the Army (HQDA) to name a few. Their experience and technical expertise are a direct reflection of the success we are having preparing for the future.

PME

Our Branch continues to get healthier, and we are driving change to prepare for the next fight. The most important element coming to you is the redesign of the Aviation Warrant Officer Primary Military Education (PME). We are shifting back to sharpening the edge and deepening our knowledge in Aviation doctrine and tactics. That shift also considers how often we bring you back to Ft. Rucker for training. As a warrant officer, you gain expertise by practicing your skill set at the unit and not sitting

here for extended periods of time on Ft. Rucker. We are optimizing the education timeline but also making your future PME an education experience you want to attend. The first change you will see is the shift of the **Warrant Officer Advance Course (WOAC)** to earlier in a warrant officer's career to about the 2-year time in grade CW2. This should be the time our aviators are making pilot-in-command and our techs have just reached a point to build on their base knowledge and enhance their Aviation tactical expertise. This new course will be called **Advanced Warfighting Skills (AWS)** with the first pilot class coming this July. It will be 4 weeks and build on mission planning and application of doctrine. All basic building blocks to make you successful in future combat operations. The team here is also working on piloting a Branch specific **Warrant Officer Intermediate Level**

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Education (WOILE) in FY22 that may exclude attendance at the Warrant Officer Career College. This course will focus on Aviation specific training required at the CW4 level.

Other Initiatives

The PME changes are one of many efforts ongoing at the Branch. You are seeing the change in the Active-Duty Service Obligation, provisional WO1 for our active-duty Soldiers (we will run a trial this summer), the emergency response methodology, and unit trainer/evaluator (UT-E), together with other Army Talent Management Task Force (ATMTF) efforts. Too many efforts to explain in detail in this short article. Just know we are all working for the betterment of our Branch.

I would now like to take a moment to tell you what impresses me the most. It is you, the Aviation professional. Whether you are the mechanic working on the aircraft, the pilot in command flying the aircraft, our warrant officer technicians in Aviation maintenance, air traffic services, and unmanned aerial service technicians, or one of the great leaders of our Aviation formations, you are earning the

respect of the senior leaders in our Army. We still have challenges to overcome, but we are gaining ground daily. Your importance to the Army is not lost on our senior leaders. Continue to train hard and prepare for the next “away game.” A strong presence of the best trained Aviation formations in the world is the best deterrent to maintain peace in the future.

It is now time to transfer the controls. Please help me welcome CW5 Myke Lewis who will replace me this summer. It is time for me to start the next chapter. I would like to thank you all for what you do every day. I am so lucky to have had the opportunity to represent you. The future is bright, visibility is good, and the skies are clear. You have the controls.

Above the Best!

CW5 Jonathan Koziol is the command chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Ft. Rucker AL.

Editor's Note: The ARMY AVIATION Magazine team thanks CW5 Koziol for his steadfast support over the years and we wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.



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Aviation Branch CSM Update

By CSM James D. Wilson



The first 90 days in position have passed quickly. The more I learn, the more amazed I am by what Aviation Soldiers are doing every day to meet demanding mission requirements across the Branch and around the world.

The dedication to mission success and taking care of our Soldiers and their families is apparent in every engagement I have with the Soldiers of our Branch.

The future of Army Aviation maintenance and structure are the primary subject for this article. I routinely receive questions from our Soldiers and leaders on the topics I will cover. Many of these topics are not new but remain a top priority as we continue to develop the capabilities of Army Aviation to fight and win in a Multi-Domain Operating Environment.

The *Aviation Maintenance Training Program (AMTP)* (TC 3-07.71) is one of my top priorities. Our Maintainers

SPC Lloyd Mayes with D Troop, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, conducts the disassembly of an AH-64E tail rotor gearbox during a 500-hour phase inspection.

have always done an incredible job of conducting and tracking Aviation maintenance. We have multiple systems to track aircraft maintenance and parts down to every subcomponent of the airframe. We can track the entire training record for our Non-Rated Crewmembers (NRCM). We have historically needed a way to track the training, progression, and proficiency of the Soldiers conducting the maintenance. The AMTP solves this issue and is foundational to producing trained and proficient maintenance professionals.

Automating the AMTP to gain efficiency in data input and tracking is also a priority. We are currently working on

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multiple courses of action to improve the current system required to document and track maintenance training and progression. We must capture maintenance actions as they are input in the Aircraft Notebook (ACN) and migrate that data to a more intuitive interface for Leaders. Eliminating multiple steps and databases to document maintenance training actions will give Soldiers more time on the aircraft, and give leaders more time to schedule, manage and most importantly, train our Soldiers.

The Army Aviation Badge is another area we are looking to make changes. One of the National Commission on Military Aviation Safety (NCMAS) recommendations is to explore Aviation maintenance proficiency badges to recognize and reward proficiency. We are currently discussing the possibility of creating a Basic Aviation Maintainer's Badge that will be awarded when the Soldier progresses in their unit to Maintenance Level (ML) 1 according to the AMTP. The Senior Maintainer Badge will be awarded when the Soldier has progressed to ML3, and the Master Maintainer badge will be awarded when a Soldier has progressed to ML4. Bottom line, the Maintainers Badge will be linked to skill and proficiency, not just time in the MOS. The current badge will become the Air Crewmember Badge and will be awarded to Non-rated crewmembers starting at Readiness Level 1. This badge will also be tied to skill level, proficiency, and possibly flight hours. Developing an Aviation Maintenance Badge is a large step in our endeavor to professionalize the Army Aviation Maintainer and continue to provide unmatched maintenance capability.

Are we going to **consolidate Military Occupational**

Specialties (MOS) in the future? I have been asked this question multiple times by Soldiers across the Branch. The Organization and Personnel Force Development Directorate (OPFD) at Fort Rucker is currently researching and developing courses of action to address the evolving operating environment in which Aviation maintainers may need broader, multi-functional skill sets to meet the demands of large-scale combat operations. The future environment will drive us to operate in dispersed teams spread over wider areas with the capability to move quickly, which will drive change in how Army Aviation is manned, trained, and equipped. The Future Vertical Lift platforms, when combined with the enduring fleet, will present maintenance and sustainment challenges that need to be addressed in future force design. If we are to remain relevant in the future, we must adapt and become what our Army and Nation needs us to be. I am confident that our Soldiers are up to the challenge.

In closing, I can't say enough how proud I am to serve as the Aviation Branch Command Sergeant Major. The demand for Army Aviation remains high, and our teams continue to meet and exceed expectations under demanding conditions.

Above The Best!

CSM James D. Wilson is the command sergeant major of the Aviation Branch at the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, AL.



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Out With The Old – In With The New

Changing the Way the Army Safety And Occupational Health Community Communicates

By COL Ronald Ells

Shortly after BG Andrew Hilmes assumed command of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center (USACRC) and simultaneously became the Director of Army Safety in August 2019, he charged the organization with evaluating how we communicate with the field.

This directive put our communication capabilities, which include the archaic email list server system, in the crosshairs.

With social media platforms in mind, the USACRC's web services division developed SafetyNet, a knowledge-based online collaboration tool built exclusively for the Army safety and occupational health (SOH) community. The platform, which is managed by the USACRC's knowledge management section, encourages professional ideas and dialogue and facilitates the exchange and storage of loss-prevention information from across the Army. With SafetyNet's release in the very near future, we will likely say farewell to our use of mass email distribution.

That's not to say email isn't a useful tool; it has been since its use became widespread in the early 1990s. But for our use in connecting to our primary audiences, mass email is not as efficient as we would like. With more than 19,000 subscribers on our six primary email list servers, we face the typical challenges most large organizations encounter when employing mass email.

First and foremost, we don't want to spam our audience and we recognize emails can potentially be disruptive and cause information overload. Risk management and loss prevention are topics that consistently require retuning and refining. This is one of our greatest communication challenges when marketing "Army Safety." Second, we lack precision

targeting and rely on broad email blasts to reach our audiences. While we can confirm that a message was sent, we are never sure it was received. Additionally, Microsoft Outlook, when used on DoD-administered computers and networks, limits the appearance, utility and functionality of the message. Last, although two of our six list servers permit two-way send-and-receive capability and allow for collaboration, most users don't want to collaborate on issues they are not directly involved with or are hesitant to respond when they know their comments will go to nearly 2,000 other subscribers. In short, we risk target reach and penetration with mass email messaging.

Collaboration and information sharing are the essence of SafetyNet. Using a commercial off-the-shelf architecture, SafetyNet users will employ the two key functions of Community Ideas and Community Discussions to seek, share and store information. Its central repository is indexed for ease of navigation to desired communities and topics. Based on a user's preferences, access to needed information is tailorable and searchable.

Take for example two unit safety personnel; one is a Department of the Army civilian serving a mechanized infantry brigade and the other an Army chief warrant officer serving a UH-60 Black Hawk assault helicopter battalion. Both safety officers serve units with broadly different missions. However, by the nature of SafetyNet's taxonomy,



the two can join established communities where their shared interests reside. Common to both are communities such as off-duty safety and government motor vehicle operations.

Pending the final Electronic Adjudication Management System (EAMS) login process approval, the USACRC will open SafetyNet to a select few Army Aviation safety officers for 30 days. This test group will provide their assessment of capabilities back to the USACRC, which will allow us to resolve any issues. Following the limited release, SafetyNet will open to the greater Army Aviation branch. By late spring, the more than 7,000 Army SOH personnel will have access to SafetyNet, allowing them to share ideas and information and collaborate on loss-prevention issues for the sole purpose of keeping our Army capable and ready.

GEN Eric Shinseki, 34th Army chief of staff, often said, "In the industrial age, the big ate the small. In the information age, the fast eat the slow." SafetyNet is a 21st century communication platform that will give Army SOH professionals both speed and accuracy as we communicate across our profession.

COL Ronald Ells is the deputy commander of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center at Fort Rucker, AL.

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3-Year-Old At Home, Deployed Couple Withstands Challenges

By SPC Stanford Toran

“He has his days where he is mad at us for leaving and other days, he cannot stop telling me how much he misses us,” said CPL Ashley Hibbler, of her three-year-old son Landon.

Hibbler and her husband, SPC Kyle Hibbler, are deployed to the Middle East with the 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade and have been away from their son since July 2020.

“At first, he did not understand what was going on,” said Ashley. “But he has grown a lot since we left and has become more understanding of the situation.”

At the beginning of the deployment, the Hibblers’ challenges included learning how to work with each other as fellow Soldiers, instead of a married couple. Being separated from their son, they also worked to gain support from their command concerning their unique situation.

“When we first arrived at Fort Hood and met our unit, SFC [Melanie] McCracken talked to me about how she had been deployed with her husband before and she made us feel very comfortable coming to her with related issues,” said Kyle. “She and the command team were very accommodating.”

One such accommodation was arranging for them to be assigned to the same duty location and, recently, to live together on base. Despite their different duties, Ashley as a logistics specialist and Kyle repairing helicopters, they work similar schedules so they can video chat Landon at the same time daily. Living together has helped establish a sense of normalcy, even while deployed.

“Adjusting to the stress of the environment and being away from home can really strain a relationship. Instead of hurting our relationship, this deployment has strengthened it and made us realize we can truly tackle anything together.”

While they are away, their extended family has taken care of Landon. They have also played an important role in helping him handle his parents’ absence. Another thing that has helped is the ability for him to talk to his parents regularly. “There are some days he is upset and does not want to talk. We count down the days together and although he does not fully understand the concept of time, he gets excited when I say we have ‘this many days left,’” said Ashley. “He just knows Momma and Kyle will be home soon.”

Kyle is not Landon’s biological father but has been very much involved for the majority of his life.

While Kyle and Ashley are grateful to be together, they admit that it has been harder for Ashley to be away from her son than it would have been to be away from her husband.



CPL Ashley Hibbler, left, and SPC Kyle Hibbler, deployed with Delta Company, 2-104th General Support Aviation Battalion, 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, video chat with their son Landon from an airfield in the 28th ECAB’s area of operations in the Middle East.

“It’s harder for him to understand because he is so young,” said Ashley. “He knows Mom is gone and he feels emotions he doesn’t know how to process. That makes it more difficult for him and for me.”

On whether or not this experience has been worth the separation, Ashley expresses mixed feelings. COVID-19 presented many challenges and changes to the expected mission and experience for the brigade. She has endured the psychological impact of being separated from her son while deployed to the Middle East while her family struggles with a pandemic at home. “It took me six years to finally be able to deploy and I was excited for it because I love my country and this is something I’ve always wanted to do,” she said. “However, being away from my son has made it very difficult and I have had to really push through most days.”

With their deployment winding down, Kyle and Ashley have contributed to their unit’s mission here and achieved professional accomplishments. Recently, Ashley was laterally promoted to corporal, with Kyle pinning her new rank during the ceremony.

The Hibblers are deployed with Delta Company, 2-104th General Support Aviation Battalion, 28th ECAB in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, the fight against Daesh, and Operation Spartan Shield.

SPC Stanford Toran is a public affairs specialist with the 28th Combat Aviation Brigade, Camp Buehring, Kuwait.



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Lyme Disease

By MAJ (Dr.) Sarah B. Snyder

Q. I enjoy recreational hiking and camping outdoors during the spring and summer months but recently heard about a tick-borne illness called Lyme disease. What is Lyme disease and what are the common signs and symptoms to watch out for after spending time outdoors?

FS: Lyme disease is a bacterial infection of the blood, or bacteremia, transmitted to humans by the bite of a deer tick called *Ixodes scapularis*. It is the most common vector-borne disease in the United States. Lyme disease is caused by the mobile, corkscrewed bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi* with the ability to spread systemically throughout the body. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it is estimated that there are approximately 300,000 cases of Lyme disease annually in the United States. Most cases of Lyme disease occur on the east coast of the country, but a species of tick on the west coast, *Ixodes pacificus*, can also spread the infection. There have also been reported cases of the disease in other regions of the country, such as in southern and mid-western states. Oftentimes, a Soldier will not notice the site of a tick bite because the culprit may be a small, immature tick called a nymph, only a millimeter in size. To transmit Lyme disease, a tick will normally have to be attached for a period of 36 hours or greater to its host. Soldiers and Aviators who spend time recreationally hiking, camping, or with military units in the field may be at a higher risk for environmental exposure to ticks, and, therefore, Lyme disease.

In the early stages of Lyme disease, most infected individuals will develop a rash that resembles the shape of a bull's eye target, termed Erythema migrans. However, it is estimated that approximately 20-30% of individuals will not develop the bull's eye rash clinically diagnostic for the infection. Some patients may only develop swelling, warmth, and redness of a joint in the area where a tick attached to the skin. In the initial phases of untreated Lyme disease, Soldiers may develop a constellation of vague, nonspecific flu-like symptoms a few weeks after the bite of a tick. These symptoms may include fatigue, depression, body aches, joint aches, headaches, facial droop, and fevers. Due to the motile nature of the bacteria, in severe or chronic cases of infection there may be joint, cardiac,

or nervous system involvement. In chronic Lyme disease, cardiac complications may occur such as third-degree heart block, causing abnormal beating of the heart. A deer tick bite may also carry other bacterial illnesses such as Babesiosis or Ehrlichiosis, which may concurrently cause co-infection with Lyme disease.

If you suspect that you may have the signs or symptoms of Lyme disease after a recreational trip in the woods or from an occupational exposure in the field, see your primary care physician who may order a laboratory test to detect Lyme antibodies in your blood. Generally, a screening Lyme ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) test will detect these serum antibodies. If the ELISA test is positive or equivocal, a confirmatory test called a Western Blot will be performed. Outpatient treatment for uncomplicated cases of Lyme disease will generally consist of a two to three weeks course of oral doxycycline (an antibiotic). If you remove a tick that you suspect has only been attached for a few hours, the CDC does not recommend taking antibiotics prophylactically to prevent tick-borne disease. In terms of flight status, uncomplicated early cases of Lyme disease treated with antibiotics are not disqualifying for flight status. Cases of Lyme disease that have gone undetected for months with the development of chronic complications, such as symptomatic cardiac or neurological involvement, could potentially be disqualifying for flight.

Before hiking or camping outdoors it is recommended to treat all clothing and gear with 0.5% permethrin or to use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved insect repellants, such as Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, DEET, or picaridin. After outdoor activities, be sure to examine your body and clothing for ticks. If you find a tick attached to your skin, remove it as soon as possible with fine-tipped tweezers in order to avoid crushing it with your fingers. Grasp the tick as close as possible to the skin surface and pull the head of the tick straight back, avoiding all twisting motions. Additionally, you may want to save the tick for identification later with your healthcare provider. Lyme is a reportable infectious disease and all cases should be reported to the local state health department.

Questions for the Flight Surgeon?

If you have a question you would like addressed, email it to AskFS@quad-a.org, we will try to address it in the future. See your unit flight surgeon for your personal health issues. The views and opinions offered are those of the author and researchers and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position unless otherwise stated.

MAJ (Dr.) Sarah B. Snyder, D.O., MPH, FS is a flight surgeon at the School of Army Aviation Medicine, Fort Rucker, Alabama.

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Army Aviation Excels in Spite of Pandemic

By BG Michael C. "Mac" McCurry

Crew members of the 211th Aviation Regiment conduct air support over the Neffs Canyon fire from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in Salt Lake City, Utah, 20 September 2020.

Wow! Two years certainly flies by (no pun intended), especially when pushing through contingency deployments, global re-posture, an election/confirmation cycle, and... a global pandemic! When I took the seat as Director of Army Aviation in the Pentagon in June of 2019, I could never have seen this coming. It has been a hard and challenging time for our nation and our Army, but our great aviation leaders, pilots, and maintainers out there persevered and kept Army Aviation at the forefront. I will highlight the unprecedented actions of the team below.

At this time last year, I laid out how we deliberately reorganized DAMO-AV to better position the directorate to implement the Chief of Staff of the Army's top priorities. Little did we know that we would soon see a dramatic shift in the way we would conduct business as the pandemic erupted. As with the entire Army, our role as lead integrator of the Aviation Enterprise across the Army staff, industry, Congress, and the Total Force would become essential as we found ourselves squarely in the "Crisis" condition of the four C's construct.

The high level of collaboration en-

demic in our branch has never been more important, and it paid dividends for Army Aviation as we battled the unforeseen impacts of a major pandemic while defending the homeland, supporting combatant commanders, reorganizing, modernizing, and preparing to meet future demands. Army Aviation support to the COVID response, wildfires, the formal addition of our newest G-3/5/7 field operating agency, the U.S. Army Aeronautical Support Agency (USAASA), and preparation for implementation of the Regionally Aligned Readiness and Modernization Model (ReARMM) kept the plate full.

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Synchronizing Enterprise Efforts on Multiple Fronts

The Total Army Aviation force had a busy spring and summer of 2020. The Army Reserve and National Guard fixed-wing fleet increased their support to the force by almost 33% of their FY20 forecasted flight hours. Moving more than just medical personnel and supplies, the Army fully adapted to operating in a COVID environment. With no airline travel, fixed-wing units across the nation immediately stepped in to move key leaders and personnel to essential missions.

All three components responded to a highly dynamic natural disaster season, but none more than our tremendous Army National Guard, with 40th ECAB in the lead, employing aircraft and crews from multiple western states in response to apocalyptic wildfires in northern California and the Pacific Northwest. These highly proficient crews engaged in a different type of firefight, facing dangers not from the enemy weapons systems they trained for, but extremely hazardous mountain flying with high winds and raging infernos. The Total Aviation team did a lot of heavy lifting, with Soldiers fighting fires from the ground and air, UAS conducting reconnaissance, and, most notably, Army National Guard aircrews evacuating civilians trapped by the blaze. One heroic act in particular was highlighted by the President, who recognized several aircrew members with the presentation of the Distinguished Flying Cross on national television. Today the 40th ECAB continues to show its flexibility and support to the total force with mobilization for an upcoming overseas mission.

Airspace at Scale and Pace – Enabling Hypersonics!

Hypersonic weapons have recently emerged as a priority effort. A key stakeholder now works under the supervision of DAMO-AV – the now formally assigned field operating agency, the United States Army Aeronautical Services Agency (USAASA). As we seek to develop the capability to conduct testing and training for this capability, airspace becomes a challenge. USAASA has stepped to the plate and deep into planning and coordination with the FAA and others in support of this national defense priority.

Support and sustainment of CONUS-based testing also requires adjustments to airspace management and

policy in the national airspace. USAASA is working to maintain the appropriate balance between national defense requirements and impacts to other airspace users.

The Test Resource Management Center is partnered with Johns Hopkins University, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and USAASA's Department of the Army Representatives (DARs) to evaluate flight corridors to achieve this balance. This is a daunting task that USAASA remains committed to enabling.

ReARMMing Aviation: Managing Force OPEMPO, Increasing Predictability and Enabling Modernization

Current worldwide aviation requirements remain high at roughly an 85% Total Army Aviation commitment putting the combat aviation brigade (CAB) among the lowest-density, highest-demand formations in our Army. Implementing ReARMM is essential to putting rigor and predictability to our modernization priorities, enabling intensive training cycles with fully equipped and manned units prepared for collective training proficiency, and then deploying those units to an aligned theater to meet combatant commanders' requirements. The basis of this model is a unit life cycle that applies to all units of the Total Army, conforming principally to three windows (Modernization, Training, and Mission).

This is a challenge for the Aviation branch due to the complexity of our force but offers unique opportunities that Aviation has not enjoyed in more than two decades. Already, stakeholders from across the Aviation Enterprise have begun the hard work of planning and synchronizing full ReARMM implementation as the Army G-3 conducts analysis and ROC drills with our commanders at the corps and division levels.

Modernization: ReARMM will enable the Army to look beyond the program years and know with certainty the number of modernization windows a unit will go through, which will allow predictability to the force. This will be extremely critical to Army Aviation as we continue to field major systems and prepare for fielding of the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft and the Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft. This also allows the aviation force the time to implement force design updates as directed by Army senior leaders, as modernization also applies to our number one priority – our people! Allowing

Soldiers time to accomplish professional development schooling at all levels so they are ready and available to train at the culmination of the modernization window is a key facet of the model.

Training: ReARMM will allow newly modernized aviation units to begin a predictable yet intensive eight-month training cycle with the latest equipment and a specific regional focus. It will leverage both home station training and predictable, sustainable, business-rule informed CTC rotations in preparation for the final phase of the ReARMM model.

Mission Window: With a modernized force, fully trained to a directed level of readiness, the shorter, eight-month mission window provides a sustainable timeframe to dynamically deploy tailored packages in support of priority missions. The missioned units will not be constrained by heel-to-toe rotations, which means they will deploy and redeploy their own equipment, retaining it for unprecedented periods of time – a much needed reform.

DAMO-AV remains at the center of this coordination and planning effort using input from existing aviation forums such as the Quarterly Aviation Synchronization Meeting, the Senior Aviation Leader Forum, and the Aviation Senior Leader's Course to inform existing Army processes and decision-making boards.

It has never been a more exciting time to serve in Army Aviation. As I transition to Director of Force Development at HQDA G-8, and we prepare to welcome BG Clair Gill as the next Director of Army Aviation, I would like to thank our great branch chief, my fellow six-pack members, and all of our Army Aviation leaders for the tremendous work they do every day. It has been my distinct honor to serve with you in the building for the past two years!

People First – Winning Matters – Army Strong!



BG Michael C. (Mac) McCurry is the Director of Army Aviation at Headquarters, Department of the Army G-3/5/7 (DAMO-AV).

Editor's Note: The ARMY AVIATION Magazine team thanks BG Mac McCurry for his support over the past two years and we wish him all the best in his new assignment.

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Transforming Sustainment for Large Scale Combat Operations

By MG Todd Royar



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY CAPTAIN BRUCE MOORE

Over the past several years, the Army has shifted towards preparing for Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO). Our focus on both current readiness and modernization efforts will undoubtedly be necessary to prevail in future conflicts. We can accurately predict the conditions will continue to change and our challenges will be even greater. However, I am equally convinced that to prevail in future Large Scale Combat Operations, then we must adapt how we will sustain our systems both today and tomorrow.

While we have learned an immense amount, the past two decades of conflict is not indicative of our future sustainment challenges in LSCO. Operations against a near peer will create problems we have not recently faced. Our assembly areas and some of our most critical sustainment nodes will likely be in range of long-range fires. Our supply chain

will be ever more challenged based on both distances involved and the threat to it. The pace of operations will require sustainers to give more options to commanders so that they may seize the initiative and exploit opportunities.

All of this is under-pinned by the sheer fact of needing to get the most out of the resources we are allocated. Historically, almost 70% of a weapons system's cost over its lifecycle is sustaining it after we buy it. As a result, reducing our sustainment costs of both our enduring and future fleets is likely our best chance to ensure the success of our modernization efforts.

Make no mistake, our current sustainment system has been effective over the past several decades of conflict. It has supported high operational readiness rates while also supporting a high operational tempo. Having the secure lines of communication and the ability

Soldiers of 1st Battalion (Attack Reconnaissance), 3rd Aviation Regiment conduct 500 hours phase maintenance on an AH-64 Apache helicopter at Katterbach Army Airfield, Germany.

to employ numerous civilian contractors is a luxury we likely will not have in LSCO. Consequently, we must change moving forward to adapt to the complex environment we will operate in.

Raising the Bar for Future Systems

The Future Vertical Lift (FVL) Cross Functional Team (CFT) and program managers within Program Executive Office (PEO) Aviation are all doing incredible work to extend the reach, lethality, and survivability of new platforms. Just as we should expect our new weapon systems to fly further, faster, and be more survivable, we should also require them to be more



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Katherine Olson, additive manufacturing lead, U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center Systems Readiness Directorate, moderates during the AMCOM hosted Army Aviation Advanced Manufacturing Workshop, Sparkman Center, Redstone Arsenal, AL, Nov. 19-20.

reliable and easier to sustain. Technology and manufacturing techniques have improved – so should reliability. If we can reduce the maintenance man hours associated with sustaining a system, it has a ripple effect. In essence, it can increase our tooth to tail ratio.

In addition to needing more reliable equipment, we need to drive towards common equipment. While understandably difficult, having common components (e.g., multi-functional displays) makes a difference, the same goes for tooling. We need to drive down the

number of tools required (both common and special) required between our enduring and future platforms. Whether class IX parts, or tooling, it all adds up and limits our ability to move quickly.

Physical commonality is one thing, but digital commonality is also needed. Whether it's our Health and Usage Monitoring Systems or aircraft interface with mission planning systems, every unique proprietary system requires an additional skill set, is less efficient, and ultimately costs more. Fortunately, here, the Modular Open System Architecture (MOSA) as laid out by the FVL CFT has us on the right path.

Finally, we need to build in continual review of our maintenance systems from day one. We cannot afford to either over or under maintain due to both its operational impact and cost. New systems must incorporate commercial industry processes like Maintenance Steering Group 3 to change our sustainment schedules as needed.

Doubling Down on Current Sustainment Efforts

While as a branch we will modernize with new and more reliable systems, the reality is that we are going to have our en-

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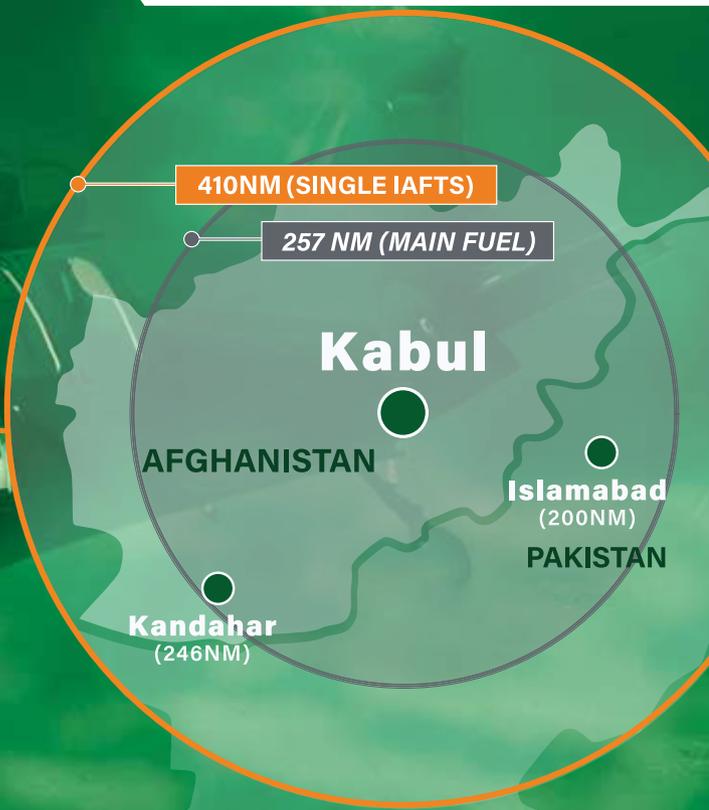


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during fleet around for decades to come. Many of our current efforts are equally as necessary to propel us into the future.

Organic maintenance capability is crucial. For the better part of the past two decades, we have overly relied on contract maintainers and contract field representatives (CFRs). They played a key role and were necessary at the time, but we became too dependent upon them. Moving forward, we must have most of the maintenance done by our own Soldiers. In a LSCO environment, the benefit of having civilians on the battlefield may not be an option.

To facilitate Soldiers doing most of the maintenance, we must get better at troubleshooting. Far too often we turn allegedly bad parts back into the supply system only to arrive at the depot or other repair facility to be put on a test stand and find that there is no evidence of failure (NEOF). Utilization of training available from logistic assistance representatives (LARs), LAR University, or at Corpus Christi Army Depot can provide training to supplement that in the standard education system.

Probably most importantly, sustaining takes command involvement. Where command teams decide to spend their time has an impact. If you prioritize sustaining today, then you will have a better chance of having and sustaining operational aircraft in combat.

Bridging the Gap

Just because some of our newer systems may still be years out, there are sustainment concepts that we need to develop on our enduring fleet to enable the future fleet as well.

First, we must embrace the possibilities of advanced (both subtractive and additive) manufacturing techniques. The benefits include not only enabling temporary repairs forward on the battlefield, but also significantly improving overall supply availability as parts will take less time to produce. Making a part that looks the same and fits the same is relatively easy but qualifying it to airworthiness standards is hard. However, establishing the standards to qualify advanced manufactured parts will not happen on its own. We need to continue to develop and refine those standards to facilitate operations on both the enduring and future fleet.

Second, we must evolve from condition based maintenance (CBM) and CBM+ to Prognostic and Predictive Maintenance (PPMx). Army Aviation led the way in instrumenting our platforms and getting meaningful data from them through CBM and CBM+. But we have not realized the extent of the gains that are possible. Using reliability centered maintenance as part of PPMx, we can get to a point where we are changing out components in a predictive nature and thus give commanders more options. Once again, establishing these systems now will benefit both the enduring and future fleet.

Executing missions in a LSCO environment will be challenging from an operational perspective. I contend sustaining those operations will be even more of a challenge. Consequently, if we want to fight and win in the future, it becomes imperative that we not only continually adapt our sustainment systems today, but also change for the future.



MG K. Todd Royar is the commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) at Redstone Arsenal, AL

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PEO Aviation – Aggressively Implementing MOSA

By BG Robert L. Barrie



As Army Aviation continues to modernize for the requirements of competition in a near-peer conflict, PEO Aviation is transforming the way we do business. Leveraging the foundational work accomplished by my predecessors, we continue moving away from individual, stove-piped solutions, in favor of portfolio-targeted solutions that better optimize Army investments across the total aviation force. Our goal is to invest in a capability once and leverage it multiple times across the fleet. This allows common use

of advanced capabilities across both the Future Vertical Lift Ecosystem and our enduring fleet. This business approach and portfolio optimization is critical to efficiently develop our next generation capabilities while ensuring the readiness and relevance of our fielded systems.

Central to our plan is the aggressive implementation of a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) and the reduction of different and divergent architectures. Converging our aviation architectures will ensure that both

Three CH-47F Chinook helicopters, operated by 12th Combat Aviation Brigade (12th CAB), land at the Maneuver Training Area, Baumholder, Germany during Chinook live-fire aerial gunnery training. The Common Avionics Architecture System on the CH-47 is one of several programs that have taken important steps towards maturing PEO Aviation's MOSA efforts.

our enduring and future fleets are affordable, sustainable, and upgradeable as the threats we encounter change and evolve. The use of MOSA will also



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PEO AVIATION PHOTO MONTAGE

PEO Aviation is requiring MOSA in the development of our future fleet which allows programs developed for the FVL Ecosystem to be used for modernization of the enduring fleet. This focused modernization effort not only maintains overmatch capabilities for our commanders but also contributes significantly to the development of our next generation platforms by informing requirements and burning down risk.

provide commanders with increased aircraft readiness and enhanced capabilities while reducing production complexities and supply chain risk.

What it is Not

Before further describing our MOSA implementation plan, it is important to describe what it is NOT. Our plan will NOT grow a significant bureaucracy that unilaterally applies standards and interfaces across the fleet. Instead, we will apply MOSA selectively towards opportunities that present the best business cases using small, agile teams of subject matter experts and rapid decision-making. Acknowledging the complexity of this endeavor, our plan will likely NOT achieve perfection on its first pass. As a result, our plan postures the team to evolve our implementation over time to address the challenges we will undoubtedly discover. Further, our plan does NOT require blanket delivery of intellectual property (IP) and data rights from our industry teammates. Instead, IP and data rights will be appropriately negotiated ensuring compliance to our MOSA approach, while recognizing industry contribution in development.

This will require PEO Aviation to clearly delineate and describe requirements for interfaces, software, and algorithms in our implementation. A critical feature of our successful implementation is the recognition and protection of industry's intellectual property.

Incremental Plan

Our MOSA implementation plan will be accomplished in an incremental manner, and will continue to rely on input from industry, government stakeholders, and academia. We are proceeding with establishment of a disciplined set of processes and decision points aligned with the larger aviation enterprise. Our first step is focused on identifying candidate major system components (MSCs) of our mission systems. These MSCs have high-reuse potential across many platforms, have compelling operational needs, and provide a clear business case for alignment. We will then systematically apply well documented interfaces, standards, and data models to our selected MSCs. The use of consensus-based, tiered standards allows components



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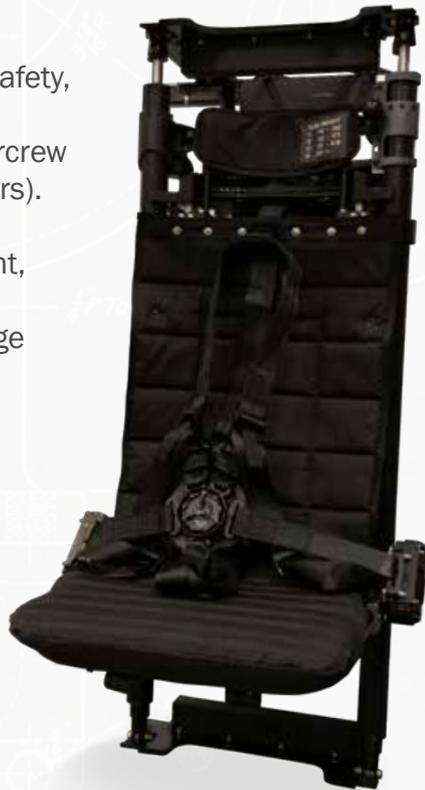
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MOSA Transformation Office

Our efforts in the identification of the MSCs and implementation of MOSA fundamentals are enabled through our newly established MOSA Transformation Office. Leveraging talent from across the PEO and our partner organizations on Redstone Arsenal, this team is spearheading the implementation of our plan. Our plan is appropriately phased and aligned to programmatic outcomes and critical capability deliveries. As we proceed, we will continue to openly communicate our intent across the enterprise and understand the business perspective throughout the totality of the supply chain.

Successful implementation also requires a structural and cultural shift in how we establish requirements, fund programs, and work across organization boundaries. Given the work already accomplished by the FVL Cross Functional Team and our science and technology community, the conditions are set for great progress with MOSA in our future fleet. We must now extend MOSA across the entire aviation domain and maximize the efficiencies, interoperability, flexibility and cost savings available to us. We are at a unique inflection point in Army Aviation and the time for MOSA is now.

Moving forward, we acknowledge the challenge of MOSA transformation but also fully recognize the immense opportunity we now have. Through the development of our long-term MOSA roadmap and investing in MOSA-related activities and infrastructure, we can realize MOSA across our entire aviation formation by driving innovation and ensuring delivery of affordable, cutting edge capabilities.



BG Robert L. Barrie is the U.S. Army Program Executive Officer, Aviation located at Redstone Arsenal, AL.

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Future Vertical Lift Cross-Functional Team Update

By MG Walter T. Rugen with LTC John Michael McClean

Since my update last year, the Future Vertical Lift Cross-Functional Team (FVL CFT) remains on glideslope with the Aviation Enterprise, Joint Services, and industry partners to deliver transformational maneuver and tempo to our Army's corps and divisions, and I am excited about the future.

Moving ahead and building on our past, I look forward to the Experimental Demonstration Gateway Event (EDGE) 21 this May to test out new tactics, technologies, and interconnecting architectures to transform joint kill chains. This includes progressive efforts connecting Joint All Domain Command and Control (JADC2) to the lower tier of the air domain by extending the reach and lethality of the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft (FARA) ecosystem. The continuing deliberate focus on experimentation, demonstration and high-fidelity modeling increases the critical shared understanding of the FVL's decisive contributions facilitating the joint kill chain.

FARA

FARA remains Army Aviation's top modernization priority and is happening as vendors are about 30% built and on track to fly before December 2022. Employed as an ecosystem, FARA's speed, range, endurance, and survivability will enable operation from relative sanctuary, employ a mesh-network of attritable Air Launched Effects (ALE) to identify, target, and effect the enemy, and organically neutralize Anti-Access/Area-Denial /

Integrated Air Defense Systems (A2AD/IADS) with organic Long Range Precision Munition (LRPM) beyond 30km. As an ecosystem, FARA will enhance the future competition space by informing and expediting joint kill chains beyond any current capabilities.

Last March, the Army selected Bell's 360 Invictus and Sikorsky's RaiderX for continued development as FARA Competitive Prototypes (CP). Both vendor CP aircraft are currently in production and on track for first flights by 1st quarter FY23. The CFT continues to coordinate with PEO Aviation to monitor the progress of FARA's critical technologies integration, specifically the Improved Turbine Engine Program (ITEP), the XM 915 20mm cannon, and the Modular Effects Launcher (MEL). FARA's development requirements are currently in staffing with Army Senior Leaders, with approval expected by May. The 2021 budget increase represented a four year acceleration of this highly successful program.

FLRAA

Future Long Range Assault Aircraft's (FLRAA) speed, range, endurance, and agility embody the transformational direction of the Army's next generation assault platform to replace the UH-60. Both Bell's tiltrotor V-280 "Valor" and Sikorsky-Boeing's coaxial lift-offset compound DefiantX represent game-changing capabilities delivering tactical effects at operational and strategic

The Arcturus JUMP 20 lands at Fort Benning, GA during the FTUAS Rodeo, March 2021.

ranges throughout contested Joint All Domain Operations (JADO) environments, with first units fielded in 2030.

In October, Army Senior Leaders approved FLRAA's development requirements. The Project Management Office for FLRAA continued refinement and maturity to transform JMR-TD airframe designs into the DefiantX and Valor weapon system designs throughout the ongoing Competitive Demonstration and Risk Reduction (CD&RR) efforts. Congress saw the tremendous value of CD&RR and added \$90.5 million to the program, fully funding a second phase. These activities maintain FLRAA's critical path for an Army down-select to a winning vendor anticipated by summer of 2022.

FUAS

The Future Unmanned Aerial System (FUAS) family of systems Future Tactical UAS (FTUAS), Air Launched Effects (ALE), and the Scalable Control Interface (SCI) embodied the "Buy, Try, Inform" approach by placing prototype capabilities directly into war-fighter's hands.

Last March, five FORSCOM BCTs fielded four Vertical Take-off and Landing (VTOL)-capable FTUAS prototypes. Unburdened by runway dependence, units demonstrated innovative FTUAS applications in a contested

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environment. Last month the yearlong FTUAS “Try and Inform” effort culminated at an FTUAS Rodeo at Ft Benning, GA. Army Leaders, BCT operators, and industry partners participated in side-by-side demonstrations and conducted roundtable discussions to inform requirements and provide the Army with options to accelerate an RQ-7B replacement.

Small form-factor, quiet, and collaborative, ALE will enable situational awareness and the joint kill chain. Last May, Army leaders approved ALE’s development requirements. By August, ten ALE development contracts, worth nearly \$30 million, were issued to maintain the momentum in technological development. At Project Convergence 20 we progressed the concept, demonstrating the reach and lethality employing six simultaneous ALEs extending mess network out to 60km.

As FTUAS freed BCTs from runway dependence, SCI will unburden operators from ground control stations as we demonstrated with a Joint Tactical Air Controller at Project Convergence 20. More importantly, SCI will enable permission based levels of interoperability to facilitate rapid information dissemination, and near-immediate sensor and



U.S. ARMY AVIATION COURTESY PHOTO

Area-I ALTIUS 600 participates in Project Convergence 20 as Air Launched Effects surrogate extending reach beyond 60km.

weapon control to the appropriate echelon to magnify Army Aviation’s effectiveness in the JADC2 kill chain. SCT’s capability development requirements are awaiting formal staffing, with approval anticipated in FY21.

MOSA

FARA, FLRAA, and FUAS will deliver transformational capabilities, but Modular Open Systems Architecture (MOSA) will ensure that each platform will retain a decisive advantage for decades. Arguably the most vital FVL signature effort, MOSA is the pathway for system interoperability between platform and mission systems via an openly defined digital backbone (DBB). A MOSA enabled DBB will allow Army

Aviation to update current technologies and rapidly adapt new capabilities on a timeline required to outpace emerging threats. Efforts from the Mission Systems Architecture Demo (MSAD) and the FVL Architecture Collaborative Working Group (ACWG) have allowed us to begin to define the standards and specification pathway to open interfaces. In addition, during the past year, Army Senior Leaders approved MOSA’s initial development requirements for codification and integration into FVL systems.

Lethality

FVL lethality continued to focus capability development to improve precision and extend weapon effective ranges as a means to achieve overmatch versus increasingly capable and long-range threat A2AD/IADS. In February, the CFT led an overwater Spike Non-Line of Sight (NLOS) missile demonstration at Eglin Air Force Base to validate its lethality and effectiveness in a maritime environment and counter Fast Inshore Attack Craft and counter Maritime SOF mission sets to name a few. Spike NLOS successfully engaged a target watercraft from 32km to prove the munition’s multi-domain viability. The Army formally announced an LRPM

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AH-64E modified with Spike NLOS missile hovers off the coast of Florida before engaging overwater target at 32km.

Shoot-Off in late 2022 for the Army industry nominations to succeed Spike NLOS as the interim LRPM solution.

Survivability

FVL Survivability focused on technological development and integration to enable high speed and low altitude missions in degraded visual environments (DVE), against peer/near-peer multi-domain threat capabilities. This focused on identifying emerging and cross-service DVE materiel solutions to facilitate 360 degree situational awareness augmentation via pilotage sensors and terrain-enabled databases. FVL's DVE increment 1 requirements are undergoing staffing, with Army Senior Leader approval expected in the upcoming months.

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Reach

Last September, Project Convergence 20 showcased the FVL ecosystem's approach to extend reach deep into a contested A2AD/IADS area. FVL CFT partnered with adjacent CFTs to experiment and demonstrate advanced targeting, communications, and multi-domain information dissemination. As targets were cued by assets from the Tactical Space Layer, a surrogate FARA ecosystem deployed six ALTIUS ALEs to establish a functioning mesh network 60km beyond the FARA's forward trace to facilitate targeting and communications. Sensor-to-shooter processing time decreased from tens of minutes to tens of seconds enabled by Artificial Intelligence, aided Threat Detection and Recognition (AiTDR), and automated information and target dissemination significantly demonstrated FVL's transformative impacts to the JADC2 kill chain.

Life-Cycle Affordability

FVL partnered with AMCOM and several academic institutions to apply innovative thinking towards revolutionary practices to increase FVL's life-cycle affordability, operational readiness, and deployed maintainability. The United States Military Academy Center for Innovation and Engineering is assessing Maintenance Free Operating Period initiatives. The University of South Carolina is conducting research to enhance Army Aviation's materiel readiness and identify cost saving initiatives in FVL programs. Lastly, Wichita State University and the National Institute of Aviation Research are digitizing the UH-60L to increase readiness and reduce costs on current systems with tremendous potential for our future systems.

Modeling and Simulations

This past year, the CFT's modeling team partnered with the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, The Research and Analysis Center, and the U.S. Government's premier threat and capability organizations to complete a detailed, high-fidelity model of the FVL ecosystem's efficacy in a maritime Defense Planning Scenario. This effort went far beyond threat rings and engagement table probabilities and critically assessed the applied physics of the domain, classified threat capabilities, and overlaid applied tactics to comprehend the FVL ecosystem's decisiveness in the lower tier of the air domain. Bottom line, FVL's reach, survivability, and lethality create operational and strategic opportunities that do not currently exist.

Conclusion

Over the last year, the FVL CFT and Aviation Enterprise achieved key milestones and sustained the momentum to deliver transformational maneuver and tempo to the warfighter posturing Army Aviation to dominate in the lower tier of the air domain. Through continued communication, synchronization, and tough choices that we must collectively make as a branch, we will deliver FARA, FLRAA, and their critical enablers to the Force in 2030.

Forge The Future!



MG Walter (Wally) T. Rugen is the director and LTC John Michael (Mike) McClean, the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft Lead Integration Officer of the U.S. Army Futures Command Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team, located at Redstone Arsenal, AL.

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AAAA 2020 National Award Winners



Joseph P. Cribbins Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award

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Ms. Crystal D. Martinez Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia

Ms. Crystal D. Martinez exemplifies the Joseph P. Cribbins Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award for her selfless and focused dedication to the healthcare of the elite members of Army Aviation. As a member of the 3rd Battalion Night Stalker Medical Team, Ms. Martinez is responsible for the health, welfare, and combat readiness of over 650 of the Special Operations Aviation warfighters in the Department of Defense. During her ten years of support she has treated, and coordinated care for the battalion, a staggering 18,300 individual patient encounters. She has personally planned and supervised the follow-on care for the combat wounded soldiers of 3rd Battalion. Timely, friendly, and patient centered care has been her focus, making her the backbone of the unit's medical section and a senior figure in the battalion. She is respected by her peers, admired by her medical officers, and loved by the Aviators and Soldiers in her care. Ms. Martinez is an outstanding employee and individual, setting the standard for civilians within the 160th and the U.S. Army. Ms. Martinez is an essential asset to Army Aviation and is greatly deserving of the 2020 Joseph P. Cribbins Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award.



James H. McClellan Aviation Safety Award

Sponsored by GE Aviation



CW3 Daniel A. Cruz 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment Task Force Saber, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, North Carolina

On 17 January 2020, 1-17 Air Cavalry Squadron ("Saber") was activated as the Multi-Functional Aviation Task Force (MFATF) headquarters for the 82nd Airborne Division's Immediate Response Force. At the time of the no-notice activation, CW3 Daniel Cruz was serving as an aviation safety officer (ASO) at the troop level. When the squadron ASO was unavailable to deploy, CW3 Cruz volunteered to serve as the ASO for the newly formed MFATF. In just 26 days, he established the TF safety program with ASOs across five different airframes, supervised a rapid outload, coordinated with joint and international aviation partners for live-fire and maritime operations, and enabled the TF to assume Mission Operational Capability. When TF Saber initiated shipboard operations aboard the USS Puller, he standardized a self-start deck landing qualification training program and authored an innovative Safety Standard Operating Procedure for all shipboard operations, including maintenance and rearming. In the span of five months, he instilled and led a safety program amidst high-risk land, air, and maritime operations; including, the establishment of a no-notice 10-point FARP. As a direct result of his efforts, TF Saber flew more than 2,680 flight hours over land and sea, then conducted a rapid redeployment without a single recordable accident or injury. CW3 Cruz has earned the 2020 James H. McClellan Aviation Safety Award.



Gary G. Wetzel Aviation Soldier of the Year

Sponsored by Bell



SPC Benjamin E. Mingus Company D, 1st Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment (Air Assault) Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Specialist Benjamin E. Mingus is unlike any aircraft maintainer in Army Aviation today. Throughout 2020, he propelled his AH-64E Armament shop to achieve feats that most units will never come close to surpassing. In just 12 months, the 1-101st executed three aerial gunnery exercises, two combat training center rotations, an Aviation Resource Management Survey, and a deployment in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve, logging 3,215 flight hours with an average readiness rate of 83.5%. This enabled the timely identification and remediation of critical aircraft faults by SPC Mingus. His efforts allowed for a 100% shop and hangar inspection rating, the launching of 10 fault-free aircraft during the National Training Center culminating event, and the qualification of all AH-64E pilots before and during deployment amid COVID restrictions. With technical knowledge unprecedented for his experience level, SPC Mingus was constantly sought after for his counsel. His recommendation for this award comes as no surprise to anyone in the unit as his reputation upholds him as a consummate expert in aviation maintenance. As the most proficient AH-64E maintainer and involved junior leader in his battalion SPC Mingus' drive, innovation and dogged pursuit of excellence identify him as the 2020 AAAA Aviation soldier of the year.



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Moog DRL on C208 Caravan
Photo courtesy of MAG Aerospace



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Weapon Control Panel (WCP)



Enhanced Stores Interface Unit (E-SIU)





AAAA 2020 National Award Winners



Henry Q. Dunn Crew Chief of the Year

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SSG Jaymeson K. Busche
Company C, 1st Battalion, 160th
Special Operations Aviation Regiment
(Airborne)
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

SSG Jaymeson Busche served as the Charlie Company Standardization Instructor (SI) and a Fully Mission Qualified (FMQ) crew chief for the Army's only dual role attack and assault helicopter company, consisting of 12 highly modified MH-60M Direct Action Penetrator (DAP) Black Hawk helicopters. A proven combat leader, he was personally selected to serve as the NCOIC of a Presidentially directed no-notice contingency operation to kill/capture a senior counterterrorism target. SSG Busche was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor for his execution of the mission during which he repeatedly exposed himself to withering enemy fire directly engaging the enemy and expertly directing his team's aerial attacks. A seasoned professional, he has flown over 1,500 flight hours, 300 of which in combat, conducted over 175 named combat operations, and lead the execution of seven no-notice deployments in support of the National Mission Force. His leadership in the role of company SI was instrumental in the training and proficiency of 32 non-rated crew members in spite of unprecedented challenges arising from the COVID-19 global pandemic. SSG Busche's tenacity, professionalism and unparalleled contributions to the defense of our nation's vital interests identify him as 2020 AAAA Henry Q. Dunn Crew Chief of the Year.



Rodney J.T. Yano Noncommissioned Officer of the Year

Sponsored by
Lockheed Martin Corporation



SGT Daniel J. Crandall
1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment
Fort Rucker, Alabama

SGT Daniel J. Crandall's efforts over the past year have had enormous impact, directly affecting the success of the 1-58th Airfield Operations Battalion. He led the battalion Tactical Aviation Control (TAC) Team during pre-deployment certification exercises and the subsequent nine-month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA). As a member of the TAC Team, he executed numerous training exercises ensuring the battalion's air traffic controllers were trained and certified to assume the mission throughout East Africa. He used his vast knowledge and experience as a seasoned air traffic controller to operate as a landing zone safety officer in Kismayo, Somalia in support of CJTF-HOA. SGT Crandall was certified to conduct LZ operations at an extremely remote location, often as the only air traffic controller. His mastery of air traffic control and airfield management allowed the safe accomplishment of 7,000 aircraft sorties. He trained Somali air traffic controllers and oversaw the upkeep of the landing surface at Kismayo. SGT Crandall's hard work and dedication to mission accomplishment this past year resulted in the tremendous success of the unit's deployment and identify him as the 2020 Rodney T. Yano Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.



Michael J. Novosel Army Aviator of the Year

Sponsored by Sikorsky, a
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CW2 Joseph C. Dadiomoff
Company B, 1st Battalion,
160th Special Operations Aviation
Regiment (Airborne)
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

CW2 Joseph Dadiomoff is the program manager of Army Aviation's only Forward Air Controller (Airborne) program which resides within the SOCOM enterprise, implementing an extremely demanding FAC(A) training syllabus pushing the envelope of lethal fires delivery from Army aircraft. He utilized his vast fires knowledge and expertise from both air and ground experience to develop and implement a new Fires Standardization Office/Master Gunner position within Task Force 1-160th SOAR (A). Over the last 12 months, he was the most deployed flight lead in Bravo Company, deploying to combat 3 times totaling 154 days with an additional 60 days on CONUS temporary duty in support of the greater SOF enterprise. During a 60 day period, he planned and coordinated with over a dozen different SOF ground forces in theater and executed and accomplished 55 missions against named objectives including being the lead fires planner in a recovery of two American citizens. His leadership and ability to develop and nurture relationships with supported forces not only resulted in synergistic and lethal effects on the battlefield, but a shared trust that his teams provide unwavering support and commitment to ensure mission accomplishment. CW2 Dadiomoff's unmatched achievements identify him as the 2020 Michael J. Novosel Aviator of the Year.



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AAAA 2020 National Award Winners



Robert M. Leich Award

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CW3 Jeremy B. Rogers

Company f, 1st Battalion,
160th Special Operations
Aviation Regiment (Airborne)
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

CW3 Jeremy Rogers' management and coordination led to a phenomenally successful year for 1st Bn., 160th SOAR (ABN). His efforts directly influenced an aircraft operational readiness rate of 88%, well above the Army standard during an extremely multi-dimensional year for the unit. CW3 Rogers' relentless motivation and superb management skills, coupled with his technical and tactical expertise lead to some impressive accomplishments for the 160th, all while working with minimum manning due to COVID-19. CW3 Rogers was responsible for equipping, resourcing, manning, and managing 14 MH-60M 500 Hour preventive maintenance inspections (PMIs), 17 MH-6 300 Hour PMIs, and the completion of repair for a battle-damaged aircraft. CW3 Rogers was a key stakeholder in the transition to the MH-60M PMI from the 360 and 720 PMI 1 and 2 to the single 500-hour maintenance event. Their 300,000 maintenance man hours resulted in 12,036 flight hours of combat power for the nation's most critical mission requirements. He drove the Regiment's move to the Maintenance Readiness Level (MRL) Program, ensuring the battalion's program best arms their maintainer's knowledge, training, and structure. For his dedicated efforts and accomplishments, CW3 Jeremy Rogers is recognized as the winner of the 2020 AAAA Robert M. Leich Award.



AAAA John J. Stanko Army National Guard Aviation Unit of the Year

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LTC Kyle B. Liudahl
(Commander)



CSM Todd W. Sudheimer
(Senior NCO)

2nd Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment

Task Force Ragnar
Saint Paul, MN

The 2-147th Assault Helicopter Battalion mobilized in support of Operation Inherent Resolve in 2020 restricted in size with the headquarters below authorized strength. Upon the reorganization of the 34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, 2-147th was organized as TF Ragnar consisting of nine companies: a headquarters, AH-64, CH-47, UH-60M (augmented), MEDEVAC, lift maintenance (aug.), attack maintenance, signal, and forward support. Ragnar was the lead for air support to the U.S. Baghdad embassy protests and exfil of 500 personnel from the embassy. A theater ballistic missile strike from Iran on the MEDEVAC unit at Al Asad Air Base caused injuries and the loss of an HH-60 that was non-mission capable. Subsequent multiple rocket attacks on Camp Taji caused loss of life and other injuries. While the theater was changing, Ragnar supported base closures across the AO, to include moving its own headquarters; all while dealing with theater restrictions due to COVID-19 which caused an extension of the deployment by a month. COVID-19 and riots in cities back home placed additional stresses on the servicemembers who couldn't help their families. Through it all, TF Ragnar continued its mission. The Soldiers of the 2-147th Aviation earned the AAAA John J. Stanko Army National Guard Aviation Unit of the Year award!

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AAAA 2020 National Award Winners



AAAA Active Army Aviation Unit of the Year

Sponsored by
L3 Harris



LTC Margaret G. W. Stick
(Commander)



CSM Mark Anthony L. Claudio
(Senior NCO)

1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment Task Force Saber, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, North Carolina

In 2020 Task Force Saber was alerted for a real-world deployment with no notice. In response to a direct attack on U.S. forces by a foreign power, they organized, prepped, and deployed one of the largest Aviation task forces in recent history. They moved 28 helicopters, four RQ-7 Shadows, 36 vehicles, 101 containers, and 528 paratroopers from Fort Bragg, in 26 days from notification. While deployed they flew over 2,680 hours, conducted 60 gunnery tables, qualifications for more than 142 crewmembers, deployed and manned a 10-point forward arming and refuel point and flew medium and heavy-lift missions across the Northern Arabian Gulf. They were tasked with the embarkation of their AH-64Es on the USS Lewis B. Puller, a first of its kind event for both the Task Force and the Navy's Expeditionary mobile base vessel. They planned and executed deck landing qualifications and joint training with the Navy and partner forces in the Gulf. Their determination allowed them to conduct 30 real-world medical evacuations, move tons of cargo and equipment via 19 complex sling load operations, support 1,146 airborne jumps and safely conduct 847 flights in the 78 days deployed. TF Saber Soldiers' actions and accomplishments clearly identify them as the 2020 AAAA Active Aviation Unit of the Year.



AAAA Outstanding Aviation Unit of the Year

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COL Gregory D. Fix
(Commander)



CW5 Keith J. Shelstad
(Command Chief
Warrant Officer)



CSM Mitchell G. Hellkamp
(Senior NCO)

34th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade Saint Paul, Minnesota

34th ECAB, Task Force Red Devils, mobilized from 02 January 2020 to 29 September 2020 to support Operations Inherent Resolve, Spartan Shield, and Saudi Reassurance. TF Red Devils transformed into an innovative multi-functional task force comprised of Soldiers from all three Army components and Coalition Forces from two other countries. The Red Devils distinguished themselves by providing adaptive mission command across twenty locations in five countries under unprecedented circumstances: the world pandemic, multiple base attacks resulting in mass casualty conditions, and complex operations with strategic implications. The TF synchronized over 110 aircraft tactical employments, transported more than 23,500 passengers, moved in excess of 4.8 million pounds of cargo, and closed six locations. They flew over 31,500 combined total rotary-wing, UAS, and fixed-wing combat flight hours, including more than 17 enemy engagements, and over 265 aeromedical evacuations. The TF logistics teams completed over 5,500 work orders, distributed more than 16,500 mission-critical packages, supplied in excess of 305,000 gallons of fuel; ground transportation teams executed 287 missions and the air traffic controllers oversaw the execution of more than 80,000 aircraft operations at four airfields. TF Red Devils' Soldiers continuously exceeded Army standards throughout the mobilization persevering through rising tensions in the region and the pandemic and are clearly the 2020 AAAA Outstanding Unit of the Year.

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AAAA 2020 National Award Winners

Top Super Chapter of the Year

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Tennessee Valley Chapter Huntsville, Alabama

Chapter President: Mr. Gary Nenninger

The Tennessee Valley Chapter (TVC) remains passionate in its aviation programs and the steadfast support of our Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians resulting in the defense of the Army and our Nation. Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 Virus, in 2020 the TVC leadership continued an excellent relationship with the Huntsville/Redstone community, including the Army Materiel Command, AMCOM, and PEO Aviation. In fact, the TVC was often the first place turned to by both Aviation system commands and community organizations for support of their events and efforts during these trying times. The TVC continued its proud tradition of bringing both the commercial and government Army Aviation communities together, supporting not only individual Soldiers, but the Huntsville/Redstone community and the Aviation enterprise. They have built a most supportive membership that takes to heart their charter and works for the benefit of the chapter. In 2020 membership was over 1,800 members and the chapter received 34 scholarships worth \$72,000, while giving 27 AAAA Awards. Congratulations to Gary Nenninger and the Tennessee Valley Chapter.

Top Master Chapter of the Year

Sponsored by AAAA National



Mount Rainier Chapter Tacoma, Washington

*Chapter President:
COL (Ret.) Anthony Bolante*

The Mount Rainier chapter had an outstanding year! The chapter is the U.S. Pacific Northwest based Master Chapter that serves the Army Aviation Community especially its 395-plus members. This chapter is a mix of currently serving or retired Active Duty, Washington Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Department of the Army Civilians, and Civilian Contractors many of whom work and or live in-and-around Gray Army Airfield at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM; formerly Fort Lewis and McChord AFB). They grew by almost 17% and were the recipient of two national scholarships for their members, and they presented 30 awards to deserving members and friends of AAAA. Congratulations to COL Bolante and his team!

Top Senior Chapter of the Year

Sponsored by AAAA National



Aloha Chapter Honolulu, Hawaii

*Chapter President:
COL (Ret.) Dave P. Brostrom*

The Aloha Chapter represents AAAA Members from across the Hawaiian Islands, both those currently serving in U.S. Army Hawaii (USARHAW) units and those retired Hawaiian residents and their families. Additionally, all Hawaiian Army National Guard and Army Reserve service members within the state are represented by the Aloha Chapter. This uniquely wide reach ensures the Aloha Chapter demographic is diverse and steeped in rich Hawaiian culture and the inimitable island atmosphere. The Aloha Chapter also reaches throughout the Indo-Pacific, tied to the USARHAW focus on the region, guaranteeing the Chapter's ability to extend influence. The Chapter's driving aim is to capitalize on this reach to connect AAAA members and strengthen the heritage of Army Aviation in Hawaii and the Pacific. Congratulations to COL (Ret.) Dave Brostrom and team for being selected for the third year in a row!

Top AAAA Chapter of the Year

Sponsored by AAAA National



Bavaria Chapter Hohenfels, Germany

Chapter President: COL Phillip H. Lamb

The Bavarian Chapter is comprised of the Aviators and support personnel at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, located in Hohenfels, Germany. The men and women of the Bavarian Chapter support rotations at JMRC where they observe, coach, and train units on aviation tactics in decisive action large scale combat operations. The chapter conducted multiple programs and activities throughout the past year which enhanced its location which is unique in that it enables members access to significant historical sites throughout Europe and members enjoying all that Bavaria has to offer. Hearty congratulations to COL Phillip Lamb and the chapter members.



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Hall of Fame 2021 Inductees



**Captain James E. Stein,
Retired**

Captain James E. Stein, Retired is the epitome of an Army Aviator. Following his graduation from Army Flight school in 1969 he found himself in Vietnam with the 335th Assault Helicopter Company, the “Cowboys.” During his 21 consecutive months flying UH-1 “slicks” and the Bravo gunship, assisting U.S. troops in contact he provided life-saving support. Returning to the states and graduating from the OH-6 Cayuse course, he went back to Vietnam in 1972, assigned to the 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, the “Ruthless Riders.” Flying scouts as “Scalp Hunter Lead,” he volunteered to be at the very front lines, flying low and slow to be in position to render assistance, call in artillery, recommend B-52 Arc Lights, and evacuate the wounded, which he did, many times.

On June 19, 1972, he was shot down for the tenth and last time. During an operation northeast of Kontum, while scouting an enemy bunker, his OH-6 “Loach” came under heavy fire. Both he and his observer were wounded, him in the right knee. He maneuvered the “Loach” without the ability to use the pedals due to his injury and safely landed with help from his observer, passing out immediately after landing. His many awards and decorations speak to his valor and commitment: two Silver Stars, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Bronze stars, 94 Air Medals, two for valor, the Purple Heart and the Vietnamese Gallantry Crosses with Gold and Silver Stars.

Legendary aeroscout pilot, CPT (Ret.) Jim Stein is the epitome of an Army Aviator. He is the personification of bravery, skill, and selfless sacrifice in devotion to duty – duty to his country, to his unit and to his comrades. His deeds serve as timeless examples for the generations of Army Aviators that follow.



**CW5 Daniel R. Jollota,
Retired**

Chief Warrant Officer Five (Retired) Daniel R. Jollota’s accomplishments inspire awe. His 40 years of service, 30 years as an Army Aviator, assigned to every Special Operations Aviation unit, 8,000 flight hours, 3,500 under night vision goggles, tell the tale.

Graduating flight school, he set his sights on the most challenging assignments and missions. After a tour in Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division, he volunteered for the 617th Special Operations Aviation Detachment in Panama, where he was instrumental in securing the western corridor during the invasion of Panama. After a move to Company D, 1st Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) in 1990, he would achieve every level of leadership as a standardization pilot and an assault and attack helicopter flight-lead, proving his mettle under fire during Operation Gothic Serpent. When his MH-60 was struck by a rocket propelled grenade while at a hover, he had the fortitude to hold his position while the remaining rangers fast-roped from the aircraft. After returning the stricken Black Hawk to base, he returned to the fight for a total of 18 hours in the cockpit that day.

He sought more challenges with a special mission unit, and after ten years, was hand-picked to be the commander of the 2nd Aviation Flight Detachment at West Point, New York. His mentorship, professionalism and drive resulted in the integration of the LUH-72 Lakota helicopter into the detachment five years sooner than scheduled. His next assignment was to another special mission unit, eventually serving as the unit’s first Command Chief Warrant Officer, a position he held until his retirement in 2016.

CW5 (Ret.) Dan Jollota is the epitome of an Army Aviator – selfless service, dedication to duty and flawless professionalism. His exploits and accomplishments should be taught to our youngest aviators, an example for all.



CSM Tod Glidewell, Retired

Throughout his 30 years of service, CSM Tod Glidewell, Retired, mentored countless of soldiers and was directly responsible for the professional education of hundreds of noncommissioned officers. He served at every level, crew chief to first sergeant, technical inspector to the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Life Cycle Management Command command sergeant major, always providing the best leadership for his Soldiers along the way.

As a young soldier his leadership accomplishments were directly responsible for his battalion in Honduras being selected twice as the AAAA unit of the year.

In combat, while serving as the CSM of the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade he led the way, convoying to Mosul in the initial days of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His efforts and mentorship led to a 167% retention rate and resulted in the brigade being selected as the AAAA Robert M. Leich award winner.

BG William Forrester hand-picked him as the first CSM of the Combat Readiness/Safety Center. In this capacity he assisted in the development of a speaking and media campaign that led the Army to the lowest accident rates since the mid ‘70s. This success led to his selection as the Aviation Branch and U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence CSM, where he influenced the alignment of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems military occupational specialties and oversaw the modernization of Fort Rucker’s NCO Academy, leading to their selection as the best NCOA in the Army.

His last assignment was as the AMCOM CSM, again leading and shaping the future. He was instrumental in the placement of a sergeant major at Corpus Christi Army Depot, ensuring the standards were upheld and best efforts were produced.

His career demonstrates the effect one person can have on hundreds of thousands of Soldiers and by giving back to the Aviation community and always putting his Soldiers first.



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All Chapter information is presented in alphabetical state order, followed by overseas locations. Each chapter entry includes the original activation date and current category. Categories are based on membership size as of January 1st of the year – Super (501 and over), Master (175-500), Senior (75-174), and AAAA (74 and below). Chapter officers are reminded that they can update their chapter board information at any time by contacting membership@quad-a.org or send a hard copy to AAAA, 593 Main Street, Monroe, CT 06468-2806; call (203) 268-2450 or fax (203) 268-5870. Membership numbers listed are as of the printing of this issue and are constantly changing.

Bill Harris/Publisher

Alabama

Aviation Center Chapter Fort Rucker, AL



Category: Super Chapter; 1086 Members

Activation Date: 11/1/1957

Website: www.quad-a.org/AviationCenterChapter

Description: The Aviation Center Chapter is a highly active Super Chapter located at the 'Home of Army Aviation' in Fort Rucker, Alabama. Its diverse membership is derived from 1st Aviation Brigade, 110th Aviation Brigade, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and 164th Theater Airfield Operations Group. In addition, our membership is supported by these tenant units and activities: Air Traffic Services Command, Aviation

Center Logistics Command, U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory, U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center, U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine, and U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College. Our demographic consists of flight training students; permanent party Soldiers, DACs, contractors, and retirees. The Chapter meets on a quarterly basis for Professional Development seminars.

Officers:

COL Robert C. Doerer, RET, President
 COL Marcus A. Gengler, Senior VP
 CW3 Michael F. Monaghan, Ret., Treasurer/Secretary
 CW5 Sam R. Baker III, Retired, VP Awards
 Mr. Elvin Keith Gunter, RET, VP Civilian Affairs
 LTC Mark C. Taylor, Ret., VP Mem. Enrollment
 CW4 Robert N. Cooper, Ret., VP Retired Affairs
 COL Ray D. Gentzyl, Ret., VP Industry Affairs

Tennessee Valley Chapter Huntsville, AL



Category: Super Chapter; 1804 Members

Activation Date: 2/1/1976

Website: www.quad-a.org/TennesseeValleyChapter

Description: The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America is passionate in its aviation programs and the steadfast support of our Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians resulting in the defense of the Army and our Nation. The Tennessee Valley Chapter (TVC) leadership continues an excellent relationship with the Huntsville/Redstone community, and our chapter is often the first place turned to by both platform commands and community organizations for support of their events and efforts: and we are the first stop for industry looking for the visibil-

ity of community support. Our chapter continues a proud tradition of bringing both the commercial and government aspects of Army Aviation together, supporting not only individual Soldiers, but our community and the enterprise as a whole. We are a growing and active chapter that works hard to continue the relationships with our industry partners while garnering enthusiastic participation during our diversified and frequent Chapter events. We have built a most supportive membership that takes to heart our charter and works for the benefit of Army Aviation, AAAA National and our Chapter mission. The chapter frequently and generously supports community efforts with both financial grants and manpower.

Officers:

Mr. Gary S. Nennering, President
 COL Talmadge C. Sheppard, Senior VP
 Ms. Shannon L. Kirkpatrick, Secretary
 COL Gerald R. Davis, Jr. Ret., Treasurer
 COL David N. Gereski, Ret., VP National Guard & Reserves

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LTC Jason L. Galindo, Ret., VP Operations
 LTC Tom T. Huff, Ret., VP Scholarship
 CW4 Steven L. Sanders, Sr. Ret., VP Awards
 Ms. Kathryn S. Huff, VP Communications
 COL Theodore T. Sendak, Ret., VP Industry Affairs
 LTC Greg Oelberg, Ret., VP Programs
 LTC Cornelius L. Allen Jr., VP Logistics
 LTC Steve Bolton, Ret., VP Civilian Affairs
 LTC Bradley N. Bruce, VP Community Relations
 COL John M. Vannoy, VP Cribbins APS
 CSM Leon Hite, Jr. Ret., VP Enlisted Affairs
 Mr. Ray K. Sellers, VP Government Affairs
 CW4 Michael J. Durant, Ret., VP Mem. Enrollment
 MAJ Jonathan M. Denton, VP Military Affairs
 Mrs. Janice L. Sanders, VP Publicity
 Mrs. Jaime Theresa Justice, VP Young Professionals
 CSM Tod L. Glidewell, Ret., VP Veterans Affairs

Yellowhammer Chapter Hope Hull, AL



Category: AAAA Chapter; 39 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/2016
Website: www.quad-a.org/YellowhammerChapter

Description: Yellowhammer Chapter is affiliated but not limited to members of the Alabama National Guard. We support AL-ARNG AASFs #1, 2, and 3 based in Montgomery, Birmingham, and Mobile. Units include A/B/D/E 1-131 AHB, C/111th MEDEVAC, Det 5 OSA, B/169 GSAB, 131 ASC, A/114 S&S BN.

Officers:
 COL Johnny R. Bass, President
 CW4 James R. Pote, Secretary
 MAJ Charles Gardner, Treasurer
 CPT Zachary L. Burton, VP Member Enrollment

Alaska Northern Lights Chapter



Fort Wainwright/Fairbanks, AK
Category: Senior Chapter; 85 Members
Activation Date: 10/1/1971
Website: www.quad-a.org/NorthernLightsChapter

Description: Located in the Interior of Alaska at Fort Wainwright, we support two active-duty aviation battalions (1-52 GSAB (CH-47/UH-60) and 1-25

ARB (AH-64), a Gray Eagle Company (D/25 AVN), and a National Guard Detachment (UH-60). Currently one battalion is deployed (minus one company) and we will deploy a company from the other battalion soon.

Officers:
 LTC Jorge A. Rosario, President
 CW4 Eric W. Collier, Senior VP
 MAJ Benjamin W. Saad, Secretary
 Mr. Robert D. Marcinkowski, Treasurer
 CSM Ronnie B. Littler, VP Enlisted Affairs
 1SG Ralph T. Woods Jr., VP Member Enrollment
 CW4 Jason Ingraham, VP Member Enrollment

Arizona Arizona Chapter Mesa, AZ



Category: Master Chapter; 296 Members
Activation Date: 12/1/1985
Website: www.quad-a.org/ArizonaChapter

Description: The Arizona Chapter provides a forum for aviation professionals to share experiences and gain knowledge. We support local high school and college ROTC students and promote Army Aviation in the Phoenix and Maricopa County areas. We annually help fund an ROTC student to attend the annual AAAA Conference and routinely recognize both military and civilian personnel who have had positive impacts on Army Aviation. We conduct fundraising events to support local charities and to fund annual AAAA scholarship awards.

Officers:
 COL Jessie O. Farrington, Ret., President
 LTC Adam C. Berlew, Senior VP
 Mrs. Katie Yursky, Secretary/Treasurer
 LTC Bradley N. Rounding, Ret., VP Awards
 LTC Daniel M. Roberts, VP Scholarship
 LTC B.J. Wiley, Ret., VP Programs
 Mr. Aaron Fortune, VP Programs
 COL David F. Sale, Ret., VP Member Enrollment
 COL James Barker, Ret., VP Member Enrollment
 CW3 Michael Anderson, VP Military Affairs

Old Tucson Chapter Cortaro, AZ



Category: Senior Chapter; 126 Members

Activation Date: 5/1/1987
Website: www.quad-a.org/OldTucsonChapter

Description: Old Tucson Chapter is proud to support the greater Tucson area and especially the Western ARNG Aviation Training Site. The largest event of the year for the chapter is a golf tournament which serves as the largest fundraiser benefitting the AAAA SFI. This unique chapter hopes families, in particular, of the U.S. Army Aviation Branch feel welcomed and supported!

Officers:
 CW4 Latny L. Salt, President
 Ms. Jacqueline Gordon, Senior VP
 SSG John A. Maez, Secretary
 Mr. Brian D. Gary, Treasurer
 SFC Paul D. Eckles, VP Membership
 1SG Robyn L. Fowler, Ret., VP Scholarship

Thunder Mountain Chapter Fort Huachuca, AZ



Category: AAAA Chapter; 73 Members
Activation Date: 10/1/2006
Website: www.quad-a.org/ThunderMountainChapter

Description: The Thunder Mountain Chapter supports the 2/13th Avn. Regiment and the 304th MI Bn at Fort Huachuca. The 2/13th Avn. Regt is the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) training battalion and the 304th MI Bn is the Special Electronic Mission Aircraft (SEMA) training battalion at Fort Huachuca.

Officers:
 CW5 Luis Zamudio, Ret., President
 Mr. Mark Farrar, Senior VP
 1SG Jesse W. Martin, Treasurer

California Grizzly Chapter Fresno, CA



Category: Senior Chapter; 66 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/2017
Website: www.quad-a.org/GrizzlyChapter

Description: Grizzly Chapter is in Northern California, memberships mostly in the Fresno, Stockton, Bay Area, and Sacramento areas. Most members are from the aviation community, active or retired CAARNG.

Officers:
 LTC Shiloh Briggs, President
 MAJ David Lovett, Secretary
 MAJ Marco Acevedo, Treasurer

SSG Lindsey Denee Dillman, VP Awards
 MSG Robert H. Wood, VP Enlisted Affairs
 MSG Janet Graves, VP Enlisted Affairs

High Desert Chapter Fort Irwin, CA



Category: AAAA Chapter; 66 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1991
Website: www.quad-a.org/HighDesertChapter
Description: The High Desert Chapter is a AAAA chapter located at Fort Irwin, CA. We support Eagle Team, Operations Group and 2916th AVN at the National Training Center. We currently have 66 members.

Officers:
 LTC Derek Smith, President
 MAJ William Carrion, Senior VP
 CPT Joshua E. Rosner, Secretary
 CPT Michael P. Cavalier Jr., Treasurer
 CW4 Ariel Rodriguez-Alvarez, VP Awards
 CPT Mario Turi, VP Operations

Southern California Chapter Huntington Beach, CA



Category: Master Chapter; 329 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/1959
Website: www.quad-a.org/SouthernCaliforniaChapter

Description: Southern California chapter encompasses the Southern half of the state approximately from Vandenberg AFB on the West to Bakersfield on the East and all points South, to and including San Diego. Over 40% of the membership are industry members, another 40% active, guard and reserve personnel, with the remaining 20% individual. 10% of the membership are Life Members. The chapter's center-of-mass and focus on the Army Aviation Soldier, is the Los Alamitos JFTB and Army Airfield located in Los Alamitos, CA, Orange County, located 35 miles South of Los Angeles. The primary units supported include company size elements of the 6-52 Aviation Regiment, U S Army Reserve, and those of the 40th Infantry Division, CAARNG. Two battalions of the 40th ID's CAB, the 1-140th Assault Helicopter Bn and the 640th Aviation Support Bn are located at the Los Alamitos Army Airfield.

Officers:
 LTC John F. Hendrickson, Ret., President



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COL Russell W. Chung, Ret., Secretary
COL Russell W. Chung, Ret., VP
Scholarship
CSM Ronald D. Cabrera, VP Awards
Mr. Michael N. Letson, VP
MembEnrollment

Colorado Pikes Peak Chapter Fort Carson, CO



Category: Master Chapter; 318 Members
Activation Date: 6/1/1959
Website: www.quad-a.org/
PikesPeakChapter

Description: The Pikes Peak Chapter includes Active Duty Soldiers from the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, retired Aviation Soldiers, and Civilians. All current, former, and retired aviation Soldiers, aviation support personnel, and others interested in Army Aviation are welcome to become members of the organization.

Officers:
COL Scott A. Myers, President
CSM James Etheridge, Senior VP
MAJ Elizabeth Verardo, Secretary
1SG Becky Lee Haynes, Treasurer
CW5 (R) Joshua Kinnee, VP
Scholarship
CSM Gregory Turpin, VP Awards
SFC Keith Lovely, VP Member Enrollment

Connecticut Connecticut Chapter Stratford, CT



Category: Master Chapter; 295 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1973
Website: www.quad-a.org/
ConnecticutChapter

Description: The Connecticut Chapter supports the following Units in Connecticut, the 1109th TASMG, Commander Colonel Raymond S. Chicowski, the 1st Bn., 169 Avn. Regt Commander LTC Andrew T. Erickson, Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), Commander CAPT (Navy) Mathew W. Edwards and Get. 6, Spt. Airlift Agency (OSA-A), Commander: CW5 Renato R. Astolfi.

Officers:
Mr. John H. Palumbo, President
CW4 Charles H. Brady, Ret., Senior VP
Mr. Ronald B. Kwalek, Secretary

Mr. Matthew Lisk, Treasurer
Mr. Douglas C. Shidler, Past President
LTC Paul B. Hoar, Ret., VP
Scholarship
Mr. Domingos Fernandes, VP Programs
Mr. Tom Nicolett, VP Government Affairs
Ms. Christina Beale, VP Mem. Enrollment
COL William P. Shea, Ret., VP Military Affairs
Mr. Jay Hurley, VP Communications

Delaware Delaware Valley Chapter Philadelphia, DE



Category: Master Chapter; 303 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/1969
Website: www.quad-a.org/
DelawareValleyChapter

Description: The Delaware Valley Chapter is located outside of Philadelphia where the Boeing Vertical Lift facility produces the CH-47 Chinook for the U.S. Army and various international customers, and the V-22 Osprey for the USMC, USAF, and US Navy. Additionally, in the region, the Delaware Army National Guard are nearby along with several aerospace industry leaders and partners. The chapter holds an annual golf event to raise financial assistance which provides scholarships to college-level members of AAAA.

Officers:
COL Kevin A. Vizzari, Ret., President
Mr. Chris C. Wanitshka, Senior VP
Mr. Michael G. Younce, Secretary
Mr. Robert M. Puglisi, Treasurer
LTC Jan S. Drabczuk, Ret., Past President
Mr. Daniel E. Gallagher, Ret., VP
Scholarship
SFC Cory Armstrong, Ret., VP Mem. Enrollment
LTC John R. Bartholomew, VP ROTC Affairs
MSGT Sean Osmond, VP Publicity
CW5 Robert D. Witzler, Ret., VP Tampa Operations
COL Marcus L. Varnadore, VP STRI Affairs

Florida Central Florida Chapter Oviedo, FL



Category: Master Chapter; 528 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1989

Website: www.quad-a.org/
CentralFloridaChapter

Description: CFL Chapter is located in Orlando, Florida with the focal point supporting the simulations and training industry near PEO-STRI. Located on the Research Park of the campus of the University of Central Florida, PEO STRI is an SES 2 headquarters that support the Army Simulation, Training and Instrumentation for the War Fighter. ACC Orlando is the contracting command with many retired Army personnel and civilians. In addition to Orlando, members travel from both coasts to attend the monthly socials. From Tampa to Cocoa Beach to as far south as Miami and Key West, our chapters has just over 500 members. The chapter relies on the strong industry partnerships in sponsorships in the monthly socials and our annual golf tournament. For the past 322th months in a row, the CFL Chapter meets at Froggers in Oviedo for a monthly social from 1630hrs-1900 hrs. Through hurricanes and yes during Covid-19, the chapter has this networking event whether there are a handful or hundreds supported by our strong industry relationship.

Officers:
COL Kevin A. Vizzari, Ret., President
Mr. Chris C. Wanitshka, Senior VP
Mr. Michael G. Younce, Secretary
MAJ Michael A. Garretson, Ret., Treasurer
LTC Jan S. Drabczuk, Ret., Past President
MAJ Daniel E. Gallagher, Ret., VP
Scholarship
Mr. Robert Abascal, VP Member Enrollment
LTC John R. Bartholomew, VP ROTC Affairs
MSGT Sean Osmond, VP Publicity

Embry Riddle Eagle Chapter Daytona Beach, FL



Category: AAAA Chapter; 29 Members
Activation Date: 1/1/1978
Website: www.quad-a.org/
EmbryRiddleChapter

Description: The Embry-Riddle Eagle Chapter is located at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida and serves as a source of mentorship and aviation exploration for students and Army ROTC cadets at Embry-Riddle, Bethune-Cookman, Daytona State College, and Stetson University.

Officers:
CDT Nicholas Farese, President
CDT Zachary Adams, Senior VP
CDT Jacob Struhs, Secretary
CDT Emma Burnett, VP Scholarships

Flying Gator Chapter St. Augustine, FL



Category: Senior Chapter; 96 Members
Activation Date: 2/1/1990
Website: www.quad-a.org/
FlyingGatorChapter

Description: The Flying Gator Chapter's mission is to build camaraderie within the membership and U.S. Army Aviation in Florida, develop partnerships with local charitable organizations, and establish a scholarship program to provide college opportunities to talented young adults in our area. This chapter wants to be involved in our community. Units Supported: - 1-111th GSAB; - HHC/1-111th; - Det 1/B Co./1-111th; - C Co./1-111th; - D Co./1-111th; - E Co./1-111th; - B Co./2nd-151st S&S; - B Co./1st-185th BN; - Det 4/B Co./351st ASB; - Det 1/B Co./2nd-245th TAB

Officers:
LTC Alexander V. Harlamor, President
CW5 Christopher R. Tenaro, Senior VP
CPT Kevin L. King, Secretary
CPT Joshua D. Peek, Treasurer
CW2 Mark Miner, VP Programs
SFC Mark D. Rickel, VP Enlisted Affairs

Georgia Follow Me Chapter Columbus, GA



Category: AAAA Chapter; 63 Members
Activation Date: 4/25/2018
Website: www.quad-a.org/
FollowMeChapter

Description: The Follow Me chapter is dedicated to the AAAA pillars of Voice, Support, Recognition, and Network. We work to support the Aviation Soldier and Family, past and present, our brothers and sisters in arms, and the Greater Columbus / Fort Benning Community. We are committed to helping the community through service, academic scholarship, and recognizing those that provide exceptional contributions to the Army Aviation Community.

Officers:
MAJ J Brandon Sawyer, President
CPT Jacob A. Wood, Senior VP
SFC Thomas William Turpin, Secretary
CW2 Kenneth Robinson, Treasurer
SSG Douglas McDonald, VP Membership
CW2 Jose Benitez, VP Scholarship



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Greater Atlanta Chapter Marietta, GA



Category: Master Chapter; 243 Members

Activation Date: 1/1/1968

Website: www.quad-a.org/GreaterAtlantaChapter

Description: The Greater Atlanta Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America is a not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to support the U.S. Army AVN Soldier.

Officers:

COL Jason W. Fryman, President
MAJ Jonathan A. Sellers, Treasurer
LTC Will Cox Jr., VP Awards
MAJ Samuel Roberts, VP Marketing

Savannah Chapter Hunter AAF, GA



Category: Senior Chapter; 191 Members

Activation Date: 11/1/1966

Website: www.quad-a.org/SavannahChapter

Description: The Savannah AAAA Chapter supports soldiers and families from 3d Combat Aviation Brigade, 224th Military Intelligence Battalion, and 3-160th Special Operations Aviation Battalion. Our goal is to provide a resource of stewardship, camaraderie, and support for the local Army Aviation community. We have approximately 200 current members.

Officers:

COL Michael Sean McFadden, President
LTC Joseph A. McCarthy, Senior VP
1SG Jeremy Kuryla, Secretary
CPT Justin L. Hall, Treasurer
CW4 Jonathan M. Morrison, VP Scholarship
1SG Christopher J. Cashell, VP Awards
CW5 Timothy M. Slifko, VP Government Affairs
CSM Jermaine Baldwin, VP Mem. Enrollment

Hawaii

Aloha Chapter Wahiawa, HI



Category: Senior Chapter; 188 Members

Activation Date: 2/1/1958

Website: www.quad-a.org/AlohaChapter

Description: The Aloha Chapter represents the Hawaiian Islands and includes all AAAA members and units of US Army Hawaii (USARHAW) as well as retired Hawaiian residents and their families. Additionally, all Hawaiian Army National Guard and Army Reserves Service Members within the state fall under the Aloha Chapter. This blanket ensures the Aloha Chapter demographic is diverse with Soldiers constantly moving on and off the Islands and state resident members founded in rich Hawaiian culture and progressive island atmosphere. The Aloha Chapter's reach to the Pacific is tied directly to the USARHAW Pacific Pathways mission and guarantees the chapter's ability to extend influence and learn from experiences throughout the Pacific Islands, Asia, Australia, and all of the US. The Chapter's focus is to capitalize on this reach and bring AAAA members together to stay connected and build strength on the heritage of Army Aviation in Hawaii.

Officers:

COL Dave P. Brostrom, Ret., President
COL RJ Garcia, Senior VP
MAJ Kevin Britt, Secretary
CPT Mikayla Stewart, Treasurer
CPT Adam Lowe, VP of Activities
MAJ Matthew McNeal, VP Scholarship
CPT Amy Briggs, VP Awards
MAJ Lukas B. Berg, VP Mem. Enrollment

Iowa

Iowa Chapter Cedar Rapids, IA



Category: Senior Chapter; 81 Members

Activation Date: 6/1/1981

Website: www.quad-a.org/CedarRapidsChapter

Description: Cedar Rapids Chapter supports all of Iowa. We are based out of Cedar Rapids Iowa, but have members from across the state.

Officers:

Mr. Douglas Lloyd, President
LTC Eric Nelson, Vice President
Ms. Erin Clemen, Secretary
Ms. Kelley Kirtz, Treasurer
Mr. Aaron Runge, VP Member Enrollment

Idaho

Idaho Snake River Chapter Boise, ID



Category: Senior Chapter; 199 Members

Activation Date: 5/1/2008

Website: www.quad-a.org/IdahoSnakeRiverChapter

Description: Chapter is located in Boise, Idaho at Gowen Field. An organization which supports Idaho soldiers and their families by participating in events that foster camaraderie and fellowship throughout the military community - both past & present, provide scholarship programs to aid youth in their education, and to participate in activities that strengthen family unity. Feeder units are 1-183 AHB, Det 2/168 GSAB (MEDEVAC), DET 1/CO D/ 1-112th AVN S&S BN (LUH), and DET 35 (C-12). The Idaho Aviation Group consists of approximately 400 Soldiers.

Officers:

1LT Fernando Soto, President
1LT Jordan M. Dosch, SeniorVP
MAJ Cameron J. Ryffel, Secretary
1LT William F. Miller, Treasurer
CW2 Kyle R. Sam, VP Scholarship
SFC Tammi K. Crnkovich, VP Awards

Illinois

Land of Lincoln Chapter Peoria, IL



Category: AAAA Chapter; 33 Members

Activation Date: 4/1/1996

Website: www.quad-a.org/LandofLincolnChapter

Description: Land of Lincoln Chapter Chapter Headquarters in Peoria, Illinois located at; Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment
HQ/HHC, 1-106th Avn; Co A, 1-106 Avn; Co B, 1-106th Avn; Co C, 1-106th Avn; Co D, 1-106th Avn; Co E, 1-106th Avn; Co B, (-) 2nd Bn, 238th Avn Reg; Co B(-), 935th GSAB; Det 2, Co G.; 1st Battalion, 111th Avn Reg (Med Evac); Det 5, Co A, 2nd Battalion, 245th Avn Reg

Officers:

COL Leonard H. Jansen, Ret., President
CW5 David W. Hammon, Treasurer

Kansas

Flint Hills Chapter Manhattan, KS



Category: Senior Chapter; 124 Members

Activation Date: 4/1/1959

Website: www.quad-a.org/FlintHillsChapter

Description: The Army Aviation Association of America Flint Hills Regional Chapter is a network of aviation professionals who recognize excellence and give voice and support to Soldiers and their Families, and promote new ideas for the future.

Officers:

COL Bryan J. Chivers, President
LTC Jacob A. Whiteside, Senior VP
1SG Christopher R. Stewart, Secretary
MSG Cory R. Barnes, Treasurer
CW5 Matt Fitter, USAR, VP Awards
SGM Jeremy Michael Short, VP Enlisted Affairs
LTC Robert S. Holcroft, VP Mem. Enrollment

Frontier Army Chapter Fort Leavenworth, KS



Category: Senior Chapter; 126 Members

Activation Date: 8/1/1969

Website: www.quad-a.org/FrontierArmyChapter

Description: The Frontier Army Chapter supports AAAA members at Combined Arms Center (CAC), Army University, the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS and the greater Kansas City area.

Officers:

COL Ken Hawley, President
LTC William D. Kuchinski, Ret., Secretary
LTC Edward D. Jennings, Ret., Treasurer
LTC Willis F. Jackson Jr. Ret., VP Mem. Enrollment

Kentucky

Air Assault Chapter Fort Campbell, KY



Category: Super Chapter; 830 Members

Activation Date: 12/1/1959

Website: www.quad-a.org/AirAssaultChapter www.facebook.com/AirAssaultChapterAAAA

Description: The AAAA Air Assault Chapter includes Active Duty Soldiers from the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade and the 160th Army Special Operations Aviation Regiment, retired Aviation Soldiers and Civilians. The Air Assault Chapter welcomes current, former, and retired aviation Soldiers, aviation support personnel, and all others interested in Army Aviation to



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become members of the organization. Our Chapter actively supports and sustains our Soldiers, their families and their assigned unit activities. The Air Assault Chapter provides reduced cost for younger soldiers to attend organizational events with their families. We also provide scholarship funds to soldiers, senior NCOs, officers and their families. Our chapter provides recognition Awards for Aviation Soldiers, aviation support personnel and spouses.

Officers:

COL Henry Ruth III Ret., President
COL Stephen C. Smith, Ret., Senior VP
CW5 George C. Arzente, Ret., Secretary
CW5 Robert L. Huffman, Ret., VP Scholarship
Mrs. Tamela Taliento, VP Industry Affairs
SFC Andrew J. McClure, Ret., VP Enlisted Affairs
CW5 Jeff Gregg, Ret., Treasurer

Bluegrass Chapter Frankfort, KY



Category: AAAA Chapter; 50 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/2007
Website: www.quad-a.org/BluegrassChapter

Description: The Bluegrass Chapter was established in March 2007 in Frankfort and is dedicated to providing support to KY ARNG Aviation Soldiers and their families throughout the Commonwealth. Units Supported: All KYARNG Aviation Units. 63rd TAB, 751st AV BN, B Co 2-147th AASLT, C 1-376th S&S, B 351st, Det 1/C/2-238th MED, Det 4/C/3-135th AV REGT

Officers:

LTC Gabriel D. Spicer, President
COL Michael Armstrong, Senior VP
SSG Amanda N. Marlow, Secretary
LTC Jeremy Adam Kearney, Treasurer
MSG Michael R. Ball, VP Scholarship

Gold Standard Chapter Fort Knox, KY



Category: Senior Chapter; 183 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/1959
Website: www.quad-a.org/GoldStandardChapter

Description: AAAA organization located at Fort Knox, KY and serving Army Aviation in the Kentucky and Indiana regions. The chapter supports all three components of Army Aviation, Active Army, Army Reserve and

Army National Guard. Within the chapter footprint are Army Reserve Aviation units to include: the Army Reserve Aviation Command, 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, 8-229th Aviation Regiment, C/5-159th Aviation Regiment, G/5-159th Aviation Regiment, C/6-52nd Aviation Regiment; Active Army units include the Aviation Branch Management Office of HRC, Godman AAF Operations/ATC facilities; Army National Guard units include various Indiana Aviation units. The Gold Standard Chapter currently has 185 members, most based in the Fort Knox area.

Officers:

COL Andrew Doehring, Ret., President
CW5 Chris James, Ret., Senior VP
CW3 Michael Argus, Treasurer
CW3 Timothy A. Dailey, VP Scholarship
MAJ Steven Kramer, VP Programs
CW5 Troy DeGoyler, VP Member Enrollment

Louisiana

Bayou Chapter Camp Beauregard Pineville, LA



Category: AAAA Chapter; 55 Members
Activation Date: 2/15/2017
Website: www.quad-a.org/BayouChapter

Description: AAAA Bayou Chapter enables Service Members to provide support for our brother and sister Soldiers, Families, and AAAA members through AAAA activities. Having a local chapter increases esprit de corps. It brings a sense of cohesion and support. Having the means to conduct activities, such as socials, meetings, events together provides an excellent vehicle for building good team relationships. There are multiple deployments on our horizon, spread out far and near. Being part of this association means that no matter where you go in the world, you will still have a place in Bayou Chapter. Sometimes that sense of belonging can turn a bad day into a good one. This sense of unity is the primary reason we want to start our own Chapter. Our goal is to build a strong and successful chapter that will provide members access to these wonderful benefits for many years to come.

Officers:

Christopher W. Kegerreis, President
MAJ Chad Allen Hines, Senior VP
CPT Bobby K. Woods, Secretary
CW5 James Brad Smith, Treasurer
CPT Clarence K. Stiles III, VP Social Events

Ragin' Cajun Chapter Fort Polk, LA



Category: AAAA Chapter; 44 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/1973
Website: www.quad-a.org/RaginCajunChapter

Description: We are the Ragin' Cajun Chapter! We are located here at Fort Polk with 43 members ranging from active duty to retired. We are comprised of units here on the installation being sourced mainly from 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment. Our goal is to come up with new ways to get service members interested in joining and get current members more active in the chapter.

Officers:

LTC Edward A. Williams, Ret., President
LTC JD Swinney, Senior VP
CW2 Nick Blunt, VP Member Enrollment
CPT Tyler Smith, Treasurer
CPT Dallas W. Critchfield, VP Awards

Voodoo Chapter Hammond, LA



Category: Master Chapter; 149 Members
Activation Date: 6/1/2002
Website: www.quad-a.org/VoodooChapter

Description: The Voodoo Chapter is a 300+ member strong chapter located in southeast Louisiana consisting of mainly, but not exclusively, Louisiana Army National Guard members. Voodoo is a very generous and community-oriented chapter openly welcoming new members and growing year after year. We consistently provide \$10,000.00 a year in scholarship to either our members or members of AAAA world-wide.

Officers:

MAJ Brian P. Guilbeau, President
COL John P. Plunkett, Senior VP
SGT Nicole Morgan, Secretary
SGM Rudolph M. Cambre, Treasurer
SSG Stephen L. Gifford Jr., VP Member Enrollment

Massachusetts Minuteman Chapter Hanscom AFB, MA



Category: Senior Chapter; 169 Members
Activation Date: 12/1/1991
Website: www.quad-a.org/MinutemanChapter

Description: Minuteman Chapter of AAAA is made up of Aviation soldiers from Massachusetts and the New England area as well as industry and retired members. Our past 4 years have been deployment intensive; we look forward to our members returning and reviving our events!

Officers:

COL Matthew J. Kennedy, President
COL Robert W. O'Connell, Senior VP
MAJ James Robert Paulette Jr., Treasurer
LTC Jonas Patrino, VP Scholarship
CW4 Timmy L. Tompkins, VP Programs

Maryland Mid-Atlantic Chapter Aberdeen, MD



Category: Master Chapter; 337 Members
Activation Date: 9/1/1966
Website: www.quad-a.org/Mid-AtlanticChapter

Description: The Mid-Atlantic Chapter, formerly the Monmouth Chapter is regionally organized with its territory covering: New Jersey: - US Army Reserve: 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade and 2-228th Aviation Battalion - New Jersey National Guard: 1-150th Aviation Battalion - Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center: (CERDEC) Flight Test Activity; Pennsylvania: Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA; Maryland: - Maryland National Guard: 29th Combat Aviation Brigade, 1100th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group (TASMG), 1-224th Aviation Battalion - Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors (PEO IEW&S) - US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (REDCOM)

Officers:

COL Charles Schulze, President
COL Dave Paolucci, Senior VP
CW3 Teri Thomas, Secretary
1SG Matt Gwin, Treasurer
CW5 Albert B. Isenock, Ret., VP Scholarship
LTC Michael G. Olmstead, Ret., VP Membership
SGM Joyce M. Wilson, Ret., VP 244th Programs

Michigan Great Lakes Chapter Grand Ledge, MI



Category: Senior Chapter; 192 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/2000



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2021 AAAA Chapter Directory

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Website: www.quad-a.org/
GreatLakesChapter

Description: The Great Lakes Chapter covers the state of Michigan, including 2 flight facilities, Shadow UAS detachment, and a C-12 detachment at the Lansing Airport. While most of the chapter was deployed in 2020 and COVID kept the activities to a minimum, we plan to rebuild a stronger and more influential chapter in 2021.

Officers:

CW3 Ronald F. Ziehmer, Senior VP
SGT Steven Foster, Secretary
CW3 Lee Fuller, Treasurer
SSG Alejandro Villareal, VP Member
Enrollment
SPC Manuel Vasquez, VP Member
Enrollment

Minnesota North Star Chapter St. Paul, MN



Category: Senior Chapter; 132 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1991
Website: www.quad-a.org/
NorthStarChapter

Description: The North Star chapter supports the Soldiers and families of the 34th ECAB out of St. Paul, MN. Units include HQ 34th ECAB, 2/147 AHB, 834th ASB, and DETs from 2/211 GSAB and 1/171 GSAB.

Officers:

COL Gregory D. Fix, President
MAJ Jonathan P. Andrews, Treasurer
LTC Jeremy Degier, VP Member
Enrollment

Missouri Lindbergh Chapter Defiance, MO



Category: Master Chapter; 197 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/1960
Website: www.quad-a.org/
LindberghChapter

Description: The Lindbergh Chapter was established in St. Louis, Missouri on August 1, 1960 and encompasses the greater St. Louis Missouri metropolitan area. Membership includes active and retired military, active Department of Defense civilians, and many local industry members and corporations. The chapter has reached out and joined with the Gateway Chapter of the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation & Flying Museum to offer additional opportunities for our members to support Army Aviation.

Officers:

Mr. David J. Weller, President
Mr. Timothy Hughes, Senior VP
Ms. Vicki L. Schmitz, Secretary
Mr. Marc Crawford, Treasurer
Mr. Robert Stenberg, VP Scholarship
Ms. Jan J. Garmon, VP Mem.
Enrollment

ShowMe Chapter Sedalia, MO



Category: AAAA Chapter; 51 Members
Activation Date: 5/1/1998
Website: www.quad-a.org/
ShowMeChapter

Description: ShowMe Chapter Represents the Aviation community of the Missouri Army National Guard. ShowMe represents 35th CAB, 1-135th AHB, 935th ASB, 1107th Aviation Group, B-Co, 1-376th S&S

Officers:

LTC Derrick S. Jennings, President
MAJ Adam David Mankey, Senior VP
CW5 Greg McManus, Ret., Vice President
LTC John P. Martin, Ret., Secretary
CPT Benjamin A. Hansen, Treasurer
MAJ Brandon Heimericks, VP
Scholarship

Mississippi Magnolia Chapter Jackson, MS



Category: Senior Chapter; 123 Members
Activation Date: 5/1/2001
Website: www.quad-a.org/
MagnoliaChapter

Description: Magnolia Chapter is a chapter comprised primarily of MS National Guard personnel. Additionally, the chapter is made up of civilians, defense industry, active duty and reserve Soldiers, and Families (current and retired).

Officers:

LTC Mark W Johnson, President
LTC Len A Fortenberry, Senior VP
CPT Brandon L Dixon, Treasurer
1LT Matthew C Sullivan, VP Scholarship
CW3 Anthony J Impastato, VP Membership
CW4 Robert S Herrington, Secretary

Montana Big Sky Chapter Helena, MT



Category: Senior Chapter; 84 Members

Activation Date: 3/1/2018

Website: www.quad-a.org/
BigSkyChapter

Description: The Big Sky Chapter is located in Helena, Montana. Currently, the primary units supported are HHC 1-189th, A CO 1-189th, CO C 1-189th (MEDEVAC), CO B 1-189th, CO D 1-189th, CO E 1-189th, Det 1 640th ASB, 1-112th S&S, and JFHQ DCS AVN. There are members of the Big Sky Chapter who served elsewhere and either made their way home to Montana or decided to make Montana their home and they come from all areas of Aviation. We have a variety of ranks and ages currently serving as members and will continue to strive for improved membership numbers by holding more AAAA activities and membership drives. Getting the information out to those non-members and the benefits of being an AAAA member are significant.

Officers:

COL James Wilkins, President
LTC Robert Oleson, Senior VP
1LT Tom Meredith, Secretary
CPT Sean Hay, Treasurer
CW4 Mike Walsh, VP Member
Enrollment

Nevada Battle Born Chapter Reno, NV



Category: Senior Chapter; 114 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/2018
Website: www.quad-a.org/
BattleBornChapter

Description: Just as our State was once born into battle, many of us in the Battle Born chapter of Army Aviation Association of America have been born into the great organization of Army Aviation at a time when our country was sending the Army into battle, many of us to the Middle East. But just like our great State's Motto: "All for Our Country", we have all devoted ourselves to this great nation of ours through our dedicated service in US Army Aviation. This Chapter of AAAA was founded to celebrate our service, remember those that came before us, and to help shape the future of Army Aviation. We invite all current, former, and future members of Army Aviation to join us along with their friends, family, and members of the community that are interested in supporting Nevada Army Aviation. The history of Army Aviation in Nevada is distinguished and spans generations of members who have served their State and Country. Nevada Army Aviation has served the communities of Nevada and many States around the country by performing missions of MEDIVAC, WildFire Airdrops, Search and Rescues, Humanitarian Aid, and Combat Deploy-

ments. Units from Nevada have served in locations around the world such as Panama, Kosovo, Haiti, Canada, and Afghanistan.

Officers:

MAJ Andrew S. Wagner, President
CW2 Brandon Dewhurst, Senior VP
CW2 Jacob Houser, Secretary
Matthew Jonkey, Treasurer

New Jersey Jersey Chapter Neptune, NJ



Category: AAAA Chapter; 34 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1959
Website: www.quad-a.org/Jersey Chapter

Description: The Jersey Chapter, formerly part of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter and originally of the Monmouth Chapter is organized geographically by the State of New Jersey with its territory covering: New Jersey National Guard: 1-150th Aviation Battalion Lakehurst, JBMDL and New Jersey AASF #1 West Trenton and New Jersey AASF #2 Picatinny Arsenal; C5ISR Flight Activity Division: C5ISR Center, Intelligence and Information Warfare Directorate U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM); US Army Reserve: 244th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade and 2-228th Aviation Battalion

Officers:

Mr. John Klubnick Sr., Senior VP
MAJ Eric J. Tolska, Secretary
Mr. Edward M. Lee, Treasurer
Mrs. Catherine C. Roache, VP
Member Enrollment

North Carolina Iron Mike Chapter Fort Bragg, NC



Category: Master Chapter; 220 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1959
Website: www.quad-a.org/
IronMikeChapter

Description: Located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, home of the Airborne and Special Operations Forces, the Iron Mike Chapter supports a large and diverse Aviation community consisting of the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, the United States Army Special Operations Aviation Command, and aviators conducting operations in support of FORSCOM, the XVIII Airborne Corps, and the 82nd Airborne Division.

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Officers:

COL E.J. Irvin, II, President
LTC Ryan I. Moore, Senior VP
MAJ Nick C. Currie, Secretary
CW5 Charles W. Roberts, Ret.,
Treasurer
MAJ William H. Gratz, VP Scholarship
CPT Craig Jonathan Coyle, VP Awards
COL David O. Jernigan, Ret., VP
Programs
CW5 Mark A. Meyer, VP Member
Enrollment

Tarheel Chapter Raleigh, NC



Category: Senior Chapter; 150 Members
Activation Date: 12/1/1977
Website: www.quad-a.org/TarheelChapter

Description: The Tarheel Chapter supports the Army Aviation Soldiers and Family members of the North Carolina National Guard consisting of the 449th Theater Aviation Brigade (TAB), located at the RDU airport and with over 3800 officers and soldiers and over 130 aircraft. The 449 TAB supports the AH-64D (Apache) Battalion, the UH-60 (Blackhawk) Company, the UH-72 (Lakota) Detachment, a C-26 Detachment, and an Airfield Operation Battalion.

Officers:

CW2 John S. Feutz, President
SFC Scott Ringenbach, Secretary
MAJ Christopher E. Peterman, Treasurer
MAJ Patrick J. Szvetitz, VP Scholarship
LTC Lisa M. Whitley, VP Programs
CSM Derwood L. Norris, VP Member
Enrollment

Nebraska

Prairie Soldier Chapter Grand Island, NE



Category: Senior Chapter; 86 Members
Activation Date: 7/14/2009
Website: www.quad-a.org/PrairieSoldierChapter

Description: The Prairie Soldier Chapter is the Nebraska Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America. This Chapter is here to support Army Aviation Soldiers (Active, Reserve, National Guard, and Retired) and their families across Nebraska. Two primary locations we have unit presence are at AASF1 in Lincoln and AASF2 in Grand Island. We support unit functions such as send-offs and welcome homes, National Airborne Day and the Aviation Ball. We also assist and encourage member participation in the Scholarship program when applicable. We host social functions in the form of races, sporting events, and enhance FRG activities when able.

Officers:

MAJ Dustin A. Wilkie, President
CW4 Matthew D. Greathouse, Senior VP
CW4 Joseph M. Dolton, Secretary
CW3 Courtney L. Miller, Treasurer
CW3 Zachary Hartmann, VP Activities
1SG Gus R. Swanson, VP Enlisted
Affairs
CW4 Jeffery J. Caniglia, VP Member
Enrollment

New Mexico

Zia Chapter Santa Fe, NM



Category: Senior Chapter; 93 Members
Activation Date: 7/1/2007
Website: www.quad-a.org/ZiaChapter

Description: The Zia Chapter draws its members primarily from Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico. And we have a few members in other parts of New Mexico, such as Las Cruces and Roswell. Membership is currently at about 97 members. Our members primarily include: (i) National Guard personnel (currently serving and retired); (ii) active Army retirees who have retired in New Mexico; and (iii) employees of New Mexico-based defense contractors. The chapter was founded about 13 years ago by members of the New Mexico Army National Guard. Our focus over the past year has been to establish chapter structure, increase outreach to senior US Army aviation leadership in NM, increase membership, improve activities and networking opportunities, and support aviation warfighters and their Families.

Officers:

Matthew R. Lewis, President
Ryan Haworth, Senior VP
Brian Philipbar, VP Membership North
Heriberto Ibarra, VP Membership South
Christopher Otero, Secretary
Ashley Azzalina, Awards
Wayne Sowell, Treasurer

New York

Black Knights Chapter Warwick, NY



Category: AAAA Chapter; 67 Members
Activation Date: 2/1/1988
Website: www.quad-a.org/BlackKnightsChapter

Description: The Black Knight Chapter's main purpose is to mentor and professionally develop West Point cadets on Army Aviation at the United States Military Academy. The members strive to educate, inspire and develop key relationships with cadets who are interested in Army Aviation that will posture them for success as a future aviation leader.

Officers:

COL Richard Melnyk, President
LTC Christopher Fuhrman, Senior VP
CPT Kathleen Alfin, Secretary
LTC Andy Bellochio, Treasurer
COL Mark Weathers, VP Events &
Marketing
MAJ Steven Hoak, VP Member
Enrollment
MAJ Jill M. Rahon and CPT Jeremy D.
Paquin, VP Public Affairs

Empire Chapter Rochester, NY



Category: AAAA Chapter; 31 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/1992
Website: www.quad-a.org/EmpireChapter

Description: Represent National Guard Aviation in upstate and western New York. Supporting: 642nd ASB, C 171 (MEDEVAC), B 3-126th (CH-47's), 27th BSB (UAS)

Officers:

MAJ Eric R. Fritz, President
LTC Scott C. Norcutt, Ret., Senior VP
CW5 Mark A. Vahey, Treasurer

MacArthur Chapter New York / Long Island Area, NY



Category: Senior Chapter; 145 Members
Activation Date: 2/1/1992
Website: www.quad-a.org/MacArthurChapter

Description: The MacArthur Chapter was formed in 1985 by the soldiers assigned to the 42nd Aviation Bn, NYARNG located at MacArthur Apt, Islip NY. Initially, the chapter was comprised of about 20 Officers and Enlisted Soldiers. Since then, our membership has increased to over 100 and includes many Corporate members. Supported units include NY Army Aviation Support Facility #1 Ronkonkoma NY, 3rd BN 142 Aviation, HHC (-) 3rd BN 142 Aviation, B CO 3rd BN 142 Aviation, B Co. (-) 642 Support Battalion (ASB).

Officers:

CW5 James G. Freeman, Ret.,
President
COL Jack A. James, Senior VP
MAJ Christopher R. Spencer,
Secretary
LTC Neal C. Lennstrom, Ret.,
Treasurer
1LT Richard Siracusano III, VP
Membership
Mrs. Louise Loyst, VP Scholarship
CW4 Thomas P. McGurn, Ret., VP
Awards
LTC James P. Coan, Ret., VP
Communications

COL Raymond S. Doyle, Ret., VP
Protocol
CW4 Timothy Scott Dahlen, Sr. Ret.,
VP Special Projects

Mohawk Chapter Latham, NY



Category: AAAA Chapter; 67 Members
Activation Date: 1/1/2016
Website: www.quad-a.org/MohawkChapter

Description: The AAAA Mohawk Chapter is located in Latham, New York and supports current and former Army Aviation members from the Greater Capital District. Supported units include NYARNG's Joint Force Headquarters, Latham, NY; 42nd Infantry Division, Troy, NY; 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade, Latham, NY; 3-142 Assault Helicopter Battalion, Latham & Ronkonkoma, NY; Det. 2, Co. A, 1-224 Search and Security Battalion, Latham, NY; and Det. 5, Co. C, 2-245 Aviation (C-12), Latham, NY. The purpose of the Mohawk Chapter is to execute and implement the objectives of the National Association within the Chapter's territory. This includes the Capital District of New York State, plus such nearby interested parties not otherwise affiliated with other organized efforts of AAAA in their Regional or National segments. The major emphasis of the Mohawk Chapter will be to support the Army Aviation Soldier, the Army Aviation community, the National Army Aviation Scholarship Foundation, and activities that further the interest of Army Aviation.

Officers:

LTC Kevin J. Ferreira, President
LTC Paul Michael Baile, Senior VP
MAJ Henry T. Chandler, Secretary
SSG Jacob Robert Weitzel, Treasurer
CPT Forest J. Thrush, VP Operations
CPT Charles S. Ackley Jr., VP
Scholarship
CW5 Michael W. Johnson, VP Awards
MAJ Michael R. Audette, Ret., VP
Industry Affairs
CW3 Louis Malizia, VP Programs
CW3 Matthias J. Quackenbush, VP
Mem. Enrollment
CPT Paul M. Engel, VP Military Affairs
LTC Jason C. Lefton, VP Public Affairs
CW5 Mark E. Shumway, VP Retired
Affairs

North Country Chapter Fort Drum, NY



Category: Senior Chapter; 116
Members
Activation Date: 3/1/1989
Website: www.quad-a.org/NorthCountryChapter



2021 AAAA Chapter Directory

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Description: The AAAA North Country Chapter is located at FT Drum, New York, home of the 10th Mountain Division Light Infantry. The Chapter welcomes current 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) Soldiers and crew members stationed at FT Drum, along with former and retired aircrew members as well as aviation support personnel residing in the North Country. We encourage anyone interested in Army Aviation and supporting our 10th CAB Soldiers to become a member of our North Country Chapter.

Officers:

CSM Zach H. Hurst, Ret., President
CPT Joseph R. Lanham, Secretary
CPT Kevin S. Joyce, Treasurer
CW5 Charles C. Jaszczak, VP Programs

Ohio

Wright Brothers Chapter Columbus, OH



Category: Master Chapter; 242 Members

Activation Date: 2/1/1991

Website: www.quad-a.org/WrightBrothersChapter

Description: The Wright Brothers Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America was established in 1991 to commemorate and document the contributions of Army Air Crews from Ohio in the defense of their country, and to recruit and support future generations of Aviators. Mission: Promote Army Aviation in Ohio. Motivate Army Aviation Personnel to increase knowledge, techniques, and skills. Recognize outstanding contributions to Army Aviation. Exchange ideas and disseminate information promoting Army Aviation to the media/community. Provide special group programs of benefit to the individual members. Stimulate good fellowship between Army Aviation related personnel. Foster a public understanding of Army Aviation and inspire public interest and support in Ohio. Cement relationships between all Aviation Units, Army Aviation Support Facilities, Local Industry, and Wright Brothers Chapter members in Ohio. Conduct quarterly meetings and events in support of Army Aviation interests.

Officers:

LTC Wayne A. Thomas, President
MAJ James D. McDarmont, Senior VP
MAJ William Chadwick, Secretary
SSG Daniel Hingston, Treasurer
CPT Jeffrey S. Gyurcsik, Ret., VP Scholarship
SFC Bernard J. Miesse, Ret., VP of Social Events
Joseph Korecz, VP Enlisted Membership.

Oklahoma

Thunderbird Chapter Tulsa, OK



Category: Master Chapter; 306 Members

Activation Date: 1/26/2012

Website: www.quad-a.org/ThunderbirdChapter

Description: The Thunderbird Chapter seeks to serve the aviation soldier and family members of the Oklahoma Army National Guard. We fluctuate between 250-300 members and have a variety of units we support to include UAS, Assault, Medevac, Heavy Lift, ATS, Fixed Wing and Maintenance. The chapter is located in Oklahoma with units being spread between Tulsa, OK, Lexington, OK and Oklahoma City, OK.

Officers:

LTC Bradley Carl Dean, President
MAJ John R. Pollard, Senior VP
WO1 Kaci Sheninger, Secretary
1LT Tyler M. Sharpe, Treasurer
MAJ Christopher K. Lackey, VP Scholarship
2LT Jeremie E. Pennington, VP Awards
CW3 Brian Gage, VP Programs
SFC Donald Eldridge, VP Enlisted Affairs
1LT Vinnie Bracaglia, VP Social Media

Oregon

Oregon Trail Chapter Salem, OR



Category: Senior Chapter; 175 Members

Activation Date: 5/1/1995

Website: www.quad-a.org/OregonTrailChapter

Description: Oregon is one of two States without an Active Duty post, but that has not stopped us from building a large and active Aviation support group. We shifted our focus to supporting our families (Movie Night, Christmas parties, scholarships, school visits), Aviators/Soldiers (social events, coffee, OSM, MOB parties, State Conference hospitality suite, membership drives, Lifetime membership knife presentation, disable aviation vet events), while taking an active role in preserving our aviation history (OV-1 Mohawk project, AAAA articles). We have also been supporting AAAA at the National level by volunteering to test the new AAAA website, manning booths during the conference, and submitting articles and pictures to the AAAA magazine. Partnerships: OTC4A has partnered with Yellow Ribbon for mobilization events, FRG and Serving Our Soldiers On The Homefront for the Christmas party and

Movie Night event, Oregon Officers Association for the State Conference hospitality suite, Forward Assist for our disabled Aviation Veteran support events, and Gary Clark and the Elk Lodge #336 for the OV-1 Mohawk restoration.

Officers:

LTC Pete Derouin, Ret., President
CW5 Paul E. Zenchenko, Senior VP
CSM Jim R. Brown, Secretary
CSM Jim R. Brown, Treasurer
Adam Lulay, VP Scholarship
Lt. Col. Keith Townsend, VP Air Force Representative
Mr. Raymond F. Rees, VPDC Operations
CPT Timothy Heater, VP Programs
CW2 Michael Newgard, VP Member Enrollment
CPT Taylor Frye, VP Pendleton
Jeremy Andrews, VP Salem Area

Pennsylvania

Keystone Chapter Indiantown Gap, PA



Category: Master Chapter; 225 Members

Activation Date: 10/1/1981

Website: www.quad-a.org/KeystoneChapter

Description: The Keystone Chapter represents aviation soldiers and families that reside primarily in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and centered on Army Aviation units associated with the 28th Infantry Division, "America's Oldest Division", and the Eastern Army National Guard Aviation Training Site (EAATS). Members have performed "above the best" in supporting the mission of Army Aviation activities both at home and abroad.

Officers:

COL Gregg T. Clark, President
MAJ Trevor K. Patrick, Senior VP
CPT Zachary Krise, Secretary
CPT James A. Kistler, Treasurer
MAJ Nathan D. Smith, VP Scholarship
CPT Kandy Heekin, VP Awards
CPT Nathan A. Bevans, VP Communications
MAJ Michael S. Bertsch, VP Member Enrollment
COL Dennis J. Sorensen, Ret., VP Retired Affairs

Rhode Island

Narragansett Bay Chapter North Kingstown, RI



Category: Master Chapter; 293 Members

Activation Date: 8/1/1992

Website: www.quad-a.org/NarragansettBayChapter

Description: The Narragansett Bay Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America is committed to supporting the Soldiers and families of Rhode Island Army Aviation. The Chapter is centered around the 1st Battalion 126th Aviation Regiment. The Battalion participated in both OIF and OEF, continues to support contingency operations such as Operation Spartan Shield and Operation Inherent Resolve and has a history that traces back to World War II.

Officers:

COL Andrew J. Chevalier, President
Richard H. McMahon III, Senior VP
CW3 Thomas R. Marchetti, Secretary
SGT Stephanie Cyr-Engro, Treasurer
MAJ Jarred Rickey, VP Scholarship
CW2 Sarah Beyer, VP Awards
CPT Tessa L. Baptista, VP Programs
1SG Richard A. Winkelman, VP Enlisted Affairs
MAJ Eric Beauregard, VP Member Enrollment
CW4 Mark De Souza, VP Retired Affairs
CW2 David E. Powers, VP WO Affairs

South Carolina

Jimmy Doolittle Chapter Columbia, SC



Category: Senior Chapter; 193 Members

Activation Date: 3/1/1997

Website: www.quad-a.org/JimmyDoolittleChapter

Description: The Jimmy Doolittle Chapter serves the entire state of South Carolina consisting of Active Duty Soldiers, South Carolina Army National Guard and our Industry and Community partners. The majority of the units supported by the chapter are those in the South Carolina Army National Guard assigned to 59th Aviation Troop Command and its subordinate units, 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 2-151st Security/Support Aviation Battalion, and 351st Aviation Support Battalion. The Chapter also supports the Army Aviation Flight Facilities in the state located in Columbia and Greenville respectfully.

Officers:

MAJ Peter C. Wright III, President
CW5 H. Eric Seymore, Ret., Senior VP
SFC Stephen T. Snodgrass, Secretary
1LT Michael Perry Snyder, Treasurer
CW2 James M. Honour, VP Scholarship
2LT Victoria Inman, VP Awards
MAJ Matthew L. Summey, VP Member Enrollment

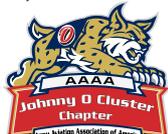


2021 AAAA Chapter Directory

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Tennessee

Johnny O Cluster Chapter Nashville, TN



Category: AAAA Chapter; 18 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/2018
Website: www.quad-a.org/JohnnyOClusterChapter

Description: The mission of the Johnny O Cluster Chapter is to support Johnny O Cluster Chapter students and their families, the Army Aviation community, and activities that further members interest in Army Aviation.

Officers:

Mr. Dodrick Smith, President
CW4 Darwin C. Oberlander, RET, Senior VP
Mrs. Deirdre Demana, Secretary
Mr. Thomas W. Moore, Treasurer
Mrs. Rachael D. Smith, VP Scholarship
Mr. Chris Brautigam, VP Communications
Miss Anastasia Smith, VP Mem. Enrollment
MAJ Alpheus Davis, VP Military Affairs

Volunteer Chapter Smyrna, TN



Category: Master Chapter; 348 Members
Activation Date: 10/1/2005
Website: www.quad-a.org/VolunteerChapter

Description: Volunteer chapter is primarily composed of active and retired members of the Tennessee Army National Guard, and more specifically 1-230th Assault Helicopter Battalion (formerly 1-230th Air Cavalry Squadron) and subordinate units. The chapter has operations in three primary locations in the state, Jackson, Nashville, and Louisville (Knoxville airport). Units supported include A, B, D, E, Companies of 1-230th AHB, Company C(-) 2-151st AVN REGT S&S, an Air Ambulance detachment from 1-171st AVN REGT MED, an Air Ambulance detachment from 1-111th AVN REGT, an Air Ambulance detachment from 2-135th AVN REGT, a maintenance company detachment from Co B 777th AVN BN, and a maintenance company detachment from 248th SP BN.

Officers:

MAJ Jesse E. Belk, President
CPT Jayson Cooper, Secretary
CW3 Richard L. Rogers, Treasurer

CW5 John S. McConnell, VP Membership
COL Jeffery A. Roach, VP National Guard & Reserves
CPT Hulon M. Holmes, VP East
CPT Joshua E. Robertson, VP Middle
CPT Jeremiah Graupman, VP West

Texas

Corpus Christi Chapter Corpus Christi, TX



Category: Senior Chapter; 180 Members
Activation Date: 1/1/1964
Website: www.quad-a.org/CorpusChristiChapter

Description: The Corpus Christi Chapter is located on the Texas Gulf Coast in Corpus Christi Texas. The primary military organization it supports is the Corpus Christi Army Depot, CCAD. The membership is primarily civilian government employees/retirees and contractors. A majority being prior military/veterans. Corpus Christi Chapter's purpose is to support the Army and CCAD Aviation family through various programs and events. A few of the ways we support are through financial support to family readiness programs, employee appreciation events, & scholarships. AAAA facilitates growth and enhancement of the Army Aviation program by bringing industry partners, service members, & department of the Army civilians together to create better and safer ways to meet the Army Aviation mission. Membership in the organization is open to anyone and all are welcome.

Officers:

Mr. Tyler Glen Yeathermon, President
Mr. Marc Garza, Senior VP
Ms. Jahna Fulton, Treasurer
Ms. Yessica Hernandez-Mendoza, VP Activities
Mr. Zeke Rivas, VP Marketing
Mr. Jorge Aguilar, VP Benefits
Mr. David Florez, VP Membership
Mr. Samuel Viallobos, VP Publicity

Jack H. Dibrell/Alamo Chapter San Antonio, TX



Category: Senior Chapter; 161 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/1960
Website: <https://www.quad-a.org/JackHDibrellAlamoChapter>

Description: The AAAA Jack H. Dibrell/Alamo Chapter includes past and present members 36th Combat Aviation Brigade and surrounding former

crew member throughout central and south Texas. The Chapter welcomes current, former, and retired crew members, aviation support personnel, and all others interested in Army Aviation to become members of the organization.

Officers:

COL Joanne MacGregor, President
CW4 Pedro J. Vargas, Senior VP
CW5 Paul W. Jenschke, Treasurer
CSM Robert Hartzog, VP Scholarship
CW2 Jacob Keaton Jones, VP Awards
CW4 Rick E. Dillenbeck, VP Member Enrollment

Lonestar Chapter Conroe, TX



Category: Senior Chapter; 129 Members
Activation Date: 6/1/2017
Website: www.quad-a.org/LonestarChapter

Description: The Lonestar Chapter of AAAA exists to serve Army Aviation Soldiers, and their families around Conroe, The Woodlands and Houston metropolitan area in South East Texas. Our purpose is to be the Aviation Branch professional association for local Aviation units thereby bringing together Active Service members, Retirees, as well as the Aviation Industry in the area.

Officers:

LTC Derrick Hart, President
CPT William T. Grantham, Senior VP
CPT Brady Boyd, Treasurer
MAJ Christopher A. White, VP Scholarship

North Texas Chapter Fort Worth, TX



Category: Master Chapter; 432 Members
Activation Date: 10/1/1964
Website: www.quad-a.org/NorthTexasChapter

Description: The North Texas Chapter is located in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex area. It is comprised primarily of defense contractors working at Bell Helicopter, Airbus Helicopter, Elbit, Howell Instruments, SKF Aerospace, DynCorp International, GE, and L-3 Communications. The membership also includes military retirees, members of the Army Reserves (2-149th GSAB) located at JRB Fort Worth and Texas Guard located in Grand Prairie, Texas (old Navy Dallas facility). The chapter actively supports the Army Aviation Scholarship Foundation with

six perpetual scholarships and eight matching funds scholarships.

Officers:

COL Steven D. Mathias, Ret., President
LTC Terrance L. Reininger, Ret., Senior VP
COL Steven W. Kihara, Ret., Secretary
LTC Noma C. Martini, Treasurer
COL Allan Evans, Ret., VP Programs
COL Michael E. Moody, Ret., VP Membership Enrollment
CW4 Michael D. Crowley, VP Military Affairs
COL Garner Pogue, Ret., VP of Industrial Relations
LTC Chris Speers, Ret., VP of Community Affairs

Phantom Corps Chapter Fort Hood, TX



Category: Master Chapter; 297 Members
Activation Date: 11/1/1958
Website: www.quad-a.org/PhantomCorpsChapter

Description: The Phantom Corps Chapter of AAAA, located in central Texas, is part of the Greater Fort Hood Community. Our membership is diverse consisting of both active duty, reserve, national guard and retired aviation patriots. Our Chapter stays involved with the local community by maintaining contact with the leadership of the towns located nearby. Supporting: 166 BDE/TSBN, Fort Hood, Texas 2/291 AVN Battalion and 1/351 AVN Battalion; 1st Cav BDE, Fort Hood, Texas 2/227th Air Cav Battalion and 1/227th Air Cav Battalion; 15 Military Intelligence Battalion, Grey Army airfield which includes Fixed-wing aircraft and a UAS program; 7th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment Fort Hood, Texas HHC 7th/158 and A Company 7/158

Officers:

CSM Douglas K. Greene, Ret., President
CW2 Andrew Larsen, Senior VP
CW2 Joann L. Courtland, Treasurer
CW5 Immanuel Delacruz, VP Awards
Cristobal Quiroz, Membership VP

Rio Grande Chapter El Paso, TX



Category: Master Chapter; 374 Members
Activation Date: 9/1/1972
Website: www.quad-a.org/RioGrandeChapter



2021 AAAA Chapter Directory

NETWORK ■ RECOGNITION ■ VOICE ■ SUPPORT

Description: The Rio Grande Chapter of AAAA services active duty, retired, and civilians friends of Army Aviation in El Paso and the surrounding area. A significant representation in the Rio Grande Chapter comes from the aviation service members of the 1AD Combat Aviation Brigade stationed at Fort Bliss, TX.

Officers:

LTC Nathaniel J. Patton, President
CW3 Michael Beck, Secretary
LTC George W. Benter IV Ret., Senior VP
SFC Edwin Marquez-Rosado, Treasurer
1LT Eric J. Wasek, VP Awards
CSM George T. Ackerman, VP Mem. Enrollment
1LT Natalie Schorr, VP Operations
CPT Carolyn B. Fiore, VP Scholarship
LTC Christopher Cook, President
1LT Camden Kebert, Secretary
MAJ Billy D. Blue III, Senior VP
CPT Kevin T. Filip, Treasurer
CPT Collin McDermott, VP Awards
1LT Ryan R. Fiore, VP Mem. Enrollment
1LT Jordan D. Carbol, VP Operations

Utah

Utah Chapter West Jordan, UT



Category: Senior Chapter; 119 Members
Activation Date: 2/1/2008
Website: www.quad-a.org/UtahChapter

Description: The chapter is located at the Utah AASF, West Jordan, UT. Units Supported: 97th Aviation Troop Command, 1-211th (ARB), 2-211th (GSAB), Det 4 B/1-112th (LUH-72), and Det 4/50 641st AVN REG (C-12) We currently have 904 Aviation Soldiers.

Officers:

COL Ricky N. Smith, President
LTC Jeremy D. Tannehill, Senior VP
CSM Bob Thornsby, Treasurer

Virginia

Colonial Virginia Chapter Fort Eustis, VA



Category: Master Chapter; 333 Members
Activation Date: 7/1/1958
Website: www.quad-a.org/ColonialVirginiaChapter

Description: The Colonial Virginia Chapter is located in Tidewater Virginia centrally located between Virginia Beach, Hampton, Newport News, and

Yorktown. Predominant units supported are U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC); U.S. Army Capability Integration Center (ARCIC); 128th Aviation Training Brigade, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate (AATD), recently reflagged as Aviation Development Directorate-Eustis, ADD-E. The diverse functions of the units served by the Colonial Virginia Chapter includes a MACOM, capabilities integration and futures planning, science and technology, research and developmental testing, maintenance training, and a United States Army Reserve unit.

Officers:

SGM Joseph W. Shabbott, Ret., President
CSM Randall L. Wise, Senior VP
Ms. Michelle M. Proulx, Secretary
Mr. Rushton D. White, Treasurer

Stonewall Jackson Chapter Sandston, VA



Category: AAAA Chapter; 47 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/1996
Website: www.quad-a.org/StonewallJacksonChapter

Description: The AAAA Stonewall Jackson Chapter serves the Richmond and Central Virginia region serves the Virginia Army National Guard aviation units, Soldiers, civilian employees, and family members. Located at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Sandston, VA. Supporting: 2-224 AVN, 1/A/1-169 AVN, 1/A/2-151 AVN, 1/C/2-245

Officers:

COL William X. Taylor, President
CW4 Kevin R. Edwards Jr., Secretary
MAJ James G. Sheldon, Treasurer
CW4 Geoffrey W. Mann, VP Mem. Enrollment

Washington-Potomac Chapter Arlington, VA



Category: Super Chapter; 1007 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/1958
Website: www.quad-a.org/Washington-PotomacChapter

Description: This "Super Chapter" of 900+ members was formed by combining two National Capitol Region chapters. We are best known for supporting AAAA Scholarships and our unique and diverse membership of Active and ARNG units, Soldiers, Army Civilians, Industry members, Contractors, and Retirees. Emphasis

is placed on supporting local Aviation units and their activities. The WPC encourages, supports and promotes the exemplary performance of Army Aviation Soldiers, community leaders, and its AAAA members.

Officers:

MG Rudolph Ostovich III Ret., President
COL Robert E. Godwin, Ret., Senior VP
MAJ Frank A. Tedeschi, Secretary
LTC Donald L. Wellen, Ret., Treasurer
LTC Matthew Jordan, VP Membership
COL Ronald G. Lukow, Ret., VP Scholarships
CW5 Daniel Curry, Ret., VP Awards
LTC David Crocker, VP Programs
COL Stephen Burns, Ret VP Chapter Affairs
MAJ Clay Bagwell, VP Public Affairs
CSM Bernard Brooks, VP Enlisted Affairs

Washington Mount Rainier Chapter Fort Lewis, WA



Category: Master Chapter; 427 Members
Activation Date: 6/1/1965
Website: www.quad-a.org/MountRainierChapter

Description: The Mount Rainier Chapter is the U.S. Pacific Northwest-based Master Chapter that serves its Army Aviation Community especially its 290+ members. This Chapter is a mix of currently serving or retired Active Duty, Wash. Army National Guard, Army Reserve, DAC, Civilian Contractors who many of which work and or live in-around Gray Army Airfield at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM; formerly Fort Lewis and McChord AFB). Our Chapter has a storied history since Fort Lewis was a power projection platform for Army Aviation since the Vietnam era and our membership includes the esteemed COL (R) Bruce 'Snake-6' Crandall and COL (R) William Reeder, author of 'Through the Valley: My Captivity in Vietnam.' Units supported include the 16th CAB and subordinate units, 4th BN /160th SOAR, 96th Aviation Troop Command, 168th GSAB, and subordinate units.

Officers:

COL Anthony P. Bolante, Ret., President
CPT Alexander S. Vichinsky, Secretary and Primary 160th SOAR liaison
COL Michael A. Fleetwood, Ret., Treasurer
SSG David Michael Goodhue, Ret., VP Enlisted Affairs
CW5 Teresa M. Burgess, Ret., VP Member Enrollment and Awards
CW5 Thomas Oroho, 16th CAB Liaison

CW5 Paul Dulfer, 160th SOAR liaison, Alternate
SGM Dana Trakel, WAARNG Liaison

Wisconsin Badger Chapter Madison, WI



Category: Senior Chapter; 158 Members
Activation Date: 5/24/2012
Website: www.quad-a.org/BadgerChapter

Description: The Badger Chapter performs a variety of activities integral to its mission of supporting Army Aviation members and their families. The Badger Chapter contributes to two scholarships annually. The chapter acknowledges life-changing events in a personal manner with handwritten notes on Chapter stationery from one of the executive board's members and, thanks to a generous memorial contribution, has established the Matthew A. Berndt Memorial Fund as a means to support Soldiers during such life-changing events. Proceeds from events and fundraisers are used to sustain these efforts. Further, the chapter maintains a Soldier of the Quarter Awards program, and actively recognizes the efforts of those supporting Army Aviation through the Order of Saint Michael and Our Lady of Loreto awards. Supporting aviation organizations including the 1-147th Assault Helicopter Battalion, and elements of C Co. 1-168th GSAB, G Co. 2-104th AV, D Co. 1-112th AV (LUH), the 248th Aviation Support Battalion, and the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Teams Tactical UAS "Shadow" Platoon.

Officers:

COL Matthew J. Strub, President
MAJ Joshua Allan Felber, Senior VP
MAJ Daniel Allen, Secretary
MAJ Jeremy J. Duffy, Treasurer
CW2 Craig Hatfield, VP Scholarships
SGT Timothy Robert Hass, VP Membership
CPT Lucas J. Sivertson, VP Awards
Dan Johansen, Historian
Bill Ryan, VP Communications
Micah Zirbel, VP Enlisted Affairs
Niels Henderson, VP Legislative Affairs

Wyoming Cowboy Chapter Burns, WY



Category: AAAA Chapter; 65 Members
Activation Date: 4/1/2008
Website: www.quad-a.org/CowboyChapter



2021 AAAA Chapter Directory

NETWORK ■ RECOGNITION ■ VOICE ■ SUPPORT

Description: Cowboy Chapter is located in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Currently at 62 members and growing. Current chapter members consist of current drilling members of the Wyoming Army National Guard and retired aviators from around the country. We support three primary aviation units, Golf Company 2/211th AVN, Alpha Company 2/149th AVN and DET 6. We are currently in the process of sending a portion of G/2-211th AVN and DET 6 on deployments in the next six months. We provide support for the state of Wyoming and surrounding states with missions such as Firefighting, Search and Rescue, Flood Support and CASEVAC Standby for wildfire operations.

Officers:
 CW3 Steve Atencio, President
 CW4 Derek Fisbeck, Senior VP
 SGT Matthew Connary, VP Secretary
 CPT Eric Becker, VP of Treasurer
 SPC Sierra Tryon, VP Scholarship
 SSG Morgan Graham, VP Scholarship
 MSG Jason Cox, VP Recruiting

OCONUS

Bavarian Chapter Hohenfels, Germany



Category: AAAA Chapter; 51 Members
Activation Date: 8/1/1994
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 BavarianChapter

Description: The Bavarian Chapter is located in Hohenfels Training Area in the Oberpfalz, Germany and supports the Falcon Team which is the Army Aviation Observer, Coach, Trainer team organized under the Joint Multinational Readiness Center. The team consists predominantly of senior Non-Commissioned Officers, senior Warrant Officers, and senior company-grade to field grade Officers whose primary duties are overseeing Aviation units on named rotations at Hohenfels, Grafenwohr, and throughout the NATO area of responsibility. OCs on Falcon Team monitor daily rotational training unit operations on the ground, in the air via ride-along, or in the air via UH-72A Lakota helicopters (as well as "red air" replication with UH-72As). Falcon Team is comprised of 65 Soldiers of various aviation-centric MOSS.

Officers:
 LTC Phillip Lamb, President
 CSM Albert Rodriguez, Senior VP
 CPT Caroline Myers, Secretary
 CW4 Kevin Linken, Treasurer
 CW4 Bruce Myrick, VP Membership
 CPT Justin Purser, VP Scholarship
 SSG Alex Snyder, VP Programs
 CPT Sean Boniface, VP Fund Raisers
 CW3 Ryan Otto, VP Fund Raisers, Alt.

Desert Oasis Chapter Saudi Arabia



Category: AAAA Chapter; 52 Members
Activation Date: 7/1/2016
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 DesertOasisChapter

Description: The Desert Oasis Chapter, headquartered at Eskan Village, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, supports aviators assigned to the Office of the Program Manager - Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program (OPM-SANG) and those retirees living in the greater Riyadh area and working with the Ministry of the National Guard Aviation Division.

Officers:
 COL David C Snow, Chapter President
 CW4 James J Robinson, Chapter Secretary
 SFC Eli Hayes, Treasurer
 MAJ Donald R. Mobley, Ret., VP Operations

Griffin Chapter Katterbach, Germany



Category: Senior Chapter; 150 Members
Activation Date: 1/1/1976
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 GriffinChapter

Description: The Griffin Chapter is headquartered in Katterbach, Germany and co-located with the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade Headquarters. Currently, the chapter includes an active-duty membership that extends across six separate Army installations and retirees that have chosen Germany as their home.

Officers:
 COL John B. Broam, President
 MAJ Jonathan M. Romaneski, Secretary
 MAJ Matt Cole, Senior VP
 Mr. Heath Morecraft, Treasurer
 CW4 David Paul Thoresen, VP Awards
 MSG Daniel M. Evans, VP Member Enrollment

Morning Calm Chapter Seoul, Korea



Category: Senior Chapter; 143 Members

Activation Date: 5/1/1958
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 MorningCalmChapter

Description: The Morning Calm Chapter is dedicated to serving and supporting the Army Aviation Soldiers, the Army Aviation community, the National Army Aviation Scholarship Foundation, and activities that further the interest of Army Aviation on the Korean Peninsula. Our chapter supports the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade and 3rd Military Intelligence Battalion of 501st Military Intelligence Brigade primarily based out of USAG-Humphreys, ROK.

Officers:
 COL Brian Watkins, President
 LTC Ryan I. Moore, Senior VP
 1LT James Rood, Treasurer
 CPT Edmund Lee, VP Awards / Secretary
 CW3 Chong Kwan Yim, Ret., Host Nation Coordinator
 CW5 Michael R. Zanders, VP WOAffairs

Rising Sun Chapter Camp Zama, Japan



Category: AAAA Chapter; 34 Members
Activation Date: 12/1/1995
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 RisingSunChapter

Description: The Rising Sun Chapter is the only AAAA organization in Japan. Our organization has a special responsibility in that we are able to promote Army Aviation to members of all four US military services and our Japanese partners. Our membership demographic includes current and retired aviation Soldiers, local civilians, and family members. The main Army Aviation unit in Japan is US Army Aviation BN Japan. The unit consists of 45 Soldiers and 40 Civilians providing support to US Forces Japan and US Army Pacific. The unit is located in the greater Tokyo metropolitan area and the associated population of approximately 40 Million. This region hosts bases of all four military services and provides our chapter with unique outreach opportunities.

Officers:
 LTC John Franz, President
 MAJ Brian Smith, Senior VP
 1SG Christian Ryan, Secretary
 CW3 Ray Smith, Treasurer

Sinai Chapter Sinai, Egypt



Category: AAAA Chapter; 23 Members
Activation Date: 1/2/2018
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 SinaiChapter

Description: AAAA Sinai Chapter, located in the southern Sinai Peninsula, near the town of Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. Our Chapter directly reflects the efforts of AVCO (Aviation Company), part of Task Force Sinai. Task Force Sinai supports the Multi-National Force and Observers.

Officers:
 COL Mark Ott, President
 MAJ Amoreena York, Secretary
 CW3 Bryan Lee, VP Fund Raisers

Winged Warriors Chapter Soto Cano Airbase, Honduras



Category: AAAA Chapter; 100 Members
Activation Date: 3/1/2008
Website: www.quad-a.org/
 WingedWarriorsChapter

Description: The Winged Warrior AAAA Chapter consists primarily of Soldiers from 1-228th AVN Regiment, currently stationed at Soto Cano Airbase in Honduras. 1-228th is a small General Support Aviation Battalion, with only 158 Soldiers and 63 Contractors. Soldiers stationed here are on a one-year PCS assignment and generally move their membership to this chapter while assigned here from their other duty stations.

Officers:
 LTC Aaron Elliot, President
 MAJ Billy Blue, Senior VP
 1LT Richard Dobson, Secretary
 CPT Kevin Filip, Treasurer
 CPT Collin Mcdermott, VP Awards
 1LT Jordan Carbol, VP Operations
 1LT Zachary Mitchell, VP Member Enrollment

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ASE

Aircraft Survivability
Equipment Symposium
September 13-14, 2021
Kissimmee, FL

Cribbins

Joseph P. Cribbins Training,
Equipping and Sustainment
Symposium
November 15-17, 2021
Huntsville, AL

Luther Jones

Army Aviation
Depot Forum
December 7-8, 2021
Corpus Christi, TX

Summit

2022 Army Aviation
Mission Solutions Summit
April 3-5, 2022
Nashville, TN

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Army Aviators in the U.S. Embassy C-12 Program

By LTC Ravi Balaram and MAJ Cliff Schaefer

Roads? Where we're going, we don't *need* roads." While the C-12 Aircraft may not be as exciting as the DeLorean in the film, "Back to the Future," it is a fantastic way to overcome distance and inadequate road networks so often encountered on the African continent and elsewhere in the world. Whether landing on a dirt strip in a remote Liberian village or a private runway at a copper and cobalt mine in south-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the versatile C-12, and its pilots, expand the reach of U.S. Ambassadors, Senior Defense Officials, and Country Teams in their respective regions. Examples include the presence of internally displaced persons or natural disasters that would otherwise remain obscure due to distance and terrain.

The C-12 program at Embassies around the world relies on careful talent management of Foreign Area Officers (FAOs) and Aviators, who ultimately fulfill two concurrent fulltime jobs – C-12 pilot and Army Attaché or Security Cooperation Officer (SCO). Embassy-based assignments for Army Aviators include Hungary, Norway, Morocco, Kenya, Ghana, Botswana, Colombia, Egypt, Turkey, Honduras, and Brazil. In addition to the typical FAO training pipeline of language, in-region training, and advanced civil schooling, an Attaché C-12 assignment triggers requirement for additional language training, 13 weeks at Joint Military Attaché School (JMAS), 13 weeks at Army's Fixed-wing Qualification Course, and 4 weeks at Air Force C-12 Qualification Course.

An SCO C-12 assignment replaces JMAS with Defense Institute of Security Cooperation Studies. Some commissioned and warrant officers will have shorter training pipelines dependent on background and billet. Since these positions are routinely filled by FAOs on out-of-area assignments, given the niche skill sets necessary to man them, Aviation bona fides may

Left photo: Co-author LTC Ravi Balaram with two fellow U.S. Air Force Pilots.

Right photo: Benin Soldiers with LTC Mike Stone (center) and co-author MAJ Cliff Schaefer.

trump regional and linguistic expertise in the assignment process. However, those skill sets are still foundational to any FAO position, making out-of-area assignments even more academically demanding.

The training requirements add up to two years onto an already lengthy training pipeline for newer FAOs, replacing even more operational evaluations with academic ones. For FAOs long removed from the initial pipeline, consideration must be given to how two additional years of Academic Evaluation Reports will affect your board file for both O-5 and O-6 promotions. The same applies to Aviation Branch officers as they approach their next promotion or centralized selection list board. Officer Evaluation Report content also deserves consideration, as flying Attachés are evaluated against non-flying Attaché metrics with a handicap, and flying SCOs compete with non-flying SCOs. In some cases, Army Aviators serve as C-12 Program Managers or the equivalent of an Aviation battalion S3, safety, and standardization/eval officer, which is a unique opportunity and career enhancing.

Quality-of-life is influenced by travel away from the country of residence and varies by location but can be as much as 50% of the time for regional support to U.S. Embassies within the area of coverage. This figure doesn't include escort trips, conferences, leave, flight physicals, required flight simulator training, and check-rides. All this amounts to a significant amount of time away from home which is difficult for families, but also puts pressure on the non-flying aspects of the job. The nor-

Creativity Supports Airworthiness in the Face of COVID-19

By Tony Gioia and Ashleigh Lynch

U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM) Aviation and Missile Center (AvMC) airworthiness engineers are responsible for assessing all aircraft modifications to ensure that they do not adversely impact flight safety. As part of this role, AvMC engineers provide airworthiness support to the Utility Helicopter Project Office and the medical evacuation Product Director HH-60M Medical Interior Upgrade program, using creative ways during these unprecedented times. This recently included virtually witnessing environmental test setup and execution, activities typically conducted in person.

In December, the program successfully completed vibration and crash hazard shock component qualification testing at a local testing facility. The broadcast was done in real-time via Zoom for Government and Microsoft Teams, so that all appropriate stakeholders were able to witness the test events and interact virtually with members of the test facility.

DEVCOM AvMC personnel were able to view and support a walk through and review of the test facilities prior to start of test, provide go ahead approval to start testing following real-time virtual witnessing of mechanical installation, test setup, and pre-test data runs, combined with real-time communication via email and text with the test lead to relay questions, status, and comments. Test results were reviewed real-time by DEVCOM AvMC personnel in order to give a quick look approval and agreement to tear down and move to the next test configuration. On multiple occasions, AvMC personnel asked questions during the test setup/conduct that proved beneficial in receiving the concurrence to test, identifying potential issues with setup, and obtaining post-test approvals to proceed to the next test configuration.

“This successful demonstration of real-time, virtual methods to inspect test setup and witness test results will likely yield future efficiencies and flexibilities to also benefit other airworthiness qualification projects,” said Keith Darrow, director of the AvMC Systems Readiness Directorate.

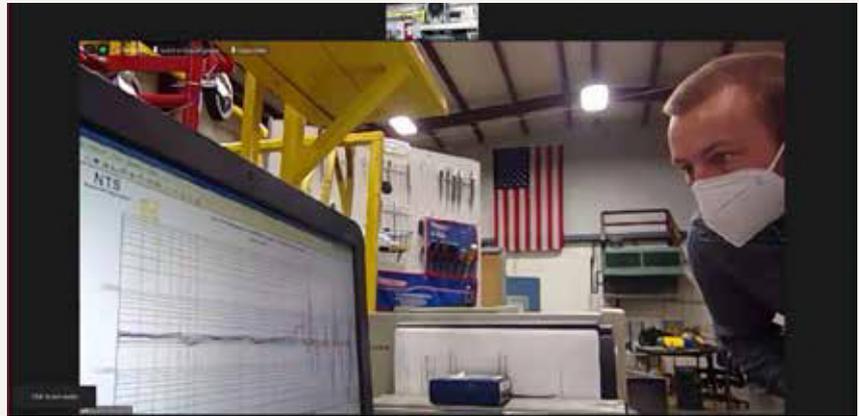
The HH-60M is an aircraft built by Sikorsky for the Army. The aircraft is a MEDEVAC version of the UH-60M Black Hawk multi-mission helicopter. Army Aviation strives to ensure the medevac mission has the most advanced capability available to successfully conduct missions.

One of those advancements includes an upgrade to the medical interior system to address current gaps through modularity. Storage and equipment racks will be relocatable to allow extra accessibility throughout the cabin and enable future capability by allowing commercially available first-responder racks to be attached. The new railed pallet floor system will provide fluid barriers for additional fluid intrusion resistance into the aircraft tub resulting in a reduced maintenance burden.

Remaining component qualification testing is scheduled to be completed in February, with prototype installation scheduled to begin this month. All remaining testing will be supported by AvMC virtually. Future benefits of real-time virtual test support may be realized in reduced overall test time and schedules, as well as a reduction in travel costs.

The DEVCOM Aviation & Missile Center, headquartered at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, is the Army’s research and development focal point for advanced technology in Aviation and missile systems. It is part of the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM), a major subordinate command of the U.S. Army Futures Command. AvMC is responsible for delivering collaborative and innovative Aviation and missile capabilities for responsive and cost-effective research, development, and life cycle engineering solutions, as required by the Army’s strategic priorities and support to its Cross-Functional Teams.

Tony Gioia is an aerospace engineer and Ashleigh Lynch, a systems engineer, both assigned to DEVCOM AvMC at Redstone Arsenal, AL.



U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center airworthiness engineers virtually witness vibration and crash hazard shock component qualification testing of the HH-60M medical interior upgrade.

DEVCOM/AVMC SCREEN CAPTURE

mal duties of advising the Ambassador, serving as a liaison, and building relationships with the host-nation military, and supporting security cooperation are all full-time endeavors that must be achieved within half the typical time. Again, ensuring that evaluations reflect output and contribution is delicate, but necessary so these assignments don’t hurt long-term potential for promotion and follow-on assignments.

For aviation-branch FAOs who are interested in this type of assignment, as well as Embassy-based FAOs who may benefit

from C-12 support, the authors can be reached at balaramra@state.gov and schaeferck@state.gov.

LTC Ravi A. Balaram is the U.S. Army Attaché & C-12 Program Manager at the U.S. Embassy in Gaborone, Botswana; MAJ Clifford K. Schaefer is the Army Attaché for the Defense Attaché Offices of the U.S. Embassy, Accra (resident), U.S. Embassy, Lomé (non-resident), and U.S. Embassy, Cotonou (non-resident).



First Place



Second Place



ARMY AVIATION

Photography Contest Winners

ARMY AVIATION Magazine is proud to present the winners of our annual photography contest. 33 qualified AAAA members, submitting 93 Army Aviation related photographs taken during CY 2019, competed for the top 12 places. We congratulate the winners and thank all of the contestants for their efforts and service. We invite all AAAA members to participate in our 2020 contest. Visit the AAAA website, quad-a.org for details and submission requirements.

Bill Harris, Publisher

First Place – “Office View” by MAJ Robert Fellingham

Ansbach, Germany
May 4, 2020; Bavarian Alps

(Left to Right) CPT Derek Houser, CPT Nicholas Brischler, and SGT Kevin Pagan enjoy the view from the ramp of a CH-47 Chinook from B Co., 1-214th General Support Aviation Battalion during a high-altitude training flight in the Bavarian Alps, Germany.

Second Place – “Sunset Rockets” by MAJ Bethany Barden

Burlington, North Carolina
January 5, 2020; Asheville, NC Airport

Waiting on nightfall for departure in an AH-64D.

Third Place – “Overwater Training” by CW2 Alyssa A. Carlomusto

Camp Humphreys, Korea
December 14, 2020; Camp Humphreys

3rd Military Intelligence Battalion’s fixed wing pilots conduct Aviation Life Support Equipment (ALSE) Overwater Training. Pictured are CW2 Benjamin Moul and CPT Paris Larkin.

Fourth Place – “Business End of Big Windy” by MAJ Robert Fellingham

Ansbach, Germany
August 5, 2020; Grafenwöhr Training Area, Germany

U.S. Army SGT Joshua Skorski, a CH-47 crew chief with the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, Wings of Victory, relays vital position information back to the Chinook pilot from his side window as paratroopers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade hook up their pallet of equipment during Exercise Saber Junction.



Third Place



Fourth Place



**Honorable Mention – “15U Scanning Lanes”
by SGT Justin Ashaw**

Ansbach, Germany
September 21, 2020; Vilseck, Germany

MOS 15U Crew Chiefs qualifying on aerial gunnery range.



**Honorable Mention – “Bucket Training,
California Fires”**

by CW3 George “Geoff” Laubhan

Boise, Idaho
August 26, 2020; Boise, Idaho

Flight crew assigned to the Idaho Aviation Group conducts final waterbucket training prior to departing Idaho to assist California with wildland firefighting efforts. Pilot in Command - CW3 George G. Laubhan, Jr.; Pilot - CW3 Anthony D. Hill; Crew Chief - SGT Daryn W. College.



**Honorable Mention – “Hannibal’s Chariot”
by 1LT Austin T. Lachance**

Clarksville, Tennessee
October 21, 2020; Bavarian Alps, Germany

A CH-47F with the mighty “Pachyderms” of B/6-101 General Support Aviation Battalion banks into the valley while conducting high altitude training in the Bavarian Alps during Operation Atlantic Resolve.



**Honorable Mention – “On the Move Takeoff”
by MAJ Daniel Lauer**

Williamsburg, Virginia
August 14, 2020; Fort Riley, Kansas

Fox Troop, 1-6 Cavalry deviates from their RQ-7 Shadow flights to test the JUMP-20 Future Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (FTUAS) as a potential replacement. As the first ever attempt at mobile control of a tactical UAS, Soldiers successfully provided route reconnaissance ahead of their own convoy.



Honorable Mention – “Reflections”
by CW2 Michael R. Padiong

Camp Humphreys, South Korea
 November 4, 2020; Camp Humphreys, South Korea

Standing water after a night of heavy down pour. RC-12X's were pulled out of the Igloo Hangars for the mission equipment specialists to pre-flight.



Honorable Mention – “The Bigger Fish”
by 1LT Austin T. Lachance

Clarksville, Tennessee
 July 4, 2020; Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan

A CH-47F Chinook from B/2-3rd Aviation “Hercules” is loaded into a C-5 Super Galaxy on the ramp at Bagram Airfield following the completion of a deployment under 10th Combat Aviation Brigade supporting Operation Freedom’s Sentinel.



Honorable Mention – “The Snake Arrives at Its New Home”
by Mr. David J. Weller

Defiance, Missouri
 September 27, 2020; Creve Coeur Airport, St. Louis, Missouri

AH-1F 67-15766 is ground guided by Naseer Ahmad as the snake arrives in St. Louis from Army Aviation Heritage Foundation(AAHF) headquarters in Hampton, Georgia. The aircraft is piloted by CW5(R) Karl Keller and L TC(R) John Woodward is in the front seat and joins the UH-1H and OH-58A+ at the AAHF Gateway Chapter to provide ride events and demonstrations in the Midwest region.



Honorable Mention – “Sunset at Gray Army Airfield”
by CPT Jeremy Sipantzi

Tacoma, Washington
 May 18, 2020; Joint Base Lewis-McChord

UH60M from 2-158 Assault Helicopter Battalion just before run-up.

ARMY AVIATION

Advertiser Company Profiles

2021 Special Edition to Showcase our April/May Advertisers

Aerometals

Aerometals

www.aerometals.aero

Founded in 1984, Aerometals is a Comprehensive Aerospace Company located in the northern California town of El Dorado Hills. Aerometals' campus is comprised of two 75,000 sf buildings housing all facets of manufacturing, design, testing and certification activities. Product lines include DOD Manufacturing, PMA and STC after-market parts and inlet barrier filters. 160+ Employees, 30+ Engineers (Mechanical, Electrical, Aeronautical), 100+ Production Personnel, 100% Aerospace Business, AS9100 Certified.

AeroVironment, Inc.



www.avinc.com

AeroVironment's medium UAS product line includes the hand-launchable Puma LE and runway independent JUMP 20 and T-20 unmanned aircraft systems. Rapidly deployable across any domain in less than 60 minutes, these high-performance air vehicles provide the warfighter with up to 24+ hours of endurance. Our Multi-INT solutions give the warfighter a level of integrated ISR data previously unavailable in a tactical, medium UAS platform at extended range. Purpose built for maximum integration flexibility, the Puma LE, JUMP 20 and T-20 are multi-mission configurable to meet changing user requirements. AeroVironment's medium UAS feature superior optics and flexible payload options including advanced EO/IR gimbals, 3-D mapping, SAR, LiDAR, communications relay, as well as COMINT, SIGINT and GPS hardening payloads. AeroVironment's expanded portfolio of medium UAS can serve a broader range of customer missions across multiple domains, enabling the warfighter to PROCEED WITH CERTAINTY.

Air Evac Lifeteam



www.lifeteam.net

Air Evac Lifeteam is the nation's leading provider of Helicopter Air Ambulance (HAA) services, conducting operations at more than 140 air medical bases across 15 states and providing services to communities in need of advanced emergency health care and rapid medical transport. Air Evac Lifeteam is part of the Global Medical Response family of companies, the industry-leading air, ground, specialty and residential fire services and managed medical transportation organization.

Alkan



www.alkan.fr

ALKAN is a French military aeronautical equipment manufacturer. ALKAN is specialized in sales, design, manufacturing, assembly and deliver of carriage and release equipment dedicated to combat and various types of aircraft, ground support equipment in the military domain as well as logistic support for all these products. ALKAN equipment are in operation in more than 65 countries and are qualified on more than 60 different aircraft.

Amentum



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Amentum, now including DynCorp International, provides sophisticated aviation, logistics, training, intelligence, and operational solutions. The combined company delivers enhanced capabilities for its customers anywhere, anytime. Amentum is Army Aviation's primary services provider of mission-critical support services and supports other government customers worldwide, employing more than 34,000 people in all 50 states and performing work in 105 foreign countries and territories.

Army Aviation Heritage Foundation (AAHF)



www.armyav.org

The Army Aviation Heritage Foundation (AAHF) is a 501c(3) non-profit Flying Museum, providing the opportunity for Military Veterans and like-minded individuals to tell their story and share the history of Army Aviation with students, other veterans, and the general public. COME FLY WITH US! Over 65,000 passengers flown since 2014!

Army Aviation Museum Foundation & Gift Shop



www.armyaviationmuseum.org

The Foundation & Gift Shop is a non-profit organization that supports the Army Aviation Museum located on Fort Rucker, AL. Our mission is to foster and perpetuate the Museum as a medium of informing and educating the public on the importance of US Army Aviation. Foundation support is provided through restoration and upkeep of the Museum's aircraft, artifacts and collections. Preserving the Past for the Future.

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Astronics Test Systems ensures optimal performance of mission critical systems and electronics through innovative test solutions. For nearly 60 years, we have worked hand-in-hand with all branches of the defense community to develop field-portable and benchtop testers for a variety of airborne and ground equipment, both legacy and modern. Our test solutions help improve uptime, reduce costs, streamline TPS development, and preserve vital legacy investments.

B

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BAE Systems, Inc. and its 33,000 people are part of a global defense, aerospace, and security company with 87,800 employees worldwide. We deliver products and services for air, land, sea and space, as well as advanced electronics, security, information technology solutions, and customer support and services. Our dedication shows in everything we create and deliver—from advanced electronic systems to cyber operations and intelligence analysis, from combat vehicles to naval weapons, and from ship maintenance and modernization to vehicle upgrades and services. We push the limits of possibility to provide a critical advantage to our customers where it counts.

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Bell is the partner ready to revolutionize U.S. Army Aviation, leading the way in Future Vertical Lift requirements. We have the right talent, effective product capabilities, and the capacity to produce the next generation of military aviation. Thinking above and beyond is what we do. For more than 80 years, we have been reimagining the experience of flight – and where it can take us. We were aboard NASA's first lunar mission and brought advanced tiltrotor systems to market. Today, we are defining the future of on-demand mobility.

Blackhawk Aerospace



www.blackhawk.aero

BAS is a "One Stop Shop" specializing in program management for aircraft modifications through engine upgrades,

composites, and engine, landing gear and propeller Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) services. Blackhawk Aerospace strives to grow and provide the best technical expertise to find innovative solutions to aircraft needs, ensuring customer safety and transparency from beginning to end. Our creative solutions to intricate problems, timely responses, and personal trust between our team and customers have earned us a reputation for reliability. It is our mission to expand our services in aviation, while maintaining the core tenets that have allowed us to earn our customers' trust and partnership. BAS is a small business that provides superior Program Management with a certified ISO 9001:2015 and AS 9100 D Quality Management System.

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Sling Load Training Blocks for helicopter lift training. Certified and load tested to the most current specifications. Over 300 blocks currently in use worldwide. Catastrophic failure of your home-made concrete barrel results in slings entering the rotor cone. Precast Concrete Institute (PCI), the world's most prestigious concrete certification agency, production. SACON (Shock Absorbing CONcrete) live fire shoot houses providing realistic training with maximum force protection.

C

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www.dustlessmadesimple.com

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www.colheli.com

Columbia Helicopters is the global leader in heavy-lift helicopter operations and trusted expert in maintenance, repair and overhaul services. The company owns, operates and maintains a fleet of Columbia Model 107-II Vertol, Columbia Model 234 Chinook, and Columbia CH-47D Chinook helicopters. We

operate around the world, providing passenger and cargo services to customers and in various end-markets. Columbia operates an FAA Approved Part 145 Repair Station located in Aurora, Oregon, with extensive depot level maintenance capabilities for entire airframes, dynamic components.

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CTG provides supply chain solutions designed to keep fleets and systems operational, ready and safe. We are a leading supplier of parts, materiel and obsolescence management solutions to many of the world's largest airlines, MRO's and aircraft manufacturers, as well as the Department of Defense and its contractors. Companies like Sikorsky, Boeing and Lockheed Martin have recognized CTG's commitment to quality and customer service as award-winning. CTG is the first and only distributor in the industry to earn AC7402 CAAP (Counterfeit Avoidance Accreditation Program) certification recognized by both customers and industry in setting the highest Aerospace quality management and inspections standards for suppliers and distributors.

D

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David Clark Company Military Headsets and Communications Systems



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David Clark Company is a leading manufacturer of headsets and headset communication systems to meet the critical communication needs of air, land and sea operations for all branches of the US military as well as militaries throughout the world.

David Clark aviation headsets ensure reliable communication for military pilots, including passive and active noise-cancelling models. Our mission-proven headsets and systems enhance the performance and situational awareness of military, defense and law enforcement professionals.

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DIVaero is staffed by Engineers and Technicians with decades of experience in design, fabrication, assembly, and test of complex electronic modules. As a spinoff of Diversified Systems (dsi), a 40-year-old company that designed, fabricated, assembled, and tested PCBs for military, aerospace, automotive and medical device customers, DIVaero's quality, systems and processes were purposefully developed around rigorous military and aerospace requirements. With the latest Equipment, Software, documentation, and traceability, DIVaero is uniquely positioned to manage the most complex electronic module designs or redesigns and seamlessly transition them into fully documented and approved production units.

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www.ga-asi.com

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I

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www.integralaerospace.com

Integral Aerospace supports its customers by being the "Strongest Link in Their Supply Chain" and building trust through partnerships with Integrity, Safety, Quality and Delivery. Integral Aerospace solves our customers most complex technical challenges with manufacturing solutions through composites manufacturing, filament winding of pressurized vessels, hard metals machining and complex sub-system assemblies.

K

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L

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M

M1 Support Services



www.m1services.com

M1 Support Services is a leading provider of high quality, cost effective and innovative services. These include aviation maintenance and modifications, flight operations, training development and delivery, supply chain management and Contractor Logistics Support. Operating worldwide since 2003, M1 provides support to the US Army, US Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, the FAA and NASA.

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Meggitt is known for battle-proven intelligent air data systems and compact flight deck instruments that enable pilots to assimilate critical information in extreme environments. We are the world leader in the design and manufacture of ammunition handling systems, thermal management systems and components including fans, pumps and compressors, scoring systems and crash resistant, ballistic tolerant fuel tanks used to support armed forces and defense agencies worldwide.

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)



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MOOG

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A world leader in primary flight control actuation, Moog is a premier supplier of mission **critical systems and products for military aircraft**. Other services include: technical support, repair/overhaul, spares/rotables, modifications/upgrades, reliability enhancements, obsolescence management. We also provide reverse engineering, and metal additive manufacturing to create complex or multi-part assemblies that cannot be made using traditional manufacturing. www.moog.com/aircraft.

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O

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www.Outerlink.com

Outerlink Global Solutions is focused on providing organizations with solutions to identify and mitigate risks. IRIS is a turnkey solution for maintaining operational control and oversight from a single corporate operator to fleet operations. Combining the four key elements of monitoring, alerting, tracking and communication, IRIS exceeds any system commercially available today.

P

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PeopleTec delivers technical services & solutions to the DoD Headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama's Cummings Research Park, PeopleTec is an employee-owned small business dedicated to cultivating a people-centric workplace while providing technical excellence to the defense community in support of the Warfighter. Our commitment to customer and employee satisfaction is evidenced by our company tagline, which promotes excellence within all facets of the company **People First. Technology Always.** With over 400 employees, PeopleTec provides diversified engineering and analysis, modeling and simulation, cyber security and intelligence, rapid prototyping, and programmatic support and operations services to the Department of Defense and civilian federal sectors. Our primary government customers include PEO Aviation, Missile Defense Agency (MDA), Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC), along with additional support throughout the US Army, Air Force, and Navy.

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www.phantomlights.com

We build the OFFICIAL flashlight of Army Aviation: The Phantom Warrior TLS™ is a multi-tooled light for a myriad of applications and situations. It gives you covert light, overt light, a colored light...as well as flash patterns and a full lens for signaling for assistance. Since you already know our

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The PC-24 is the only aircraft combining the versatility of a turboprop with the cabin size of a medium-light jet, and the performance of a light jet. It's a plane that simply doesn't fit into any of the existing jet categories. That's why we had to create a new one: the Super Versatile Jet (SVJ) category. The PC-24 has been engineered to be "off-road" compatible from the beginning. Its outstanding short-field performance – even on unpaved runways – opens up an incredible level of mobility.

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www.pinnaclesolutionsinc.com

Pinnacle Solutions is a CMMI-DEV Level 3-appraised and AS9100:2016/ISO9001:2015-registered Employee Owned Company in Huntsville, AL. Pinnacle is a leading innovator, developer, and provider of manned and unmanned flight and maintenance products and services, with proven expertise in aviation operations/instruction; training system development/sustainment/modification; live, virtual, and augmented training environments; interactive multimedia instruction; and IETM/tech publication development.

R

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www.robbietanks.com

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Rolls-Royce is a proud member of Bell's V-280 Team Valor for the Army's FLRAA program. Rolls-Royce Defense is the second largest provider of military aero-engine products and services globally, and a major provider of maritime systems in the naval sector. Rolls-Royce has over 150 defense and naval customers in 100 countries, and 16,000 engines in service around the world.

S

S.A.F.E Structure Designs, LLC



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S.A.F.E Structure Designs, a global leader in the design, engineering and manufacturing of ergonomic safety-first aircraft maintenance stands, fall protection platforms, phase maintenance platforms, hangar equipment, and specialty tooling.

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S3 AeroDefense is a recognized Worldwide leader providing Aircraft SPARES distribution, Repair and Overhaul SERVICES and Program Management SOLUTIONS to Military Operators around the World making S3 AeroDefense your Partner for all your Aircraft sustainment requirements. Since its inception in 2005, S3 has been focused on quality, innovation and dedication to exceptional customer support. With a focus on OEM strategic distribution, S3 is the trusted solution provider to Customers and OEMs.

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SES is a recognized leader in system modification, integration, maintenance, training, and total fielding support of rotary wing, fixed wing, and unmanned aircraft. We are a business which brings OEM-level capabilities, without the associated cost. Services range from prototype and fabrication through complex modification and integration. We are strategically located, have trained personnel, rapid contracting vehicles, and over 1.4M sq. ft. of world class manufacturing and integration facilities. Supporting the Warfighter and our Coalition Partners! SES is the Right Choice!

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Sierra Nevada Corporation delivers customer-focused technologies and best-of-breed systems integrations in the aerospace and defense sectors. Applications span navigation/guidance, communications, electronic warfare and threat detection, cybersecurity, infrastructure protection and commercial space.

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Skedco® manufactures and markets State of the art Confined Space Rescue equipment including the original Sked® stretcher--the perfect solution for confined space, high angle and technical rescue. The revolutionary design provides outstanding patient protection and security during helicopter hoisting. It is currently being used for confined space, water, military, vertical rope, low angle, wilderness and many other kinds of rescue.

STRATA-G Solutions, Inc.



www.stratag-llc.com

STRATA-G is a Small Business Administration (SBA) 8(a) Certified Alaska Native

Corp. (ANC) Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) with Corporate HQ and engineering, prototype and manufacturing operations in Huntsville, AL. STRATA-G is hardware & platform modernization focused. Core Capabilities: Project Management, Engineering Solutions, Rapid Prototyping, Manufacturing & Assembly, Integrated Hardware Solutions, Warehousing, Kitting, Maintenance & Overhaul and System Documentation and Control.

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www.streamlight.com

Streamlight Inc. manufactures a variety of portable lighting products including rechargeable and standard battery, precision-engineered flashlights, tactical lights, lanterns and accessories for use in military, police, fire & rescue and security applications. For additional information, please call 1-800-523-7488.

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Located in Middletown, Del., Summit Aviation holds several factory authorizations and is a DoD approved contractor. It offers inspection maintenance, repair and modifications for airframes, engines and avionics systems; special mission aircraft modifications; structural, systems, and test pilot facilities capable of approving designs for structural modification/repairs, flight test/system and human factors. It also operates three manufacturing locations in North Carolina, Kentucky and Delaware.

T

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www.TiL.ca

Technisonic Industries Ltd. is a privately held Electronics Manufacturer with principal offices in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. Technisonic has focused its efforts on the development of Special Mission Airborne RF systems. Currently AWR'd in the H-60 Blackhawk's and CH-47 F Chinooks, TDFM-9000 series radios can be found in US ARNG, ARMY, Airforce, Coast Guard, CBP and UAV aircraft. For more Information,

please contact Jim Huddock at Technisonic, Direct: (612) 231-9020 or via email at Jhuddock@tfcomm.net.

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Tyonek Native Corporation and its subsidiaries provide complex technology integration solutions and support to the US Department of Defense (DOD) and other government agencies and OEMs. We maintain a robust, certified Quality Management System (QMS) that includes (ISO) 9001:2015, (AS) AS9100 Rev D and AS9110 Rev C. We have manufacturing facilities that total over 220,000 sq. ft., and more than 200,000 sq. ft. of Aircraft Maintenance and Integration facilities specializing in DOD MDS aircraft.

V

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Vertex Aerospace offers a global capability and complete solution for aftermarket aerospace services for government and commercial customers. The Company's international presence and vast range of services have distinguished it from competitors for over 50 years. The Mississippi-based Company operates in over 100 locations worldwide and is proud to have a 50 percent veteran employee rate.

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Viasat is on a mission to connect every warfighter, platform, and node across the battlespace. As a global communications company, we power millions of fast, resil-

ient connections for military forces around the world – connections that have the capacity to transform the mission – in the air, on the ground, and at sea. Our customers depend on us for connectivity that brings greater operational capabilities, whether we're securing the U.S. Government's networks, delivering satellite and wireless communications to the remote edges of the battlespace, or providing senior leaders with the ability to perform mission-critical communications while in flight. We are a team of fearless innovators, driven to redefine what's possible. And we're not done – we're just beginning.

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Vinnell Arabia is a military knowledge transfer company which delivers a full range of products and services for air and land forces, as well as customized doctrine-based ground and aviation training, full-scope maintenance, logistics

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Y

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Yulista is a trusted partner since 2002 as the preferred partner for mission ready clients. We believe in the power of our people and our communities. We're not just a company, we're a family. Our greatest assets are the men and women who contribute, excel, and strive to make the impossible possible, delivering results through our commitment to quality, innovation, and belief in the mission.

Happy 38th Birthday



ARMY AVIATION BRANCH

April 12, 1983

Do Older Pilots Fly Higher?

The Question:

As a pilot gets older in experience, do you find that he generally flies at higher altitudes?

Next:

Alone and over water in an L-19 with a dead engine and no shore within reach, would you bail out or ride the ship down?

JAMES E. BENTLEY



1st Lieutenant
1st Infantry Division
Fort Riley, Kansas

"No, I believe that all things taken into account—such as terrain, winds aloft, etc.—that as a pilot gets older in experience he becomes more familiar with emergency procedures and needs less altitude to put them into effect. He also becomes more familiar with the terrain and finds it easier to fly in marginal weather if he become accustomed to flying at the lower altitudes."

L. WAYNE BEST



Major
Army Avn Unit Trng Comd
Fort Sill, Oklahoma

"True . . . The flying period between 250 and 500 hours is the most dangerous. During this period the pilot evolves from the rudimentary stage to a more experienced and dependable pilot. A few near accidents at low altitudes, acquisition of an instrument certificate, transition into heavier aircraft, and experience all teach that altitude on *top of the wings* never does a pilot any good."

WAYNE E. DOWNING



Colonel
30th Engineer Group
Presidio of San Francisco,
California

"Those who flew combat in Korea certainly flew higher than they did in World War II. It was necessary in order to see over the ridge (that was always) ahead. Also, those ridges eventually had Communist ack-ack on them. Other than in combat, I haven't noticed any such trend. New pilots who can't resist flying low don't last long enough to get either older or more experienced."

JOHN L. ROWAN



Lieutenant Colonel
Army Aviation Directorate
DCS Operations, DA
Washington 25, D.C.

"I believe that a pilot indulges less in casual low flying as he gains experience and I think that's what is asked for here. As one gets older, the thrill of flying between close-set trees becomes tempered by the thought that telephone wires may be strung between them. I'm a firm believer in the old saying that there are no old, bold pilots."

ROBERT E. BRIZEE



Captain
Army Elec Prvg Ground
Fort, Huachuca, Arizona

"Several of us were just discussing this very thing not so long ago. I must confess that I, and my contemporaries, do exactly that . . . We do fly higher than we all once did . . . I don't believe I am any more fearful than I was (as a fairly new pilot), but I do know that I don't look at that possible night parachute jump as I did years ago."

DONALD H. BISHOP, JR.



WO-1
509th Trans Co (Hcptr)
Fort Belvoir, Virginia

"I have found, in my limited experience, that a cautious student is a cautious pilot. It's my opinion that being over-cautious is in a man's makeup and is not modified by experience, but by age. Likewise, a foolhardy pilot remains a foolhardy pilot if he remains at all. Of course, this is a general rule, and, as to all rules, there are exceptions."

ERNEST L. HAMILTON



Lieutenant Colonel
Hq, Board Nr 6
Fort Rucker, Alabama

"The altitude of the aircraft on past, present, as well as future flights will continue to be governed by the characteristics and capabilities of the aircraft being utilized, mission to be flown, terrain to be flown over, weather conditions, density of air traffic, and applicable air regulations. Now—if it's "buzzing" you're interested in. I'd say: "Young or old, it's strictly for the birds."

JAMES A. MURPHY



Major
94th Inf Div (USAR)
Boston, Massachusetts

"By no means! Since I take an inference of *more cautious* from the question, then to that a lusty yea. Experience in the third dimension begets an ever-growing and healthy respect for altitudes and attitudes—mental and structural. A full flap stall five feet over the ground is as impressive as a frosty dying engine at 8,000 feet while playing just over the cloud base."

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ARMY AVIATORS fly the best planes and should have the finest Balfour rank and wing insignia. Made to government specifications. Free pamphlet. L. G. Balfour Co., Attleboro, Mass.

◀◀ NEW CONTRACT

PALO ALTO, CALIF.—Hiller Helicopters was awarded a contract totalling approximately \$3,500,000 by the Department of Defense for an undisclosed number of Army H-23C helicopters, it has been announced by Stanley Hiller, Jr., President of the Palo Alto, California firm.

With the award of this contract, Hiller's backlog of unfilled orders to the government now totals approximately \$12,000,000, and carries production through late fall of 1957 with current schedules.

The new contract, placed through the Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics, is for the company's latest three-place production model, which is to be used by the Army in helicopter training and reconnaissance missions. Previous production model H-23Bs, delivered in quantity over the past few years, are currently used by Army and National Guard units throughout the U. S. (Hiller Release). ▶▶

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BUSINESS CREDIT CORP.

136 West Second Street
Dayton 2, Ohio



AAAA Scholarship Foundation

The AAAA Scholarship Foundation – Reliable and Relevant for All AAAA Members and Families

By COL (Ret.) Louis A. Bonham

It has been a distinct honor and privilege to serve as your Scholarship Foundation president for the last two years. No one could have anticipated the challenges presented during the last year created by the COVID-19 pandemic.



A number of charitable organizations experienced a financial downturn, and the recipients of their services were adversely affected as well. I am pleased to report that your foundation has far exceeded expectations during this historic period of time in our nation's history. New records were achieved for total scholarship dollars provided over the last two years with \$516,500 awarded in 2019 and \$537,000 awarded in 2020. It is also important to note that 304 deserving applicants received awards in 2019 and 313 applicants received awards in 2020. Initial analysis reveals the 2021 program could set another record monetarily and for total applicants receiving awards.

How Did We Do It

I know that many of you would probably ask the question, how is this possible, given the pandemic situation affecting the nation and our economy during the past year? I will provide a short analysis of the events that made this possible. First, our financial committee worked seamlessly with our investment manager to re-invest assets to enhance profitability of the Foundation's portfolio. Results achieved were a 19 percent return in 2019 and more than 7 percent return in 2020. Second, our fundraising results did not significantly decrease as a result of the pandemic with \$558K received in 2019 and \$508K in 2020. Many thanks to all of our AAAA chapters, donors and the foundation's fundraising committee! Third, in 2017 we converted the voting process of our scholarship applicants from manual face

to face to fully electronic. The electronic process has increased participation from our AAAA Chapters and added more diversity among our voter pool of more than 130 members as well. Without this conversion, the pandemic would have negatively affected our 2020 program. Finally, two years ago, our board saw the need to allow board members to participate by phone or virtually if unable to attend board meetings personally. Previously, our bylaws required members to personally attend two annual board meetings, one in conjunction with AUSA's Fall convention in Washington, DC and the second at AAAA's annual Spring Summit. As a result of this change, we were able to seamlessly conduct our board meetings with increased participation and effectiveness.

Future Challenges

There are new challenges that the foundation will face as we move forward into 2021 and beyond. One of the challenges is to maintain and improve our annual donations to the foundation. There is a perennial pool of donors who have provided annual donations for many years; we must add new members to this pool. Maintaining effective communication with our AAAA Members and AAAA Chapters, both of which are increasing, is also an important element of advancing our annual program. The foundation's Executive Committee is laser focused on these challenges and have embedded strategies to improve each of them in their annual priorities and objectives.

Incoming Foundation Officers

On April 14th, during a virtual Board of Governors meeting, the new AAAASF leadership team led by BG (Ret.) Mike Flowers will assume responsibilities of managing the Foundation's activities for the remainder of 2021 through Spring 2023. He will be joined by COL (Ret.) Karen Lloyd as Vice President, COL (Ret.) Shelly Yarborough as Secretary and COL (Ret.) Greg Gass as Treasurer. All members of the new team have previously served in officer positions on the Foundation's board and are uniquely qualified to take it to the next level and I wish them continued success going forward.

In summary, as we look ahead to the remainder of 2021 and beyond, the scholarship foundation is financially sound and fully prepared to continue its outstanding support to AAAA members, soldiers and families. Thanks to each of the SFI's Board Members, Chapters, Donors, and AAAA voters who helped to advance the objectives of AAAA's Scholarship Foundation.

*COL (Ret.) Louis A. Bonham
President
AAAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc.*

Thank You to Our Scholarship Fund Donors



AAAA recognizes the generosity of the following individuals, chapters and organizations that have donated to the Scholarship Foundation from July 2019 through March 2020. The list includes donations received for all scholarships, as well as the General Fund which provides funding to enable the chapter, corporate, heritage and individual matching fund programs as well as national grants and loans. Donors marked with an * are partially or totally donating to the newly established Families of the Fallen Scholarship. Every penny donated to the Scholarship Foundation goes directly to a grant or loan as a result of the Army Aviation Association of America subsidizing ALL administrative costs!

7/17 Air Cav Association	Matthew L. Brown-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	David Hoffman	Kenneth D. Reynolds-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Air Assault Chapter	Regina and Robert Bublitz-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Diane & Stephen Huebner	Marilyn & Jay Rickmeyer
AAAA Aloha Chapter	Jacob Bullion-IHO MAJ Eugene A. Carroll Jr., Ret.	Laura & Tom Huff-IHO John K. Jolly	David F. Riley
AAAA Arizona Chapter	John D. Burke-IHO COL Joseph A. Hoecherl	Michael L. Hutton	Roberson Giving Fund - Keith Roberson
AAAA ASE Speakers	Sandra D. Callanan-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	James E. Hyers	Gil H. Robertson-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Aviation Center Chapter	Ernie Carlson	Jack A. James-IHO T/Sgt. Karl P. Danckwerth Sr.	Joseph Rosamond-IHO Creek Fire Rescue
AAAA Badger Chapter	Kate Carroll-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	Arlo & Mary Rose Janssen	Susan & Theron Ruff-IHO COL Joseph A. Hoecherl
AAAA Central Florida Chapter	Becki Chambers-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	Robert H. Johnson III	Alex and Eli Ryan-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Colonial Virginia Chapter	Cirone Friedberg LLP-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	Larry M. Jonas	Judy and Charles Scheibly-IHO COL Joseph Hoecherl
AAAA Connecticut Chapter	Kevin S. Cochie	Constance & Herbert Jones	Jeff J. Schoesser-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris
AAAA Corpus Christi Chapter	Thomas Cole-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Joseph Joseph-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret. K-Con, Inc.	Malinda & Edward Schmidt-IHO COL Joseph A. Hoecherl
AAAA Cowboy Chapter	Daniel C. Cox	Richard D. Kenyon	Scott Kubica
AAAA Delaware Valley Chapter	Cyalume Technologies, Inc.	James F. Krueger	Mary & William Shelt-IHO Families of the Fallen
AAAA Flint Hills Chapter	Edward DeFreitas-IHO SGT James L. Wieler	Jessica Bailey Lallier-IHO 1LT Kathryn Bailey	E. J. Sinclair-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris
AAAA Gold Standard Chapter	Todd DiGeronimo	James M. Lee	E. J. Sinclair-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Idaho Snake River Chapter	Digiflight Inc - Stanford Oliver	Abby Letts-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	Thomas G. Smith
AAAA Iron Mike Chapter	Jay Dirnberger-IHO Janis Arena	Lockheed Martin	Teresa C. Snyder-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Jack H. Dibrell/Alamo Chapter	Dustoff Association	Timothy Lunger	Evelyn A. Soucek-IHO Peter B. Teets
AAAA Keystone Chapter	Joe Emerson-IHO Sandra Emerson	Jodi Lynch	Kathryn & Joseph Sparks
AAAA Lindbergh Chapter	Louis E. Enselek-IHO Donald Harry Enselek	Michelle K. Madden-IHO Donald Harry Enselek	StandardAero
AAAA MacArthur Chapter	Erickson Incorporated	Carolyn Maloney, Chenega Defense and Aerospace Solutions	Benjamin Stork
AAAA Mid-Atlantic Chapter	Joseph M. Ernest-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Melinda Marinello-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	System Studies & Simulation, Inc
AAAA Minuteman Chapter	Fechheimer Brothers Company	Theodore E. Mathison	Pamela & Joseph Taylor
AAAA Mount Rainier Chapter	Vanessa & Jeffrey Fowler-IHO COL Joseph A. Hoecherl	Stephen T. Mauro-IHO COL Paul Kelly	Cynthia M. Trujillo-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA North Star Chapter	Paul and Jenny Gale	Lewis & Betty McConnell	Teresa Tutin-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA North Texas Chapter	Garvin George-IHO Families of the Fallen*	John W. McElveen	Teresa Tutin-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Old Tucson Chapter	Lonnie Germaine-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	Dirk A. Megchelse, Sr.	Jill & James Tyler
AAAA Phantom Corp Chapter	Rhonda & Paul Gierow-IHO Morgan Rae Kurowsky	Michael E. Moody-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association
AAAA Rio Grande Chapter	Leslie H. Gilbert, Cub Club	Dora and Donald Moore-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association of Florida
AAAA Southern California Chapter	Steven Goetz	Rene & Ronald Moring-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Robert Weaver Welsh-IHO William Reeder Jr.
AAAA Tarheel Chapter	Rachel and Ellis Golson-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Donald T. Munsch, Munsch & Co. Aeromechanics	Nolan Wesley-IHO Families of the Fallen*
AAAA Thunder Mountain Chapter	Jane and Thomas Graft	Northrop Grumman	Beverly A. Williamson-IHO MAJ Thomas Meredith Duckworth
AAAA Thunderbird Chapter	William B. Grubbs-IHO John K. Jolly	Sylvia T. Noyes-IHO Thomas & Ann McNamara	Margaret Wilson-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
AAAA Volunteer Chapter	Alexander S. Guida-IHO Maxwell H. Guida	Larry V. Oberg-IHO Donald Harry Enselek	Wreaths Across America
AAAA Washington-Potomac Chapter	Spencer C. Guida and Andrea Pappano-IHO Maxwell Harris Guida	David M. O'Brien Jr.	Michelle Yarborough - IHO Angela R. Freeman
AAAA Wright Brothers Chapter	John Gustitis-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Rudy Ostovich	Michelle Yarborough. - IHO MAJ William "Pete" Stormer, Ret.
AAAA Zia Chapter	Kristen Gustitis-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.	Johnny Overton HS Alumni	Michelle Yarborough-IHO COL Harry Townsend
Sidney W. Achee	Joanne Hansrote-IHO Anthonette Bobra Harris	Diane Pascale-IHO Morgan Rae Kurowsky	Michelle Yarborough-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.
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Army Otter Caribou Association	Gerald Hipp-IHO Colleen Hipp	Pinnacle Solutions Rise up Reach Out Fund	
BAE		Andrew G. Pokelwaldt-IHO of Military Families	
Laura & Thomas Barnes-IHO Joseph A. Hoecherl		Marc L. Ressler	
Bonnie and Glenn Beavers-IHO CW5 Lee Tutin, Ret.		Gary S. Rast	
Bell Textron		Terry & Bonnie Reininger-IHO	
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The Boeing Company			
John S. Bolton-IHO CSM Isaac B. Sheffield			
Louis Bonham, Bonham Technologies			
Jacob Adam Brewster-IHO Families of the Fallen*			
James L. Brown			
Keirn C. Brown, Jr.			

IHO - In Honor Of

For more information about the Foundation or to make a contribution, go online to www.quad-a.org; contributions can also be mailed to AAAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc., 593 Main Street, Monroe, CT 06468-2806.



AAAA Chapter Affairs

By LTC (Ret.) Jan Drabczuk

I greatly appreciate the support from CW5 (Ret) James G. Freeman, the MacArthur Chapter President for authorizing and sharing this information to our membership.

The MacArthur Chapter

The MacArthur Chapter was formed in Feb 1992. It is located on Long Island, NY and is associated with AASF #1 NYARNG and its supported units: 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment and Company B, 642nd Aviation Support Battalion.

Over the years, Chapter members have flown various aircraft at that facility including the L-19, OH-13, OH-23, UH-1 A B C D and H model variants, OH-6A, AH-1 and currently the UH-60.

1st Reserve Aero Squadron

On 25 April 1916, Captain Raynal Bolling presented a report after the 1st Aero Company of the New York National Guard had completed its initial six months of training. The period covered was 1 November 1915 to 25 April 1916. During that time, the unit raised monies from private contributions to purchase five aircraft. The company's physical location was Hempstead Field, Mineola, New York where they built five hangars to house the aircraft. The pilots accomplished 355 flights totaling 3,859 minutes amounting to 3,800 miles. This was the beginning of National Guard Aviation. From Hampstead Field the unit moved to Miller Field on Staten Island and when the Air Force and the Air National Guard were formed in 1947 the remaining L-19s were located at Zahn's Airport in Amityville, LI and this became AASF#1, the first AASF in Army National Guard Aviation.

Activities

The Chapter has tried to conduct regular quarterly meetings. Due to the current Covid epidemic things have slowed, but they hope to resume them shortly. Past events included numerous barbeques and several Dining Outs. The Chapter also sponsored a golf outing and are active in the scholarship program. Presently they award two scholarships per year and are looking to increase that number to three. Recently members suffered a terrible loss to their Aviation community, when three pilots from their sister AASF # 2 died in a tragic Black Hawk crash in Rochester, NY. The MacArthur Chapter has raised significant funds to assist those families and to help carry out their wishes.



Awards and Recognition

Over the past few years, the MacArthur Chapter has awarded five OSMs to deserving members. The Chapter is also currently active in the Paver program at the Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker and have thus far honored eight of their members with brick pavers. The Chapter has had a broad makeup of members spanning many decades. One deceased Chapter member, CW4 Dick O'Leary (Ret), flew C-47s over the Burma Hump in WWII as part of Claire Chennault's Flying Tigers group. Many Chapter members had the privilege of flying with him. CW4 Charles Humphries (Ret), another deceased member, was awarded the Distinguished Flying cross while on an AFTP. He was flying an OH-13 on a routine training mission when he observed three people on the rooftop of a 12-story apartment building that was on fire. CW4 Humphries made three landings on that rooftop and extricated them to safety.

Corporate Support

The MacArthur Chapter was instrumental in integrating corporate/community support having elected Louise Loyst, a Business Development Director at Dayton T. Brown Inc. (DTB) as not only a board member but an Officer. She states, "It is a privilege and honor to be such an integral part of the AAAA community offering corporate perspective at the local level. The group enriches my life with their stories and call to action to help the community".

Future Plans

The MacArthur Chapter continually looks to recruit new members from both Active and Retired ranks. They currently have approximately 140 members. They plan to sponsor another Dining Out, a golf outing, a fishing trip, a "moonlight cruise" on the Great South Bay and an outing to Yankee Stadium to see the best team in baseball beat the pants off any of the lesser teams. They also plan to have a reunion of past and present members in Palm Beach, Florida this summer.

Feel free to contact me if you need help for your Chapter, Executive Board support, would like your Chapter featured in *ARMY AVIATION* magazine or to obtain clarification of National procedures.

LTC (Ret.) Jan S. Drabczuk
 AAAA VP for Chapter Affairs
jan.drabczuk@quad-a.org

ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL INDUCTEES

Air Assault Chapter



CHAPTER COURTESY PHOTO

MG Brian Winski, outgoing commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), is inducted as a Knight of the Honorable Order of St. Michael by assistant division commander for support, BG Clair Gill, on behalf of chapter president, COL (Ret.) Hawk Ruth on March 3, 2021 at Ft. Campbell, KY. Winski was recognized for his support of Army Aviation prior to his change of command on March 5.

Aviation Center Chapter



CHAPTER COURTESY PHOTO

CW3 Bryan M. Tice, battalion aviation safety officer for 1st Bn., 58th Avn. Regt., is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by battalion commander, LTC Keith Haskin, on March 5, 2021 at Ft. Rucker, AL. Tice was recognized for more than 10 years supporting Army Aviation as a UH-60L/M pilot with deployments to Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa.



CHAPTER COURTESY PHOTO

SFC Douglas B. Miller, Air Traffic Control Company First Sergeant and ATC Chief for

1st Bn., 58th Avn. Regt., is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by LTC Keith Haskin, battalion commander, on March 5, 2021 at Ft. Rucker, AL. Miller was recognized on the occasion of his permanent change of station to Hawaii for his service to Army Aviation since 2006 as an Army Air Traffic Controller supervising or controlling over 500,000 aircraft movements.

Flint Hills Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTOS BY CW2 JONATHAN GORHAM

CW4 Jason Greene, the aviation safety officer for 601st Aviation Support Battalion, is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by LTC Russell Vanderlugt, battalion commander, on March 4, 2021 at Ft. Riley, KS. Greene was recognized for his service to Army Aviation as a CH-47 pilot since 2006.

Iron Mike Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTOS BY LTC JILL K. MADGE

CW4 Timothy B. Keyes is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by LTC Marc P. Gaguzis, deputy command inspector general for XVIII Airborne Corps on March 11, 2021 in Fayetteville, NC. Keyes was recognized for his outstanding professionalism while serving as a liaison to a Special Operations Joint Task Force and attached to TF TALON, representing the 82nd Airborne Division, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, and 3-82 General Support Aviation Battalion.

Phantom Corps Chapter



CHAPTER COURTESY PHOTO

CW5 Bryant Fontenot, senior aviation advisor to the commander of First Army Division West, is inducted into the Gold Honorable Order of St. Michael by AAAA National Secretary, MG (Ret.) Walter M. Golden, Jr. during a ceremony at Ft. Hood, TX on March 17, 2021. Fontenot was recognized for life-long, dedicated Aviation Service over 40 years which included more than 13,000 incident and accident free flight hours, 4,500 night vision goggle hours, and several deployments.

Tennessee Valley Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTO BY LTC (RET) JASON GALINDO

LTC (Ret.) Patrick J. Sheahan, operations and plans officer for the Utility Helicopters Project Office, is inducted into the Gold Honorable Order of St. Michael by chapter president Gary Nenninger and LTG Neil Thurgood, Director of Hypersonics, in the front yard of his home in Athens, AL on March 16, 2021. Sheahan was recognized on the occasion of his retirement for his life-long service to Army Aviation and in particular for his critical input to the development of requirements documentation for the LUH and UH-60M aircraft.

OSMs Continued on page 113



Want to change your AAAA Chapter Affiliation?
No Problem!
Call 203-268-2450



AAAA Membership Update

By CW4 Becki Chambers

The Membership Corner



ALL BOLANTE PHOTOS COURTESY ANTHONY BOLANTE

In November of 2018, we set a goal of having 20,000+ members by Summit of 2020. The good news is that we did reach that goal. On stage I would have had the privilege of announcing our membership number of 20,400+!

Sadly, due to the pandemic the decision was made to cancel the Summit. It was a tough call, but was the correct one to make. As you know by now, Summit 2021 has also been cancelled. In fact, hardly any in-person AAAA events at any level have been held, which makes it a challenge when trying to recruit new members. Our membership number is now around 18,000, which is more than when we had in 2018. Trying to stay positive, I look forward to Summit of 2022, and reaching a goal of 20,000 by Summit 2022!

And now for our member spotlight. I've always been so impressed by the professional lives our Guard and Reserve Soldiers lead outside of their mili-

tary duties. Many of you know COL (Ret.) Anthony Bolante either from his time in the WA National Guard, or his tenure as president of the Mt. Rainier Chapter. Did you also know that he is an award-winning, multimedia visual journalist and editor with more than 25 years of professional experience specializing in editorial photography, sports photojournalism, and adventure documentation? Anthony has won numerous awards from the National Press Photographers Association (NPPA) including the 2010 Kenneth P. McLaughlin Award of Merit. But more recently, he received first place in 2012 Portrait Photojournalism and first place in 2013 Health Reporting (Photo Essay) from

- Top Left: COL (Ret.) Anthony Bolante*
- Top Right: Ten-time world champion surfer Kelly Slater runs a small tube at the Banzai Pipeline Masters competition on the north shore of Oahu, Hawaii, Dec. 15, 2010.*
- Bottom Left: Coast Guard helicopter surveys the ecological damage from the breakup of the freighter, New Carissa in Coos Bay, Oregon, Feb. 12, 1999.*
- Bottom Right: Udkail village elder, Haji Om Rakhn, stands in the snow speaking to Soldiers from Task Force Phoenix in East Kabul.*

the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ). I asked if we could share some of his photographs in our magazine and he provided me with these shots. More are available to view at his website www.TheImageArsenal.com.

If you have a Soldier who you think should be highlighted in this column, please reach out to me at beckichambers@quad-a.org.

CW4 Becki Chambers
AAAA Vice President for Membership

New AAAA Life Members

Aviation Center Chapter
MAJ Justin Goldman
CAPT Frank Hoover
2LT Joshua Moore
Dana Probert
Cowboy Chapter
CW5 Michael Friel, Ret.
Gold Standard Chapter
CW4 Sang Pae
High Desert Chapter
CPT Gregory Gibbons
Morning Calm Chapter
CW2 Stephen M. Culver
Ragin' Cajun Chapter
SFC Seth Wagner
Washington-Potomac Chapter
LTC Clinton Cody
MAJ Clifford Schaefer
Wright Brothers Chapter
WO1 Jennifer Smith

New AAAA Members

Air Assault Chapter
CPT Kyle Hopkins
Carolyn E. Petit
Aloha Chapter
1LT John Beck
CPT Sean Lucas
SSG Blake Nathe
CPT Tanya Oliver
Arizona Chapter
Brad Bengtsson
Tina Cannon
Aviation Center Chapter
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CW4 Brian Barry
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William Cooper, Sr.
MAJ Justin Goldman
Timothy R. Healy
CAPT Frank Hoover
Michael Luna
2LT Lucas Manke
2LT Joshua Moore
Dana Probert
Raj Seedharie
2LT Graham Sharp
LTC Sean Stapler
CW4 James Williams
Badger Chapter
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David Carlson
1LT Sam Cremin
PVT Mark W. Gaus
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Brian Sandel
Larry Waltz
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Battle Born Chapter

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PV2 Matthew S. Vera
Bluegrass Chapter
2LT Abby Ludwig
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PV2 Tristan Woodruff
Colonial Virginia Chapter
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PV2 Obrien Isah Gritten
PFC Anthony C. Jones Jr
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Anthony Foote
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PV2 Caleb D. Wynkoop
Morning Calm Chapter
CW3 Jimmy Lamon
SSG Thomas L. Machado
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Narragansett Bay Chapter
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North Star Chapter
PV2 Austin T. Arnold
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Mike Goodwin
1LT William J. Kelly
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Steven Webster
Old Tucson Chapter
Sean Mulholland
Mitchell Rebman
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CPL McKenzie M. Morris
PVT James K. Phoenix
Phantom Corps Chapter
Ms. Lindsay Allmon
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Ignacio Becera
CSM Cass Long
SPC Luis M. S. Santiago
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1LT Joe Ellison
Kirk Flitte
SPC Nicholas C. Ford
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William H. Gillispie
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MAJ Gregory W. Glover
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Mary H. Gorman
COL Gerhard Granz, Ret.
Dexter Henson
Stephen Hill
COL Jose L. Hinojosa, Ret.
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CW3 Jeffrey J. Jelonek
MAJ Gregory R. Jenkins
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LTC Peter D. Kowal
CW3 Vladimir Kultschizky
CW3 Timothy J. Larz
WO1 Joshua Link
MSG David W. Little, Ret.
2LT Alex McDonald
MSG Joe Moreira, Ret.
SGM Ivonne M. Morrison, Ret.
CSM Vernie Nance, Ret.
MAJ Darrel B. Nerove
Fred A. Newcomb
CDT Dion Perinon
SFC Henry R. Rathbone, Ret.
Tony Sanchez
LTC Martin Scheld
Thomas R. Schiltz
Wesley Schroeder
LTC Jerry D. Scott
LTC Jay Q. Smith
MAJ James F. Speelman
LTC Friedrich Stern
Jean K. Tinsley
WO1 Armando B. Torres
MAJ L.D. Walker
Rose Weast
2LT Erich Zwelke



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AAAA Family Forum By Judy Konitzer

We are so fortunate to have Jodie Francis and Patty Schloesser at the helm of our Aviation community, as they are sincere and genuine supporters of our Aviation Soldiers and their families. Like us, they are disappointed at not being able to gather in Nashville, but they have graciously shared their thoughts and prayers for us... Judy



JODIE FRANCIS PERSONAL PHOTO



PATTY SCHLOSSER PERSONAL PHOTO

From the Desk of the Aviation Branch 1st Lady, Jodie Francis

Greetings from Ft. Rucker! We are all certainly disappointed that the 2021 Summit will not happen this year but thank the AAAA staff for attempting everything humanly possible to try to make it happen. Hopefully, we are seeing the light at the end of the COVID tunnel, and we look forward to seeing all of you next year!

We keep all who have had a friend or family member affected by COVID 19 in our thoughts and prayers, and hope for the continued safety of all. This pandemic has altered life significantly, and in unique ways for our military families. We have changed travel and PCS timelines, college, and grade school methods, and have had long periods of time between family visits to name a few.

We have all had ups and downs during this last year, but I continue to be amazed at the resiliency of our military families! It has certainly been difficult, but in many ways our families were prepared for these challenges by the nature of military life!

- Moving plans changed? Been there!
- Vacation plans altered? Yup!
- Homeschooled the kids? Sure have!
- Missed major family events? Too many times to count!
- And many, many others!

This year has affected the general population in so many ways that our military families deal with on a regular basis. One thing that the pandemic has not changed is how special our military families are. How the challenges of our lifestyle bind us together. How our families will drop what they are doing to help a stranger because we have all been there. How our families will open their homes to a friend they have not seen in years because our military family is always there, no matter how far the distance or the length of time between visits. How our families will rally around those who are suffering or are in need, even when they themselves might be struggling. How our kids have lifelong friends around the world, so zooming with friends is not such an unusual way to communicate. How we adapt constantly to the changes thrown our way and try to turn challenges into adventures.

It has been one heck of a year, but I remain thankful for all of you, and for the strength of our Army family! We look forward to the day we can see you face to face, but until then, be safe, be well, and thank you for what you do every day!

From the Desk of AAAA's 1st Lady, Patty Schloesser

Dear Aviation Spouses. I know all of us are ready to get out and live a normal life. One of the events many of us look forward to is joining our Aviation community in Nashville! As many events of 2020 and now 2021 are cancelled due to Covid-19, so is this year's event.

No matter how old we are or where we live, all of us have had to make lifestyle changes in the past year. Weddings didn't happen, vacations weren't taken, children weren't able to go to school, and families may have not been able to share up-close time together. Our military family members may have had to cancel moves and career changes, or the beginning of college. Who knew that people could really work from home all the time, or that book clubs and families could Zoom? We have all had to adjust!

All of us probably know someone that had or has had Covid. I just hope all of you have stayed as healthy as possible. Many of us have had to cope with far greater difficulties than what I just mentioned. My thoughts and prayers go out to those who have experienced loss this past year. I wonder how you have coped and are coping. What activities have you altered or learned?

I am fortunate to live in a small mountain town surrounded by national parks and forests. For me, hiking, skiing, and snowshoeing have filled my outdoor days. Also, in a moment of, "I don't know what I am going to do with myself," Jeff and I bought a puppy. Yes, it is a thing! I have spent hundreds of hours training this little guy and now have a perfect dog---or not! He is a cutie, and he does occupy hundreds of hours! Perhaps he did save my sanity and continues to do so!

Here's to staying safe and getting back to normal or the new normal! Hope to see you next year!

Judy Konitzer is the family forum editor for ARMY AVIATION; questions and suggestions can be directed to her at judy@quad-a.org.

ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL INDUCTEES

Continued



CHAPTER PHOTO BY TRACY BOUTWELL

Ms. Karen Bandera, G-1 for the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command is inducted as a Knight of the Honorable Order of St. Michael by chapter vice president for veteran’s affairs, CSM (Ret.) Tod Glidewell, during a February 24, 2021 ceremony at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Bandera was

recognized for her dedicated support of the aviation enterprise while serving as the G-1.

Washington Potomac Chapter



CHAPTER PHOTO BY MAL STEVENK, SIOGA

LTC Marvin L. “Lee” Chase, Army ATP commander, instructor pilot and assistant Army attaché, Defense Attaché Service Air Operations, DIA, inducts his wife, **Lorraine Chase**, into the Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto immediately following his induction into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael during a ceremony on March 4, 2021 at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, DC. The Chases were recognized for their outstanding support of Army Aviation over 22 years on the occasion of his deploying to command a Special Operations Advisory Team in the Afghanistan Special Mission Wing fleet of PC-12s, MI-17s, and UH-60s.

UPCOMING AAAA EVENTS

JUNE 2021

1 Submission Deadline – Scholarship Application Supporting Documents
29-2 July VHPA annual reunion, Charlotte, NC Cancelled.

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AAAA Legislative Report

By LTC Kevin Cochie, Retired
AAAA Representative to the Military Coalition (TMC)
kevin.cochie@quad-a.org

Earmarks Are Back!!!

This month we will skip the updates on FY22 budget status and focus on one topic: Earmarks! What is an earmark one may ask? Aka Congressional adder; aka Congressional plus-up. An earmark is an appropriations provision inserted into a discretionary spending piece of legislation that directs funding to a Congressman's district or interest. The term is a livestock term stemming from when farmers used to mark the ears of livestock as a mark of personal identification. In this case, the farmers are Members of Congress and the livestock is money! Some in Congress refer to this non-competitive funneling of money as "pork".

The late Colonel John Murtha, USMC and decorated Vietnam veteran was a Democratic Congressman from the 12th district of Pennsylvania from 1974-2010. Murtha chaired the powerful House Appropriations Committee for Defense (HAC-D) and was masterful at writing earmarks into the annual defense appropriations bill and thus directing money to his hometown in Johnstown, PA as well as other districts that housed major defense contractors who supported him. Earmarks effectively died, coincidentally, about the time that Murtha passed away.

A moratorium was put on earmark practices in 2010 for many reasons and that moratorium has remained in effect for the last decade. The lion's share of opposition to this practice lies within the Republican party. Last month, the GOP House members held a closed-door meeting and voted to support bringing earmarks back as a Congressional practice. Most will not disclose how they voted, and we may never know who supported or opposed.

Discretionary funding is the type of funding that Congress controls and annually they issue appropriations legislation that equates to approximately \$1.4T. After 2010, Congress prohibited Members of Congress from inserting provisions that directed funding to specific entities within specific congressional districts (non-competitive actions). This had many 2nd and 3rd order effects, and some argue that the most detrimental effect was eliminating trade space when negotiating legislation. Earmarks provided negotiation

leverage and played a key role in Republican and Democratic compromise; imagine trying to play poker with no poker chips.

Reinstating the earmark practice will be fun to watch. Ten years is a long time and many Congressional members familiar with the process have retired, so there will be a learning curve as the practice is reinstated. Only 33% of the 535 Members of Congress were in office prior to 2010. Government affairs professionals (aka lobbyists) are no doubt frothing at the mouth because of the reinstatement. Pre-2010, lobbyists could pin a funding amount to their success or failure. After the moratorium, they could largely only fight for language inserted into various legislation; now they can pursue quantifiable funding streams that tie directly to the organizations for which they are lobbying.

Much will develop on this in 2021 so we will cover it often as we monitor the application of the practice. Lobbyists will now engage powerful lawmakers on behalf of the interests of defense firms that have presence in many districts across the nation. One of the most influential lawmakers to watch has been a staunch advocate of Army Aviation for decades. Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) is the Vice Chairman of the Senate Appropriations committee and ranking member of the subcommittee on defense. As a longtime Republican, he recently stated he supports bringing back the earmark practice and by the way, he is not running for re-election in 2022, so he does not have to worry about being judged for his actions when supporting earmarks over the next 18 months of his final term.

How Does DoD Feel About the Earmark Practice?

Officially, our DoD leadership hold the position that they support the budget request that is passed from the Pentagon to the White House to Congressional lawmakers for their markup process. Unofficially, the DoD is also part of the negotiations that occur during the annual markup process. While earmarks may generally be a parochial practice that targets a Congressman's district or interests, the practice also

supports interests within the DoD when it comes to preserving the health of various DoD programs. It can be problematic sometimes. I remember arriving to a program office in 2005 as a young Major just getting started in the Acquisition Corps. It was Jan/Feb timeframe and after a short continuing resolution, the annual defense appropriations bill was passed and lo and behold, we received about \$3M to integrate a search and rescue radio into our cockpit architectures. We had no requirement from the end user and no plans to do the integration and struggled for many months with how to utilize these funds.

What Next?

As we stated, this is all very raw news. The FY22 defense budget requests will not arrive to Congress until May this year, so Congress has time to put processes in place to receive earmark requests from Members. Lobbyists supporting the defense industry will be working very quickly to develop strategies to engage their constituents' Members for plus ups that benefit specific industry interests. We will report on the winners and losers as the cycle plays out this year.

ARMY AVIATION

Upcoming Special Focus



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Aviation
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Contact:

Bob Lachowski or
Erika Burgess

AAAIndustry@quad-a.org

203-268-2450

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Industry News

Announcements Related to Army Aviation Matters

Editor's note: Companies can send their Army Aviation related news releases and information to editor@quad-a.org.

Textron Systems Awarded Army Contract to Upgrade Shadow



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Textron Systems announced on Mar. 18, 2021 it received a contract for up to \$607 million

from the U.S. Army to provide contract logistics support, field services, and engineering support along with the retrofit of the existing Shadow® Block II Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (TUAS) to the upgraded Block III configuration. The work, to be completed in Textron Systems' Hunt Valley, MD facility over a five-year period, will modernize the current Shadow RQ-7B Block II and lead product support and sustainment activities for the fleet, and provides repairs and spares to support critical mission readiness levels for fielded systems. The Shadow Block III system incorporates design improvements, allowing for increased operations in adverse weather conditions, the latest high-definition day-and-night video payload, increased engine power and reliability, reduced acoustic signature and an advanced communications relay.

UAS Rodeo Helps to Define Requirements for the Future



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

The Future Tactical Unmanned Aircraft Systems (FTUAS) rodeo was held the first week

in March 2021 at Fort Benning, GA is part of a long-running evaluation of future capabilities. The Army selected four UAS in 2019 to help it evaluate requirements for a replacement for its Textron-manufactured Shadow UAS. Soldiers provided feedback on each system to help the Army determine its requirements as well as the tactics, techniques and procedures it would need. Initially the Martin UAV and Northrop Grumman team provided its V-Bat system and Textron's AAI Corporation, its Aerosonde HQ. Shortly after, the Army added two more aircraft for evaluation: the Arcturus-UAV Jump 20 system and L3Harris' FVR-90. MG Wally Rugen, the director of the Army's Future Vertical Lift Cross-Functional Team, said that the information from the soldier assessments and the rodeo will go to the Army Requirements Oversight Council for

a decision as early as the third quarter this year. A positive decision would mean the Army could move into a full-and-open competition to buy future tactical UAS.

Sikorsky DARPA OPV Black Hawk Demos Supervised Autonomy



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SIKORSKY/ALLOPHEED/MARTIN COMPANY

Sikorsky and the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) recently tested optionally-piloted technology in a first-of-its-kind mission, demonstrating complete supervised autonomy capabilities on the S-70 Optionally Piloted Vehicle (OPV) Black Hawk – including autonomous take-off, landing and two simulated obstacle avoidance scenarios – all completed with a tablet. Flight testing this year has included supervised autonomy, trajectory following, and obstacle avoidance. In 2021, the OPV Black Hawk will fly com-

pletely autonomously – meaning no operator on board – for the first time. The OPV Black Hawk was retrofitted with a technology kit to give it full-authority, fly-by-wire flight controls.

CAE to Buy L3Harris Technologies' Military Training Business



CAE announced on Mar. 1, 2021 that it has entered into a definitive agreement with L3Harris Technologies to acquire L3Harris' Military Training business for US\$1.05 billion, subject to customary adjustments. The L3Harris Military Training business includes Link Simulation & Training, Doss Aviation and AMI. L3Harris Link is one of the leading providers of military training solutions in the United States; Doss Aviation is the provider of initial flight training to the United States Air Force (USAF); and AMI is a design and manufacturing facility for simulator hardware. Upon closing, the L3Harris Military Training business would operate under CAE USA, headquartered in Tampa, Florida.

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Order of St. Michael Inductees

GOLD

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CW5 Bryant Fontenot
Tennessee Valley Chapter
LTC Patrick J. Sheahan, Ret.

SILVER

Air Assault Chapter
CW5 William C. Ragsdale, Ret.
CW4 Robert A. Waite, III, Ret.
Aviation Center Chapter
CW5 Michael J. Hangege, Ret.
Tennessee Valley Chapter
Sammy Burns, Jr.
CW5 Randy L. Nielson, Ret.
Frederick W. Pieper, Jr.
Washington-Potomac Chapter
LTC Marvin L. Chase

No Chapter Affiliation
CW4 Timothy B. Keyes
COL Robert Kyle Lashbrook, Ret.

BRONZE

Air Assault Chapter
SFC Ian Anderson
LTC Derek M. Carlson
MSG Willis Daniel
SSG Nicholas B. Dyches
SFC Jeffrey King
CW3 Melvin S. Kluthe
CW3 Boddie L. Quinton
Aloha Chapter
SFC Kristopher L. Cameron
CW5 Donald L. Chambers
SFC Daniel Meier
CPT AJ Paschall
Aviation Center Chapter
SFC Ian Vital Casimir, II
CW4 Lee E. Kokoszak
SFC Juan E. Lara
SFC Douglas B. Miller
SFC Ricky Ongcangco
CW4 Dan P. Richardson
CW3 Bryan M. Tice
Colonial Virginia Chapter
SFC Matthew Harris
SSG Charles Jones

SFC Daniel Roman
SFC Jonathan Sheffield
High Desert Chapter
W01 Todd M. Facello
CPT Derek P. Murphy
CW4 Ariel Rodriguez-Alvarez
CPT William R. Small
Morning Calm Chapter
1SG Kevin G. Burlison
Northern Lights Chapter
CW4 Mark E. Simpson
Phantom Corps
SFC Dante Copeland
CPT Chloe Flores
MSG Melissa A. Kelly-Sell
CPT Benjamin (Seth) King
CPT Guice Moore
SFC Lance Neeley
SFC John R. Parra
Rhonda Sheahan
SSG Donald O. Watson
Tennessee Valley Chapter
CW4 Adrian N. Rushton
Washington-Potomac Chapter
CW2 Joshua L. Hinch
MAJ Brendon M. Holbrook
LTC Eric Michael Jankowski



Knight Inductees

Air Assault Chapter
MG Brian E. Winski
High Desert Chapter
COL Michael J. Simmering
Iron Mike Chapter
John H. Hort
Morning Calm Chapter
Yong Un Chong
CPT Katie To
Tennessee Valley Chapter
Karen A. Bandera
LTC Tyronne G. LaStrapes
Patricia S. Vittitow



Our Lady of Loreto Inductees

Air Assault Chapter
Rebecca L. Hangege
Rio Grande Chapter
Wendi Ackerman
Tennessee Valley Chapter
Rhonda Sheahan

AAAA Salutes the Following Departed...

Mrs. Walter D. Bowden – 3/4/2015
COL Kenneth J. Burton, Ret. – 2/12/2021
LTC Julian T. Caraballo, Ret. – 8/27/2020
CW3 Alfred J. Cargen, Ret. – 1/27/2021
Mr. Carlo Ciasullo – 12/3/2020
LTC Danny D. Curtis, Ret. – 10/24/2020
LTC Paul A. Dvorsky, Ret. – 12/24/2020
LTC John L. Hamlin, Ret. – 5/9/2020
Mr. Brad Kitch – 7/26/2020

COL Gerald L. Kline, Ret. – 1/9/2021
*LTC Neville A. Pearson, Ret. – 12/24/2019
Mr. Jeff Salata – 11/28/2020
COL Stephen J. Snow, Ret. – 12/15/2011
MAJ Forrest B. Snyder Jr. Ret. – 1/14/2018
CW4 Luther H. Vandagriff, Ret. – 3/9/2021
LTC Donald L. Wellen, Ret. – 3/23/2021
LTC Gary L. Wilson, Ret. – 2/9/2021

* Charter Member

People On The Move

Aviation General Officer Promotions/Assignments



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

The chief of staff of the Army announces the assignment of BG John D. Kline, deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, to senior advisor to the Ministry of Defense, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Afghanistan.

Transfer of Authority Apache Units Swap in Iraq



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY CPT TRAVIS MELLER

From left, the command teams of the 1-82nd Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade

and 4-4th ARB pose for a photo after a battalion transfer of authority ceremony at an airfield in the 28th ECAB's area of operations in the Middle East. 1-82nd ARB formally took control of the aviation attack battalion mission for Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve from 4-4th ARB during the ceremony.

Deployments/Redeployments

1ID CAB Arrives in Dunkirk, France



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY CPT TRAVIS MELLER

Helicopters and equipment from the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, began offloading March 6, 2021, at the Port of Dunkirk, France in support of Atlantic Resolve and Operation Mousquetaire. The CAB is home-stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas and its equipment arrived aboard the ARC Endurance, a commercial vessel chartered

by the U.S. Navy Military Sealift Command. This is the seventh Atlantic Resolve aviation rotation and the second rotation for 1 ID CAB. The unit is bringing approximately 1,800 personnel, 50 UH-60 and HH-60 Black Hawks, 10 CH-47 Chinooks, 20 AH-64 Apaches and 1,800 wheeled vehicles and pieces of equipment.

101 CAB Heads to Campbell



U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY SSG GARRETT L. DRUMMA

A row of HH-60M Black Hawk helicopters assigned to the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) waits to be loaded onto a ship at a port in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, March 17, 2021. The 101st has been in Europe for nine months supporting Atlantic Resolve, an initiative meant to foster interoperability between NATO ally and partner nations.

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AAAA Functional Awards

Suspense: July 1

- AMSO Award ■ ASE Award ■ Avionics Award
- Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan Award

Suspense: August 1

- Logistics Technician of the Year Award
- Logistics Unit of the Year Award
- Materiel Readiness Award for a Contribution by a Small Business or Organization
- Materiel Readiness Award for a Contribution by an Individual Member of Industry
- Materiel Readiness Award for a Contribution by a Major Contractor
- Materiel Readiness Award for a Contribution by an Industry Team, Group, or Special Unit
- UAS Soldier of the Year ■ UAS Operation Technician of the Year
- UAS Unit of the Year ■ Fixed Wing Unit of the Year
- Logistics Technician of the Year

Suspense: September 1

- Air/Sea Rescue ■ ATC Controller of the Year
- ATC Technician of the Year ■ ATC Manager of the Year
- ATC Facility of the Year ■ ATC Unit of the Year
- DUSTOFF Medic of the Year ■ Medicine Award
- Trainer of the Year



AAAA Hall of Fame Inductions

Suspense: June 1

Send in Your Nominations Today!

Nomination forms for all of the AAAA Awards are available on our website:

quad-a.org

Any questions? Call 203-268-2450



People On The Move Flight School Graduates



AAAA provides standard aviator wings to all graduates and sterling silver aviator wings to the distinguished graduates of each flight class ... *another example of AAAA's SUPPORT for the U.S. Army Aviation Soldier and Family.*



FSXXI Class 21-008

ALL PHOTOS: U.S. ARMY PHOTO, FORT RUCKER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AAAA congratulates the following officers graduating from Flight School XXI at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, AL.

39 Officers February 25, 2021

Commissioned Officers

- 1LT Mueller, Maxwell F. - DG
- 1LT Fairbrass, Liam J. - HG
- 1LT Galea, Matthew J. * - HG
- 2LT Ahnsbrak, Thomas D.

- 1LT Allen, Tyler D.
- 1LT Bradley, William A. *
- 2LT Capouillez, Autumn B.
- 2LT Crnicki, Goran
- 1LT Gates, Isabelle A.
- 1LT Groenewald, Pierre J.
- 1LT Joiner, Scott M.
- 1LT Lamb, Andrew C.
- 1LT Martin, Jacqueline G.
- 1LT Mutijima, Cedric
- 1LT Nebie, Rajeib
- 1LT Okamura, Haley R.

- 2LT Smith, Tyrail D.
- Warrant Officers**
- WO1 Gilbertson, Caleb G. - DG
- WO1 Johnson, Brandon L. - HG
- WO1 Stevens, Marshall M. - HG
- WO1 Teel, Zachary M. * - HG
- WO1 Barreto, David J. *
- WO1 Bernal, Gabrielle N. *
- WO1 Costa, Kevin T.
- WO1 Do, Steven J. *
- WO1 Doering, Zane T.
- WO1 Foster, Ryan L. *

- WO1 Fry, Zachary A.
- WO1 Mallchok, Cody J.
- WO1 Palaualelo, Billy J., Jr.
- WO1 Prentice, Joshua S.
- WO1 Prewitt, Jimmy P.
- WO1 Robinson, Michael S.
- WO1 Robles, Ryan M.
- WO1 Shelnut, Joseph D.
- WO1 Soulant, Matthew W. *
- WO1 Stege, Harry E. *
- WO1 Veldboom, Jennifer M.
- WO1 Weichers, Nicholas E.



FSXXI Class 21-009

28 Officers Marc 11, 2021

Commissioned Officers

- 1LT Trainor, Hayden J. * - DG
- 1LT Delvaux, Evan T. * - HG
- 1LT Jones, Trevor J. * - HG
- 1LT Adams, Austin R. *
- 1LT Clausen, Cory M.
- 1LT Cooley, Collin A. *
- 1LT Crown, Terra H.

- 1LT Ellis, Jared R. *
- 1LT Griffith, Jacob L.
- 2LT Hightower, Michael P.
- 2LT Kneen, Samuel J.
- 1LT Ramirez, Rene A., Jr.
- 1LT Suba, Michael P. *
- 1LT Zarate, Sergio U.
- Warrant Officers**
- WO1 Winkel, Brandon G. -DG

- WO1 Boone, Korey A. -HG
- WO1 Jensen, Joseph R. -HG
- WO1 Aubert, Jeremy A.
- WO1 Cadet, Pierre-Richard I. *
- WO1 Clark, Kanekaulanuimakeha J.
- WO1 Eggiman, Brady R. *
- WO1 Fajardo, Ian C. *
- WO1 Guerrero, Daniel R.
- WO1 Laubach, Ean J.

- WO1 Price, Shelly C. *
- WO1 Waite, Ian M.
- WO1 Williams, Jacob E.
- WO1 Winter, Edward M.

-DG: Distinguished Graduate
-HG: Honor Graduate
* = AAAA Member

People On The Move

Non-Rated Warrant Officer Graduates

AAAA congratulates the following officers graduating from the Aviation Maintenance Warrant Officer Basic course at the U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA.

7 Officers March 12, 2021

- WO1 Joseph Cutwa
- WO1 Manuel Santiago
- WO1 Aaron Grudich
- WO1 Kendall Liner
- CW2 Paul Fowler
- WO1 Andrew Green
- WO1 Henry Rosso



US ARMY PHOTO

ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING (AIT) GRADUATIONS

AAAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the indicated Advanced Individual Training (AIT) courses at the 128th Aviation Brigade, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA and the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Ft. Rucker, AL.

AH-64 Attack Helicopter Repairer (15R)

- Class 051-20
- PV2 Austin Arnold * - DG
- PV2 Trystyn Aimer
- PV2 Sarah Bond
- PV2 Logan Brown
- SPC Bryce Chambers
- PV2 Cole Dixon
- PFC Harrison Havlin
- PFC Christopher Heberling
- PV2 Cris Hudlin, Jr
- PV2 Eduardo Ramirezleal
- PV2 Brian Stanton
- Class 052-20
- PV2 Tristan Woodruff * - DG
- PV2 Jacob Carpenter
- PV2 Tyler Chamberlain
- PFC Jaydon Deese
- PV2 Gage Doughty
- PV2 Daniel Geoghegan
- SPC Daniel Heaton
- PFC Felix Hernandez
- PFC Richard Huffman
- PV2 Corbin McNett
- PFC Montana Odum
- PV2 Chase Williams
- Class 053-20
- PVT Mark Gaus, Jr. * - DG
- PFC Paige Andaverde
- PVT Gage Briggs
- PV2 Joseph Colgan

- PFC Alexandria Cousin
- PVT Christian Dearbeck
- PFC Isa Hambrick
- PV2 Mason Hostetler
- Class 054-20
- PV2 Matthew Vera - DG
- PV2 Bryce Johnson
- PV2 Donovan Johnson
- PFC Emiliano Mariacagama
- PVT Angel Miguel-Martinez
- P2 Jason Ricklesen
- PV2 Roberto Wilhelm
- Class 055-20
- PFC Maida Ahmad * - DG
- PVT Neo Bain
- PVT Isaac Bastien
- PV2 Emily Blattel
- PVT Erik Carlson, III
- SPC Zacary Clark
- PV2 Dulce Fores
- PVT Alexander Greathouse
- PVT Kaitlyn Hoyt
- PFC Sydney Lopez

CH-47 Medium Helicopter Repairer (15U)

- Class 046-20
- PV2 William G. Johnson * - DG
- PV2 Ethan Joseph Bain
- PV2 Andres Nicholas Barrios
- PV2 Riley Alexander Briggs
- PFC Jacob Darrell Brown
- PFC Ian Patrick Caldron
- PFC Dillon Francis Conlon
- PFC Clifford Lee Culpepper
- PV2 Dylan Michael Eades
- PV2 William Thomas Hankins
- PV2 Zachary Thomas Miller
- PV2 David Robert Mullins, Jr
- Class 047-20
- PFC Andrew KhanganVu * - DG
- SPC Branden J. Emerson

- PV2 Steven Patrick Harrell
- PV2 Garrett James Neves
- PFC Victor Joseph Pisani, Jr
- PV2 Jesus Pedro Reyes
- SPC Xavier Jose Sena
- SPC Abdul Hakim Sheikh
- PV2 Nicholas Charles Stein
- PV2 Jacob Dylan Wiley
- Class 048-20
- PV2 Anthony J. Rivas - DG
- PV2 Ryin Michel Ahlers
- PV2 Harrison Quaid Chance
- PFC Henry Joseph Gibson
- PV2 John Alexander Haynes
- PFC Conner Scott Lapek
- PV2 Emmet Jon Lekfield
- PV2 Kyle Michael Winders
- Class 049-20
- PV2 Christian Gomezbarreto * - DG
- PFC Evan Matthew Catsburg
- PV2 Miguel A. Garibaygaribay
- PFC Mitchell Phillip Greer
- PV2 Brandt Dale Hardwick
- PV2 Alexander James Hayes
- PV2 James Daniel Hill
- PV2 Tayinna A. Johnson
- PV2 Jacob James Rosol
- PV2 Caleb Z. Stainbrook
- PFC Seth James Woods

UH-60 Helicopter Repairer (15T)

- Class 098-20
- PV2 Elyssa Noel Paslay * - DG
- PV2 Conor Leonard Beattie
- PV2 Bryston Garrett
- PV2 Wyatt Ethon Gibson
- SPC Alexander Martin
- SPC David Alden Moseley II
- PFC Taylor Marie Pitko
- PV2 Andrea L. Rodriguez
- 2LT Liga Rucina
- PV2 Daniella R. Womersley

- Class 099-20
- PFC David M. Bornn III * - DG
- PV2 Tristan Chay Ansell
- PV2 Evan Patrick Czora
- PV2 Joseph A Denend
- PV2 Juan Marcos Dominguez
- SPC Patrik Dufala
- PFC Peyton Walter Ellis
- PV2 Alexander Felicianomoraes
- PV2 Carter Michael Hallett
- PV2 Patrick Douglas Hickey
- PV2 Robert D. Hollingshed
- PV2 Celeste Marie Piscitelli
- Class 100-20
- PFC Addison W. Hammock * - DG
- PV2 Caleb D. Wynkoop * - DG
- PFC Alexander F. Barthel
- SPC Mitchell James Hale
- PFC Mason Nicabe Khan
- SGT Brian Anthony Klotz
- PV2 Hunter A. Lawrence
- PV2 Mark Phillip Lind, Jr
- PFC Zachary Alex Reed
- PV2 Arthur John Rosa
- PFC Zachary Nolan Vadney
- PFC Jarod Douglas Vickery
- PFC Sabian Ivanb Lopez
- PFC Dylan James McGovern
- PFC Zachary Blake McKenzie
- PV2 Justin Ray Millus
- PFC Kyle Allen Pepper
- PFC Jacob Lee Rainey
- PFC Cameron W. Rodgers
- PFC Matthew Paul Satka
- PFC Lisandro A. Vargas
- PV2 Jared Andrew Wall
- PFC Isaac Kain Wockenfuss
- Class 001-21
- PFC Chyanne L. Austin * - DG
- PFC Nena Stephaine Alvarez
- PV2 James Luke Barber
- SPC Colin Omar Carpentier
- PV2 Kimberly Paige Chastain

- PV2 Thai Alon Davis
- PFC Edward A. Diamond
- PV2 Nathaniel David Dunn
- PV2 George Henry Johnson
- PFC Taylor Ann Osman
- PV2 Collin Micheal Ricker
- Class 002-21
- PFC Ethan J. Garcia * - DG
- PFC Damion Robert Ewing
- PV2 Skip Richard Faltisco, Jr
- PFC William Thomas Gray
- PFC Jeremy Eugene Grow
- PV2 Regan Bryce Gullett
- PV2 Joshua G. Johnson
- PV2 John Abel Nixon
- PV2 Benjamin W. Parkison
- SPC Richard M Riverakakihara
- PV2 Troy Scott Spencer
- PFC Armando Vargas

Aircraft Powerplant Repairer (15B)

- Class 017-20
- PV2 Neil Tobias Albrecht * - DG
- MSG Sultan Jaber S. Al Anazi
- PV2 Xavier Baxter Carpenter
- PV2 Aaron Patrick Dees
- SGM Eyup Duzgon
- PV2 Nathan Matthew Helle
- LT Michel Kanaan
- PFC Chad Alan Knop
- PV2 Angel Antonio Santana
- PV2 Dalton James Starkey

Aircraft Electrician (15F)

- Class 028-20
- PFC Carlouise D. Esdrelon * - DG
- PFC Jason Peter Barron, II
- PFC Zachary Lee Bourgeois
- PVT Jakota Wesley Brown

AIT Graduations continued on next page



AAAA

People On The Move

AIT GRADUATIONS

Continued

CPL Clyde Pague Castrence
PV2 Daniel A. Malcome
SGT Jesse Loren Sandoz
PFC Michael Gene Somerville

Aircraft Structural Repairer (15G)

Class 014-20
PV2 Obrien Isah Gritten * - DG
PFC Kaden D. Brandenburg
PV2 Austin J. Wolfe Duckett
PVT Timothy W. Fouch Jr
PV2 Giavani A. Funicellio
PV2 Robert A. Kindermann
PVT Luis Daniel Marquez
SSG Joshua Jonathan Munoz
PV2 Abraham M. Ngina
SGT Vannak Nom
SGT Charles Allen Puhr Jr
SPC Luis R. Riverasantiago
PVT Austin Richard Schreyer
PFC Justin Phillip Turley

Aircraft Hydraulics Repairer (15H)

Class 001-21
PFC Charles J. Jackson * - DG
PFC Patrick A. Cabrera, Jr
PV2 Rhiannon A. Corsette
PVT Cameron Joseph Dykes
PVT Nilly Robert Gaines
Class 002-21
PFC Anthony C. Jones, Jr - DG
SPC Mdasad Binmannan
PV2 Evan Daniel Evans
PVT Kody Ira King
PV2 Brett Nathaniel Merkel
PVT William A. Robinson
PV2 Kyle Reed Westbrook

Avionic Repairer (15N)

Class 025-20
PFC Tanner C. Archuleta * - DG
PV2 Jessica Raie Amthor
PV2 Zachary Aaron P. Cruz
PV2 Pierre Daniels
PFC John Gilbert Rodriguez
Class 026-20
PFC Steven T. Gaber * - DG
PFC Nathaniel Aponte
SPC Christian Serrano Acevedo
PV2 Eric A. Torresguerrero

Aviation Operations Specialist (15P)

Class 21-005
PV2 Stephen Baez - DG
PVT Brandon Vazquez-Hernandez - HG
SPC Caleb Benefield
PFC Jakai Garret
PFC Eric Kinnan

PV2 Ami Hough
PV2 Daniel Miller
PVT George Guzman
PVT Daila Leeper
PVT Larisca Lemus
PVT Avian Mejia-Rodriguez
Class 21-006
PV2 Emauyini Hairston - DG
SPC Giovanni Quiles
SPC George Scott
PFC Lismeylin Feliz Medrano
PFC Kessandra Sherbon
PFC Chandler Solite
PFC Destiny Williams
PV2 Megan Brown
PV2 Wyonna Cline
PV2 Tytiana Franklin
PV2 Labainya Hollingsworth
PV2 Anyasia Kimbro
PV2 Kade Whitmore
PVT Savion Brown
PVT Shaun Segura
Class 21-007
PFC Jhilyah Dennard - DG
PFC Taylor Smalley - HG
PFC Jack Hardy
PFC Shauntavia Owens
PFC Gene Eleazar Ramos
PFC Yessenia Vazquez
PFC Mariela Vega Ruelas
PV2 Peyton James
PV2 Haylen Montrone
PV2 Eligio Morales
PV2 Micheal Rodriguez
PV2 Andrik Sanchez
PV2 Asharia Solomon
PV2 K'nai Streeter
PVT Destin Everett
PVT Alexis Girten

Air Traffic Control Operator (15Q)

Class 20-031
PFC Riley Adams - HG
PFC Jennifer Arreola
PFC Jesse Hinkle
PFC Gabriele Taylor
PV2 Sean Lalonde
Class 20-032
PFC Elena Conrad - DG
PFC Giavanna Matthews - HG
PFC Bianka Washington
PFC Nathaniel Hawkins
PFC Charlie Williams
PV2 David Alexander
PV2 James Dawson
PVT Raven Diaz
PVT Bret Fisher
PVT Zachary Hays
PVT Frank Hujanen
Class 20-033
PV2 Taylor Gibbs - DG
PFC Kevin Gutierrez - HG
PFC Elian Alvarez-Corral
PFC Dave Cannon
PFC Riley Leahy
PV2 Raven Coldwell

PV2 Gabriel McDonnell
PV2 Michael Patton
PV2 Bryan Piper
PV2 Trevor Valkanas
Class 20-034
PFC Christian Long - DG
PFC Nicole Miller - HG
PFC Jahzyah Chance
PFC Aaron Orcutt
PFC Bradly Runyon
PFC Lorenzo Shapiro
PV2 Marc Chia
PV2 Jordan Dalton
PV2 Aaron Lovaglia
PV2 Rebecca Odell
PV2 Barbara Tuer
PV2 Alyssa Urff
Class 21-001
PFC Leandro Gonzalez - HG
PFC Walter Arieta
PFC Logan Wert
PV2 Te' Shawn Booker
PV2 David Kambe

AH-64 Armament/Electrical/Avionic Systems Repairer (15Y)

Class 025-20
PV2 Brandon Dorsey * - DG
PVT Buster Barrett
PVT Dominic Bayer
SPC Mary Sandoval
Class 026-20
PFC Ruben Gonzalez
PV2 Trevor Harned
PV2 William Taylor
SPC Christopher Wright
PV2 Shawn Yancey

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Graduations

Warrant Officer

AAAA Congratulates the following Army Graduates of the Tactical Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations Warrant Officer Technician Course, MOS 150U, at Fort Huachuca, Az.

Tactical Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations Warrant Officer Technician Course

9 Graduates, 11 March 2021
W01 William Bush -HG
W01 Page Frazier
W01 Damian Kelly
W01 Matthew Hall
W01 Charles Huffman
W01 William McCarty

W01 Nicholas Ward
W01 Jesse Wilcox
W01 Ian Willey

UAS REPAIRER

AAAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Repairer Course, MOS 15E, at Fort Huachuca, AZ.

Shadow UAS Repairer Course

8 Graduates, 5 March 2021
PVT Cody Minnick -HG
SPC Dalton R. Fyfe
PFC Edgar Herrera
PV2 Samuel Anderson
PV2 Aaron Griffin
PV2 Zackery L. Jackson
PVT Logan Diets
PVT Joana Figueroa
9 Graduates, 16 March 2021
SGT Daniel Atkinson
SPC Steven Murphy
SPC Derek A. White
PFC Sean Giuseffi
PV2 Brady Blaylock
PVT Aaron Brumett
PVT Alexander Edinger
PVT Natalia Hall
PVT Cody Kornegay

Grey Eagle UAS Repairer Course

15 Graduates, 10 March 2021
PFC Cameron Vine -DG
PVT Nicholas G. Masonis -HG
SPC Jarret A Buros
PFC Tristin Church
PFC Jeffrey Harrison
PFC Tyler Ortiz
PVT Tyler J. Alexander
PVT Alexander Davis
PVT Gavin Deviller
PVT Zachary L. Foltz
PVT Andrew W. German
PVT Caleb McClaren
PVT Chadd Owens
PVT Jeremy L. Reed
PVT Alex D. Scheets

UAS Operator

AAAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operator Course, MOS 15W, at Fort Huachuca, AZ.

Shadow UAS Operator Course

22 Graduates, 10 March 2021

SGT Marcus Kellogg -DG
SPC Phillip Taylor -HG
SGT Duncan Gachonjo
SGT John Gutierrez
SGT Jorge Perez
SPC Kameron M. Beyers
SPC Allan Connell
SPC Edilio Dejesus
SPC Kyle McKnight
SPC Joshua Picopo
PFC Luke T. Emory
PFC Justyce Fritz
PFC Tobias Slager
PFC Carson Thacker
PV2 Tyler Dobbins
PV2 Dallas J. Holton
PV2 Selena Lauterborn
PV2 Jennifer Peterson
PV2 Patrick Rehor
PVT Kody Buice
PVT Dominick Riewe
PVT Logan Sawchak

Grey Eagle UAS Operator Course

32 Graduates, 15 March 2021
PVT Kenneth Kase -DG
PFC Dillon Leibfreid -HG
SGT Brendan Hicks
SPC Alexander Johnson
SPC Benjamin Biesendorfer
SPC Hermi Astacio
PFC Manuel Jairo Adler
PFC McKinzie Allington
PFC Quinn Douglas
PFC Claeb A. Dunham
PFC Devonte L. Lane
PFC Dominique Perez
PFC Trenton A. Polk
PFC Noah N. Sanchez
PV2 Nicholas Britt
PV2 James Cothran
PV2 Andrew I. Guerrero
PV2 Dante Johnson
PV2 Matthew J. Lennon
PV2 Adonis S. McLemore
PV2 Michael Rayborn
PV2 Nehemiah Razzano
PVT Joshua M. Carges
PVT Ryan Delmerico
PVT Ethan L. Fancher
PVT Jimmie I. Hope
PVT Jexent Inosanto
PVT Alexander O. King
PVT Neo Lenning
PVT Myron Z. Peturis
PVT Tyson M. Pleskonko
PVT Christopher L. Plummer

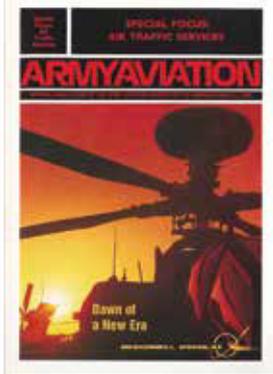
DG - Distinguished Graduate
HG - Honor Graduate
* = AAAA Member
+ = Life Member

Art's Attic

By Mark Albertson



Art's Attic is a look back each issue at 25 and 50 years ago to see what was going on in ARMY AVIATION Magazine. Contributing editor Mark Albertson has selected a few key items from each decade's issues. Art Kesten is our founder and first publisher from 1953 to 1987. He is also the founder of the AAAA in 1957 and served as its Executive Vice President. The cartoon, right, was created back in 1953 by LT Joe Gayhart, a friend of Art's and an Army Aviator, showing the chaos of his apartment-office in New York City where it all began.



25 Years Ago April-May 1996

New Book

The Smithsonian Press has just published a book by a practitioner of the Army Aviation cause, General Hamilton H. Howze, (Ret.): *A Cavalryman's Story: Memoirs of a Twentieth Century Army General*. The selection is available from the Smithsonian

Institution Press, P.O. Box 960, Herndon, Virginia, 22070-0960. 800-782-4612. Price: \$24.95.

Photos from the 1996 AAAA Convention in Fort Worth, Texas:

Cadets from the Virginia Institute present the colors, officially commencing the Annual Banquet.



The second break-out session was presented by Lieutenant Colonel Kathryn L. Ingram, Director of TRICARE Marketing for the Department of Defense. Lieutenant Colonel Ingram briefed attendees as to the upcoming implementation of TRICARE to replace CHAMPUS.

Friday afternoon presentations commenced with a briefing on Army Aviation operations in Bosnia, by Major General Daniel J. Petroski, Deputy CoS for Operations, USAREUR and Seventh Army. General Petroski's presentation was followed by that of Colonel William H. Bryan, Director of Programs, U.S. Army Safety Center, Fort Rucker, Alabama, who delivered a briefing on aviation safety.



Then Major General John J. Cusick, Commanding General, U.S. Army ATCOM, chaired the Logistics Forum. Panelists included the Directors and Chiefs of major Aviation logistics centers, officers, and activities.



50 Years Ago April-May 1971

WOW!

Through the 1970 year, 241,000 attendees visited the U.S. Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker. Just over 20,000 visitors walked through the front doors. The above is in comparison to the 1969 tally of 131,000 visitors, which dwarfed the first year total, 1968, of 17,500. The 1970 tally of patrons moved the Army Aviation Museum up to number five out of 59 Army museums. The single day's record of attendees was recorded in June 1970, 6,000.

Army Aviation Communications

Direct communication with twenty-nine sites at Fort Rucker and, twenty frequencies for communication with aircraft are provided by each of the four radar scopes at Hub Control in Cairn's Army Airfield; and serves aircraft within a radius of 50 miles of Fort Rucker. Hub Control is expected to service over 100,000 requests for advisory service during 1971.



The First One

CW4 John P. Gielarowski I., is handed the aircraft logbook to the first CH-47 to be transferred to the Army National Guard. The log was handed over by 1st Lieutenant Peter C. Stockwell, during the ceremonies of acceptance, held at Boeing Vertol in Philadelphia on April 15. Additional aircraft are to be assigned to the Army National Guard as well. These aircraft are to be assigned to:



The 536th Aviation Company in Texas; the 49th Aviation Company, California and, the 1105th Aviation Company in Iowa. Captain David Danfice, of AVSCOM, views the proceedings from the left.



The Army Aviation Hall of Fame, sponsored by the Army Aviation Association of America, Inc., recognizes those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to Army Aviation.

The actual Hall of Fame is located in the Army Aviation Museum, Fort Rucker, Ala.

The deadline for nominations for the 2022 induction is June 1, 2021

Contact the AAAA National Office for details and nomination forms at (203) 268-2450 or visit www.quad-a.org

Army Aviation Hall of Fame

Specialist Fourth Class Joseph G. LaPointe Jr.

*Army Aviation Hall of Fame 1998 Induction –
Charlotte, NC*



Specialist Fourth Class Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr., a member of the 2d Air Cavalry Squadron, 17th Cavalry, 101st Airborne Division, was awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in Quang Tin Province on 2 June 1969.

SP4 LaPointe distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman during a combat helicopter assault mission. SP4 LaPointe's patrol was advancing from the landing zone through an adjoining valley when it suddenly encountered heavy automatic weapons fire from a large enemy force entrenched in well-fortified bunker positions. In the initial burst of fire, two soldiers in the formation vanguard were seriously wounded. Hearing a call for aid from one of the wounded, SP4 LaPointe ran forward through heavy fire to assist his fallen comrades. To reach the wounded men, he was forced to crawl directly in view of an enemy bunker. As members of his unit attempted to provide covering fire, he administered first aid to one man, shielding the other with his body.

SP4 LaPointe continued his lifesaving duties until he was again wounded and knocked to the ground. Making strenuous efforts he moved back again into a shielding position to continue administering first aid. An exploding enemy grenade mortally wounded all three men. SP4 LaPointe's courageous actions at the cost of his life were an inspiration to his comrades. His gallantry and selflessness are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

THERE'S A NEW MULTI-ROLE AIRCRAFT IN TOWN

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- ✓ Mature global supply chain for aircraft and engine
- ✓ Developed by a leader in integration and ISR
- ✓ Historic 98% availability rate, very low cost-per-flight-hour
- ✓ Can be quickly reconfigured in the field
- ✓ Proven operation in austere conditions



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Armed Reconnaissance | Strike Coordination | Precision Strike



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SNC's DVE Solutions enhance aircraft survivability by providing critical capabilities not available on current aircraft, including terrain and obstacle detection, hazard highlighting and proximity alerts.

SNC's DVE Solutions provide leap-ahead technology that will enable enduring and future vertical lift (FVL) aircraft to "Fight and Win" in Multi-Domain Operations (MDO).

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